

SUMMARY OF INFRACTIONS REPORTS RECEIVED BY THE COMMISSION FOR 2014 AND 2015

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/66/Rep 1 (2015) and (2016)). The data for commercial catches and other infractions are summarised in tables 1c-d.

Table 2 gives details of the infractions reported in the 2014 and 2015 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 2014 season.

Country	Species	Males	Females	Total landed	Struck and lost	Total Strikes	Infractions / Comments
Denmark							
West Greenland	Fin	6	5	11	1	12	None
Greenland	Minke	27	115	144 ¹	2	146	None
	Humpback	2	4	6	1	7	None
East Greenland	Minke	1	9	11 ²	0	11	None
St Vincent and The Grenadines							
	Humpback	0	0	0	2	2	None
USA							
	Bowhead	19	18	38 ²	15	53	None
Russian Federation							
	Gray	42	80	122	2	124	None

Table 1b. Summary of Aboriginal subsistence catches and infractions reported for the 2015 season.

Country	Species	Males	Females	Total landed	Struck and lost	Total Strikes	Infractions / Comments
Denmark							
West Greenland	Fin	2	8	10	2	12	None
Greenland	Minke	26	101	130 ³	3	133	None
	Humpback	2	4	6	0	6	None
	Bowhead	0	1	1	0	1	None
East Greenland	Minke	0	6	6	0	6	None
St Vincent and The Grenadines							
	Humpback	1	0	1	0	1	None
USA							
	Bowhead	20	19	39	10	49	1 (Infraction 2015.1)
Russian Federation							
	Gray	49	75	124 ⁴	1	125	None

¹ Includes 2 whales of unknown sex

² Includes 1 whale of unknown sex

³ Includes 3 whales of unknown sex

⁴ Includes 1 whale that was inedible due to strong chemical smell

Table 1c. Summary of Commercial catches and any infractions reported for the 2014 season.

Nation	Species	Males	Females	Total Landed	Lost	Total	Infractions / Comments
ICELAND							
	Fin	81	53	134	3	137	None (see note ⁵)
	Minke	16	7	23	1	24	None
NORWAY							
	Minke	235	494	731 ⁶	5	736	None
REPUBLIC OF KOREA							
	Minke					11	11 (Infractions 2014.1-11)

Table 1d. Summary of Commercial catches and any infractions reported for the 2015 season.

Nation	Species	Males	Females	Total Landed	Lost	Total	Infractions/ Comments
ICELAND							
	Fin	87	67	154	1	155	None
	Minke	21	8	29	0	29	None
NORWAY							
	Minke	159	501	660	0	660	None
REPUBLIC OF KOREA (see ⁷)							
	Minke					14	14 (Infractions 2015.3-16)
	Right whale					1	1 (Infraction 2015.17)
	Unidentified					1	1 (Infraction 2015.2)

⁵ The catch included a lactating whale but it was not accompanied by a calf and could not be identified as such until after it was caught. Hence it is not reported as an infraction.

⁶ Includes 2 whales of unknown sex

⁷ Korea also reports that 23 porpoises were taken illegally

Table 2a. List of infractions from the 2014 season

No. 2014-	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify) ¹	Explanation ²	Penalty/Action ³	Investigatn. complete?
1	Korea	Minke whale (1)	Unk.	Unk.	11 Nov. 2014	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	On 11 Nov 2014 ~12:20 a Minke whale was seen 6 miles east of Samcheok Port. The violators harpooned the whale which died from blood loss. A vessel waiting nearby dismembered and transported the whale.	Total : Eight violators - 2 violators: 8-month imprisonment - 2 violators: 7-month imprisonment, 2-year probation - 2 violators: monetary penalty(KRW 5 million) - 1 violators: monetary penalty(KRW 3 million)	Yes
2	Korea	Minke whale (1)	Unk.	Unk	27 Jan. 2014	No Quota (Illegal Catch and transportation)	On 27 Jan 2014 ~12:00 the suspected ship, <i>Chilsan</i> , departed from Yeonggwang for gray mullet. On the same day ~16:00 at the southeast from Ahnma-do, an unidentified fishing vessel in preparation for fishing operation suddenly approached and asked for the destination. After identifying the destination as Jeollanam-do, Yeonggwang-gun, Yeomsan-myun, Weolpyung, they handed over one mobile phone and ~50 sacks onto the <i>Chilsan</i> and stated that a car will approach on entry into the port and hand over KRW 3 million. Thus, while transporting the 50 sacks, the ship got caught in a fishing net then they disposed the sacks.	Total : Two violators - 1 violator: monetary penalty(KRW 5 million) - 1 violator: prosecution suspended	Yes
3	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk.	3 Mar 2014	No Quota (Illegal Catch and Transportation)	On 3 Mar 2014 ~18:00, the captain of the ship 2011 <i>Dongjin</i> received an offer of KRW1.5 million in return for transportation by an unknown person when he was about to board the ship. He received 3 sacks of dismembered whale (approximately 500kg) in waters between Okdo-myun, Bangchook-do and Myung-do, and took them to the oil depot of National Fisheries Federation Cooperation in Gunsan-si, Bieung-do the same day. They were found on arrival when they were about to be transhipped to a 1 ton refrigerator truck and distributed.	Total : Seven violators - 1 violator: monetary penalty(KRW 3 million) - 1 violator: non-prosecution - 1 violator: monetary penalty(KRW 1 million) - 1 violator: monetary penalty(KRW 3 million) Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
4	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk.	20 May 2014	No Quota (Illegal Transportation)	On 20 May 2014 ~00:20, at the Yamido dock of Okdo-myun, Yamido-ri, chief Yamido branch officer identified ship <i>Youngjin</i> unloading products which he assumed to be an illegal catch from a refrigerator. The ship was arrested at once while transferring dismembered whale (approximately 1,500 kg) from a refrigerator truck.	- 1 violator: 6-month imprisonment, 1-year probation Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes
5	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk (Dismembered)	20 Mar 2014	No Quota (Illegal Transportation and Storage)	On 20 Mar 2014 ~03:00, on the road near Gyeongju-si, Angang-eup, Nodang-ri, a violator was approached by an unknown person transporting an illegal Minke whale on a ton porter vehicle, and moved it to a rented workplace in 496 Nodang-ri, Angang-eup, for dismemberment. 93 sacks of illegally captured and dismembered whale meat were	Total : Four violators - Two violators : on trial - Two violators : non-prosecution (lack of evidence)	No

