

Information on the conservation of freshwater cetacean in Brazil.

Brazil has been acting for the protection of small cetacean by implementing the National Action Plan for the Conservation of Aquatic Mammals and Small Cetacean, approved in 2010.

This paper has been prepared with the participation of over 32 experts, who have identified the main threats to the conservation of 7 species of small cetacean occurring in Brazil and have established 107 measures to fight them.

This Plan is supervised by an advisory group created by the Chico Mendes Institute for the Conservation of Biodiversity (ICMbio) with the participation of experts who assess its implementation. This plan has been assessed for two years in a row and today 53% of the proposed measures are within the planned deadline and 3% have been delivered.

In relation to the conservation of the Amazon river dolphin (**Inia geoffrensis**) and tucuxi (**Sotalia fluviatilis**), some measures that have been identified for the protection of those species include (see table attached):

- Assessment of the impact of the Machete Catfish (**Calophysus macropterus**) fishing;
- Proposal of measures to regulate the Machete Catfish (**Calophysus macropterus**) fishing (monitoring, alternative bait);
- Law-enforcement operations;
- Studies on the life history, population and abundance data; and
- Environmental education.

During the last meeting of the International Whaling Commission's scientific committee, in 2012, a recommendation was made for a workshop to deal with: an assessment of the extension of the Machete Catfish (**Calophysus macropterus**) fishing with the use of river dolphins and tucuxis; an assessment on abundance and mortality; habitat use; and a strategy to reduce pressure on the river dolphins and tucuxi populations due to the fishing of the Machete Catfish (**Calophysus macropterus**).

It is worth mentioning that the use of river dolphins for fishing is illegal within the Brazilian territory, and the Brazilian Government has been taking steps to counteract this activity by means of law-enforcement actions (in the past two years, 3 operations have been carried out); new measures are being discussed to ban this practice.

Considering that the recommended aspects for the international seminar are the object of a direct effort by the Brazilian Government, we understand that Brazil has been acting beyond what has been proposed by the Scientific Committee and is at your disposal to contribute with the other countries in the region with similar problems.

ACTION	BEGIN NING	END	LIAISON	CONTRIBUTORS	Description of current status
1.4 Assess and monitor the impact of the intentional and unintentional capture of small freshwater cetacean	Aug/10	Dec/15	Vera M. F. da Silva (INPA)	IDSMS, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP)	Liaison officer has not sent any data.
1.5 Create and implement a Law-Enforcement Plan to fight the intentional capture of the Amazon river dolphin (<i>Iniageoffrensis</i>)	Aug/10	Dec/13	Leandro C. Aranha (IBAMA)	INPA, IDSMS	Liaison officer has not sent any status information. Measures has not been finished on time.
1.6 Assess and monitor the use of river dolphins (<i>Iniageoffrensis</i> and <i>Sotaliafluviatilis</i>) as baits to fish the Machete catfish (<i>Callophypusmacropterus</i>)	Aug/10	Dec/12	Vera M. F. da Silva (INPA)	IDSMS, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP)	Liaison officer has not sent information. Liaison officer participated in a round table at the 15 th RT (Puerto Madryn) called: " USO DE DELFINES DE RÍO (<i>Iniageoffrensis</i> , <i>Sotaliafluviatilis</i>) COMO CARNADA EN LA PESQUERÍA DE LA PIRACATINGA (<i>Calophysusmacropterus</i>) EN AMAZONIA". There is a summary of the said Round Table in the event's minutes.
1.7 Test new baits for the alternative use of the Machete catfish (<i>Callophypusmacropterus</i>) fishing	Aug/10	Dec/12	Vera M. F. da Silva (INPA)	IDSMS, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP)	Liaison officer has not sent information.
1.10 Create and implement a law-enforcement plan to fight the trade of small cetacean by-products	Aug/10	Dec/13	Leandro C. Aranha (IBAMA)	ICMBio (CGPRO), IBAMA (DIPRO)	Liaison officer has not sent any status information. Measures has not been finished on time.

