

**Supplementary information**

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**Bycatch rates in fisheries largely driven by variation in individual vessel behaviour**

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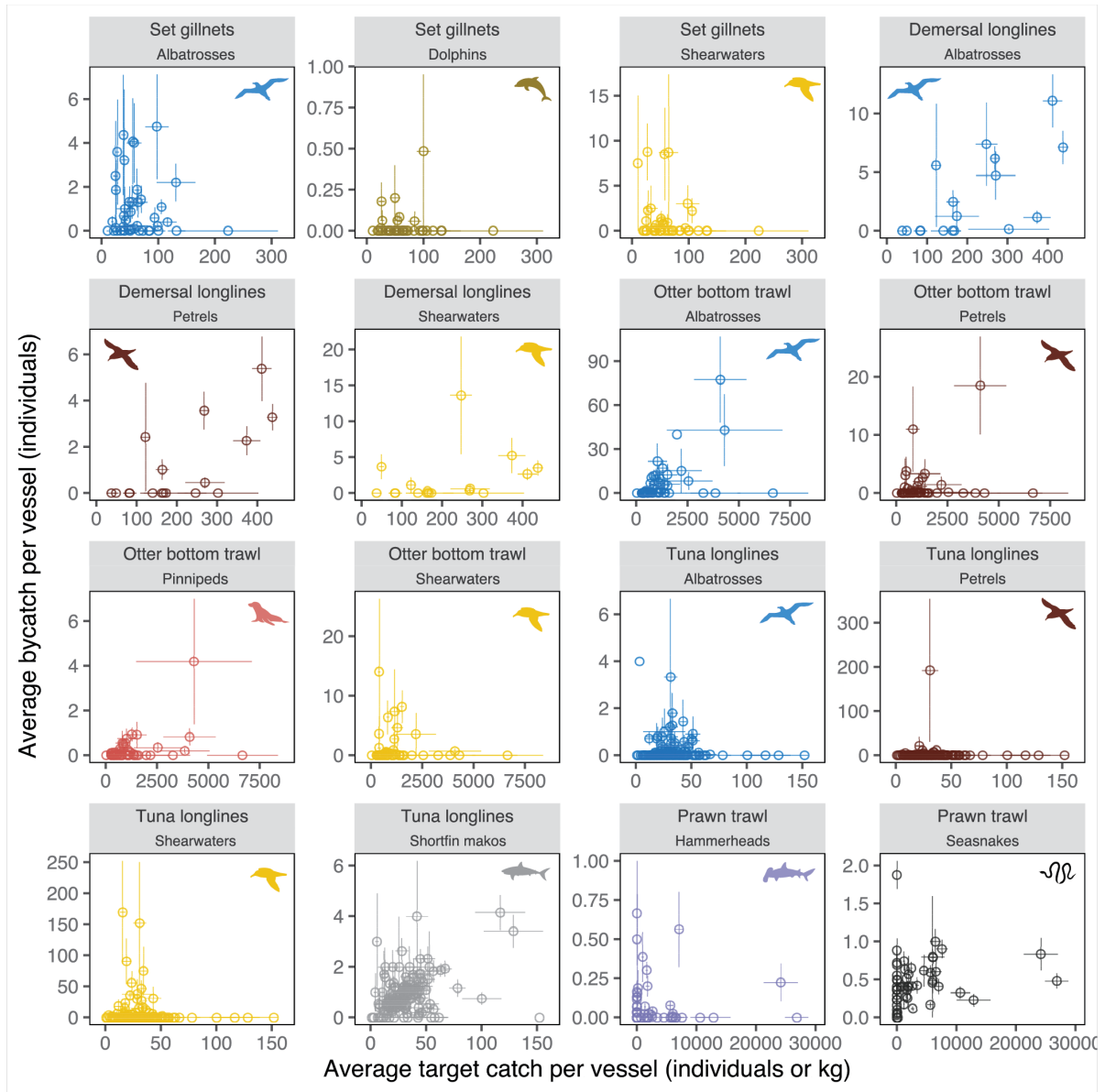
## **Supplementary Information**

