

2013 Large Whale Entanglement Report

Prepared by
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2013 Large Whale Entanglement Report

Table 1. 2013 large whale entanglement reports for entangled whales.

Indication of Entanglement*

	Live	Dead	TOTAL
Right Whale	2	1	3
Humpback Whale	8	0	8
Finback Whale	0	0	0
Minke Whale	3	1	4
Sei Whale	0	0	0
Unknown	0	0	0
TOTAL	13	2	15

* "Indication of Entanglement" is marked for cases where one or more of the following applies:

- Gear was reported on a whale by a reliable observer.
- Gear was photo-documented on a whale.
- Gear was retrieved from a whale.
- Gear was reported on a whale by an inexperienced observer who was interviewed by National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) or Provincetown Center for Coastal Studies (CCS) staff and the account was descriptive enough to eliminate doubt about whether or not the whale was entangled.

Wounds, condition and NMFS serious injury and mortality determination

Descriptions of wounds and condition in this report were based on the preliminary information at the time of the event. Analysis of data and final classifications were undertaken separately as part of the serious injury and mortality determinations done by NMFS Northeast Fisheries Science Center (NEFSC). All entanglement and ship strike cases may obtain new information outside of the production time frame of this report which may alter any determination, status or sighting information. Please contact the appropriate organization for up to date sighting information. Whales not deemed a serious injury or mortality by NEFSC are categorized in this report as a human-induced injury. Deceased animals that have no gear documented or witnessed, with a Cause of Death determined to be entanglement will not be listed in this report but rather the NEFSC Mortality and Serious Injury report. The report "Mortality and Serious Injury Determinations for Baleen Whale Stocks along the Gulf of Mexico, United States East Coast and Atlantic Canadian Provinces, 2009-2013" is available online at <http://nefsc.noaa.gov/publications/crd/crd1510/>. Stock assessment reports which summarize the full status of a species can be found here: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/sars/species.htm>

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 partners within the Atlantic Large Whale Disentanglement Network. The reports represent all known U.S. coast-wide large whale entanglement data including animals that fall under U.S. regulations but were outside U.S. borders (ex. right whales, Gulf of Maine humpback whales). The reported cases within this report should be considered a minimum number and not comprehensive.
- 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.
- Gear analysis was conducted by NOAA staff on recovered gear or through owner interviews when applicable. All analysis is quantitative in nature and any qualitative information is outside the scope of this report.
- New England Aquarium and the Right Whale Consortium provided sighting and life history information for right whales.
- Life history and sighting information for humpback whales was provided by CCS, with contributions from Blue Ocean Society, Brier Island Whale and Seabird Cruises and The Whale Center of New England. Please contact Jooke Robbins of CCS for more information.
- Scott Landry of CCS supplied the entanglement diagrams.
- Many thanks to numerous NMFS staff that offered helpful comments.

Table 2. Key for common acronyms

ALWDN	Atlantic Large Whale Disentanglement Network
BOS	Blue Ocean Society
CCS	Center for Coastal Studies, MA
COA	College of the Atlantic, ME
CWR	Campobello Whale Rescue (Canada)
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans (Canada)
ECE	East Coast Ecosystems (Canada)
ECO	EcoHealth Alliance
EWS	Early Warning System
FRC	Fast Response Craft
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
MMP	Maine Marine Patrol
MERR	Marine Education Research and Rehabilitation Institute, DE
MMSC	Marine Mammal Stranding Center, NJ
NAB	National Aquarium in Baltimore, MD
NEAq	New England Aquarium Right Whale Research Team, MA
NEFSC	NMFS Protected Species Branch, Northeast Fisheries Science Center
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
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	NMFS Protected Species Branch, Southeast Fisheries Science Center
SSA	Sea to Shore Alliance
UNC-W	University of North Carolina, Wilmington
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VAq	Virginia Aquarium
VMRC	Virginia Marine Resources Commission
WCNE	The Whale Center of New England, MA
WHOI	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, MA
WW	Whale Watch

Table 3. Entanglement summary for 2013 confirmed cases.

