

Species Covered in This Notice

The following species are covered in this notice:

Sea turtles

Threatened and endangered Green turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)

Endangered Hawksbill turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)

Endangered Kemp's ridley turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*)

Threatened Loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

Application 1377

The applicant wishes to conduct a 5-year population assessment of the juvenile sea turtles inhabiting Charlotte Harbor on the west coast of Florida. The applicant plans to capture green, Kemp's ridley, loggerhead and hawksbill sea turtles employing tangle net, encircling net, rodeo and dip net methodologies. Up to 150 green and Kemp's ridley, 100 loggerhead and 5 hawksbill sea turtles will be captured, weighed, measured, flipper and PIT tagged, blood and tissue sampled and released each year. Up to 10 green, Kemp's ridley and loggerhead and 5 hawksbill sea turtles will also be collected incidentally to the Center for Shark Research gill netting for sharks in the areas of Pine Island Sound and the Gulf waters near Crystal River, FL. These will be captured, measured, flipper tagged and released. In the second through fifth year, up to 5 green and/or Kemp's ridley sea turtles will be sampled as above, satellite tagged and released.

Dated: April 12, 2002.

Ann Terbush,

Chief, Permits, Conservation, and Education Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02-9685 Filed 4-18-02; 8:45am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 032502D]

Notice of Availability of Draft Stock Assessment Reports

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of availability; request for comments.

SUMMARY: NMFS revised the Alaska, Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico, and Pacific

marine mammal stock assessment reports (SARs) in accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA). Draft 2002 reports are available for public review and comment.

DATES: Comments must be received by July 18, 2002.

ADDRESSES: Send comments or requests for copies of reports to: Chief, Marine Mammal Conservation Division, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910-3226, Attn: Stock Assessments. Comments may also be sent via facsimile (fax) to 301-713-0376. NMFS will not accept comments submitted via e-mail or Internet.

Copies of the Alaska Regional SARs may be requested from Robyn Angliss, Alaska Fisheries Science Center, NMFS, 7600 Sand Point Way, NE BIN 15700, Seattle, WA 98115-0070.

Copies of the Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Regional SARs may be requested from Janeen Quintal, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, 166 Water St., Woods Hole, MA 02543 or Steven Swartz, Southeast Fisheries Science Center, 75 Virginia Beach Dr., Miami, FL 33149.

Copies of the Pacific Regional SARs may be requested from Cathy Campbell, Southwest Regional Office, NMFS, 501 West Ocean Boulevard, Long Beach, CA 90802-4213.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Tom Eagle, Office of Protected Resources, 301-713-2322, ext. 105, e-mail *Tom.Eagle@noaa.gov*; Robyn Angliss 206-526-4032, e-mail *Robyn.Angliss@noaa.gov*, regarding Alaska regional stock assessments; Janeen Quintal, 508-495-2252, e-mail *Janeen.Quintal@noaa.gov*, regarding Northwest Atlantic regional stock assessments; Steven Swartz, 305-361-4487, e-mail *Steven.Swartz@noaa.gov*, regarding Mid-Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico regional stock assessments; or Cathy Campbell, 562-280-4060, e-mail *Cathy.E.Campbell@noaa.gov*, regarding Pacific regional stock assessments.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Electronic Access

All stock assessment reports and the guidelines for preparing them are available via the Internet at <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/prot-res/PR2/Stock-Assessment-Program/sars.html>.

Background

Section 117 of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*) requires NMFS and the U.S. Fish

and Wildlife Service (FWS) to prepare stock assessments for each stock of marine mammals that occurs in waters under the jurisdiction of the United States. These reports must contain information regarding the distribution and abundance of the stock, population growth rates and trends, estimates of annual human-caused mortality and serious injury from all sources, descriptions of the fisheries with which the stock interacts, and the status of the stock. Initial reports were completed in 1995.

