



## **Serious Injury Determinations for Small Cetaceans off the Southeast U.S. Coast, 2016–2020**

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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, where a “serious injury” is defined as an injury that is more likely than not to lead to the death of the animal. 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 2016–2020.

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. Serious injury determinations were made in each case 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.

Serious injury determinations were made following NMFS 2012 policy and guidelines (NMFS 2012a, b). Initial determinations were made for each case 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 and NMFS Southeast Regional Office, as well as by Atlantic Scientific Review Group members.

In some cases, NOAA, stranding network partners, or private citizens disentangled or removed hooks from an animal post-interaction (i.e., at some time after the initial entanglement or hooking). In cases 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 fishers 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 initial (pre-mitigation) determinations are 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 Potential Biological Removal (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 2021) 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.

The assignment of animals from the Western North Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico to a particular stock is impossible in some seasons and regions due to stock overlap (e.g., coastal waters of North Carolina and Virginia and estuarine waters near Beaufort Inlet). Therefore, some of the animals in Table 1 were assigned to more than one possible stock of origin (see Maze-Foley *et al.* 2019 for details on how animals are assigned to stock).

For common bottlenose dolphin SARs that were revised in 2022 (1 Gulf of Mexico and 8 Atlantic bay, sound, and estuary stocks (BSE)), any cases that were evaluated for serious injury where it could not be determined whether or not the animal was seriously injured, denoted as “CBD”, were assigned to an injury category (i.e., serious or not serious) based upon the observed proportion of serious injuries in prior cases of common bottlenose dolphins from 2007 to 2020 where an injury determination could be made as recommended in the NMFS (2012b) procedural guidelines. All cases were categorized by the type of gear interaction (i.e., hook and line or trap/pot gear), age class of the animal (calf or non-calf), and whether it was an initial determination (no mitigation or pre-mitigation) or a post-mitigation determination. Calves were animals denoted as such in descriptions or described as small, yearling, or a juvenile/small animal with a larger animal nearby. We used a one-sided z-test for proportions to determine if the observed data from prior years in each interaction category provide sufficient evidence to assign CBD cases to an injury category. The null hypothesis for these tests was that the observed proportion of serious injuries was equal to 0.5. When sample sizes were insufficient to allow the test (5 or fewer observations), the CBD observations were prorated. The procedure for assigning CBD cases to injury categories is described in Table 2.

## Results

One hundred seventy-five small cetacean events from southeast U.S. waters during 2016–2020 for which a determination was made of serious versus non-serious injury are included in Table 1. All events involved a common bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) with the exception of one, which involved a single rough-toothed dolphin (*Steno bredanensis*). The Gulf of Mexico rough-toothed dolphin was considered seriously injured. In total, 93 common bottlenose dolphins were considered seriously injured; 40 common bottlenose dolphins were considered not seriously injured; and for 41 common bottlenose dolphins, it could not be determined if the injury was serious or not.

For the nine common bottlenose dolphin BSE SARs revised in 2022, there were 16 CBD cases in total from the following seven stocks: Charleston Estuarine System (n=5), Indian River Lagoon Estuarine System (n=3), Jacksonville Estuarine System (n=3), Northern Georgia/Southern South Carolina Estuarine System (n=1), Northern South Carolina Estuarine System (n=1), Southern Georgia Estuarine System (n=1), and Florida Bay (n=2). The remaining two BSE stocks updated for 2022, Biscayne Bay and Central Georgia Estuarine System stocks, had no CBD cases in need of further evaluation. The outcomes of assignment of the CBD cases are presented in the stock summaries within Table 1 below and in the relevant SAR. The results of the statistical tests for each category are shown in Table 3.

The Western North Atlantic common bottlenose dolphin stocks for which cases were evaluated for serious injuries included the following: Northern Migratory Coastal Stock; Southern

Migratory Coastal Stock; South Carolina/Georgia Coastal Stock; Northern Florida Coastal Stock; Central Florida Coastal Stock; Northern North Carolina Estuarine System (NNCES) Stock; Southern North Carolina Estuarine System (SNCES) Stock; Northern South Carolina Estuarine System (NSCES) Stock; Biscayne Bay; 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; and Indian River Lagoon Estuarine System (IRLES) Stock.

The Gulf of Mexico common bottlenose dolphin stocks for which cases were evaluated for serious injuries included 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 Stock; Galveston Bay/East Bay/Trinity Bay Stock; Barataria Bay Estuarine System Stock; Mississippi Sound/Lake Borgne/Bay Boudreau Stock; Mobile Bay/Bonsecour Bay Stock; Perdido Bay Stock; Pensacola Bay/East Bay; Choctawhatchee Bay Stock; St. Andrew 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; Caloosahatchee River Stock; Estero Bay Stock; Chokoloskee Bay/Ten Thousand Islands/Gullivan Bay Stock; Florida Keys Stock; Western Coastal 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 (n=92 stranding records excluding incidental takes). The majority of stranding records were cases of bottlenose dolphins entangled in commercial blue crab trap/pot gear or unidentified trap/pot gear and hook and line fishing gear. The remaining stranding records included entanglements in unidentified rope/line/gear, commercial stone crab trap/pot gear, commercial spiny lobster trap/pot gear, research trap/pot gear, research seine gear, marine debris, stop net gear, mid-Atlantic gillnet gear, an unidentified buoy, Hawaiian sling/spear gear, and marine debris, and a construction boom entrapment. The second largest number of records were from at-sea observations (n=62), and the majority of observations consisted of animals entangled in and sometimes trailing hook and line fishing gear, monofilament line, unidentified line/rope/gear, and trap/pot gear. There were also at-sea records of animals entangled in gillnet gear, debris, packing strap or band, unidentified net, and unidentified buoys, and records of animals with vessel-strike wounds. The third most frequent number of records were of incidental takes (n=16 incidental take records, 12 of which were also included within the stranding data) involving research fishing gear, the majority of which was gillnet gear, but there were also records of vertical longline gear, trawl gear, hook and line gear, and seine gear (unauthorized research gear takes). There was also one vessel strike by a research vessel and one take in a commercial shrimp trawl. In addition, there were observer program records (n=3) from the mid-Atlantic gillnet fishery and the snapper-grouper and other reef fish bottom longline fishery. Finally, there were 2 records from the Marine Mammal Authorization Program (fisherman self-reports).

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**Tables 1a–1c.** Serious injury (SI) determinations for cetaceans taken in SE U.S. waters during 2016–2020 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). Table 1a contains cases from the Gulf of Mexico, Table 1b contains cases from the Atlantic Ocean, and Table 1c contains cases from the Caribbean Sea. 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 = could not be determined. SI Averted = a SI was averted due to disentanglement or other mitigation efforts, such that the initial SI determination was “Serious” but the post-mitigation SI determination was “Not serious”.

**Table 1a. Gulf of Mexico**

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 on SI Determination (N/A is noted for cases without mitigation)	NMFS 2012 SI Policy Criteria (for Small Cetaceans)	SI Averted	Post-Mitigation Injury Determination Criteria/Comments
At-Sea	Row 181 [Y49]	Tt	GOM/Barataria Bay Estuarine System Stock	7-Jun-2019	Alive	Serious	S6	researchers documented an animal with an entanglement of monofilament line (rat’s nest) near the tip of the dorsal fin and trailing off/behind the dorsal fin	N/A		N/A	
STR; live-capture animal; hook and line gear	SER17-00774 [MCT-20170919-LA001]; also YV7 (SER10-0866)	Tt	GOM/Barataria Bay Estuarine System Stock	19-Sep-2017		Serious	S6, S8a	female dolphin was first observed with entanglement during photo ID surveys on 13-Nov-2010 and has been observed several other occasions since then; members of the public have provided cell phone images and observations of the entanglement to the stranding network over the years as well; animal was sighted again in September 2017 while conducting health assessments in Barataria Bay; examination later revealed the animal had monofilament line wrapped around her which had cut into the animal as she grew; the gear had a knot in it and was wrapped around her completely just behind the blowhole and in front of pec fins	Not serious	S7b	Yes	during health assessments the capture crew observed YV7 with three other animals (males) and captured the group to assess YV7; during veterinarian assessment, a portable ultrasound was utilized to examine the area of the entanglement and scar tissue and observed monofilament which had cut into the animal as she grew; the gear had a knot in it and was wrapped around her completely just behind the blowhole and in front of pec fins; the gear was removed and retained; animal was captured again during 2018 and sighted during

