

# MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

## 2019 ANNUAL MEETING AGENDA

21-23 May 2019

Sheraton Kona Resort & Spa at Keauhou Bay  
78-128 Ehukai Street, Kailua-Kona, Hawaii 96740



### Tuesday, 21 May 2019

8:30 AM - 9:00 AM	<b>Welcome, dedication to Lloyd Lowry, and history of the Marine Mammal Commission's involvement in Hawaii</b> <i>Daryl Boness, Chairman, Marine Mammal Commission (MMC)</i>
9:00 AM - 9:45 AM	<b>Overview of the Hawaiian Islands</b> <i>Moderator: Brady O'Donnell, Communications Officer, MMC</i>
9:00 - 9:20	Overview of the North Pacific subtropical gyre <i>Jeff Polovina, Chief (retired), Ecosystem and Oceanography Division, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center</i>
9:20 - 9:40	Overview of the status and trends of cetacean abundance and distribution in the region and primary threats facing marine mammals <i>Erin Oleson, Lead Scientist, Cetacean Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center</i>
9:40 - 9:45	Facilitated questions
9:45 AM - 10:15 AM	<b>Coffee break</b>
10:15 AM - 12:15 PM	<b>Spinner dolphins</b> <i>Moderator: Randy Wells, Senior Conservation Scientist, Chicago Zoological Society, and Scientific Advisor to the MMC</i>
10:15 - 10:30	Overview of Hawaiian stocks, current status, and recent demographic trends <i>Erin Oleson, Lead Scientist, Cetacean Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center</i>
10:30 - 10:45	Impacts of human disturbance on spinner dolphin resting behavior <i>Lars Bejder, Director, Marine Mammal Research Program, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i>

10:45 - 11:00	<p>Enhancing spinner dolphin protections through an MMPA rulemaking  <i>Ann Garrett, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office</i></p>
11:00 - 11:15	<p>Hawaiian spinner dolphins: Outreach, enforcement, and community engagement  <i>Ann Garrett, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office</i></p>
11:15 - 12:15	<p>Panel discussion  <i>Additional panelists:</i>  <i>Luna Kekoa, Community Based Fishing Area Planner, Division of Aquatic Resources for the State of Hawai'i</i>  <i>Colin Cornforth, Captain, Captain Zodiac</i>  <i>Stephanie Stack, Chief Biologist, Pacific Whale Foundation</i>  <i>Marc Lammers, Research Coordinator, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary</i>  <i>Damien Kenison, Kama'aina United to Protect the 'Aina, Friends of Ho'ookena Beach Park</i></p>
12:15 PM - 1:45 PM	<b>Lunch break</b>
1:45 PM - 5:00 PM	<p><b>Monk seals</b>  <i>Moderator: Frances Gulland, Research Associate, Wildlife Health Center, University of California Davis, and Commissioner, MMC</i></p>
1:45 - 2:00	<p>Overview of current range-wide status and recent demographic trends  <i>Jason Baker, Marine Biologist, Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center</i></p>
2:00 - 2:15	<p>Overview of threats, mitigation actions, and management  <i>Angela Amlin, Hawaiian Monk Seal Recovery Coordinator, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office</i></p>
2:15 - 2:30	<p>Health threats and associated mitigation measures: Morbillivirus and vaccination program/quarantine plans, other health-related threats, and protozoal disease  <i>Michelle Barbieri, Veterinarian, Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center</i></p>
2:30 - 2:45	<p>State involvement in feral cat issue: Overview of policies and strategies regarding cats</p>

	<i>Josh Atwood, Invasive Species Coordinator, Department of Land and Natural Resources for the State of Hawai'i</i>
2:45 - 3:00	<p>Rehabilitation at Ke Kai Ola: Overview of the facility and its capabilities and review of post-release survival</p> <p><i>Claire Simeone, Director, Ke Kai Ola Hospital, The Marine Mammal Center</i></p>
3:00 PM - 3:30 PM	<b>Coffee break</b>
3:30 - 3:45	<p>Impacts on French Frigate Shoals pupping habitat and Tern Island infrastructure and potential ways to minimize those impacts</p> <p><i>Amanda Boyd, Policy Specialist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service</i></p>
3:45 - 4:00	<p>Main Hawaiian Islands cause of death analysis: Quantifying the impact of individual threats on population growth rate</p> <p><i>Michelle Barbieri, Veterinarian, Hawaiian Monk Seal Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center</i></p>
4:00 - 4:15	<p>Management of fisheries interactions at the state level and Hawaii's priorities for conserving monk seals</p> <p><i>Suzanne Case, Chairperson, Department of Land and Natural Resources for the State of Hawai'i</i></p>
4:15 - 4:30	Facilitated questions
4:30 - 5:00	<p>Panel discussion</p> <p><i>Additional panelists:</i></p> <p><i>Malia Akutagawa, Native Hawaiian from Moloka'i; Assistant Professor of Law and Hawaiian Studies, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa</i></p> <p><i>Phil Fernandez, Kailua-Kona Fisherman; President, Hawai'i Fishermen's Alliance for Conservation and Tradition</i></p> <p><i>Whitney Beer-Kerr, Development Manager, Hawaii Marine Animal Response</i></p>
5:00 PM - 5:30 PM	<b>Public comment and wrap-up discussion</b>

Wednesday, 22 May 2019

8:30 AM - 12:15 PM

**Odontocete fishery interactions**

8:30 AM - 10:15 AM

**Pelagic false killer whales**

*Moderator: Peter Thomas, Executive Director, MMC*

8:30 - 9:00

Status of populations (surveys, telemetry data, and (human caused) mortalities and serious injuries (M&SI) versus potential biological removal (PBR))