The MMPA requires NMFS and FWS to review the SARs at least annually for strategic stocks and stocks for which significant new information is available and at least once every 3 years for non-strategic stocks. NMFS and the FWS are required to revise a SAR if the status of the stock has changed or can be more accurately determined. NMFS, in conjunction with the Alaska, Atlantic, and Pacific Scientific Review Groups, reviewed the status of marine mammal stocks as required and revised reports for which new information was available. Summary tables for all stocks of marine mammals in the three regions (Tables 1-3) indicate revisions to the SARs. NMFS solicits public comments on the draft Alaska, Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico, and Pacific reports.

Distribution

NMFS is considering distributing SARs in electronic form using Compact Disks (CDs) rather than paper copies. Distribution on CDs would facilitate ease of use by any interested constituents and substantially reduce costs of production and distribution. NMFS seeks comments on distribution of future reports as CDs, rather than paper form in addition to comments on regional SARs.

Alaska Stocks

The Alaska SARs present revised stock assessments for 15 marine mammal stocks under NMFS' jurisdiction. The new information on abundance and mortality did not change the status of any of the Alaska stocks from the 2001 SARs. The major changes in the 2002 Alaska SARs are: (1) New estimates of subsistence harvest for ringed seals, ribbon seals, spotted seals, and bearded seals, which in some cases, are substantially higher than the 2001 estimates. (2) The Eastern North Pacific transient killer whale stock was moved from the Pacific SARs to the Alaska SARs. (3) The Eastern North Pacific gray whale SAR includes new information about the high number of gray whales found stranded in 1999 and 2000 and identifies hypotheses for the increase in

mortality. The SAR also includes preliminary data from 2001 to demonstrate that the stranding level has returned to "normal" after the mortality event.

Table 1 contains a summary, by species, of the new information for all strategic stocks, and non-strategic stocks reviewed in late 2001, leading to the revision of the following SARs for 2002:

Alaska stock of bearded seals;

Beaufort Sea stock of beluga whales; Eastern Chukchi Sea stock of beluga whales;

Eastern Bering Sea stock of beluga whales;

Bristol Bay stock of beluga whales; Western Arctic stock of bowhead whales;

Eastern North Pacific stock of gray whales;

Central North Pacific stock of humpback whales;

Eastern North Pacific transient stock of killer whales;

Eastern North Pacific stock of northern fur seals;

Alaska stock of ribbon seals;

Alaska stock of ringed seal;

Alaska stock of spotted seal;

Eastern and Western U. S. stock of Steller sea lion;

BILLING CODE 3510-22-S

Table 1: Stock summary table (last revised 10/5/00, 2/16/01 3/20/01). Stock assessment reports for those stocks in boldface were updated in the 2001-2002 draft SARs.

Species	Stock	N (est)	CV	C.F.	CV C.F.	Comb. CV	N(min)	0.5 Rmax	F(r)	PBR	Fishery mort.	Subsist mort.	Status
Baird's beaked whale	Alaska	n/a					n/a	0.02	0.50	n/a	0	see txt	NS
Bearded seal	Alaska	n/a					n/a	0.06	0.50	n/a	1	n/a 6,788	NS
Beluga whale	Beaufort Sea	39,258	0.229	2.00	n/a	0.229	32,453	0.02	1.00	649	0	184177	NS
Beluga whale	E. Chukchi Sea	3,710	n/a	3.09	n/a	n/a	3,710	0.02	1.00	74	0	68 60	NS
Beluga whale	E. Bering Sea	7,986 18,142	0.26 0.24	3.09	n/a	0.26 0.24	6,439 14,898	0.02	1.00	129 298	1*	124 164	NS
Beluga whale	Bristol Bay	1,555 1,888	n/a	3.09	n/a	0.20	1,316 1,619	0.02	1.00	26 32	1*	19 15	NS
Beluga whale	Cook Inlet	435	0.23			0.23	360	0.02	0.30	2.2	0	0	S
Bowhead whale	W. Arctic	8,200	0.069			0.069	7,738	0.02	0.50	77	0.2	54 52	S
Cuvier's beaked whale	Alaska	n/a					n/a	0.02	0.50	n/a	0	0	NS
Dall's porpoise	Alaska	83,400	0.097			0.097	76,874	0.02	1.00	1,537	42	0	NS
Fin whale	NE Pacific	n/a					n/a	0.02	0.10	n/a	0	0	S
Gray whale	E. N. Pacific	26,635	0.1006			0.1006	24,477	0.0235	1.00	575	64 8.9	76 97	NS
Harbor porpoise	SE Alaska	10,508	0.207	2.96	0.180	0.274	8,376	0.02	0.50	83	3*	0	NS
Harbor porpoise	Gulf of Alaska	21,451	0.252	2.96	0.180	0.304	16,630	0.02	0.50	166	25	0	NS
Harbor porpoise	Bering Sea	10,946	0.243	3.10	0.171	0.300	8,549	0.02	0.50	86	2	0	NS
Harbor seal	SE Alaska	37,450	0.026	1.74	0.068	0.073	35,226	0.06	1.00	2,114	36	1,749	NS
Harbor seal	Gulf of Alaska	29,175	0.023	1.50	0.047	0.052	28,917	0.06	0.50	868	36	791	NS
Harbor seal	Bering Sea	13,312	0.062	1.50	0.047	see txt	12,648	0.06	0.50	379	31	161	NS

