

# Reducing impacts of incidental capture on threatened marine species

Admin



**Submitted by:** Submitted 6 days 23 hours ago by Wendy.ELIOTT.

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**Status:** Submitted

**Original language of the motion as submitted:** English

**Author's contact:** welliott@wwfint.org

Background information



## 1. Does the proposed motion:

**Correspond with the purpose of motions as defined in Rule 48bis:**

Yes

**Propose an amendment to either the draft IUCN Programme 2021-2024:**

No

**Address issues pertaining to the governance of IUCN?:**

No

## 2. Specify which IUCN constituents (Members or components of IUCN) or third parties (Rule 54 (b) viii.) referred to in the operative paragraph(s) of this motion have:

**Been consulted during the development of this motion:**

Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre ( Guatemala )  
Association Française du Fonds Mondial pour la Nature - France ( France )  
Centro Desarrollo y Pesca Sustentable ( Argentina )  
Emirates Nature-WWF ( United Arab Emirates )  
Fondo Mundial Para la Naturaleza (WWF Colombia) ( Colombia )  
IUCN Species Survival Commission (SSC)  
International Fund for Animal Welfare ( United States of America )  
Marine Research Foundation ( Malaysia )  
Natural Resources Defense Council ( United States of America )  
PROVITA ( Venezuela )  
Preserve Planet ( Costa Rica )  
Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental ( Peru )  
South African Association for Marine Biological Research ( South Africa )  
Synchronicity Earth ( United Kingdom )  
The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan ( Jordan )  
Wereld Natuur Fonds - Nederland ( The Netherlands )  
Western Indian Ocean Marine Sciences Association ( Tanzania )  
Wildlands Conservation Trust ( South Africa )  
World Wide Fund - Pakistan ( Pakistan )  
World Wide Fund for Nature - Hong Kong ( China )

**Collaborated in the development of the motion:**

Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre ( Guatemala )  
Association Française du Fonds Mondial pour la Nature - France ( France )  
Centro Desarrollo y Pesca Sustentable ( Argentina )  
Emirates Nature-WWF ( United Arab Emirates )  
Fondo Mundial Para la Naturaleza (WWF Colombia) ( Colombia )  
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Wereld Natuur Fonds - Nederland ( The Netherlands )

Western Indian Ocean Marine Sciences Association ( Tanzania )

Wildlands Conservation Trust ( South Africa )

World Wide Fund - Pakistan ( Pakistan )

World Wide Fund for Nature - Hong Kong ( China )

**Provide any additional information about consultations carried out/ collaboration with IUCN constituents in the development of this motion, in particular if consultations had the purpose of identifying solutions that might address the underlying issues. (Rule 54 (b) x.) :**

This motion has been developed collaboratively with the IUCN Marine Conservation Committee. The IUCN Species Survival Commission Steering Committee has also been consulted, along with several SSC Specialist Groups, including the Cetacean Specialist Group, Sirenians Specialist Group and Sea Snake Specialist Group.

The Institute of Marine Science, University of Karachi-Pakistan also supports this motion.

**3. Before submitting this motion, have you searched the IUCN Resolutions and Recommendations Platform to ensure that this motion does not repeat previously adopted Resolutions or Recommendations?:**

Yes

**Please specify, what is new, over and above previously adopted Resolutions and Recommendations and state which Resolutions / Recommendations:**

This motion highlights those aspects of previous resolutions and recommendations that have not yet been implemented, and proposes a way forward.

**4. Please indicate whether the proposed motion has been discussed in one of the Regional Conservation Fora held in 2019 or - where applicable - in a meeting of the National Committee(s) of the country(ies) concerned? (Regulation 66ter):**

No

**5. Does the motion focus on local, national or regional issues?:**

No

**6. Does the proposed motion concern issues arising in a State or States outside the proponent's State/Region?:**

No

Preamble



The preamble explains in a succinct way the rationale for the motion and substantiates the action(s) called for in

**the operative part. :**

AWARE that an increasing number of marine species are being recognised as Endangered or Threatened and are Protected (ETP);

RECALLING that the IUCN Red List repeatedly cites incidental capture (hereafter called bycatch) as a major threat to an increasing number of marine species;

