



Australian Acoustical Society
Queensland Division

CHRISTMAS PARTY and Technical Meeting 12 December 2006

BYBLOS Bar and Restaurant, Portside Wharf, Hamilton

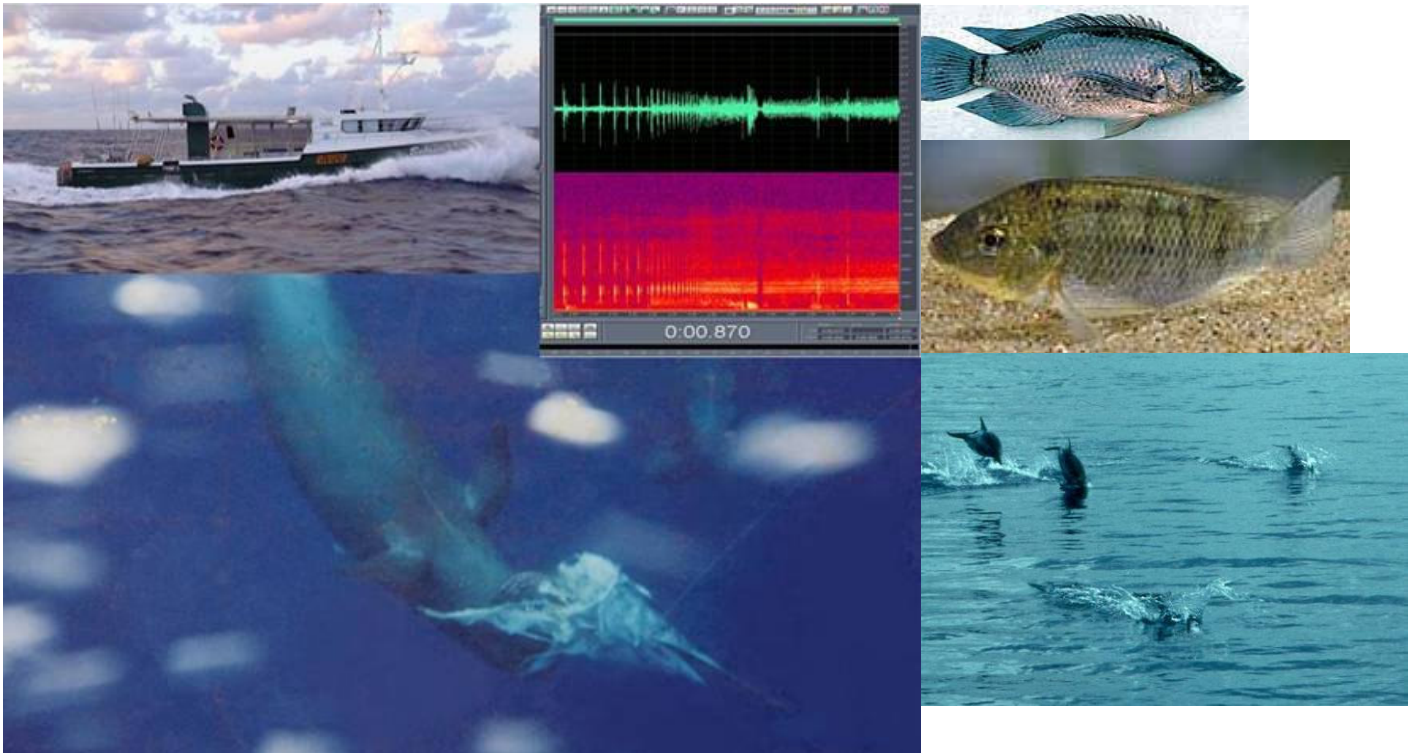
Acoustic issues related to mitigation of depredation by toothed whales on Coral Sea longline catches and the potential for mitigation of tilapia infestation using sound

Geoff Macpherson
DPI & Fisheries, Cairns

Avoidance of marine mammal bycatch is an ongoing issue for Queensland coastal fisheries. One method of reducing bycatch is to use acoustic alarms to warn mammals of the presence of nets. Active “pinger” systems rely on our understanding of underwater acoustic propagation and the well developed acoustic perception of marine mammals. Current projects to mitigate depredation by toothed whales on Coral Sea tuna longline catch involve development and construction of passive acoustic tracking systems suited to commercial fishing vessel operation. These systems monitor the azimuth and range of vocalising marine mammals around all fishing gear to help avoid interactions. To minimise interactions when the animals reach the fishing gear, acoustic and mechanical delivery systems are being developed.

Queensland waterways are under threat by exotic fish species of the cichlid family. Mitigation techniques to date have been ineffective. Sound is an integral part of their behaviour and it is considered that a window of opportunity exists to modify the reproductive biology of males and enhance the selectivity of traps for males, females and juveniles using sound. Sound use is not likely to modify habitat or behaviour of native species.

Geoff McPherson is a Fisheries Biologist with the Queensland DPI and Fisheries. He has spent most of his career working on the life history (age, growth, reproduction and migratory behaviour) of tuna and tuna-like species such as yellowfin, bigeye and narrow barred Spanish mackerel. Since 1981 he has worked on systems to reduce the bycatch of marine mammals in Queensland coastal waters using acoustic alarms. Working attachments have included the Secretariat of the Pacific Community, UN and US military forces in Somalia (UNOSOM II) and Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade. He is a member of the US Government Marine Mammal Advisory Committee for toothed whales in the Pacific.





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Date & Time: 6:30pm, Tuesday 12 December 2006

Venue: Byblos Bar and Restaurant, Portside Wharf, Hamilton.

Byblos Restaurant is located in Portside Wharf (the new cruise ship terminal complex). The Restaurant is on the River frontage, immediately adjacent to the wharf. Entry to Portside Wharf is via Remora Road & Hercules Street. See plan.

COST: \$30.00 Members

\$40.00 Guests

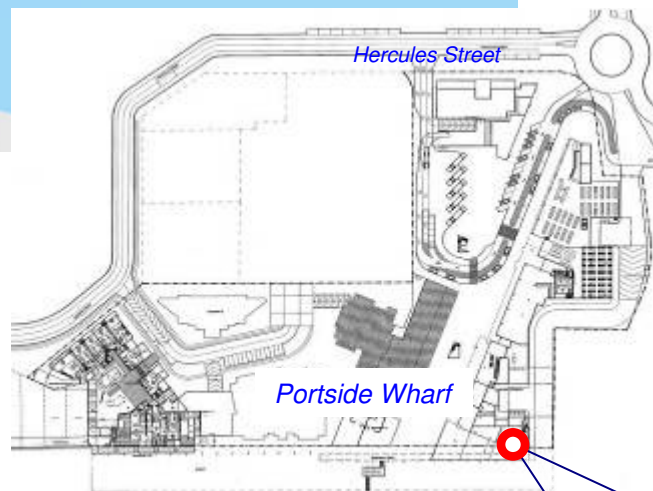
RSVP: Wednesday 6 December 2006

Michael Lanchester: AAS QLD Secretary

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BYBLOS BAR & RESTAURANT



Portside Wharf

BYBLOS BAR & RESTAURANT

