

Data files and summary methods for

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People and Nature

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SUMMARY OF DATA FILES INCLUDED

One CVS dataset produced during this study representing data collected during interviews with fishermen and tour-boat guides in 2010 and 2020 in the Golfo Dulce region of Costa Rica.

DESCRIPTION OF DATA FILES

File: "LEK_interview_data_2010_2020.csv" is a compilation of responses from interviewees collected during field studies in two periods: 6 January to 21 February 2010, and 9 January to 13 March 2020. These data were analysed for the publication above. The file includes 105 records for 92 respondents regarding five marine taxa.

The dataset includes 15 variables. NOTE: variables related to personal work experience were removed from this public dataset because in a small, tight-knit community such details could jeopardize personal data protection. Variables:

1. ID: respondent numerical identifier
2. Year: year of data collection. 2010 represent interviews conducted between 6 January and 21 February 2010. 2020 are interviews conducted between 9 January and 13 March 2020
3. Occupation: respondent work type (fishing, tourism, or both)
4. Whales: reported current frequency of whale sightings described by five categories: always, frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never
5. Wchange: perceived change in whale sighting frequency over the decade gap described in three categories: more, less, or same
6. Dolphins: reported frequency of dolphin sightings described by five categories: always, frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never
7. Dchange: perceived change in dolphin sighting frequency over the decade gap described in three categories: more, less, or same
8. Turtles: reported frequency of sea turtle sightings described by five categories: always, frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never
9. Tchange: perceived change in sea turtle sighting frequency over the decade gap described in three categories: more, less, or same
10. WhaleSharks: reported frequency of whale shark sightings described by five categories: always, frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never
11. WSchange: perceived change in whale shark sighting frequency over the decade gap described in three categories: more, less, or same
12. SeaSnakes: reported frequency of sea snake sightings described by five categories: always, frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never
13. Schange: perceived change in sea snake sighting frequency over the decade gap described in three categories: more, less, or same
14. H.p.xanthos: recognition that of sea snake taxon as endemism described as yes or no
15. Conservation: whether the respondent considered the community benefits from marine conservation efforts described as yes or no

SUMMARY OF METHODS FOR DATA COLLECTION

From 6 January to 21 February 2010 and 9 January to 13 March 2020, interviews were conducted with local fishermen and tour boat guides, who work(ed) in the waters of Golfo Dulce, Costa Rica. Using a standardized questionnaire format, respondents were asked to identify their occupation (recorded as Fishing, Tourism, or Both) and to categorize the frequency with which they sighted whales, dolphins, sea turtles, whale sharks, and sea snakes (reported as one of five categories always,

frequently, occasionally, rarely, or never). Respondents who participated both years were also asked in 2020 to provide a categorical estimate of perceived change in sighting frequency for each taxon over the time gap (recorded as more, less, or the same). All respondents were asked whether they were aware that the all-yellow sea snake, *Hydrophis platurus xanthos*, is endemic to Golfo Dulce and also whether they believed local communities benefit from marine conservation.

REFERENCES

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