*Erin Oleson, Lead Scientist, Cetacean Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center*

9:00 - 9:30

False killer whale take reduction plan status

*Ann Garrett, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office*

9:30 - 10:15

Panel discussion

*Additional panelists:*

*Brendan Cummings, Conservation Director, Center for Biological Diversity, and TRT member*

*Hannah Bernard, Executive Director and Co-Founder, Hawai'i Wildlife Fund, and TRT Member*

*Eric Kingma, Executive Director, Hawaii Longline Association*

*Trevor Ryder, Fisherman, and TRT Member*

*Asuka Ishizaki, Protected Species Coordinator, Western Pacific Fishery Management Council*

10:15 AM - 10:45 AM

**Coffee break**

10:45 AM - 12:15 PM

**Island odontocetes: Insular false killer whales, pantropical spotted dolphins, rough-toothed dolphins, and bottlenose dolphins**

*Moderator: Frances Gulland, Research Associate, Wildlife Health Center, University of California Davis, and Commissioner, MMC*

10:45 - 10:55

Status of populations (population structure and stock sizes, PBRs and M&SIs)

*Erin Oleson, Lead Scientist, Cetacean Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center*

10:55 - 11:15

Evidence of fisheries interactions with island odontocetes (e.g., fishing 'on' spotted dolphins, mouth-line and related injuries, gunshot wounds)

	<i>Robin Baird, Research Biologist, Cascadia Research Collective, and Scientific Advisor to the MMC</i>
11:15 - 11:30	Insular false killer whale recovery plan <i>Ann Garrett, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources Division, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office</i>
11:30 - 11:45	State of Hawai'i (State interactions data, management, and monitoring) <i>Darla White, Marine Protected Species Outreach Associate, Department of Land and Natural Resources for the State of Hawai'i</i>
11:45 - 12:15	Panel discussion <i>Additional panelists:</i> <i>Kenton Geer, Fisherman</i> <i>Jeff Rogers, Fisherman</i>
12:15 PM - 1:45 PM	<b>Lunch break</b>
1:45 PM - 5:15 PM	<b>Humpback whales</b> <i>Moderator: Sue Moore, Affiliate Professor, Center for Ecosystem Sentinels, Department of Biology, University of Washington, and Scientific Advisor to the MMC</i>
1:45 - 2:00	Overview of current stock and DPS status, demographic trends, general threats <i>Trevor Spradlin, Deputy Chief, Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Division, NMFS Office of Protected Resources</i>
2:00 - 2:30	Assessing recent trends in Hawaii's humpback whale population <i>Marc Lammers, Research Coordinator, Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary</i>
2:30 - 2:45	Declining abundance, reproductive success, and body condition in Southeast Alaska humpback whales during and after the North Pacific marine heatwave <i>Chris Gabriele, Wildlife Biologist, Glacier Bay National Park and Preserve, National Park Service</i>
2:45 - 3:00	Humpback whale calls detected by autonomous Wave Glider in tropical ocean basin between known Hawaii and Mexico breeding assemblies <i>Beth Goodwin, Vice President, Hawaii Operations, Jupiter Research Foundation</i> <i>Jim Darling, Research Project Leader, Whale Trust</i>

3:00 PM - 3:30 PM

**Coffee break**

3:30 - 3:45

Assessing humpback whale body condition and health with UAVs  
*Aude Pacini, Researcher, Marine Mammal Research Program, Hawai'i  
Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa*

3:45 - 4:00

An overview of humpback whale disentanglement and other large whale  
program considerations in NOAA Fisheries Service's Pacific Islands  
Region  
*David Schofield, Regional Marine Mammal Response Coordinator,  
NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office*

4:00 - 4:15

Humpback whale approach rule: Summary and update  
*Ann Garrett, Assistant Regional Administrator, Protected Resources  
Division, NMFS Pacific Islands Regional Office*

4:15 - 4:30

Vessel regulations in Maui: A look at the effects of vessel presence on  
whale behavior and the implications of a voluntary speed limit on tourism  
vessels  
*Jens Currie, Chief Scientist, Pacific Whale Foundation*

4:30 - 5:15

Panel discussion  
*Additional panelists:  
Adam Pack, Professor, Departments of Psychology (Chair) and Biology,  
University of Hawai'i at Hilo*

5:15 PM - 5:45 PM

**Public comment and wrap-up discussion**

Thursday, 23 May 2019

8:30 AM - 9:30 AM

**Executive session (closed to public)**

9:30 AM - 9:45 AM

**Coffee break**

9:45 AM - 11:15 PM

**Wider Pacific Islands region**

*Moderator: Sam Strindberg, Conservation Scientist and Wildlife Statistician, Global Conservation Program, Wildlife Conservation Society, and Scientific Advisor to the MMC*

9:45 - 10:00

Updates on surveys and cetacean stock assessment (visual, acoustic)

*Erin Oleson, Lead Scientist, Cetacean Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center*

10:00 - 10:15

Western North Pacific humpbacks

*Marie Hill, Cetacean Program Leader, Joint Institute for Marine and Atmospheric Research, Cetacean Research Program, NMFS Pacific Islands Fisheries Science Center*

10:15 - 10:45

Update on cetacean stranding response efforts and findings throughout the Pacific Islands region

*Kristi West, Associate Researcher, Hawai'i Institute of Marine Biology, University of Hawai'i at Mānoa*

10:45 - 11:15

Panel discussion

11:15 AM - 11:30 AM

**Coffee break**

11:30 AM - 1:30 PM

**Public comment and wrap-up discussion**