

SUMMARY OF INFRACTIONS REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION FOR 2012 AND 2013

Under the terms of the Convention, each Contracting Government is required to transmit to the Commission full details of each infraction of the provisions of the Convention committed by persons and vessels under the jurisdiction of the Government. Note that although lost whales are traditionally reported, they are not intrinsically infractions.

Aboriginal subsistence catches and infractions are summarised in tables 1a-b. Catch and associated data for commercial and scientific permit catches were submitted to the IWC Secretariat (IWC/65/Rep 1 (2013) and (2014)). The data for commercial catches and other infractions are summarised in tables 1c-d.

Table 2 gives details of the infractions reported in the 2012 and 2013 seasons and Table 3 gives information on the unresolved infractions from previous years.

Table 1a. Summary of Aboriginal subsistence catches and infractions reported for the 2012 season.

Country	Species	Males	Females	Total landed	Struck and lost	Total Strikes	Infractions / Comments
Denmark							
West	Fin	0	4	4	1	5	None
Greenland	Minke	33	109	144 ¹	4	148	None
	Humpback	2	4	7 ²	3	10	2 (Infractions 2012.1,2)
East Greenland	Minke	0	4	4	0	4	None
St Vincent and The Grenadines							
	Humpback	0	1	1	1	2	None
USA							
	Bowhead	24	29	55 ¹	14	69	None
Russian Federation							
	Gray	50	89	139	4	143 ³	None

Table 1b. Summary of Aboriginal subsistence catches and infractions reported for the 2013 season.

Country	Species	Males	Females	Total landed	Struck and lost	Total Strikes	Infractions / Comments
Denmark							
West	Fin	3	5	9 ²	0	9	2 (Infractions 2013.1,3)
Greenland	Minke	37	127	166 ¹	9	175	1 (Infraction 2013.4)
	Humpback	4	3	7	1	8	1 (Infraction 2013.2)
East Greenland	Minke	1	3	4	2	6	None
St Vincent and The Grenadines							
	Humpback	3	1	4	0	4	None
USA							
	Bowhead	21	25	46	11	57	2 (Infractions 2013.5,6)
Russian Federation							
	Gray	39	86	125	2	127 ⁴	None
	Bowhead	1	0	1	0	1	None

¹ Includes 2 whale of unknown sex

² Includes 1 whale of unknown sex

³ Includes 8 whales that were inedible due to strong chemical smell

⁴ Includes 2 whales that were inedible due to strong chemical smell

Table 1c. Summary of Commercial catches and other infractions reported for the 2012 season.

Nation	Species	Males	Females	Total Landed	Lost	Total	Infractions / Comments
ICELAND							
	Minke	38	11	49	3	52	None
NORWAY							
	Minke	144	313	458 ⁵	6	464	None
REPUBLIC OF KOREA							
	Minke					4	4 (Infractions 2012.3-6)

Table 1d. Summary of Commercial catches and other infractions reported for the 2013 season.

Nation	Species	Males	Females	Total Landed	Lost	Total	Infractions/ Comments
ICELAND							
	Minke	13	22	35	0	35	None
	Fin	58	71 ⁶	129	5	134 ⁶	1 (Infraction 2013.7)
NORWAY							
	Minke	194	394	588	6	594	None
REPUBLIC OF KOREA							
	Minke					12	12 (Infractions 2013.8-16)

⁵ Includes 1 animal of unknown sex

⁶ Includes one whale (a female) listed as fin which was genetically determined to be a fin /blue whale hybrid.