CONCERNED that even small-scale fisheries that obtain seemingly low levels of bycatch per vessel or per day are, because of the enormous number of vessels and fishing days, cumulatively imposing great pressure on marine ETP species;

DEEPLY CONCERNED, as one example, about the near extinction of the vaquita, driven almost exclusively by bycatch in both legal and illegal fisheries, despite WCC 2016 Res-017 and its recommendations intended to avoid this fate; as well as the critically endangered status of Māui dolphins in New Zealand and other species or populations where bycatch is driving rapid and precipitous population declines;

RECOGNIZING, as another example, that conservation measures to limit capture or sale of ETP species from seahorses to sharks are rendered nearly useless by continued bycatch of the species;

MINDFUL that most elements of Recommendation 19.61 on bycatch of non-target species in fisheries agreed in 1994 and Resolution 1.16 on Fisheries By-catch agreed in 1996 have not been implemented in the intervening two decades;

WELCOMING the work on bycatch mitigation being undertaken by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO), regional fisheries management organisations (RFMOs), the International Whaling Commission, the Convention on Migratory Species, and a wide range of IUCN Members;

RECOGNIZING that the IUCN has a leading role in the formation of global conservation policy that can guide and strengthen work undertaken by IUCN State and Government Agency Members as well as other IUCN Members;

Operative paragraphs 

**The operative section of the motion specifies the position of Members and contains the action(s) that they are agreeing to take.:**

REQUESTS the IUCN Director General & the Species Survival Commission to:

- By 2022 produce a Situational Analysis on the impacts of non-selective fisheries on ETP species, involving all

Commissions & addressing small scale artisanal to industrial fleets, & a full range of marine taxa (eg invertebrates, fishes, reptiles, mammals, seabirds);

- By 2023 develop & promote, with a clear communication strategy, effective policies & a "toolbox" of potential solutions adaptable to individual situations, to reduce bycatch of marine life, particularly of ETP species.

URGES all IUCN Members to act to reduce the pressure on ETP species from nonselective gear & methods.

CALLS UPON IUCN State & Government Agency Members to:

- Enhance deployment of selective gears & practices that reduce bycatch, especially of ETP species;
- Work with national agencies, FAO, RFMOs & NGOs to assess bycatch reliably, including through enhanced observer &/or remote electronic monitoring schemes;
- Enhance effective archiving & exchange of bycatch data to improve assessments of impacts on ETP populations;
- Collaborate with & support national agencies, the FAO, RFMOs & NGOs to eliminate bycatch, including through reduction of abandoned gear;
- As outlined in WCC-2016-Res 21, ensure protection of species taken in non-selective fisheries that are or may become threatened.
- Address needs of stakeholders & dependent communities where nonselective fisheries practices are problematic for ETP species.

## Proponents and co-sponsors



### You are submitting this motion on behalf of::

World Wide Fund for Nature - International [Switzerland]

### Co-sponsors:

Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre [Guatemala]

Association Française du Fonds Mondial pour la Nature - France [France]

Centro Desarrollo y Pesca Sustentable [Argentina]

Emirates Nature-WWF [United Arab Emirates]

Fondo Mundial Para la Naturaleza (WWF Colombia) [Colombia]

International Fund for Animal Welfare [United States of America]

Marine Research Foundation [Malaysia]

Natural Resources Defense Council [United States of America]

PROVITA [Venezuela]

Preserve Planet [Costa Rica]

Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental [Peru]

South African Association for Marine Biological Research [South Africa]

Synchronicity Earth [United Kingdom]

The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan [Jordan]

Wereld Natuur Fonds - Nederland [The Netherlands]

Western Indian Ocean Marine Sciences Association [Tanzania]

Wildlands Conservation Trust [South Africa]

World Wide Fund - Pakistan [Pakistan]

World Wide Fund for Nature - Hong Kong [China]

Information required for the implementation of the motion



### 1. Provide:

a) An overview of the activities and estimated resources needed to implement the motion (these can be human or other resources, but expressed in USD). Also include an estimation of the resources pledged (in USD), including by the proponent, co-sponsors, or third parties.:

Activity	Estimated financial resources required (USD)	Estimated financial resources pledged (USD)
Field activities		
Scientific activities		
Education/ communication/ raising awareness		
Fundraising		
Policy influencing		
Convening stakeholders/ networking		
Capacity building		
Other		
Total	1	1

Rate here to which degree the resources required for the implementation of the motion have been estimated and committed. During the online discussion of motions, proponents of motions will be able to update this information and rating, while IUCN Members will be able to pledge or commit their contribution to the implementation of a motion.:

B: Motion submitted with realistic pledge(s) or commitment(s) of funds or other resources to implement the motion

in part. Commitments should be recorded in section b) below.

