**Supplementary Material**

**Table S1**: Documented active and inactive cases of human-wildlife cooperation, either from published literature or through personal observation by authors on this paper.

| **Human-wildlife cooperation** | **Non-human animal species** | **Human cultural group** | **Location** | **Prey species** | **Status and period** | **References** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Human-dolphin | Lahille’s bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus gephyreus* or *Tursiops gephyreus*)\* | Artisanal Brazilian net-casting fishers | Araranguá, Santa Catarina, southern Brazil | Mainly Mugilidae | Inactive,  ~ 1900–1991 | (Simões-Lopes, 1991) |
| Human-dolphin | Lahille’s bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus gephyreus* or *Tursiops gephyreus*)\* | Artisanal Brazilian net-casting fishers | Laguna, Santa Catarina, southern Brazil | Mainly Mugilidae | Active (ca. 16 cooperative dolphins), ca. 1890–current day | (Bezamat et al., 2018, 2019; da Rosa et al., 2020; Daura-Jorge et al., 2012, 2013; Machado et al., 2019a; b; Pellegrini et al., 2021; Peterson et al., 2008; Pryor & Lindbergh, 1990; Romeu et al., 2017; Simões-Lopes, 1991; Simões-Lopes et al., 1998, 2016) |
| Human-dolphin | Lahille’s bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus gephyreus* or *Tursiops gephyreus*)\* | Artisanal Brazilian net-casting fishers | Rio Grande, Rio Grande do Sul, Southern Brazil | Mainly Mugilidae | Inactive  ~ 1900–1991 | (Simões-Lopes, 1991) |
| Human-dolphin | Lahille’s bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus gephyreus* or *Tursiops gephyreus*)\* | Artisanal Brazilian net-casting fishers | Torres river, Rio Grande do Sul, southern Brazil | Mainly Mugilidae | Active (1–2 cooperative dolphins), much reduced, ca. 1900–current day | (Gonçalves, 2018; Simões-Lopes, 1991) |
| Human-dolphin | Lahille’s bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus gephyreus* or *Tursiops gephyreus*)\* | Artisanal Brazilian net-casting fishers | Tramandaí Inlet, Rio Grande do Sul, southern Brazil | Mainly Mugilidae | Active (ca. 12 cooperative dolphins), ca. 1960– current day. | (Afonso, 2015; Camargo et al., 2020; Ilha et al., 2018, 2020; Santos et al., 2018; Serpa, 2019; Silva et al., 2021; Simões-Lopes, 1991; Zappes et al., 2011) |
| Human-dolphin | Irrawaddy dolphin (*Orcaella brevirostris*) | Artisanal Brazilian net-casting fishers | Ayeyarwady river, Sagaing and Mandalay Regions, Myanmar | Mainly Cyprinidae | Active (ca. 8 cooperative dolphins), at least 1878– current day | (Anderson, 1878; Busnel, 1973; Smith et al., 2009; Thein, 1977; Tun, 2004, 2005, 2014) |
| Human-dolphin | Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops aduncus)* | Bunjalung Aboriginal Australians using spears and hand nets | Eastern Australia | Mugilidae and Pomatomidae | Inactive | (Clode, 2002; Fairholme, 1856; Neil, 2002; Robinson, 1965) |
| Human-orca | Orca (*Orcinus orca*) | Yuin Aboriginal Australians, together with European settlers | Eastern Australia | Baleen whales | Inactive | (Clode, 2002; Dakin, 1938; Mead, 1961; Neil, 2002) |
| Human-orca | Orca (*Orcinus orca*) | Chukchi, Siberian Yupik | Chukotka, Russia | Walruses (*Obobenus rosmarus*)*,* true seal species (Phocidae)*,* grey whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*) | Inactive | (Bogoras, 1907; Holzlehner, 2015) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Diverse backgrounds | Central Cameroon | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Inactive | (Gruber, 2018; Gruber & Sanda, 2019) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Unknown | Central Mozambique | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Active | (dos Santos, 1609) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Unknown | Congo Basin | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Likely inactive | (Chapin, 1939; Friedmann, 1955; Merolla da Sorrento, 1744) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Xhosa | Eastern Cape, South Africa | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Inactive | (Friedmann, 1955; Skead, 1951) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Swazi | Kingdom of Eswatini | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Active | (G.S.D, unpubl. data) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Awer | Lamu County, Kenya | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Active | (van der Wal et al., 2022) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Yao | Niassa Special Reserve, Northern Mozambique | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*), meliponine stingless bee species | Active | (Spottiswoode et al., 2016) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Boran | Northern Kenya | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Active, | (Isack, 1987, 1999; Isack & Reyer, 1989) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Hadzabe | Northern Tanzania | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*), rarely meliponine stingless bee species | Active | (Laltaika, 2021; Marlowe et al., 2014; Wood et al., 2014) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Ndorobo | Northern Tanzania | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Active | (Laltaika, 2021; Queeny, 1952) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Sonjo | Northern Tanzania | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Active | (Laltaika, 2021) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Maasai | Northern Tanzania | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Active | (Laltaika, 2021) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Unknown | Present-day Ethiopia | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Likely inactive | (Friedmann, 1955; Lobo, 1789) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Unknown | Present-day Guinea | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Likely inactive | (Friedmann, 1955; Ludolphus, 1682) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Waata | Tsavo, southern Kenya | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Unknown | (Ville, 1995) |
| Human-honeyguide | Greater honeyguide (*Indicator indicator*) | Khoe-Sān | Western Cape, South Africa | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Inactive | (Sparrman, 1777) |
| Human-wolf | Wolf (*Canis lupus*) | Indigenous Americans | North America | Various ungulates, including bison (*Bison bison*) and elk (*Cervus Canadensis*) | Inactive, possibly active in limited areas | (Barsh & Marlor, 2003; Fogg et al., 2015; Marshall, 1995; Pierotti & Fogg, 2017; Shipman, 2015) |

