Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Research and Monitoring Meeting
Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Research and Monitoring Meeting

#GULFMARINEMAMMALS
Meeting Objectives

• To provide an overview of marine mammal stocks and human activities
• To review marine mammal research and monitoring programs
• To identify potential funding sources/opportunities for marine mammal research and monitoring
• To identify high priority marine mammal information needs for the next 5 to 15 years and
• To discuss options for collaborations to facilitate long-term planning, information sharing, and capacity building
Marine Mammal Commission

- Independent federal agency of the U.S. Government
- Created by the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972
- Responsible for science-based oversight of other federal agencies that directly or indirectly affect marine mammals (i.e., NOAA/NMFS, FWS, Navy, BOEM)
- Ensure protection and conservation of marine mammals as functioning elements of healthy marine ecosystems

C. Anderson
Statement of Research Needs

- Intended to help guide post-Deepwater Horizon research and restoration planning efforts (2011)
- Input from various federal agencies
- Available at www.mmc.gov
Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Research and Monitoring Meeting

Meeting Program and Project Descriptions
Focal Species - Percent of Respondents
n=51

- Striped dolphin
- Spinner dolphin
- Sperm whale
- Short-finned pilot whale
- Rough-toothed dolphin
- Risso’s dolphin
- Pantropical spotted dolphin
- Manatee
- Killer whale
- Gervais’ beaked whale
- Dwarf sperm whale
- Cuvier’s beaked whale
- Bryde’s whale
- Bottlenose dolphin
- Blainville’s beaked whale
- Atlantic spotted dolphin
- All Gulf of Mexico marine mammals
Focal Habitats - Percent of Respondents
n=50

- All habitats
- Offshore/pelagic waters
- Nearshore/coastal waters
- Bays/sounds/estuaries
- Rivers/inland waters
Objectives - Percent of Respondents, n=50

- Toxicology
- Stock identification
- Strandings
- Reproductive biology
- Population dynamics
- Parasitology
- Noise effects
- Migration
- Microbiomics
- Life history
- Health and health assessment
- Habitat use/distribution
- Gulf oil spill effects
- Genetics/genomics
- Foraging/diet
- Fisheries interactions/gear...
- Epidemiology
- Energetics
- Energy industry interactions
- Ecosystem modeling
- Ecology
- Cumulative effects
- Conservation and management
- Cognition
- Bioacoustics...
- Behavior/behavioral ecology
- Anatomy/taxonomy
- All