Table 1 (cont.).

Species	Stock	N (est)	CV	C.F.	CV C.F.	Comb. CV	N(min)	0.5 Rmax	F(r)	PBR	Fishery mort.	Subsis- t mort.	Status
Humpback whale	W. N. Pacific	394	0.084			0.084	367	0.02	0.10	0.7	0.6	0	S
Humpback whale	Cent.N. Pacific	4,005	0.095			0.095	3,698	0.02	0.10	7.4	3.5 3.9	0	S
Killer whale	E. N. Pacific N. resident	723	n/a			see txt	723	0.02	0.50	7.2	1.4	0	NS
Killer whale	E. N. Pacific transient	346	1.0				346	0.04	0.04	2.8	0.6	0	NS
Minke whale	Alaska	n/a					n/a	0.02	0.50	n/a	0	0	NS
North Pacific right whale	E. N. Pacific	n/a					n/a	0.02	0.10	n/a	0	0	S
Northern fur seal	E. North Pacific	983,918 941,756		4.475	n/a	0.2	832,798 797,112	0.043	0.50	17,905 17,138	15	1,495	S
Pacific white-sided dolphin	Cent.N. Pacific	26,880					26,880	0.02	0.50	269	4	0	NS
Ribbon seal	Alaska	n/a					n/a	0.06	0.50	n/a	1	n/a 193	NS
Ringed seal	Alaska	n/a					n/a	0.06	0.50	n/a	0	n/a 9,567	NS
Sperm whale	N. Pacific	n/a					n/a	0.02	0.10	n/a	0	0	S
Spotted seal	Alaska	n/a					n/a	0.06	0.50	n/a	3	see txt 5,265	NS
Stejneger's beaked whale	Alaska	n/a					n/a	0.02	0.50	n/a	0	0	NS
Steller sea lion	E. U. S.	31,005 31,028					31,005 31,028	0.06	0.75	1,395 1,396	2.7 -3.4**	0	S
Steller sea lion	W.U. S.	34,600 34,595					34,600 34,595	0.06	0.10	208	28.3 24.1	353 167.5	S

C.F. = correction factor; CV C.F. = CV of correction factor; Comb. CV = combined CV; Status: S=Strategic, NS=Not Strategic, n/a = not available.

* = No reported take by fishery observers; however, observer coverage was minimal or nonexistent.

** = this does not include intentional take in British Columbia

see txt = see text for details.

Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Stocks

Major revisions and updating of Atlantic SARs were only completed for Atlantic Coast strategic stocks and Atlantic Coast and Gulf of Mexico stocks for which significant new information were available.

The SAR for the Western North Atlantic coastal stock of bottlenose dolphins was revised substantially to incorporate the latest information available related to stock structure. Although a single stock is identified, that stock is divided into seven management units, and unit-specific abundance, mortality and potential biological removal (PBR) levels are included. The draft 2002 SAR for the stock initiates a process through which NMFS will continue to collect information to revise stock structure of coastal bottlenose dolphins in the Atlantic Ocean, revise this stock structure as needed, re-assess the status of each stock as it is identified, and revise the depletion regulations for Atlantic coastal bottlenose dolphins as needed.

