

Dolphinfish Research Program™

Made possible by a grant from the Guy Harvey Foundation

November 2025



Reported and Received Tagging Progress from 10/30/2025-11/26/2025:

Captain Hermel (Miss Texas) 22

Robi Birriel (Nuri) 2

McBain (Miss America) 2

Guy Harvey (Miss Australia) 1

Daryl Wiley (CFA) 11

Guy and Catherine Bartells (Miss Tropic Star) 2

Dean Meyer (Miss Hawaii) 1

2,014 tagged & released for conservation and science by 108 different vessels

45 Recaptures/Movements to date in 2025

44 verified

28 Satellite tags deployed

(1 (2024) at large; 10 at large (2025))

Last week, DRP personnel embarked on a research expedition to Tropic Star Lodge. This was our seventh research expedition and fishing for dorado was similar to November 2024 when our team struggled to find dorado close to shore (< 20 miles). This year, our team had to run up to 53 miles offshore to find dorado. Most fish were found adjacent to large logs or big bait balls near commercial activity. Within 20 miles of the coast, many vessels did well on blue marlin and there was ample bonito but dorado were not abundant. Closer to shore there were also less current breaks with large debris.

In the Atlantic, good and consistent reports continue to come in from fishing activity north of Puerto Rico as well as south of DR. However, reports south of DR are beginning to slow as anglers shift to nearshore activity during the winter months.

Lastly, as reported in this newsletter, a geolocation tag surfaced after being carried by a 34" female released off of San Juan, PR, in mid-October. The tag surfaced on November 7th about 100 miles from the Turks and Caicos at the beginning of the Antilles Current. The movement of the fish before popup indicated activity well offshore in the southern portion of the Sargasso Sea.

Reported Recaptures or Movement Data Acquired Since 9/29/2025

No reported recoveries

Tropic Star Lodge Research Update



Last week, the **Beyond Our Shores Foundation (BOSF)** embarked on our seventh research expedition to [Tropic Star Lodge](#) to continue our work in describing the movements, life history patterns, and population dynamics of dolphinfish in the Eastern Tropical Pacific (ETP) Ocean. While the frequency of catching dolphinfish was lower than in previous years, our team, which included **Richard Delizza**, **Basil Humphries**, and

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A satellite tag qualifier prior to deployment.
Pic: W. Merten

and **Jessica Harvey**, still managed to tag and release 22 dolphinfish in 5.5 days of fishing. We found greater dorado abundance 45-52 miles offshore. Of the 22 fish tagged, 12 were tagged and released with popup satellite tags or towed spot tags. In addition, participants in the **TSL Annual Billfish Tournament** worked to tag and release an additional seven fish, which brought our week's total to 29 dorado tagged and released for science and conservation. With our effort last week, a total of 85 satellite tags and 1,390 conventional tags have been deployed in the ETP since 2018! A special thanks goes out to **Penn Fishing** and **Costa Del Mar** for their support of several tagging awards during last week's tournament. This work is sponsored by the **Guy Harvey Foundation**, additional sponsors and supporters of **BOSF**, and in partnership with **Tropic Star Lodge**. To read more about our research in the ETP, visit dolphintagging.com/etp.

Female Dolphinfish Tracked in Tropical Atlantic

Fishing aboard **Caribbean Fishing Academy**, a charter boat based out of San Juan Bay, Puerto Rico, **Captain Daryl Wiley** and our team were able to deploy a Wildlife Computers miniPAT tag on a 34" female caught adjacent to a floating tanker 18 miles off the north coast. This fish carried the tag for approximately 569.10 miles in 23.45 days. This movement record shows the female moving predominately to the north into the Sargasso Sea and eventually trending toward the west-southwest and the start of the Antilles Current, a pathway we have suspected is a major route dolphinfish take during fall, winter, and spring back toward the Gulf Stream just off the U.S. East Coast. This record is another result generated from our work with the **Caribbean Fishery Management Council**. [Click here](#) to learn more.

