

Atlantic Trawl Gear Take Reduction Plan
DRAFT Outline

I. Executive Summary, including Summary of Take Reduction Team Recommendations

II. Introduction and MMPA Statutory Requirements

- A. Requirements of Section 117 and 118, including timelines
- B. Scope of the Plan
- C. Goal of the Plan
- D. Establishment of team and brief summary of the meetings

III. Review of Marine Mammal Abundance, Distribution, Stock Structure, and Incidental Mortality

- A. Abundance, distribution, and stock structure
 - 1. Data sources
 - 2. Survey methods and sources of possible bias
 - 3. Summary of stock assessment reports (SARs) for all species taken by the Atlantic trawl fishery
 - 4. Review of best available information on species identification for short and long-finned pilot whales
- B. Mortality and serious injury information
 - 1. Data sources
 - 2. Sampling methods and sources of possible bias
 - 3. Estimated levels of serious injuries and mortalities of marine mammals taken in the Atlantic trawl fishery

IV. Description of the Atlantic Trawl Gear Fisheries

- A. Target species
- B. Gear used
- C. Areas and seasons of operation
- D. Historic and recent effort
- E. Historic and recent catches
- F. Fishery management structure
- G. Historic and current regulatory regime
- H. International management regime

V. Summary of Bycatch Reduction Strategies Used in Trawl Fisheries and Marine Mammal Sensory Abilities

- A. Trawl fisheries
- B. Other fisheries
- C. Marine mammal sensory abilities

VI. Recommendations for Reducing Mortalities and Serious Injuries of Marine Mammals in the Atlantic Trawl Gear Fishery

- A. Improving detection of gear by marine mammals
- B. Deterring marine mammals from interacting with gear

C. Minimizing impacts to marine mammals that do interact with gear

VII. Recommendations for Additional Research and Data Collection

- A. Abundance surveys
- B. Species identification
- C. Observer coverage
- D. Gear research
- E. Cetacean behavior research

VIII. Next Steps

- A. Coordination with other take reduction teams
- B. Future meetings
- C. Determining when the goal of the plan is met