												2019 during a Reproductive Outcomes survey on 9-Jun-2019
<b>Barataria Bay Estuarine System Stock summary (n=2 cases): Total # of Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=1; # CBD=0.</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 1</b>	
At-sea	Row 212	Tt	GOM/Caloosahatchee River Stock	7-Aug-2020	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen documented a dolphin with plastic debris, likely part of plastic bag, encircling its body, posterior to the blowhole and anterior of the pectoral fins	N/A		N/A	
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER19-00193[F MMSN1914]	Tt	GOM/Caloosahatchee River Stock	10-Feb-2019	Alive, anchored	Serious	S7a, S8a	a dolphin was reported entangled; responders found the animal entangled around the peduncle and anchored in place by commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	Not serious	S7b	Yes	Responders remotely disentangled the dolphin; the animal was brought to the side of the vessel and the gear was removed; dolphin was released gear-free; animal was observed on 26-Mar-2019 successfully foraging off a seawall and appeared in good body condition
<b>Caloosahatchee River Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=1; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 1</b>	
At-sea	Row 30, vessel-strike tab	Tt	GOM/Choctawhatchee Bay Stock	21-Sep-2020	Alive, "peanut" head and visible ribs	Serious	S13a	citizen reported a dolphin with a floppy dorsal fin and pink and white tissue; stranding network subsequently found the animal and took photos and video; dorsal fin is sliced once and bent to the left at a 90 deg angle; white and offwhite tissue was observed at the wound site; animal is thin with visible ribs and a "peanut" head	N/A		N/A	
STR; hook and line gear	dependent calf of SER20-00158 [05ECWR021020]	Tt	GOM/Choctawhatchee Bay Stock	10-Feb-2020 to 5-Mar-2020	dependent calf, thought to be ~1.5-2 years old	Serious	S15	an adult dolphin (presumed mother) with an accompanying calf was continuously monitored via photo-ID surveys during February and early March 2020 due to severe entanglement and obvious signs of emaciation; it was deemed an intervention was necessary to disentangle the animal, however, due to no additional sightings the intervention was postponed; on 5 March 2020 the adult stranded dead	N/A		N/A	
<b>Choctawhatchee Bay Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 172 [FMMS N1903, Ariel]	Tt	GOM/Chokoloskee Bay/Ten Thousand Islands/ Gullivan Bay Stock	6-Jan-2019	Alive	Not serious	S13a	researchers documented an animal with monofilament wrapped around its dorsal fin, cutting into the anterior/leading edge of the fin, and trailing behind the animal; animal was later documented gear-free with no intervention	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 173	Tt	GOM/Chokoloskee Bay/Ten Thousand Islands/ Gullivan Bay Stock	15-Feb-2019	Alive	Serious	S8a, S13a	public and researchers documented an animal with biofouled monofilament wrapped around its dorsal fin, cutting through and disfiguring the fin, with gear trailing behind the dorsal fin	N/A		N/A	
<b>Chokoloskee Bay/Ten Thousand Islands/Gullivan Bay Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=2; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
ITR; STR; hook and line research gear	SER17-00786 (recently entered in STR data)	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		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		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 fin and pectoral flippers; 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 feet of line still attached (totaling ~5 lbs); the observer noticed abrasions from the gear near the flukes	N/A		N/A	
<b>Continental Shelf Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=3; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		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	<p>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 flipper; 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 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 pectoral flipper 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</p>	N/A		N/A	
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ITR; STR; research gillnet gear	SER19- 01183 [PO546 B]	Tt	GOM/Copano Bay, ... Stock	18- Sep- 2019	Alive	Serious	S7b	a dolphin became entangled in a research gillnet arounds its flukes; the entanglement wraps consisted of both the floatline, leadline and the entire mesh in between, and all this gear was wrapped around 3-4 times; it is not certain how long the animal was entangled due to the net soaking overnight unattended; researchers cut through 3 lines to remove the animal; was initially entangled in the anchor line first then wrapped into other lines; animal wasn't as active at first but became more active as it noticed the researchers' presence; as the researchers pulled the net up (and hence flukes), it would get more lively, then they would take a break and it would bring its flukes back down and calm down; animal had small (1-2 inch by .25 inch) shallow wound on base of tail; immediately swam away slowly; appeared fatigued	N/A		N/A	
<b>Copano Bay, ... Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=3; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		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		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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 178	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	16- Apr- 2019	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen reported a dolphin bobbing up and down near a red/white crab trap buoy for ~20 minutes, and then swimming south dragging the buoy behind it; stranding network and law enforcement members searched for the animal but were unable to locate it	N/A		N/A	

At-Sea	Row 186	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	22-Jul-2019	Alive, reported as lethargic	Serious	S6	citizen documented an animal with what appears to be an entanglement around the right pectoral fin and trailing several feet along the body; poor photo quality prevents discerning details	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 193	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	22-Oct-2019	Alive	Serious	S5a	citizen reported an animal with line and hook in its mouth; later confirmed by stranding network but no photos were obtained	N/A		N/A	
At-sea	Row 218	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	26-Oct-2020	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen reported a calf of a mom-calf pair with black line wrapped around its body in front of and behind the dorsal fin; no buoy present; calf did not appear to be anchored; citizen observed animals from his boogie board at close distance and thought it looked like crab pot line	N/A		N/A	
STR; commercial stone crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00698 [CMA-Tt-1824]	Tt	GOM/Eastern Coastal Stock	17-Nov-2018	Alive	Serious	S7a	citizen found a bottlenose dolphin calf (estimated to be 3-4 feet in length) entangled in crab trap/pot gear; a second, free swimming animal, estimated to be 7-8 feet in length, was observed within 50 feet of the tethered animal; citizen reported the animal was tethered in place, surfacing continuously in the same location	CBD	S7b	No	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 1/2 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

<b>Eastern Coastal Stock summary (n=8 cases): # Serious injuries=6; # Not serious=0; # CBD=2</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		N/A	
<b>Eastern Coastal Stock or Tampa Bay Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
At-Sea	Row 160	Tt	GOM/Estero Bay Stock	26-Mar-2018	Alive	Serious	S5a	ecotour operator documented a dolphin with a hook in its mouth with line connecting to and entangling the left pectoral flipper; the line is biofouled	N/A		N/A	
<b>Estero Bay Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
STR; commercial stone crab trap/pot gear and commercial spiny lobster trap/pot gear	SER17-00052 [DPMM R-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; 1 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	No	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; commercial stone crab trap/pot gear	SER20- 00315 [DPMM R-2003- Tt]	Tt	GOM/Florida Bay Stock	18- Apr- 2020	Alive	Serious	S6, S7a	on 18 April 2020 at 1400 hrs local fishing guides reported a dolphin struggling in near shore waters (5-8 ft deep); dolphin was described as struggling to surface at 30 second intervals against an increasing tidal flow; the dolphin apparently dragged the trap from where it was set in ~5 ft depth towards a channel 7-9 feet deep; video depicted it surfacing near vertically for air	CBD		No	guides who initially reported the dolphin (1400 hrs) made one unsuccessful attempt to disentangle it from a crab pot buoy line wrapped around the tail fluke; at 1515 hrs, responders removed a three-strand 3/8" polypropylene line from the peduncle and the animal was released without incident; dolphin remained calm and did not struggle during assessment and disentanglement; a ~30-min focal follow was conducted post-release; during post-release observations the dolphin demonstrated stability, strength and ability to navigate, while slowly regaining strength and increasing swimming speed over the course of first 10-12 minutes post release; respiration rate returned to normal; superficial wounds visible on the ventral peduncle; no other marks, external injuries or evidence of HI present
<b>Florida Bay Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=0; # CBD=2, before analysis of CBD cases. The 2 CBDs were prorated as 0.9 SIs. Revised total: # Serious injures=0.9; # Not serious=0.</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

STR; commercial spiny lobster trap/pot gear	SER19- 01277 [DPMM R-1908- Tt]	Tt	GOM/Florida Keys Stock	30- Nov- 2019	Alive, anchored	Serious	S7a	tour operator sighted a mom/calf pair; calf was entangled in lobster trap/pot gear and was struggling to reach the surface; mom was pushing the animal to the surface	Serious	S6	No	tour operator approached the pair and crew jumped into the water; the animals became agitated and began swimming rapidly and were very vocal; the crew then dove down to the pot and cut line as high up as they could trying not cause more stress to the calf; calf swam away with what appeared to be three wraps at the base of peduncle and 5- 6 feet of trailing line
<b>Florida Keys Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 184	Tt	GOM/Galveston Bay/East Bay/Trinity Bay Stock	3-Jun- 2019	Alive	Serious	S8a , S13a	researchers documented an animal with an entanglement of monofilament line wrapping tightly around, cutting through, and disfiguring the dorsal fin so that it twists and turns in multiple directions; animal has not been resighted	N/A		N/A	
STR; rope/line	SER17- 00500 [GA213 4]	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		N/A	
<b>Galveston Bay/East Bay/Trinity Bay Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=3; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