Table 2a. List of infractions from the 2012 season

Ref.	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify)	Explanation	Penalty/Action	Investigatn. complete?
2012.1	Greenland /Denmark	Humpback	Female	14m	7 Nov. 2012	Killing method	Ilulissat (West Greenland). Report from regional Wildlife Officer on killing method (cold harpoon) used for secondary killing.	Reported to the Police.	Investigation on-going
2012.2	Greenland /Denmark	Humpback	Unk.	Unk.	6 Nov. 2012	Killing method	Sisimiut (West Greenland). Report from regional Wildlife Officer on killing method (whale grenade-99 for minke whale) used for primary and secondary killing. Whale was lost.	An administrative warning was given.	Yes
2012.3	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	5m	23 May 2012	No Quota (Illegal catch)	In the morning of 23 May, 2012, a minke whale was illegally caught with a harpoon in waters ~20 miles east of Guryongpo, Ulsan. The whale was killed by blood loss.	Total: Nine violators 4 violators: 8 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 3 violators: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 1 violator: monetary penalty(US\$ 4,000) 1 violator: monetary penalty(US\$ 3,000)	Yes
2012.4	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	6m	June 2012	No Quota (Illegal catch)	The violators found a minke whale in the East Sea off Gyeongsangbuk-do on an unknown date in June 2012 and were alleged to have caught the whale illegally in a way not permitted under the Fisheries Act (probably harpoon). The whale was dismembered and hidden at sea.	Suspension of prosecution Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
2012.5	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	5m	2 Sept. 2012	No Quota (Illegal catch)	Around 10:15p.m. 2 Sept. 2012, 3 people including the captain of <i>No. 105 Donggun</i> (5.84 ton) were arrested while trying to transport 118 bags of illegally caught whale meat (stored in its fish well) from the pier within Guryongpo Port in Guryongpo-eup, Nam-gu, Pohang-si to a porter truck parked at the port.	Total: three violators 1 violator: 8 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 1 violator: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 1 violator: monetary penalty(US\$ 4,000) Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
2012.6	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	6m	29 Dec. 2012	No Quota (Illegal catch)	2 violators went aboard <i>Chungwoon</i> at 10:00a.m. on 29 Dec. 2012 and received 30 bags of minke whale meat to store in its fish well. The meat is suspected to originate from a minke whale that was illegally caught and dismembered by an unknown vessel in the East Sea. <i>Chungwoon</i> transported the whale meat to waters ~10 miles east of Cape Homi, Homigot-myeon, Nam-gu, Pohang-si at 7:30p.m. on the same day.	Total: two violators 1 violator: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 1 violator: monetary penalty(US\$ 4,000) Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes

Table 2b. List of infractions from the 2013 season. See also #

Ref.	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify)	Explanation	Penalty/Action	Investigatn. complete?
2013.1	Greenland /Denmark	Fin whale	Male	18m	14 Mar. 2013	Killing method*	Maniitsoq (West Greenland). Report from regional Wildlife Officer on killing method (whale grenade-99 for minke whale) used for secondary killing.	Reported to the Police. Investigation on-going	No
2013.2	Greenland /Denmark	Humpback whale	Male		25 May 2013	Killing method*	Nuuk (West Greenland). Report from regional Wildlife Officer on killing method (whale grenade-99 for minke whale) used for secondary killing.	Reported to the Police. Investigation on-going	No
2013.3	Greenland /Denmark	Fin whale	Fem.	18m	5 Aug. 2013	Killing method*	Paamiut (West Greenland). Report from regional Wildlife Officer on hunt without license and on killing method (whale grenade-99 for minke whale) used for secondary killing.	Reported to the Police. Investigation on-going	No
2013.4	Greenland /Denmark	Minke whale	Fem.	4,7m	27 Sept. 2013	Killing method*	Kangaamiut (West Greenland). Report from regional Wildlife Officer on killing method (cold harpoon) used for secondary killing and sale without prior stamping of sale license.	Reported to the Police. Investigation on-going	No
2013.5	USA	Balaena Mysticus	Fem.	6.78m	22 Sept. 2013	Calf	A whale swimming independently was taken in Barrow, and upon landing was determined to be a calf, based on body length, baleen length and stomach contents.	N/A	Yes
2013.6	USA	Balaena Mysticus	Fem.	7.01m	25 Sept. 2013	Calf	A whale swimming independently was taken in Barrow, and upon landing was determined to be a calf, based on body length, baleen length and stomach contents.	N/A	Yes
2013.7	Iceland	Fin	Fem.	68 feet English	17 Sept. 2013	Lactating	Whale caught at 66°23'N, 26°27'W. No calf was seen	None	Yes
2013.8	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	5m	20 Jan. 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	The violators were on board a rubber boat with an unknown person in waters 1 mile east of Gugye port, Yeongduk-gun, Gyeongsangbuk-do at 09:46p.m. 20 Jan 2013, and were alleged to tranship 89 bags of minke whale and 11 pieces of whale meat from <i>Taekyung</i> (6.07 ton, a gill net) and then transport them to the port of Gugye.	Total: 2 violators 1 violator: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 1 violator: monetary penalty (US\$ 5,000) Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
2013.9	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	Unk.	Feb. 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	A bottom trawler embarked from Gampo port on 20 Feb 2013. When trawling began at 05:00a.m. at the point of Fix 35-41N 129-40E (in waters ~10 miles east of Wolseong Nuclear Power Plant), the vessel hauled its fishing net at 07:50a.m. and obtained a minke whale carcass with its head and flesh removed. The vessel called at the port of Gampo and reported the fact later that day.	Suspension prosecution The carcass and some remaining meat was confiscated.	Yes

