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2018 Atlantic Large Whale Entanglement Report

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2018 Atlantic Large Whale Entanglement Report

This report summarizes large whale entanglement reports for the Atlantic coast that were reported to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) during 2018. Only those animals observed with rope or gear present during the report for the first time in the calendar year of 2018 are included. Entanglements documented in earlier years but observed and reported again in 2018 are not included. Whales that were documented with entanglement trauma but have no remaining gear present are not included in this report. Reported entanglement incidents summarized in this report include mortalities, serious injuries, and less serious incidents. As entanglement incidents are not always observed and reported, reported incidents should be considered the minimum number of entanglements that occurred in 2018.

Table 1. Reported 2018 Atlantic large whale entanglement.

Indication of Entanglement*

	Live	Dead	Total
Right Whale	5	1	6
Humpback Whale	30	3	33
Finback Whale	0	0	0
Minke Whale	4	4	8
Sei Whale	0	1	1
Unknown	0	0	0
TOTAL	39	9	48

* “Indication of Entanglement” includes cases where one or more of the following applies:

- Gear or line was reported on a whale by a reliable observer.
- Gear or line was photo-documented on a whale.
- Gear or line was retrieved from a whale.
- Gear or line was reported on a whale by an inexperienced observer who was interviewed by National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries), Center for Coastal Studies (CCS) staff or other Atlantic Large Whale Disentanglement Network experienced responders and the account was descriptive enough to eliminate doubt about whether or not the whale was entangled.

Wounds, condition, and NOAA Fisheries serious injury and mortality determination

Descriptions of wounds and condition in this report were based on the preliminary information at the time the event is reported to NMFS. All entanglement cases may be updated with new information subsequent to production of this report that may alter any determination, status or sighting information.

Analysis of data and final classifications are undertaken separately as part of the serious injury and mortality determinations done by NOAA Fisheries Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC)¹. Whales not deemed to have a serious injury or mortality by the NEFSC are categorized in this report as having a human-induced injury. Animals that have no gear documented or witnessed, with a Cause of Death or injuries determined to be entanglement, will not be listed in this report but rather in the NEFSC Mortality and Serious Injury report. The NEFSC “Serious injury and mortality determinations for baleen whale stocks along the Gulf of Mexico, United States East Coast and Atlantic Canadian Provinces, 2014-2018” report is available online: <https://apps-nefsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/rcb/publications/> Stock assessment reports that summarize the full status of a species are also available on our website: <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/marine-mammal-protection/marine-mammal-stock-assessments>

Notes:

- Entanglement case information within this report has been compiled from numerous resources including U.S. and Canadian federal governments, U.S. state agencies, and U.S. and Canadian partners within the Atlantic Large Whale Disentanglement Network (ALWDN). The reports contain all known U.S. east coast-wide large whale entanglement data, including animals that fall under U.S. protection but were outside U.S. borders (e.g. all North Atlantic right whales, humpback or finback whales that are known to reside in U.S. waters, any case where U.S. gear was positively identified).
- The presence or absence of line is difficult to determine in monofilament cases. The first entangled and gear-free sighting for monofilament cases should not be taken as definitive assessment of presence or lack of monofilament line due to environmental conditions, lighting, and animal behavior, which can make detectability of line difficult.
- Subsequent status definitions:
 - Entangled = animal was last seen with an entanglement that may or may not be life-threatening;
 - Gear shed = animal shed the entangling gear on its own without human intervention;
 - Disentangled – gear free = animal had all gear completely removed by disentanglement network responders;
 - Disentangled – gear shed = animal had all life-threatening gear removed by disentanglement network responders, but some non-life threatening gear remained and was later shed by the whale;
 - Disentangled – monitor = animal had all life-threatening gear removed with some non-life threatening gear remaining that is expected to be shed.
 - Monitor – animal has some gear present that is believed to be non-life threatening and will continued to be monitored in case the entanglement configuration changes negatively or the health declines which would trigger a disentanglement effort.
- NOAA staff analyzes recovered gear and/or interviews owners, when possible. All gear analysis is quantitative in nature and any qualitative information is outside the scope of this report. Target species, when noted, is based on owner interviews or gear determination.
- Location first observed is where the entangled whale was first sighted, not necessarily where the whale first became entangled.
- Some minor data points, such as date the recovered gear was delivered to NOAA Fisheries, were not available due to COVID-19 office access restrictions.

¹ Henry AG, Garron M, Morin D, Smith A, Reid A, Ledwell W, Cole TVN. 2021. Serious injury and mortality determinations for baleen whale stocks along the Gulf of Mexico, United States East Coast, and Atlantic Canadian Provinces, 2014-2018. US Dept Commer, Northeast Fish Sci Cent Ref Doc. 21-07; 56 p

Acknowledgements:

- New England Aquarium and the Right Whale Consortium provide sighting and life history information for right whales.
- Demography and sighting information for humpback whales is provided by CCS, with contributions from 7 Seas Whale Watch, Blue Ocean Society, Boston Harbor Cruises, Brier Island Whale and Seabird Cruises, Dolphin Fleet, FWC. GA DNR, Gotham Whale, and Whale and Dolphin Conservation. Please contact Jooke Robbins of CCS for more information.
- CCS compiles thousands of photographs from numerous whale watch companies and ALWDN partners for these determinations. We are grateful for their analysis and contribution to this report.
- Scott Landry of CCS supplied the entanglement diagrams.
- Many thanks to numerous NOAA Fisheries staff and the GARFO policy series editors that offered helpful comments.

Table 2. Key for common acronyms

ALWDN	Atlantic Large Whale Disentanglement Network
AMAPPS	Atlantic Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species
AMCS	Atlantic Marine Conservation Society
BOS	Blue Ocean Society
CCS	Center for Coastal Studies, MA
COA	College of the Atlantic, ME
CWI	Canadian Whale Institute (Canada)
CWR	Campobello Whale Rescue (Canada)
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans (Canada)
ECE	East Coast Ecosystems (Canada)
FWC	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
GA DNR	Georgia Department of Natural Resources
GMWSRS	Grand Manan Whale and Seabird Research Station (Canada)
IFAW	International Fund for Animal Welfare
MA DMF	Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
MARS	Marine Animal Rescue Society (Canada)
MD DNR	Maryland Department of Natural Resources
ME DMR	Maine Department of Marine Resources
MEP	Massachusetts Environmental Police
MICS	Mingan Island Cetacean Society
MMoME	Marine Mammals of Maine
MMP	Maine Marine Patrol
MMSC	Marine Mammal Stranding Center, NJ
NAB	National Aquarium in Baltimore, MD
NEAq	New England Aquarium Right Whale Research Team, MA
NEFSC	NOAA Fisheries Protected Species Branch, Northeast Fisheries Science Center
NLWRS	Newfoundland and Labrador Whale Release and Strandings (Canada)
NMFS	NOAA Fisheries
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
OLE	Office of Law Enforcement
RI DEM	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
RIEP	Rhode Island Environmental Police
SAG	Surface Active Group
SBNMS	Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, MA
SC DNR	South Carolina Department of Natural Resources
SEFSC	NOAA Fisheries Southeast Fisheries Science Center
UNC-W	University of North Carolina, Wilmington
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VAq	Virginia Aquarium
WHOI	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, MA
WW	Whale Watch

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Table 3. Atlantic entanglement summary for 2018 confirmed cases. Continued on next page

Entanglement Report Number	Species	Date of First Observation	Dead/Alive	SI Determination	Gear Collected	Type of Gear	Gear Part ID
E01-18	Right	1/22/2018	Dead	SI	Yes	Canadian snow crab	S, V
E02-18	Sei	3/12/2018	Dead	SI	No	Unknown	U
E03-18	Humpback	4/22/2018	Alive	Non-SI	Yes	U.S. lobster	S, V
E04-18	Right	5/12/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. unknown	S, V
E05-18	Humpback	6/20/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	Unknown	U
E06-18	Humpback	6/21/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E07-18	Minke	6/22/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	Unknown	B, V
E08-18	Minke	6/24/2018	Dead	SI	Yes	Unknown gillnet	N
E09-18	Minke	7/07/2018	Dead	SI	No	U.S. lobster	B, V
E10-18	Right	7/13/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	Canadian unknown	U
E11-18	Humpback	7/14/2018	Alive	Non-SI	Unknown	Canadian unknown	U
E12-18	Humpback	7/14/2018	Alive	SI	Yes	U.S. unknown trap/pot	B, T, V
E13-18	Humpback	7/14/2018	Alive	SI	No	Unknown	U
E14-18	Humpback	7/20/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E15-18	Humpback	7/20/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M

Table 3 notes – Dead/Alive column represents the latest known status as of the writing of this report. SI determination: SI = Serious injury or mortality was determined to be the primary cause from entanglement; Non-SI = No serious injury or mortality caused by the entanglement; SI (PR) = insufficient information available to make an informed determination, prorated value of 0.75. Refer to <https://apps-nefsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/rcb/publications/> for more information regarding determination definitions. Abbreviations within the Gear part ID: V = Vertical/End Line; B= Single Buoy; S = Surface System (multiple buoys); G = Ground Line; N = Gillnet/Mesh; T = Trap/Pot; M = Monofilament Line; U = Unknown, gear type or gear part could not be determined; N/A = Not applicable, no gear was analyzed. Any combination of codes is possible although each code will only be listed once, regardless if different types of gear were involved. This column may not represent all portions of the true initial entanglement as gear could have been shed before the first observation. Gear portions identified may not represent the section that initially caused the entanglement.

Table 3 continued. Atlantic entanglement summary for 2018 confirmed cases.