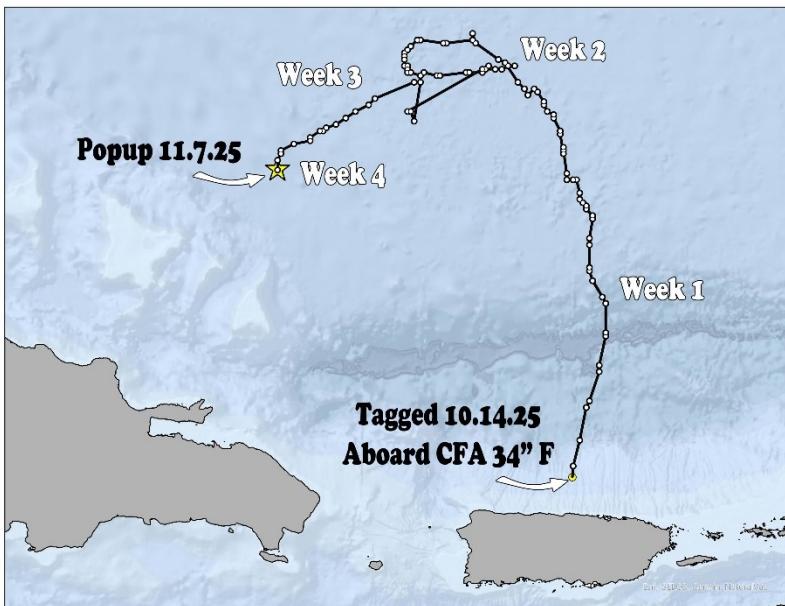


Figure and Images: Most probable track for a 34" female tagged and released aboard Caribbean Fishing Academy on October 14th, 2025. The tag surfaced 23.45 days after deployment during the 4th monitoring week. Images depict the female trying to flee the net in situ during deployment. The fish swam off incredibly well.

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Fall Fundraising for 2026



Help us raise funds to expand the **Dolphinfish Research Program** in 2026, our 25th year of operations! We are raising funds to cover the costs of 5,000 tags, shipping 500 tagging kits with 500 applicators, and expanding our staff. Donations are tax-deductible and can be made via the QR code above or by [clicking here](#). Checks made out to "Beyond Our Shores, Inc" can be sent to Beyond Our Shores, Inc at PO BOX 3506 Newport, RI, 02840.

Shop DRP's 25th Anniversary Apparel!

In recognition of the past 25-years of continuous data collection on dolphinfish through our tagging program, we worked with **AFTCO** to create a special edition 25th anniversary line of apparel. Help support our ongoing data collection and angler engagement by purchasing a **AFTCO DRP** samurai, air-o-mesh, or fleece shadow hooded sweatshirt by clicking any of the images below.



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Support our 25th Year of Tagging Activity!



Next year marks the 25th anniversary of the Dolphinfish Research Program (DRP). The last eight of those 25 years have been under the management of the [Beyond Our Shores](#)

[Foundation](#), a 501(c)(3) founded to manage and expand the DRP as well as focus on other key fisheries research topics throughout the Western Central Atlantic (WCA) and Eastern Tropical Pacific Oceans (ETP). Over the last eight years, we have received support from 410 donors, in which many of whom are recurring annual supporters. It is only through the support of these individuals, as well as our corporate sponsors and program participants, that the DRP continues to compile new movement records and data on dolphinfish in the WCA and ETP. As of today, 39,649 dolphinfish have been tagged for the DRP, and 904 recaptures have been recorded. In

addition, 144 satellite tags have been deployed on dolphinfish and 12 on wahoo. Collectively, these data have been used to publish [17 scientific articles](#), and the data is publicly available

at [dolphintagging.com/map](#). With two key scientific papers in preparation on detailed regional movement dynamics and catch and effort, as well as our ambitious distribution goals for 2026 (400 kits and 5,000 tags), we need your support to achieve these key outcomes. In 2025, we have distributed 331 tagging kits, or 3,198 tags, and we estimate by year's end we will distribute at least 10 more kits or 100 more tags. Help the DRP continue to engage anglers in research and conservation of dolphin and wahoo in 2026. Click the icons below to [shop](#) or [donate](#) to support our program.

The Beyond Our Shores Foundation is a federal and Puerto Rico registered 501(c)(3). Examine our [federal tax-exempt status](#) and examine our [Puerto Rico registration](#).

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