

HARBOR PORPOISE TAKE REDUCTION TEAM (HPTRT)

Team Meeting
December 17-19, 2007
Philadelphia, PA

Meeting Materials

1 General Meeting Information

- a) 2007 HPTRT Meeting Draft Provisional Agenda
- b) Orientation Meeting Agenda (*to be provided in separate mailing or at meeting*)
- c) Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Team Member List
- d) HPTRT Meeting Ground Rules (*to be handed out at meeting*)
- e) Process for Designating Alternates
- f) CONCUR Introduction
- g) Summary of CONCUR HPTRT Interviews (*to be handed out at meeting*)

2007 HPTRT Meeting Materials

2 2007 HPTRT Meeting Documents

- a) Discussion Paper on Planned Amendments to the Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan by NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service (November 2007)
- b) Draft 2007 Harbor Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy Stock Assessment Report
- c) Summary of 2006-2007 NMFS HPTRP Outreach Meetings
- d) HPTRP Enforcement Update

3 NEFSC Supporting Documents and Analyses (*some documents will be provided in a separate mailing or at meeting*)

- a) Model-based Harbor Porpoise Estimates
- b) Estimates of Cetacean and Pinniped Bycatch in the 2006 Northeast Sink Gillnet and Mid-Atlantic Coastal Gillnet Fisheries
- c) Effect of Pingers on Harbor Porpoise and Seal Bycatch
- d) Landings: the Unit of Effort for Bycatch Rates in Gillnet Fishing Gear
- e) Summary of Harbor Porpoise Bycatch in the Waters off New Jersey
- f) Summary of Harbor Porpoise Bycatch in the Gulf of Maine/Georges Bank Area
- g) Summary of Harbor Porpoise Bycatch South of the Cape Cod South Closure Area
- h) Summary of Gillnet Observer Coverage and Effort
- i) Summary of 2007 Gillnet Observer Data and Harbor Porpoise Bycatch
- j) Allocating Observer Sea Days to Bottom Trawl and Gillnet Fisheries in the Northeast and Mid-Atlantic Regions to Monitor and Estimate Incidental Bycatch of Marine Mammals
- k) Estimates of Cetacean and Seal Bycatch in the 2004 Northeast Sink Gillnet and Mid-Atlantic Coastal Gillnet Fisheries
- l) Estimates of Cetacean and Pinniped Bycatch in the 2005 Northeast Sink Gillnet and Mid-Atlantic Coastal Gillnet Fisheries

m) Status Report of Observer Collected Pinger Data

4 Fishery Management Plan Updates (to be provided in separate mailing or at meeting)

5 2000 HPTRT Meetings and Follow-up Materials

- a) December 12-14, 2000 Gulf of Maine TRT Meeting Summary
- b) November 28-30, 2000 Mid-Atlantic TRT Meeting Summary
- c) November & December, 2000 HPTRT Meetings Recommendations: Status Update

6 Outreach Documents

- a) Guide to the Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan (HPTRP) – Gulf of Maine (September 2006)
- b) Guide to the Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan (HPTRP) – Mid-Atlantic (September 2006)

7 Correspondence

- a) NEFMC Letter to NOAA Fisheries Service (August 2, 2005)
- b) NOAA Fisheries Service Response to NEFMC (August 23, 2005)
- c) Marine Mammal Commission Letter to NOAA Fisheries Service (May 23, 2005)
- d) NOAA Fisheries Service Response to Marine Mammal Commission (June, 2005)

