



## **Serious Injury Determinations for Small Cetaceans off the Southeast U.S. Coast, 2014–2018**

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## Introduction and Methods

The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) requires NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) to distinguish between injuries to marine mammals that are serious and not serious. During 2012 NMFS issued a policy directive and procedural directives to establish a process for distinguishing serious from non-serious injuries (NMFS 2012a, b). This document summarizes serious injury determinations for small cetaceans in southeast U.S. waters during 2014–2018.

Data from various sources were assessed to compile this report. These sources include the NOAA National Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Database, the Marine Mammal Authorization Program (fisherman self-reports), incidental take reports (unauthorized research gear takes), fishery observer records (excluding the pelagic longline fishery), and opportunistic at-sea observations by NOAA and non-NOAA researchers, marine patrol, and private citizens. All instances in the data for which a small cetacean was released alive following a human interaction, such as an entanglement in fishing gear or marine debris or a hooking, or observed alive at-sea entangled in fishing gear or debris, hooked, or boat struck, were evaluated.

Serious injury determinations were made following NMFS 2012 policy and guidelines (NMFS 2012a, b). Initially the data were evaluated by two marine mammal researchers in the Southeast Fisheries Science Center. All differences were discussed to obtain agreement. Determinations were reviewed by NMFS Determination Staff Working Group members from the Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NMFS Southeast Regional Office members, and Atlantic Scientific Review Group members.

In some instances, NOAA, stranding network partners, or private citizens disentangled or de-hooked an animal post-interaction (i.e., at some time after the initial entanglement or hooking). In these instances where there was a mitigation effort, a post-mitigation serious injury determination was made in addition to the initial serious injury determination. Both the initial and post-mitigation serious injury determinations are presented in Table 1. Post-mitigation determinations do not apply to situations where commercial fishermen or fisheries researchers released animals from gear at the time of the interaction. For management purposes (i.e., classifying fisheries on the Marine Mammal Protection Act's List of Fisheries [LOF] and take reduction planning), the pre-mitigation determination is used. For tallying the number of serious injuries, post-mitigation determinations are used (in cases for which there was mitigation) for comparing serious injuries to PBR in the Stock Assessment Reports (SARs) and are presented in the results section. The NMFS 2012b procedural directive states: "For cases where the animal is determined to be seriously injured and NOAA and/or an authorized partner successfully disentangles or dehooks the animal and the animal is determined to have no or non-serious injuries when released, it will be recorded as a serious injury when classifying fisheries on the LOF and informing management (e.g., take reduction planning), but will be recorded as a non-serious injury when compared to PBR in the SARs."

Mortality and serious injury resulting from the U.S. Atlantic pelagic longline fishery are detailed annually in a separate report (e.g., Garrison and Stokes 2017) and are not included in this document.

Type of fishery is given if information was available to attribute observed or collected gear to a specific fishery or type of gear. In some cases, gear was collected from stranded animals and sent to the NMFS Pascagoula Gear Repository. If gear experts could identify gear to a specific fishery, or identify gear as recreational versus commercial, the specific information is given in

Table 1. If gear could not be identified as belonging to a specific fishery, a general category, such as trap/pot gear, may be listed. Information on the fishery is given in as much detail as was known at the time of report preparation. As gear continues to be analyzed by the Pascagoula Gear Repository, information on fishery/gear is subject to change in future SARs.

## Results

One hundred fifty-seven small cetacean events from southeast U.S. waters during 2014–2018 for which a determination was made of serious versus non-serious injury are included in Table 1. All events involved common bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) with the exception of one, which involved a rough-toothed dolphin (*Steno bredanensis*). The Gulf of Mexico rough-toothed dolphin was considered seriously injured. In total, 72 common bottlenose dolphins were considered seriously injured; 40 common bottlenose dolphins were considered not seriously injured; and for 44 common bottlenose dolphin cases, it could not be determined if the injury was serious or not.

The Western North Atlantic (WNA) common bottlenose dolphin stocks for which serious injuries were documented include the following: Northern Migratory Coastal Stock; Southern Migratory Coastal Stock; South Carolina/Georgia Coastal Stock; Northern North Carolina Estuarine System (NNCES) Stock; Southern North Carolina Estuarine System (SNCES) Stock; Northern South Carolina Estuarine System (NSCES) Stock; Charleston Estuarine System (CES) Stock; Northern Georgia/Southern South Carolina Estuarine System (NGSSCES) Stock; Southern Georgia Estuarine System (SGES) Stock; Jacksonville Estuarine System (JES) Stock; Indian River Lagoon Estuarine System (IRLES) Stock; and Florida Bay Stock. The assignment of animals to a particular stock is impossible in some seasons and regions in coastal waters of North Carolina and Virginia and in estuarine waters near Beaufort Inlet because of stock overlap.

The Gulf of Mexico (GOM) common bottlenose dolphin stocks for which serious injuries were documented include the following: Laguna Madre Stock; Copano Bay/Aransas Bay/San Antonio Bay/Redfish Bay/Espiritu Santo Bay Stock; Matagorda Bay/Tres Palacios Bay/Lavaca Bay; Galveston Bay/East Bay/Trinity Bay Stock; Calcasieu Lake Stock; Barataria Bay Estuarine System Stock; Mississippi Sound/Lake Borgne/Bay Boudreau Stock; Mobile Bay/Bonsecour Bay Stock; Perdido Bay Stock; Choctawhatchee Bay Stock; St. Andrew Bay Stock; Apalachee Bay Stock; Waccasassa Bay/Withlacoochee Bay/Crystal Bay Stock; St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock; Tampa Bay Stock; Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock; Pine Island Sound/Charlotte Harbor/Gasparilla Sound/Lemon Bay Stock; Estero Bay Stock; Chokoloskee Bay/Ten Thousand Islands/Gullivan Bay Stock; Northern Coastal Stock; Eastern Coastal Stock; and Continental Shelf Stock.

In addition, there was one case from the Puerto Rico/U.S. Virgin Islands Stock in the Caribbean Sea.

The largest number of records was from the NOAA National Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Database. The majority of stranding records were cases of bottlenose dolphins entangled in either trap/pot gear or hook and line fishing gear. Entanglements in unidentified fishing gear, marine debris, a haul/beach seine net, a commercial gillnet, an unidentified buoy, and a Hawaiian sling/spear, as well as a boat collision, oil boom entrapment and construction boom entrapment, comprised the remaining stranding records. At-sea observations comprised the second highest number of records, and the majority of observations consisted of animals entangled in and sometimes trailing hook and line fishing gear and trap/pot gear. There were also at-sea records of

animals entangled in gillnet gear, unknown fishing gear, unknown line, debris, packing straps or bands, nets, and a sport ring (Aerobie-type ring). Several animals were observed to have propeller wounds from vessel strikes. The third most frequent number of records were of incidental takes involving research fishing gear, including gillnet gear, vertical longline gear, skimmer trawl gear, hook and line gear, and seine gear (unauthorized research gear takes), and one vessel strike by a research vessel. In addition, there were observer program records from the Gulf of Mexico gillnet fishery, the mid-Atlantic gillnet fishery, and the snapper-grouper and other reef fish bottom longline fishery. Finally, there were two records from the Marine Mammal Authorization Program (fisherman self-reports).

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Table 1. Serious injury (SI) determinations for cetaceans taken in SE U.S. waters during 2014–2018 using criteria in “Process for distinguishing serious from non-serious injury of marine mammals: Process for injury determinations” (NMFS 2012b; see Appendix I for details of injury categories and criteria). STR = stranding from NOAA National Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Database; MMAP = Marine Mammal Authorization Program; OBS = observer record; At-Sea = Opportunistic at-sea sightings; ITR = incidental take report, unauthorized research gear take; Tt = *Tursiops truncatus*; Sb = *Steno bredanensis*; ATL = Atlantic Ocean; CAR = Caribbean Sea; GOM = Gulf of Mexico; Copano Bay,... = Copano Bay/Aransas Bay/San Antonio Bay/Redfish Bay/Espiritu Santo Bay; IRLES = Indian River Lagoon Estuarine System; JES = Jacksonville Estuarine System; NNCES = Northern North Carolina Estuarine System; NGSSCES = Northern Georgia/Southern South Carolina Estuarine System; NM Coastal = Northern Migratory Coastal; NSCES = Northern South Carolina Estuarine System; PIS = Pine Island Sound/Charlotte Harbor/Gasparilla Sound/Lemon Bay; SM Coastal = Southern Migratory Coastal; SNCES = Southern North Carolina Estuarine System; CBD = cannot be determined.

Source of Data/Fishery Type	Animal ID	Species	Area (ATL, GOM, CAR)/ Stock Name (if known)	Date of Take or Report	Recorded Animal Condition	Initial SI Determination	NMFS 2012 SI Policy Criteria (for Small Cetaceans)	Injury Determination Criteria/Comments	Post-Mitigation SI Determination (for cases with mitigation; N/A is noted for cases without mitigation)	NMFS 2012 SI Policy Criteria (for Small Cetaceans)	Post-Mitigation Injury Determination Criteria/Comments
OBS; sink gillnet (targeting Spanish mackerel)		Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	15-Mar-2015	Alive	Serious	S7b	animal entangled in a commercial gillnet; crew were able to lift up the net and "roll" the dolphin out, however the dolphin swam back into the net; the net was lifted again and the dolphin was rolled out a second time and it swam away underneath the net	N/A		
MMAP; SE ATL gillnet fishery (targeting Spanish mackerel)		Tt	ATL/SNCS Stock	18-Jul-2015	Alive	Serious	S7b	a small dolphin got entangled in the cork line of a commercial gillnet and was there for approx. an hour and was weak and disoriented when released	N/A		
MMAP; shrimp trawl fishery		Tt	ATL/South Carolina/Georgia Coastal Stock	18-Aug-2015	Alive, uninjured	Not serious	S7b	dependent calf caught in trawl net mouth during haul back for TED inspection; law enforcement on scene freed dolphin; no visible injuries were observed; mother of calf was observed nearby	N/A		
ITR & STR; research gillnet (routine fishery-independent sampling program)	SER15-00627	Tt	GOM/Matagorda Bay/Tres Palacios Bay/Lavaca Bay Stock	21-Oct-2015	Alive	Serious	S7b	a dolphin became entangled in a research gillnet at its fluke insertion; the entanglement wraps consisted of both the top and bottom lines and the entire mesh in between, and all this gear was wrapped around a couple times; it is not certain how long the animal was entangled due to the net soaking overnight unattended; it was disentangled ~7-8 minutes after researchers arrived and noticed thrashing; the animal was freed from the net and swam off	N/A		

								vigorously with what appeared to be superficial bleeding; no attempt was made to monitor the animal following release as biologists were busy picking up their remaining gear	
ITR & STR; research seine	SER16-00313 [GA2016014]	Tt	ATL/Southern Georgia Estuarine System Stock	29-Apr-2016	Alive	Not serious	S7b	researchers were pulling 2 seine nets in tandem when they saw a dolphin swimming fast toward the nets; the dolphin hit the first net, thrashed free and hit the second net just below the water's surface; it rolled repeatedly and thrashed; when it stopped rolling its head was free and it was able to surface to breathe, but it was tangled around the body and tightly around the flukes; 2 people restrained the dolphin while 3-4 others disentangled its flukes; they saw light bleeding on the rostrum and flukes from net abrasions but the dolphin appeared otherwise healthy and not injured; they released it and it swam away quickly	N/A
ITR & STR; shark research gillnet	SER16-00395 [GA2016020]	Tt	ATL/NGSSCES Stock	16-Jun-2016	Alive	Not serious	S7b	field crew monitoring a research monofilament gillnet (5-inch mesh) saw a large fin moving towards the net which they first assumed was a bull shark, but once they saw the large splash and began to approach the thrashing animal, they noticed the animal surface to breathe and realized it was a bottlenose dolphin; crew quickly approached the dolphin and began to cut the net away as quickly as possible; dolphin continued violently thrashing and barrel rolling, but was coming to the surface to breathe every few seconds; as the crew cut the dolphin from the net, which took an estimated 2 minutes, the animal eventually became disentangled enough to free itself and swim off; crew did not notice any obvious blood or injuries to the dolphin; after disentanglement, 1 of the crew members saw the dolphin surface and jump	N/A
ITR & STR; research gillnet (routine)	SER16-00562 [PO521]	Tt	GOM/Matagorda Bay/Tres Palacios	03-May-2016	Alive	Serious	S7b	dolphin's flukes were entangled in the 4-inch mesh portion of a research gillnet left to soak overnight; dolphin did not display	N/A