Entanglement Report Number	Species	Date of 1 st Observation	Dead/Alive	SI Determination	Gear Collected	Type of Gear	Gear part ID
E01-13	Humpback	1/06/2013	Alive	Non-SI	No	Unk Fixed Gear	B, V
E02-13	Humpback	6/05/2013	Alive	Non-SI	No	Hook & Line	M
E03-13	Humpback	6/20/2013	Alive	Non-SI	No	Hook & Line	M
E04-13	Minke	7/01/2013	Dead	SI	No	Trawl	N
E05-13	Right	7/12/2013	Alive	PR (Non-SI)	No	Unk Fixed Gear	B, V
E06-13	Minke	7/23/2013	Alive	PR (Non-SI)	No	U	U
E07-13	Right	8/11/2013	Dead	Non-SI	No	U	U
E08-13	Minke	8/17/2013	Alive	SI	No	U	U
E09-13	Humpback	9/16/2013	Alive	PR (Non-SI)	No	U	U
E10-13	Right	9/20/2013	Alive	Non-SI	No	Unk Fixed Gear	B
E11-13	Humpback	9/28/2013	Dead	SI	Yes	Gillnet	N
E12-13	Humpback	9/29/2013	Alive	Non-SI	Yes	Trap/Pot	U
E13-13	Minke	10/04/2013	Alive	PR (Non-SI)	No	U	U
E14-13	Humpback	10/04/2013	Alive	SI	No	U	U
E15-13	Humpback	11/14/2013	Alive	Non-SI	Yes	Gillnet	S, 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; PR (Non-SI) = insufficient information available to make an informed determination, prorated value of 0.75. Abbreviations within the Vertical/Ground Line ID and Type of Gear: 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.

2013 Entanglements

NMFS No.	E01-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date 1st Observed Entangled	1/06/2013
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	6.4 NM north northeast of Virginia Beach, VA
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	36° 56.41'N 75° 55.917'W
Event Description	<p>1/06/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VAq response team documented the animal but didn't realize the whale was entangled while they were in the field. Entanglement was noticed in post-trip analysis after the January 9th sighting. <p>1/09/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> VAq WW vessel reported the entangled whale to their response team. Due to the late time of day the response team was only able to further document the case. <p>1/14/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel reported the animal to the VAq response team. The team attempted to attach a control line for disentanglement operations but they were unsuccessful partially due to an evasive whale. The whale was not sighted the next day despite a dedicated search. <p>1/22/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel reported the whale to the VAq response team a few hours after it was sighted. Due to no one standing by and poor sea conditions no response was undertaken. <p>1/25/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> WW vessel documented the animal late in the day. Due to the distance from shore and time of day no response was undertaken.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Line seen over the peduncle with an unknown attachment point and amount of gear trailing.

<p>B. Subsequent Descriptions</p>	<p>1/09/2013, 1/14/2013, 1/22/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line visible over the peduncle. A red/green bullet buoy was trailing off, close to the side of the animal suggesting an attachment point forward of the body. Unknown amount of line trailing. <p>1/25/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Line on the leading edge of the fluke forming a “V” on the dorsal surface, with the apex at the notch of the trailing edge of the fluke. The bullet buoy was trailing a sort distance behind the fluke. Unknown amount of line trailing.
<p>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Description of Wounds/Condition</p>	
<p>A. During Initial Sighting</p>	<p>None noted</p>
<p>B. Subsequent Descriptions</p>	<p>Abrasive entanglement trauma on the tailstock and fluke.</p>
<p>Sighting Prior to Entanglement</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>Life History Information</p>	<p>Juvenile; unknown sex</p>
<p>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</p>	<p>Human-induced injury</p>