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 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)	N/A		N/A	
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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 194	Tt	GOM/Laguna Madre Stock	18- Nov- 2019	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	ecotour operator documented an animal with an entanglement around its flukes; entanglement is heavily biofouled and trailing behind the flukes; appears line is cutting deeply into the leading edge of flukes	N/A		N/A	
ITR; research gillnet (routine fishery- independen t sampling program)		Tt	GOM/Laguna Madre Stock	9-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		N/A	



ITR; STR; research gillnet gear	SER19-01205 [CC369]	Tt	GOM/Laguna Madre Stock	2-Oct-2019	Alive	Serious	S7b	biologists noticed one of the largest floats out of place along the research gillnet as they patrolled the net; when they approached they could hear and see a dolphin calmly resting at the surface, not thrashing; it appeared to hit the mono mesh and turned and became entangled by its flukes; dolphin was wrapped no more than twice; there were three biologists on boat; they went directly to the animal and all assumed roles; they gently held tail up and allowed it to rest; they cut all gear off the fluke (line was cut in four places in floatline and leadline; would allow the dolphin to come up and breathe, cut gear away, allow it to rest, then cut some more; dolphin became active when they would lift fluke up; dolphin would thrash a little bit at times, but not for very long, just a couple of thrashes when lifted tail up higher; when biologists thought the dolphin was getting agitated, they would put tail back in the water, then let it calm, and start again; when free of the gear, the dolphin did not shoot away immediately but breathed by the boat; it swam away and came up and breathed again; dolphin left pretty quickly and was observed probably less than 5 minutes; animal reported to have no noticeable injuries	N/A		N/A	
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	No	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

<b>Laguna Madre Stock summary (n=6 cases): # Serious injuries=3; # Not serious=2; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
ITR & STR; research gillnet (routine fishery-independent sampling program)	SER16-00562 [PO521]	Tt	GOM/Matagorda Bay/Tres Palacios Bay/Lavaca Bay Stock	3-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 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	N/A		N/A	
<b>Matagorda Bay/Tres Palacios Bay/Lavaca Bay Stock summary (n=1 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
ITR & STR; commercial shrimp trawl fishery	SER20-00488 [56IMM S072120]	Tt	GOM/Mississippi Sound/Lake Borgne/Bay Boudreau Stock	21-Jul-2020	Alive	Serious	S4	captain of shrimp trawler reported a live dolphin had been entangled in rope, not net and that he had brought dolphin onto boat deck and removed rope entangled around peduncle (report at 9:40am); stranding network responded, arriving around 10:10am; upon arrival, dolphin was in left lateral recumbency; Captain stated he attempted to put animal in ventral recumbency previously but animal began thrashing; responders placed animal in ventral recumbency and monitored breaths; minor abrasions were noted on dorsal and ventral peduncle; dolphin was released from side of the boat at 10:30am; Captain stated dolphin was out of the water for over an hour; dolphin was not sighted again after release	N/A		N/A	
STR; trap/pot gear	SER17-00733 [53IMM S122917]	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 flippers; staff recorded photos and videos of the animal and notified NOAA; the animal was not sighted again; no disentanglement attempt was made	N/A		N/A	
<b>Mississippi Sound/Lake Borgne/Bay Boudreau Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

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		N/A	
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		N/A	
<b>Mobile Bay/Bonsecour Bay Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		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 feet behind the animal; unclear where the animal is entangled	N/A		N/A	
At-sea	Row 28, vessel-strike tab	Tt	GOM/Northern Coastal Stock	12-Jun-2020	Alive	CBD		ecotour operator reported a dolphin with a wound that was deep and just anterior to the dorsal fin; described as looking like a fresh propeller wound; little info available	N/A		N/A	
<b>Northern Coastal Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

At-sea	Row 209 [Half hitch or half tail]	Tt	GOM/Pensacola Bay Stock	26-Jun-2019; 4-Jul-2020	Alive	Not serious	S5c	citizen documented a dolphin with a hook, likely a J hook, in the left gape area; animal subsequently documented on 4-Jul-2020 and appears to be gear free with possibly a small scar in left gape area	N/A		N/A	
<b>Pensacola Bay Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=1; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
At-Sea	Row 25, vessel-strike tab	Tt	GOM/Perdido 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		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		N/A	
ITR; STR; experimental research gillnet gear	SER19-01285 [59DISL 110519]	Tt	GOM/Perdido Bay Stock	5-Nov-2019	Alive	CBD		while biologists were retrieving an experimental gillnet that had been soaking for an hour, they came across a dolphin entangled in the mesh; they didn't notice any splashing until within 20 feet of dolphin; dolphin was completely submerged within 2 feet of water, with one layer of net totally entangled over it; once reached dolphin, it had slipped out of the mesh layer and was just entangled in the rope; float and lead lines were wrapped around flukes; dolphin was kicking its flukes profusely; it was reported to have 5-7 layers of line wrapped around its flukes indicating it had rolled in the net; one biologist held onto the dolphin while the other cut the net and lines free with a knife; disentanglement process took ~7 minutes until the dolphin was released free of gear; animal was reported to swim away vigorously unharmed with only a small laceration at the base of the dorsal fin with minimal bleeding (from a screw on the gunwale of the boat)	N/A		N/A	

ITR & STR; research gillnet	SER20-00059 [05DISL 010820]	Tt	GOM/Perdido Bay Stock	8-Jan-2020	Alive	Not serious	S7b	incidental take in state-run fisheries research project; the 800 ft net had been set for ~50 min when splashing was heard and researchers could see a dolphin surfacing and splashing near the net; by the time researchers turned the boat on and reached the net (~30 sec), the dolphin had disentangled itself and swam away; upon inspection of the net, a tear of ~1 m and another of ~50 cm were observed	N/A		N/A	
ITR & STR; research gillnet	SER20-00228 [13DISL 031020]	Tt	GOM/Perdido Bay Stock	1-Mar-2020	Alive	Not serious	S7b	incidental take in state-run fisheries research project; after ~50 minutes of soak time researchers noticed a little bit of splashing in net and could tell it was a dolphin, and they saw a second dolphin on the outside of the net; they moved their vessel up to the dolphin to grab the floatline but cut the engine first; work was conducted from the bow; there was one layer of monofilament net around the flukes but no lead or float line; grabbed mesh up to and on top of the flukes on the animal; when they pulled around one side of the fluke, it released the other side of the fluke and the dolphin shot out of the net and the other dolphin swam away with it; animal swam away with no gear remaining on the body; researchers believed both animals swam off together – saw two animals breathing about 100 m away headed south and less than a minute later; they noted it almost seemed like there was an existing hole in the net that the dolphin shot through but the edges of the fluke got caught; during the disentanglement, the dolphin never surfaced until after it shot out of the net; as biologist pulled up (took maybe 30 sec to idle over to the area), pulled the dolphin up about 1 ft; no splashing because the dolphin was submerged underwater; when pulled mono off fluke, it was on its way to diving; no splashing; at this depth, the net was fairly stretched open [Note, researchers thought the animal outside the net was much larger than the one entangled, so	N/A		N/A	

								this was likely a mom/calf pair with the calf entangled]				
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		N/A	
STR; entanglement of unknown nature; semi-anchored	SER20-00572 [68DISL101620]	Tt	GOM/Perdido Bay Stock	16-Oct-2020	Alive	Serious	S6, S7a	a young dolphin was reported entangled in line and semi-anchored in place at 10:13 hrs; according to the reporter and a video submitted, the dolphin was able to reach the surface to breathe, but was struggling against the line holding it in place and having some difficulty breathing; the reporter stated it was about 4-5 ft in length and that another large dolphin, presumably the mother, was swimming in circles around it; law enforcement arrived on scene via boat at ~10:40 hrs and confirmed the entanglement of some type of line around the distal peduncle, but was not able to stay on scene due to another emergency; during the initial 30 minutes of the sighting, it was determined the dolphin was not completely anchored as first reported and swam approximately 200 m northwest along a shallow sandbar in site of the initial reporter based on land; police arrived on scene via boat to monitor the dolphin at ~10:50 hrs while stranding responders were en route; police searched the area for	N/A		N/A	

								approximately 1.5 hours and were not able to locate the entangled dolphin; they did observe several dolphin groups, including one small dolphin that was seen tail-slapping repeatedly at the surface, but noted that the tail-slapping dolphin was moving along with the others in the group and they could not see anything apparent wrapped around the flukes; additional local personnel also assisted with this response via boat search beginning at ~12:30 hrs; stranding responders arrived on scene at 12:57 hrs; network and local personnel searched the area via boat until 14:21 hrs; due to Hurricane Sally's effects on the Orange Beach area, there was a large amount of debris in the water, both floating and submerged				
<b>Perdido Bay Stock summary (n=7 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=3; # CBD=2</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
At-Sea	Row 175	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	22-Mar-2019	Alive	Serious	S6, likely also S5a	an ecotour operator documented a dolphin with an entanglement originating in the mouth and trailing biofouled line along the right side of the body; a metal leader was cutting into the gape of the mouth	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 27, vessel-strike tab [FMMS N1937]	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	26-May-2019	Alive	Serious	S16	animal reported with a watercraft-related injury; citizen documented via video and described 6 to 7 superficial, linear wounds on the dorsal portion of the head, and a superficial, triangular-shaped scrape was observed on the dorsal fin; the dolphin was observed logging at the surface for approximately 30 minutes, taking a breath every 2-3 minutes; upon approach by the citizen's vessel, the dolphin submerged and was not resighted	N/A		N/A	
At-sea	Row 196	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	7-Jan-2020	Alive	Not serious	S8b	the animal has what appears to be a small amount of biofouled monofilament line embedded within an area of lobomycosis infection	N/A		N/A	
At-sea	Row 211	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	12-Jul-2020	Alive	CBD		citizen documented a dolphin with fishing hooks and what appears to be monofilament line along the leading edge of the dorsal fin; it is unknown if any line was trailing from the animal or if any pectoral fins or flukes were involved	N/A		N/A	