Ref.	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify)	Explanation	Penalty/Action	Investigatn. complete?
2013.10	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	5m	1 June 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	On 1 June 2013, the violators fired a wired-harpoon into a minke whale swimming in waters 13 miles east of Wolpo, Cheongha-myeon, Buk-gu, Pohang-si. After following the whale until it died, they lifted the carcass and dismembered it.	Total: five violators 3 violators: 8 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 2 violators: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
2013.11	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	Unk.	21 July 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	On 21 July 2013, the violator received ~30 bags of illegally caught and dismembered whale meat from an unknown vessel at 5-6:00p.m. near a breakwater at the Daebo 1-ri port, Daebo-ri, Homigot-myeon, Nam-gu, Pohang-si and transported them to Guryongpo, Namgu, Pohang-si by truck.	Total: one violator 1 violator: 8 months imprisonment and 2 years probation Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
2013.12	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	5.5m	27 Aug. 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	The violators harpooned a minke whale at around 11:30 a.m. in waters ~13 miles northeast of Daebo port, Daebo-ri, Homigot-myeon, Nam-gu, Pohang-si. The whale was dismembered and the meat put into bags and hidden in the sea with buoys attached.	Total: nine violators 3 violators: 8 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 2 violators: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 2 violators: monetary penalty (US\$ 7,000) 2 violators: monetary penalty (US\$ 4,000) Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
2013.13	Korea	Minke (3)	Unk.	Unk.	5 Aug. 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	At about 4:00 p.m. on 5 Aug. 2013 the violator lifted 124 bags of dismembered minke whale meat (suspected to be 3 minke whales) which had been hidden at sea ~14 miles east of Chilpo Quay, Chilpo-ri Heunghae-eup, Pohang-si. At 5:00 p.m. the same day, a vessel called at the quay carrying the bags and the violator was arrested.	Total: one violator 1 violator: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
2013.14	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	5m	22 Aug. 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	At 3:00 p.m. on 22 Aug. 2013 the violators harpooned a minke whale swimming in waters ~15 miles east of Chuksan-myeon, Yeongduk-gun and dismembered it. Later the same day, they transhipped the carcass to another man in a rubber boat in waters ~8 miles north of Daebo-ri.	Total: 2 violators 1 violator: monetary penalty (US\$ 8,000) 1 violator: monetary penalty (US\$ 3,000) Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
2013.15	Korea	Minke (2)	Unk.	Unk.	10 Sep. 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	At 10:40 a.m. on 10 September 2013, the violators lifted and stored 74 bags of minke whale which had been illegally caught and dismembered by an unknown vessel in the East Sea. The vessel had put the carcass into net bags and sacks and hidden them in the sea with buoys attached.	Total: 2 violators 1 violator: 8 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 1 violator: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes

Ref.	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify)	Explanation	Penalty/Action	Investigatn. complete?
2013.16	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	Unk.	22 Aug. 2013	No Quota (Illegal catch)	At 5:20a.m. on 22 August 2013, a dead minke whale was discovered floating in waters ~5 miles southeast of Galnam port Wondeok-eup, Samcheok-si, Gangwon-do. The carcass was tied to a vessel which called at the port of Jangho at around 6:30 on the same day and reported it to the police. Inspection found signs of whale hunting on the head of the carcass.	No sign of infraction was found from the reporter. Difficult to specify vessel suspected of hunting the whale (internal investigation completed)	Yes

The USA also reported that a small whale (8.33 m) was taken in Nuiqsut on 13 Sept 2013 and originally reported as a calf. Based on the original report, the AEWB Board of Commissioners imposed a fine of \$2,500 on the captain. Hunting rights for the captain and crew were suspended for two seasons, and the captain was denied the right to take credit for sharing the whale with the community. Following the decision, baleen from the whale was inspected by scientists from the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife Management and found to be larger than baleen normally found in a calf. With this information, and evidence that baleen length is the best indicator of whether a whale is a calf, the Board of Commissioners reversed its previous findings, determined that no infraction had occurred, and withdrew the fine and other penalties. *Not formally infractions of the IWC but of national authorities; information on these have been traditionally reported in previous years.

Table 3. List of unresolved or previously unreported infractions from earlier seasons and follow-up actions.

Ref.	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify)	Explanation	Penalty/Action	Investigatn. complete?
2011.7	Korea	Minke (1)	Unk.	5m	16 May 2011	No Quota (Illegal catch)	A vessel operating in the area of Song-do Port, Boryoung, in Chungnam province from April 15 for the purpose of catching minke whales illegally, caught one minke whale with a harpoon in coastal waters ~23miles from Gunsan.	Total: six violators 3 violators: 8 months imprisonment and 2 years probation 3 violators: 6 months imprisonment and 2 years probation	Yes