\* There is an ongoing taxonomic debate on Lahille’s bottlenose dolphin should be considered a species (*Tursiops gephyreus*) or a subspecies (*Tursiops truncatus gephyreus*) (e.g., Wang et al., 2021; Wickert et al., 2016)

**Table S2** Documented active and inactive cases of human-wildlife interactions that are potential mutualistic and/or cooperative, or that are mutualistic but not cooperative. Based on published literature or through personal observation by authors on this paper.

| **Assessment** | **Human-wildlife interaction** | **Wild animal species** | **Human cultural group** | **Location** | **Prey species** | **Status and period** | **Notes** | **References** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Mutualism; no cooperation | Human-dolphin | Guiana dolphin (*Sotalia guianensis*) | Artisanal Brazilian fishers using unsupervised stake nets | Cananéia, south-eastern Brazil | Mainly Mugilidae | Active, 1982–current day | The use of stake-nets indicates no real-time coordination | (Louzada, 2013; Monteiro-Filho, 1995; Monteiro-Filho et al., 2018) |
| Potential mutualism/parasitism | Human-dolphin | Guiana dolphin (*Sotalia guianensis*) | Brazilian net-casting fishers | Guaratuba southern Brazil | Unknown | Inactive, unknown start date | Not enough details to indicate dolphins benefit | (Monteiro-Filho et al., 1999) |
| Potential mutualism/parasitism | Human-dolphin | Amazon river dolphin (*Inia geoffrensis*) | Artisanal Brazilian fishers | Manaus | Unknown | Inactive, unknown start date–ca. 1954 | Not enough details to indicate dolphins benefit | (Busnel, 1973; Lamb, 1954) |
| Potential mutualism/parasitism | Human-dolphin | Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin (*Sousa chinensis*) | Ashtamudi artisanal fishers | Ashtamudi, south-western India | Mainly Mugilidae | Active, unknown start date | Not enough details to indicate dolphins benefit | (Kumar et al., 2012) |
| Mutualism; no cooperation | Human-dolphin | Irrawaddy dolphin (*Orcaella brevirostris*) | Chilika artisanal fishers using unsupervised stake nets | Chilika, eastern India | Mainly Mugilidae | Active, unknown start date | The use of stake-nets indicates no real-time coordination | (D’Lima et al., 2014) |
| Potential mutualism/parasitism | Human-dolphin | South Asian river dolphin (*Platanista gangetica gangetica*) | Artisanal fishers | Sundarbans, Bangladesh | Mugilidae and other small fish and shrimp species | Active, unknown start date | It seems unlikely that dolphins benefit, probably not mutualistic | (Deb, 2015) |
| Mutualism; potential cooperation | Human-dolphin | Common bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) | Imragen fishers using spears and hand nets | El-Memghar, Mauritania | Mainly Mugilidae | Potential active | Not enough details to indicate there is coordination | (Busnel, 1973; Campredon & Cuq, 2001) |
| Mutualism; potential cooperation | Human-dolphin | Atlantic humpback dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*) | Imragen fishers using spears and hand nets | El-Memghar, Mauritania | Mainly Mugilidae | Unknown | Not enough details to indicate there is coordination | (Busnel, 1973) |
| Mutualism; potential cooperation | Human-dolphin | Unknown dolphin species | Unknown | Iasos gulf, present-day Turkey | Unknown | Inactive, unknown start and end dates | Not enough details to indicate there is coordination | (Orams, 1997; Ridgway, 1970; Stebbins, 1929; Turgut, 2010) |
