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(5) Abstract title:	INTERSPECIES INTERACTION BETWEEN LONG-FINNED PILOT WHALES AND KILLER WHALES IN THE STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR.
(6) Abstract:	The population of long-finned pilot whales (345 individuals) is present in the central part of the Strait of Gibraltar while killer whales (18 individuals) are usually found on the western part of the Strait in summer. Both species share 23% of their distribution area. Long-finned pilot whales have been observed chasing killer whales that are interacting with the tuna longline fishery in the central waters of the Strait. The long-finned pilot whales chased the killer whales for about 15 minutes at high speed (around 8 knots), until the killer whale had left the pilot whale's distribution area. Once the killer whales are about 1.5nm away from the closest group of pilot whales, they changed behaviour and rested at the surface, with high breathing rate. After around 15-30 minutes resting, they tried to go back to where the fishermen were. While the true nature of the interaction is difficult to interpret, this suggests that long-finned pilot whales can show aggression towards, or at least threaten, killer whale. Pilot whales have also been observed chasing common and striped dolphins in the Strait, however so far no physical interactions have been observed. These chases could have a negative impact on the killer whales foraging time and energy resources since they are losing opportunities to feed on tuna and they are wasting energy during the persecution. Furthermore, the apparent territorial behaviour of pilot whales suggests that in times of climate change and cetacean species distribution shift, those problems could occur at a larger scale in different regions of the world. Therefore minimising the access to a resource for a new species or a population shifting its distribution to a new area already occupied by another cetacean species.
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