fishery-independent sampling program)			Bay/Lavaca Bay Stock					any signs of struggle such as splashing or thrashing when researchers arrived at the net in the morning; animal did not struggle during disentanglement as researchers cut away net; unknown duration of entanglement	
ITR; research gillnet (routine fishery-independent sampling program)		Tt	GOM/Laguna Madre Stock	09-Nov-2016	Alive	Not serious	S7b	a dolphin appeared to be entangled in the 6-inch mesh portion of a research gillnet when the crew arrived to retrieve the gear and catch; the crew immediately went over to the area in response to seeing the dolphin at the net, and one of the technicians grabbed the net; immediately upon the net being handled, the dolphin swam away and did not appear to be tangled or harmed in any way	N/A
OBS; sink gillnet (targeting southern kingfish)	[Also reported in Josephson <i>et al.</i> 2019]	Tt	ATL/NM Coastal or NNCES Stock	17-Feb-2017	Alive	CBD		dolphin was removed from the commercial gillnet by the deckhands before the net was brought onboard the vessel; no photos or samples taken; little info available (net was 2.5 inch mesh)	N/A
ITR & STR; research gillnet (routine fishery-independent sampling program)	SER17-00656 [PA1126]	Tt	GOM/Copano Bay, ... Stock	19-Apr-2017	Alive	Serious	S7b	research gillnet was left to soak overnight, and immediately upon arrival at the net the following morning, biologists discovered there was a dolphin entangled in the net (5-inch mesh portion); it was surfacing while in the net and wasn't fighting the net (i.e., thrashing); the dorsal fin was not completely surfacing; entire body was also wrapped in the net (~1 wrap), including the left pectoral fin; 2 biologists spent ~5 minutes to disentangle the animal; from their boat, they had to both cut some line and unravel the animal; the fastest way for them to get the dolphin out of the net was to first cut the entanglement away from the fluke; then they were more freely able to disentangle it; when the biologists first arrived, the dolphin was not thrashing; during disentanglement, it did thrash a bit - thrashed about 2 times for 20 sec each; biologist indicated the dolphin really didn't like when they were first working on it, but when they got to the head and turned it laterally, it calmed down; when they were able to free it, it	N/A

							swam off vigorously; there were some residual markings on the animal but in no place did it appear to be overly constrictive or would restrict blood flow; the wrapping around the pec fin was superficial; there was slight bleeding along the edge of the dorsal fin but no deep gashes or lacerations; constriction marks around fluke but not deep wounds; biologists did not see it surface to breathe and looked for about 3-5 minutes post release	
ITR; vessel strike by 6.4 m research vessel	Tt	ATL/NSCES Stock	20-Jul-2017	Alive	Serious	S9	dolphin was struck by a research vessel while travelling; the vessel was a 6.4 m Privateer traveling at about 38 knots; it jumped twice after being struck and then was not seen again; researchers heard a loud thud, at which point they looked back at the motor immediately; neither saw blood at that time or later when they travelled back to look for signs of the dolphin; researchers are unsure which part of the boat hit the dolphin; the first jump (a sort of thrashing movement out of the water) occurred about 15 seconds after the strike in one direction with the second jump occurring a couple of seconds later going in the opposite direction; jumps occurred behind the boat, parallel to the stern, about 30 m away and 15-20 seconds after the strike; both of the dolphin's jumps seemed to have a thrashing style to them – the animal jumped and then landed slightly on its side	N/A
ITR; hook and line research gear	Tt	GOM/Continental Shelf Stock	2-Aug-2017	Alive	Serious	S5a	bottlenose dolphin ingested a red snapper as it was being reeled to the surface; the dolphin was hooked in the bottom right of the mouth near the gape; the hook was a standard 13/0 commercial steel hook; for ~15 minutes after the dolphin was hooked, the captain gently pulled on the line to try and coax the animal closer to the vessel; when the dolphin was by the vessel the line was severed at the hook, releasing the dolphin with the hook still in its mouth	N/A

OBS; commercial snapper-grouper and other reef fish bottom longline fishery	Tt	GOM/Continental Shelf Stock	7-Mar-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin became entangled with bottom longline gear wrapped around its flukes and also wrapped around the body just anterior to the dorsal and pectoral fins; the crew was able to reel the dolphin to the side of the boat, and as they were removing gear from the dolphin it broke the mainline and swam away with gear still attached including ~25 hooks, a weight, and ~30 ft of line still attached (totaling ~5 lbs); the observer noticed abrasions from the gear near the flukes	N/A
OBS; mid-Atlantic gillnet fishery (targeting Spanish mackerel)	Tt	ATL/NNCE S Stock	25-May-2018	Alive	CBD	S7b	captain of commercial fishing vessel noticed splashing and an animal entangled in the gillnet; upon close approach, the crew realized it was a dolphin entangled in the net; animal was entangled in the float line and thrashing; the captain began cutting line with a gaff and he and a mate began pulling the netting over the dolphin to disentangle it; additional untangling of net around the flukes was also needed; once the animal was disentangled it swam away very quickly; as the animal was being disentangled the NMFS observer got close looks at its body and it appeared to be free from net marks and wounds from the mesh; time from seeing the initial splash and having the dolphin next to the boat was 10 minutes; animal struggled for 2 minutes during disentanglement; animal was entangled for an estimated 12-15 minutes	N/A
ITR; shark research gillnet	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	3-Jul-2018	Alive	Not serious	S7b	researchers reported a dolphin entangled in their gillnet (4-inch mesh portion) just after the net had been set; it was mostly entangled by the fluke and peduncle along with mesh along the flank and wrapped over the tip of the rostrum; researchers immediately started cutting the net away and disentangled the animal; duration of entanglement was 10 minutes or less; animal swam away vigorously without injury and free of gear, and was observed surfacing to breathe several times as it left the area	N/A

ITR; research vertical longline			Tt	GOM/Continental Shelf Stock	5-Aug-2018	Alive, injured	Serious	S6, S8a	researchers reported a dolphin entangled around its flukes in vertical longline gear; researchers backed down to the animal to get it as close to the vessel as possible, however the animal was thrashing too much to risk someone getting hooked and attached to it, so they cut the mainline; animal swam off and dove slowly entangled with ~7.3 m of total gear, including ~1 m of mainline (400 lb test monofilament) and gangions with hooks (~6.3 m, 100-400 lb test) entangled around its flukes	N/A
At-Sea	Row 77		Tt	CAR/Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands Stock	2-Feb-2014	Alive	CBD		citizen reported animal as entangled in trash; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 78		Tt	GOM/Chokoloskee Bay/Ten Thousand Islands/Gullivan Bay Stock	13-Apr-2014	Alive	CBD		citizen reported an animal with thick plastic netting around its mandible; no visible bleeding; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 79		Tt	GOM/St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock	16-May-2014	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen reported an animal dragging a crab trap/pot; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 81		Tt	ATL/SNCES Stock or NNCES Stock	6-Aug-2014	Alive	CBD		researcher reported an animal with unknown line or monofilament entanglement anterior to the dorsal fin; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row [TOMA]	83	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	24-Jul-2014	Alive	CBD		researchers sighted a known animal, TOMA, with monofilament line wrapped around its dorsal fin in an area of previous dorsal fin injury (fin partially severed); unknown if any gear is trailing; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 85		Tt	GOM/St. Andrew Bay Stock	23-Sep-2014	Alive	CBD		dolphin and snorkel ecotour operator photo-documented an animal with a hook and lure in mouth; the lure was hooked to the upper and lower jaw limiting the animal's ability to open its mouth; operator later reported the gear came off the animal on its own, but there was not photo-documentation to confirm	N/A
At-Sea	Row [c1LOPP]	87	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	8-Oct-2014	Alive	Not serious	S7b	calf with possible mouth entanglement of unknown origin; photos from March 2015 show the animal's mouth to be free of any	N/A

								entanglement; animal shed any possible gear on its own	
At-Sea	Row 90 [JIBB]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	29-Jan- 2015	Alive	Serious	S6	animal observed with line wrapped around and trailing 2-3 ft behind the flukes	N/A
At-Sea	Row 91	Tt	GOM/ Eastern Coastal Stock	28-Jan- 2015	Alive	CBD		members of the public encircled what they believed to be a "sick" dolphin with a fishing net and separated it from 2 other dolphins; the dolphin was described as breathing frequently and listing to the side prior to its capture; the net was kept loose to see if the dolphin would breathe on its own; the animal was within the net for an estimated 5 minutes; when the net was opened, the animal "swam out like a shot" and re-joined the other 2 dolphins and they quickly lost sight of the animals	N/A
At-Sea	Row 92	Tt	GOM/ Calcasieu Lake Stock	24-Mar- 2015	Alive	Serious	S6	animal was sighted entangled in gear resembling green pool noodle used in gar fishing with black line hanging from it	N/A
At-Sea	Row 93	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	23-Mar- 2015	Alive	CBD		calf sighted with monofilament loosely entangled around left fluke	N/A
At-Sea	Row 94	Tt	GOM/ Barataria Bay Estuarine System Stock	10-Apr- 2015	Alive	Serious	S8a	NOAA researchers spotted an animal with a constricting white strap around its head during a dolphin survey	N/A
At-Sea	Row 95	Tt	GOM/ Eastern Coastal Stock	22-Apr- 2015	Alive	Serious	S6	calf with both fluke tips entangled, the left fluke tip nearly severed; gear trailing behind the animal; sighted with adult (presumed mother) who was actively depredate fishing lines	N/A
At-Sea	Row 96	Tt	GOM/St. Andrew Bay Stock or Northern Coastal Stock	18-Apr- 2015	Alive	Serious	S5a	animal sighted with a lure with a treble hook on each end, embedded in top and bottom of rostrum; animal appeared to be able to open its mouth only ~1 inch	N/A
At-Sea	Row 97	Tt	GOM/ Eastern Coastal Stock	2-May- 2015	Alive	Serious	S6	animal sighted with mesh net around the face (mostly the rostrum); able to surface and breathe without hindrance	N/A
At-Sea	Row 98	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	14-May- 2015	Alive	Serious	S6	animal with dorsal fin entanglement; animal was towing ~4 ft of line with some biofouling, and for a short time on 14-May-2015 there was a plastic water bottle involved in entanglement; animal re-sighted on 4-Jul-2015 and the dorsal fin was still	N/A

								entangled and line was cutting through the fin and also still trailing behind the animal	
At-Sea	Row 99	Tt	GOM/ Laguna Madre Stock	1-Jun- 2015	Alive	Serious	S6	animal entangled around its flukes and tail stock with what was thought to be a rope with heavy biofouling	N/A
At-Sea	Row 100	Tt	GOM/ Eastern Coastal Stock	31-May- 2015	Alive	CBD		citizen reported adult (mother of mom/calf pair) with a white body wrap of rope or wire; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 101	Tt	GOM/ Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	15-Apr- 2015	Alive	CBD		a charter boat captain reported a dolphin with a fishing jig on/near its dorsal fin	N/A
At-Sea	Row 102	Tt	GOM/St. Joseph Sound/ Clearwater Harbor Stock	28-Jun- 2015	Alive	Serious	S6	animal was hooked in the dorsal fin with steel leader and fishing line attached and trailing; animal reported as lethargic	N/A
At-Sea	Row 103	Tt	GOM/ Galveston Bay/East Bay/Trinity Bay Stock	23-Jun- 2015	Alive	CBD		animal sighted with plastic debris anterior to the dorsal fin, and it appeared to have a dorsal fin entanglement of unknown nature as well; it is not certain if plastic material was actually wrapped completely around the animal's body or just draped to give it a wrapped look; animal was not resighted	N/A
At-Sea	Row 104	Tt (4 indi vidu als)	GOM/ Mobile Bay/ Bonsecour Bay Stock or Northern Coastal Stock	12-Jul- 2015	Alive	CBD		citizen reported 4 dolphins were in a commercial gillnet and person was close enough to hear vocalizations and blows; responders went to area with marine patrol and did not find dolphins; fishers reported no dolphins	N/A
At-Sea	Row 105	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	7-Aug- 2015	Alive	Not serious	S8b	calf initially sighted on 7-Aug-2015 with a loose wrap of monofilament around the lower leading edge of the dorsal fin but not cutting into the fin; later sighted (25-Aug-2015) gear free; animal shed gear on its own	N/A
At-Sea	Row 106 [FB78]	Tt	GOM/ Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	5-Aug- 2015	Alive	Not serious	S5c	researchers sighted a known animal with a hook in its dorsal fin with a small amount of trailing monofilament line; animal shed gear on its own and was sighted gear free on 9-Sep-2015	N/A
At-Sea	Row 108 [since initially included in report, animal	Tt	ATL/ NNCES Stock	20-Aug- 2015	Alive	Serious	S8a	animal sighted with an Aerobie ring around its head; a disentanglement effort was planned, but the animal was not	N/A