Table 2 contains a summary, by species, of the information included in

the stock assessments, and also indicates those that have been revised since the 1995 publication. A total of 23 of the 60 Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico stock assessment reports were revised for 2002. Most proposed changes incorporate new information into mortality estimates. The revised SARs include 14 strategic and 9 non-strategic stocks. The status of pygmy sperm whale, Western North Atlantic stock, has been changed to strategic because fishing mortality exceeds PBR. Information on human interactions (fishery and ship strikes) for the North Atlantic right whale, North Atlantic humpback whale, and Canadian east coast minke whale stocks were reviewed and updated. The following stock assessments were revised for 2002:

Western North Atlantic stock of North Atlantic right whales;

Gulf of Maine stock of humpback whales;

Western North Atlantic stock of fin whales;

Canadian east coast stock of minke whales;

Western North Atlantic stock of blue whales;

Western North Atlantic stock of dwarf sperm whales;

Western North Atlantic stock of pygmy sperm whales;

Western North Atlantic stock of risso's dolphins;

Western North Atlantic stock of pilot whales, long-finned;

Western North Atlantic stock of pilot whales, short-finned;

Western North Atlantic stock of Atlantic white-sided dolphins;

Western North Atlantic stock of common dolphins;

Western North Atlantic stock of pantropical spotted dolphins;

Western North Atlantic, offshore stock of bottlenose dolphins;

Western North Atlantic, coastal stock of bottlenose dolphins;

Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy stock of harbor porpoise;

Western North Atlantic stock of harbor seals;

Western North Atlantic stock of gray seals;

Western North Atlantic stock of harp seals.

TABLE 2. A SUMMARY(including footnotes) OF ATLANTIC MARINE MAMMAL STOCK ASSESSMENT REPORTS FOR STOCKS OF MARINE MAMMALS UNDER NMFS AUTHORITY THAT OCCUPY WATERS UNDER USA JURISDICTION. The "SAR revised" column indicates 2002 stock assessment reports that have been revised relative to the 2001 reports (Y=yes N=no). If abundance, mortality or PBR estimates have been revised, they are indicated with the letters "a", "m" and "p" respectively. For those species not updated in this edition, the year of last revision is indicated.

Species	Stock Area	SRG Region	NMFS Center	Nmin	Rmax	Fr	PBR	Total Annual Mort.	Annual Fish. Mort.	Strategic Status	SAR Revised
North Atlantic right whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	291	0	0.1	0.0	2-21.8 ¹	1.0 ¹	Y	Y m
Humpback whale	Gulf of Maine	ATL	NEC	568647	0-065 0.10	0.1	±8 1.3	4-23.0 ²	3-22.8 ²	Y	Y a,m,p
Fin whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	2,362	0.04	0.1	4.7	±81.6 ³	0-60.4 ³	Y	Y a,m,p
Sei whale	Nova Scotia	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	0.1	N/A	0.00	0.00	Y	Y text
Minke whale	Canadian east coast	ATL	NEC	3,515	0.04	0.5	35	2-42.6 ⁴	2-22.4 ⁴	N	Y a; m, p
Blue whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	308	0.04	0.1	0-6 N/A	0.00	0.00	Y	Y p
Sperm whale	North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	3,505	0.04	0.1	7.0	0.00	0.00	Y	Y m
Dwarf sperm whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	SEC	373 ⁵	0.04	0.5	3.7	0-25 0	0-25 0	N	NY m
Pygmy sperm whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	SEC	373 ⁵	0.04	0.5	3.7	0-25 6	0-25 6	N Y	NY m
Killer whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Pygmy killer whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	SEC	6	0.04	0.5	0.1	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Northern bottlenose whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	N	N (1998)
Cuvier's beaked whale	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	2,419 ⁶	0.04	0.5	24	0	0 ⁷	Y	Y m
<i>Mesoplodon</i> beaked whales	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	2,419 ⁶	0.04	0.5	24	0	0 ⁷	Y	Y m
Risso's dolphin	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	22,916	0.04	0.408	±832 220	5651	5651	N	Y m, p
Pilot whale, long-finned	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	11,343 ⁸	0.04	0.48	108	245 195 ⁹	245195 ⁹	Y	Y m, p
Pilot whale, short-finned	Western North Atlantic	ATL	SEC	11,343 ⁸	0.04	0.48	108	245 195 ⁹	245 195 ⁹	Y	NY m
Atlantic white-sided dolphin	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	37,904	0.04	0.48	364	±36 118	±36 118	N	Y a,m,p
White-beaked dolphin	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	N	N (1997)

