

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO COMMISSIONERS, CONTRACTING GOVERNMENTS
AND MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
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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 should be used as a template for the report. It is also available from the website: (http://www.iwcoffice.org/commission/sci_com/scprogress.htm). 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 the template for the reports has been revised to take of modification agreed by the Scientific Committee last year.

As in previous years, the Secretariat will reproduce Progress Reports provided that they are **received in the Secretariat by 6 May 2005**. Papers can be submitted either by e-mail (helen.sharp@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). **After 6 May, the required number of copies of the progress reports must be brought to the meeting (contact helen.sharp@iwcoffice.org for numbers) 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 the Commission

c.c. Non-member Government Observers

**COUNTRY. PROGRESS REPORT ON CETACEAN RESEARCH, MONTH 20XX TO MONTH 20XX,
WITH STATISTICAL DATA FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 20XX OR SEASON 20XX/XX**
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. In 2004 the Committee agreed that details on whether the data were collected by whalewatching platforms or other types of vessel should be included (IWC, 2005, Annex M). Please give details where appropriate on who collected the data, e.g. whalewatching operators, crew, or scientists, and the data collection methodology.

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 20XX or the season 20XX/XX

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 Non-natural mortality for the calendar year 20XX or the season 20XX/XX

In 1996 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

Please indicate under comments for each section '0' if there was monitoring and there are no injuries or mortalities to report, or 'NR' if there was nothing to report.

6.2.1 STRANDINGS OR DEAD WHALES ENCOUNTERED AT SEA

The inclusion of this data was agreed by the Committee in 2004 (IWC, 2005, Annex J). Please provide the following information if known. If unknown enter 'U'. For location provide latitude and Longitude if available. In case of a mass stranding enter the number of whales in the 'sex' column and provide the detail under the comments. Please indicate how the cause of death was determined (Det): N = full necropsy, V = visual observation entangled, cuts, etc., U = could not be determined. Provide a contact that can give further details if needed. Example given.

Whale species	Sex	Location	Cause of death	Det.	Source or contact institution, contact name and telephone and/or e-mail
A. right whale	F	43°37'N, 52°15'W	Ship strike	V	Org.: Address: Contact: Tel. xxxxxxxx E-mail. <u>xxxxx@xxxxx.xx.xx</u>
B. sperm whale	U	Beach on Nantucket Is.	U	U	Same format as above.
Comments: A. Deep cut behind flipper. B. Found bones and patch of white skin.					

6.2.2 OBSERVED OR REPORTED SHIP STRIKES

The inclusion of this data was agreed by the Committee in 2004 (IWC, 2005, Annex J). If available, please use Latitude and Longitude for location. Please indicate type of vessel, e.g. High-speed Ferry (HSF), Large cargo, Military, Fishing Vessel (FV), Passenger Carrying Excursion (PC), Other (O). Fate: Indicate if the whale swam away (X), appeared seriously injured (I), killed (D). Example given.

Whale species	Sex	Date	Location	Vessel type	Speed	Fate	Source or contact
Humpback whale	U	xx/xx	4 km off coast Savannah, GA. Pos. Classified	Military	40kts	D	Same format as above.
Comments: Cut clean in half.							

6.2.3 FISHERY BYCATCH

The inclusion of this data was agreed by the Committee in 2004 (IWC, 2005, Annex J). If available, please use Latitude and Longitude for location. Indicate fate of whale (R = released alive, D = discarded dead or seriously injured, K = kept for sale or specimen), targeted fish species (e.g. tuna, herring, etc.). Use modified FAO Gear Designation: 1 = seine, 3 = trawl, 7 = gill or entangling net, 8 = trap, 9 = hook, logline, troll, 0 = other. Please indicate how observed: M = dedicated marine mammal observer, F = Fishery onboard observer, V = vessel logbook, A = anecdotal, DA = documented anecdotal, photos, etc. Example given.

Whale species	Sex	Date	Location	Fate	Targeted fish species	Gear	How observed?	Source or contact
Antarctic minke whale	F	xx/xx	54°14'N; 29°43'W	D	Tuna	9	F	Same format as above
Comments: Entangled in gear, cut off and sank.								

In 2004 the Committee agreed that types of fishing gear involved in bycatch should be documented (IWC, 2005, Annex J). If possible please use the internationally recognised standard descriptions from FAO, although more detail can be supplied if known. The FAO Gear Description codes are summarised below. Please also include any instances of entanglement in shark exclusion nets, which are another important source of bycatch.

FAO FISHING DESCRIPTION AND CODES

FAO FISHING GEAR CATEGORIES:		FALLING GEAR	
SURROUNDING NETS		Cast nets	FCN
With purse lines	PS	Falling gear (not specified)	FG
One-boat operated purse seines	PS1	GILLNETS AND ENTANGLING GEAR	
Two-boat operated purse seines	PS2	Set gillnets (anchored)	GNS
Without purse lines (lampara)	LA	Driftnets	GND
SEINE NETS		Encircling gillnets	GNC
Beach seines	SB	Fixed gillnets (on stakes)	GNF
Boat seines	SV	Trammel nets	GTR
Danish seines	SDN	Combined gillnet-trammel nets	GTN
Scottish seines	SSC	Gillnets and entangling gillnets (not specified)	GEN
Pair seines	SPR	Gillnets (not specified)	GN
Seine nets (not specified)	SX	TRAPS	
TRAWLS		Stationary uncovered pounds nets	FPN
Bottom trawls	TBB	Pots	FPO
Beam trawls	OTB	Fyke nets	FYK
Otter trawls (side or stern)	PTB	Stow nets	FSN
Pair trawls	TBN	Barriers, fences, weirs, etc	FWR
Nephrops trawls	TBS	Aerial traps	FAR
Shrimp trawls (not specified)	TM	Traps (not specified)	FIX
Midwater trawls		HOOKS AND LINES	
Otter trawls (side or stern)	OTM	Handlines and pole-lines (hand operated)	LHP
Pair trawls	PTM	Handlines and pole-lines (mechanized)	LHM
Shrimp trawls	TMS	Set longlines	LLS
Midwater trawls (not specified)	TM	Drifting longlines	LLD
Otter twin trawls	OTT	Longlines (not specified)	LL
Otter trawls (not specified)	OT	Trolling lines	LTL
Pair trawls (not specified)	PT	Hooks and lines (not specified)	LX
Other trawls (not specified)	TX	GRAPPLING AND WOUNDING	
DREDGES		Harpoons	HAR
Boat dredges	DRB	HARVESTING MACHINES	
Hand dredges	DRH	Pumps	HMP
LIFT NETS		Mechanised dredges	HMD
Portable lift nets	LPN	Harvesting machines (not specified)	HMX
Boat-operated lift nets	LNB	MISCELLANEOUS GEAR	MIS
Shore operated stationary lift nets	LNS	RECREATIONAL FISHING GEAR	RG
Lift nets (not specified)	LN	GEAR NOT KNOWN OR NOT SPECIFIED	NK
		SHARK CONTROL NETS	NSC

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 20XX

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.
- International Whaling Commission. 2005. Report of the Scientific Committee, Annex J. Estimation of Bycatch and other Human-Induced Mortality. *J. cetacean Res. Manage.(Suppl.)* 7.
- International Whaling Commission. 2005. Report of the Scientific Committee, Annex M. Whalewatching. *J. cetacean res. Manage.(Suppl.)* 7.