	was entered into stranding data as SER15-00703 [Ringo]							sighted during the disentanglement surveys in early September; no further reports on this animal	
At-Sea	Row 109	Tt	GOM/ Apalachee Bay Stock	6-Sep- 2015	Alive, unknown	CBD		a citizen reported a dolphin entangled in crab trap/pot gear; responders were not able to locate the animal; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 110	Tt	GOM/ Galveston Bay/East Bay/Trinity Bay Stock	28-Aug- 2015	Alive, injured	Not serious	S13a	animal initially sighted in August 2015 with a "rat's nest" of fishing line and biofouling cutting through its dorsal fin; later sighted with line trailing behind as well; at a subsequent sighting in September 2015 the fin was cut halfway through and was greatly disfigured; resighted in July 2016 without the upper portion of its dorsal fin	N/A
At-Sea	Row 115	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	25-Nov- 2015	Alive	CBD		citizen reported animal as wrapped behind dorsal fin with thick white fishing line; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 116	Tt	GOM/ Galveston Bay/East Bay/Trinity Bay Stock	10-Jan- 2016	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6, S8a, S13a	local researchers documented an animal with a constricting entanglement cutting into dorsal fin, disfiguring dorsal fin, and trailing off the animal	N/A
At-Sea	Row 117	Tt	GOM/ Northern Coastal Stock	9-May- 2016	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	animal was sighted near fishing pier for just over a month and was reported as entangled in hook and line gear with a lure trailing from the rostrum; the animal may have been "bridled"; stranding network reported the animal to be in rough/poor condition at its last sighting	N/A
At-Sea	Row 118	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	15-May- 2016	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	local researchers reported an animal with bright green monofilament line wrapped ~8 inches behind the blow hole, with a second wrap on a 45° angle to the anterior line lower on the body; attempts to follow and relocate this animal were unsuccessful	N/A
At-Sea	Row 119	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	26-May- 2016	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6, S8a	local researchers reported a calf with a monofilament entanglement wrapped around the animal anterior to its dorsal fin, possibly extending to flukes	N/A
At-Sea	Row 120 [Lil Pip]	Tt	GOM/ Laguna Madre Stock	May 2016	Alive, unknown	Not serious	S7b	local ecotour operator documented a small calf, likely young of the year, as entangled in monofilament line wrapped tightly around its fluke blade and	N/A

								cutting through the fluke blade; gear is also trailing behind the animal; possibly hooked in fluke as well; additional sightings of the animal still entangled were documented in June and November 2017; later follow-up sightings from 2019 showed the animal to be gear-free, and hence this determination has been updated to Not serious (in prior reports it was listed as Serious)	
At-Sea	Row 124	Tt	ATL/ IRLES Stock	21-Aug- 2016	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	citizen reported an animal with monofilament fishing line around the dorsal fin and wrapped around the body with a 2-inch hook in the side of the animal	N/A
At-Sea	Row 126	Tt	GOM/St. Joseph Sound/ Clearwater Harbor Stock	3-Nov- 2016	Alive, unknown	CBD		citizen reported an animal entangled in crab trap/pot gear with a buoy; responders were unable to locate; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 127 (may be the same as SER17- 00033 below but it could not be confirmed due to decomposition)	Tt	GOM/ Mobile Bay/ Bonsecour Bay Stock	22-Nov- 2016	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	animal documented with unknown gear wrapped around its peduncle and flukes, with gear trailing behind the animal; possibly a "rat's nest" of fishing line	N/A
At-Sea	Row 129	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	4-Jan- 2017	Alive, unknown	CBD		citizen reported an animal carrying a red buoy ~2 weeks ago (reported 2 weeks after the sighting); little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 130	Tt	GOM/ Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	11-Feb- 2017	Alive, unknown	CBD		local ecotour reported an animal with red line over dorsal fin; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 131	Tt	GOM/undef ined stock area (Miller's Bayou, Florida; in between the Waccasassa Bay/Withla coochee Bay/Crystal Bay Stock	27-Mar- 2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	a forestry pilot reported a dolphin calf with ~3 ft of material trailing from its flukes; stranding responders were able to locate and photograph this calf; the calf is trailing line and may potentially have line embedded or just a scarring from a previous entanglement around its tail stock; there is also a healed line mark around the neck; the trailing line is biofouled and appears to be	N/A

			and the St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock)					wrapped around the tip of the left fluke blade though the origin may be somewhere else further forward on the animal's body, such as on the tail stock where the scarring occurs	
At-Sea	Row 134	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	21-Mar-2017	Alive, unknown	Not serious	S8b	local researchers documented an animal with monofilament line wrapped around its dorsal fin and trailing behind ~18 inches to 2 ft; animal later sighted in October 2017 gear-free	N/A
At-Sea	Row 135 [1852, calf of F185] TtNEFL1712	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay	17-Mar-2017	Alive, unknown	Not serious	S6	local researchers sighted a mom/calf pair, and they noticed that the calf (1852) was entangled in monofilament fishing line; the entanglement appeared to come from below the water on 1852's left side, was embedded in the leading edge base of the dorsal fin, and a ball of line/algae was hanging against its right side; after reporting the entanglement to NOAA, researchers attempted to approach the animal and use remote disentanglement gear to remove the line; they tried for almost an hour to get close enough to hook and cut the line, but did not have any good opportunities; during this time, the dolphins became more and more evasive, and eventually were lost; the animal (1852) was resighted in July 2019 and again in January 2020 without the entanglement and appeared to be in good health	N/A
At-Sea	Row 137	Tt	GOM/Copano Bay,...	20-Jun-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	citizen documented an animal carrying an orange buoy on its left side; nature of entanglement was unclear due to quality of the photos	N/A
At-Sea	Row 139	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	4-Apr-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	ferry operator documented an animal with a line around its body; nature of entanglement was unclear due to quality of video; animal was sighted and photographed one month later with gear still on; there seems to be around 1 ft of line trailing off the animal, with possibly a single wrap around the animal anterior to the dorsal and pectoral fins	N/A
At-Sea	Row 140	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	25-Jun-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6, S8a	citizen documented an animal with 2 wraps of monofilament around its body, 1 wrap anterior	N/A

								to the dorsal fin, and 1 posterior to the dorsal fin; at least 1 wrap looks constricting and there may be trailing gear	
At-Sea	Row 141	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	29-Jun-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6, S8a	local researchers documented an animal with a severe mouth entanglement; monofilament wrapped deeply around its mandible (constricting); animal was resighted on 5-Jun-2018 still entangled	N/A
At-Sea	Row 143	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	24-Jul-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	ecotour operator documented an animal with a rope at the anterior base of the dorsal fin which may extend all the way around the body, or may be connected to other body parts; line appears taut; biofouling was attached to the rope on both sides of the animal's body	N/A
At-Sea	Row 144	Tt	GOM/Northern Coastal Stock	28-Jul-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	citizen documented an animal with biofouled line dragging ~30 ft behind the animal; unclear where the animal is entangled	N/A
At-Sea	Row 146	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	17-Oct-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	citizen reported an animal entangled in trap/pot gear; a buoy was trailing behind the dolphin and was only visible after its blow	N/A
At-Sea	Row 147	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	19-Oct-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	citizen reported an animal entangled in a cast net over its head; further inquiry by FWC officer of people on the pier revealed the cast net was in the animal's mouth; the animal was able to breathe and swim normally; the animal was not resighted	N/A
At-Sea	Row 148	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	20-Oct-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6, S8a	citizen reported an animal entangled in hooks and line from its mouth to its tail; there were several hooks in the dorsal fin and flukes, with a chunk missing from the flukes; citizen said the animal is completely covered and arched like it can't straighten its flukes due to the line; calf was with the mother who was depredating bait from fishing lines; FWC officer responded but was unable to locate the animal	N/A
At-Sea	Row 149	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	2-Nov-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S8a	local researchers reported an animal with a tight wrap of unknown gear behind its head; a consult with veterinarians deemed this entanglement as life-threatening	N/A

At-Sea	Row 150	Tt	GOM/St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock	5-Nov-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	citizen documented an animal with line wrapped around its peduncle at the point of fluke attachment and trailing behind the animal	N/A
At-Sea	Row 151	Tt	ATL/SNCESS Stock	10-Jan-2018	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	local researchers documented an animal with gillnet gear wrapped tightly around its dorsal fin and trailing off the animal	N/A
At-Sea	Row 153 [CW33]	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock or Tampa Bay Stock	6-Feb-2018	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	local researchers documented a dolphin with monofilament line wrapped around the right and left flukes and trailing off the animal in a "Y" shape; gear trailed off for many feet behind the animal; the line is cutting into the leading edge of the flukes	N/A
At-Sea	Row 155	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	25-Feb-2018	Alive	CBD		citizen reported a dolphin with monofilament line around its flukes and peduncle; also reported red and white discoloration of peduncle; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 156	Tt	GOM/St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock or Eastern Coastal Stock?	25-Feb-2018	Alive	CBD		citizen reported a dolphin with an entanglement around its dorsal fin involving 2-3 wraps of braided line and a treble hook; line is reported as cutting 1 inch into dorsal fin; no photos; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 158 [Jing Jing]	Tt	GOM/Chokoloskee Bay, Ten Thousand Islands, Gullivan Bay Stock	25-Mar-2018	Alive	Not serious	S13a, S7b	dolphin was documented by ecotour operator and local researchers as having an entanglement involving a lure and line wrapped around the dorsal fin, with line extending back to the flukes and taut, compromising the movement of the animal; shortly after, it was reported that the line between the dorsal fin and flukes broke and only the dorsal entanglement remained; as of late February 2019, the dolphin was free of gear; the uppermost portion of the dorsal fin, about one-third of the fin, has been severed off over time by the line	N/A
At-Sea	Row 159	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	27-Mar-2018	Alive, unknown	CBD		citizen reported a dolphin to be anchored/tethered near a fishing pier; no further details available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 160	Tt	GOM/Esteros Bay Stock	26-Mar-2018	Alive	Serious	S5a	ecotour operator documented a dolphin with a hook in its mouth	N/A

								with line connecting to and entangling the left pectoral fin; the line is biofouled	
At-Sea	Row 162	Tt	GOM/Laguna Madre Stock	9-Apr-2018	Alive, injured	Serious	S6, S9	ecotour operator documented an animal with deep cuts, similar to propeller wounds, and a fluke entanglement; the cuts range along the body from just behind the blowhole to just anterior of the flukes; the entanglement appears to be completely wrapped around the flukes and bulky in nature; the material/nature of the wrap could not be identified	N/A
At-Sea	Row 163	Tt	ATL/undefined stock area, (northern Florida estuarine waters)	18-Apr-2018	Alive	Not serious	S7b	a fisherman reported an animal entangled in commercial blue crab trap/pot gear; the animal was able to shed the gear on its own and did not require disentanglement	N/A
At-Sea	Row 164 [c4BITT]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	18-Apr-2018	Alive	Not serious	S7b	researchers documented a calf with a body wrap of monofilament or cord anterior to dorsal fin; on 23-May-2018 the animal was documented to be gear-free; the animal shed the gear on its own	N/A
At-Sea	Row 165	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System	2-June-2018	Alive	CBD		citizen reported an animal entangled in crab trap/pot gear; responders could not locate the animal; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 166	Tt	GOM/Perdido Bay Stock	26-Jul-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	an ecotour operator documented a calf with a fluke entanglement; the entanglement consisted of some type of monofilament line/net, possibly a gillnet, with debris involved as well; an intervention was planned but cancelled due to poor weather; calf reported still entangled in December 2018	N/A
At-Sea	Row 168	Tt	GOM/Perdido Bay Stock	July/August 2018, exact date unknown	Alive	CBD		an angler reported hooking a dolphin with hook and line gear from a marina; little info available	N/A
At-Sea	Row 171	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	13-Sep-2018	Alive	Serious	S8a, S13a	researchers documented a young-of-the-year animal with monofilament wrapped around the anterior portion of its dorsal fin; line appears to extend around the peduncle; the line is taut and is cutting through the anterior	N/A