| Mutualism; potential cooperation | Human-dolphin | Unknown dolphin species | Artisanal fishers | Montpellier, present-day France | Mainly Mugilidae | Inactive, unknown start and end dates | Not enough details to indicate there is coordination | (Pliny the Elder. A.D. 23-79, 1940) |
| Mutualism; potential cooperation | Human-dolphin | Unknown dolphin species | Unknown | Palomos gulf, present-day Spain | Unknown | Inactive, unknown start and end dates | Not enough details to indicate there is coordination | (Orams, 1997; Ridgway, 1970; Stebbins, 1929; Turgut, 2010) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-orca | Orca (*Orcinus orca*) | Gilyak, Nivkhy | Kamchatka, Russia | Walruses (*Obobenus rosmarus*)*,* seal species (Phocidae), grey whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*) | Inactive | Not enough details to indicate orcas benefit | (Jochelson, 1908; Shternberg, 1933) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-orca | Orca (*Orcinus orca*) | Yamana, Selknam | Cape Horn, Patagonia | Baleen whales (Mysticeti) | Inactive | Not enough details to indicate orcas benefit | (Bogoras, 1907; Chapman, 1997, 2010) |
| Mutualism; potential cooperation | Human-orca | Orca (*Orcinus orca*) | Nunavut Inuit | Western Hudson Bay (Kangiqsualuk ilua), central Canada | Narwhal, Beluga, Bowhead (*Balaena mysticetus*), seals | Inactive | Not enough details to indicate there is coordination | (Westdal et al., 2017) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-honeyguide | Lesser honeyguide (*Indicator minor*) | Baka | Congo Basin | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Unknown | Not enough details available to confirm mutualism | (Brisson, 2010; Dounias, 2018) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-honeyguide | Dwarf honeyguide (*Indicator pumilio*) | Batwa | South-western Uganda | Stingless bee species (probably meliponine) | Unknown | Not enough details available to confirm mutualism | (Kajobe & Roubik, 2007) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-honeyguide | Scaly-throated honeyguide (*Indicator variegatus*) | Unknown | Several places in South and East Africa | Honeybee (*Apis mellifera*) | Unknown | Not enough details available to confirm mutualism | (Friedmann, 1955; Ivy, 1901) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-wolf | Wolf (*Canis lupus*) | Diverse backgrounds | Several places in Europe | Ungulates | Inactive, c.a. 32,000 years ago (late Pleistocene) | Not enough details available to confirm mutualism | (Crockford & Kuzmin, 2012; Germonpré et al., 2009; Ovodov et al., 2011) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-wolf | Wolf (*Canis lupus*) | Ainu | Hokkaido, Japan | Sika deer (*Cervus nippon*) | Inactive, 18th century | Not enough details available to confirm mutualism | (Walker, 2005) |
| Mutualism; no cooperation | Human-wolf | Wolf (*Canis lupus*) | Koyukon | Alaska | Ungulates | Potentially active | Possibly a mutualism, but not a cooperative one | (Nelson, 1983) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-corvid | Common ravens (*Corvus corax*) | Diverse backgrounds | North America, Europe and Arctic | Ungulates | Potentially active | Not enough details available to confirm mutualism | (Freuchen & Solomonsen, 1958; Heinrich, 1999) |
| Potential mutualism | Human-corvid | New Caledonian crows (*Corvus moneduloides*) | Kanak | New Caledonia | Longhorn beetle larvae (*Agrianome fairmairei*) | Potentially active | Not enough details available to confirm mutualism | (N.T.U., unpubl. data) |