STR; hook and line gear	SER16-00463 [FMMS N1614]	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	18-Jul-2016	Alive	Serious	S6	captain of a local fishing charter reported a free swimming, 5 foot dolphin entangled in approximately 30 to 40 feet 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	No	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; trap/pot gear	SER16-00786 [FMMS N1625]	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	No	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; unknown line/gear/fishery	SER17-00413 [FMMSN 17108]	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	24-Mar-2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	entangled dolphin was first reported by citizens and later confirmed and monitored by the stranding network until an intervention was deemed appropriate; line was lacerating through the right fluke blade and was heavily biofouled and trailing ~1.5-2 feet behind the animal	Not serious	S7b	Yes	prior to an intervention, the dolphin was disentangled by a citizen; the animal is missing about 2/3 of its right fluke blade; monitoring of this animal continued post-disentanglement, and the animal was sighted as recently as 28-May-2020



STR; hook and line gear	SER18-00973 [FMMS N1918; F314]	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	6-Apr-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	free-swimming, entangled male calf with what appears to be fishing line and associated lacerations at the leading edge of both flukes, near the fluke insertion; there is approximately two feet of line trailing from the flukes, with two distinct areas of biofouling; additionally there is what appears to be a circumferential wrap of monofilament line on the cranial aspect; on the dorsum, the line was observed caudal to the blowhole; on the left lateral aspect, the line appeared angled, immediately cranial to the left eye; on the right lateral aspect, this line also appeared angled, but towards the right pectoral fin; on this side, the line appeared wadded and was biofouled; no lacerations/abrasions were observed with the cranial entanglement; it is suspected that this animal may be dealing with two separate entanglements	Not serious	S7b	Yes	during February and March 2019, the calf was seen repeatedly in the same area with additional entanglements; a capture-release disentanglement was performed on 11 March 2019; deeply embedded line was removed from the calf's mouth and both blades of the flukes; the animals were freeze-branded, the mother received a satellite-linked tag, and they were released on site; subsequent sightings were made of the mother and calf through at least 26-Oct-2020
STR; possible Hawaiian sling; unid gear; hook and line gear	SER20-00190 [FMMS N2007]	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	23-Jan-2020	Alive	Serious	S6, S13a	FWC Fisheries Independent Monitoring staff reported a dolphin entangled in a black line of unknown origin, attached to a suspect Hawaiian sling on 23 January 2020. FWC SWFL staff responded and verified that the dolphin was entangled and in thin body condition; in the following days (25, 28, and 29 January), additional monitoring efforts were conducted, and though the suspect Hawaiian sling was no longer observed, the dolphin remained entangled; entanglement consisted of a black line that was twisted/knotted onto itself on the left side of the dolphin, forming a loop with two trailing bitter ends; the front of the loop had severed through approximately 2/3 of the leading edge of the dorsal fin, and was wrapped around and under the peduncle, with one of the bitter ends typically trailing over and past the flukes; the loop was observed loose during the upstroke of the tail, but tightened and prevented a full downstroke, hindering the dolphin from swimming and was suspected to be painful; as a result, NOAA provided FWC SWFL with the approval to conduct a remote disentanglement; on 3 February, FWC SWFL attempted to remotely disentangle the dolphin, however, upon locating the animal, the	N/A		N/A	

								dolphin was confirmed to no longer be entangled in a loop of black line, and appeared to only be entangled at the dorsal fin, trailing approximately 6 inches of monofilament line; the decision was made to conduct no further actions; the dorsal fin is disfigured, much is torn off and there are multiple "flaps" of the fin; the wound is unhealed and deep red; the remaining gear is biofouled; the dorsal fin and gear are likely to become snagged on something in the environment and produce drag; it is unclear as to how the animal became disentangled from the black line, and how it acquired monofilament gear; on the intended day of intervention, fresh signs of shark predation were observed on the peduncle; it is possible that the gear was removed via predation; additionally, monitoring efforts had revealed that the animal associated with recreational fisher vessels, and observations were made of fishers feeding fish to the dolphin; therefore, it is also plausible that the gear was removed by a citizen during one of these types of encounters				
STR; human intervention	SER20-00499 [FMMS N2012]	Tt	GOM/PIS Stock	29-Jul-2020	Alive, stranded on a sandbar	Serious	S9	tour guide and one other citizen attempted to "rescue" a stranded dolphin from a sandbar; they tied a rope around the animal's peduncle and dragged it off the sandbar; tour guide was pulling rope and dragging dolphin flukes first across the sand while the second person did some initial pushing; dolphin was thrashing wildly and rolling while it was being dragged	N/A		N/A	
<b>PIS Stock summary (n=10 cases): # Serious injuries=6; # Not serious=3; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 2</b>	

STR; hook and line gear	SER18-00628 [47IMM S101218 ]	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		N/A	
<b>GOM rough-toothed dolphin stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
At-Sea	Row 129	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	4-Jan-2018	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		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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 135 [1852, calf of F185] TtNEFL 1712	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		N/A	
At-sea	Row 203 [SDRP animal SEWL]	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	9-Apr-2020	Alive	Serious	S8a	researchers documented an entangled dolphin with encircling gear embedded in the skin behind the head	N/A		N/A	

At-sea	Row 216	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	12-Oct-2020	Alive	CBD		ecotour operator reported a customer saw a dolphin with a red "net" on its dorsal fin near the Rod and Reel Pier; little info available	N/A		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		N/A	
STR; commercial stone crab trap/pot gear	SER16-00067 [MML1 601]	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	Yes	the following morning researchers disentangled the animal; animal had superficial lacerations from line; upon release it was seen to take 1 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	SER19-00478 [MML1 903; F316]	Tt	GOM/Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock	21-Mar-2019	Alive, reported to be thin	Serious	S6, S8a	known 2-year-old calf reported to be thin and entangled in monofilament line and Spectra/spiderwire line embedded deeply into its right fluke blade, with biofouled gear trailing behind the animal	Not serious	S7b	Yes	an intervention was carried out on 1-Apr-2019 in which the calf was captured, all gear was removed, and the animal was released; on 7-Jun-2019 animal was caught and examined; fluke was reported to be healing nicely. This dolphin has been seen by researchers as recently as 10-Feb-2021, and appears to be in good condition.
Sarasota Bay/Little Sarasota Bay Stock summary (n=8 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=4; # CBD=3											SI Averted Tally: 2	

At-sea	Row 208	Tt	GOM/St. Andrew Bay Stock	17-Jun-2020	Alive	CBD		citizen reported a dolphin with line and a lure in its mouth, saying it was anchored; the animal was viewed from the pier but it dove and disappeared; photographs were taken but the quality did not allow any details to be apparent; little info available	N/A		N/A	
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00225 [GW2018009A]	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 feet deep water and the buoy was pulling it down	Serious	S7b	No	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
<b>St. Andrew Bay Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		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		N/A	
STR; hook and line gear	SER18-00102 [CMA-Tt-1804; Lenny]	Tt	GOM/St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock	8-Feb-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin had line and hook wrapped around both flukes and trailing ~2-3 feet 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	Yes	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
<b>St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=1; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 1</b>	
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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 179	Tt	GOM/ St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock or Eastern Coastal Stock	17-Mar-2018, 29-Aug-2018, 29-Apr-2019	Alive	CBD		this animal was documented on multiple occasions spanning more than one year by citizens and an ecotour operator; dolphin has monofilament line wrapped around (constricting) and embedded in the dorsal fin; no trailing line was evident; the entanglement has resulted in slight disfiguration of the dorsal fin	N/A		N/A	
<b>St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock or Eastern Coastal Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=0; # CBD=2</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