								portion of the dorsal fin at the fin's base	
At-sea	Row 22, vessel-strike tab	Tt	ATL/IRLE S Stock	1-Jul-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S12	citizen documented an animal with a deep propeller cut to its peduncle to the point of bone exposure	N/A
At-sea	Row 23, vessel-strike tab	Tt	ATL/IRLE S Stock	16-Jul-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S12	citizen documented an animal with a propeller cut to its rostrum, exposing bone; most of the rostrum is now missing	N/A
At-sea	Row 24, vessel-strike tab [CM68]	Tt	ATL/IRLE S Stock	16-Feb-2018	Alive	Not serious	S13a	researchers documented a dolphin whose dorsal fin had been almost completely removed by a propeller; skin is removed from the peduncle area as well and exposed blubber is red; animal was resighted by local researchers in January 2019 and appeared to be doing well	N/A
At-sea	Row 25, vessel-strike tab	Tt	GOM/Perido Bay Stock	3-May-2018	Alive	Serious	S13a	ecotour operator documented an animal with a propeller injury to its dorsal fin resulting in a loss of ~60% of the fin with loose pieces of dorsal fin dangling from main portion of the fin; ecotour operator thought the animal appeared to be somewhat supported by the group of dolphins it was swimming with	N/A
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	NER14-00463	Tt	ATL/NNCES Stock or SM Coastal Stock	20-Jul-2014	Alive, injured	Serious	S12	trap/pot lines were twisted around each other and wrapped very tightly just forward of the animal's flukes; a commercial fisherman got the animal alongside his boat; he pulled the pots up to release tension on the line that was wrapped tightly around the fluke; he cut the twisted line off and said there were deep incisions where the lines were wrapped, going almost completely through to the bone; animal was very lethargic during the disentanglement	N/A
STR; haul/beach seine net	NER14-00652	Tt	ATL/NNCES Stock, NM Coastal Stock, or SM Coastal Stock	20-Oct-2014	Alive	Serious	S7b	dolphin seen inside the haul seine net; when fishermen tried to lift net to let animal out, witnesses reported seeing a lot of thrashing but could not confirm the animal became entangled in the mesh at any point; dolphin beached itself (stranded) shortly after and the fishermen turned it back around and it swam off	N/A
STR; commercial	SER14-00042 [NIPT]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	19-Jan-2014	Alive	Serious	S6	animal has line wrapped around its body anterior to dorsal fin and posterior to flippers; line is also	Not serious S7b successful disentanglement effort took place on 27-Jan-2014; animal

stone crab trap/pot gear								wrapped around a flipper; additional line and a red buoy are trailing behind the animal			still being sighted by local researchers as of June 2015
STR; hook and line gear	SER14-00670	Tt	GOM/Choctawhatchee Bay Stock	30-Jul-2014	Alive	Serious	S6	monofilament line embedded in both fluke blades of a calf and trailing behind 3-4 ft, with bio-fouling of trailing line; left fluke is partially severed	Not serious	S7b	successful disentanglement of monofilament line from calf flukes conducted, with release on site; animal resighted with mother on 20-Nov-2014 and appeared to be swimming well
STR; hook and line gear	SER14-00782 [Skipper]	Tt	GOM/Chokoloskee Bay/Ten Thousand Islands/Gullivan Bay Stock	9-Aug-2014	Alive	Serious	S6	metal leader and line wrapped around the peduncle of a calf and trailing ~5-6 ft	Not serious	S7b	successful disentanglement of gear from calf's peduncle on 4-Sep-2014; animal resighted with its mother in February 2015 and appeared to be fine (animal subsequently resighted in March 2016 and January 2017)
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER14-00853	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	25-Oct-2014	Alive	Serious	S7a	animal was anchored by crab trap line wrapped around its peduncle/flukes	Not serious	S7b	successful disentanglement of line from animal's peduncle/flukes by citizen who was able to cut the line (single wrap); citizen reported no signs of injury
STR; hook and line gear	SER14-00877	Tt	GOM/Northern Coastal Stock	14-Aug-2014	Alive	Serious	S6	juvenile animal that hangs around Pensacola Fishing Pier is entangled in monofilament line; entanglement wraps around both flukes' leading edges, lacerating the tissue, with ~2 ft of trailing line coming off the left fluke; the line is cutting into flukes, 2-3 inches deep and the left fluke appears to have a flap of tissue still attached but hanging; attempts were made to capture the animal for disentanglement, but all attempts were unsuccessful	N/A		
STR; hook and line gear	SER14-00899	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	13-Nov-2014	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	calf was initially sighted on 13 November entangled in hook and line fishing gear around the dorsal fin which was cutting into leading edge of the dorsal fin with some damage to the trailing edge as well; line was taut and the animal appeared to have difficulty surfacing normally (not fully raising the dorsal fin above the surface); when surfacing the line could be seen tugging on the animal with a recoil-like response in the calf; along the left side of the animal a semi-circular metal object could be seen along with an oval metal sinker; the line was taut and extended caudally the distance of the flukes; further caudal from the dorsal fin there was yellow object attached to the line	Not serious	S7b	successful capture and disentanglement of calf from fishing gear on 20-Nov-2014; the laceration to the leading edge of the dorsal fin extends a quarter of the way through the fin and an additional laceration is present along the trailing edge of the dorsal fin; there is a small healed laceration on the leading edge of the left fluke; there are two small lacerations (bleeding) on the dorsal side of the peduncle (possibly resulting from the capture net); following the release the calf rejoined the mom and was witnessed high surfacing and breaching and was not having difficulty swimming as witnessed prior to intervention

STR; crab trap/pot gear	NER15-00409	Tt	ATL/ NNCES Stock or SM Coastal Stock	3-Aug- 2015	Alive, injured	Serious	S6	an animal was reported to the stranding network as having a rope from a crab trap/pot with an attached float wrapped through the mouth around the lower mandible, and extending around the left pectoral flipper	Serious	S7b	the citizen on site reported that in order to release the rope he did not cut it, but rather released the tension and unraveled the rope; at this point the citizen had been, and continued to be, in the water with the animal; after removing the rope, the citizen reported that the animal swam away and began to swim in circles, and eventually rested against him in the water; he reported that the animal appeared weak and disoriented, and eventually left him and rested against reeds in the marsh; it is unclear how long the animal rested in this position, however, when responders arrived they observed the animal free swimming in a circular pattern; they noted the animal would change direction if their boat came near to it; no further actions were taken and responders did not observe the animal for long
STR; hook and line gear	SER15-00166 [CPEA]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	18-Jan- 2015	Alive, injured	Serious	S8a	calf's maxilla was wrapped tightly multiple times with monofilament line; the line was cutting deeply into the maxilla	Not serious	S7b	successful capture of mother/calf pair and disentanglement of calf on 6-Mar-2015; all gear was removed and a VHF tag was placed on the mother for post-release monitoring; calf still alive and sighted with mother during February and June of 2016
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER15-00147	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	24-Mar- 2015	Alive, injured	Serious	S6	dolphin was seen trailing a black and yellow circular buoy less than one body-length behind its tail; witnesses say the dolphin struggled to surface and lifted only it's head and part of its dorsal fin when surfacing to breathe; the initial complainant called to report that the animal had become stuck on the rocks on the northern shore of the entrance to Ballard Park; upon contacting the complainant the animal had freed itself from the rocks and continued north	Serious	S7b	animal was entangled for more than 5 ½ hours based on witness reports throughout the day; late in the day a jet skier approached the dolphin from behind and grabbed the trailing crab trap/pot buoy; the rope was handed off to boaters who tied the trailing line around a cleat on their bow; jet skier and two individuals on board the boat entered the water (~3 ft deep) and struggled to pull in the line; when they had the dolphin close enough they observed one loop of rope around the caudal peduncle at the fluke insertion; rope looped around the ventral portion of the caudal peduncle and was twisted tightly together on the dorsal surface of the flukes; they freed the animal by untwisting the rope and guiding it off of the flukes (no cuts were made); they observed ½ inch deep by ½ inch wide wounds on the leading edge of each fluke at the fluke insertion; wounds were

											described as red and open, but not bleeding; group reported that they had very little contact with the dolphin, and were handling the rope and fluke area only; upon removing the rope the dolphin reportedly fled the area very quickly, swimming directly west towards a group of 2+ other dolphins.
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER15-00182	Tt	ATL/South Carolina/ Georgia Coastal Stock or SM Coastal Stock	21-Feb- 2015	Alive	Serious	S6	beachgoers observed a large adult dolphin surfacing abnormally in shallow water along the edge of a sandbar at ~14:00 during the outgoing tide; at ~14:45 the tide was almost low and the dolphin stranded on the sandbar; it was entangled with a crab trap buoy line around its peduncle attached to a crab pot	Serious	S7b	one beachgoer removed the rope from the dolphin's peduncle and called nearby beachgoers for help; a red rope abrasion was noted on the peduncle but dolphin did not appear badly injured; it made a couple vocalizations and was breathing often; at ~15:00 four beachgoers rolled the dolphin onto a boogie board, dragged it ~50 m to water where it was released, in their opinion "unharmred", at ~15:15; the dolphin swam away strongly in an eastward direction
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER15-00213	Tt	ATL/ Southern Georgia Estuarine System Stock	3-Apr- 2015	Alive	Serious	S7a	live dolphin entangled in a crab pot buoy line was reported by recreational boater at 11:15; GDNr staff launched boat and arrived onsite at 11:45; subadult dolphin was entangled around the peduncle at the buoy end of the line with red foam bullet buoy flush against peduncle; dolphin was anchored by the crab pot, surfacing occasionally to breathe, but apparently unable to move	CBD		GDNr staff repeatedly approached dolphin and attempted to grab the buoy line with a boat hook and flying grapple mounted on a pole, but dolphin submerged each time; at 12:17 the buoy line was snagged with a throwing grapple, the dolphin's flukes were pulled alongside the boat and the crab pot was pulled into the bow; the line was cinched tightly around peduncle and peduncle was bleeding mildly; the buoy line was cut in one location adjacent to the peduncle and the dolphin swam away gear-free at 12:20; dolphin swam fast to the north and disappeared
STR; boat collision	SER15-00490 [Babyface]	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	9-Jul- 2015	Alive, injured	Not serious	S16	Clearwater Marine Aquarium (CMA) received calls about an animal with extensive multiple lacerations on its peduncle; staff were dispatched on multiple days to monitor; on most days, the animal was sighted; photos, videos, GPS coordinates, and ethograms were collected; respiration rate ranged from 9 to 13 breaths per 5 minutes; animal seemed to be in fair condition, with the periphery of the lacerations showing signs of healing; dolphin was sighted throughout the	N/A		