8 Gear Research Papers

- a) Cox, T.M. and A.J. Read. (2004). Echolocation behavior of harbor porpoises *Phocoena phocoena* around chemically enhanced gillnets. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 279:275-282.
- b) Cox, T.M., R.L. Lewison, R. Żydelski, L.B. Crowder, C. Safina, and A.J. Read. (2007). Comparing effectiveness of experimental and implemented bycatch reduction measures: the ideal and the real. *Conservation Biology* 21 (5): 1155-1164.
- c) Culik, B. M., S. Koschinski, N. Tregenza, and G.M. Ellis. (2001). Reactions of harbor porpoise *Phocoena phocoena* and herring *Clupea harengus* to acoustic alarms. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 211:255-260.
- d) Kastelein, R. A., S. van der Heul, J. van der Veen, W.C. Verboom, N. Jennings, D. de Haan, and R.J.H. Reijnders. (2007). Effects of acoustic alarms, designed to reduce small cetacean bycatch in gillnet fisheries, on the behaviour of North Sea fish species in a large tank. *Marine Environmental Research* 64:160-180.
- e) Koschinski, S., B.M. Culik, E.A. Trippel, and L. Ginzkey. (2006). Behavioral reactions of free-ranging harbor porpoises *Phocoena phocoena* encountering standard nylon and BaSO₄ mesh gillnets and warning sound. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 313:285-294.
- f) Kraus, S., S. Brault, and K. Baldwin. (1997). A springtime field test of the use of pingers to reduce incidental mortality of harbor porpoises in gill nets. Draft Final Report.

- g) Kraus, S. D., A.J. Read, A. Solow, K. Baldwin, T. Spradlin, E. Anderson, and J. Williamson. (1997). Acoustic alarms reduce porpoise mortality. *Nature*. 388:525.
- h) Larsen, F., O.R. Eigaard, and J. Tougaard. (2007). Reduction of harbor porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) bycatch by iron-oxide gillnets. *Fisheries Research* 85: 270-278.
- i) Mooney, T. A., W.W.L. Au, P.E. Nachtigall, and E.A. Trippel. (2007). Acoustic and stiffness properties of gillnets as they relate to small cetacean bycatch. *ICES Journal of Marine Science* 64:1-9.
- j) Mooney, T. A., P.E. Nachtigall, and W.W.L. Au. (2004). Target strength of nylon monofilament and an acoustically enhanced gillnet: predictions of biosonar detection ranges. *Aquatic Mammals* 30(2):220-226.
- k) Trippel, E. A., N.L. Holy, D.L. Palka, T.D. Shepherd, G.D. Melvin, and J.M. Terhune. (2003). Nylon barium sulphate gillnet reduces porpoise and seabird mortality. *Marine Mammal Science* 19(1):240-243.

9 **Related Harbor Porpoise Papers**

- a) Bisack, K.D. and J.G. Sutinen. (2006). Harbor porpoise bycatch: ITQs or time/area closures in the New England gillnet fishery. *Land Economics* 82(1): 85-102.
- b) Börjesson, P. and A.J. Read (2003). Variation in timing of conception between populations of the harbor porpoise. *Journal of Mammalogy* 84(3): 948-955.
- c) Johnston, D.W., A.J. Westgate, and A.J. Read. (2005). Effects of fine-scale oceanographic features on the distribution and movements of harbor porpoises *Phocoena phocoena* in the Bay of Fundy. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 295: 279-293.
- d) McLellan, W.A., H.N. Koopman, S.A. Rommel, A.J. Read, C.W. Potter, J.R. Nicolas, A.J. Westgate, and D.A. Pabst. (2002). Ontogenetic allometry and body composition of harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*, L.) from the western North Atlantic. *Journal of Zoology* 257: 457-471.
- e) Palka, D. L., A.J. Read, A.J. Westgate, and D. W. Johnston. (1996). Summary of current knowledge of harbour porpoises in US and Canadian Atlantic waters. *Rep. Int. Whal. Commn.* 46:559-565.
- f) Read, A. J. (2001). Trends in maternal investment of harbour porpoises are uncoupled from the dynamics of their primary prey. *Proc. R. Soc. Lond. B.* 268:573-577.
- g) Read, A. J. and C.R. Brownstein. (2003). Considering other consumers: fisheries, predators, and Atlantic herring in the Gulf of Maine. *Conservation Ecology* 7(1):2.
- h) Rosel, P.E., R. Tiedemann, and M. Walton. (1999). Genetic evidence for limited trans-Atlantic movements of the harbor porpoise *Phocoena phocoena*. *Marine Biology* 133: 583-591.
- i) Rosel, P.E., S.C. France, J.Y. Wang, and T.D. Kocher. Genetic structure of harbor porpoise *Phocoena phocoena* populations in the northwest Atlantic based on mitochondrial and nuclear markers. (1999). *Molecular Ecology* 8: S41-S54.