Entanglement Report Number	Species	Date of First Observation	Dead/ Alive	SI Determination	Gear Collected	Type of Gear	Gear Part ID
E16-18	Humpback	7/20/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E17-18	Humpback	7/21/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E18-18	Humpback	7/26/2018	Dead	SI	Yes	Unknown	U
E19-18	Humpback	7/30/2018	Alive	SI	No	Unknown	U
E20-18	Right	7/30/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	Yes	Unknown	S, V
E21-18	Humpback	7/30/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	Yes	U.S. anchor system	N/A
E22-18	Humpback	8/01/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E23-18	Humpback	8/03/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	Canadian unknown	U
E24-18	Minke	8/04/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. lobster	B, V
E25-18	Humpback	8/05/2018	Alive	SI	No	Unknown	U
E26-18	Humpback	8/06/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	Unknown	U
E27-18	Humpback	8/07/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E28-18	Humpback	8/09/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E29-18	Humpback	8/17/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E30-18	Right	8/20/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	Canadian unknown	S, U
E31-18	Humpback	8/27/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	Unknown monofilament	M
E32-18	Minke	8/29/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	Unknown	B, V

Table 3 notes – Dead/Alive column represents the latest known status as of the writing of this report. SI determination: SI = Serious injury or mortality was determined to be the primary cause from entanglement; Non-SI = No serious injury or mortality caused by the entanglement; SI (PR) = insufficient information available to make an informed determination, prorated value of 0.75. Refer to <https://apps-nefsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/rcb/publications/> for more information regarding determination definitions. Abbreviations within the Gear part ID: V = Vertical/End Line; B= Single Buoy; S = Surface System (multiple buoys); G = Ground Line; N = Gillnet/Mesh; T = Trap/Pot; M = Monofilament Line; U = Unknown, gear type or gear part could not be determined; N/A = Not applicable, no gear was analyzed. Any combination of codes is possible although each code will only be listed once, regardless if different types of gear were involved. This column may not represent all portions of the true initial entanglement as gear could have been shed before the first observation. Gear portions identified may not represent the section that initially caused the entanglement.

Table 3 continued. Atlantic entanglement summary for 2018 confirmed cases.

Entanglement Report Number	Species	Date of First Observation	Dead/ Alive	SI Determination	Gear Collected	Type of Gear	Gear Part ID
E33-18	Humpback	8/29/2018	Dead	SI	Yes	U.S. bait gillnet	N
E34-18	Minke	8/29/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. unknown	B, V
E35-18	Humpback	9/01/2018	Alive	Non-SI	Yes	U.S. lobster	S, V
E36-18	Humpback	9/02/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E37-18	Humpback	9/03/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	U.S. monofilament	M
E38-18	Humpback	9/07/2018	Dead	SI	Unknown	Unknown trap/pot	T, U
E39-18	Humpback	9/08/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	Unknown	B, V
E40-18	Humpback	9/14/2018	Alive	Non-SI	Yes	U.S. monofilament	M
E41-18	Minke	9/16/2018	Dead	SI	Yes	U.S. lobster	B, V
E42-18	Humpback	9/21/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	Unknown	S, V
E43-18	Humpback	9/23/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	Unknown	B, V
E44-18	Humpback	9/23/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	Unknown	S, V
E45-18	Humpback	9/29/2018	Alive	Non-SI	No	Unknown	B, V
E46-18	Minke	11/07/2018	Dead	SI	Yes	Unknown mesh	N
E47-18	Humpback	12/13/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	Unknown	Unknown	U
E48-18	Right	12/20/2018	Alive	SI (PR)	No	Unknown	U

Table 3 notes – Dead/Alive column represents the latest known status as of the writing of this report. SI determination: SI = Serious injury or mortality was determined to be the primary cause from entanglement; Non-SI = No serious injury or mortality caused by the entanglement; SI (PR) = insufficient information available to make an informed determination, prorated value of 0.75. Refer to <https://apps-nefsc.fisheries.noaa.gov/rcb/publications/> for more information regarding determination definitions. Abbreviations within the Gear part ID: V = Vertical/End Line; B= Single Buoy; S = Surface System (multiple buoys); G = Ground Line; N = Gillnet/Mesh; T = Trap/Pot; M = Monofilament Line; U = Unknown, gear type or gear part could not be determined; N/A = Not applicable, no gear was analyzed. Any combination of codes is possible although each code will only be listed once, regardless if different types of gear were involved. This column may not represent all portions of the true initial entanglement as gear could have been shed before the first observation. Gear portions identified may not represent the section that initially caused the entanglement.

2018 Entanglements

NMFS No.	E01-18
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	1/22/2018
Species	Right
Individual ID	#3893
Location First Observed Entangled	55 NM E of Virginia Beach, VA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	36° 42.2'N 74° 51.0'W
Event Description	The moderately decomposed whale was discovered and reported by a commercial fisherman. An at sea response was conducted 4 days later to retrieve the carcass and some gear was removed for fear of losing evidence during towing. A full necropsy was conducted six days later after the initial sighting and all gear was retrieved.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Multiple wraps in the mouth and embedded within the baleen along with numerous wraps on one flipper.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	Significant embedded entanglement trauma on flipper along with the line in mouth. Multiple entanglement trauma sites on head and in mouth.
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Moderately decomposed with significant body lice coverage suggesting long term health issues. Significant entanglement trauma on flipper
B. Subsequent Descriptions	
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	7/29/2017
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E01-18		
Field No.	PR 12218 Eg	Date First Observed	1/22/2018
Location First Observed	55 NM E of Virginia Beach, VA 36° 42.2'N, 74° 51.0'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	#3893	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	1/26/2018 & 1/28/2018	Gear Retrieved By	VAQS
Date Gear Received	2/05/2018	Received From	VAQS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Consistent with Canadian snow crab trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab

Gear Description: Three portions of gear were removed and analyzed. The gear removed on January 26th was labeled “Line cut at sea”. Approximately 82’ of aqua line with yellow tracer. At ~82’ the line changes from aqua colored line with yellow tracers to aqua colored line with black tracers. This portion of the line has a lead line in it. There is a partial relatively small diameter polyball, blue and orange, with no identifying marks. The line tied into the polyball is the aqua colored line with black tracers (w/lead line) – The line was a major cluster, entangled with what appear to be several knots. The aqua/black tracer portion of the line was extremely frayed, and appears to be almost parted in several spots. There is a piece of coated multi-strand braided wire that was recovered in this section.

Gear recovered on January 28th came in two samples. Gear labeled as “Flipper line” was ~125’ of 5/8” aqua with yellow tracer line. The second sample was labeled “Head line” which was 64’ of 5/8” aqua with yellow tracer line. This line was embedded in the baleen.

Comments: The gear had no identifying marks and has unique physical properties that do not coincide with any known U.S. permitted east coast fishery. These unique physical properties are consistent with other gear from a different entangled whale case (a humpback whale in 2017) that has been recovered and identified as Canadian snow crab.

Unique properties: A 3 strand “lead” line, where one of the three strands has a lead bead chain woven through its entire length, making the line a sinking line. This three strand lead line is spliced to a non-lead three strand line using a specific and unique splice which is tapered over a 3 to 4 foot run of the line. At the point of this splice connection, the manufacturer’s colored tracer in each of the two lines is tied together and tucked into the lay of the line. This specific and unique splice may be a manufacturer’s splice or a splice made by fishermen.

<u>Conclusions:</u> The gear is consistent with a portion of a Canadian snow crab set.	
Current Location of Gear	NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI

NMFS No.	E02-18
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	3/12/2018
Species	Sei
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	Marathon Key, FL
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	24° 42.8'N 81° 06.5'W
Event Description	A member of the public reported the moderately decomposed carcass rolling around in the surf. A partial necropsy was performed and then the carcass was towed offshore and released. The line that was present at the initial sighting was no longer present during the examination two days later.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Lodged line was visible in the baleen.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	The whale was emaciated with severe shark scavenging present. Entanglement trauma was visible around the head and mouth.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Juvenile; unknown sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E02-18		
Field No.	PR 31218 Bb	Date First Observed	3/12/2018
Location First Observed	Marathon Key, FL 24° 42.8'N, 81° 06.5'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Sei	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Other	Location	Unknown
		Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Line of unknown origin visible in photos.			
<u>Comments:</u> No line was present when the exam team arrived a few days later.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Line is of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E03-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled
Date First Observed Entangled	4/22/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Lascaux
Location First Observed Entangled	7.6 NM SW of Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 56.4'N 70° 16.8'W
Event Description	A WW vessel reported the entangled humpback whale Lascaux to CCS and stood by as a response was mounted. The whale was traveling slowly, and line could be seen coming out of the left mouth trailing back down the body to two buoys, that surfaced after the whale, suggesting to the team that there was weight fouling the line. The response team first established a work line in front of the buoys and flotation directly to the entangling gear. Shortly after, they observed what essentially was a bridle, and opted to change positions to establish the work line onto the other end of the entangling line that was under tension and aiming at the seafloor. Before leaving the whale, the team removed the fishing buoys and the original control line. While the team was back getting equipment, the whale began surging out of the water and tail slashing. The team got back to the whale and saw that the gear configuration changed, with the bridle no longer present as well as no more tension on the line aiming at the seafloor. The team added more flotation and eventually a sea anchor in an attempt to pull the line from her mouth. Eventually the line went slack as the entanglement pulled apart.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Formed a bridle. Line along the left mouth of the whale, going through the mouth, then back down the right side where it twisted back on itself near the peduncle. One end of the line trailed back to two buoys and the other end of the entangling line was under tension and aiming at the seafloor.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Agitated and tail slashing during operation
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None noted
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/29/2017

Re-sightings Post-entanglement	Yes – contact CCS
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E03-18		
Field No.	PR 42218 Mn	Date First Observed	4/22/2018
Location First Observed	7.6 NM SW of Provincetown, MA 41° 56.4'N 70° 16.8'W	Subsequent Status	Disentangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Lascaux	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	Not available	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	Not available	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. lobster trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> 1 fathom of 7/16" floating, 20 fathom of 7/16" sinking and 16 fathom of 3/8" floating line was recovered. Additionally, two 17" X 8" and one 15" X 8" buoys with ID marks were recovered with Plante 600# swivels.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> The fisherman was identified and interviewed. They fish doubles with the bottom 1/3rd float and the top 2/3rds sink line. Weak links are either hog rings or Plante fabricated. The ground line between the traps are 10 fathoms of sink line. In high current areas the fisherman does use a small toggle buoy (approximately 6" X 6") that is attached with a hog ring weak link</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was entangled in the buoy line of a double set of U.S. lobster traps.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI		