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E01-13		
Field No.	J 010613 hw	Date 1 st Observed	1/6/13
Location 1 st Observed	6.4 NM north northeast of Virginia Beach, VA 36° 56.4' N, 75° 55.9' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved			Gear Retrieved By		
Date Gear Received			Received From		
Sources:	USCG		Date Set		
	CCS		Date Lost		
	Fisherman		Location		
	Other	Photos by VAqWW	Depth		
			Bottom Type		
Gear Type:	Unknown Fixed Gear		Target Species:	Unknown	
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">Photographic documentation shows the whale is carrying a buoy and vertical line.</p>					
<u>Comments:</u> 					
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">At the time if the sighting the whale is carrying a buoy and buoy line from an unknown type of fixed gear.</p>					
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/17/15	Current Location of Gear	N/A

NMFS No.	E02-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date 1st Observed Entangled	6/05/2013
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Thumper
Location 1st Observed Entangled	11.0 NM southeast of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	41° 33.68'N 69° 44.48'W
Event Description	<p>6/05/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCS sighted the animal with monofilament line caught on the barnacles of the tip of the fluke. <p>6/20/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCS confirmed the animal was gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	A minimum of 40 feet of monofilament line caught on barnacles on the right tip of the fluke. An unknown amount of line trailed beyond 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	Yes – consult CCS
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	6/20/2013
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E02-13		
Field No.	J 060513 hw	Date 1 st Observed	6/5/13
Location 1 st Observed	11.0 NM southeast of Chatham, MA 41° 33.7' N, 69° 44.5 W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Thumper	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		Gear Retrieved By	
Date Gear Received		Received From	
Sources:	USCG		Date Set
	CCS		Date Lost
	Other	Photos by PCCS	Location
			Depth
		Bottom Type	
Gear Type:	Hook & Line	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photographic documentation shows the whale is carrying some monofilament line.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> At the time of the whale is carrying some monofilament line.			
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/17/15
		Current Location of Gear	N/A

NMFS No.	E03-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date 1st Observed Entangled	6/20/2013
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Thicket
Location 1st Observed Entangled	13.0 NM east southeast of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	41° 36.112'N 69° 42.191'W
Event Description	<p>6/20/2012</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCS documented the animal with squid lures just behind the head on the right side of the whale. Unknown attachment point, although presumed monofilament line was also involved. <p>7/29/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCS documented the whale had shed the gear.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Squid lures seen just behind the head on the right side of the whale.
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	Yes – consult CCS
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	7/29/2013
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E03-13		
Field No.	J 062013 hw	Date 1 st Observed	6/20/13
Location 1 st Observed	13.0 NM east southeast of Chatham, MA 41° 36.1' N, 69° 42.2' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Thicket	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved				Gear Retrieved By			
Date Gear Received				Received From			
Sources:	USCG			Date Set			
	CCS			Date Lost			
	Fisherman			Location			
	Other	Photos by PCCS		Depth			
				Bottom Type			
Gear Type:		Hook & Line		Target Species:		Unknown	
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Photographic documentation shows the whale was carrying some type of hook/lure and monofilament line.</p>							
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>							
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was carrying hook & line gear.</p>							
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/17/15	Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E04-13
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date 1st Observed Entangled	7/01/2013
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	68.2 NM east of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	41° 38.4'N 68° 25.0'W
Event Description	Commercial fisherman during recovery of their trawl net documented the fresh carcass within their gear.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	No description was given.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Entanglement trauma on the leading edge of the flukes.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	None
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown sex and age
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced mortality

