



Harbour Porpoise Bycatch Management Option 4, Mandatory requirement for ADDs: Potential costs

Acoustic deterrent devices (ADDs), commonly referred to as pingers, emit sound and enhance the detection of fishing gear by echolocating cetaceans, causing animals to avoid the source. Mandating the use of ADDs would have several economic costs on impacted vessels, including costs of purchasing the devices, purchasing and charging batteries, and costs for crew time in deploying and maintaining devices.

The costs of ADDs will vary with the type of device used and the number of devices required. The number of devices required depends on the necessary spacing between devices and the length and number of nets used. For more information on ADD devices, spacing and existing requirements for their use please see the [Reduce dolphin and porpoise by-catch webpage](#)¹.

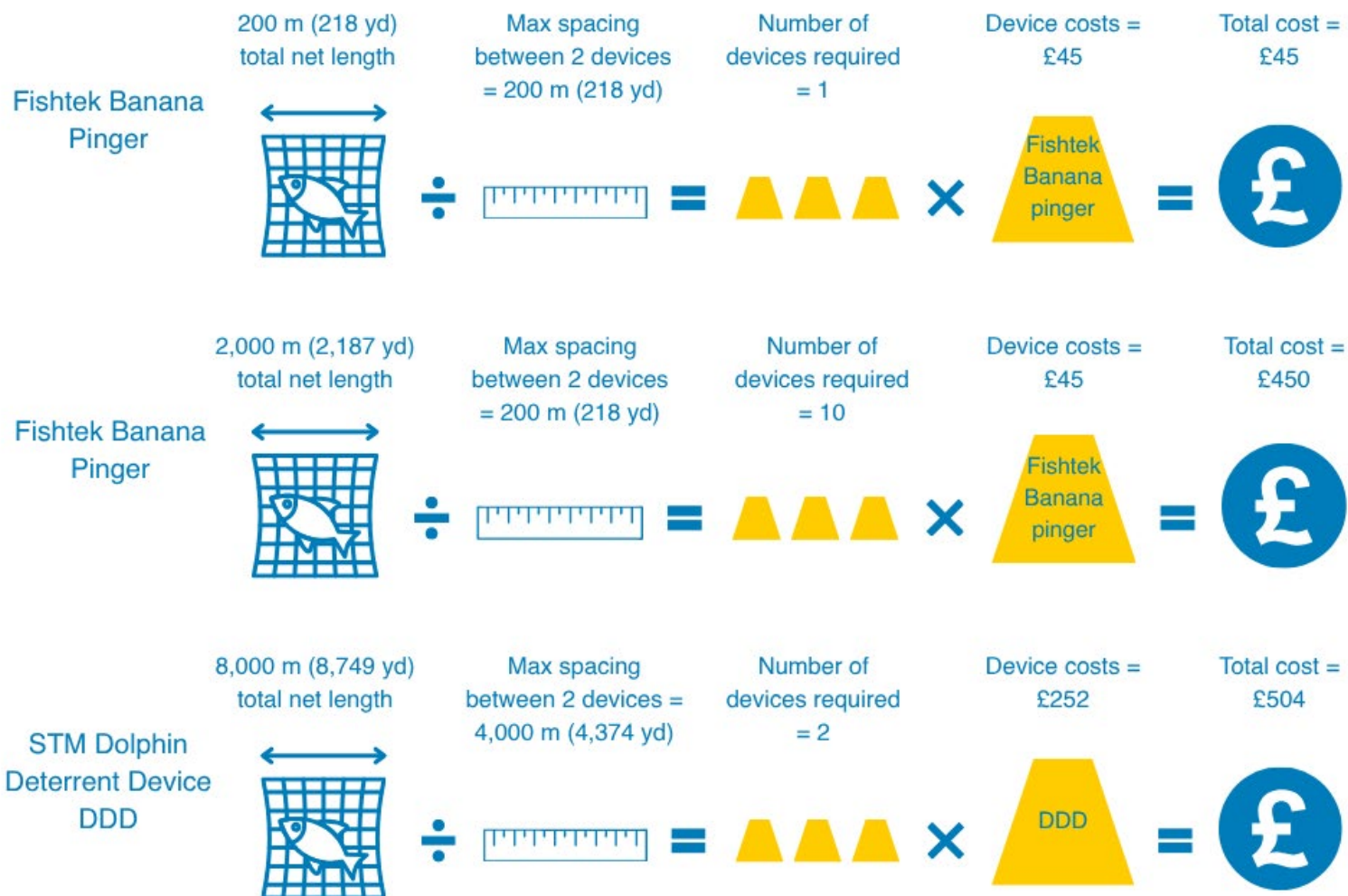
Table 1: Example costs for two different ADD devices. Costs are approximate and may change over time. Unit costs are from Read (2021), spacing from MMO (2022b), Banana pinger battery costs and life span from Fishtek Marine (2025a) and DDD-03L battery type from STM (2013). No information on DDD-03L life span was found.

Metrics	Fishtek Banana pinger	STM Dolphin Deterrent Device DDD-03L
Unit cost	£45	£213 – 252
Battery type	1 C cell	Rechargeable battery
Life span	> 5 years	-
Max spacing between two devices	200 m	4,000 m

¹ www.gov.uk/guidance/reduce-dolphin-and-porpoise-by-catch-comply-with-regulations



Possible cost scenarios:



Current pinger requirements may specify the configuration of ADDs deployed on nets, more information on this can be found [online](#)¹. The possible scenarios described above calculate the minimum number of devices required for different net lengths and devices based on the effective distance and maximum spacing provided by the manufacturer.



References:

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