NMFS No.	E04-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear Shed
Date First Observed Entangled	5/12/2018
Species	Right
Individual ID	#4091
Location First Observed Entangled	53.7 NM SE of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 26.02'N 68° 47.57'W
Event Description	<p>5/12/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NEFSC aerial survey team found an entangled right whale, immediately reported the sighting and stood by the whale. NEAq confirmed the ID as #4091. Based on weather conditions and distance, the CCS team did not mount a response. <p>1/13/2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEAq discovered an aerial sighting during post-trip analysis. No gear was documented.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	At least one wrap of line around the right flipper and a minimum of 50ft of line in tow. A multi-colored bullet buoy is pinned close to the flipper.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	No gear present in photos.
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None Noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	5/6/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	1/13/2019
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E04-18		
Field No.	PR 51218 Eg	Date First Observed	5/12/2018
Location First Observed	53.7 NM SE of Chatham, MA 41° 26.02'N 68° 47.57'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#4091	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown U.S. gear	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation show a surface buoy and line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Pre-entanglement sighting was six days before indicating the surface system and line was of U.S. origin.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in an unknown endline and surface system of U.S. origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E05-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	6/20/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Sutures
Location First Observed Entangled	3.5 NM NW of Brier Island, NS, Canada
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	44° 19.10'N 66° 25.0'W
Event Description	<p>6/20/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A WW vessel spotted an entangled humpback and the local response teams were notified, but due to time of day, no response was mounted. <p>6/21/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The same WW vessel spotted Sutures again and no gear could be seen. The whale is presumed to have shed the gear on its own.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Blue rope exiting either side of the mouth and trailing aft of the flukes, roughly a body-length.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Raw wounds at the dorsal fin and peduncle.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/15/2017
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	Yes – contact CCS
Life History Information	Adult male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E05-18		
Field No.	PR 62018 Mn	Date First Observed	6/20/2018
Location First Observed	3.5 NM NW of Brier Island, NS, Canada 44° 19.10'N 66° 25.0'W	Subsequent Status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Sutures	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation showed blue line.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was entangled in line of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E06-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear Shed
Date First Observed Entangled	6/21/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Crinkle
Location First Observed Entangled	12.1 NM SE of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 36.01'N 69° 41.29'W
Event Description	The SBNMS tagging team documented the humpback whale, Crinkle entangled in monofilament line. The CCS team was nearby and assessed the whale shortly after the initial sighting, and no monofilament could be seen despite good views of the whale.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament, relatively thick and yellow in color, trailing from the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	6/20/18
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	Yes – contact CCS
Life History Information	Juvenile male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E06-18		
Field No.	PR 62118 Mn	Date First Observed	6/21/2018
Location First Observed	12.1 NM SE of Chatham, MA 41° 36.01'N 69° 41.29'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Crinkle	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation showed monofilament line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was sighted the previous day gear free.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was entangled in monofilament line of U.S. origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E07-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	6/22/2018
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	4.5 NM north of Grand Manan Island
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	44° 52.4' N 66° 45.5' W
Event Description	The MARS received a report of an entangled minke whale. It was reported as being anchored, but not struggling to reach the surface. CWR mounted a response. Despite their efforts in searching the area, the minke was not relocated.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Buoy under the left pectoral fin with an orange rope across the back and a buoy trailing approximately 30-40' behind the animal.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown sex and age
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E07-18		
Field No.	PR 62218 Ba	Date First Observed	6/22/2018
Location First Observed	4.5 NM north of Grand Manan Island 44°52.4' N, 66°45.5' W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was described as having a buoy under the pectoral flipper, line over the back and another buoy trailing behind the whale approximately 40'.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in one to two surface systems of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E08-18
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	6/24/2018
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	Wellfleet, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 56.04N 69° 58.74W
Event Description	IFAW responded to a report of a dead minke with apparent monofilament netting around the flukes. The team completed a necropsy on the whale the following day and concluded the mortality was associated with its entanglement.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Entanglement of red gillnet with lead and float lines wrapped around the flukes
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Deep lacerations and discoloration associated with the monofilament net cutting into the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	Necropsy revealed the entanglement severed the left dorsal tendon and artery.
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Juvenile male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E08-18		
Field No.	PR 62418 Ba	Date First Observed	6/24/2018
Location First Observed	Wellfleet, MA 41° 56.04N 69° 58.74W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	Not available	Gear Retrieved By	Not available
Date Gear Received	Not available	Received From	Not available
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown gillnet	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> 5 fathoms of 11.5" mesh. Float line is 3/8" with four traditional head rope hard floats and lead line foot rope.			
<u>Comments:</u> Net is extremely clean and new suggesting that it was never set, hauled or used. 11.5" mesh suggests monkfish or flat fish gear but ultimate origin is unknown.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in a portion of gillnet with 11.5" mesh of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI		

NMFS No.	E09-18
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	7/7/2018
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	1.6 NM east of Newcastle, NH
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	43° 03.259'N 70° 40.489'W
Event Description	<p>7/7/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Marine Mammals of Maine received a report of a dead entangled minke whale, and worked with MMP, as well as the fishermen whose gear was involved, to secure the animal and tow it to shore for examination. <p>7/9/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A necropsy was performed and the entangling gear was analyzed.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Lines wrapping around the body near the pectoral flippers and through the mouth. Two buoys present. One buoy was wrapped near the tailstock and the other buoy was floating alongside the whale attached to rope.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Line impressions and bruising across the side and through the right corner of the mouth.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	Necropsy revealed the animal to be in good condition and had been recently foraging based on stomach contents.
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Juvenile male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E09-18		
Field No.	PR 70718Ba	Date First Observed	7/7/2018
Location First Observed	1.6 NM east of Newcastle, NH 43° 03.259'N 70°40.489'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	No earlier than July 3, 2018
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	45 feet
		Bottom Type	Gravel
Gear Type:	U.S. lobster trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation shows multiple wraps of endline and surface system.			
<u>Comments:</u> Fisherman was identified, interviewed and gear was returned to them. They use 3/8" line with one endline, bottom 1/3 rd float and top 2/3 rd sink, per 6 trap trawl. Ground lines are sinking with 10 fathom spacing. Surface buoy is a single 6" X 19" with PVC spindle and plastic off the shelf 600# weak link.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale became entangled in the endline of 6 trap trawl set of U.S. lobster gear.			
Current Location of Gear	Fisherman		

NMFS No.	E10-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	7/13/2018
Species	Right
Individual ID	#3312
Location First Observed Entangled	30.7 NM northeast of Sainte-Marie - Saint-Raphael, NB, Canada
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	47° 56.22'N 63° 50.21'W
Event Description	<p>7/13/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NEFSC/DFO aerial survey team sighted right whale #3312 with gear in tow. #3312 was sighted earlier in the day with no entangling gear. No response was mounted that day but a tagging response by DFO was prepared for the following day in the event the whale was seen again. <p>7/14/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> #3312 was not relocated during a survey of the area by the aerial team.
A. During Initial Sighting	Blue/green line through the mouth and trailing aft, at least a few body lengths. One of the trailing lines may sink and the aerial team noticed what may have been floats or tackle, subsurface
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Raw rope burn across the back and peduncle. Appeared agitated, writhing at the surface and defecating.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/13/18, seen 3 hours prior gear free.
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Adult male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E10-18		
Field No.	PR 71318Eg	Date First Observed	7/13/2018
Location First Observed	30.7 NM northeast of Sainte-Marie - Saint-Raphael, NB, Canada 47° 56.22'N 63° 50.21'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#3312	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown Canadian gear	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was seen 3 hours prior gear free indicating the whale was entangled in Canadian gear.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in Canadian gear of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E11-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled
Date First Observed Entangled	7/14/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	2018 calf of Pierce
Location First Observed Entangled	3.6 NM north of Brier Island, NS, Canada
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	44° 20.74'N 66° 22.05'W
Event Description	<p>7/14/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Brier Island Whale and Seabird Group observed an entangled humpback whale calf traveling with its mother and another adult. The vessel stood by while CWR and the Canadian Coast Guard mounted a response. Its mother stayed close while the team made a series of cuts to free the whale, but likely left short bits of line in the baleen that should be shed quickly. <p>7/20/2018 & 8/21/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The calf was re-sighted and no gear could be seen.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Moderately thick blue line wrapped a few times around the head and likely through the mouth.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	No rope was observed in the calf's mouth during re-sightings.
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Appeared to be in good condition.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None noted
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/13/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	7/20/2018 and 8/21/2018
Life History Information	Calf, unknown sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E11-18	Date First Observed	7/14/2018
Field No.	PR 71418 Mn		
Location First Observed	3.6 NM north of Brier Island, NS, Canada 44° 20.74'N 66° 22.05'W	Subsequent Status	Disentangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Not available
Individual ID	2018 calf of Pierce	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	Not available	Gear Retrieved By	Not available
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown Canadian gear	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation shows blue line around the head.			
<u>Comments:</u> Pre-entanglement sighting was the previous day, July 13 th , indicating Canadian gear.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Documentation shows blue line of Canadian origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E12-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled - Monitor
Date First Observed Entangled	7/14/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	2017 calf of Rapier
Location First Observed Entangled	5.8 NM west of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 04.39'N 70° 22.47'W
Event Description	A WW vessel discovered the entangled whale and stood by before passing it off to another WW vessel while CCS mounted a response. The CCS team grappled the trailing gear to establish a control line with a buoy, and began cleaning up the trailing line and attaching buoys to gear. After a number of cuts were made the majority of the trailing gear was removed. The final cut was made just aft of the flukes in hopes the animal would shed the remaining gear over time. Shortly after the final cut, the whale swam away quickly.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Buoy pinned close to the trailing edge of the fluke blade with the line heading under the fluke wrapping and embedding the peduncle at least twice. Line then trailed beyond the fluke and formed a loop about 30-40' and then left the fluke again to a bitter end.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Widespread cyanid coverage, pitting of the skin with line deeply embedded in the peduncle.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/29/2017
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Juvenile female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E12-18		
Field No.	PR 71418A Mn	Date First Observed	7/14/2018
Location First Observed	5.8 NM west of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 04.39'N 70° 22.47'W	Subsequent Status	Disentangled - Monitor
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	2017 calf of Rapier	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	7/14/2018	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	Not available	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown U.S. trap/pot	Target Species:	Unknown
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Fourteen fathoms of 3/8" and four fathoms of 5/16" floating line. Seven fathoms of 3/8" sinking line. A green/orange/yellow 12" X 5" buoy with unreadable numbers. Plante 600# intact weak link just below buoy. A 6" piece of wire mesh from a trap/pot</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> Configuration of line attachment to wire mesh suggests a single trap/pot setup.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in the endline of an unknown U.S. trap pot.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI		

