

# SC/68A/ProgRep/07

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## Mexico - Progress Report Summary

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INTERNATIONAL  
WHALING COMMISSION

## Progress Report Summary

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**Country:** MEXICO

**Year:** 2019

**National Collator:** Gustavo Cardenas Hinojosa

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### Vessel Strikes of Large Whales

No data is available for this section.

### Fishery Bycatch of Large Whales

No data is available for this section.

### Direct Catches of Small Cetaceans

No data is available for this section.

### Vessel Strikes of Small Cetaceans

No data is available for this section.

### Fishery Bycatch of Small Cetaceans

| Large Area   | Local Area               | Species                  | Year | Individuals* | Targeted Species | Gear Type  |
|--|--------------------------|--------------------------|------|--------------|------------------|--|
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) | Upper Gulf of California | vaquita (Phocoena sinus) | 2019 | 1            | Totoaba          | [GEN] GILLNETS AND ENTANGLING GEAR - Gillnets and entangling gillnets (not specified), |

\* This column has been aggregated

### Strandings

| Large Area   | Local Area               | Species   | Year | Total Number of Individuals Stranded | Source of Information                             |
|--|--------------------------|---|------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) | Upper Gulf of California | long-beaked common dolphin (Delphinus capensis) | 2018 | 25                                   | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) | Upper Gulf of California | Common bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)  | 2018 | 5                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) | Upper Gulf of California | vaquita (Phocoena sinus)                        | 2019 | 1                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) |                          | Common bottlenose dolphin (Tursiops truncatus)  | 2018 | 10                                   | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |                          | spinner dolphin (Stenella longirostris)         | 2018 | 3                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Atlantic Ocean - Caribbean Sea                     |                          | Sowerby's beaked whale (Mesoplodon bidens)      | 2018 | 1                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) |                          | fin whale (Balaenoptera physalus)               | 2018 | 3                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) |                          | common dolphin (Delphinus delphis)              | 2018 | 1                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |

| Large Area   | Local Area | Species  | Year | Total Number of Individuals Stranded | Source of Information                             |
|--|------------|--|------|--------------------------------------|---|
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) |            | striped dolphin ( <i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i> )         | 2018 | 2                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | false killer whale ( <i>Pseudorca crassidens</i> )       | 2018 | 1                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | humpback whale ( <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> )         | 2018 | 2                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) |            | pygmy sperm whale ( <i>Kogia breviceps</i> )             | 2018 | 2                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | Risso's dolphin ( <i>Grampus griseus</i> )               | 2018 | 3                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | Cuvier's beaked whale ( <i>Ziphius cavirostris</i> )     | 2018 | 1                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) |            | blue whale ( <i>Balaenoptera musculus</i> )              | 2018 | 1                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) |            | common dolphin ( <i>Delphinus delphis</i> )              | 2018 | 7                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | gray whale ( <i>Eschrichtius robustus</i> )              | 2018 | 12                                   | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - Gulf of California (Sea of Cortés) |            | rough-toothed dolphin ( <i>Steno bredanensis</i> )       | 2018 | 3                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | gray whale ( <i>Eschrichtius robustus</i> )              | 2018 | 3                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | Common bottlenose dolphin ( <i>Tursiops truncatus</i> )  | 2018 | 5                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | fin whale ( <i>Balaenoptera physalus</i> )               | 2018 | 1                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Pacific Ocean - North                              |            | long-beaked common dolphin ( <i>Delphinus capensis</i> ) | 2018 | 5                                    | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |