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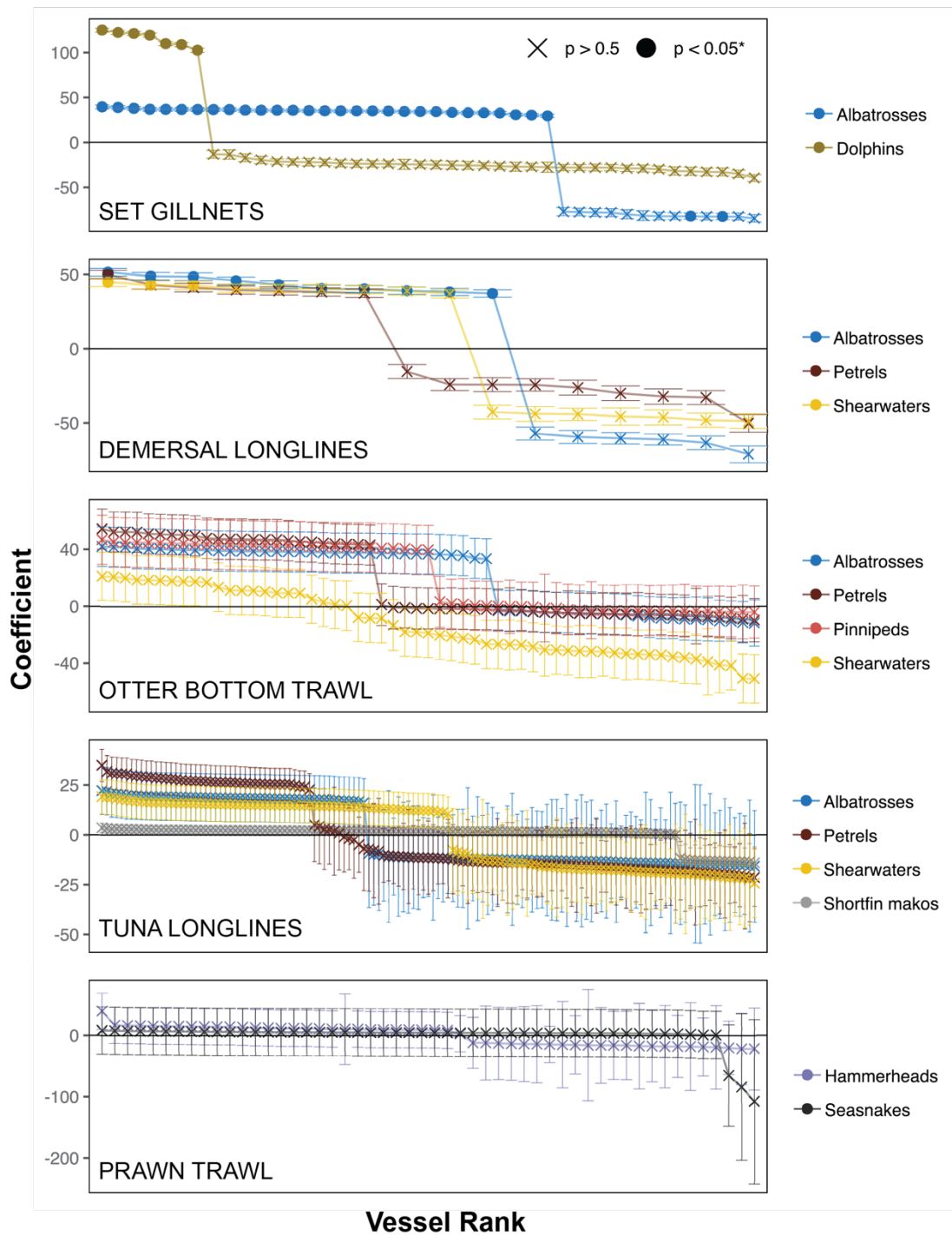
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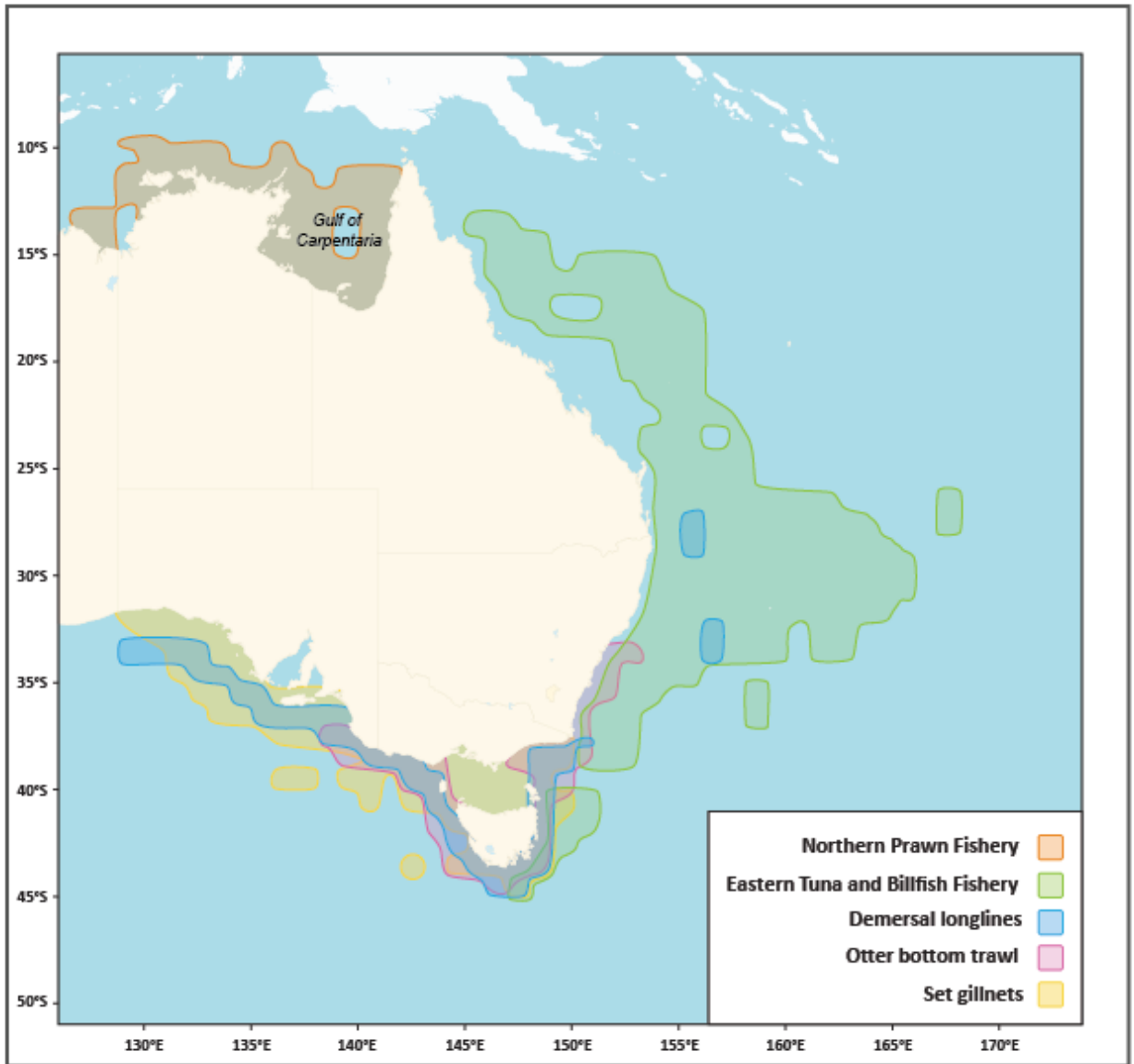
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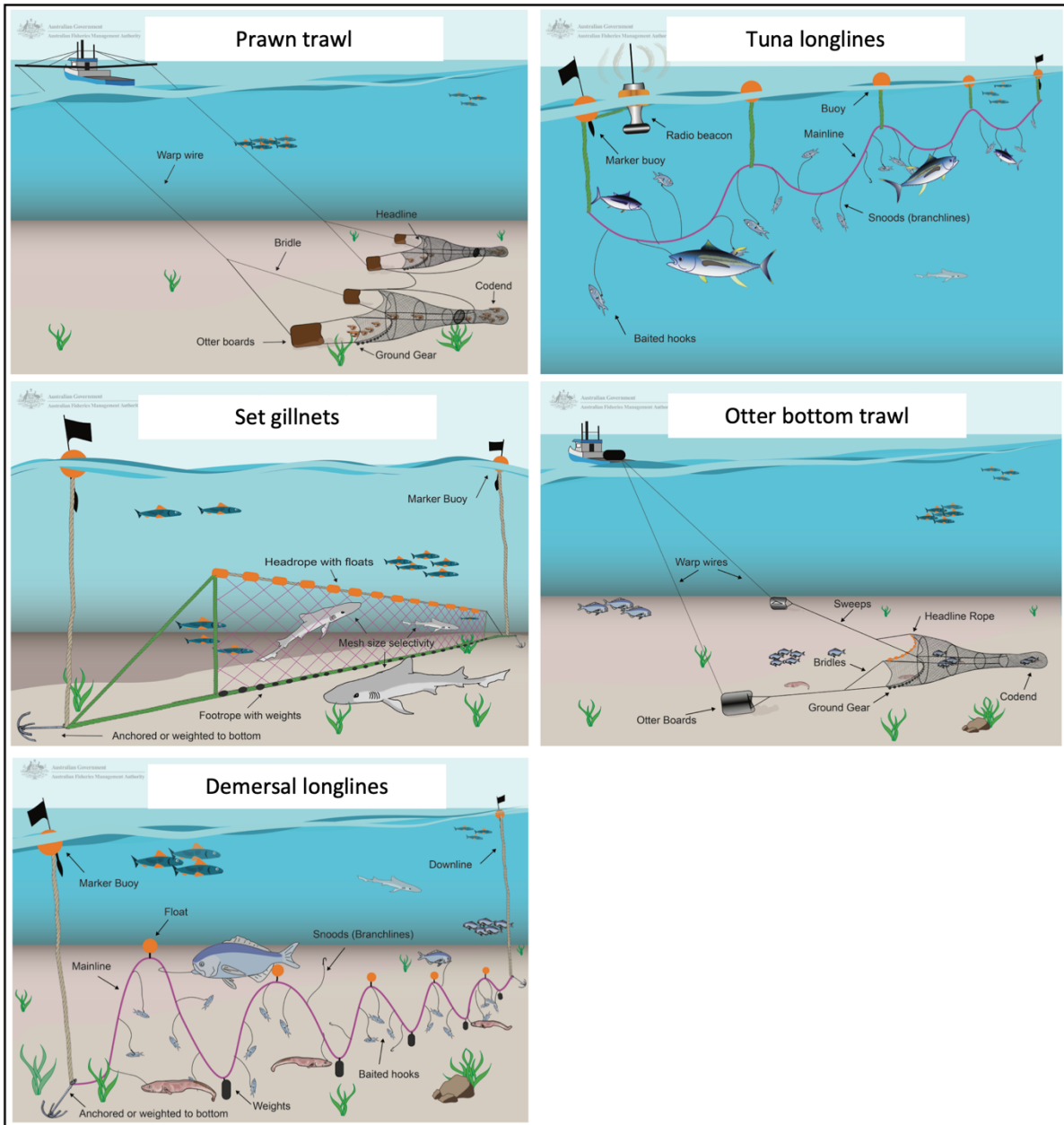
**Figure S1: Vessel bycatch and target catch.** Bycatch compared to target catch per individual vessel for the 16 fishery-bycatch type interaction, averaged across all fishing events recorded for each vessel. Bycatch includes individuals that were caught or landed as well as interactions where the animal escaped. Lines show standard errors for target and bycatch for each vessel. Species icons from flaticon.com (albatross, petrel), vecteezy.com (shearwater), and thenounproject.com (shortfin mako, hammerhead, dolphin, and sea snake).