NMFS No.	E13-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	7/14/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	0.6 NM south of Nantucket Island, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 14'N 70° 03'W
Event Description	<p>7/14/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Beachgoers sighted an entangled humpback whale just offshore of the Nantucket Airport. Due to the time of day and distance, no response was mounted. Beachgoers did not re-sight the whale the following day <p>7/29/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Virginia Aquarium (VAq) response team received a report of this whale from a recreational boater just outside the Chesapeake Bay Bridge. VAq tried to relocate the animal, but the boater was not able to stand by, and they were unsuccessful. A WW vessel spotted the whale later in the day, further south, and a response was not possible due to the time of day. <p>7/31/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The VAq WW sighted this whale again and stood by as a response was mounted. The whale was reported as moving slowly with line around the peduncle and no noticeable line trailing. Unfortunately, due to poor conditions, the whale was lost before the response team arrived and despite searching extensively, was not relocated.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Yellow line wrapped around the back
B. Subsequent Descriptions	Relatively thick line across the back that is likely attached at the mouth and/or flippers at minimum. There is a bundle of relatively buoyant line at the area of the right shoulder.
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	

A. During Initial Sighting B. Subsequent Descriptions	Compression wounds associated with the entangling line. Emaciated and is likely carrying a chronic entanglement.
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E13-18		
Field No.	PR 71418B Mn	Date First Observed	7/14/2018
Location First Observed	off south coast of Nantucket Island, MA 41° 14'N, 70° 03'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation showed light colored line 			
<u>Comments:</u> None 			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in a line of unknown origin. 			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E14-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear Shed
Date First Observed Entangled	7/20/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Orbit and/or Cardhu
Location First Observed Entangled	Stellwagen Bank, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 10'N 70° 13'W
Event Description	<p>7/20/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCS Humpback Whale Studies Program observed Orbit and Cardhu, who were traveling together last week, interact with rod and reel fishing gear. <p>7/21/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cardhu was seen gear free. <p>8/12/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Orbit was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament line, unknown configuration
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/20/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	7/21/2018 & 8/12/2018
Life History Information	Adult females
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E14-18		
Field No.	PR 72018 Mn	Date First Observed	7/20/2018
Location First Observed	Stellwagen Bank, MA 42° 10'N, 70° 13'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Orbit or Cardhu	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	7/20/2018
	CCS	Date Lost	7/20/2018
	Fisherman	Location	42° 10'N, 70° 13'W
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whales were witnessed interacting with rod and reel monofilament gear.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whales interacted with U.S. rod and reel monofilament gear.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E15-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	7/20/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Mogul and/or Milkweed
Location First Observed Entangled	Stellwagen Bank, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 10'N 70° 19W
Event Description	<p>7/20/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCS Humpback Whale Studies Program observed Mogul and Milkweed, who were traveling together last week, interact with rod and reel fishing gear. <p>8/03/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Milkweed was seen gear free. <p>8/21/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mogul was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament line, unknown configuration
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/20/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	8/03/2018 & 8/21/2018
Life History Information	Adult male (Mogul) Adult female (Milkweed)
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E15-18		
Field No.	PR 72018A Mn	Date First Observed	7/20/2018
Location First Observed	Stellwagen Bank, MA 42°10'N, 70° 19'W	Subsequent Status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Mogul or Milkweed	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	7/20/2018
	CCS	Date Lost	7/20/2018
	Fisherman	Location	42°10'N, 70° 19'W
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whales were witnessed interacting with rod and reel monofilament gear.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whales interacted with U.S. rod and reel monofilament gear.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E16-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	7/20/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Owl
Location First Observed Entangled	6.1 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 09'N 70° 19'W
Event Description	<p>7/20/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A WW vessel sighted Owl with monofilament attached to her last week. CCS was in the area and sighted Owl after the report. No monofilament was observed, but this could be due to the anchoring point being below the waterline. <p>8/21/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whale was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament line, unknown attachment point.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/20/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	8/21/2018
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E16-18		
Field No.	PR 72018B Mn	Date First Observed	7/20/2018
Location First Observed	6.1 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 09'N, 70° 19'W	Subsequent Status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Owl	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with monofilament line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was seen earlier in the day gear free.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in monofilament line of U.S. origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E17-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Monitor
Date First Observed Entangled	7/21/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Rhino
Location First Observed Entangled	7.2 NM east of Hampton Beach, NH
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 53.56'N 70° 38.84'W
Event Description	WW vessel observed Rhino with fishing line attached. Network members were urged to keep an eye out, document all body areas, and report any sightings.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament line trailing off the left fluke blade.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/18/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E17-18		
Field No.	PR 72118 Mn	Date First Observed	7/21/2018
Location First Observed	7.2 NM east of Hampton Beach, NH 42° 53.56'N, 70° 38.84'W	Subsequent Status	Monitor
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Rhino	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with monofilament line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was observed three days prior gear free.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in monofilament line of U.S. origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E18-18
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	7/26/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	AMCS123Mn2018
Location First Observed Entangled	Napeague, NY
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	40° 59.49'N -72° 02.18'W
Event Description	USCG Station Montauk received a report on the NYS Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle hotline of a dead entangled humpback whale. A necropsy team from AMCS examined the carcass and entanglement.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Green roping encircling the distal aspect of the tailstock.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Extensive damage associated with the rope at the tailstock. The constricting rope had partially severed the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Juvenile female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E18-18	Date First Observed	7/26/2018
Field No.	PR 72618 Mn		
Location First Observed	Napeague, NY 40° 59.49'N -72° 02.18'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	AMCS123Mn2018	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		Not available	Gear Retrieved By	Not available
Date Gear Received		Not available	Received From	Not available
Sources:	USCG		Date Set	Unknown
	CCS		Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman		Location	Unknown
	Other		Depth	Unknown
			Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown		Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> 12 feet of unmarked 3/8” sink line was recovered.				
<u>Comments:</u> None				
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was entangled in line of unknown origin.				
Current Location of Gear		NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI		

NMFS No.	E19-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	7/30/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	NYC 0097
Location First Observed Entangled	1.0 NM southeast of Montauk, NY
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 0.312'N 71° 57.96'W
Event Description	<p>7/30/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A recreational fisher found an entangled humpback and attempted to stand-by, but unfortunately lost it among a group of humpbacks in the area. <p>8/23/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A recreational fisher sighted this whale again by the Sandy Hook Channel #2 buoy, New Jersey. The whale was pec slapping and thick green line could be seen wrapping the flipper numerous times. No response was mounted. <p>9/1/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A WW vessel had two sightings of this whale in the same week off New Jersey. The whale was feeding at the surface with a few other whales in the area. Based on the lunges observed, the entanglement was still visible on the left flipper. <p>9/5/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The whale was sighted again in roughly the same area as its previous sighting. The whale was feeding at the surface and the WW was able to document the entanglement at the flukes and dorsal fin, but not the left pec. <p>9/30/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Another WW sighted this animal around northern New Jersey, lunge feeding at the surface. Line was seen exiting the right side of the mouth.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Free-swimming with green line wrapping the left pectoral flipper multiple times at the insertion point and trailing about 3-4 feet aft towards the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	Line was observed exiting the right mouth headed aft and the right pectoral flipper appears free of entanglement.

C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Raw wounds at the site of the entanglement.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Juvenile, unknown sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E19-18	Date First Observed	7/30/2018
Field No.	PR 73018 Mn		
Location First Observed	1.0 NM southeast of Montauk, NY 41° 0.312'N 71° 57.96'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	NYC 0097	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received		N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG		Date Set	Unknown
	CCS		Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman		Location	Unknown
	Other		Depth	Unknown
			Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown		Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with green line of unknown origin.				
<u>Comments:</u> None				
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in line of unknown origin.				
Current Location of Gear		N/A		

NMFS No.	E20-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled - Monitor
Date First Observed Entangled	7/30/2018
Species	Right
Individual ID	#3843
Location First Observed Entangled	13.2 NM east of Grand Manan Island, NB, Canada
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	44° 40'N 66° 25'W
Event Description	<p>7/30/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple organizations sighted an entangled right whale on 7/29. Several organizations conducted a search of the area on 7/30 and were prepared to respond, but the whale was not re-sighted before fog and weather came in, and efforts were suspended. <p>8/5/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CWRT received a call that #3843 had been spotted by the GMWSRS and they were standing by. DFO FRC also responded, but they along with the GMWSRS team were forced to depart due to fog. No trailing line/rope was visible at the surface. CWRT established a working line by grappling into the trailing line forward of the orange low drag buoy. This changed the whale's behavior, now taking shorter dives and remaining at the surface longer. The team believed if they made a clean bitter end on one of the trailing lines, then the remaining gear would pull free. Another work line was attached for additional buoyancy and drag. The trailing line was recovered with a boat hook and some strain was provided by putting the whale FRC in reverse. Due to this extra drag, the entangling line separated, leaving the gear attached by the team and some entangling gear floating at the surface. The orange low drag buoy separated from the gear and was recovered by DFO. After this, the whale began increasing speed, pumping its flukes, and then dove, disappearing. There is likely a length of line remaining on the whale that the team hopes it will shed over time. <p>12/30/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEFSC observed the entangled right whale #3843 during an aerial survey south of Nantucket. The condition of the whale has improved and the entanglement configuration has changed. The CCS team did not respond due to distance and time of day.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Towing a low dray buoy about one body length aft of the flukes. The point of attachment is unknown. Peduncle and flukes were clear of line.