Species	Stock Area	SRG Region	NMFS Center	Nmin	Rmax	Fr	PBR	Total Annual Mort.	Annual Fish. Mort.	Strategic Status	SAR Revised
Common dolphin	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	23,655	0.04	0.48	227	406 375	406 375	Y	Y m
Atlantic spotted dolphin	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	27,785 ¹⁰	0.04	0.5	278	7.8 ¹¹	7.8 ¹¹	N	N (2000)
Pantropical spotted dolphin	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	8,450	0.04	0.5	84	7.8 1 ¹¹	7.8 1 ¹¹	N	NY m
Striped dolphin	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	44,500	0.04	0.5	445	7.3	7.3	N	N (2000)
Spinner dolphin	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.31	0.31	N	N (1998)
Bottlenose dolphin	Western North Atlantic, offshore	ATL	SEC	24,897 ¹⁰	0.04	0.5	249	5.3 27	5.3 27	N	NY m
Bottlenose dolphin	Western North Atlantic, coastal	ATL	SEC	2,482 N/A ¹⁴	0.04	0.5	25 N/A ¹⁴	46 N/A ¹⁴	46 N/A ¹⁴	Y	Y a, m, p
Harbor porpoise	Gulf of Maine/ Bay of Fundy	ATL	NEC	74,695	0.04	0.5	747	382 491 ¹²	384 467 ¹²	Y	Y a, m, p
Harbor seal	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	30,990	0.12	1.0	1,859	916857	895 843	N	Y m
Gray seal	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	NA	NA	NA	NA	110307	103 118	N	Y m
Harp seal	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	321,356 321,222 ¹³	245 111	N	Y m
Hooded seal	Western North Atlantic	ATL	NEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	5.6	5.6	N	N (1998)
Sperm whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	411	0.04	0.1	0.8	0.00	0.00	Y	N (1995)
Bryde's whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	17	0.04	0.5	0.2	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Cuvier's beaked whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	20	0.04	0.5	0.2	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Blainville's beaked whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Gervais' beaked whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Bottlenose dolphin	Gulf of Mexico Outer continental shelf	ATL	SEC	43,233	0.04	0.5	432	2.8	2.8	N	N (1995)
Bottlenose dolphin	Gulf of Mexico Continental shelf edge and slope	ATL	SEC	4,530	0.04	0.5	45	2.8	2.8	N	N (1995)
Bottlenose dolphin	Western Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	2,938	0.04	0.5	29	13	13	N	N (1996)
Bottlenose dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	3,518	0.04	0.5	35	10	10	N	N (1996)

Species	Stock Area	SRG Region	NMFS Center	Nmin	Rmax	Fr	PBR	Total Annual Mort.	Annual Fish. Mort.	Strategic Status	SAR Revised
Bottlenose dolphin	Eastern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	8,963	0.04	0.5	90	8	8	N	N (1996)
Bottlenose dolphin	Gulf of Mexico bay, sound, and estuarine	ATL	SEC	3,933	0.04	0.5	39	N/A	N/A	Y	N (2000)
Atlantic spotted dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	2,255	0.04	0.5	23	1.5	1.5	N	N (1995)
Pantropical spotted dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	26,510	0.04	0.5	265	1.5	1.5	N	N (1995)
Striped dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	3,409	0.04	0.5	34	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Spinner dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	4,465	0.04	0.5	45	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Rough-toothed dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	660	0.04	0.5	6.6	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Clymene dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	4,120	0.04	0.5	41	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Fraser's dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	66	0.04	0.5	0.7	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Killer whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	197	0.04	0.5	2.0	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
False killer whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	236	0.04	0.5	2.4	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Pygmy killer whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	285	0.04	0.05	2.8	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Dwarf sperm whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	N	N (2000)
Pygmy sperm whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	N/A	0.04	N/A	N/A	0.00	0.00	N	N (2000)
Melon-headed whale	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	2,888	0.04	0.5	29	0.00	0.00	N	N (1995)
Risso's dolphin	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	2,199	0.04	0.5	22	19	19	N	N (1995)
Pilot whale, short-finned	Northern Gulf of Mexico	ATL	SEC	186	0.04	0.5	1.9	0.3	0.3	Y	N (1995)

