



October 2011

Marine Mammal Commission
Sustainability Plan
Scope 3 Greenhouse Gas Reduction

The Marine Mammal Commission is an independent agency of the U.S. Government, established under Title II of the Marine Mammal Protection Act. The Commission provides independent advice to and oversight of other federal entities whose actions may affect marine mammals or the ecosystems of which they are a part. The Commission is comprised of 3 Commissioners, 9 members of the Committee of Scientific Advisors on Marine Mammals, and 14 fulltime permanent employees. The Commission's office is located in Bethesda, Maryland.

The Marine Mammal Commission does not own a vehicle and is housed in space leased by General Services Administration. The lease includes utilities. Therefore, Scope 1 and 2 Greenhouse Gas Reduction will be addressed by the General Services Administration.

The Commission aims to raise the sustainability awareness of its staff and stakeholders by promoting the concept of sustainable development and by recognizing the on-going need to move towards a more sustainable future. The Commission will provide appropriate sustainability education for its staff and will encourage them to apply sound sustainability practices at work, at home, and within their community. The Commission is committed to transparency in the formulation and implementation of its sustainability policy and objectives.

1. Summary of Accomplishments. The Commission is dedicated to reducing Level 3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions. Prior to the Executive Order, the Commission implemented several initiatives that contribute to the reduction of greenhouse gas emissions.

- Participation in the transit subsidy program
- Offering alternate work schedules to staff
- Offering telecommute opportunities to staff
- Installation of surge protector power strips on computer equipment (printers and monitors) to power down when employees are absent from their office
- Participation in the building management's recycling program

2. Goal: Reduce Commuting Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 15%

a. Agency Lead for the Goal: Cathy Jones

b. Implementation Methods: Encourage more staff to use public transportation. Explore the option for more staff to work an alternate work schedule. Research the possibility of more staff telecommuting one or more days a week.

c. Position: The Commission provides the opportunity for all staff to participate in the transit subsidiary program. More than 50% of the Commission's employees use Metro Rail or Metro Bus to commute to and from work. Staff members are aware that the Commission offers the opportunity for them to work an alternative work schedule. Currently 25% of the Commission's employees participate in this program.

The Commission's small size makes it difficult to offer all staff the opportunity to telecommute. Currently the staff member who travels the farthest via automobile telecommutes once a week. The alternative work schedule program is offered to all Commission employees.

3. Goal: Reduce Business Ground Travel Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 10%

a. Agency Lead for the Goal: Cathy Jones

b. Implementation Methods: Encourage staff to use public transportation. Explore the option for participation via teleconference.

c. Position: The Commission encourages the use of mass transit whenever possible, including transportation to and from meetings in the Washington, DC, area. For travel outside the that area, the Commission must approve the use of a rental car prior to travel. Rental cars are only approved when there is no public transportation or free shuttle available. The Commission will explore the option of staff participating in meetings through teleconferencing or webinars.

4. Goal: Reduce Business Air Travel Greenhouse Gas Emissions by 10%.

a. Agency Lead for the Goal: Cathy Jones

b. Implementation Methods: Encourage staff to participate, whenever possible, in meetings via teleconference, video teleconference, or webinar.

c. Position: Commission staff often must travel within and outside the United States to become familiar with and/or participate in local or regional marine mammal research and conservation issues, to meet with Alaskan Natives to discuss co-management issues, and most recently to support response to the Gulf of Mexico oil spill. Travel locations often are determined by an outside party or circumstances beyond the Commission's control. The Commission is dedicated to reducing Level 3 Greenhouse Gas Emissions and will explore and attempt to develop alternative options for communicating and fulfilling Commission responsibilities as possible.

SCOPE 3 GHG TARGET	UNITS	FY 10	FY 11	FY 12	FY 13	FY 14	FY 20
Employee Commuting	mtCO ₂ e	4.00	3.94	3.88	3.82	3.76	3.40

Business Ground Travel	mtCO ₂ e	0.232	0.230	0.227	0.225	0.223	0.209
Business Air Travel	kg CO ₂ equivalent	65,083	64,432	63,781	63,131	62,480	58,575

The Commission’s office is located in building space leased by General Services Administration, and the building management company is dedicated to reducing energy waste. Building management offers clients recycle programs for paper, glass, plastic, aluminum, and cardboard. Building management also has installed diffusers to minimize water flow on all bathroom sinks, motion sensor lights to decrease electricity use, and maintains a limited schedule for use of heating and air conditioning equipment.