



MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

Welcome and Introduction

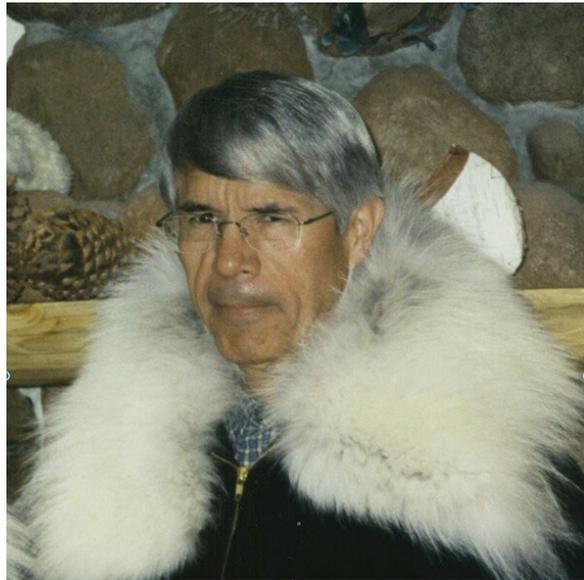
Peter Thomas
Executive Director

Recent Commission Meetings and Events

- 2023 Annual Meeting – Washington, D.C.
- Whales on the Brink Symposium – Collaboration with NMFS and the Smithsonian
- 2024 Working Meeting of the Commission - Virtual



In Remembrance



Dr. Mike Tillman
Marine Mammal Commissioner
2010 – 2022



Dr. Bob Hofman
Commission Scientific Program Director
1975 - 2000



Friends of the Commission



Dr. Armando Jaramillo-Legorreta



Dr. Jim Estes



Dr. James "Buddy" Powell



About Us

Briefly...

- **Mission:** The Marine Mammal Commission is an independent, science-based, oversight agency of the government, charged by the Marine Mammal Protection Act to further the goals and responsibilities of the act.



A photograph of several shark fins cutting through the surface of the ocean, creating white splashes and ripples in the blue-green water.

About Us

Briefly...

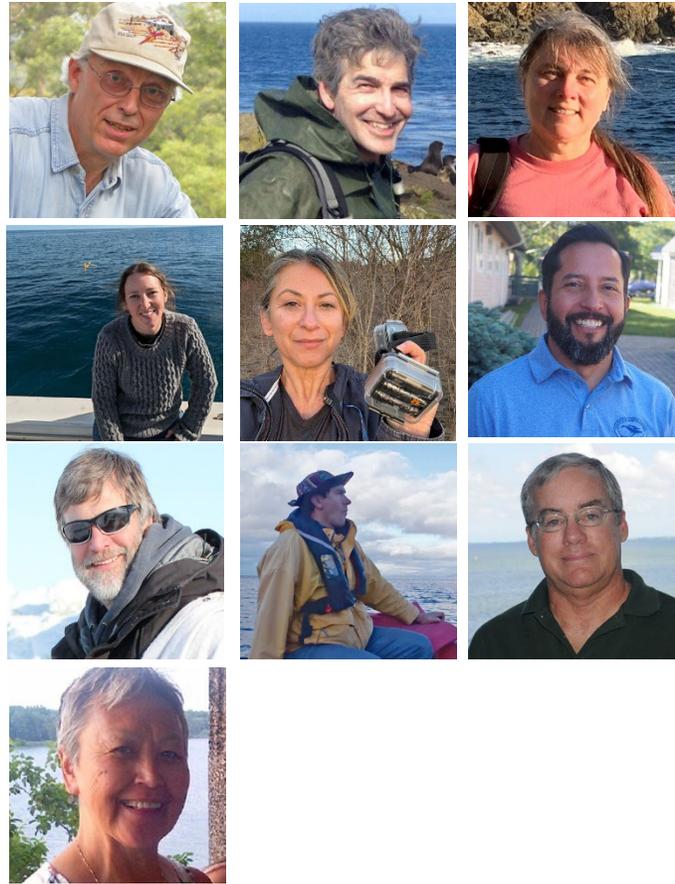
- **Structure**



Commissioners

Committee of Scientific Advisors

Staff



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About Us

Briefly...