								Treasure Island area and seemed to move with ease; strongly suspected that the animal was foraging; additionally, reports have described people feeding the dolphin off of John's Pass boardwalk (not verified); photos were shared amongst mark-recapture researchers, and the animal has been positively identified as "Babyface"; CMA continued to monitor alongside other researchers; in mid-August, monitoring was suspended as a result of the animal's improved healing and behavior; no intervention was made			
STR; oil boom entrapment	SER15-00491	Tt	GOM/St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock	20-Jul-2015	Alive, uninjured	Serious	S7a	a dolphin was reported as trapped by an oil boom in a marina and boat club; first responders arrived on scene at approximately 2130; two oil booms were observed, one of which was situated between the west oil boom and highway; dolphin was confirmed to be trapped as a result of low tide; another dolphin was heard outside of this area, however, the west oil boom had a 3-4 ft clearance and thus, this animal did not appear to be trapped	Not serious	S7b	NMFS was contacted and it was decided that the first responders would cut the rope of the east oil boom to open it up; once opened, the trapped dolphin was observed leaving the area
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER15-00558	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System Stock	8-Oct-2015	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	a dolphin entangled in a crab pot line and buoy was found by a sailing tour vessel	Serious	S6, S8a	the sailing vessel deployed a jon boat to closely approach the animal; a crew member cut the dolphin free from some line and a buoy but left an unknown amount of line wrapped around the base of the flukes as the animal swam off; it was estimated that the animal had 5-6 line wraps around the base of the flukes
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER15-00559	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System Stock	13-Oct-2015	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	a dolphin entangled in a crab pot line and buoy were reported by boaters; line was wrapped tightly multiple times around the flukes	CBD		stranding network members arrived 2 hours 10 minutes after first report to begin disentanglement efforts; animal displayed some strong kicking of the flukes throughout much of the effort; a disentanglement knife was used to cut the lines; the first cut only released a small section of line; a second attempt allowed for the blade to get under two wraps and pulled back released the line around the flukes; the dolphin briefly hesitated when released and then quickly submerged and swam very quickly away; flukes appeared to

											have a small laceration with minimal bleeding and non-threatening injuries
STR; hook and line gear and plastic debris	SER15-00563 [Parcel]	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	6-Oct-2015	Alive	Serious	S6	calf was entangled in a plastic strap around its body, anterior to the dorsal fin, and also multiple types of fishing line, a swivel, and crimp; gear was trailing ~5 ft behind the animal as well	Not serious	S7b	on 15-Oct-2015 a disentanglement effort was conducted with multiple agencies, and the calf was successfully disentangled; a roto tag was applied, and the animal immediately released; on 20-Oct-2015 the mother and calf were sighted behaving normally and in good body condition; animal sighted on 13-Jan-2017
STR; commercial stone crab trap/pot gear	SER15-00576	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	22-Oct-2015	Alive	Serious	S7a	a camper reported a pair of dolphins staying in the same place for at least 3 hours; one of the animals seemed to be weighed down by something and was struggling to keep its head above water; stranding network volunteers assessed the animal's behavior and condition and determined that the dolphin was tethered, lifting just its blowhole and rostrum out of the water; a second dolphin was seen in deeper water ~500 m away	CBD		stranding network members entered the water via kayak and on foot; the member on foot felt a large trap; the trap was lifted and the animal was supported and brought to slightly more shallow water (~15 ft backwards); the rope was wrapped tightly around the peduncle and then again around the trailing edge of the flukes; rope was cut and flukes were photographed before releasing the animal; the extent of damage to the flukes seemed to be no more than a cm deep into the leading edge of the flukes and ca. 0.5 cm in 2 spots along the trailing edge; the animal swam off with speed and was seen to surface 3 times at distances beyond 200 m; no other dolphins were seen during after rescue attempt; the second dolphin (part of the original sighting) seen upon initial arrival was believed to be a 1-2 year old dolphin (not a newborn)
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER15-00592 [FIZZ]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	2-Nov-2015	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	animal was sighted swimming pulling crab trap/pot gear, including trap, buoy and line	Not serious	S7b	animal was initially sighted by a salvage crew member, and this citizen cut the trap free from the animal, but line and buoy remained looped around the peduncle and trailing behind animal; stranding network members attempted to remove the line and buoy, but were unsuccessful; however, the animal was sighted doing a few spins and the remaining gear was seen to come off on its own; animal resighted on 1-Dec-2015 and confirmed gear-free
STR; crab trap/pot gear	SER15-00630	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	8-Nov-2015	Alive	Serious	S7a	animal was entangled by and trailing crab trap/pot gear	CBD		USCG coxswain disentangled the dolphin; animal swam away gear free; it's not known how long the animal was entangled

STR; hook and line gear	SER15-00680	Tt	GOM/Choctawhatchee Bay Stock	16-Oct-2015	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	animal was entangled in red monofilament fishing line in its mouth and around the mandible; considered life threatening and plans were made to intervene, but no sightings were reported after 29-Nov-2015 and NOAA called off efforts b/c animal could not be found	N/A		
STR; commercial stone crab trap/pot gear	SER16-00067 [MML1601]	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	29-Feb-2016	Alive	Serious	S7a	a known 10-year-old male dolphin (F262) was entangled and anchored overnight in trap/pot gear; initially reported by a charterboat captain (who made an unsuccessful attempt to disentangle it)	Not serious	S7b	the following morning researchers disentangled the animal; animal had superficial lacerations from line; upon release it was seen to take one breath and swim away; on numerous occasions through most recent database entry, April 2020, researchers resighted this animal in good condition
STR; hook and line gear	SER16-00463 [FMMSN1614]	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	18-Jul-2016	Alive	Serious	S6	captain of a local fishing charter reported a free swimming, 5 ft dolphin entangled in approximately 30 to 40 ft of yellow PowerPro braided fishing line; line was described as being caught in the mouth and wrapped around the body, with trailing line present; the captain was unsure if there were any abrasions/lacerations associated with the entanglement	Serious	S6	the captain used a boat hook and removed by hand a portion of the line but a significant portion of the line still remained; after this attempt, the animal would no longer approach the vessel; law enforcement and biologists were dispatched to verify and monitor the animal, but the animal was not located
STR; hook and line gear	SER16-00468 [38DISL080616]	Tt	GOM/Mobile Bay/Bonsecour Bay Stock	6-Aug-2016	Alive	Serious	S6	animal was entangled in monofilament line wrapping around the anterior dorsal fin and trailing tautly behind; may have been entangled around flukes as well or just trailing other gear; animal was lethargic and appeared to have an elevated breathing rate; attempts to relocate the animal the following day were unsuccessful	N/A		
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER16-00518 [Hubbs-1642-Tt]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	10-Sep-2016	Alive	Serious	S7a, S8a	small animal was entangled in crab pot line wrapped twice tightly around the peduncle; animal appeared anchored with only head and blowhole above water; animal was reported to be thrashing and making noise, and a larger adult was observed nearby	CBD	S7b	local resident took his boat out and cut the line off the dolphin before stranding responders arrived; based on the description of the dolphin's behavior from the boater and photos, responders believed the dolphin was likely in good condition and was able to swim well after release, but they were unable to locate the dolphin for follow-up monitoring
STR; hook and line gear	SER16-00563 [TtNEFL1609]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	26-May-2016	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	local researchers documented an entangled juvenile with monofilament line wrapped around the body anterior to the dorsal fin; the line trails tightly	NA		

								posterior to the fin towards the flukes; line appears to be cutting into the anterior portion of the dorsal fin and is very taught; flukes may or may not be involved in entanglement or gear may be trailing behind/off the animal			
STR; hook and line gear	SER16-00618 [PI276; Tango]	Tt	GOM/Laguna Madre Stock	11-Jul-2016	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	animal was wrapped many times with constricting gear around the dorsal fin, with gear trailing and connecting to the peduncle and flukes, with additional gear trailing behind the flukes; gear consisted of 2 lbs of mixed gear including 7 artificial lures, 20 lead sinkers, ~30 hooks, and a mass of monofilament and HDPE line; gear had cut through the skin and penetrated into underlying tissue of the dorsal fin and peduncle; trailing edge of flukes had lost some tissue as well	CBD	S7b	animal was monitored and attempts were made to remotely disentangle it; a very small amount of gear was removed on 24-Jul-2016; dolphin was successfully captured, disentangled, given a health exam and released on 15-Aug-2016; no resightings of this animal have occurred following the release date
STR; hook and line gear	SER16-00626 [Hubbs-1643-Tt; c1SORT]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	17-Aug-2016	Alive	Serious	S6	calf estimated at 13 mos. was observed with a strand of monofilament line embedded around the base of its dorsal fin; calf appeared to be surfacing well but did not lift the flukes; subsequent sightings and photos on 22-Aug-2016 and 7-Sep-2016 revealed fishing line cutting into the leading edges of the flukes and trailing behind with biofouling; entanglement appeared to be progressing through the leading edge of the flukes and the dorsal fluke insertion and a post-nuchal depression was apparent; behavior of the calf indicated a weakened condition with extended periods at the surface, dragging the flukes and difficulty keeping up with the mother; animal exhibited abnormal fluke movement and possible skeletal deformity with an arch at the caudal peduncle (kyphosis)	Not serious	S7b	calf was captured, disentangled, and released on 14-Sep-2016; the mother and 2 other adults patrolled around the net throughout the disentanglement; a single strand of monofilament was removed from the dorsal fin (~20cm); a tangle of monofilament with extensive biofouling was embedded deeply (~5.5 cm) along the leading edge of the left fluke, and in three places (1-2 cm) along the leading edge of the right fluke; the line was wrapped through the fluke notch with a mass of line trailing aft of the flukes; there is a line impression, scarring and an indentation at the upper oral commissure (both left and right), extending over the rostrum at the apex of the melon; thorough examination of the mouth and oral mucosa revealed no significant damage; gear weighed ~ 350 g and extended 305 cm when unraveled; calf quickly rejoined mother upon release; a focal follow was conducted post-release (over 1 hour) and the calf was not witnessed bobbing at the surface during this time period, respirations were decreased from period observations, and the calf seemed to easily keep up with the mother despite the skeletal deformity; post-release

											sightings of this animal by local researchers have been made for 12 months and the animal appears to be in good body condition as of August 2017
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER16-00646 [SC1652]	Tt	ATL/NSCES Stock	5-Nov- 2016	Alive	Serious	S7a, S8a	calf (~120 cm) entangled in crab trap/pot gear; the line was wrapped a number of times around the base of flukes, body, and through the mouth; line had looped around the animal from the left flipper, through the mouth, and back to the left flipper	Serious	S7b, S15	animal was disentangled and released; 2 lacerations and multiple linear abrasions were reported; left flipper appeared slightly compressed and superficially scraped; animal struggled vigorously throughout disentanglement and swam away quickly upon release; unknown duration of entanglement; unknown if young animal was re-united with mother - no other dolphins were sighted in the area during the disentanglement
STR; trap/pot gear	SER16-00786 [FMMSN1625 ]	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	29-Dec- 2016	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen reported a small dolphin entangled in crab trap/pot gear; animal was entangled in line connected to both trap and buoy	Serious	S6	citizen attempted a disentanglement and removed the trap with some line, however the dolphin was still entangled in the remaining line and buoy; local stranding network and law enforcement responded but the animal had left the area and they were unable to relocate the animal; no further reports were made
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER16-00744 [GA2016033]	Tt	ATL/Southern Georgia Estuarine System Stock	31-Dec- 2016	Alive	Serious	S7a	citizen reported a dolphin entangled in trap/pot gear; dolphin was entangled near the buoy end of the buoy line, with multiple tight wraps around the left pectoral flipper and neck; it appeared to be anchored by the crab pot below; it was able to swim and surface but remained in the same area	CBD	S7b	a response team arrived within 90 minutes of the report; a throwing grapple was used to snag the buoy line between the dolphin and the trap; the trap was brought onboard the vessel and the dolphin was pulled alongside the vessel, restrained, the line was cut loose and the dolphin was released ~35 minutes following the team's arrival; the dolphin was energetic and struggled against the response team; the dolphin did not appear to be injured; the crab pot, buoy line and three buoys were collected
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER16-00795 [TtNEFL1611 ]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	13-Jun- 2016	Alive	Serious	S7a	citizens reported animal to be entangled in crab trap/pot, line and buoy;	CBD	S7b	citizens disentangled the animal; after hooking the rope with a gaff, the float came off but they said the trap was weighing the dolphin down; they were able to get close to it from their boat and cut the rope that was wrapped approx. 3 or 4 times around the peduncle, right at the fluke insertion; the husband felt the weight of the trap sink down after cutting the rope in several places; he grabbed approx. 20 ft of rope from off the dolphin (he

											thought that was all of the gear attached still) and the dolphin swam off; FWC LE will try to retrieve the gear from their house
STR; hook and line gear	SER17-00030 [HBOI-1701c-Tt; c5REEL]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	22-Nov-2016 (first sighted entangled) ; 25-Jan-2017 is the date of stranding entry	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	a black line wrapped around the dolphin's body in front of the dorsal fin (upon disentanglement it later became apparent there was also line leading back to the pectoral fin, and constricting wraps around the pectoral fin)	Not serious	S7b	two disentanglement efforts took place; first was on 14-Dec-2016 and was unsuccessful; second was on 25-Jan-2017 and was successful; the monofilament was wrapped about 8 loops around the pec digging deep into the cranial aspect of the flipper with a larger loop going around the body back to the flipper; there was evidence of prior constriction injuries at the base of the right pec and caudal mandible but no active open wounds at these sites; calf was disentangled and given a shot of antibiotics; mom was tagged, and mom/calf were monitored until 9-Mar-2017; on 12-May-2017 the mom/calf pair was sighted again (mom still had the tag)
STR; hook and line gear	SER17-00031 [Hubbs-1701-Tt; JUNE; calf of SQSH]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	10-Jan-2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	calf documented with entanglement around its flukes and trailing extensive gear; damage to the flukes included lacerations on the leading edges that appear to have made significant progress through the flukes; calf was having difficulty swimming and was surfacing abnormally; calf appeared very thin-emaciated (sunken epaxial musculature and a prominent post-nuchal depression); mother is a known animal (SQSH) and has been in the HBOI catalog since 2002; estimated age of the calf is 2 years 5 months	Not serious	S7b	an intervention took place on 17-Jan-2017; animals were hand captured in the net; veterinarians removed the line from the flukes, treated the wounds and administered an antibiotic; fishing line was deeply embedded at the leading edge of both flukes, nearly severing the left fluke; line was also embedded along the dorsal and ventral surface of the fluke insertion; a radio-transmitter was attached to the mother's dorsal fin to enable post-release monitoring; on 19-Jan-2017 during a photo-ID survey, HSWRI staff located the animals in the same area where they were released on 17-Jan-2017; mother and calf actively avoided the boat and did not allow for many close approaches; calf appeared to have no difficulty keeping up with the mother, and lifted the flukes along the surface when beginning a dive; tag remained active until 9-Mar-2017 and the pair were monitored during that time; in addition mom/calf pair were later sighted on 12-May-2017
STR; hook and line gear; nylon line	SER17-00288 [Hubbs-1711-Tt]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	24-Mar-2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	nylon line was bridled through the calf's mouth strung under the left pectoral flipper and extended up just posterior to the dorsal fin	Not serious	S7b	on 10-May-2017 an intervention occurred (previous attempt on different day was unsuccessful); all gear was removed from the animal