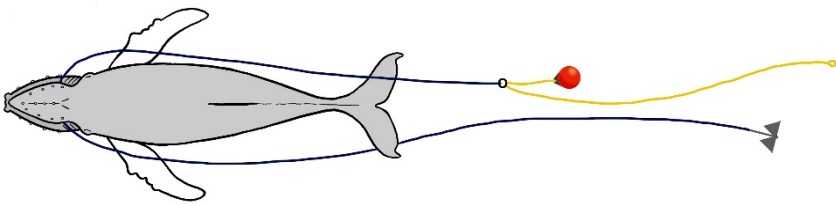
B. Subsequent Descriptions	12/30/2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A minimum of line exiting the left mouth-line and possibly a rostrum wrap. No trailing gear with what looks like a bitter end just aft of the left eye
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Emaciated with significant wounds and cyamids at the area of the peduncle.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	12/30/2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall condition improved since last entanglement response on 8/5/2020 with a reduced cyamid load and what appears to be healing wounds.
Sighting prior to entanglement	6/7/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Adult male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E20-18	Date First Observed	7/30/2018
Field No.	PR 73018 Eg		
Location First Observed	13.2 NM east of Grand Manan Island, NB, Canada 44° 40'N 66° 25'W	Subsequent Status	Disentangled - Monitor
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	#3843	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		8/05/2018	Gear Retrieved By	CWRT
Date Gear Received		N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG		Date Set	Unknown
	CCS		Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman		Location	Unknown
	Other		Depth	Unknown
			Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown		Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> CWRT documented and measured the recovered gear, which consisted of 64 feet of ¾” sink line and a single low drag buoy with the number “55” on the bottom and sides.				
<u>Comments:</u> After the whale was disentangled, DFO located flooded pink buoy floating near the surface and recovered it. It is unknown if this buoy was part of the entanglement.				
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was entangled in an endline and buoy of unknown origin.				
Current Location of Gear		Unknown		

NMFS No.	E21-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Partial disentanglement - entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	7/30/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Cardhu
Location First Observed Entangled	8.2 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 10.68'N 70° 20.73'W
Event Description	A commercial tuna fishermen reported to a WW vessel that a whale had just struck and carried off their anchor line, who then reported to CCS to mount a response. The whale was towing a complete anchoring system. While the team was setting up, the entanglement became much more complicated as the whale became more agitated and changing behavior. The team was able to remove some of the entangling gear, including the 75lb anchor, kegg buoy, and a large jumble of line aft of her flukes. With daylight running out, Cardhu was left with line through her mouth that trailed aft to a small jumble just at her flukes, along with a cutting grapple lost in a jumble of line during the response, and 30feet of yellow work line. This configuration is not likely to be shed and the whale will like need further attempts to disentangle. The entanglement will not likely be visible from the surface, so reporting any sightings of this individual by network members is urged.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Towing 450feet of half inch black nylon, and 100feet of yellow pick up line. The whale had bitten down on line near the top of the anchor system, with line exiting both sides of the mouth and streaming alongside the body as it swam. The lines from either side of the mouth became twisted on themselves and wrapped the peduncle at least five times.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	
Description of Wounds/Condition	

A. During Initial Sighting	Twisting and surging through the water. Line began chaffing her peduncle and flukes, with visible blood and tissue loss. Minor scuffing on her back from hitting the boat during disentanglement efforts.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/30/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	Unknown
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E21-18	Date First Observed	7/30/2018
Field No.	PR 73018A Mn		
Location First Observed	8.2 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 10.68'N 70° 20.73'W	Subsequent Status	Partial disentanglement - entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Cardhu	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	7/30/2018	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	7/30/2018
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. anchoring system	Target Species:	N/A
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Gear was a complete anchoring system of a tuna fishing vessel. Described by fisher as 450' of ½" black nylon line, 100' of yellow pick up line, Polyball A3 buoy and 75 lb Danforth anchor.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> Some gear was lost during disentanglement operation. Anchoring system was returned to fisher at their request after interview and documentation.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in the anchoring system of a U.S. tuna fishing vessel.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Returned to fisherman		

NMFS No.	E22-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	8/1/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Dyad
Location First Observed Entangled	7.8 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 10'N 70° 21'W
Event Description	<p>8/1/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A WW vessel sighted Dyad and calf interact with a rod and reel fisher while they were feeding and breaching. After the interaction, the whales quickly rejoined and left the area. <p>8/9/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A charter boat came across the whales, notified CCS, and stood by. The team was able to shorten the line using a fixed knife by motoring up to her before a dive. Unfortunately, the gear that was cut sank and was unable to be recovered. <p>8/10/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The whale was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament and a balloon trailing about one whale length aft of her flukes. It appeared that the line was looped over the left fluke blade
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Agitated
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/01/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	8/10/2018
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E22-18		
Field No.	PR 80118 Mn	Date First Observed	8/1/2018
Location First Observed	7.8 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 10'N 70° 21'W	Subsequent Status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Dyad	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	8/01/2018
	CCS	Date Lost	8/01/2018
	Fisherman	Location	42° 10'N 70° 21'W
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was witnessed interacting with rod and reel monofilament gear.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale interacted with U.S. rod and reel monofilament gear.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E23-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	8/3/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Sabot
Location First Observed Entangled	0.6 NM west of Brier Island, NS, Canada
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	44° 14.87'N 66° 24.37'W
Event Description	A WW vessel sighted an entangled Sabot traveling quickly with her calf and stood by while MARS and CWRT were notified, and mounted a response. Coast Guard also responded for stand by and support. Unfortunately, heavy fog rolled in and the whales were lost.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Single length of green line through the mouth and trailing 75-100feet aft from each side.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Traveling quickly, no wounds noted.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/2/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	Unknown
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E23-18		
Field No.	PR 80318 Mn	Date First Observed	8/3/2018
Location First Observed	0.6 NM west of Brier Island, NS, Canada 44° 14.87'N 66° 24.37'W	Subsequent status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Sabot	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown Canadian gear	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with green line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was sighted the previous day gear free.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in line of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E24-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled
Date First Observed Entangled	8/4/2018
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	1.5 NM east of Peaks Island, ME
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	43° 38.9'N 70° 08.8'W
Event Description	A commercial fisher found an entangled minke anchored in gear, reported the sighting, and stood by while MMP and USCG responded. After attaching a poly ball, the whale began thrashing, so the team backed up, and then approached again with the intent to cut the line at the flukes. While doing this, the whale began to thrash again. The gear configuration changed, and after more thrashing, the whale swam off gear-free. They concluded that the poly ball gave enough flotation to one of the pots to create enough slack for the whale to free itself. They inspected the trawl and found it completely intact.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	The whale was oriented head up when they arrived and had both endlines from a trawl wrapped at the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E24-18		
Field No.	PR 80418 Ba	Date First Observed	8/4/2018
Location First Observed	1.5 NM east of Peaks Island, ME 43° 38.9'N 70° 08.8'W	Subsequent status	Disentangled
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	MMP
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	8/03/2018
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	43° 38.9'N 70° 08.8'W
	Other	Depth	70 feet
		Bottom Type	Gravel
Gear Type:	U.S. lobster trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<u>Gear Description:</u> Fisherman uses 7/16" float line at bottom 1/3 rd of endline and 5/16" sink line at top 2/3 rd . 10 fathoms of sinking ground line between the 5 trap trawl. Single hard foam 16" X 7" buoy, with 600 lb. manufactured weak link and red ALWTRP fishing industry marks.			
<u>Comments:</u> Gear was temporarily hauled by MMP and found to be intact after incident. Gear was left on site.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in both endlines of a 5 trap U.S. lobster trawl.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E25-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	8/5/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	11.4 NM south of Moriches, NY
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	40° 34.497'N 72° 46.627'W
Event Description	<p>8/5/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The WCS reported an entangled humpback to CCS. No response was mounted. <p>8/6/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WCS surveyed the area again and relocated the animal, although no response was possible due to distance from nearest response team.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Rope wrapping the left fluke blade, at minimum, trailing to loops and possibly bitter ends a very short distance aft of the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Small and thin, observed not using its flukes much, if at all, instead using its pectoral fins to move through the water.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E25-18		
Field No.	PR 80518 Mn	Date First Observed	8/5/2018
Location First Observed	11.4 NM south of Moriches, NY 40° 34.497'N 72° 46.627'W	Subsequent status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with a line of unknown origin.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in a line of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E26-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	8/06/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Komodo
Location First Observed Entangled	9.2 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 11.3'N 70° 21.9'W
Event Description	<p>8/06/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A WW vessel observed an entangled whale and stood by while CCS mounted a response. Unfortunately, her behavior changed. She began taking long dives, and was lost. Despite multiple WW vessels and CCS searching the area to relocate, the whale was not found. <p>8/23/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple naturalists sighted the whale again, but could not see any entangling gear. She was sighted with two other individuals. <p>8/27/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Another WW vessel sighting, but again could not document her entanglement, likely a sign of its extremely cryptic nature. The CCS team was notified and were in the area at the time. The team searched and had a brief sighting of her; however, she was taking long dives when the team lost her. They were only able to get brief documentation. More photo documentation is needed to make an assessment. <p>8/29/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A WW vessel sighted the whale lob tailing and continuing to take long dives like previous sightings. Due to forecasted weather, the CCS team was unable to respond. <p>8/31/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A WW vessel sighted the whale again, but due to weather and time of day, CCS was unable to respond. <p>9/07/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The whale was observed by a WW vessel taking long dives and spending little time at the surface. Due to its behavior, location, sea state, and time of day, no response was mounted. <p>9/17/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple WW vessels had brief sightings and the only documentation that was able to be gathered was fluke shots. The following morning the CCS response team surveyed the area, sighting many whales, but she was not seen. The entanglement status is still unclear but assumed to still be entangled.