1. The total estimated human-caused mortality and serious injury to right whales is estimated at $2.21.8$ per year (USA waters, 1.42; Canadian waters, 0.86). This is derived from two components: 1) non-observed fishery entanglement records at 1.0 per year (USA waters, 0.6; Canadian waters, 0.4), and 2) ship strike records at ± 20.8 per year (USA waters, $0.80.6$; Canadian waters, $0.40.2$).
2. The total estimated human-caused mortality and serious injury to the Gulf of Maine humpback whale stock is estimated as $4.23.0$ per year (USA waters, $3.82.4$; Canadian waters, $0.40.6$). This average is derived from two components: 1) incidental fishery interaction records ± 22.8 (USA waters, $2.82.2$; Canadian waters, $0.40.6$), and 2) records of vessel collisions, ± 60.2 (USA waters, ± 60.2 ; Canadian waters, 0).
3. This is based on a review of NMFS anecdotal records from 1995-1999-2000, that yielded an average of ± 81.6 human caused mortality -1.2 ship strikes (all US waters), $0.60.4$ fishery interactions ($0.40.2$ US waters, 0.2 Canadian waters).
4. During 1995-2000, the USA total annual estimated average human-caused mortality is 2.46 minke whales per year. This is derived from three components: 0 minke whales per year ($CV=0.0$) from USA fisheries using observer data, 2.24 minke whales per year from USA fisheries using strandings and entanglement data, and 0.2 minke whales per year from ship strikes.
5. This estimate may include both the dwarf and pygmy sperm whales.
6. This estimate includes Cuvier's beaked whales and undifferentiated *Mesoplodon* spp. beaked whales.
7. This is the average mortality of undifferentiated beaked whales (*Mesoplodon* spp.).
8. This estimate may include both long-finned and short-finned pilot whales.
9. Mortality data are not separated by species; therefore, species-specific estimates are not available. This mortality estimate represents both long-finned and short-finned pilot whales. Total annual mortality includes Nova Scotia 95-96-1996 average of 86 long-finned pilot whales.
10. Estimates may include sightings of the coastal form.
11. Mortality data are not separated by species; therefore, species-specific estimates are not available. The mortality estimate represents both Atlantic and Pantropical spotted dolphins.
12. The total annual estimated average human-caused mortality is 322491 harbor porpoises per year. This is derived from four components: 322457 harbor porpoise per year ($CV=0.25$) from USA fisheries using observer data, 3923 per year (unknown CV) from Canadian fisheries using observer data, ± 1010 per year from USA unknown fisheries using strandings data, and 1 per year from unknown human-caused mortality (a mutilated stranded harbor porpoise).
13. The total estimated human caused annual mortality and serious injury to harp seals was 321356321.222 . This is derived from three components: 1) 1995-1999-2000 average catches of Northwest Atlantic harp seals by Canada and Greenland 301,611; 2) 1995-1999-2000 average bycatches in the Newfoundland lumpfish fishery (16,000 - 23,000 annually); and 3) the 1995-1999-2000 observed USA fisheries, 245111 harp seals $CV=0.209$
14. Several seasonal management units have been defined for the coastal bottlenose dolphin. Each has a unique abundance estimate, PBR and mortality estimate provided in the Western North Atlantic coastal bottlenose dolphin species section of the text.