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

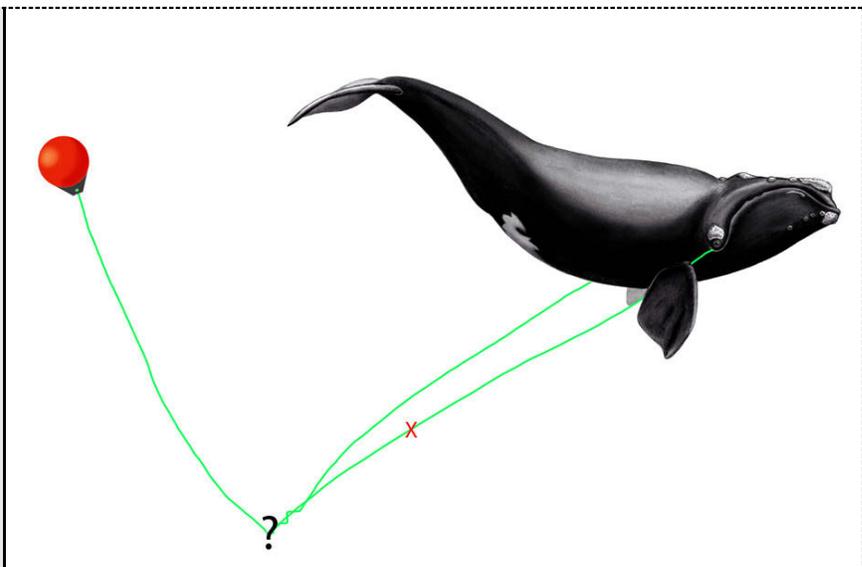
NMFS No.	E04-13		
Field No.	J 070113 mw	Date 1 st Observed	7/1/13
Location 1 st Observed	68.2 NM east of Chatham, MA 41° 38.4' N, 68° 25.0' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Carcass
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	N/A
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		Gear Retrieved By	
Date Gear Received		Received From	
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	
	CCS	Date Lost	
	Fisherman	Location	
	Other	NEFOP	Depth
		Bottom Type	
Gear Type:	Midwater Trawl	Target Species:	herring
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">A commercial mid-water trawl targeting herring.</p>			
<u>Comments:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">An observer from the Northeast Fisheries Observer Program was aboard the fishing vessel at the time of this incident.</p>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">The whale was captured in a mid-water otter trawl.</p>			
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/17/15
		Current Location of Gear	N/A

NMFS No.	E05-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Partially disentangled – full status unknown
Date 1st Observed Entangled	7/12/2013
Species	Right
Individual ID	#3123
Location 1st Observed Entangled	55.7 NM east southeast of Virginia Beach, VA
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	36° 38'N 74° 51'W
Event Description	<p>7/12/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Charter vessel documented the entangled whale with a large amount of gear. The line appeared to be exiting both sides of the mouth leading down to an unknown weighted portion of gear. From the unseen weighted gear a line led up to a polyball on the surface that was trailing behind the whale. The vessel operators illegally entered the water ahead of the whale and as it swam by they made one cut to the line exiting out of the right side of the mouth. <p>It is possible this cut may have allowed the line to be pulled out of the mouth because of the weighted gear still attached. Crew members described the gear as sinking quickly. However, it is unknown if the left flipper was involved which could complicate the whale's ability to release the gear.</p> <p>7/17/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NMFS research vessel documented the whale still off Virginia Beach. No polyball was seen although it was unclear if line was still present on the animal.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Green line exiting both sides of the mouth leading down to an unknown portion of weighted gear. From the weighted gear a line led to a polyball on the surface which trailed behind the whale. The right flipper was free of gear although it was unknown if the left flipper was involved.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None

C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale



Description of Wounds/Condition

A. During Initial Sighting

Numerous signs of entanglement abrasion trauma coming from the mouth, on the right flipper, tailstock and fluke.

B. Subsequent Descriptions

Significant abrasion trauma visible on the leading edge of the fluke and tailstock.

Sighting prior to entanglement

3/20/2012

Re-sightings Post-entanglement

None

Life History Information

Adult female

NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination

Human-induced prorated injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E05-13		
Field No.	J 071213 rw	Date 1 st Observed	7/12/13
Location 1 st Observed	55.7 NM east southeast of Virginia Beach, VA 36° 38' N, 74° 51' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Disentanglement
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Eg # 3123	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		Gear Retrieved By	
Date Gear Received		Received From	
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	
	CCS	Date Lost	
	Fisherman	Location	
	Other	Video from 'THE WILD LYFE' and WAVE RUNNER Charters	Depth
Bottom Type			
Gear Type:	Unknown Fixed Gear	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">The whale is carrying buoys and line from an unknown type of fixed gear.</p>			
<u>Comments:</u> 			
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">The whale is carrying a buoy and buoy line from an unknown type of fixed gear.</p>			
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/17/15
		Current Location of Gear	N/A