		<p>9/24/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel had a brief sighting of the whale, behaving much like it has been, taking long dives and spending little time on the surface. <p>11/02/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel had another brief sighting and the CCS team was able to relocate her with numerous other whales. The team acquired underwater footage, but unfortunately no entanglement could be observed. After roughly two hours, the team finally noticed the presence of the entanglement through visual confirmation and not underwater documentation. Despite numerous approaches trying to access the entanglement, the team was unable to do so. <p>7/31/2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel documented the whale carrying additional gear. Views from this sighting would not allow for an assessment of her mouth line, where gear was bridled as of November of 2018. <p>8/24/2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Over the past week, multiple WW vessels have reported sightings off of Truro, MA and the CCS MAER team was able to locate her with their help. She was in a large feeding group. This, coupled with the nature of her entanglement configuration, and the lighting, made collecting good documentation difficult. Although a few close approaches were made, a gear-free determination was not possible.
	Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
	A. During Initial Sighting	Line observed exiting both sides of the mouth forming a bridle at a jumble of line located under the whale's belly, in between the flippers. No line was observed trailing past the flukes. The configuration may not be observable on regular surfacing.
	B. Subsequent Descriptions	<p>11/02/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Komodo was still entangled with a bridle through her mouth, travelling ventrally close to her body, with no trailing line. The entanglement remains extremely cryptic. <p>7/31/2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carrying a lure with an unknown amount of monofilament.
	C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
	Description of Wounds/Condition	
	A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
	B. Subsequent Descriptions	<p>11/2/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Condition looked normal and does not appear to have gotten worse compared to sightings this summer. <p>8/24/2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Overall health, condition and behavior appeared normal.
	Sighting prior to entanglement	6/21/2018
	Re-sightings Post-entanglement	Yes – contact CCS

Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E26-18	Date First Observed	8/6/2018
Field No.	PR 80618 Mn		
Location First Observed	9.2 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 11.3'N 70° 21.9'W	Subsequent status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Komodo	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		N/A	Gear Retrieved By		N/A
Date Gear Received		N/A	Received From		N/A
Sources:	USCG		Date Set		Unknown
	CCS		Date Lost		Unknown
	Fisherman		Location		Unknown
	Other		Depth		Unknown
			Bottom Type		Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown		Target Species:	Unknown	
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with line of an unknown origin.					
<u>Comments:</u> None					
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in a line of unknown origin.					
Current Location of Gear		N/A			

NMFS No.	E27-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Monitor
Date First Observed Entangled	8/7/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Samara
Location First Observed Entangled	6.2 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 09.128'N 70° 18.984'W
Event Description	During photo processing, the CCS Humpback Studies Program found a sighting where Samara had monofilament line on her. Whale was seen gear free the following day.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament drooped over her dorsal fluke with an unknown attachment point.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/06/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	8/08/2018
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E27-18		
Field No.	PR 80718 Mn	Date First Observed	8/7/2018
Location First Observed	6.2 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 09.128'N 70° 18.984'W	Subsequent status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Samara	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with monofilament line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was seen gear free the previous day.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale interacted with monofilament line of U.S. origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E28-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	8/9/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Dross and calf
Location First Observed Entangled	7.8 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 10.33'N 70° 20.56'W
Event Description	<p>8/09/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multiple WW vessels were observing Dross and her calf when one of them encountered rod and reel gear. The fisher was anchored and had multiple lines out when Dross began feeding in this area, and one of the whales was snagged. Naturalist observed the fisher letting all of the line on the reel pay out before the line parted. The whales quickly swam off. <p>8/15/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dross and calf were seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament line, unknown point of attachment and unclear which whale is carrying the gear.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Swimming quickly through the water after the gear interaction
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/09/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	8/15/2018
Life History Information	Adult female; calf, unknown sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E28-18		
Field No.	PR 80918 Mn	Date First Observed	8/9/2018
Location First Observed	7.8 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 10.33'N 70° 20.56'W	Subsequent status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Dross and calf	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	8/09/2018
	CCS	Date Lost	8/09/2018
	Fisherman	Location	42° 10.33'N 70° 20.56'W
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whales were witnessed interacting with rod and reel monofilament gear.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whales interacted with U.S. rod and reel monofilament gear.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	8/17/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Samara
Location First Observed Entangled	8.0 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 10.458'N 70° 20.664'W
Event Description	<p>8/17/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel witnessed Samara interact with a rod and reel fisher. During the sighting, a recreational fisher trawled their gear over her. She then dove and it appeared to have snagged the hook and line. <p>8/21/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whale was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Hook and lure snagged on her back.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/17/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	8/21/2018
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E29-18		
Field No.	PR 81718 Mn	Date First Observed	8/17/2018
Location First Observed	8.0 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 10.458'N 70° 20.664'W	Subsequent status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Samara	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	8/17/2018
	CCS	Date Lost	8/17/2018
	Fisherman	Location	42° 10.458'N 70° 20.664'W
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was witnessed interacting with U.S. rod and reel monofilament gear.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale interacted with U.S. rod and reel monofilament gear.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E30-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	8/20/2018
Species	Right
Individual ID	#3960
Location First Observed Entangled	43.1 NM east southeast of Chandler, NB, Canada
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	48° 01.32'N 63° 42.7'W
Event Description	<p>8/20/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A research team consisting of NEAq, CWI, and Dalhousie University encountered and documented the entangled whale. They notified multiple organizations, and consulted with CWRT about a possible satellite tag deployment. Through continued observation, the team felt that the whale might have shed the entanglement. <p>12/31/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NEFSC aerial team documented the whale gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Multiple wraps of the rostrum. Baleen looked irregular with no line trailing, likely weight attached.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Thrashing at the surface and the configuration of the entanglement seemed to be constantly changing. Behavior indicated a possible recent interaction. Baleen was displaced from the mouth.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/06/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	12/31/2018
Life History Information	Adult male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E30-18		
Field No.	PR 82018 Eg	Date First Observed	8/20/2018
Location First Observed	43.1 NM east southeast of Chandler, NB, Canada 48° 01.32'N 63° 42.7'W	Subsequent status	Gear Shed
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#3960	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown Canadian gear	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented in at least 4 different colored lines, the top broken portion of an orange polyballs and one cylindrical white buoy.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was seen gear free in the same general area two weeks prior.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in at least one, possibly multiple, endline and surface systems.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E31-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	8/27/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Patches
Location First Observed Entangled	6.8 NM east of Rockport, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 42.19'N 70° 28.10'W
Event Description	<p>8/27/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCS team was conducting a whale research survey when they photographed Patches. Upon analysis of the photographs, a monofilament entanglement was observed. <p>9/21/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whale was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament trailing off right fluke blade.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	10/05/2017
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	9/21/2018
Life History Information	Adult male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E31-18		
Field No.	PR 82718 Mn	Date First Observed	8/27/2018
Location First Observed	6.8 NM east of Rockport, MA 42° 42.19'N 70° 28.10'W	Subsequent Status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Patches	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with monofilament line.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale interacted with monofilament line of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E32-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	8/29/2018
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	7.5 NM southeast of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 36.174'N 69° 47.961'W
Event Description	A fisherman reported an entangled whale to USCG, who then forwarded to CCS. Both USCG and CCS tried to contact the reporting party, but were unsuccessful. The CCS team responded and searched the area for roughly an hour assessing any whales they encountered. They then searched another area relayed to them by USCG until the weather worsened and they were forced to return to port. Later that evening when the reporting fisher had returned to port, they contacted CCS to report they had a brief sighting of a small whale from a distance. They mentioned they were travelling north but the whale appeared to be travelling south-southwest.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Buoy(s) close to the flukes that may have been red and blue but not certain due to the rapid nature of the sighting.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E32-18		
Field No.	PR 82918 Ba	Date First Observed	8/29/2018
Location First Observed	7.5 NM southeast of Chatham, MA 41° 36.174'N 69° 47.961'W	Subsequent status	Entangled
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> A fisherman described the whale trailing a buoy.			
<u>Comments:</u> No documentation was obtained, but the fisher's description was detailed enough for this reliable report.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in the endline and buoy of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E33-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	8/29/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	2016 calf of Venom
Location First Observed Entangled	1.5 NM east of Hampton Beach, NH
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 53.542'N 70° 46.641'W
Event Description	<p>8/29/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel reported to the USCG, who then forwarded to CCS, an entangled whale off of Hampton Beach, NH. CCS was searching for another entangled whale off of Chatham, MA at that time. As they were gathering information and facilitating a response with NOAA Fisheries, both parties were informed that a recreational boater had disentangled the whale. NOAA enforcement and environmental police went to collect the gear. <p>9/3/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whale was sighted gear free. <p>9/8/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCS received multiple reports of a dead humpback whale off Gloucester. Through documentation collected, the dead whale was matched to Venom's 2016 calf. Naturalists reported seeing this whale feeding in this area over the past month.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Pink floats around the peduncle.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	10/04/2017
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Juvenile male

NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination
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Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E33-18		
Field No.	PR 82918 Mn	Date First Observed	8/29/2018
Location First Observed	1.5 NM east of Hampton Beach, NH 42° 53.542'N 70° 46.641'W	Subsequent status	Deceased
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	2016 calf of Venom	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	Not available	Gear Retrieved By	Not available
Date Gear Received	Not available	Received From	Not available
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. bait gillnet	Target Species:	Unknown
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Approximately 1 fathom of 3/8" sink line recovered with A1 orange Polyball, 600 lb. weak link and a small portion of associated 2 3/4" mesh.</p> <p>Net framing is 16 fathoms of 3/8" with plastic head rope floats spaced 5 feet apart. Foot rope is 16 fathoms of 3/8" lead line with a small steel bar, 12" X 1/2" lashed at the start of the foot rope.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> Mesh size and steel bar indicates bait net in New England water. The net looked so clean it was likely the first time used in water.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was entangled in a bait gillnet.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI		

