

MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION 2017 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

5-7 April 2017

Sea Crest Beach Hotel
350 Quaker Rd, North Falmouth, Massachusetts



Wednesday, April 05, 2017

8:00-10:00	Executive Session (closed to the public)
10:30	Public Meeting Begins
10:30-11:00	Welcome & Overview from the Chairman <i>Daryl Boness, Chairman, Marine Mammal Commission (MMC)</i>
11:00-12:00 PM	Communications <i>Luis Leandro, Director of Communications & External Affairs, MMC</i>
11:00-11-15	Overview of MMC Communications Strategy <i>Luis Leandro & Brendan Talwar, Knauss Fellow, MMC</i>
11:15-12:00	Facilitated Discussion
12:00-1:30	Lunch Break
1:30-2:30	Update on Vaquitas <i>Randall Reeves, Chair of Committee of Scientific Advisors, MMC</i>
1:30-1:45	Vaquita Update: Outcomes of CIRVA-8, current threats, & status <i>Peter Thomas, International & Policy Program Director, MMC</i>
1:45-1:55	US. Government Efforts: diplomacy, laws, & markets <i>Rebecca Lent, Executive Director, MMC</i>
1:55-2:10	VaquitaCPR: planning for possible capture and vaquita sanctuary <i>Frances Gulland, Commissioner, MMC</i>
2:10-2:30	Facilitated Discussion
2:30-3:30	Update on Arctic Activities <i>Vicki Cornish, Energy Policy Analyst, MMC</i>
2:30-2:40	Arctic Update: 2016 Listening Sessions & Co-management <i>Vicki Cornish, MMC</i>
2:40-2:50	Polar Bears <i>Mike Gosliner, General Counsel, MMC</i>

2:50-3:00	Circumpolar Biodiversity Monitoring Network <i>Peter Thomas, International Program & Policy Program Director, MMC</i>
3:00-3:10	Monodontid Workshop <i>Randall Reeves, Chair of Committee of Scientific Advisors, MMC</i>
3:10-3:20	Arctic Communication Plan <i>Luis Leandro, Director of Communications & External Affairs, MMC</i>
3:20-3:30	Facilitated Discussion
3:30-4:00	Coffee Break
4:00-5:00	C/CSA roundtable discussion of the five-year strategic plan <i>Peter Thomas, International Program & Policy Program Director, MMC</i>
5:00-5:30	Public comments, end of day recap, action items <i>Daryl Boness, Chairman, MMC</i>

8:30-10:15

Gray Seals in the Northeast Part I

Daryl Boness, Chairman, MMC

8:30-8:45

Introduction

Daryl Boness, Chairman, MMC

8:45-9:00

Lifting Baselines: identifying general trends and impacts, addressing the consequences of conservation success

David Johnston, Assistant Professor, Duke University

9:00-9:30

Gray Seals in the Northeast: Abundance, trends, genetics, stock structure, diet- what we know and key information gaps

Kimberly Murray, Research Fish Biologist, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service

9:30-9:45

The role of pinnipeds in marine ecosystems

Jason Baker, Research Marine Biologist, Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center, National Marine Fisheries Service

9:45-10:15

Panel Discussion

10:15-10:45

Coffee Break

10:45-12:00

Gray Seals in the Northeast Part II

David Johnston, Assistant Professor, Duke University

10:45-11:00

Fisheries interactions: Bycatch and entanglement of gray seals in New England fisheries

Mendy Garron, Biologist, Regional Marine Mammal Stranding Response Coordinator, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, NMFS

11:00-11:15

Gray Seals & Ocean Health: Benefits, Risks, and Realities

Andrea Bogomolni, Postdoctoral Fellow, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

11:15-11:30

White sharks: The role of gray seals in changes in the abundance, distribution, and behavior of white sharks

Greg Skomal, Senior Marine Fisheries Scientist, Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game

11:30-12:00

Panel Discussion

12:00-1:00

Lunch Break

1:00-5:00

Gray Seal & Human Interactions

Michael Tillman, Commissioner, MMC

1:00-1:15

Introduction

Daryl Boness, Chairman, MMC

1:15-1:30

Coastal Communities: tourism, human safety, and health

Robert Duncanson, Director, Natural Resources Department, Town of Chatham, MA

1:30-1:45

Commercial Fishing: depletion of valuable fish stocks

David Dauphinee, Lobsterman, Scituate, MA

1:45-2:00

Recreational fishing: depredation of catch, bait, and loss of access

Lou Mackeil, VP-Environmental Affairs, Cape Cod Salties Sportfishing Club

2:00-2:15

Economics: Gray seals and the blue economy

Richard Delaney, President, Center for Coastal Studies, Provincetown, MA

2:15-2:30

Coffee Break

2:30-3:00

Public Perceptions: survey of public values and perceptions

Jennifer Jackman, Associate Professor, Department of Political Science, Salem State University