(not fishing gear)								where a carabiner was attached to the end of the rope and secured to the rope extending upward from the right lateral side before it loosely trailed the animal; monofilament fishing line (and a hook 5 cm long) was also entangled in the line near the carabiner and was cutting through the leading edge of the left pectoral flipper (5 cm deep)			and collected; wounds from the bridle through the mouth were present accompanied by granulating tissue which extended along the posterior dorsal surface of the gape; long lasting antibiotics were given; Gear Analysis: hook and mono line likely became entangled after the line interaction with the dolphin and not part of the initial encounter; animal was entangled again in July 2017, but resighted in August 2017 without any entangling gear
STR; trap/pot gear	NER17-00232 [VAQS20171 034]	Tt	ATL/NM Coastal Stock	30-Apr-2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S7a	behavior and orientation of animal at the surface suggested animal was dragging trap/pot gear by its flukes	Serious	S6, S7a	animal was partially disentangled by a citizen who cut most of the line connected to the buoy away (and the buoy); line remained wrapped around the peduncle at flukes; stranding responders attempted further disentanglement but the animal was elusive and they were unable to grapple the gear; animal believed to still be entangled in line connected to trap/pot plus a small piece of buoy line
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	NER17-00728 [VAQS20171 083]	Tt	ATL/ NNCES Stock, NM Coastal Stock, or SM Coastal Stock	23-Oct-2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S7a	animal entangled in crab trap/pot gear; 2 lines were attached to its peduncle and flukes (1 black line, 1 white line); the black rope encircled the peduncle at the fluke insertion twice; the white line was twisted along the black line and then encircled the right fluke blade from the leading edge of the right fluke blade and around the fluke notch; 3 crab traps/pots were attached to the animal; the first was an active crab pot with buoy; the second was a derelict crab pot with line and a buoy; the third was pieces of an additional crab pot with a buoy	Serious	S7b	animal was disentangled by stranding personnel with the assistance of Virginia Marine Police; during the disentanglement the animal was responsive and had one period of thrashing (<30 sec) but was relatively calm; after disentanglement the animal quickly swam under and away from the boat; it surfaced ~20-25 ft away and appeared to be breathing normally but remained relatively stationary, logging at the surface for ~3 minutes while the lines were being pulled in; responders lost sight of the animal after that; duration of entanglement is unknown, but time of the initial report to disentanglement was about 2 hours 20 minutes
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER17-00099 [SC1715]	Tt	ATL/ Charleston Estuarine System Stock	20-Mar-2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S7a	animal entangled in crab trap/pot buoy line; line wrapped around the base of flukes many times and was knotted; the line was double braided nylon 8 mm in diameter and was entangled around the flukes approximately 3 ft from the buoy	CBD	S7b	disentangled by a private citizen who reported he encountered a struggling dolphin being assisted by another dolphin who was pushing the animal to the surface to breathe; he grabbed a boat hook to secure the line and eventually maneuvered the animal to the back of his boat, where he noticed the flukes were severely entangled and knotted; he used a knife to cut through all lines and the

											dolphin swam away quickly with the other dolphin; a small amount of blood was noticed but wounds did not appear to be life-threatening; the citizen encountered the dolphin ~20 minutes after it was first reported by another vessel who saw the animal thrashing at the buoy and another dolphin alongside
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER17-00442 [TtNEFL1715 ; PPEY]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	13-Jul- 2017	Alive	Not serious	S7b	local photo-ID team/researchers encountered a dolphin calf entangled in a crab trap/pot line in the ICW in 8 m of water; the calf was in distress and struggling and there was another dolphin (presumed mom) consistently diving next to it; while the team was approaching and attempting to disentangle the dolphin, it freed itself and no lines were cut on the trap; mom and calf were relocated a few minutes later heading north in the ICW with two other dolphins; the calf appeared in good shape, although there were surface abrasions from the entanglement, but no deep wounds visible	N/A		
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER17-00602 [SC1748]	Tt	ATL/South Carolina/ Georgia Coastal Stock or SM Coastal Stock	11-Dec- 2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S7a	a report was received at 08:23 that a dolphin was entangled in a crab trap/pot buoy line and thrashing; animal was anchored to the pot and entangled in the buoy line	CBD	S7b	ecotour operator and fire department personnel disentangled the dolphin by 09:15; animal was entangled around the insertion of the flukes and was easily cut away; adult dolphin swam away with only minor lacerations to the tail where the entanglement was; disentanglement took about 10 minutes
STR; trap/pot gear and debris	SER17-00684 [Hubbs-1739- Tt; c2SEAB]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	2-Nov- 2017	Alive	Serious	S8a	calf was sighted with debris of unknown origin tightly encircling its head; calf was monitored until an intervention could be staged	Not serious	S7b	on 11 December 2017 an intervention was implemented; calf was found to have a bungee cord with bio-fouling tightly encircling its head; a Keller crab pot hook (trap closure hook) was secured to the cord with two "hog ties" and a yellow "zip tie" was wrapped around the cord; entanglement corresponds with a deep laceration (up to 2 cm) which encircles the majority of the head at varying depths; a deep impression is present along the right lateral side that corresponds with the plastic hook and hog ties; upon gear removal the margins of the wound are granulated with necrotic tissue; wounds were extensively flushed and blood was

											collected from both mom and calf; calf was slightly thin, presents a few skin lesions and teeth without wear; long lasting antibiotics were given and the animals were released; calf was sighted on 22-Feb-2018 and appeared to be doing well
STR; Hawaiian sling/spear	SER17-00078 [Hubbs-1704- Tt; KAI]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	31-Jan- 2017	Alive	Serious	S6	calf was entangled in a Hawaiian sling/spear and listing to the left while swimming; injuries considered to be life threatening	Not serious	S7b	multi-agency disentanglement was implemented on 14-Feb-2017; a rubber loop of a Hawaiian sling/spear was entangled through the mouth and around the calf's left pectoral fin with the spear hanging off caudally; the loop dug into the caudal mandible soft tissue just behind the teeth with the right side being 3 cm deep and the left side being 1.5 cm deep; the rubber loop then wraps behind the left pectoral flipper and had dug its way 2.5 cm cranial through the caudal aspect of the pectoral insertion; there is granulation tissue development and healing of the cut caudal to the current location of the rubber; the spear was still attached and was dragging ventral caudally putting tension on the loop; there is a 40 cm long by 20 cm tall area of discoloration and superficial skin abrasion consistent with chronic rubbing of the spear on the skin; the appearance of granulation tissue and early scab adherence is consistent with the chronicity of this entanglement being greater than 2 weeks old, most likely being just more than a month old; calf prognosis was guarded and focal follow upon release still showed the calf listing while swimming; at time of report preparation, local researchers were still sighting this animal (17-Jul-2018 most recent sighting)
STR; synthetic twine/debris	SER17-00466 [GA2017024; Z58; BWK/SAP #2132]	Tt	ATL/Souther n Georgia Estuarine System Stock	17-Jun- 2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S13a	a charter captain photographed a free-swimming dolphin with an entanglement and wound on its dorsal fin on 17-Jun-2017; the entanglement consisted of twine or other small diameter line cutting 5-10 cm into the lower leading edge of the dorsal fin and passing down each side; the rest of the entanglement was not visible, but presumably encircled the dolphin's	Not serious	S7b	stranding network responders relocated the dolphin on 27 and 29-Jun-2017 and attempted to cut the line with a pole knife, but were unsuccessful; the entanglement was assessed as life-threatening so the dolphin was monitored until a multi-agency capture and disentanglement could be conducted on 13-Jul-2017; the entanglement was a 53 cm diameter loop of 3-4 mm diameter

								body; the flukes were not involved; the dolphin was able to move normally and it was in thin body condition			synthetic orange twine, like the type used on pine straw bales, encircling the dolphin's body loosely, and was easily cut free; there was an open wound where the twine was rubbing inside the dorsal fin, but most of the cut was healing well and there were no other apparent injuries; the wound was cleaned and the dolphin was given an injection of long-acting antibiotics; at time of report preparation, local charterboat captain had sighted this animal as recently as 16-Jul-2018, just over one year from the disentanglement
STR; construction boom	SER17-00590 [Hubbs-1738-Tt]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	22-Nov-2017	Alive	Serious	S7a	construction boom entrapment; dolphin was reported by a local eco-tour company at 10:36am as entrapped within a yellow construction boom on the east side of Dragon Point in the Banana River; operator informed local stranding responders they would be on the water again at noon and would notify if the dolphin was still within the boom; at 13:04 the tour operator called stating the dolphin was still within the construction boom and appeared distressed, pacing along the edge from one end to the other and had drawn a crowd of onlookers including multiple boats and jet skis; law enforcement support was requested	Not serious	S7b	eco-tour company called at 13:36 to update that two citizens were in the water within the boom and splashing in an effort to encourage the dolphin to jump over the barrier; by 13:44 citizens had cut the boom at the center and released the dolphin; FWC law enforcement was on site by land ~5-10 minutes later and confirmed that the boom had been opened and there were no dolphins within the construction area; dolphins were observed along the coastline, behaving normally
STR; commercial stone crab trap/pot gear and commercial spiny lobster trap/pot gear	SER17-00052 [DPMMR-1701-Tt]	Tt	ATL//Florida Bay Stock	26-Jan-2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	animal was entangled in commercial stone crab trap line and pot and also commercial spiny lobster trap line and pot, struggling to surface to breathe; one crab pot line with buoy (stone crab) was wrapped around the animal's peduncle twice and the second crab pot line (spiny lobster) was twisted around the first line over 30 times; appeared the animal was initially entangled and then swam circles around the next line	CBD	S7b	response team disentangled the dolphin and released it with a conspecific; upon approach from the vessel, the animal was calm but it did attempt to dive once the line was secured; surfaced twice to breathe during the disentanglement and did struggle; after line was cut and animal was free, it instantly dove and surfaced ~80 yards away for a quick breath and repeated; response team followed at a distance for less than 3 minutes and the animal appeared to be swimming and breathing normally; animal quickly outswam the response vessel; there were no observable injuries, only superficial scrapes
STR; trap/pot gear	SER17-00713 [CMA-Tt-1711]	Tt	GOM/Waccasassa Bay/Withlac	1-Oct-2017	Alive	Serious	S7b, S8a	calf was entangled in trap/pot buoy line and anchored (there was no buoy present); line was 1/4 inch,	Serious	S7b	the complainants, which disentangled the calf, stated they grabbed the line trailing behind the