**Table S3:** Causes of decline and loss for active and inactive forms of human-wildlife cooperation, respectively. Text is reproduced from Fig. 2 in main text, here with associated references.

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Human-dolphin cooperation** | **Human-honeyguide cooperation** | **Human-orca cooperation** | **Human-wolf cooperation** |
| **Human partner** | Alternative fisheries or sources of income, urban encroachment | Changing livelihoods (incl. beekeeping), other sugar sources, displacement from national parks | Displacement by settlers, changing livelihoods | Displacement and extermination by settlers |
|  | *(Campredon & Cuq, 2001; D’Lima et al., 2014; Ilha et al., 2020; Machado et al., 2019b; Peterson et al., 2008; Santos-Silva et al., 2022; Smith et al., 2009; Tun, 2004, 2014; Zappes et al., 2011)* | *(Dean et al., 1990; Gruber, 2018; Isack, 1999; Laltaika, 2021; van der Wal et al., 2022)* | *(Clode, 2002; Neil, 2002)* | *(Barsh & Marlor, 2003; Fogg et al., 2015; Marshall, 1995; Pierotti & Fogg, 2017; Standing Bear, 1978)* |
| **Wildlife partner** | Human-induced risk and mortality (bycatch, habitat degradation or loss, noise, pollution) | Potentially deforestation affecting certain host species | Injury or killing of orcas by humans | Hunting of wolves by settlers |
|  | *(Agrelo et al., 2019; Bezamat et al., 2021; Camargo et al., 2020; Campredon & Cuq, 2001; Daura-Jorge et al., 2013; Pellegrini et al., 2021; Righetti et al., 2019; Smith et al., 2009; Tun, 2004, 2014; Zappes et al., 2011)* | *(C.N.S., unpubl. data)* | *(Clode, 2002; Neil, 2002)* | (Fogg et al., 2015; Standing Bear, 1978) |
| **Suitable environment** | Industrial overfishing, pollution | Droughts affecting bees, deforestation near urban areas | Hunting of whales and other prey | Extermination of ungulates by settlers |
|  | (Agrelo et al., 2019; Camargo et al., 2020; de Abreu-Mota et al., 2018; Pellegrini et al., 2021; Righetti et al., 2019; Santos et al., 2018; Tun, 2004, 2014; Zappes et al., 2011) | *(Gruber, 2018; Gruber & Sanda, 2019; Laltaika, 2021; van der Wal et al., 2022)* | *(Clode, 2002)* | (Fogg et al., 2015; Standing Bear, 1978) |
| **Compatible inter-species knowledge** | Fewer interested youth, loss of skilled demonstrators in both species | Fewer interested youth, loss of skilled demonstrators in both species | Potential skilled demonstrators killed by outsiders | Fear of humans in wolves, loss of opportunity for humans to learn skills |
|  | *(Catão & Barbosa, 2018; da Rosa et al., 2020)* | *(Isack, 1999; Laltaika, 2021; van der Wal et al., 2022)* | *(Clode, 2002)* | *(Pierotti & Fogg, 2017)* |

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