**Figure S2:** Regression coefficients for individual vessels (as a fixed effect) in the 15 models where vessel was significant. Coefficients are calculated using deviation contrasts instead of the default treatment contrasts, and ordered by descending coefficient value for each species (more positive coefficients on left indicate higher bycatch). Error bars show the cube root of the standard error estimate for each regression coefficient. Round dots show significant ( $p < 0.05$ ) regression coefficients and crosses show  $p$ -values  $> 0.05$ . The only significant coefficients are in the set gillnet and demersal longline fisheries.



**Figure S3: Map of the five Australian Commonwealth fisheries.** Area shows each fishery's general area of operation, as shown in reports from the Australian Fisheries Management Authority



**Figure S4: Schematic of gear types used in the five fishing sectors.** Illustrations provided by the Australian Fisheries Management Authority (<https://www.afma.gov.au/fisheries-management/methods-and-gear>).

**Table S1:** Description of fishing sectors and scientific observer datasets included in analysis.

Fishery	Main target species	Bycatch species or groups	Vessels	Years	Fishing events
Prawn trawl	Banana prawns ( <i>Fenneropenaeus spp.</i> ); Tiger prawns ( <i>Penaeus spp.</i> )	Hammerhead and winghead sharks (Sphyrnidae); Sea snakes (Laticaudidae, Hydrophiidae)	52	2007-2017	4377
Tuna longlines	Yellowfin tuna ( <i>Thunnus. albacares</i> ), bigeye tuna ( <i>T. obesus</i> ), albacore ( <i>T. alalunga</i> ), Southern bluefin tuna ( <i>T. maccoyii</i> ), broadbill swordfish ( <i>Xiphias gladius</i> )	Shortfin mako shark ( <i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i> ); Albatrosses ( <i>Diomedea exulans, Thalassarche spp.</i> ); Petrels ( <i>Procellaria spp., Pterodoma spp., Puffinus spp.</i> ); Shearwaters (Mostly <i>Ardenna carneipes</i> , some <i>Puffinus spp.</i> )	133	2001-2015	4242
Demersal gillnets	Gummy shark ( <i>Mustelus antarcticus</i> ), sawsharks (Pristiophoridae), elephant fish (Callorhynchidae)	Dolphins (mostly <i>Delphinus delphis</i> ); Albatrosses (mostly <i>Thalassarche cauta</i> and <i>T. melanophris</i> , also <i>T. chlororhynchos</i> and <i>T. bulleri</i> ); Shearwaters (Mostly <i>Ardenna carneipes</i> , also <i>Puffinus tenuirostris, Ardenna grisea</i> )	43	2007-2016	2115
Demersal longlines	Blue-eye trevalla ( <i>Hyperoglyphe antarctica, Schedophilus labyrinthica</i> ), Pink ling ( <i>Genypterus blacodes</i> ), Ribaldo ( <i>Mora moro</i> ), Ocean perch ( <i>Helicolenus barathri, H. percoides</i> )	Albatrosses (mostly <i>Thalassarche cauta</i> , some <i>T. melanophris</i> and <i>T. spp.</i> ); Petrels (mostly <i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i> , also other <i>Procellaria spp., Daption capense</i> ); Shearwaters (Mostly <i>Ardenna carneipes</i> , some <i>Puffinus spp.</i> )	17	2007-2016	5227
Otter bottom trawl	Flathead ( <i>Neoplatycephalus richardsoni</i> ), pink ling ( <i>Genypterus blacodes</i> ), Blue grenadier ( <i>Macruronus novaezelandiae</i> ), Silver warehou ( <i>Seriola punctata</i> ), Orange roughy ( <i>Hoplostethus atlanticus</i> ), morwong ( <i>Nemadactylus macropterus</i> ), Bight redfish ( <i>Centroberyx gerrardi</i> )	Pinnipeds (mostly <i>Arctocephalus pusillus doriferus</i> ); Albatrosses (mostly <i>Thalassarche cauta</i> , also <i>T. melanophris, T. spp.</i> ); Petrels (mostly <i>Procellaria aequinoctialis</i> , also other <i>Procellaria spp.</i> ); Shearwaters (Mostly <i>Ardenna carneipes</i> , some <i>Puffinus spp.</i> )	58	2004-2016	1987

**Table S2:** Estimated parameters for parametric coefficients, smoothed effects, and fixed effects for the best model for the 16 species-fishery interactions. Perc. in light = Percent of fishing event duration in daylight. Duration= duration of fishing event (setting and hauling gear). Depth= depth of fishing gear (either a min or max depth depending on the fishery). All models included an effort offset. "Importance" is estimated with the dredge function that sums all Akaike weights over all models including the explanatory variable. Dev.=Deviance, No. obs. = Number of observations.  $\Delta$ AIC is the difference between the best model and the second-best model suggested with the dredge function. AICc weight is the proportion of the total amount of predictive power provided by the full set of models contained in the best model.