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 foot of line trailing off the animal, with possibly a single wrap around the animal anterior to the dorsal fin and pectoral flippers	N/A		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 to the dorsal fin, and 1 posterior to the dorsal fin; at least 1 wrap looks constricting and there may be trailing gear	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 148	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	20-Oct-2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6, S8a	citizen reported a calf 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		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		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 portion of the dorsal fin at the fin's base	N/A		N/A	

At-Sea	Row 176	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	29-Mar-2019	Alive	Serious	S6	ecotour operator documented an animal with monofilament line entangled around the tip of the dorsal fin where there is a notch missing; the line is trailing from the dorsal fin to at least the peduncle area (at least ~3 feet)	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 182/183	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	8-Jun-2019	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	a citizen documented a calf with monofilament line or net wrapped around and trailing behind the dorsal fin	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 189	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	21-Aug-2019	Alive, appears thin	Serious	S8a	researchers documented a dolphin (older calf) with what appears to a line/strap/belt (dark with metal present) wrapped around its body posterior to the dorsal fin; line appears to have cut into the animal as there are flaps of tissue apparent; flukes do not appear to be involved in the entanglement	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 190	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	25-Sep-2019	Alive	Serious	S5d	citizen at fishing pier reported an animal with a hook in the leading edge of its dorsal fin with 3-4 feet of monofilament line trailing	N/A		N/A	
At-sea	Row 228 [MMPL 2008]	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	7-Jan-2020	Alive	Serious	S8a, S13a	multiple citizens reported and photographed a dolphin from 7 January through 26 January; the dolphin had line entangled around its dorsal fin; the dorsal fin was severely damaged/disfigured and beginning to fall off; the animal was hooked by a fisherman on 26 January but broke the line before stranding network could respond	N/A		N/A	
At-sea	Row 210	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	27-Jun-2020	Alive	Serious	S6	an ecotour operator documented a very small calf that was entangled with monofilament line or rope around its peduncle; there is also a 4 inch orange bobber, and the animal is trailing ~ 6 feet of line; calf was sighted multiple times with its presumed mother	N/A		N/A	
STR; hook and line gear	SER19-01296 [CMA19 17]	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock	3-June-19	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	dolphin was initially reported on 3 June 2019 as having an entanglement to the dorsal fin; several other sightings were reported in the following weeks, then not again until 11 December 2019; the animal was resighted a few times again over the following weeks, but then reports ceased; gear was constricting	Serious	S6, S8a	No	dolphin was sighted by an SDRP survey team on 7 April 2021; on April 9, 2021, a Sarasota Dolphin Research Program survey team was able to use a cutting tool on a long pole to remove a



								and deforming the dorsal fin and trailing off the animal				substantial amount of the trailing fishing gear; the one and only attempt cut much of the gear trailing from the dorsal fin; dolphin's reaction was medium, with a slight roll and tail kick; it moved and stayed much closer to its likely mother, SDRP code SCAM, and was no longer approachable enough to cut more line; algae-covered line remains around and through the dorsal fin, and trailing perhaps 30 cm behind the fin, but it no longer appears to be trailing over or behind the flukes; removed line and gear had a wet weight of 29 grams; gear includes, but is not limited to, at least two different tests of monofilament, a lead weight, a swivel, and the top of a small broken hook
<b>Tampa Bay Stock summary (n=12 cases): # Serious injuries=11; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
At-Sea	Row 192	Tt	GOM/Tampa Bay Stock or St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor	22-Oct-2019	Alive	Not serious	S7b	researchers initially documented an animal with fishing line cutting into the leading edge of its dorsal fin approximately midway down the fin; a fishing hook was seen trailing a few inches past the dorsal fin from its right side, and line on its left side appeared to extend further down toward the peduncle/flukes; animal was resighted on 27-Oct-2019 gear-free	N/A		N/A	
<b>Tampa Bay Stock or St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=1; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

STR; trap/pot gear	SER17-00713 [CMA-Tt-1711]	Tt	GOM/Waccasassa Bay/Withlacoochee Bay/Crystal Bay Stock	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, black crab trap line and was still attached to the crab pot; line was described as having been wrapped around the distal peduncle 3 times	Serious	S7b	No	the complainants, which disentangled the calf, stated they grabbed the line trailing behind the 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; hook and line gear	SER20-00529 [UFTt2008]	Tt	GOM/Waccasassa Bay/Withlacoochee Bay/Crystal Bay Stock	30-Aug-2020	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	video reports from on the scene to the stranding network confirmed a calf was swimming abnormally and was suspected to be entangled; the calf was struggling to maintain its speed, position in the water column, and ascend normally; calf was thin and unable to sustain itself.	Serious	S7b	No	citizens remained standing by while a disentanglement team reported to the scene; the calf was restrained by a veterinarian, who with assistance from people on the boat, cut the entanglement which included severe wrapping and damage to the flukes, a loop

												around the pectoral fins, and through the mouth; left fluke blade was bent ventrally by the mass of material which included a shark fishing heavy monofilament line, hook, two lead weights, and two smaller pier fishing hooks, plus possible spider wire; the bulk of the material was held on the dorsal surface of the flukes with additional material on the ventral surface of the flukes; due to a severe impending storm, the age of the calf, and photo evaluation, the calf was released immediately when freed of all line; calf was alert and responsive but did not struggle after initial capture; it continued to breathe regularly throughout the procedure; the calf swam strongly towards two adults who stayed in close proximity during the short procedure, assuming one to be its mother; no sightings of the calf since the disentanglement
<b>Waccasassa Bay/Withlacoochee Bay/Crystal Bay Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
STR; commercial crab trap/pot gear	SER20-00703 [GA238 2]	Tt	GOM/Western Coastal Stock	9-Sep-2020	Alive	Serious	S6, S7a	on 9 September 2020 an entangled dolphin was reported by personnel from a fishing charter; they reported what appeared to be an adult dolphin with a crab pot line wrapped around its tail stock; the dolphin was surfacing to breathe but not swimming any discernable distance (depth ~13 ft); report reached stranding network at 11:23am and a follow-up video was provided at 11:35am	Serious	S7b	No	stranding network and US Coast Guard (USCG) responded and found the dolphin at 1:40pm (animal had not moved from the originally reported location); dolphin surfaced several times with its head/rostrum out of the water, listing slightly to its left side, and its dorsal fin and tail were not generally visible above water;





STR; marine debris	SER20- 00707 [GA238 5b]	Tt	GOM/Western Coastal Stock	4-Nov- 2020	Alive	Serious	S8a	entangled calf observed during photo-ID survey; calf presented with some sort of plastic or packing strap wrapped tightly around the head with algae growth; calf was active with the presumed mom and several associates on the initial sighting; calf was observed and photographed by a member of the public in the same area five days later; expert input from veterinarians determined the entanglement to be life threatening, however, the dolphins were not re-sighted in order to carry out intervention	N/A		N/A	
<b>Western Coastal Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
At-Sea	Row 131	Tt	GOM/undefined stock area (Miller's Bayou, Florida; in between the Waccasassa Bay/Withlacooc ee Bay/Crystal Bay Stock and the St. Joseph Sound/Clearwate r Harbor Stock)	27- Mar- 2017	Alive, unknown	Serious	S6	a forestry pilot reported a dolphin calf with ~3 feet 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 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	N/A		N/A	
<b>Undefined stock area (Miller's Bayou, Florida; in between the Waccasassa Bay/Withlacoochee Bay/Crystal Bay Stock and the St. Joseph Sound/Clearwater Harbor Stock) summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

**Table 1b. Atlantic Ocean**

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 (N/A is noted for cases without mitigation)	NMFS 2012 SI Policy Criteria (for Small Cetaceans)	SI Averted	Post-Mitigation Injury Determination Criteria/Comments
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER20-00705 [MARS2003]	Tt	ATL/Biscayne Bay Stock	28-Dec-2020	Alive	Serious	S7a	a dolphin in distress with a rope entanglement around the tail was reported at 14:45 hrs; the first of the response teams arrived at 3pm and additional team at 15:15 hrs; dolphin was alone, around 5 ft in length or possibly less, could reach the surface of the water to breathe, was vocalizing repeatedly, and was entangled by a white rope around the tail notch and caudal peduncle that was connected to a trap/pot; depth was estimated to be about 6-8 ft	Serious	S15, S7b	No	once all response teams were in place and had discussed a rescue plan and photographed the animal, the first attempt was successful to gaff the rope line and pull it in; the vessel engine was immediately cut off and the rope was pulled to the port side; the captain held the pot rope line and secured it to the vessel; other team members held the animal's flukes just above the water's surface and cut one piece of the rope; rope was wrapped twice around the caudal peduncle in an overlapping manner that did not allow for one cut to release the animal; another wrap of line was from the peduncle to the tail notch in a 'T' shape for the entanglement; team members had to make a second cut on the line to finish the rope release; the dorsal aspect of the peduncle was already abraded with red skin visible and bleeding; during the release the animal breathed twice; the animal immediately dove and swam NW; the release was completed at 15:27 hrs; dolphin was entangled at least 45 minutes; no documentation of injuries or disentanglement
STR; trap/pot gear	SER20-00603 [MIA2020-01]	Tt	ATL/Biscayne Bay Stock	21-Nov-2020	Alive	Serious	S7a	two members of the public on jet-skis found a dolphin struggling to surface; the dolphin had thick nylon line wrapped around the peduncle and was weighed down by the attached crab trap	Serious	S6	No	the two men got in the water and one man used a knife to cut one of the lines; the man returned to his jet ski and pulled the crab trap up and used it to pull the animal closer so he could cut the line connecting the peduncle and trap; the dolphin was thrashing as it was being pulled closer to the jet ski; it took ~4 minutes to cut the lines and free the dolphin; the network contacted one of the citizen responders who said a loop of rope remained around the animal's peduncle but he believed it would be loose enough to fall

