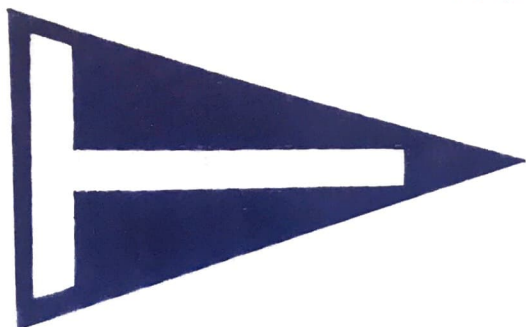


U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife  
TIBURON MARINE LABORATORY



COOPERATIVE GAME FISH TAGGING PROGRAM

Pacific Area

U.S. Bureau of Sport Fisheries and  
Wildlife  
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution  
International Game Fish Association  
Department of Fisheries - Mexico

February 1967

To all Participants:

Greater interest and support has resulted in a new tagging record in 1966, with 735 striped marlin, 283 Pacific sailfish and 22 roosterfish being tagged. This far surpasses the 1965 effort when 438 striped marlin and 167 sailfish were tagged. All indications are that 1967 will be another record-setter for tagging.

Along with the tagging record in 1966 goes the recovery record -- nine marlin and one sailfish. In addition, two tags affixed by Oceanic Research Institute using Calif. Fish & Game tags were recovered. This makes a total of 26 marlin and 2 sailfish recovered through 1966. The number of recoveries is related to the number of fish tagged. For increased recoveries more tagging is needed, which in turn will result in additional information on marlin and sailfish migration patterns in the eastern Pacific.

Tagging and recovery information for striped marlin, showing points of tagging and recovery, will be found on the attached chart.

Though considerable additional information is needed to obtain a satisfactory picture of marlin migration patterns in the eastern Pacific, the findings show a southward migration of fish from southern California, a southerly migration of some fish from the Cape area in the early summer, and two recoveries north of the Cape near Magdalena Bay from a tagging in the Las Palmas Bay and Mazatlan areas. These marlin migrated around the Cape and up the west coast of Baja in the summer.

Nine of the ten tags recovered in 1966 were returned by the Japanese longline fleet which is cooperating in the return of tags. This fleet remains active in the eastern Pacific and we may expect additional recoveries to be made by them in 1967. Many of the tags have been returned through the interest and enthusiasm of Sr. Guillermo Adachi, Manzanillo, Col., Mexico. Sr. Adachi, an active sport fisherman and tagger of marlin and sailfish in the Manzanillo area, has assisted the program by contacting the Japanese longliners about tag recoveries when they dock at Manzanillo.

## CONSERVATION AWARDS

Conservation awards are given to all persons tagging fish that are later recovered and to the person making the recovery. Attached is a list of recoveries received during 1966. A conservation award has been made to the persons listed.

## TAGGING EQUIPMENT

A small, plastic, single barb dart tag (Type FT-1T) has been distributed to locations catching predominantly sailfish. The double-barbed tag (FM-60) used for striped marlin has proved satisfactory; however, for small fish the FT-1T tag may prove to be an improvement.

Fishing centers in Mexico were visited in January 1967, and tagging equipment is now available at the following locations:

### Baja California

Rancho Buena Vista (Col. Eugene Walters)  
Bahia de Palmas (Jorge Exudero)  
Hotel Cabo San Lucas (Bud Parr, Carlos Ungson)  
Palmilla (Bernie Barrera)  
Hacienda Cabo San Lucas (Nick Alcedo)  
Las Cruces (Fernando Exudero)

### West Coast Mexico

Los Mochis, Sin.  
(near Topolobampo)  
Roberto Balderama  
Santa Anita Hotel

Mazatlán, Sin.  
Bill Heimpel  
Star Fleet

Louis Patron  
Flota India

Ernesto Coppel C.  
Flota Bibi

Mike Maxemin  
Lighthouse Fleet

Guaymas, Son.  
Tom Jamison  
c/o Miramar Beach Hotel

San Carlos Bay  
(near Guaymas)  
Jimmy Hinojos

Puerto Vallarta, Jal.  
Alberto Gomez  
Morelos 253

Manzanillo, Col.  
Louis Garcia Fleet

San Blas, Nayarit  
Sr. Nebor Cordova D.

## TAG RECOVERIES RECEIVED IN 1966

<u>Tagged</u>		<u>Recovered</u>		Tagger	Date	Location	Recaptured by
Date	Location	Location					
STRIPED MARLIN							
5/18/65	Near Bahía de Palmas	Near Revilla Gigedo Isl.	7/14/65	Bruce O. Nicholes Madras, Oregon			<u>Syoeimaru #12</u> Japanese longliner)
9/6/65	SE end Catalina Isl.	NW Magdalena Bay	11/4/65	Jim Mathisen Los Angeles, Calif.			Capt. Sadao Okamura <u>Fujisei-Marui #3</u>
5/6/66	Near Rancho Buena Vista	SW Tres Marias Isl.	5/12/66	Paul D. MacMahon Newport Beach, Calif.			Capt. Yoshimi Miki <u>Keifuku Maru #3</u>
3/15/66	Near San Jose del Cabo	"	5/15/66	Robert Farley Kentfield, Calif.			"
5/3/66	Las Palmas Bay	"	5/20/66	Earl Spainard Newport Beach, Calif.			"
5/4/66	Las Palmas Bay	"	5/23/66	Olive Spainard Newport Beach, Calif.			"
3/27/66	Gordo Bank	S Tres Marias Isl.	6/2/66	Tom Muntean Newport Beach, Calif.			"
After 4/25/66	Near Rancho Buena Vista	80 mi. S Cabo San Lucas	7/13/66	?			Capt. Masato Yoshikawa <u>Syoeimaru #7</u>
3/10/66	Near Mazatlán	60 mi. W Cabo San Lucas	8/2/66	Bill Heimpel			"
?	Out of Guaymas	Guaymas	7/22/65	?			Rex Edward Baker Phoenix, Ariz.
SAILFISH							



When fishing with these fleet operators, before leaving port be sure to check with the manager to determine that tagging equipment is aboard.

After tagging, please see that the tagging card is completed and returned to the Tiburon Marine Laboratory.

#### GENERAL

There is a need to expand research programs on the life histories, migrations and population dynamics of these fine game fish. The west coast U.S. angler is fortunate to have within easy access some of the finest big game fishing areas to be found anywhere in the world. This in turn is the basis of a considerable part of the coastal tourism of lower Baja and the west coast ports of Mexico.

The dynamics of these important fish or size of population and the range of stocks now being fished in the eastern Pacific in relation to what can be caught without endangering the existence of an established fisheries is not known.

The cooperative game fish tagging program is one very important part of a larger research effort needed to develop the necessary facts to deal at an international level and to devise adequate conservation programs -- programs that will insure for the fishermen of all nationalities a sustaining yield of marlin and sailfish in the eastern Pacific.

To all fishermen and crewmen, we wish to thank you for your fine cooperation in 1966 and wish to you the best of big game fishing for 1967.

Gerald B. Talbot, Director  
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International Game Fish Association  
4645 Fairfield Drive  
Corona Del Mar, California 92625



ATTENTION - Please examine all fish caught for tags previously affixed. This is especially important for fish being released.