- **Our Work**





Short History

A short history of the Commission's work on emerging technologies and innovation in marine mammal conservation



Short History - Workshops

1979

A WORKSHOP TO IDENTIFY NEW RESEARCH
THAT MIGHT CONTRIBUTE TO THE SOLUTION OF
THE TUNA-PORPOISE PROBLEM

8-9 December 1975
University of California, Santa Cruz

Robert J. Hofman, ed.
Marine Mammal Commission
1625 I Street, N.W.
Washington, D. C. 20006

Published January 1979

1981

Identification and Assessment of Possible Alternative Methods for
Catching Yellowfin Tuna

Robert J. Hofman

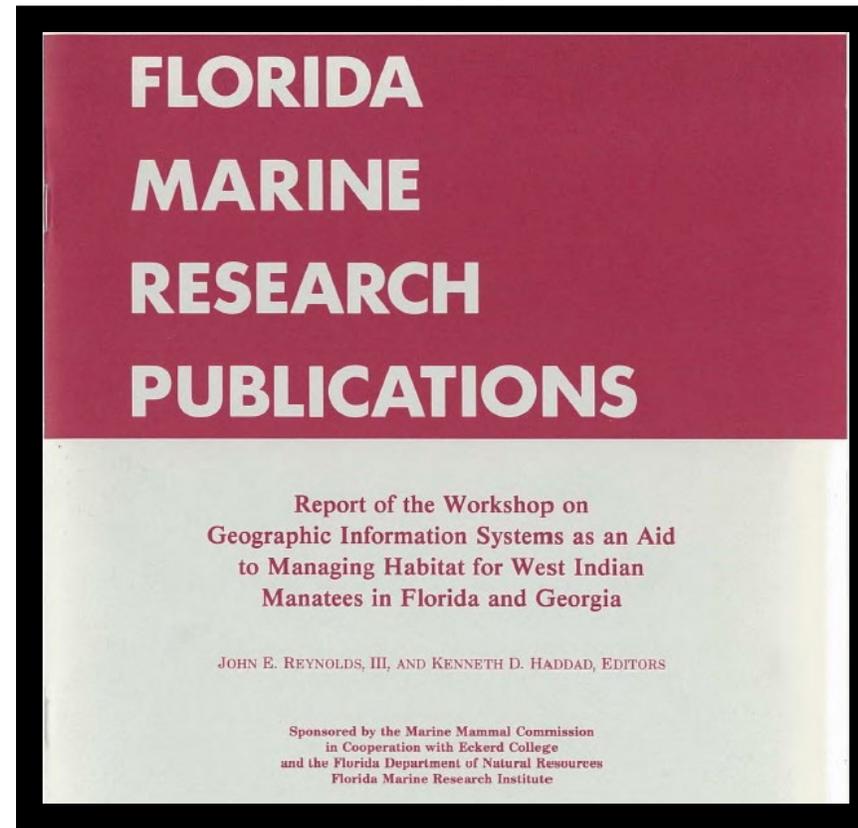
Marine Mammal Commission
Washington, D.C.

May 1981



Short History - Workshops

1990



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Short History - Workshops

1996

Acoustic Deterrence of Harmful Marine Mammal-Fishery Interactions:

**Proceedings of a Workshop held in
Seattle, Washington, USA, 20-22 March 1996**

Edited by

Randall R. Reeves
Robert J. Hofman
Gregory K. Silber
Dean Wilkinson



Short History - Workshops

2011



Symposium



Population Consequences of Acoustic Disturbance to Marine Mammals

Friday, 21 October 2011 – 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The National Academies of
SCIENCES · ENGINEERING · MEDICINE

REPORT

Approaches to Understanding the
Cumulative Effects of Stressors on
Marine Mammals