NMFS No.	E06-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date 1st Observed Entangled	7/23/2013
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	A few hundred yards west of Rough Point, RI
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	41° 27.083'N 71° 18.75'W
Event Description	People on shore noticed the animal with line, mesh, buoy and a highflyer. The contacted the USCG which contacted Mystic Aquarium to try and relocate the whale. Despite assistance with a vessel from the Save the Bay program the whale was not found.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Described as having the mesh, line and buoy near 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	None
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown sex and age.
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced prorated injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E06-13		
Field No.	J 072313 mw	Date 1 st Observed	7/23/13
Location 1 st Observed	A few hundred yards west of Rough Point, RI 41° 27.0' N, 71° 18.8' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		Gear Retrieved By			
Date Gear Received		Received From			
Sources:	USCG	Date Set			
	CCS	Date Lost			
	Fisherman	Location			
	Other	Depth			
Bottom Type					
Gear Type:	Unknown - no gear recovered		Target Species:		
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">No gear recovered.</p>					
<u>Comments:</u>					
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">No gear recovered.</p>					
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/19/15	Current Location of Gear	N/A

NMFS No.	E07-13
Initial Status	Dead
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/11/2013
Species	Right
Individual ID	#1311
Location 1st Observed Entangled	Approximately 1 mile inshore of the Monitor Sanctuary, NC
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	35° 02.02'N 75° 26.65'W
Event Description	Charter vessel documented the carcass with line exiting the mouth. It was estimated 50-100 tiger sharks were feeding on the carcass. The carcass may have landed a few days later but the location prevented verification.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Single line exiting the mouth.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Heavy shark predation with most of the body and tail flesh missing.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	4/21/2013
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Adult male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E07-13		
Field No.	J 081113 rw	Date 1 st Observed	8/11/13
Location 1 st Observed	~ 1 mile inshore of the Monitor Sanctuary, NC 35° 2.0' N, 75° 26.6' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Carcass
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Eg # 1311	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved				Gear Retrieved By			
Date Gear Received				Received From			
Sources:	USCG			Date Set			
	CCS			Date Lost			
	Fisherman			Location			
	Other	Video documentation by a charter vessel.		Depth			
				Bottom Type			
Gear Type:		Just Rope		Target Species:			
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">A length of 3-strand rope exiting the mouth.</p>							
<u>Comments:</u> 							
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">The whale is carrying rope of which a gear type or part cannot be determined.</p>							
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/19/15	Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E08-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/17/2013
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	9.4 NM east of Newburyport, MA
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	42° 49.4'N 70° 35.9'W
Event Description	BOS noticed in post-trip analysis that the whale had line over the rostrum.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Line visible over the rostrum.
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	None
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown age and sex
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced serious injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E08-13		
Field No.	J 081713 mw	Date 1 st Observed	8/18/13
Location 1 st Observed	9.4 NM east of Newburyport, MA 42° 49.4' N, 70° 35.9' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved				Gear Retrieved By			
Date Gear Received				Received From			
Sources:	USCG			Date Set			
	CCS			Date Lost			
	Fisherman			Location			
	Other	Photos by Blue Ocean Society.		Depth			
				Bottom Type			
Gear Type:		Just Rope		Target Species:			
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">A length of rope exiting the mouth.</p>							
<u>Comments:</u> 							
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">The whale is carrying rope of which a gear type or part cannot be determined.</p>							
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/26/15	Current Location of Gear	N/A		