1.11 Increment law-enforcement of the legislation currently into effect, particularly at the ports in Belém and Vigia (PA), Santos (SP), Itajaí e Navegantes (SC) and Rio Grande (RS)	Aug/10	Dec/15	Tatiana Pimentel (IBAMA)	ICMBio, Polícia Militar, Polícia Civil, Polícia Federal, OEMAS, Marinha do Brasil	Law-enforcement operations are underway. Two have been carried out in the Amazon, one in 2011, the other in 2012. New operations are being planned to be conducted this year. Operation Lábrea/AM – 2012: seized a boat with the Machete catfish (directly linked to the killing of Amazon river dolphins). Operation Vazante/AM - 2011: main focus was the manatee, but other illegal acts related to small cetacean were also tackled.
5.16 Identify the stocks of <i>Iniageoffrensis</i>	Aug/10	Dec/14	Salvatore Siciliano (FIOCRUZ)	Haydée Cunha (UFRJ), IDSM, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP), Renata Emin e Danilo Arcoverde (GEMAM)	Liaison officer has indicated that the action is within the planned deadline, but has not sent information on the activities that are being conducted.
5.17 Identify the stocks of <i>Sotaliafluviatilis</i>	Aug/10	Dec/14	Vera M. F. da Silva (INPA)	Haydée Cunha (UFRJ), IDSM, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP), Renata Emin e Danilo Arcoverde (GEMAM)	Liaison officer has not sent any status information.

5.18 Proposal of management units for <i>Sotalia guianensis</i>	Aug/10	Dec/12	Haydée Cunha (UFRJ)	Thais Sholl (FIOCRUZ), Renata Emin e Danilo Arcoverde (GEMAM), Marcos C. Santos (UNESP), Flávio José de Lima Silva, Ana Bernadete Lima FrAugso e Lídio França Nascimento (UERN), UERJ, Vera da Silva (INPA), Paulo Flores (CMA/ICMBio), RC Zanellato, ORCA, IMA, Ana Carolina Meirelles (AQUASIS), Projeto Pequenos Cetáceos do RN, IPEC	Being drafted
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5.19 Investigate life history traits of <i>Iniageoffrensis</i>	Aug/10	Dec/14	Miriam Marmontel (IDSM)	Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP), Renata Emin e Danilo Arcoverde (GEMAM)	IDSM keeps collecting bone material and white tissues to be analyzed.
5.20 Investigate life history traits of <i>Sotaliafluviatilis</i>	Aug/10	Dec/14	Vera M. F. da Silva (INPA)	IDSM, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP), Renata Emin e Danilo Arcoverde (GEMAM)	Liaison officer has not sent any status information
5.25 Estimate the abundance and population trends of <i>Iniageoffrensis</i> in the different basins	Aug/10	Dec/14	Vera M. F. da Silva (INPA)	IDSM, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP)	Liaison officer has not sent any status information
5.26 Estimate the abundance and population trends of <i>Sotaliafluviatilis</i> in the different basins	Aug/10	Dec/14	Vera M. F. da Silva (INPA)	Haydée Cunha (UFRJ), Instituto Mamirauá, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP)	Liaison officer has not sent any status information
6.2 Develop environmental education activities for <i>Sotaliafluviatilis</i> and <i>Iniageoffrensis</i>	Aug/10	Dec/15	Vera M. F. da Silva (INPA)	CMA/ICMBio, MPEG-GEMAM, AMPA, Danielle Lima (GPMAA/AP)	Liaison officer has not sent any status information
7.1 Plan, with MPA, MMA and IBAMA, a prohibition against the use of cages for the Machete catfish (<i>Collophymacropodus</i>) fishing in	Aug/10	Dec/15	Iara Sommer (ICMBio)	INPA, IDSM, IBAMA	It has not started yet. There has been a change in liaison officers in the last meeting and the new officer has not had the time to act yet.

the Amazon (detailed description of the cages for a legal instrument)

7.4 Recommend control of state and international trade of the Machete catfish (taxes, charges, etc) to the Federal Police, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade Chamber

Dec/11

Dec/15

Iara Sommer
(ICMBio)

IBAMA,
DIBIO/ICMBio

It has not started yet. There has been a change in liaison officers in the last meeting and the new officer has not had the time to act yet.

7.17 Implement an emergency strategy to fight the intentional capture of *Iniageoffrensis*

Dec/11

Dec/12

Vera M. F. da
Silva (INPA)

CMA/ICMBio,
IBAMA, PF

Liaison officer has not sent any status information