NMFS No.	E34-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled
Date First Observed Entangled	8/29/2018
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	1.0 NM west of Gloucester, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 34.82'N 70° 41.21'W
Event Description	USCG received a call from the Gloucester Harbormaster about a boater reporting an entangled whale. The harbormaster was responding while USCG notified CCS. CCS was responding to a different entangled whale at the time and asked that the CG request for the harbormaster to stand by the whale and gather as much information as possible. The harbormaster then called back to report they had disentangled the whale. No visible injuries were seen and the whale was disentangled by lifting a length of line that was over the head of the whale.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Anchored in wrap of buoy line over the head.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and unknown sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E34-18		
Field No.	PR 82918A Ba	Date First Observed	8/29/2018
Location First Observed	1.0 NM west of Gloucester, MA 42° 34.82'N 70° 41.21'W	Subsequent status	Disentangled
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:		Date set	Unknown
		Date lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	42° 34.82'N 70° 41.21'W
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown U.S. gear	Target Species:	Unknown
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> No documentation or recovered gear was obtained. Whale was described as having part of the endline over the head.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> Whale was anchored.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Based on the description and the whale being anchored, it was entangled in an endline of U.S. unknown gear.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E35-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled
Date First Observed Entangled	9/1/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	2016 calf of Sanchal
Location First Observed Entangled	9.4 NM south of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 30.3'N 69° 56.3'W
Event Description	<p>9/1/2018 – 9/5/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A sports-fishing vessel found an entangled whale, but was unable to stand-by, and CCS responded but was unable to relocate the whale. The whale was reported again two days later and CCS managed to locate it later in the day, and deploy a telemetry buoy to the entangling gear with a grappling hook. The following morning, the sea conditions had improved, so the team set out to relocate the whale. While doing this, they received a report by a sport-fisherman of an entangled whale with a similar description to the one they were currently pursuing, but the locations of this report and the tag data did not match up. Unfortunately, the vessel could not stand by so the team began a search of the area, and found the whale, moving very slowly, with no telemetry buoy in tow. Not long after, the buoy stopped transmitting fixes. The team quickly added a float to the entanglement using a grapple and began assessing the whale. Using the inflatable, the team pulled up on the gear exiting the left side of the mouth to just aft of the flukes. The team then grappled the other bitter end and cut it. After trying to see if the team could get the whale to open its mouth by tugging on the line with little success, the team thought the best decision would be to cut the left side line to just forward of the flukes, leaving both sides without splices or knots. This configuration should allow the whale to shed the remaining line. Shortly after, the buoy began transmitting again and the team recovered it intact (buoy, tether and grapple) about five miles away from its last known location. <p>11/15/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The whale was resighted by The CCS MAER team in conjunction with the Humpback Whale Studies Program while conducting a research cruise. Through photo documentation it was confirmed that the rope left in its mouth during the disentanglement operation has been shed and the whale is now gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	

A. During Initial Sighting	Buoy line through the mouth, with one bitter end terminating in a hog-ringed eye, the other terminating in surface system with one of the buoys intact, trailing about 25feet aft of the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Patchy skin, thin, small, healed propeller wound on back.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/20/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	11/15/2018
Life History Information	Juvenile female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E35-18	Date First Observed	9/1/2018
Field No.	PR 90118 Mn		
Location First Observed	9.4 NM south of Chatham, MA 41° 30.3'N 69° 56.3'W	Subsequent status	Disentangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	2016 calf of Sanchal	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		9/05/2018	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received		Not available	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG		Date Set	Unknown
	CCS		Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman		Location	Unknown
	Other		Depth	Unknown
			Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. lobster trap/pot		Target Species:	Lobster
<u>Gear Description:</u> 8 fathoms of 5/16” float line and 9 fathoms of 3/8” sinking line was recovered. Red paint marked all the line every 3 feet. An orange Go Deep 10” X 20” buoy was recovered with “Lobster” and a partial vessel or company name listed. 7 hog rings were used for a weak link.				
<u>Comments:</u> NOAA OLE investigated but could not find the owner/company listed on the buoy. CCS response team described the Go Deep buoy being a secondary entanglement based on their observation.				
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in the endline of two sets of U.S. lobster gear.				
Current Location of Gear		NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI		

NMFS No.	E36-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	9/2/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Lollipop
Location First Observed Entangled	3.9 NM east of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 47.358'N 69° 50.964'W
Event description	<p>9/02/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel sighted Lollipop currently entangled, who was seen earlier in the day gear free. Just before their last sighting of the whale, when the whale was below the surface, the crew heard a reel of a nearby boat paying out. <p>10/08/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whale was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Line from some unknown point forward on its body over the left fluke blade and trailing aft.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	9/2/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	10/08/2018
Life History Information	Juvenile female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E36-18		
Field No.	PR 90218 Mn	Date First Observed	9/2/2018
Location First Observed	3.9 NM east of Chatham, MA 41° 47.358'N, 69° 50.964'W	Subsequent status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Lollipop	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	9/02/2018
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with monofilament line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was seen earlier in the day gear free.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale interacted with U.S. monofilament line.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E37-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	9/3/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Shuffleboard
Location First Observed Entangled	1.0 NM north of Rockport, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 42.43'N 70° 38.38'W
Event Description	9/03/2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW vessel sighted Shuffleboard with monofilament line on her. 9/12/2018 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament trailing from her left fluke blade
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	8/28/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	9/12/2018
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E37-18		
Field No.	PR 90318 Mn	Date First Observed	9/3/2018
Location First Observed	1.0 NM north of Rockport, MA 42° 42.43'N 70° 38.38'W	Subsequent status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Shuffleboard	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	9/03/2018
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with monofilament line.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was seen gear free a few day prior to the entanglement sighting.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in U.S. monofilament line.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E38-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	9/7/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Peajack
Location First Observed Entangled	Brier Island, NS
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	Unknown
Event Description	Carcass was discovered floating just off Brier Island, NS. MARS and Canadian Coast Guard inspected and documented the whale at sea.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Multiple wraps around the tail with at least one mesh trap visible below. Multiple line from the fluke led and around the mouth, effectively hog tying the whale. Tail was almost vertical suggesting heavy line/gear initially associated with the whale. Clean cut bitter ends were visible suggesting the carcass had some gear removed or released from anchor.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Partially embedded line on peduncle and associated trauma. Shark predation was witnessed and tongue was bloated.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	7/19/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Adult Female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E38-18		
Field No.	PR 90718 Mn	Date First Observed	9/7/2018
Location First Observed	Brier Island, NS	Subsequent status	Deceased
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Not available
Individual ID	Peajack	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Not available

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	Not available	Gear Retrieved By	Not available
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown trap/pot	Target Species:	Unknown
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation showed multiple wraps from at least 3 different colored line and at least one wire mesh trap suspended below the flukes. Orientation of the carcass suggested additional heavy gear or line below.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> Unknown if Canadian organization recovered the gear or was analyzed.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in an unknown portion of trap/pot gear of unknown origin.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Not available		

NMFS No.	E39-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	9/8/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	3.1 NM southeast of Gloucester, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 33.6'N 70° 36.1'W
Event Description	A sailing vessel reported to the USCG that they had sighted a humpback whale with a buoy in tow. USCG passed along the information to NOAA Fisheries and CCS, and had a vessel in the area who went to the location to gather more information. When USCG arrived on scene they reported that the buoy may have fallen off. The CCS Humpback Whale Studies Program is working to match the whale.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	May have had line hooked on the right fluke blade with a light green or white buoy in tow.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E39-18		
Field No.	PR 90818 Mn	Date First Observed	9/8/2018
Location First Observed	3.1 NM southeast of Gloucester, MA 42° 33.6'N 70° 36.1'W	Subsequent status	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation shows a line and light colored buoy in tow.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in an endline and buoy of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E40-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Partial disentanglement – Gear shed
Date First Observed Entangled	9/14/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Dross and calf
Location First Observed Entangled	6.1 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 08.43'N 70° 19.95'W
Event Description	<p>9/14/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel reported a sighting of Dross carrying monofilament line to CCS, who was nearby conducting research, and mounted a response immediately. It was noted that her calf appeared agitated and may have been trying to nurse, but was unable to due to the entanglement. The team made a cut to the trailing line by using a knife at the end of pole. They were then able to grab the gear and remove over 250ft of line. Dross was left with a short length of monofilament still trailing from her flukes. Dross was entangled earlier this year carrying monofilament line, and after reviewing documentation of both entanglements, it was determined that this was a separate event. <p>9/15/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Whale was seen gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Monofilament line looped over the left fluke blade.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	9/13/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	9/15/2018
Life History Information	Adult Female; calf, unknown sex

NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury
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FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E40-18		
Field No.	PR 91418 Mn	Date First Observed	9/14/2018
Location First Observed	6.1 NM northwest of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 08.43'N 70° 19.95'W	Subsequent status	Partial disentanglement – Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Dross and calf	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	9/14/2018	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	Not available	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	U.S. monofilament	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> 30 fathoms of 1/16" monofilament line was recovered. No gear markings, leaders or light sticks were present.			
<u>Comments:</u> Whale was seen the previous day gear free.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in U.S. monofilament line.			
Current Location of Gear	NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI		