<b>Shortfin makos (Tuna longlines)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	- 1.04E+00	7.95E-02	-13.139	< 2e-16	
	Target catch	1.67E-03	2.64E-04	6.321	2.88E-10	1.0000
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	8.9068	8.997	39.188	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Month)	9.0796	10	43.630	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Lat, Lon)	1.9941	2	419.223	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(% in light)	8.1137	8.7745	26.015	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Shot duration)	7.382	8.3485	8.271	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
	Target cluster					1.0000
	Vessel					1.0000
	Operation type					1.0000
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b><math>\Delta</math>AICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	25.30%	4242	9547.7690	16.6970	0.9997	

<b>Shearwaters (Tuna longlines)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	- 5.90E+00	1.08051	-5.462	4.98E-08	
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	2.65	3.3369	46.007	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Month)	7.8977	10	43.916	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Lat, Lon)	1.9267	2	67.845	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(% in light)	3.4626	4.2049	23.194	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Vessel)	57.4526	133	2.714	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
	Target cluster					0.3995
	Operation type					0.9997
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b><math>\Delta</math>AICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	82.50%	4242	7437.7263	0.6103	0.3407	



<b>Petrels (Tuna longlines)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-9.78901	2.51329	-3.895	9.98E-05	
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	3.8934	4.6854	17.364	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Month)	5.4927	10	42.038	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Lat, Lon)	1.4714	2	17.731	0.021	0.5513
	s(% in light)	2.1926	2.63	13.318	< 0.001	0.9984
	s(Vessel)	47.0819	133	1.666	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>	Operation type					0.4212
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	84.10%	4242	5194.8720	0.0663	0.1443	

<b>Albatrosses (Tuna longlines)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-5.0356	0.4426	-11.376	<2e-16	
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	1	1	58.142	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Month)	5.915	10	6.175	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Lat, Lon)	1.7986	2	50.694	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(% in light)	2.2447	2.6794	16.752	< 0.001	0.9999
	s(Vessel)	29.4666	133	0.652	< 0.001	0.7531
<b>Fixed Effects</b>	Operation type					0.7289
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	52.30%	4242	4951.2225	0.4750	0.1682	

<b>Sea snakes (Prawn trawl)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-	5.26E+00	4.45E-01	-11.820	< 2e-16
	Target catch	-2.33E-05	6.37E-06	-3.660	0.00026	1.0000
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	8.2682	8.8556	34.596	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Month)	1.8119	2	9.291	< 0.001	0.9897
	s(Lat, Lon)	3.7762	4	17.131	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>	Target cluster					0.9994
	Vessel					1.0000
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	84.80%	4377	9140.7725	9.1383	0.9891	

<b>Hammerheads (Prawn trawl)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-30.8618	24486.875	-0.001	0.999	
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	8.2671	8.7596	15.592	< 0.001	0.9999
	s(Month)	1.9164	2	19.151	< 0.001	0.9999
	s(Lat, Lon)	3.6897	4	19.478	< 0.001	0.0001
	s(Depth)	6.3773	7.3336	6.246	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>	Vessel					1.0000
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	95.40%	4377	4446.9330	18.9154	0.9999	

<b>Shearwaters (Demersal longlines)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-7.4016	0.7819	-9.466	<2e-16	
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	s(Month)	1.7652	2	14.247	0.002	0.9647
	s(Vessel)	4.6623	16	1.058	< 0.001	0.9835
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	16.10%	1987	3186.7039	0.0000	0.1061	

<b>Petrels (Demersal longlines)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-	8.10E+01	-1.653	0.0985	
	Target catch	-2.33E-03	9.33E-04	-2.501	0.0125	0.4506
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	0.9543	9	3.998	< 0.001	0.9998
	s(Lat,Lon)	1.8205	2	24.457	< 0.001	0.9959
	s(Depth)	3.9711	9	4.056	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Vessel)	5.0809	16	3.825	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>	Target cluster					1.0000
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	44.20%	1987	3943.4554	0.0000	0.4295	

<b>Albatrosses (Demersal longlines)</b>						
<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>

