



International Whaling Commission

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CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS, CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS AND MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE IWC.ALL.77

Submission of Scientific Progress Reports

Scientific Progress Reports have their origin in Article VIII, Paragraph 3 of the Convention and are formalised in the Rules of Procedure of the Scientific Committee (Rule E.1).

All member nations are urged by the Commission to provide Progress Reports to the Scientific Committee following the most recent guidelines (*Rep. int. Whal. Commn* 48: 292-5). The outline report attached (ProgRep.doc) should be used as a template for the report. General information in the report should cover the intersessional period (or, if a report was not submitted last year, the period since the last report) but statistical information **must** be provided by calendar year or season as explained in the template.

Note that last year the Commission endorsed the Scientific Committee's recommendations (IWC/54/4 Item 3.2) with respect to Progress reports:

*'The Committee reaffirmed its view of the importance of national progress reports and **recommends** that the Commission continues to urge member nations to submit them following the approved guidelines. It was also noted that non-member nations wishing to submit progress reports are welcome to do so.*

*As discussed under Item 7, the Committee also **recommends** that the Commission (1) encourages member nations to report details about the type of fishing gear involved in large whale bycatches (Item 7.1.4) and; (2) again encourages member nations to submit more complete records of ship strikes (Item 7.3).'*

As in previous years, the Secretariat will reproduce Progress Reports provided that they are **received in the Secretariat by 15 June 2004**. Papers can be submitted either by e-mail (hsharp@iwcoffice.org) or as good quality single-sided, single-spaced top copies. If they are not provided by e-mail, please arrange to bring an electronic version to the meeting (.pdf format is preferred).

Progress Reports, submitted after that date must be provided in 170 copies for distribution to the Scientific Committee, otherwise there will be serious delays in arranging for the production of the necessary copies. They should be supplied printed single spaced, double-sided and preferably on A4 sized paper (210 x 297mm) or equivalent.

Dr. Nicky Grandy
Secretary to the Commission

COUNTRY. PROGRESS REPORT ON CETACEAN RESEARCH, MONTH 200X TO MONTH 200X, WITH STATISTICAL DATA FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 200X OR SEASON 200X/X

Compiled by GIVE NAME

Compiler's affiliation and address

This report summarises information obtained from: INCLUDE THE NAMES OF THE AGENCIES OR INSTITUTIONS ETC. HERE, PLUS ANY ABBREVIATIONS.

1. Species and stocks studied

A tabular format may be most appropriate. It might be helpful to indicate where in the report the species is mentioned. Please use IWC recommended names (see IWC, 1994, pp.70-1). For subsequent items, common names are preferred. e.g.:

Common name	Scientific name	Area/stock(s)	Items referred to
Southern right whale	<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	Southern coastline	2.1; 3.1.1; 3.1.3; 6.2
Humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	Groups B and C	2.1.2; 3.1.1
Irrawaddy dolphin	<i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>	Irrawaddy River	7.1

2. Sightings data

2.1 Field work

2.1.1 SYSTEMATIC

Give brief details of surveys, when and where held and references to cruise reports if applicable. A summary table of sightings may be included (e.g. see Japanese Progress Reports).

2.1.2 OPPORTUNISTIC, PLATFORMS OF OPPORTUNITY

Give brief details of work carried out, with references where appropriate

2.2 Analyses/development of techniques

Give brief details of any analyses of data carried out, with references where appropriate. A summary table of sightings and associated effort may be included.

3. Marking data

3.1 Field work

3.1.1 NATURAL MARKING DATA

It would be helpful to provide this in the form of a table, e.g.

Species	Feature	Area/stock	Calendar year/season/ no. photographed	Catalogued (Y/N)	Catalogue total	Contact person/institute
Humpback whale	Fluke	W.N. Atlantic	43	Y	245	College of Atlantic

It might be useful to include the numbers by features recorded for some species e.g. humpback whales, where more than one is commonly used (e.g. flukes, lateral/dorsal fin). This would enable the Secretariat to maintain a directory for information purposes, similar to that given in Annex G.

3.1.2. ARTIFICIAL MARKING DATA

This would include such things as Discovery marks (especially recovery information) or external artificial tags.

3.1.3 TELEMETRY DATA

This would include both satellite and radio-tags. A table might again be an appropriate way to summarise the data, e.g.:

Species	Tag type	No. successfully deployed	Maximum time transmitting	Contact person/institute
White whale	Satellite	7	3 months	A. Martin, Sea Mammal Research Unit UK

3.2 Analyses/development of techniques

Give brief details of any analyses of marking data carried out (e.g. times/distances to resightings, biological parameters, etc.) with references where appropriate.