No. 2014-	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify) ¹	Explanation ²	Penalty/Action ³	Investigatn. complete?
							handed over and stored.		
6	Korea	Minke whales (1)	Unk.	4.5m	1 Apr 2014	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	On 1 Apr 2014, ship 205 <i>Gwangsung</i> departed Yangpo port and on 3 Apr, ~13:30, a Minke whale was found caught in the line while hauling up the fishing trap set on an unidentified date. The whale was raised and then reported to Yangpo branch office.	Non-prosecution (stay of prosecution) Suspect unidentified	Yes
7	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk	27 Jun 2014	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	On 27 Jun 2014, ~19:50, at sea 2 miles east from Pohang-si, Songra-myun, Hwajin-ri, a violator was caught while pulling up 3 nets of whale meat from a signal buoy. An unknown person informed on him.	- 1 violator: monetary penalty (KRW 5 million)	Yes
8	Korea	Minke whales (1)	Unk.	6m	21 Jul. 2014	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	On 21 Jul 2014, ~07:00, at Chuksan port of Gyeongbuk, Yeongdeok-gun, Chuksan-myeon, a captain departed for illegal snow crab fishing boat observation. On the same day, around 10:50, a dead Minke whale caught using a harpoon was found and reported.	Non-prosecution (prosecution suspended) Suspect unidentified	Yes
9	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk.	21 Aug. 2014	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	On 21 Aug 2014, ~12:00, at sea about 14 miles northeast from Jukbyun port of Uljin-gun, Jukbyun-myeon, ship 212 <i>Hochang</i> (57ton, Jukbyun vessel, trawler, 10 crew on board) in operation detected a piece of meat (length 110cm, circumference 140cm) which was assumed to be a Minke whale when hauling the net, and reported it to the Jukbyun police substation.	Conclusion of examination Suspect unidentified	Yes
10	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk.	28 Sep. 2014	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	On 28 Sep 2014, ~11:00, at Chiksan port of Uljin-gun, Pyeonghae-eop, the violators boarded the ship <i>Haeju</i> (4.91 ton) for an unknown sea where they caught a Minke whale, dismembered it on board, put the meat into sacks and concealed them under water near the seawall of Uljin-gun, Pyeonghae-eop, Jiksan-ri. (14 net sacks of whale meat found)	- Three violators : on trial	No
11	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk.	20 Oct. 2014	No Quota (Illegal Transportation and Storage)	On an unknown date, an unknown ship caught a Minke whale in an illegal way not permitted by the Fishing Act, transported 20 boxes of meat to the Ilshin Machinery's cold storage area and stored them.	- Two violators : on trial - One violator: non-prosecution (lack of evidence)	No

Table 2b. List of infractions from the 2015 season.

