

Peer Review

Review of: "Franciscana's (*Pontoporia blainvillei*) Diving and Surface Times Through Drone Monitoring"

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The methods and the data presented in this short communication can be extremely valuable for the conservation of Franciscana dolphins. It is undeniable that information on this species is scarce and that relatively novel technologies, such as unoccupied aerial systems (UAS), can be used to facilitate data acquisition. I suggest the authors focus on clarifying the methods section and highlighting how the use of the non-invasive UAS technology compares to research conducted with tags (see Wells et al. 2022). I would include information such as the drone model, brand, camera payload, and flight altitude. A map of the survey area would help in understanding the effort, as well as providing the total flight time and track covered by the UAS for each location. It seems the UAS was set to conduct autonomous flights in each survey, and I would clarify if the pilot stopped the effort to follow dolphin groups once detected or not.

For the results section, I suggest including the statistical test value and removing the graph explanation, which is already provided in the figure caption.

I wish the best to the authors in their valuable conservation and monitoring effort.

Declarations

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.