			oochee Bay/Crystal Bay Stock					black crab trap line and was still attached to the crab pot; line was described as having been wrapped around the distal peduncle three times			calf, and pulled it to them; they then restrained the calf with the flukes out of the water and cranial aspect down; the calf resisted this and was thrashing violently during their attempts to cut the line; the presumed mom probed the gentlemen with her rostrum 3 to 4 times in the legs and back; using a kitchen knife, the gentlemen cut through all 3 wraps of the line; prior to releasing the animal back into the water, they noted several small abrasions (red in color) on the leading edge of the flukes and the ventral aspect of the caudal peduncle; animal was then released and immediately began swimming away with the presumed mother; they were both seen surfacing as they travelled away; abrasions were described as red in color and appeared fresh; no swelling or embedding of the line was observed; disentanglement was documented via video
STR; trap/pot gear	SER17-00733 [53IMMS122 917]	Tt	GOM/ Mississippi Sound/Lake Borgne/Bay Boudreau Stock	29-Dec- 2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	dolphin was sighted by research crew on a routine dolphin photo-ID trip; it was entangled in what appeared to be a crab pot with line wrapped around both the dorsal fin and pectoral fins; staff recorded photos and videos of the animal and notified NOAA; the animal was not sighted again; no disentanglement attempt was made	N/A		
STR; rope/line	SER17-00500 [GA2134]	Tt	GOM/ Galveston Bay/East Bay/Trinity Bay Stock	30-Jun- 2017	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin was observed by TMMSN volunteer while conducting a Seacamp vessel trip; she observed that the dorsal fin was injured and cut and had what appeared to be a blue rope or line (approximately 1cm diameter and at least several feet long) entangled around the dorsal fin and trailing behind the animal; follow-up surveys were conducted for several weeks in an attempt to locate the animal but it was not resighted	N/A		
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear and research trap/pot gear	SER17-00737 [TtNEFL1706 ; Q32]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	10-May- 2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	dolphin observed entangled in 4 buoys and 3 crab traps; the pectoral fins were hand-cuffed in a figure-eight pattern with line, and there was a single loose wrap around the head; the animal appeared calm as it surfaced, and	Serious	S7b	stranding network responders approached and hooked the buoys with a boat hook, and the dolphin was pulled towards the vessel; under restraint the animal was calm and the tail verified gear free; the animal had abraded, red skin under the right

								the tail wasn't visible; the dolphin was originally entangled in commercial blue crab trap/pot gear, then two other pots and gear were picked up as ancillary entanglers; the second trap tightly wound many times around the first trap; the third trap had a single around the two wound lines of trap #1 and trap #2; traps #1 and #3 were commercial blue crab trap/pot gear, and trap #2 was research trap/pot gear			pectoral fin; the dolphin was freed by slipping line off the pectoral fins and head; animal never struggled during the disentanglement and appeared pretty tired; when all the gear was removed, the animal slowly went under the waterline for a couple of seconds before she took off and was seen to surface 3 times; responders believed the dolphin hesitated because it didn't realize it was gear free
STR; blue crab trap/pot gear	SER17-00736 [TtNEFL1707]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	12-May-2017	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen reported a dolphin was entangled around the fluke insertion, in trap/pot line with the trap still attached; buoy associated with the trap was a red bullet buoy	CBD	S7b	citizen freed the dolphin, but reported abraded, red skin from the entanglement; little info available
STR; hook and line gear and debris	SER17-00742 [TtNEFL1712]	Tt	ATL/JES	29-Jun-2017	Alive	Serious	S8a	local researchers documented a dolphin with a severe mandible entanglement; monofilament line and possibly other gear was wrapped tightly around the mandible, constricting and causing deformities; veterinarians were consulted and this case was deemed life threatening and an intervention was planned; however, the animal was not resighted prior to the planned intervention; animal was resighted in June 2018, one year later, still entangled	N/A		
STR; hook and line gear	NER17-00262 [VAQS20171060]	Tt	ATL/NM Coastal Stock or SM Coastal Stock	22-Jun-2017	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin was entangled around it's dorsal fin with a mass of bright green high-test monofilament line; line appears to be wrapped around the dorsal fin many times, and a "rat's nest" of line is aft of the fin plus line is trailing off the fin and behind the animal; dorsal abrasions/lacerations suggestive of possible peduncle and/or pectoral fin involvement; the animal was slowly approached by a disentanglement team for hours in an attempt to get close enough to disentangle the animal, but the animal was too evasive and the team had to call the efforts off	N/A		
STR; mid-Atlantic gillnet fishery (targeting striped bass)	NER17-00130 [NA1750Tt]	Tt	ATL/NM Coastal Stock	27-Apr-2017	Alive	Serious	S7a	dolphin was entangled in commercial gillnet gear (~9 inch mesh) by its dorsal fin, both pectoral fins, and flukes; this animal was spotted from shore and reported	CBD	S7b	dolphin was disentangled by a Maryland Natural Resources police officer; the animal and gillnet were in the surf, and in order to safely approach, the officer had to attach the net to his patrol vessel and pull

												the net out of the surf; the officer was able to cut the net away from the dolphin's dorsal fin and one of the pec fins; the dolphin rolled and freed its other pec fin, leaving the fluke entanglement, which was the worst of the entanglements; the officer was able to cut some of the net away which loosened the entanglement and the dolphin was able to free itself at that point; he watched the dolphin surface several times as it was swimming away from the area; the elapsed time from the first report to disentanglement was ~1 hour 10 minutes; the officer reported the dolphin had minor abrasions from where the net came in contact with its skin, and that the animal was struggling during the disentanglement trying to swim away from his vessel
STR; trap/pot gear	NER17-00259 [VAQS20171056]	Tt	ATL/NM Coastal Stock or SM Coastal Stock	10-Jun-2017	Alive	Serious	S7a	citizen reported a dolphin entangled in crab trap/pot line	CBD			citizen attempted to disentangle the animal and thought the animal was freed of gear; little info available
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00071 [GA2018009]	Tt	ATL/NGSS CES Stock	23-Feb-2018	Alive	Serious	S7a	marine patrol officer encountered a dolphin entangled in and anchored by crab trap/pot buoy line; line was wrapped around the peduncle ~3 times; animal was thrashing in the water	CBD	S7b		officer disentangled the dolphin; initially the officer attempted a disentanglement on his own for a couple minutes, then returned to the dock and brought 2 more people out to assist; the second attempt took ~3 minutes to disentangle the dolphin; the dolphin was believed to be free of all gear and unharmed; the dolphin swam away and joined other dolphins upon release
STR; hook and line gear	SER18-00102 [CMA-Tt-1804; Lenny]	Tt	GOM/St. Joseph Sound/Clear water Harbor Stock	8-Feb-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin had line and hook wrapped around both flukes and trailing ~2-3 ft behind in a "Y" shape; the flukes are disfigured by a complicated wrap of multi-stranded line with multiple strands present across each point on insertion, and line is embedded within the flukes	Not serious	S7b		stranding partners captured, disentangled, and released the dolphin on 22-Feb-2018; close examination and disentanglement revealed that the ventral fluke surface is diffusely discolored with large areas of elevated nodular white tissue that are associated with the line passage through and against the tissue with possible chronic irritation and movement; 2 strands of line originating from the right fluke loop are causing a deep cut in the ventral fluke ridge then travels to the leading edge of the left fluke; the right loop of line had elicited a tissue response ventrally with a nodular elevation of tissue along the

											insertion line; severity of the wounds was a concern noted by veterinarians; however, animal has been resighted with some regularity by local researchers; alive and in good condition as of 1-Jul-2019
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00133 [SC1816]	Tt	ATL/NSCES Stock	20-Mar- 2018	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin was reported as entangled in and dragging line and trap/pot buoy	CBD		USFWS responded to this report and disentangled the animal; abrasions from the line were noted but animal was considered unharmed; no other details on the condition of the animal or duration of entanglement
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00222 [SC1822]	Tt	ATL/SC/GA Coastal Stock	2-Apr- 2018	Alive	Serious	S7a	initial complainant reported a dolphin entangled in crab trap/pot buoy gear; the complainant saw the dolphin's head only near the buoy; dolphin was stationary with two other dolphins circling it; the buoy was bobbing up and down as the dolphin moved up and down; it appeared the animal was anchored	Serious	S7b	USCG personnel responded and saw two dolphins circling the buoy but no other dolphin; when USCG personnel started pulling the buoy line up, they said it was difficult and 'heavy', and as they were pulling it suddenly became 'light' and easy to pull up; no dolphin was seen by USCG other than the two animals circling; animal may have died and sank
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00225 [GW2018009 A]	Tt	GOM/St. Andrew Bay Stock	8-Mar- 2018	Alive	Serious	S7a	FWC officer on duty responded to a report of dolphin entangled in a crab trap/pot line; the officer reported that the animal was struggling to stay up, was in ~20 ft deep water and the buoy was pulling it down	Serious	S7b	FWC officer proceeded to grab the buoy and pull it alongside his vessel; he disentangled the animal in ~15 minutes; he also reported that the animal was passive during the event; he observed the animal for 15 minutes following disentanglement, and reported that the animal was improving; at first it stayed alongside the boat, but then began swimming more strongly in the direction of deeper water, with the respirations becoming stronger; the line was reportedly wrapped 4-5 times around the flukes, and once removed there was evidence of human interaction
STR; marine debris (rope)	SER18-00246 [SC1823]	Tt	ATL/CES Stock	10-Apr- 2018	Alive	Not serious	S7b	a dolphin in a shallow water creek next to a road had a line wrapped around its flukes; as SCDNR employees approached the animal from the marsh, the animal was spooked and began thrashing; the line was thrown off the flukes by the thrashing; animal disentangled itself prior to intervention	N/A		
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00468 [SC1836]	Tt	ATL/CES Stock	10-Jun- 2018	Alive	Serious	S6	citizens reported a dolphin entangled in crab trap/pot gear; little info available	CBD		citizens disentangled the dolphin; they began pulling the line up and the dolphin slipped out so it was presumed the gear was loosely attached; the disentanglement effort was very brief and the animal was

											reported to be gear-free; no documentation of this case and few details are available
STR; possible gillnet gear; monofilament line and debris	SER18-00592 [27DISL080718	Tt	GOM/Perdido Bay Stock	26-Jul-2018	Alive	Not serious	S7b	dolphin calf was first reported during July 2018 with possible gillnet gear wrapped around its peduncle and flukes and trailing behind the animal; debris was also entangled within the gear; this calf was monitored and a disentanglement effort was planned, but the calf was not resighted during search efforts; during April 2019 the calf and its mother were resighted and the calf was documented to be free of the gear	N/A		
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00619 [NCUR20181002]	Tt	ATL/NNCESS Stock	2-Oct-2018	Alive	Serious	S7a	dolphin was reported as surfacing in the same area for 4 hours and with a buoy attached; it was later determined the animal was entangled in 3 crab traps/pots and 3 buoys twisted around each other	Serious	S6	stranding response teams searched for and found the entangled dolphin; a person in 1 of the 2 boats was able to get ahold of line with a boat hook and pull the dolphin to the side of the boat; 1 member cut the line because he thought the remaining line was merely twisted and would shed easily on its own, however photos documented the line to be knotted; 1 line remained wrapped around the peduncle and knotted with 2 lines trailing a foot behind; the dolphin thrashed during the disentanglement attempt and quickly swam off following cutting the line; however gear remained on the dolphin; it was entangled in 3 crab traps/pots and 3 buoys for at least 6 hours
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00656 [SC1853]	Tt	ATL/CES Stock	29-Sep-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin was reported as entangled in crab trap/pot gear; line was wrapped around the base of the flukes multiple times and a buoy was present; it was later determined that the crab pot was also attached	CBD	S7b	fire department personnel responded within 35 minutes of the report to attempt disentanglement; disentanglement took 3-5 minutes; the dolphin was reported to struggle initially and then calm down once line was being cut; dolphin swam away quickly once released and was observed to surface normally
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00675 [Hubbs-1847-Tt]	Tt	ATL/undefined stock area, (northern Florida estuarine waters)	30-Nov-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin was entangled around its body or pectoral fin in crab trap/pot gear including a buoy and the crab pot; video taken shows the animal to be in good condition and moving well despite dragging the gear	CBD	S7b	dolphin was disentangled by a citizen; the citizen approached in his boat and cut the line; the animal was caught around the body or pectoral flipper and the citizen was confident the animal was free of all gear
STR; buoy line entanglement	SER18-00684 [SC1860]	Tt	ATL/CES	21-Nov-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen found a dolphin entangled around its flukes in unidentified	Serious	S6	citizen attempted to cut the line off the flukes but cut his hand badly during the attempt; dolphin