**Comments on the estimated resources required and rating above, including the main actions and timeline, as well as the strategy for mobilising additional resources in the case that they are not pledged.:**

The total budget needed for implementing this resolution globally is not know at this moment in time.

**b) Description of the contributions which proponent and co-sponsors intend to make towards the implementation of the motion: (Rule 54 (b) viii.)**

Proponent



**IUCN Member:**

World Wide Fund for Nature - International [Switzerland]

**Proposed actions:**

Capacity building

Convene stakeholders/networking

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Field activities

Fundraising

Policy influencing/advocacy

Scientific/technical activities

**Description:**

WWF International has a global programme of work on bycatch, particularly relating to the bycatch of cetaceans, marine turtles and sharks and rays. This body of work covers all the proposed actions listed above, and aims to connect local efforts in the field to trial and roll out bycatch solutions with regional and global policy and market mechanisms to incentivize bycatch reduction.

Co-sponsors



**Co-sponsor:**

Marine Research Foundation [Malaysia]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Field activities

Policy influencing/advocacy

**Description:**

MRF devotes over 80% of its effort and resources into dealing with bycatch in small scale fisheries. In Malaysia MRF has pioneered the use of Turtle Excluder Devices and this has led to government adoption of TEDs in four key states, saving over 1000 turtles annually. In addition, on behalf of the CMS Dugong Secretariat, MRF has led a global campaign to better understand the overlaps between fisheries and dugongs, and develop hotspot maps for managers in countries where dugongs and fisheries come in contact. MRF is also currently addressing shark and ray bycatch in commercial fisheries in Sabah, Malaysia, with a view to expand this work to other parts of Malaysia. Through these programmes MRF remains committed to addressing bycatch of ETP species in small-scale fisheries in many parts of southeast Asia.

**Co-sponsor:**

Synchronicity Earth [United Kingdom]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Fundraising

Scientific/technical activities

**Description:**

Synchronicity Earth will aim to support scientific activities, education/communication/raising awareness, and fundraising for this motion

**Co-sponsor:**

Western Indian Ocean Marine Sciences Association [Tanzania]

**Proposed actions:**

Capacity building

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Policy influencing/advocacy

Scientific/technical activities

**Description:**

Since addressing bycatch problem is one of the WIOMSA's priorities, in support of the motion, the Association's focus on the issue will continue to be directed scientific activities, education/communication/raising awareness, capacity building and policy influencing.'

**Co-sponsor:**

PROVITA [Venezuela]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Policy influencing/advocacy

**Description:**

PROVITA will promote this motion through awareness raising and policy influencing, especially within Latin America.

**Co-sponsor:**

World Wide Fund for Nature - Hong Kong [China]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Field activities

Fundraising

Policy influencing/advocacy

Scientific/technical activities

**Description:**

WWF Hong Kong works to address bycatch of wildlife in Hong Kong waters such as the Chinese white dolphin, and hosts a global programme on sharks and rays which includes bycatch as one of its key pillars

**Co-sponsor:**

Association Française du Fonds Mondial pour la Nature - France [France]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Field activities

Policy influencing/advocacy

Scientific/technical activities

**Description:**

WWF France works in the Mediterranean with small scale fishers (through the Medfish project) to quantify and reduce bycatch of ETP species. At a more global scale we are also working on creating incentives for global roll-out of Turtle Excluder Devices.

**Co-sponsor:**

World Wide Fund - Pakistan [Pakistan]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Field activities

Policy influencing/advocacy

Scientific/technical activities

**Description:**

WWF Pakistan works with local fishers and government authorities to reduce bycatch of key species such as dolphins and marine turtles.