NMFS No.	E41-18
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	9/16/2018
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	0.7 NM south southeast of Rye, NH
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 57.3'N 70° 45.3'W
Event Description	Seacoast Science Center (SSC) received a report of a deceased entangled minke whale floating offshore with attached rope and buoy. The following day, the whale landed and multiple organizations, including SSC, NEAQ and Blue Ocean Society assessed the carcass as well as the entangling gear. The fisherman whose gear was involved also came forward during the examination and was interviewed by NOAA Fisheries.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	A single white-tan rope attached to a lobster buoy was wrapped around the body at the level of the pectoral flippers, as well as wrapping around the mouth.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Overall good body condition. Multiple abrasions associated with the entangling rope, as well as multiple shark bite wounds
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	9/15/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	Unknown
Life History Information	Juvenile male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E41-18		
Field No.	PR 91618 Ba	Date First Observed	9/16/2018
Location First Observed	0.7 NM south southeast of Rye, NH 42° 57.3'N 70° 45.3'W	Subsequent status	Deceased
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	9/17/2018	Gear Retrieved By	NOAA Fisheries
Date Gear Received	9/17/2018	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	9/14/2018
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	¾ mile off Rodins Cove
	Other	Depth	55 feet
		Bottom Type	Sand
Gear Type:	U.S. lobster trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Four fathoms or 3/8" sink line was recovered along with 15" X 6" hard foam orange and white buoy. 600 lb. weak link was present.</p> <p>Fisherman described as 4 pot trawl with 10 fathoms of 3/8" sink line between traps. Buoy lines have 80 feet of 3/8" sink on top and 15 feet of 3/8" float on bottom. Commercial 600 lb weak link and red ALWTRP marks are used.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> Weak link was incorrectly rigged, but was not relevant to the entanglement. Fisherman believes deck hand incorrectly reattached NOAA OLE discussed with fisherman and decided not to pursue any significant violation.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Whale became entangled in the endline of a 4 trap trawl of U.S. lobster gear.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	NOAA Narragansett Laboratory, Narragansett, RI		

NMFS No.	E42-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	9/21/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	20.0 NM east of Rockport, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 36.950'N 70° 08.317'W
Event Description	<p>9/21/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A charter fishing vessel reported an entangled whale to USCG and CCS. Due to sea state and limited information on the entanglement, no response was mounted. <p>9/24/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCS was able to reach the charter fishing vessel and conduct an interview. They reported that the whale was moving very fast in a SW direction and attempting to dive but stated the poly buoys never went below the surface. Shortly after they observed the whale attempting to dive, it was not seen again.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	One orange and one white medium size poly buoys appeared to be approximately 30-40 feet behind the whale
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Small in size, moving quickly.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex.
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E42-18		
Field No.	PR 92118 Mn	Date First Observed	9/21/2018
Location First Observed	20.0 NM east of Rockport, MA 42° 36.950'N 70° 08.317'W	Subsequent status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was described by fisherman as trailing approximately 30-40 feet of line and an orange/white poly buoy.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in the endline and surface buoy of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E43-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	9/23/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	10.5 NM southeast of Gloucester, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	42° 25'N 70° 35'W
Event Description	A recreational fishing vessel reported an entangled whale to the USCG. CCS was working in the area, overheard the transmission, and responded. The fishing vessel was able to stand-by, but lost the animal while CCS was transiting over. It had been roughly 15 minutes since the reporting party had last seen the whale when CCS arrived. CCS searched the area for over two hours, and did not relocate the whale. The vessel shared with CCS a video they took of the whale showing the entanglement and its behavior.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Dark line wrapping the peduncle with a white bullet buoy in tow, roughly ~20' aft of the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Video shows whale actively lob-tailing at the surface.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E43-18		
Field No.	PR 92318 Mn	Date First Observed	9/23/2018
Location First Observed	10.5 NM southeast of Gloucester, MA 42° 25'N 70° 35'W	Subsequent status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation showed dark line wrapping the peduncle and a white buoy trailing 20 feet beyond the flukes.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in the endline and surface buoy on unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E44-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	9/23/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	14.1 NM south of Martha's Vineyard, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	41° 04.130'N 70° 44.606'W
Event Description	CCS received a report from NOAA that was relayed to them from an observer sighting an entangled whale. CCS contacted the observer and conducted an interview. They had witnessed two whales traveling in the opposite direction as them. The gear that was trailing behind them was present when the whales were at the surface, but were taken under when the whales dove.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Two white buoys were observed trailing behind the whales.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	Unknown
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E44-18		
Field No.	PR 92318A Mn	Date First Observed	9/23/2018
Location First Observed	14.1 NM south of Martha's Vineyard, MA 41° 04.130'N 70° 44.606'W	Subsequent status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with line and trailing two white buoys.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in the endline and surface system of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E45-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear Shed
Date First Observed Entangled	9/29/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	2016 calf of Ravine
Location First Observed Entangled	Off east side of Campobello Island, NB, Canada
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	44° 54.3'N 66° 53.7'W
Event Description	<p>9/29/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An entangled humpback whale was reported to the MARS hotline and the report was forwarded to the CWRT. Beachgoers observed two humpbacks travelling offshore and one of them had a buoy in tow. The whale was free-swimming and no standby was possible. CWRT searched that evening and following day, but did not relocate the whale <p>10/4/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCS Humpback Whale Studies program identified this whale as the 2016 calf of Ravine. A WW vessel had two sightings where no gear was visible and the whale is presumed to have shed the gear.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Towing an orange float about 40ft aft of the flukes with an unknown point of attachment.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	9/17/2018
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	10/4/2018
Life History Information	Juvenile, unknown sex

NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Non-serious injury
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FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E45-18		
Field No.	PR 92918 Mn	Date First Observed	9/29/2018
Location First Observed	Off east side of Campobello Island, NB, Canada 44° 54.3'N 66° 53.7'W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	2016 calf of Ravine	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with line and towing an orange buoy about 40 feet behind the flukes.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in the endline and surface buoy of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E46-18
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date First Observed Entangled	11/7/2018
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	Tangier Island, VA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	37° 50.13'N 75° 59.81'W
Event Description	VAQS received a report by an off-duty Virginia Marine Resources Commission (VMRC) officer of the dead whale. VMRC officers transported several VAQS staff and a volunteer by boat to Tangier Island to perform a field necropsy.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Green multifilament net around the rostrum
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Partial amputation of the tip of the rostrum. Wounds consistent with a healing chronic entanglement as well as active trauma and inflammation.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E46-18		
Field No.	PR 110718 Ba	Date First Observed	11/7/2018
Location First Observed	Tangier Island, VA 37° 50.13'N 75° 59.81'W	Subsequent status	Deceased
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		Not available	Gear Retrieved By	VAq
Date Gear Received		Not available	Received From	Not available
Sources:	USCG		Date Set	Unknown
	CCS		Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman		Location	Unknown
	Other		Depth	Unknown
			Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown mesh		Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Approximately 7 feet of 1/8” twine 3” mesh was recovered.				
<u>Comments:</u> None				
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in mesh of unknown origin.				
Current Location of Gear		Not available		

NMFS No.	E47-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Partial disentanglement - Entangled
Date First Observed Entangled	12/13/2018
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location First Observed Entangled	Off Jacksonville, FL
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	30° 23.83'N 81° 22.73'W
Event Description	An entangled whale was reported to the USCG Valiant and the report forwarded to the NOAA Fisheries Southeast Marine Mammal Hotline via USCG Sector Jacksonville. The reporting party stated that another boat had its prop fouled in rope trailing from a small whale, and they had passed a knife to these boaters to cut the line just outboard of the prop. The men on the boat that interacted with the gear were identified, interviewed, and stated that while transiting, their engine stopped. At that time, they heard and saw a whale surface and blow about 30 yards away and realized they were connected to the whale by the rope in their prop. The rope was collected and has been stored for potential genetic matching. Based on witness descriptions of the whale and its behavior, the whale was likely a humpback.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Unknown point of rope attachment on the whale. No buoy or other gear was observed.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex.
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E47-18		
Field No.	PR 121318 Mn	Date First Observed	12/13/2018
Location First Observed	Off Jacksonville, FL 30° 23.83'N 81° 22.73'W	Subsequent status	Partial disentanglement - Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Unknown
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	12/13/2018	Gear Retrieved By	Private boater
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> 20 feet of 3/8" purple line was recovered, although it was unclear if this was actually was part of the entangling line.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale interacted with line of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	SEFSC		

NMFS No.	E48-18
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Monitor
Date First Observed Entangled	12/20/2018
Species	Right
Individual ID	#2310
Location First Observed Entangled	29.5 NM SSE of Nantucket Island, MA
Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled	40° .76'N 69° .85'W
Event Description	<p>12/20/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEAq aerial survey team found an entangled right whale, immediately reported the sighting and stood by the whale. Based on time of day and distance, the CCS team did not mount a response. From what was documented, it appears that this entanglement may not warrant a response as the whale may shed this entanglement on its own. <p>2/11/2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The NEAq aerial team had a sighting of #2310 on February 3rd, close to the location of the previous sighting, still entangled. <p>4/26/2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The CCS aerial team had a sighting of #2310 in Cape Cod Bay yesterday, reported it to CCS MAER team and stood-by while a response was mounted. While standing-by, the aerial team noted that the configuration changed from its original sighting, but was still somewhat unclear. After a few approaches and attempting to cut one side of the loop to break the bridle with guidance from the aerial team, the whale became much more evasive. It was also taking long dives (up to 20 minutes at a time). After over three hours, the aerial team had to depart to refuel. CCS continued the response in hopes that the behavior would change. Eventually, #2310 moved into an area with numerous other whales (varying in species) and was eventually lost.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Short bitter end at the area of the left pec that enters its left mouth (it appears this line may have started to unravel) the line passes through the mouth exiting out the right side and trails roughly 1-2 body lengths aft of the flukes. It appears the trailing line sinks into the water column, no bitter end was observed.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	<p>2/11/2019</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No change observed in the overall configuration. <p>4/26/2019</p>

C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale Description of Wounds/Condition A. During Initial Sighting B. Subsequent Descriptions Sighting prior to entanglement Re-sightings Post-entanglement Life History Information NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line exiting both the left and right mouth passing the pecs and then disappearing under the whale likely forming a bridle around the genital slit area. No line was seen trailing.
	None
	Good physical condition with no significant injuries. 2/11/2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No significant change 4/26/2019 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fair condition, some sloughing skin and a little thin.
	4/18/2018 None Adult male Serious injury (prorated)

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E48-18		
Field No.	PR 122018 Eg	Date First Observed	12/20/2018
Location First Observed	29.5 NM SSE of Nantucket Island, MA 40° .76'N 69° .85'W	Subsequent status	Monitor
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#2310	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented with line of unknown origin.			
<u>Comments:</u> None			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in line of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		