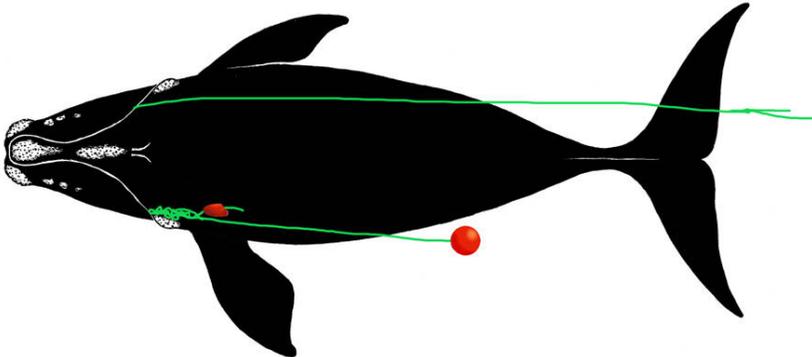
NMFS No.	E09-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date 1st Observed Entangled	9/16/2013
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	29.4 NM southeast of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	41° 26.54'N 69° 22.1'W
Event Description	<p>A charter fishing vessel reported the entangled whale to the USCG which relayed the information to the CCS response team. The reporting vessel was unable to standby due to the sea conditions. Both the USCG and CCS responded to search for the animal, but terminated the effort once sea conditions became difficult.</p> <p>During a later interview the captain admitted to illegally entering the water and removing a small portion of trailing line.</p>
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Line over the head and at least two lines trailing beyond the fluke. One line terminated about 50 feet beyond the fluke with a white polyball. The other trailing line terminated about 200-300 feet beyond the whale.
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	None
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown sex and age
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced prorated injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E09-13		
Field No.	J 091613 hw	Date 1 st Observed	9/16/13
Location 1 st Observed	29.4 NM southeast of Chatham, MA 41° 26.5' N, 69° 22.1' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved				Gear Retrieved By			
Date Gear Received				Received From			
Sources:	USCG			Date Set			
	CCS			Date Lost			
	Fisherman			Location			
	Other			Depth			
Bottom Type							
Gear Type:	No gear recovered.			Target Species:			
<u>Gear Description:</u> No gear recovered.							
<u>Comments:</u> Some trailing gear may have been removed by the reporting party, but was not recovered.							
<u>Conclusions:</u> No gear recovered.							
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/26/15	Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E10-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Gear shed
Date 1st Observed Entangled	9/20/2013
Species	Right
Individual ID	#3946
Location 1st Observed Entangled	38.1 NM south southeast of Clark's Harbor, NS
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	42° 49.8'N 65° 26.4'W
Event Description	<p>9/20/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEAq research team spotted the animal and attempted to attach a telemetry buoy. After a few attempts the whale became quite evasive and as dusk approached the effort was called off. The team drifted overnight in the area but upon dawn thick fog had rolled in, so the team began their transit to homeport. <p>3/25/2014</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCS aerial survey documented the animal gear free.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Line exiting both sides of the mouth. Two lines exit the left side of the mouth and tangle together with one line terminating at a red bullet buoy near the flipper. The other line terminates at a polyball midway down the body. The line out of the right side of the mouth terminates just beyond the fluke and appears to split.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	

Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Described as in poor condition.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	5/01/2013
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	3/25/2014
Life History Information	Juvenile female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E10-13		
Field No.	J 092013 rw	Date 1 st Observed	9/20/13
Location 1 st Observed	38.1 NM south southeast of Clark's Harbor, NS 42° 49.8' N, 65° 26.4' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Eg # 3946	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved		Gear Retrieved By	
Date Gear Received		Received From	
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	
	CCS	Date Lost	
	Fisherman	Location	
	Other	Observations from NEAq and CWR	Depth
		Bottom Type	
Gear Type:	Unknown fixed gear		Target Species: Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Two lines exiting the mouth, one terminating with a bullet buoy and the other terminating with a poly ball.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was entangled in the endline(s) of unknown fixed gear.			
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/30/15
		Current Location of Gear	N/A