3:00-3:30

Management 101: The MMPA and its provisions for managing gray seal-human interactions

Shannon Bettridge, Acting Deputy Division Chief, Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Division, Office of Protected Resources, NMFS

3:30-5:00

Panel Discussion: How do we coexist?

5:00-5:30

End of day recap, action items

Daryl Boness, Chairman, MMC

8:30-12:30

North Atlantic Right Whales

Randall Reeves, Chair of Committee of Scientific Advisors, MMC

8:30-8:35

Introduction

Daryl Boness, Chairman, MMC

8:35-8:50

Species Status: An overview of population size, trends, health, mortality, and distributional shifts

Scott Kraus, Vice President of Research & Senior Advisor, New England Aquarium

8:50-9:05

NMFS Right Whale Research: An overview of NEFSC research activities and concerns relating to the status and trends of right whales

Peter Corkeron, Supervisory Research Zoologist, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NMFS

9:05-9:20

Entanglement Trends and Impacts: Summary of recent findings about the number and effects of entanglement on whale mortality and reproduction

Amy Knowlton, Research Scientist, New England Aquarium

9:20-9:35

Status of Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan: Status of NMFS efforts to implement the TRP including regulations, provisions, TRT meetings, monitoring

Dave Gouveia, Protected Resources Division, Greater Atlantic Regional Fisheries Office, NMFS

9:35-9:50

Status and Plans for Research and Management in Canada

Jennifer Buie, Manager, Integrated Resource Management, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Ottawa, Ontario

9:50-10:30

Panel Discussion

10:30-10:45

Coffee Break

10:45-11:00

Views from the Lobster Fishery

Patrice McCarron, Executive Director, Maine Lobstermen's Association, Kennebunk, ME

11:00-11:15

Possible New Mitigation Measures- Weak Rope

Amy Knowlton, Research Scientist, New England Aquarium

11:15-11:30

Possible New Mitigation Measures- Rope Sleeves

John Haviland, President, South Shore Lobstermen's Association

11:30-11:45

Possible New mitigation Measures- Pop-Up Buoys

Timothy Werner, Senior Scientist and Director of Marine Conservation Engineering, New England Aquarium

11:45-12:25

Panel Discussion: Where do we go from here?

12:25-12:30

Summary

12:30-1:30

Lunch Break

1:30-3:50

Acoustics and Advanced Technologies for Large Whale Monitoring and Management

Aaron Thode, Research Scientist, Scripps Institution of Oceanography

1:30-2:00

Acoustics and Advanced Technologies for Large Whale Monitoring/Management: Overview of passive acoustic monitoring in the western North Atlantic, implementation of the NOAA Ocean Noise Strategy, and the application of acoustic ecology as a long-term monitoring tool for ecosystem health

Sofie van Parijs, Passive Acoustic Program Leader, Northeast Fisheries Science Center, NMFS

2:00-2:15

Use of autonomous platforms (gliders) and digital acoustic monitoring (DMON) for real-time detection of large whale presence and mitigating interactions between large whales and human activities

Mark Baumgartner, Associate Scientist, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

2:15-2:30

Use of passive acoustics to estimate abundance and monitor behavioral disturbance & long-term effects of disturbance

Dave Moretti, Marine Mammal R&D Lead, Naval Undersea Warfare Center

2:30-2:45

UAS applications in conservation of large whales: photo-identification, photogrammetry, and monitoring of individual health

Michael Moore, Senior Scientist & Director of Marine Mammal Center, Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution

2:45-3:00

Coffee Break

3:00-3:40

Panel Discussion

Presenters above & Peter Tyack, Professor of Marine Mammal Biology, University of St. Andrews, Scotland

3:40-3:50

Session Recap & Next Steps

3:50-4:00

End of day recap, action items and thank you from the Chairman

Daryl Boness, Chairman, MMC

4:00

Meeting Adjourns