Overview of Marine Mammal Science, Policy, and Management Issues in the Mid-Atlantic

Andrew J. Read
Questions for Discussion:

1. What are the most pressing threats to marine mammals in the Mid-Atlantic?

2. What are the most important challenges faced by scientists and policy decision-makers in addressing marine mammal health and conservation issues in the Mid-Atlantic?

3. What research gaps need to be addressed to help improve our understanding of environmental and human-related impacts to marine mammal health in the Mid-Atlantic?
Threats:

1. Pending seismic surveys
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2. Fisheries by-catch (right whales, bottlenose dolphins & pilot whales)
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2. Fisheries by-catch (right whales, bottlenose dolphins & pilot whales)

3. Tactical MFA Sonar
Management Challenges:

1. Management of small, overlapping stocks of bottlenose dolphins
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2. Assessment of cumulative impacts, particularly for coastal bottlenose dolphins
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3. Securing stable funding for stranding programs
Research Gaps:

1. Occurrence and distribution of marine mammals in relation to potential threats
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2. Expansion of pinniped populations into the Mid-Atlantic

Jared Lloyd

Marine Mammal Commission Annual Meeting
Charleston, SC
May 5th 2015
Research Gaps:

1. Occurrence and distribution of marine mammals in relation to potential threats

2. Expansion of pinniped populations into the Mid-Atlantic

3. Demographic impacts of infectious diseases
Thanks to My Respondents:

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Kim Urian, Duke University
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