(dredge buoy or crab trap/pot buoy)								buoy line (either a dredge buoy or crab trap/pot buoy)			remained entangled in the line; law enforcement officers attempted to locate the dolphin but were unable to find it
STR; commercial stone crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00698 [CMA-Tt-1824]	Tt	GOM/Easter n Coastal	17-Nov-2018	Alive	Serious	S7a	citizen found a bottlenose dolphin calf (estimated to be 3–4 ft in length) entangled in crab trap/pot gear; a second, free swimming animal, estimated to be 7–8 ft in length, was observed within 50 ft of the tethered animal; citizen reported the animal was tethered in place, surfacing continuously in the same location	CBD	S7b	citizen and his passengers used a boat hook to grab the buoy line, pulling the animal to the port side of the vessel; they grabbed the flukes of the animal, fully submerging the body cranial of the dorsal fin; calf was thrashing violently as citizens pulled it to the vessel and handled it; citizen stated the animal was wrapped in ½ inch thick black line wrapped 2 full times around the caudal peduncle; no abrasions or discoloration were observed on the peduncle by the citizen; the disentanglement took only ~2 minutes; after the line was cut, the calf took several breaths and then swam away from the vessel at what was described as a "moderate speed"; the second animal swam in the same direction; however, it was not observed closely associated with the calf
STR; rope/line	SER18-00847 [Hubbs-1851-Tt]	Tt	ATL/undefined stock area, (northern Florida estuarine waters)	8-Aug-2018	Alive	Not serious	S7b	researchers documented a 3-month old calf of known mother with rope bridled through its mouth and wrapped around the body with rope trailing along the left side; during observations the calf appeared to be attempting to dislodge the rope by arching, leaping and rolling at the surface across the mother's back; rope impressions were apparent, but no open wounds; an intervention effort was planned for 10-Aug-2018; the calf was quickly located swimming with its mother, free from the entanglement with gear impressions apparent around the head; researchers conducted focal follows to confirm that the calf was no longer entangled; calf was observed swimming normally	N/A		
STR; crab trap/pot gear	NER18-00881 [VAQS20181089]	Tt	ATL/NNCES Stock, NM Coastal Stock, or SM Coastal Stock	20-Sep-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen reported a dolphin entangled in crab trap/pot gear; the dolphin was entangled in line and a buoy; the line was wrapped around its mandible 4 times and also around its pectoral fins	CBD	S7b	separate citizens from the one who made the report disentangled the dolphin from their kayak; the animal was thrashing during the disentanglement effort; all gear was removed and the animal swam away vigorously

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STR; hook and line gear	SER18-00628 [47IMMS101 218]	Sb	GOM	12-Oct- 2018	Alive	Serious	S5a	juvenile rough-toothed dolphin stranded hooked in the mouth with additional hooks and line trailing from the first hook; this gear type is called a "Ballyhoo Rig"; dolphin also was reported to have a hook above the eye when it stranded but that was no longer there when stranding responders arrived on scene; dolphin had a deep abscess in its oral cavity; responders noted the gear was suspected of contributing to the stranding event; dolphin was taken to rehab and later deemed unreleasable and is being held permanently in captivity	N/A
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**TABLE 2: Summary of Small Cetacean<sup>1</sup> Injury Categories and Criteria**

Instructions: Each small cetacean injury event is recorded to the appropriate injury/information category using all available information and scientific judgment, as described in the Procedural Directive. For a single injury event to which several categories apply, the injury determination with the highest level of severity is assigned. More detailed information or extended observation on an individual case/animal may justify a determination differing from the guidance of this table. Any injury leading to apparent significant health decline (e.g., skin discoloration, fat loss) is a serious injury.			
Category	Injury/Information	Injury Determination <sup>2</sup>	Additional factors for evaluating whether “case specific” injuries are serious or non-serious (additional factors at end of table) *
S1	A free-swimming animal observed at a date later than its human interaction, exhibiting signs of declining health believed to be resulting from initial injury (e.g., a marked skin discoloration, fat loss)	SI <sup>3</sup>	
S2	Ingested gear <sup>4</sup> or hook(s)	SI	
S3	Visible blood loss	Case specific <sup>5</sup>	Amount of blood, location of the bleeding injury, duration of bleeding
S4	Animal brought on vessel deck following entanglement/entrapment (excluding scientific research targeting marine mammals and authorized as such under a NMFS scientific research permit, where the animal is brought on and placed on the vessel deck in a controlled manner)	SI	
S5a	Hook(s) in head (excluding criterion S5b), regardless of the presence of gear	SI	
S5b	Hook(s) confirmed in lip only, external tissue outside of teeth, no trailing gear	Case specific	Prolonged restraint or struggle that could lead to capture myopathy, size of hook, depth of hooking, impairing ability to feed, presence of other injuries
S5c	Hook(s) in any body part, but hook(s) is removed or pulls out	Case specific	Prolonged restraint or struggle that could lead to capture myopathy, depth of hook, hook pulls out cleanly vs. causes further injury during dehooking, method used to remove hook, length of time hooked
S5d	Hook(s) in appendage or body (excluding criterion S5a), without trailing gear or with trailing gear that does not have the potential <sup>6</sup> to: 1) become a constricting wrap on animal; 2) be ingested; 3) accumulate drag; or 4) become snagged on something in the environment, anchoring the animal	Case specific	Prolonged restraint or struggle that could lead to capture myopathy, depth and location of hook, type and amount of gear attached

<sup>1</sup> For the purposes of this table, small cetaceans include all odontocetes except sperm whales.

<sup>2</sup> This table includes only those criteria determined to be serious injuries or case specific based on expert opinion at the 2007 Workshop (Andersen *et al.*, 2008) and by small cetacean experts on the NMFS Determination Staff working group. For the purposes of streamlining the information for the reader, criteria determined to be non-serious injuries are not included in this table.

<sup>3</sup> SI = serious injury.

<sup>4</sup> For the purposes of this table, gear is defined as any portion of fishing gear excluding the hook, which is considered separately. Lures are considered gear. Gear also generally refers to any type of debris entangling or attached to the animal.

<sup>5</sup> Case specific = Could be a serious or non-serious injury, but either 1) there is insufficient information about the impact of a particular injury, or 2) additional factors must be considered on a case-by-case basis to determine the severity

<sup>6</sup> For the purposes of this table, “potential” as it relates criterion S5d indicates that the trailing gear IS NOT capable of leading to any of the situations listed.

S6	Gear attached to free-swimming animal with potential <sup>7</sup> to: 1) become a constricting wrap on animal; 2) be ingested; 3) accumulate drag; or 4) become snagged on something in the environment, anchoring the animal	SI	
S7a	Anchored, immobilized, or entrapped and not freed	SI	
S7b	Anchored, immobilized, entangled, or entrapped before being freed without gear attached	Case specific	Duration of entanglement/entrapment, prolonged restraint or struggle that could lead to capture myopathy, gear type, where/how gear is attached to animal, associated injury (i.e., where directly or indirectly caused by initial entanglement), response of individual animal, method used by human to remove gear from animal
S8a	Gear wrapped and constricting on any body part or is likely to become constricting as the animal moves or grows	SI	
S8b	Gear wrapped and loose on any body part	Case specific	Gear type, amount of gear, potential for snag, potential to lead to criterion S8a, animal body size relative to gear (e.g., because of species or age), effect on animal movement, species sensitivity (e.g., frightens easily)
S9	Body trauma <sup>8</sup> not covered by any other criteria	Case specific	Location of wound, depth (e.g., superficial or to the bone, penetrating muscle or organs), length, number of lacerations, cleanliness (i.e., compression vs. tearing)
S10	Visible fracture(s), excluding pectoral fins (see criterion S13d for pectoral fin fractures)	SI	
S11	Vertebral transection, including fully severed flukes	SI	
S12	Body cavity penetration <sup>9</sup> by foreign object or body cavity exposure	SI	
S13a	Loss or disfigurement of dorsal fin	Case specific	Cleanliness (i.e., compression vs. tearing), nature of injury causing the loss, extent of fin loss (i.e., full or partial), amount and duration of blood loss
S13b	Partially severed flukes, transecting midline	SI	

<sup>7</sup> For the purposes of this table, potential as it relates criterion S6 indicates that the trailing gear IS capable of leading to any of the situations listed.

<sup>8</sup> For the purposes of this table, “trauma” is defined as a wound or bodily harm caused by an extrinsic agent. Blunt trauma is an injury (abrasion, laceration, contusion or skeletal fracture) produced by a blunt object striking the body or impact of the body against a blunt object or surface. Sharp force trauma is an injury caused by a sharp or pointed object creating a penetrating (stab, chop or incision) wound. Laceration is defined as a ragged incision or a tearing of the skin. Lacerations are caused by blunt trauma that results in stretching, tearing, crushing, shearing, or avulsion of the tissue.

<sup>9</sup> For the purposes of this table, “penetration” is defined as a wound occurring when a foreign object punctures the body. Penetrating wounds can be characterized as one of three types: stab (small external wound that is greater in length into the body than is apparent on the skin surface), incised (clean cuts into the skin which are longer on the skin surface than they are deep), or chop wounds (incised wounds that penetrate deep to the bone, leaving a groove or cut in the bone).

S13c	Partially severed flukes, not transecting midline	Case specific	Cleanliness (i.e., compression vs. tearing), nature of injury causing the loss, amount and duration of blood loss
S13d	Partially or completely severed or fractured pectoral fin(s)	Case specific	Cleanliness (i.e., compression vs. tearing), nature of injury causing the loss, extent of fin loss (i.e., full or partial), amount and duration of blood loss, opened or closed fracture
S14	Social animal separated from group and/or released alone post-interaction (excluding criterion S15)	Case specific	Species (e.g., sensitivity, offshore vs. inshore), location of release (e.g., likelihood of animal locating its conspecifics)
S15	Dependent animal (i.e., calf, juvenile) released alone post-interaction or dependent animal left with a seriously injured or dead mother	SI	
S16	Observed or reported collision with vessel	Case specific	Speed of vessel, size of vessel, hull shape, part of vessel to strike the animal, size of animal compared to size of vessel, behavior of animal after collision, extent and location of wound(s) on animal

\* Factors listed in the far right column of Table 2 are unique to the associated injury type. In addition to those listed in this column, the factors that should be considered, if available, when reviewing all case specific injury events in Table 2 include, but are not limited to:

- Species
- Age or age class (e.g., calf, juvenile, adult)
- Sex
- Size of animal
- Overall health (e.g., nutritional status, body condition, pre-existing disease state, pre-existing injuries)
- Behavior during and/or after injury-causing interaction (e.g., dorsal arching, listlessness)
- Reproductive status (e.g., pregnant, lactating, has dependant calf)
- Natural history (e.g., indigenous, migratory)
- Location of injury (e.g., mouth, head, body, fin, tail, internal)
- Size of injury
- Duration of injury (e.g., single event, repeated, chronic)
- Depth of injury (e.g., superficial or to the bone, penetrating muscle or organs)
- Cleanliness of injury (e.g., compression, tearing)
- Environmental condition (e.g., individuals out of their normal habitat, climate stressors)
- Social stressors (e.g., social structure of species, separation of social individuals from the group, cow/calf separation)
- Cumulative effects of repeated exposures
- Compounding effects of multiple injuries obtained during a single event
- Availability of data on multiple sequential events involving the same individual over time
- Susceptibility of the species to capture myopathy (spinner dolphins and porpoises notoriously sensitive; bottlenose dolphins robust; many others fall in between, with some unknown)
- Ability of rehabilitated animal to be released
- Relative effect of blood loss on different species

In addition to those factors listed above, the factors that apply to all fishery-interaction related case specific injuries include, but are not limited to:

- Entanglement type (e.g., hooked, anchored, entrapment)
- Amount and size of gear (e.g., size, length and number of branches of line; number of buoys, traps or anchors; volume of netting)
- Entanglement constriction (e.g., tight, loose, multiple wraps)
- Habitat where animal is located (e.g., an animal with trailing gear areas of dense gear or an area with vegetation is more likely to risk snagging the gear and becoming anchored)
- Entanglement duration
- Existence, type and amount of any trailing gear
- Method of handling the animal during disentanglement