

Presentation at the Third Plenary Meeting of
the Advisory Committee on Acoustic
Impacts on Marine Mammals
27-29 July 2004
San Francisco, California

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“Shipping Noise and Marine Mammals: A Forum for Science, Management, and Technology”

Roger Gentry

NOAA Fisheries Acoustics Program

A report to the:

Advisory Committee on Acoustic Impacts on Marine Mammals

Plenary Meeting Three

July 27-29, 2004

San Francisco, California



Development of the Symposium

- Ship sounds are a significant component of ambient noise in certain areas and cause masking of biologically important sounds for some marine animals (*e.g.*, Richardson *et al.*, 1995; NRC, 2003)
- The scope and significance of this issue has not been formally considered, nor does a dialogue exist between the shipping industry, government, and academia
- Proactively, NOAA Fisheries Acoustics Program organized and hosted the first international symposium on shipping noise and marine mammals

First International Symposium on Shipping Noise and Marine Mammals

- 18-19 May, 2004 – Arlington, Virginia
- Active participation and assistance of co-partners (Chamber of Shipping of America, INTERTANKO, U.S. Navy, U.S. Marine Mammal Commission, Society of Naval Architects and Marine Engineers, Univ. Alaska Marine Advisory Program, and American Bureau of Shipping)
- 203 registrants from: government (40% of total), industry (22%), non-governmental organizations (17%), academia (13%), and other/non-affiliated (8%).
- See: www.shippingnoiseandmarinemammals.com

Symposium Technical Sessions

- I. Trends in the Shipping Industry and Shipping Noise
- II. Effects of Noise on Marine Life
- III. National and International Response to the Marine Noise Issue
- IV. Developing Technologies for Monitoring Marine Noise
- V. Vessel Quieting Technology: Application and Benefits

The symposium concluded with an invited panel and audience discussion of future efforts on this issue, building on the dialogue initiated during the symposium

Next Steps Timeline

- Formation of “Planning Committee” (June 2004)
- Submission of draft symposium report to committee, technical speakers, and co-partners (July 2004)
- Planning committee dialogue on possible near-term actions and needed research initiated (September 2004)
- Final symposium report released (September/October 2004)
- Planning committee meeting & recommendations on possible actions and needed research (Spring 2005)
- Follow-on Symposium (Fall 2005/Winter 2006)

Panel Questions Regarding Shipping Noise Symposium

See: www.shippingnoiseandmarinemammals.com