No. 2015-	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify) ¹	Explanation ²	Penalty/Action ³	Investigation complete? ⁴
1	USA	Balaena mysticetus	F	5.7m	5 May 16	Calf	A very experienced crew inadvertently struck a calf, having incorrectly identified it as a larger whale.	The AEWG staff and Board of Commissioners conducted an investigation of the incident and held a hearing to take testimony from the captain and crew. Under the circumstances, including recognition of the fact that this experienced captain had never before committed an infraction, it was determined that a warning would be issued but no penalty would be imposed.	Yes
2	Korea	Unidentified	Unk.	Unk.	13 Jan. 2015	No Quota (Illegal Transportation)	On 13 Jan 2015 at 5:00 pm the violators departed from a port in Eocheong Island (Okdo-myeon, Gunsan city) on board the vessel <i>Changshin</i> in order to transport illegally captured whales. The <i>Changshin</i> was moored with another whaler (7 tons, no other details) 0.5 miles northeast of Eocheong Island at 8:00 pm. The two violators illegally captured and dismembered a whale, and were arrested 0.5 miles north of Hyeonggyeongdo (Okdo-myeon) at 11:30 pm.	Total : Two violators - 1 violator: monetary penalty (US\$5 thousand) - 1 violator: prosecution suspended Dismembered whale meat: confiscated	Yes (Gusan Police office)
3	Korea	Minke whale (1)	Unk.	4.6m	21 Feb. 2015	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	It was reported as follows: When hauling a set net at a point about two miles east of Osan Port at 4:10 am on 21 Feb 2015, the violators found a live minke whale entangled in the net. They tied a rope to the whale's tail and kept it hanging upside down with its head and blowhole submerged under the sea. By doing so, they let whale die and illegally captured it.	Total : Three violators - 3 Violators : non-prosecution (lack of evidence)	Yes (Pohang Police office)
4	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk	10 June 2015	No Quota (Illegal Transportation and Storage)	After plotting in advance, the violator received about 68 bags of illegally caught whale meat (1,100kg) from an unknown vessel on 10 June 2015 at a prearranged place. On the same date, the vessel was detected by police officers while mooring at Hajeong 3-ri Port (Guryongpo-eup, Nam-gu Pohang-si) at 3:50 p.m. and the violators ran away abandoning the vessel.	Total : Seven violators - 5 violators: on trial - 1 violator : non-prosecution (suspension of prosecution) - 1 violator: non-prosecution (lack of evidence)	No (Pohang Police office)
5	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk.	24 Aug. 2015	No Quota (Illegal Transportation & Storage)	Upon proposal by an unknown person to transport whale meat, the violator went on board the vessel <i>Biyong</i> at Jigyeong Port at 2:00 pm on 23 Aug 2015. The vessel received 40 bags of dismembered whale meat at a point twelve miles east of Jigyeong Port.	Total : Three violators Three violators: on trial	No (Pohang Police office)

6-9	Korea	Minke whales (4) & porpoise (23)	Unk.	1*6.3 m Others: unk.	2 April 2015	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	In the period from early Nov. 2014 to late April 2015, four minke whales and 23 porpoise (total of 27) had been captured.	Total : Eight violators - 1 violator: 10-month imprisonment, monetary penalty (US\$ 3 thousand) - 1 violator : 6-month imprisonment, monetary penalty (US\$ 1 thousand) - 1 violator : 6-month imprisonment, monetary penalty (US\$ 2 thousand) - 2 violators : monetary penalty (US\$ 4 thousand) - 1 violator : 6-mth imprisonment, monetary penalty (US\$ 1 thousand) -1 violator: 6mth imprisonment, 2yr probation monetary penalty (US\$ 1 thousand) - 1 violator : non-prosecution (lack of evidence)	Yes (Ulsan Police office)
10-13	Korea	Minke whales (4)	Unk.	Unk.	25 April 2015	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	In February 2015, a minke whale was captured in the waters off Jeollanam-do. In April 2015, three minke whales were captured in the East Sea.	On trial	No (Ulsan Police office)
14	Korea	Minke whale (1)	Unk.	Unk.	29 May 2015	No Quota (Illegal Catch)	A minke whale swimming in the coastal sea of Dong-gu, Ulsan was captured illegally.	On trial	No (Ulsan Police office)
15	Korea	Minke whale	Unk.	Unk.	16 June 2015	No Quota (Illegal transportation)	Violators were prompted by unknown person(s) to transport illegally captured and dismembered whale meat to land in return for KRW 3.5 million. At 5:00 pm on 16 June 2015, the violators received 34 bags of illegally captured and dismembered minke whale meat (340.2 kg, confiscated) from the captain of unknown illegal whaler in waters near Songi Island (Yeonggwang-gun, Jeollanam-do) and retained them on board. They were alleged to take the meat to waters 1.5 miles from Songseok-ri, Muan-gun Jeollanam-do at 00:17 am on 17 June 2015.	Total : Three violators - 1 violator: monetary penalty US\$ 5 thousand Proceeds from sale of whale meat: confiscated (sentence handed down on April 12 / not yet finalized) - 2 violators :non-prosecution	No (Mokpo Police office)
16-17	Korea	Minke whale (1) & Right Whale (1)	Unk.	Unk.	19 Oct. 2015	No Quota (Illegal Catch and transportation)	Violators were arrested while transporting illegally captured and dismembered whales by a leisure boat in the coastal waters of Ilsan-dong, Dong-gu, Ulsan. The whaler(s) is being traced.	Total : Seventeen violators - 1 violator : 8-month imprisonment - 16 violators : under investigation	No (Ulsan Police office)

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

Year & No.	Nation	Species	Sex	Length	Date	Infraction (specify) ¹	Explanation ²	Penalty/Action ³	Investigation complete? ⁴
2012-1	Denmark (Greenland)	Humpback whale	Female	14 m	7/11 2012	Killing method, use of cold harpoon	Ilulissat (West Greenland). Report from regional Wildlife Officer on killing method (cold harpoon) used for secondary killing.	Reported to the Police. Investigation stopped, expired	Stopped.