
Report Summary from SEAFDEC as Cooperating non-contracting Party

Somboon Siriraskophon

SEAFDEC has proposed at the Fifth and Sixth Session of IOTC meeting in 2000 and 2001, to support the IOTC tagging program in the East Indian Ocean using of our 1,200 GT research vessel, namely MV SEAFDEC. To prove that MV SEAFDEC, a purse seine style research vessel can work for tuna tagging program, therefore the Tuna Tagging activity has initiated in 2003-4 using IOTC Standard Tag, we tagged all 1000 tags composed of 931 yellow-fin and Bigeye tunas, and 69 Skipjack. The same activity was continued to the year 2004-5, we tagged 1,073 tunas composed of 841 Yellow-fin tuna, and 232 Bigeye tuna. All tagged fishes were observed to be active after released and all tagging data for 2003 and 2004 had provided to IOTC for tuna tagging database.

With regard to By-Catch: Since 1995 we have collected the by-catch composition from tuna purse seine and longline, and all By-catch information had been provided to IOTC for further analysis.

With regards to our activity in the Eastern Indian Ocean this year, we plan to have a three months research survey in cooperation with the Department of Fishery Thailand by MV SEAFDEC vessel. The survey will start from 18 December 05 to 9 February 06. The fishing activities for this cruise will be more focused on By-catch of tuna purse seine and experiment of tuna longline using circle hook. However, we are please to continue the activity on Tuna tagging if IOTC requirement.

>.....<