**Co-sponsor:**

Wereld Natuur Fonds - Nederland [The Netherlands]

**Proposed actions:**

Convening stakeholders/networking

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Field activities

Fundraising

Policy influencing/advocacy

Scientific/technical activities

**Description:**

WWF Netherlands provides both financial and technical support to bycatch research and mitigation programmes around the world, as well as working on bycatch reduction of North Sea shark and ray and dolphin species. WWF NL raises awareness, and advocates for better protection of all ETP species, and designs and delivers bycatch reduction plans by working with stakeholders including governments. In its role as the administrating/host office for the global cetacean Initiative has helped to facilitate the creation of a range of tools and evidence that can be used to help reduce cetacean bycatch and mortality from bycatch, including best practice guidelines on the safe handling and release of small cetaceans from fishing gear, and a planned global review of fisheries bycatch legislation.

**Co-sponsor:**

Emirates Nature-WWF [United Arab Emirates]

**Proposed actions:**

Convening stakeholders/networking

Scientific/technical activities

**Description:**

Using species distribution data combined with community-based surveys, WWF UAE is working to fill gaps in understanding the impacts of fishing practices on marine species and inform future action.

**Co-sponsor:**

Fondo Mundial Para la Naturaleza (WWF Colombia) [Colombia]

**Proposed actions:**

Field activities

**Description:**

WWF Colombia has been working for over 10 years with fishers to replace J hooks for circle hooks in long lines, in order to reduce marine turtle bycatch

**Co-sponsor:**

Natural Resources Defense Council [United States of America]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

**Description:**

NDRC will contribute to the implementation of this motion via communication and awareness raising activities.

**Co-sponsor:**

Sociedad Peruana de Derecho Ambiental [Peru]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

**Description:**

SPDA will contribute to the implementation of this motion via creating awareness

**Co-sponsor:**

Centro Desarrollo y Pesca Sustentable [Argentina]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

**Co-sponsor:**

Preserve Planet [Costa Rica]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

**Co-sponsor:**

The Royal Marine Conservation Society of Jordan [Jordan]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

**Co-sponsor:**

South African Association for Marine Biological Research [South Africa]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

**Co-sponsor:**

Asociación Rescate y Conservación de Vida Silvestre [Guatemala]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

**Co-sponsor:**

Wildlands Conservation Trust [South Africa]

**Proposed actions:**

Capacity building

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

Policy influencing/advocacy

**Co-sponsor:**

International Fund for Animal Welfare [United States of America]

**Proposed actions:**

Education/Communication/Raising awareness

**2. Provide here the name of a focal point who would be in charge of reporting annually on the follow-up and implementation of the motion if adopted:**

**Name:** Aimee

**Surname:** Leslie

**Institution:** WWF Peru, on behalf of WWF's global bycatch collaboration

**3. If the operative paragraph(s) of this motion is/are directly related to the mandate and work of one or more IUCN Commission(s), has the Steering Committee of the relevant Commission(s) committed to oversee implementation and assist in the gathering of data on the implementation of the Resolutions involved?:**

Not applicable

**4. As required by WCC-2016-Res-001, please indicate when the motion automatically ceases to be effective and will be moved to the Resolutions and Recommendations Archive. This can be either when a stated period has elapsed or when an objective has been achieved.:**

When bycatch is no longer a significant threat to marine species

Scope



**Please specify to which area of the draft IUCN Programme 2021-2024 this motion is related:**

Healthy Oceans

**Indicate the geographic scope of the implementation of this motion:**

Global

## Keywords



### **Region:**

- Global

### **Nature and biodiversity:**

- Marine & Coastal
- Reptiles
- Mammals

### **Sustainable Development Goals:**

- Goal 12 - responsible consumption and production
- Goal 14 - life below water
- Goal 17 - partnerships for the goals

### **Threats and Drivers:**

- Fisheries & harvesting aquatic resources

### **Type of response / intervention:**

- Community participation / Community engagement
- Natural resources management (land, water etc.)
- Species management

### **Congress themes:**

- Restoring ocean health (/programme/congress-themes/oceans)
- Advancing knowledge, learning, innovation and technology (/programme/congress-themes/knowledge-innovation-and-technology)

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