4. Tissue/biological samples collected

4.1 Biopsy samples

Species	Area/stock	Calendar year/ season no. collected	Archived (Y/N)	No. analysed	Total holdings	Contact person/institute
Humpback whale	Group D	25	Y	22	66	Western Australian Museum

4.2 Samples from directed catches or bycatches

Species	Area/stock	Calendar year/ season total	Archived (Y/N)	Tissue type(s)*	Contact person/institute
Northern right	W.N. Atlantic	2	Y	Skin, blubber	New England Aquarium

*e.g. liver, skin, blubber etc.

4.3 Samples from stranded animals

Species	Area/stock	Calendar year/ season total	Archived (Y/N)	Tissue type(s)*	Contact person/institute
Fin whale	E.N. Atlantic	2	Y	Skin, ovaries	CNEMM, La Rochelle

*e.g. liver, skin, blubber etc.

4.4 Analyses/development of techniques

Give brief details of any analyses of data carried out, with references where appropriate.

5. Pollution studies

Information on available samples can be seen in Section 4 although any clarification can be given here. The main purpose of this section is to give brief details of work in progress or completed analyses, with references where appropriate.

6. Statistics for large cetaceans

6.1 Direct catches (commercial, aboriginal and scientific permits) for the calendar year 200X or the season 200X/X

It is helpful if these statistics are included here. A table is probably the most convenient way to do this. However, it must be noted that this summary is not considered to fulfil the obligation to supply data to the Commission as specified in the Schedule.

Species	Type of catch	Area/stock	Males	Females	Total landed	Struck and lost
Gray	Aboriginal	Eastern N. Pacific	21	23	44	4

6.2 Other non-natural mortality for the calendar year 200X or the season 200X/X

Last year the Committee agreed (IWC, 1997, p.59) to include information on whales killed as a result of collisions with ships or entanglement, along with the source of data and methodology used to determine cause of death. Again, a table probably provides the most convenient way to summarise the data. Please give references where appropriate.

Species	Area/stock	Males	Females	Total	Cause	Methodology
Northern right	Eastern USA	1	2	3	Ship strike	Port mortem

6.3 Earlier years' statistics

This would be a place to include any corrections to statistics presented in earlier years. It may also be appropriate to include references to studies that utilise time series of data here.

7. Statistics for small cetaceans

7.1 For the calendar year 200X

It was first agreed to include this information in a Commission resolution in 1976 (IWC, 1977, p.31)). Again a tabular format is most convenient. All direct, incidental and live-capture removals should be recorded but **not** stranded animals unless their cause of death can be attributed to either direct or incidental capture. Where appropriate, directed or incidental catches can be separated by fishery type (e.g. hand-harpoon) and locality, as is currently done in the very informative compilations included in the Japanese Progress Reports of recent years. Please indicate if removals are known to occur, but no data are available, with a 'yes'.

Species	Area/stock	Directed catch		Incidental mortality			Live-capture
		Reported	Est. total	Reported	Est. total	Source*	Reported
Harbour porpoise	North Sea	0	0	456	2,322	Gillnet	2

*e.g. fishery type

7.2 Earlier years' statistics

This would be a place to include any corrections/additions to statistics presented in earlier years. It may also be appropriate to include references to studies that utilise time series of data here.

8. Strandings

If included, this section should only provide information on focal institutions/individuals who can be contacted.

9. Other studies and analyses

This is the appropriate place to briefly summarise other aspects of cetacean research relevant to the Scientific Committee, including results of analyses and development of techniques not covered in earlier sections. Give references where appropriate.

Attention is drawn to the issues of priority Committee interest (many of which are considered under other Items): management of whaling and Comprehensive Assessment of whale stocks - e.g. current stock size, recent population trends, carrying capacity, productivity and stock identity; effects of environmental change; scientific aspects of sanctuaries; and whalewatching.

10. Literature cited

Include all references cited in the text here.

11. Publications

11.1 Published or 'In Press' papers only

In the version published in the report, 'In press' papers will not be included (they will of course be included as fully published papers in subsequent years). However, they are of value in the version presented to the meeting.

11.2 Unpublished literature

Please include information as to where the documents may be obtained.

REFERENCES

- International Whaling Commission. 1977. Chairman's Report of the Twenty-Eighth Meeting. *Rep. int. Whal. Commn* 27:22-35.
- International Whaling Commission. 1989. Report of the Scientific Committee, Annex I. Report of the Working Group on Progress Reports. *Rep. int. Whal. Commn* 39:130.
- International Whaling Commission. 1994. Report of the Workshop on Mortality of Cetaceans in Passive Fishing Nets and Traps. *Rep. int. Whal. Commn* (special issue 15):1-71.
- International Whaling Commission. 1997. Report of the Scientific Committee. *Rep. int. Whal. Commn* 47:59-257.