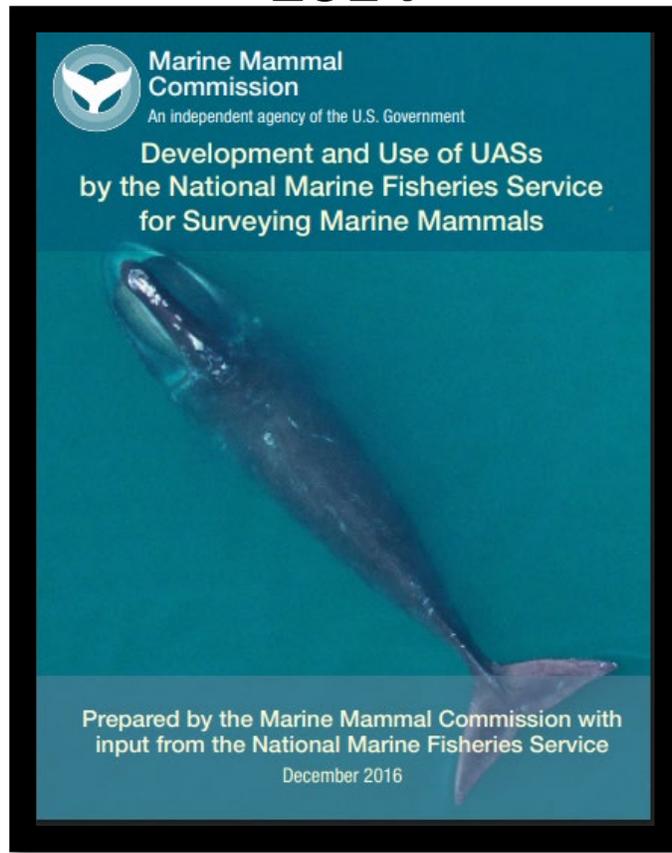


2015

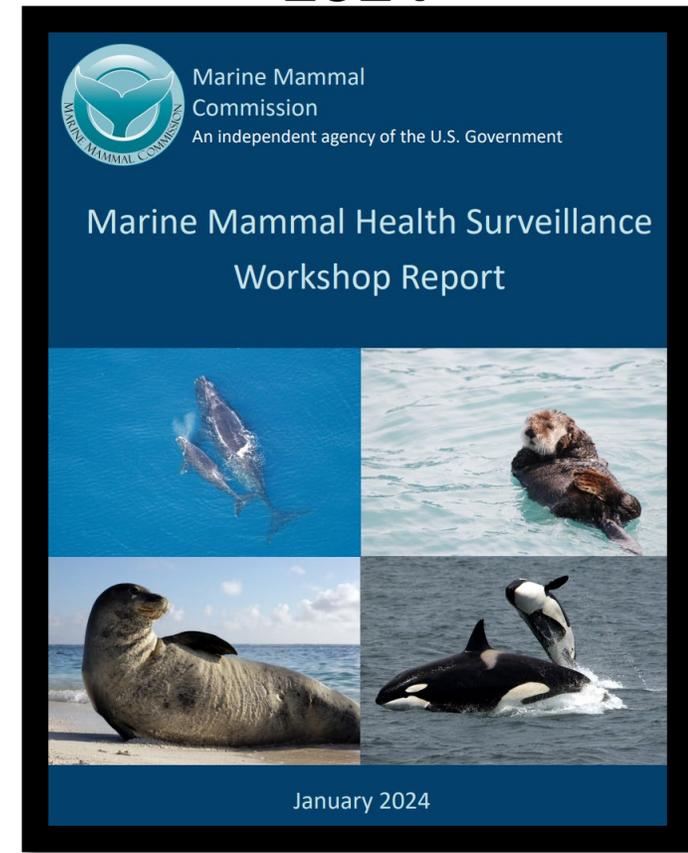


Short History - Workshops

2014



2024



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Short History - Grants

2013

Whale Alert on Android Platform and Shipping Industry Stewardship



This tanker slowed and altered course around a North Atlantic right whale in the Bay of Fundy, Canada: an example of marine industry engagement in right whale stewardship.