	Intercept	-6.5939	0.8396	-7.854	6.58E-15	
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	1.3132	9	5.613	< 0.001	0.9869
	s(Month)	1.3614	2	2.489	0.045	0.7323
	s(Lat,Lon)	1.8465	2	28.156	< 0.001	0.8856
	s(Depth)	2.1342	9	5.148	0.002	0.9371
	s(Vessel)	6.8429	16	3.645	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>	Target cluster					0.0285
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	27%	1987	4745.7154	0.8132	0.3557	

### Shearwaters (Otter bottom trawl)

<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-	1.23E+01	1.58E+00	-7.772	9.23E-15
	Target catch	2.59E-04	3.51E-05	7.382	1.80E-13	1.0000
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	5.997	9	10.562	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Month)	3.8623	10	6.581	0.009	0.6815
	s(Lat,Lon)	1.3596	2	90.511	0.059	0.6507
	s(Vessel)	22.4045	57	1.878	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	66.80%	5227	6041.2951	1.6504	0.2278	

### Pinnipeds (Otter bottom trawl)

<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-9.028192	0.4400382	-20.520	<2e-16	
	Target catch	0.0002452	0.0000241	10.180	<2e-16	1.0000
<b>Smoothed terms</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Month)	2.7034	10	9.234	< 0.001	0.9860
	s(Lat,Lon)	1.8532	2	516.996	< 0.001	0.9941
	s(dpth_min)	0.8767	9	3.201	0.004	0.9766
	s(Vessel)	31.7655	57	2.724	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	46.30%	5227	5842.7276	0.0001	0.1534	

### Petrels (Otter bottom trawl)

<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
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	Intercept	-	1.27E+00	-7.645	2.48E-14	
	Target catch	2.54E-04	3.85E-05	6.604	4.40E-11	1.0000
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	5.2392	9	46.102	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Vessel)	26.3911	57	2.375	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	70.30%	5227	5842.7407	0.0000	0.1535	

#### Albatrosses (Otter bottom trawl)

<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-	4.90E-01	-12.510	<2e-16	
	Target catch	2.43E-04	2.40E-05	10.100	<2e-16	1.0000
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	4.989	9	41.606	< 0.001	1.0000
	s(Month)	4.8035	10	11.341	< 0.001	0.8462
	s(dpth_min)	3.7249	9	7.847	< 0.001	0.9801
	s(Vessel)	29.1687	57	2.820	< 0.001	1.0000
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	51.30%	5227	7931.6391	0.2168	0.2628	

#### Shearwaters (Set gillnets )

<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-7.8705	0.5727	-13.740	<2e-16	
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	0.565	9	0.144	0.12	0.5301
	s(Month)	1.671	2	4.785	0.003	0.9421
	s(Lat,Lon)	0.5504	2	0.548	0.14	0.4981
	s(Vessel)	0	42	0.000	0.64	0.4880
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	12%	2115	3467.4892	0.0000	0.1045	

#### Dolphins (Set gillnets)

<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-19.97966	2.53933	-7.868	5.72E-15	
	Target catch	-0.04123	0.0137	-3.010	0.00264	0.8492
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Year)	0.7419	9	40.488	0.049	0.7946

	s(Lat,Lon)	1.0618	2	247.512	0.012	0.8933
	s(Vessel)	12.3574	42	1.176	< 0.001	0.9938
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	72.30%	2115	2252.2635	0.0002	0.2931	

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**Albatrosses (Set gillnets)**

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<b>Coefficients</b>	<b>Term</b>	<b>Estimate</b>	<b>Std. Error</b>	<b>t value</b>	<b>Pr(&gt; t )</b>	<b>Importance</b>
	Intercept	-7.4155	0.5437	-13.640	<2e-16	
<b>Smoothed terms</b>		<b>Est. df</b>	<b>Ref df</b>	<b>F</b>	<b>P-value</b>	
	s(Lat,Lon)	1.1383	2	10.939	0.003	0.6839
	s(Depth)	0.9346	9	1.816	0.007	0.9041
	s(Vessel)	12.3066	42	0.560	0.004	0.9564
<b>Fixed Effects</b>						
<b>Summary stats</b>	<b>Dev. explained</b>	<b>No. obs</b>	<b>AICc</b>	<b>ΔAICc</b>	<b>AICc weight</b>	
	20%	2115	3467.4892	0.0000	0.1045	