10 Related Management Plans

- a) Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Plan Compliance Guide
- b) Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Plan Commercial Fisheries News Insert (May 2006)
- c) Large Mesh Gillnet Final Rule to Protect Sea Turtles (67 FR 71895, December 3, 2002)
- d) Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Plan Regulations; Sea Turtle Conservation Final Rule (71 FR 24776, April 26, 2006)
- e) Overlap between Sea Turtle and Harbor Porpoise Takes in Gillnet Gear

11 Presentations *(to be handed out at meeting)*

2007 HPTRT Orientation Materials/Background

12 Marine Mammal Protection Act and Section 118 (Taking of Marine Mammals Incidental to Commercial Fishing Operations)

- a) Overview of the Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)
- b) Overview of Take Reduction Planning
- c) Overview of Take Reduction Teams
- d) Take Reduction Planning Flowchart
- e) Text of Section 118 of the MMPA
- f) Overview of List of Fisheries
- g) Final 2008 List of Fisheries (72 FR 66048, November 27, 2007)
- h) Overview of Marine Mammal Authorization Program (MMAP) Part I
- i) Overview of Marine Mammal Authorization Program Part II
- j) MMAP Northeast Region Permit Holder Letter for 2007
- k) MMAP Southeast Region Permit Holder Letter for 2007
- l) MMAP Mortality/Injury Reporting Form

13 Section 117 of the MMPA (Stock Assessments)

- a) Overview of Stock Assessment Reports (SAR)
- b) Text of Section 117 of the MMPA
- c) Overview of Zero Mortality Rate Goal (ZMRG)
- d) Final Rule Zero Mortality Rate Goal (69 FR 43338, July 20, 2004)

14 HPTRP and NMFS Rules

- a) Overview of HPTRP Regulations
- b) Final Draft Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Team Take Reduction Plan (August 7, 1996)
- c) Proposed Rule HPTRP (63 FR 48670, September 11, 1998)
- d) Final Rule HPTRP (63 FR 66464, December 2, 1998)
- e) Correction Notice (63 FR 71041, December 23, 1998)
- f) Final Rule Delaware Bay Exemption (66 FR 2336, January 11, 2001)

15 HPTRP Supporting Documents

- a) Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan (HPTRP) Final Environmental Assessment and Final Regulatory Flexibility Analysis (November 24, 1998)
- b) Environmental Assessment of the Harbor Porpoise Take Reduction Plan and Implementing Regulations (August, 2000)
- c) Final Review of the Biological Status of the Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy Harbor Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) Pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (September 28, 2001)
- d) Notice of Availability of Final Harbor Porpoise Status Review; Removal from Candidate Species List (66 FR 53195, October 19, 2001)

16 Other Relevant Statutes and Mandates

- a) Summary of Laws and Executive Orders Applicable to the Take Reduction Plan Process (White Paper)
- b) Overview of the Endangered Species Act
- c) Overview of the National Environmental Policy Act
- d) Text of the National Environmental Policy Act

17 Miscellaneous (*to be provided in separate mailing or at meeting*)

- a) Summary of Harbor Porpoise Bycatch in the Southern Mid-Atlantic

18 Additional Information

- a) For more information about the HPTRP, visit the HPTRP website at:
http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/porptrp/index.html
- b) For more information about the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (ALWTRT) and TRP visit the ALWTRP website at:
<http://www.nero.noaa.gov/whaletrp/>
- c) For more information about the Bottlenose Dolphin Take Reduction Team (BDTRT) and TRP visit the BDTRP website at:
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/trt/bdtrp.htm>
- d) For more information on other Take Reduction Teams visit the NERO website at:
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/trt/teams.htm>
- e) For more information about the Sea Turtle Strategy visit
<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/turtles/strategy.htm>