Final Report:

2016

Saildrone Summer 2016 Bering Sea Mission

Final Report



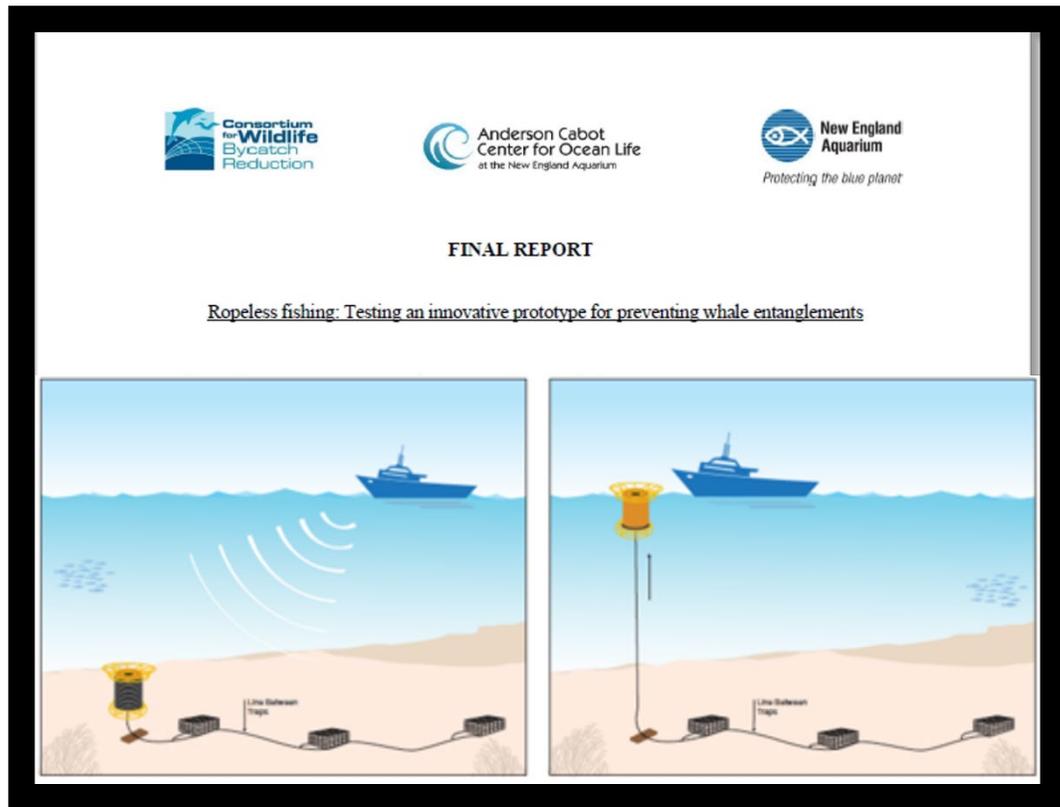
Jessica L. Crance and Catherine L. Berchok
Marine Mammal Laboratory
AFSC/NMFS/NOAA



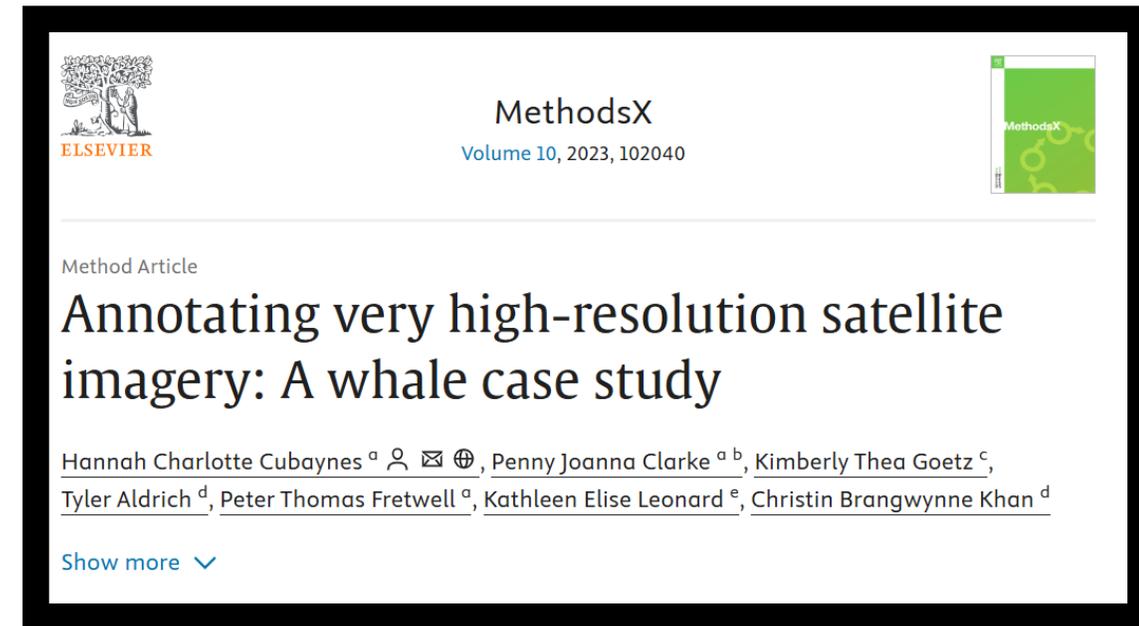
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Short History - Grants

