

Accidental catch of Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin, *Stenella longirostris* (Gray, 1828) at Dummulapeta, Andhra Pradesh

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Landing of Long-snouted Spinner Dolphins were reported at Dummulapea landing centre of Andhrapradesh from 11.06.2012 to 12.06.12 and on 21.07.12. A total of five number of spinner dolphin were caught accidentally in gill net locally known as Panduvala and Naravala which was operated at



View of colour pattern of Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin



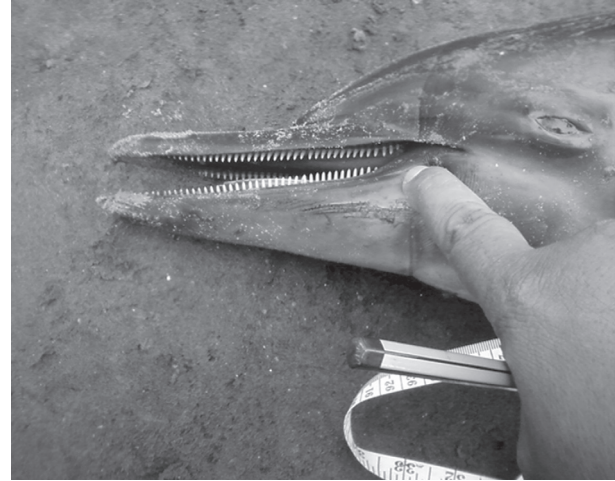
A view of Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin accidentally caught by gill net

a depth of 18-25m by moorised gillnetter, 20 km away from shore. The total length and weight of the species are ranged from 101 cm to 157 cm and 8 kg respectively. The meat of dolphin is being used

as bait by fishermen of this region for hook and line fishing of sharks and tuna.

The species is characterized by slender body with an extremely long, thin beak. The head is also slender at the apex of the melon. The dorsal fin slightly falcate and triangular in shape. The tail stock is deepened, with an elongated post-anal keel of connective tissue. The species generally have tripartite color patterns. The dorsal area is dark gray, side is light gray and underside is white. There is a dark band runs from the dark eye to the flipper, bordered above by a thin, light line. The total numbers of teeth on upper and lower jaw are 42-45 respectively.

The species is listed in Appendix II of CITES (Convention on International Trade in Endangered



View of jaw teeth pattern of Long-snouted Spinner Dolphin

Species of Wild Flora and Fauna) and CMS (Convention on Migratory Species).