

CIRCULAR COMMUNICATION TO MEMBERS OF THE SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE
IWC.SC.141

Second North Atlantic fin whale Implementation workshop (19-22 March 2009) and Greenlandic fisheries workshop (24-27 March 2009)

Second North Atlantic fin whale Implementation Workshop

The workshop is to be held at Greenland House, Copenhagen, Denmark from 19 to 22 March 2009.

The *Implementation* for North Atlantic fin whales was begun intersessionally during 2007 and is expected to be completed at the 2009 Annual Meeting. In order to meet this target, the following objectives for the workshop have been set:

1. review the results of the final trials and develop recommendations for consideration by the full Committee on:
 - a. management areas;
 - b. RMP variants (e.g. Catch-cascading, Catch-capping);
 - c. associated operational constraints (e.g. temporal restrictions);
 - d. suggestions for future research (either within or outside whaling operations) to narrow the range of plausible hypotheses/eliminate some hypotheses; and
 - e. 'less conservative' variant(s) with their associated required research programs and associated duration.
2. continue to discuss the inputs to the actual application of the *CLA*.

Greenlandic Fisheries Workshop

The workshop is to be held at Charlottenlund Castle, Copenhagen, Denmark from 24 to 27 March 2009.

Until now, the Committee has been unable to provide satisfactory management advice on common minke whales off West Greenland. However, it has made considerable progress in developing an assessment method for common minke whales using sex ratio data and established an ambitious work plan to complete this work by the 2009 Annual Meeting. Although a safe method for providing interim advice has been developed for fin, bowhead and humpback whales, it is important that work on developing a *Strike Limit Algorithm (SLA)* for fin whales is accorded high priority.

A small technical meeting was held in February 2009 to standardise methods and solve technical issues. The purpose of the main workshop is to review the results of the work in relation to the [work plan](#) to ensure that the Standing Working Group on development of an aboriginal subsistence management procedure (AWMP) will be in a position to make management recommendations at the 2009 Annual Meeting.

If you plan to attend either of these workshops please inform Jemma Miller (jemma.miller@iwcoffice.org) as soon as possible.

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