## Systematic Surveys

| Name   | Description  | Source of Information                             |
|--|--|---|
| CICESE. Ecología e Integración al Ambiente de Tecnologías de Energía Marina Clave E-LT1, Centro Mexicano de Innovación en Energía - Océano | The CICESE, CEMIE-Océano project conducted five systematic aerial line-transect surveys (November 2017; February-March, May, August, November 2018), to estimate cetacean abundance, off the west coast of the Baja California peninsula, on board a Cessna airplane. During each survey, two primary trained observers scanned the sea surface with the naked eye and the use of binoculars (Fujinon, 7 x 50), on the left and right side of the airplane. A third secondary trained observer, on the right side of the airplane, recorded the cetacean sighting data and environmental conditions (sea state, glare, visibility, and cloud coverage). The declination angle to sightings was measured with a hand-held clinometer (Suunto), that in conjunction with the airplane altitude, provided a precise measurement of the perpendicular distance to the cetacean or groups of cetaceans.   | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Cuvier's beaked whales of Guadalupe Island, Mexico   | Our goal is to increase ecologic knowledge of Cuvier's beaked whales for conservation purposes. Guadalupe Island is located in Mexican Pacific Ocean. Methods: Photo-ID, genetics (skin and eDNA), satellital tagging, passive acoustic monitoring of Cuvier's and cetaceans, using HARP and C-POD devices. Surveys dates: Field trips of two weeks per month from September to November 2018.   | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Blue and fin whale project at Gulf of California   | Gulf of California with area focused at Loreto Bay in Baja California Sur. Also in Bahía de La Paz. Methods: Photo-ID, molecular scatology, microbiome, steroid hormone Survey dates: Jan 29 -March 29 2018  | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |
| Whales of Guerrero Project   | Study cetaceans of Guerrero. The waters of Guerrero are located in the Pacific Ocean of Mexico. Methods: Photo-ID, Sighting frequency, habitat use, presence of calves, behaviour, presence/absence of lobomycosis-like skin disease. Humpback whale spatio-temporal habitat-use and group composition 2018 study data analysis: Survey effort took place in the southwestern Pacific state of Guerrero, Mexico, near the twin cities of Zihuatanejo/Ixtapa. Humpback whale anthropogenic scarring analysis Photos and other descriptive documentation collected of any whales observed entangled and/or with markings likely caused by previous entanglements were analyzed. Anthropogenic Scarring Analysis Methods: During the field season, a team of six biologists (Katherina Audley, Raul Ramirez Barragan, Andrea Garcia Chavez, Claudia Auladell Quintana, Abel Organiz and Terra Hanks) reviewed the daily photographic data during photo import and coding and tagged photos of whales with potential anthropogenic scarring. | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |

| Name   | Description   | Source of Information                             |
|--|---|---|
| Passive Acoustic Monitoring Program of Vaquita | Goal: Estimate the population trend of vaquita. Area: Upper Gulf of California. Methods. Passive Acoustic Monitoring using C-POD devices. Survey dates: March to November 2018. | Instituto Nacional de Ecología y Cambio Climático |

#### Cetacean Databases, Datasets and Archives

| Name  | Short Description  | Type  | Data Start | Data End | Last Updated | No. Records | Manager   |
|---|--|---|------------|----------|--------------|-------------|---|
| Data of Project: Cuvier's beaked whales of Guadalupe Island, Mexico | We recorded 119 sightings of Cuvier's beaked whales from Sept to Nov2018 | Sightings, Photo-id, Tissue Samples, Genetic, Telemetry, Other, | 2018       | 2018     | 2018         | 119         | Gustavo Cárdenas Hinojosa. CONABIO.                         |
| CICESE, CEMIE-Océano project  | Records of sightings of different cetacean species                       | Sightings,  | 2017       | 2018     | 2018         | 245         | Gisela Heckel. CICESE.                                      |
| Blue and fin whale project at Gulf of California                    | Record of number of sightings.   | Sightings, Photo-id, Other,                                     | 2018       | 2018     | 2018         | 55          | Diane Gendron. CICIMAR.                                     |
| Whales of Guerrero  | Record of number of sightings of different cetaceans                     | Sightings,  | 2018       | 2019     | 2019         | 94          | KATHERINA AUDLEY AND ANDREA JACQUELINE GARCÍA CHAVEZ        |
| Passive Acoustic Monitoring Program of Vaquita                      | Record of acoustic encounters of vaquita.                                | Other,  | 2018       | 2019     | 2019         | 259         | Armando Jaramillo Legorreta y Lorenzo Rojas Bracho. CONABIO |