													away; duration of entanglement unknown; unknown status of remaining gear; no information on dolphin's condition or behavior as it swam away
<b>Biscayne Bay Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>												<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
At-sea	Row 29, vessel-strike tab	Tt	ATL/Central Florida Coastal Stock	8-Jul-2020	Alive	Serious	S9, S13a	citizen reported an injured dolphin and described as having several wounds from blowhole to peduncle, dorsal fin sliced off, wounds red; little info available	N/A		N/A		
<b>Central Florida Coastal Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>												<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
At-Sea	Row 165	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System	2-Jun-2018	Alive	CBD		citizen reported an animal entangled in crab trap/pot gear; responders could not locate the animal; little info available	N/A		N/A		
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 feet from the buoy	CBD	S7b	No		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; marine debris (rope)	SER18-00246 [SC1823]	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System 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		N/A		



STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00468 [SC1836]	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System Stock	10-Jun-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	citizens reported a dolphin entangled in crab trap/pot gear; little info available	CBD		No	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; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00656 [SC1853]	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System 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	No	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; buoy line entanglement (dredge buoy or crab trap/pot buoy)	SER18-00684 [SC1860]	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System Stock	21-Nov-2018	Alive	Serious	S6	citizen found a dolphin entangled around its flukes in unidentified buoy line (either a dredge buoy or crab trap/pot buoy)	Serious	S6	No	citizen attempted to cut the line off the flukes but cut his hand badly during the attempt; dolphin remained entangled in the line; law enforcement officers attempted to locate the dolphin but were unable to find it
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER19-01138 [SC1944]	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System	1-Sep-2019	Alive	Serious	S7b	dolphin observed and documented by public as entangled in trap/pot gear	Serious	S7b	No	members of the public cut the line but the animal was released with line still attached to its flukes; little info available
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER19-01091 [SC1947]	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System	13-Sep-2019	Alive	Not serious	S8b	Coast Guard crew member observed a dolphin entangled in trap/pot gear; the animal was able to self-disentangle and shake the line from its flukes; from the time it was reported to the time it released itself was ~5 minutes	N/A		N/A	
STR; trap/pot gear	SER20-00460 [SC2023]	Tt	ATL/Charleston Estuarine System	15-May-2020	Alive	Serious	S7a	dolphin reported as entangled in trap/pot gear; animal was anchored to the pot	CBD		No	witness reported seeing a crab pot fisherman cut the dolphin free from the trap/pot gear; dolphin jumped and swam away "unharmd" with no gear attached; the entangled animal was anchored to the pot and the fisherman was observed pulling up the pot after releasing the dolphin
Charleston Estuarine System Stock summary (n=9 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=2; # CBD=5, before analysis of CBD cases. The 5 CBDs were prorated as 2.8 SIs. Revised total: # Serious injures=4.8; # Not serious=2.											SI Averted Tally: 0	

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		N/A	
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		N/A	
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 feet; animal later sighted in October 2017 gear-free	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 22, vessel-strike tab	Tt	ATL/IRLES 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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 23, vessel-strike tab	Tt	ATL/IRLES 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		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		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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 24, vessel-strike tab [CM68]	Tt	ATL/IRLES 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		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		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 185 [c3POOH H]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	25-Jun- 2019	Alive	Not serious	S13a	in June 2019 researchers documented a calf, ~2 years old, with an entanglement of monofilament wrapped tightly and constricting and cutting through the upper dorsal fin; calf was later sighted in January 2020 gear-free with a slight disfigurement of the upper dorsal fin; calf sighted additional times by researchers, as recently as October 2020, and the animal appears to be doing well	N/A		N/A	
At-Sea	Row 198	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	7-Dec- 2019	Alive	Serious	S6	ecotour operator documented an animal with an entanglement; very poor video quality, but entanglement reported to be around flukes and trailing ~5 feet behind the animal	N/A		N/A	
At-sea	Row 205 (YMLA, mom)	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	18-Apr- 2020	Alive	Serious	S6	mom of a mom-calf pair; at 13:24 a mom and calf pair were reported by a boater; caller indicated that both animals were entangled with deep lacerations to their dorsal fins but swimming ok; stranding HSWRI volunteer was onsite within 30 minutes and located the animals at 14:40 in the same general area; limited images were taken before two large vessels passed through and she lost sight of the animals; adult is entangled in bright green fishing line (likely high test) which is wrapped around the dorsal fin and trails the animal by several feet	N/A		N/A	
At-sea	Row 205 (ZUKI, calf)	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	18-Apr- 2020	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	calf of a mom-calf pair; at 13:24 a mom and calf pair were reported by a boater; caller indicated that both animals were entangled with deep lacerations to their dorsal fins but swimming ok; stranding HSWRI volunteer	N/A		N/A	

								was onsite within 30 minutes and located the animals at 14:40 in the same general area; limited images were taken before two large vessels passed through and she lost sight of the animals; calf was only very briefly observed by HSWRI volunteers but was described as having bright green fishing line around the dorsal fin (cutting into the leading edge) that extends toward the peduncle and is possibly wrapped around the insertion of the flukes; calf also has white rope entangled in the fishing line along the lateral sides (matching the complainant's original call)				
At-sea	Row 219	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	15-Nov-2020	Alive	Serious	S8a, S13a	older calf, initially reported by a citizen but subsequently sighted by researchers on multiple occasions; dolphin appears to be in decent body condition, although may be slightly thin; animal has green line encircling, cutting through, and disfiguring the dorsal fin; gear is trailing the dorsal fin and a metal sinker can be seen in the trailing gear	N/A		N/A	
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 months 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	Not serious	S7b	Yes	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 (~20 cm); a tangle of monofilament with extensive biofouling was embedded deeply (~5.5 cm) along the leading edge of the left fluke, and in 3 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

								possible skeletal deformity with an arch at the caudal peduncle (kyphosis)				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	SER16-00518 [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	No	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	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	Yes	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; Hawaiian sling/spear	SER17-00078 [Hubbs-1704-Tt; KAIJ]	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	Yes	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 flipper 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; hook and line gear; nylon line (not fishing gear)	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 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)	Not serious	S7b	Yes	on 10-May-2017 an intervention occurred (previous attempt on different day was unsuccessful); all gear was removed from the animal 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 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	Yes	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 2 "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; 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 10:36 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	Yes	eco-tour company called at 13:36 to update that 2 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; hook and line gear	SER19-01290 [Hubbs-1927-Tt; c1BROW-BR0120]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	15-Jul-2019	Alive, possibly thin	Serious	S8a	researchers documented a subadult dolphin with an entanglement encircling its head consisting of clear monofilament fishing line with a broken metal leader attached; the entanglement was chronic and embedded in portions of the encirclement; an intervention attempt occurred on 27 August 2019, but unfortunately the dolphin was not captured during this attempt or subsequent attempts; the dolphin has not been sighted since 28 October 2019 despite continued efforts (last attempt Jan 2020); shifting of the gear between sighting dates (11 Jul, 20 Aug, 27 Aug, 2 Oct, 28 Oct) was apparent with the more visible biofouling portions and leader of the line presumably shifting ventrally; upon last sighting (28 October 2019), the encirclement had healed over the gear in many areas; animal was thin with pox like lesions and an algae sheen; images illustrated that the encirclement didn't appear to involve the pectoral flippers or flukes; despite exhaustive search efforts the animal has not been resighted	N/A		N/A	
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 strandin g 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 flipper, and constricting wraps around the pectoral flipper)	Not serious	S7b	Yes	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 pectoral flipper digging deeply 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 pectoral flipper 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	SER20-00530 [Hubbs-2036-Tt]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	5-Sep-2020	Alive	Serious	S6	at ~1445 while leading a boat tour, a guide observed a young dolphin breach three times; the dolphin was about 50 meters from the tour vessel and was with another larger dolphin (presumed mother); as the tour vessel approached, a mass of yellow fishing line on the dorsal fin and line trailing behind was observed	CBD		No	while tour boat was observing entangled dolphin, a recreational boater also noticed the dolphin as it closely approached their vessel; FWC law enforcement was able to get in touch with the boater, who recalled the sequence of events; he stated that they observed the dolphin struggling at the surface and turned around to help; they observed line trailing from the dorsal fin attached to two masses of tangled line or netting that was loosely encircling the tail, and trailing about 20 ft behind the animal; their first attempt to snag the line was not successful but the dolphin approached again and they were able to grab the trailing line and secure it to their boat; they did not touch or handle the dolphin, only the gear; the trailing line was composed of monofilament and yellow braided line; line was attached to the dolphin via a single hook in the mid trailing edge of the dorsal fin (the line was not encircling or embedded in the fin); they made a cut using fishing pliers about 12-14 inches from the dorsal fin and the rest of the gear came loose and was brought on board as the dolphin swam away; they described all of the gear in total was a mass about the size of a basketball, and was "fresh," clean gear without biofouling; subsequent reports of this same animal were made on 10 and 11 September 2020; animal was not sighted after despite extensive search efforts
STR; commerical blue crab trap/pot gear	SER20-00575 [Hubbs-2041-Tt]	Tt	ATL/IRLES Stock	30-Oct-2020	Alive	Serious	S7a	dolphin reported as entangled in trap/pot gear; line was wrapped around the animal's peduncle	CBD		No	the county sherriff's vessel with FWC staff approached the entangled dolphin and snagged the line using a gaff; they described the line as knotted and looped in several places, and there was a single loop loosely wrapped around the base of the dolphin's flukes; they lifted the animal's flukes to the surface and made a single cut, freeing the animal from the gear; they described the dolphin as "fatigued" for a moment, but then swam away; dolphin was entangled at least ~30 minutes from initial

