Geographical and Intrapopulation Variation in the Diet of a Threatened Marine Predator, *Pontoporia blainvillei* (Cetacea)

Barbara Henning, Benilton de Sá Carvalho, Mathias Mistretta Pires, Manuela Bassoi, Juliana Marigo, Carolina Bertozzi, Márcio S. Araújo

Samples of franciscana dolphins (n = 58) incidentally caught by artisanal gillnet fisheries from the Northern (n = 11, municipalities of Ubatuba, Ilhabela, Caraguatatuba, and São Sebastião), Central (n = 40, municipalities of Bertioga, Guarujá, Santos, São Vicente, Praia Grande, Mongaguá, Itanhaém, and Peruíbe), and Southern regions (n = 7, Iguape, Ilha Comprida and Cananéia) of the São Paulo State coast in Brazil. Franciscana dolphins were classified into juveniles (n = 8), subadults (n = 18) or adults (n = 32) according to total length. For females (n = 34), juveniles were < 90 cm, subadults were > 90 cm and < 119 cm, and adults were > 119 cm. For males (n = 24), juveniles were < 90 cm, subadults were > 90 cm and < 107 cm, and adults were > 107 cm. The detailed distribution of specimens of franciscana dolphin bycaught according to region, season, sex, and age is shown in the table.

TABLE. Distribution of specimens of franciscana dolphin (*Pontoporia blainvillei*) bycaught along São Paulo state coast according to region of the bycatch, season, sex, and age.

SÃO PAULO STATE COAST					(n=58)
Female	9	12	7	6	34
Male	4	8	3	9	24
	13	20	10	15	
Adult	3	12	9	8	32
Subadult	8	2	1	7	18
Juvenile	2	6	0	0	8
	13	20	10	15	<u></u>

	Spring	Summer	Fall	Winter	Total
NORTHERN REGION					(n=11)
Female	1	3	1	1	6
Male	0	2	0	3	5
	1	5	1	4	
Adult	0	5	1	2	8
Subadult	1	0	0	2	3
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0
	1	5	1	4	<u>—</u>
CENTRAL REGION					(n=40)
Female	8	8	5	5	26
Male	3	3	2	6	14
	11	11	7	11	
Adult	2	4	6	6	18
Subadult	7	1	1	5	14
Juvenile	2	6	0	0	8
	11	11	7	11	
SOUTHERN REGION					(n=7)
Female	0	1	1	0	2
Male	1	3	1	0	5
	1	4	2	0	
Adult	1	3	2	0	6
Subadult	0	1	0	0	1
Juvenile	0	0	0	0	0
	1	4	2	0	