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Petrels, albatrosses and seals entanglement in lost gear

Delegation of France Overseas Territories

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Abstract	
<p>Entanglement is a major issue for birds and mammals around the world. Beach surveys for marine debris are conducted within the frame of CCAMLR protocols by French scientists in Crozet (1) and Kerguelen EEZ (2) but also in Saint Paul and Amsterdam islands (3) in the middle of the SIOFA area. This document suggests ways to reduce entanglements.</p>	

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² Documents available only to members invited to closed sessions.

Recommendations

- SC **considers** educational material such as posters (translated in different languages used by members) be produced and displayed on fishing vessels to highlight the importance of reducing the loss of plastic debris.
- Observer's training should include a marine debris section to raise their awareness on this issue and its consequences

Petrels, albatrosses and seals entanglement in lost gear

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Entanglement is a major issue for birds and mammals around the world (Hofmeyr G. et al. 2002, Jepsen EM. et al. 2019, and Kühn S. et al. 2020).

Beach surveys for marine debris are conducted within the frame of CCAMLR protocols by French scientists in Crozet (1) and Kerguelen EEZ (2) but also in Saint Paul and Amsterdam islands (3) in the middle of the SIOFA area (Figure 1).

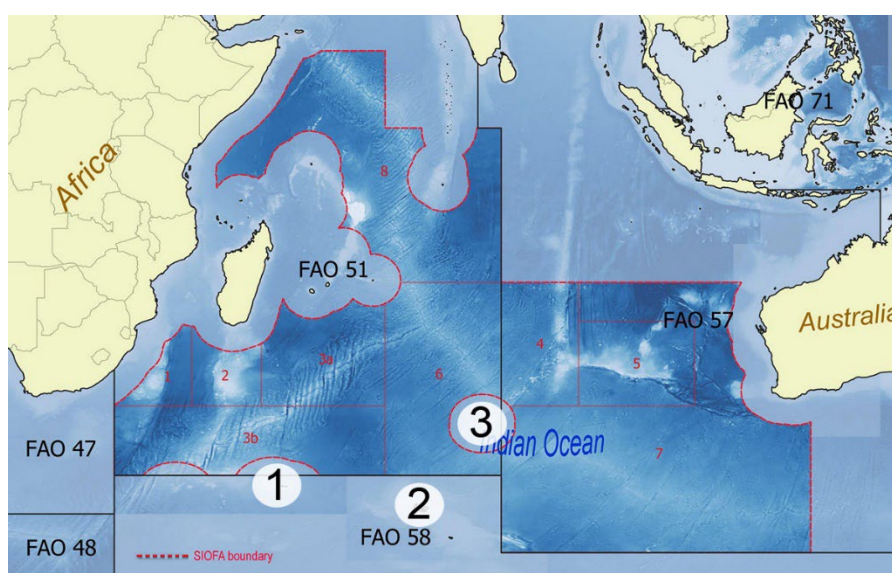


Figure 1 : SIOFA Area and the three French EEZ

Marine debris can float for years before they reach dry land. They represent deadly traps for wildlife, especially seals and birds.

Observed debris (photos from Buttet *et al.* 2022) consist of:

- Pieces of rope:



- Pieces of net:



- Plastic package bands:



- pieces of buckets:



Those debris accidentally lost by vessels represent only a tiny fraction of the gear used on board but they are responsible for tens of entanglements observed each year in the survey areas only. This means that far more individuals are not detected.

Draft poster for discussions:



(Draft poster project, photo from Buttet *et al.* 2022)

References

Buttet A, Delord K, Barbraud C. (2022). Bilan des enchevêtrements des Otaries à fourrure d'Amsterdam (*Arctocephalus tropicalis*) avec des débris marins sur la période 2019 -2021 sur l'île Amsterdam. CEBC-CNRS. Unpublished report.

Hofmeyr G, De Maine M, Bester M, Kirkman S, Pistorius P & Makhado A (2002). Entanglement of Pinnipeds at Marion Island, Southern Ocean: 1991-2001. *Australian Mammalogy* 24: 141–146

Jepsen EM, de Bruyn PN (2019). Pinniped entanglement in oceanic plastic pollution: A global review. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 145:295–305

Kühn S, Van Franeker JA (2020). Quantitative overview of marine debris ingested by marine megafauna. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 151:110858