												call until confirming disentanglement
<b>IRLES Stock summary (n=25 cases): # Serious injuries=11; # Not serious=11; # CBD=3, before analysis of CBD cases. The 3 CBDs were prorated as 1.5 SIs. Revised total: # Serious injures=12.5; # Not serious=11.</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 7</b>	
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		N/A	
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		N/A	
STR; hook and line gear	SER16-00563 [TtNEF L1609]	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 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	NA		N/A	
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER16-00795 [TtNEF L1611]	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	No	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 ~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 ~20 feet 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; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear and research trap/pot gear	SER17-00737 [TtNEF L1706; Q32]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	10-May-2017	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	dolphin observed entangled in 4 buoys and 3 crab traps; the pectoral flippers 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 the tail wasn't visible; the dolphin was originally entangled in commercial blue crab trap/pot gear, then 2 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 wrap around the 2 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	Serious	S7b	No	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 pectoral flipper; the dolphin was freed by slipping line off the pectoral flippers 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 [TtNEF L1707]	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	No	citizen freed the dolphin, but reported abraded, red skin from the entanglement; little info available
STR; hook and line gear and debris	SER17-00742 [TtNEF L1712]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	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 re-sighted prior to the planned intervention; animal was resighted in June 2018, 1 year later, still entangled	N/A		N/A	

STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER17- 00442 [TtNEF L1715; 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 2 other dolphins; the calf appeared in good shape, although there were surface abrasions from the entanglement, but no deep wounds visible	N/A		N/A	
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER20- 00579 [TtNEF L2014]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	28-Oct- 2020	Alive	Serious	S7a	juvenile dolphin reported as entangled in a crab trap, dragging a buoy, staying in the same general area, and the animal appeared to be struggling	CBD		No	while stranding network responders were on the way, the captain of the boat that the complainant was on attempted to disentangle the animal despite being told not to; the buoy was cut off and the captain said he felt like the trap sank and that he got all of the rope off the animal, but there is not verification that all gear was removed; dolphin swam off with another larger dolphin that was in the area according to the complainant
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER20- 00580 [TtNEF L2015]	Tt	ATL/JES Stock	8-Nov- 2020	Alive	Serious	S7a	at 0806 hrs, a report came in regarding a dolphin entangled in a crab trap; the complainant said he had watched it for half an hour surfacing in the same spot and struggling near a buoy; he sent a distant photo; stranding network responders arrived on scene at 0845 hrs; the dolphin was assessed and video taken; the dolphin was surfacing just north of the buoy with no movement of the buoy observed	Serious	S7b	No	responders with disentanglement gear arrived at 0855 hrs; the response team then brought the buoy on board and then the crab trap, while holding the line closest to the dolphin; unsuccessful attempts were made to restrain the active dolphin alongside the boat; the flukes were held out of the water and a responder needed to make 3 cuts in the line in order to free the dolphin; the dolphin forcefully swam off gear free and surfaced ~80 yards away; it was observed multiple times before swimming out of sight; the peduncle and flukes sustained abrasions from the line; dolphin was entangled at least ~90 minutes

JES Stock summary (n=10 cases): # Serious injuries=6; # Not serious=1; # CBD=3, before analysis of CBD cases. The 3 CBDs were prorated as 1.9 SIs. Revised total: # Serious injures=7.9; # Not serious=1.											SI Averted Tally: 0	
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		N/A	
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00071 [GA2018009]	Tt	ATL/NGSSCES 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	No	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	SER20-00462 [SC2024]	Tt	ATL/NGSSCES Stock	27-May-2020	Alive	Serious	S6	dolphin was sighted entangled in monofilament fishing line on multiple occasions on multiple days from different people over a two week period	N/A		N/A	

NGSSCES Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=1; # CBD=1, before analysis of CBD case. The 1 CBD was prorated as 0.5 SIs. Revised total: # Serious injures=1.5; # Not serious=1.											SI Averted Tally: 0	
STR; mid-Atlantic gillnet fishery (targeting striped bass)	NER17-00130 [NA175 0Ti]	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	No	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 pectoral flippers; the dolphin rolled and freed its other pectoral flipper, 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	NER17-00232 [VAQS2 0171034 ]	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	No	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
NM Coastal Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1											SI Averted Tally: 0	
OBS; sink gillnet (targeting southern kingfish)	[Also reported in Josephso	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	N/A		N/A	

	n et al. 2019]							info available (net was 2.5-inch mesh)				
NM Coastal or NNCES Stock summary: # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1;											SI Averted Tally: 0	
MMAF; mid-Atlantic haul beach seine gear		Tt	ATL/NM Coastal Stock or SM Coastal Stock	3-Jun-2020	Alive	Not serious	S7b	animal #1 struck the modified beach seine net (monofilament wing portion) and cleared itself unassisted from the fishermen; the dolphin swam outside the net area on its own	N/A		N/A	
MMAF; mid-Atlantic haul beach seine gear		Tt	ATL/NM Coastal Stock or SM Coastal Stock	3-Jun-2020	Alive	CBD		animal #2 struck the net, also at the monofilament wing portion, and was disentangled by the fishermen and released alive; animal #2 was entangled around its rostrum in the mesh; after removing the entanglement, fishermen cut the net open to allow the dolphin to swim through the cut net opening; after the dolphin pushed through the opening in the net, it took off and the fishermen did not see the animal again; about 2 min had lapsed from when they saw the animal hit the net to when they disentangled it	N/A		N/A	
STR; trap/pot gear	NER17-00259 [VAQS2 0171056 ]	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		No	citizen attempted to disentangle the animal and thought the animal was freed of gear; little info available
STR; hook and line gear	NER17-00262 [VAQS2 0171060 ]	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 flipper 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	N/A		N/A	

								evasive and the team had to call the efforts off				
<b>NM Coastal Stock or SM Coastal Stock summary (n=4 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=1; # CBD=2</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
OBS; mid-Atlantic gillnet fishery (targeting Spanish mackerel)		Tt	ATL/NNCES Stock	25-May-2018	Alive	CBD		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 untagging 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		N/A	
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18-00619 [NCUR2 0181002 ]	Tt	ATL/NNCES 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	No	stranding response teams searched for and found the entangled dolphin; a person in 1 of the 2 boats was able to get hold 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; stop net gear	SER19-01166; [NCUR20191102]	Tt	ATL/NNCES Stock	2-Nov-2019	Alive	Serious	S7b	a fisherman saw splashing and a dolphin and realized the dolphin had hit the stop net; he called the other crew members, who had to take the strike net off the boat before launching it to get to the dolphin (or boat would sink in rough surf); it took ~14 minutes to get to the dolphin; when the crew arrived the dolphin was pretty active for ~35-40 seconds; they held the net up for a minute, and it finally calmed down; to disentangle the animal, they grabbed the top line and worked down to the webbing (had one person on each side hauling up the webbing) until they got to the dolphin; dolphin was right side up and breathing the entire time they were with it; the webbing was hung up on the dolphin's lower jaw (teeth) – it took ~5 seconds to cut the webbing; during the cutting process, the dolphin splashed once pretty hard, then relaxed; after the dolphin was free from the gear, it remained in place for about 15 seconds before made a hard turn toward the NE away from the lead portion of the net; the dolphin got about 30 yards away from the lead, took a breath, then swam off; crew estimated it was ~18-19 minutes from the time the dolphin hit the net to its release; no wounds were visible	N/A		N/A	
<b>NNCES Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