2016



2021



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A photograph of several shark fins cutting through the surface of the ocean, creating white spray and splashes. The water is a deep blue-green color.

Grant Program

Fiscal Year 2025 Topic: Development of new tools or methods to improve marine mammal stock assessments





Grant Program

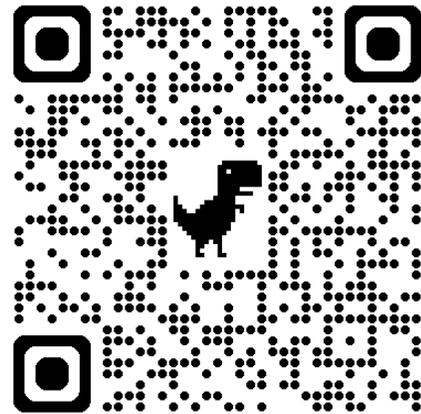
- **Bejder, L.:** Advancing satellite-based whale detection for remote population monitoring in the Pacific
- **Durban, J:** Novel spatial mark-recapture models for assessing open and moving whale populations
- **Durden, W.N.:** Testing the utilization of unoccupied aircraft systems to assess serious injury in marine mammals
- **Hines Boor, G:** Can we detect delphinids via satellite images? A proof-of-concept case study with well-studied bottlenose dolphin stocks in the southeastern United States
- **Jacobson, E.K.:** Improving US marine mammal stock assessments with close-kin mark-recapture
- **Sharp, S.:** Improving gray seal SI qualification and quantification for NOAA stock assessment reports through coordinated entanglement surveys in the Northeastern US and development of remote entanglement assessment techniques
- **Trukhanova, I.S.:** Computer vision tool for estimation of pinniped abundance, demographics, and body condition using uncrewed aerial vehicle-collected imagery.



A photograph of several shark fins cutting through the surface of the ocean, creating white splashes against the blue water.

Grant Program

**Subscribe to Our Newsletter
for Announcement**



A photograph of several shark fins cutting through the surface of the ocean, with white water splashing around them. The background is a deep blue sea.

Stock Assessments

Marine Mammal Stock Assessment Reports

- Section 117 of the MMPA requires the National Marine Fisheries Service and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to prepare and periodically update Stock Assessment Reports for all marine mammals in U.S. waters





MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

2025 Annual Meeting

Emerging technologies to improve efficiency and support innovation for marine mammal stock assessments

A photograph of several shark fins cutting through the surface of the ocean, creating white splashes. The water is a deep blue-green color. The image is used as a background for the title.

Meeting Goals

- Exchange information
- Inform future recommendations
- Facilitate discussion and collaboration



A photograph of several shark fins cutting through the surface of the ocean, creating white spray and ripples in the blue water.

2025 Annual Meeting

Emerging technologies to improve efficiency and support innovation for marine mammal stock assessments.

Day 1 - Eyes in the Sky: Emerging technologies for remote detection and assessment

Day 2

- Reducing Impact through Innovation: Innovative and less-invasive sampling methods for health and population assessment
- Connecting the Dots: Innovative and integrated quantitative methods for assessing populations

Day 3 - Regional Updates: Hot Topics in the California Current Ecosystem



Housekeeping

- Keep lids on coffee
- Trash cans located around the room
- Location of restrooms and water bottle filling station
- Emergency exits
- Microphone plan/etiquette
- Discussion question submission





MARINE MAMMAL COMMISSION

2025 Annual Meeting

This is a public meeting. Under applicable law, the Commission is required to maintain and provide a public record of the proceedings. As such, the meeting is being recorded and will be posted on the MMC website.