Pacific Stocks

The Pacific SARs present revised stock assessments for 13 Pacific marine mammal stocks under NMFS' jurisdiction. Information on the remaining 43 Pacific region stocks will be printed unrevised in the final 2002 stock assessments. In the 2002 SARs, there are now four stocks of harbor porpoise occurring in California waters, where previously there had been two. These new stock boundaries reflect recent genetic analyses on the small-scale population structure of harbor porpoise in the eastern North Pacific (Chivers *et al.*, in press).

Fishery mortality estimates for Hawaiian monk seals have been revised by separating deaths caused by entanglement in derelict fishing gear

from mortality and serious injury incidental to commercial fishing and including those deaths in "other human-caused mortality". This change was made to include as incidental mortality and serious injury only those deaths and serious injuries that are caused by active fishing operations and, therefore, subject to authorization and regulation through section 118 of the MMPA.

The stock assessment for the Eastern North Pacific transient killer whale now appears in the Alaska region report. Table 3 contains a summary, by species, of the information included in the stock assessments and new abundance estimates are available for 12 stocks for 2002 SARs:

Hawaii stock of monk seals;

CA breeding stock of northern elephant seals;

Washington Inland waters stock of harbor seals;

Oregon/Washington coast stock of harbor seals;

Southern Resident stock of killer whales;

Washington Inland waters stock of harbor porpoise;

Oregon/Washington coast stock of harbor porpoise;

Northern CA/Southern OR stock of harbor porpoise;

San Francisco-Russian River stock of harbor porpoise;

Monterey Bay stock of harbor porpoise;

Morro Bay stock of harbor porpoise;

Eastern North Pacific stock of humpback whales.

Table 3. Summary of 2002 draft U.S. Pacific Marine Mammal Stock Assessment Reports. Only stocks being revised in 2002 are included in this table. Information on other stocks will be included in the final 2002 stock assessment reports.

Species	Stock Area	Region	NMFS Center	N _{min}	R _{max}	F _r	PBR	Total Annual Mortality + Serious Injury	Annual Fish. Mortality + Serious Injury	Strategic Status
Monk Seal	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	1,436 1,437	0.07	0.1	5	n/a	n/a	Y
Northern Elephant Seal	CA breeding stock	PAC	SWC	51,625 60,547	0.083	1.0	2,142 2,513	≥ 3388	≥ 3386	N
Harbor Seal	Washington Inland waters	PAC	AKC	15,174 12,844	0.12	1.0	910 771	≥ 4334	≥ 3830	N
Harbor Seal	Oregon/ Washington coast	PAC	AKC	24,705 22,380	0.12	1.0	1,482 1,343	≥ 817	≥ 616	N
Killer Whale	Southern Resident	PAC	AKC	8278	0.04	0.5	0.8	0	0	N
Harbor Porpoise	Washington Inland waters	PAC	AKC	2,545	0.04	0.4	20	≥ 515	≥ 515	N
Harbor Porpoise	Oregon/ Washington coast	PAC	AKC	32,769 28,967	0.04	0.5	328 290	≥ 29	≥ 29	N
Harbor Porpoise	Northern CA/ Southern OR	PAC	SWC	11,054 12,940	0.04	1.0	221 259	≥ 0.20	≥ 0.20	N
Harbor Porpoise	San Francisco-Russian River†	PAC	SWC	4,858	0.04	0.5	49	≥ 0.4	≥ 0.4	N
Harbor Porpoise	Monterey Bay†	PAC	SWC	1,151	0.04	0.5	11	80	80	Y
Harbor Porpoise	Morro Bay†	PAC	SWC	669	0.04	0.5	7	3.2	3.2	N
False Killer Whale	Hawaii	PAC	SWC	83	0.04	0.5	0.8	9.0 7.0	9.0 7.0	Y
Humpback Whale	Eastern North Pacific	PAC	SWC	944 774	0.08	0.1	1.9 1.6	1.4 ≥ 1.2	1.2 ≥ 0.8	Y

† new stock

New information on changes in the Hawaiian longline fishery is presented in the Hawaii false killer whale report.

Dated: April 12, 2002.

Wanda L. Cain,

Acting Deputy Director, Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 02-9684 Filed 4-18-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-C