STR; hook and line gear	NER20-00682 [VAQS20201073]	Tt	ATL/ NNCES Stock or SM Coastal Stock	22-Jul-2020	Alive	Serious	S6, S8a	an ecotour operator documented a live dolphin with an entanglement of green monofilament line; the left/cranial views showed a least three wraps going through the mouth; two of those wraps crossed over the blowhole; the third crossed over the left eye to the right lateral side of the animal which appears to have a rat's nest of line and possibly a dark object attached; the right pectoral flipper but not observed, but based on the nature of the entanglement it is possible that the entanglement may involve that fin; the line appeared to be putting tension on the left gape and indentations are visible on the dorsal aspects of the gape	N/A		N/A	
NNCES Stock or SM Coastal Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0											SI Averted Tally: 0	
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	NER17-00728 [VAQS20171083]	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	No	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; 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 flippers	CBD	S7b	No	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
NNCES Stock, NM Coastal Stock, or SM Coastal Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1											SI Averted Tally: 0	

At-Sea	Row 180	Tt	ATL/Northern Florida Coastal Stock	20-May-2019	Alive	CBD		a citizen documented an animal with either thick line draped over front of dorsal or thin line sawing through; quality of image is too poor to determine	N/A		N/A	
<b>Northern Florida Coastal Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		N/A	
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	No	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; 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		No	USFWS responded to this report and disentangled the animal; abrasions from the line were noted but animal was considered unharmd; no other details on the condition of the animal or duration of entanglement
<b>NSCES Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=2; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1, before analysis of CBD case. The 1 CBD was prorated as 0.5 SIs. Revised total: # Serious injures=2.5; # Not serious=0.</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
ITR; STR; research trawl gear	SER19- 01153 [SC1955 ]	Tt	ATL/South Carolina/Georgia Coastal Stock	13-Oct- 2019	Alive	Not serious	7b	researchers began hauling back at end of normal tow; once the tail bag reached the surface, they realized something didn't look right and then quickly realized there was a dolphin in tail bag; followed protocol of retrieving gear as quickly as they could using tripper device that allows them to release the tail bag while it is still in the water; researchers got the tail bag up next to the boat and tripped the bag open; they could tell the dolphin was alive and surfacing to breath while in the net; they tripped the bag and dolphin shot right out and swam off; crews' impression was the entanglement occurred during haulback when animals were interacting with their gear; animal believed to be entangled ~5 minutes	N/A		N/A	
STR; commercial blue crab trap/pot gear	SER18- 00222 [SC1822 ]	Tt	ATL/South Carolina/Georgia 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 2 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	No	USCG personnel responded and saw 2 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 2 animals circling; animal may have died and sank
<b>South Carolina/Georgia Coastal Stock summary (n=2 cases): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=1; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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	No	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
<b>South Carolina/Georgia Coastal Stock or SM Coastal Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		N/A	
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	No	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 3 buoys were collected

STR; synthetic twine/debris	SER17- 00466 [GA201 7024; Z58; BWK/S AP #2132]	Tt	ATL/Southern 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 body; the flukes were not involved; the dolphin was able to move normally and it was in thin body condition	Not serious	S7b	Yes	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 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 1 year from the disentanglement
<b>Southern Georgia Estuarine System Stock summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=2; # CBD=1, before analysis of CBD case. The 1 CBD was prorated as 0.5 SIs. Revised total: # Serious injures=0.5; # Not serious=2.</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 1</b>	
At-Sea	Row 151	Tt	ATL/SNCES 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		N/A	
<b>SNCES Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=1; # Not serious=0; # CBD=0</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	
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		N/A	

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		N/A	
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 flipper 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	No	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
<b>Undefined stock area (northern Florida estuarine waters) summary (n=3 cases): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=2; # CBD=1</b>											<b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b>	

**Table 1c. Caribbean Sea**

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 (N/A is noted for cases without mitigation)	NMFS 2012 SI Policy Criteria (for Small Cetaceans)	SI Averted	Post-Mitigation Injury Determination Criteria/Comments
At-Sea	Row 187	Tt	CAR/Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands Stock	22-Jun-19	Alive	CBD		tourist reported dolphin entangled in beach seine near cement dock, biologist checked area but found nothing	N/A		N/A	
<p><b>Puerto Rico and U.S. Virgin Islands Stock summary (n=1 case): # Serious injuries=0; # Not serious=0; # CBD=1</b></p>											<p><b>SI Averted Tally: 0</b></p>	



**Table 2.** Procedure for assigning common bottlenose dolphin cases where it could not be determined (CBD) whether or not an animal was seriously injured to an injury category, Seriously Injured or Not Seriously Injured.

<b>Condition</b>	<b>Hypothesis Tested</b>	<b>Outcome</b>
Insufficient sample size	No Test Performed	Leave CBD cases unassigned
Sufficient sample size, Observed proportion of SI is $< 0.5$	Null Hypothesis: Proportion SI $\geq 0.5$  Alternative Hypothesis: Proportion SI $< 0.5$	Reject Null Hypothesis: Assign all CBD cases to Not Seriously Injured  Fail to Reject Null Hypothesis: Prorate CBD cases by observed proportion of SI from past data. Number of Serious Injuries in the category = Number of CBD observed x proportion of SI.
Sufficient sample size, Observed proportion of SI is $> 0.5$	Null Hypothesis: Proportion SI $\leq 0.5$  Alternative Hypothesis: Proportion SI $> 0.5$	Reject Null Hypothesis: Assign all CBD cases to Seriously Injured  Fail to Reject Null Hypothesis: Prorate CBD cases by observed proportion of SI from past data. Number of Serious Injuries in the category = Number of CBD observed x proportion of SI.

**Table 3.** Assignment of observed pre- and post-mitigation cases of common bottlenose dolphins where the injury type cannot be determined (CBD) to injury categories (SI = serious injury) based upon one-sided z-tests for proportions. All cases occurred during 2007–2020.

<b>Pre-Mitigation Determinations</b>								
<b>Interaction Gear Category</b>	<b># CBD cases</b>	<b>Observed Past Cases with SI assignments</b>	<b>Observed proportion SI</b>	<b>Sufficient Sample Size for Test: (n &gt; 5)</b>	<b>p-value (one-sided test)</b>	<b>Reject Null Hypothesis</b>	<b>CBD Assignment Approach</b>	<b>CBDs Apportioned to SI</b>
Trap/pot (not calves)	10	19	0.74	Yes	0.0195	Yes	Assign Cases to SI	10
Hook and line (not calves)	12	48	0.77	Yes	0.0001	Yes	Assign Cases to SI	12
Hook and line (calves)	2	21	0.81	Yes	0.0023	Yes	Assign Cases to SI	2
Combined net (not calves)	11	31	0.45	Yes	0.2950	No	Prorate Cases	5
Unid gear/line/rope (not calves)	12	27	0.89	Yes	0.0000	Yes	Assign Cases to SI	12
Debris/booms	2	9	1.00	Yes	0.0013	Yes	Assign Cases to SI	2
Trawl	2	5	0.20	Yes	0.0899	No	Prorate Cases	0.4
<b>Post-Mitigation Determinations</b>								
<b>Interaction Gear Category</b>	<b># CBD cases</b>	<b>Observed Past Cases with SI assignments</b>	<b>Observed proportion SI</b>	<b>Sufficient Sample Size for Test: (n &gt; 5)</b>	<b>p-value (one-sided test)</b>	<b>Reject Null Hypothesis</b>	<b>CBD Assignment Approach</b>	<b>CBDs Apportioned to SI</b>
Trap/pot (not calves)	23	37	0.46	Yes	0.3109	No	Prorate Cases	11
Trap/pot (calves)	5	10	0.80	Yes	0.0289	Yes	Assign Cases to SI	5
Hook and line (not calves)	4	16	0.31	Yes	0.0668	No	Prorate Cases	1.2
Hook and line (calves)	1	23	0.17	Yes	0.0009	Yes	Assign Cases to not SI	0
Combined net (not calves)	1	0	0.00	No	NA	NA	Insufficient Data	0

Appendix I. Table 2 taken from NMFS 2012b.

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

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)  | - 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) |
| - 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 duration  |
| - Entanglement constriction (e.g., tight, loose, multiple wraps)  | - Existence, type and amount of any trailing gear  |
|   | - Method of handling the animal during disentanglement   |