NMFS No.	E11-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Deceased
Date 1st Observed Entangled	9/28/2013
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	0.2 NM southeast of Slataire, NY
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	40° 37.874'N 73° 11.595'W
Event Description	<p>9/28/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recreational boaters reported the animal swimming around with mesh visible over the back and some line trailing. Due to limited resources in the area (USCG was conducting a search and rescue effort) no response was undertaken. <p>10/01/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Carcass washed ashore with gear still intact. A necropsy was performed and it was concluded the entanglement was long-term.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Green mesh over the back and some line trailing beyond the fluke.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	Floatline of panel was anchored and embedded in the roof of the mouth. Line and mesh exited the right side of the mouth.
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Entanglement trauma visible over the body.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	Embedded line and mesh in the roof of the mouth. Entanglement trauma on the body, leading edge of flippers, peduncle and corners of the mouth.
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Adult male
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced mortality

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E11-13		
Field No.	J 092813 hw	Date 1 st Observed	9/28/13
Location 1 st Observed	0.2 NM southeast of Saltaire (Fire Island), NY 40° 37.9' N, 73° 11.6' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation / Carcass
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	10/1/13	Gear Retrieved By	NY State DEC
Date Gear Received	March, 2014	Received From	NY State DEC
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	
	CCS	Date Lost	
	Fisherman	Location	
	Other	DFO	Depth
		Bottom Type	
Gear Type:	Gillnet	Target Species:	Unknown
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Approximately 100 feet of gillnet was recovered. The webbing is 5.5" mesh, hung on the half. There is a 1/4" 3-strand poly rope "sistered" to the braided leadline. This was done as part of the original construction, evidenced by the fact that the hangings are around both members. Floats are typical style, however their attachment is unusual in that the floatline is not run through the floats, rather the floats are attached to the floatline with poly twine and 2 floats are attached together approximately every 6 feet.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> A red plastic tag was attached to the recovered gillnet. From inquiries into the origin of the tag it was learned that it had been issued for a gillnet fishery in Newfoundland, Canada in 2001.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was carrying gillnet gear of Canadian origin.</p>			
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	3/31/15
		Current Location of Gear	Pemaquid, ME

NMFS No.	E12-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled – gear shed
Date 1st Observed Entangled	9/29/2013
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Foggy
Location 1st Observed Entangled	1.6 NM northwest of Tiberts Landing, NS
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	44° 21.03'N 66° 18.2'W
Event Description	WW vessel reported the animal to MARS. The CCS research team happened to be in the area and stood by the animal until the CWRT arrived. The whale was entangled with a substantial amount of line and was effectively immobile, although drifting with the tide. CWRT managed to remove almost all of the gear except for short pieces of line left in the mouth that the whale will likely shed. Multiple sightings have occurred post-disentanglement and while no clear view of the mouth have been documented, it is assumed the whale has shed the remaining gear.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	A minimum of five wraps over the head with line exiting both sides of the mouth. One line from the mouth led to a tight wrap over the peduncle. Between the line from the mouth and peduncle hung a large tangle of pots about 2 meters below the whale. It was unclear if line from the tangle of pots led to the seafloor.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	None
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Entanglement trauma was visible on the head and body.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	9/20/2013
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	8/22/2014
Life History Information	Adult female
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E12-13		
Field No.	J 092913 hw	Date 1 st Observed	9/29/13
Location 1 st Observed	1.6 NM northwest of Tiberts Landing, NS, CA 44° 21.03'N 66° 18.2'W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Disentanglement
Species	humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Foggy	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	9/29/13	Gear Retrieved By	CWRT
Date Gear Received		Received From	
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	
	CCS	Date Lost	
	Fisherman	Location	
	Other	NEAq	Depth
		Bottom Type	
Gear Type:	Unknown Trap/Pot	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">Approximately 19 feet of 9/16" floatrope was recovered.</p>			
<u>Comments:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">The recovered rope was evaluated by the NEAq, Consortium for Wildlife Bycatch Reduction and is currently in storage on Campobello Island.</p>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">The whale was entangled in unknown trap/pot gear.</p>			
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	4/14/15
		Current Location of Gear	Campobello, NB

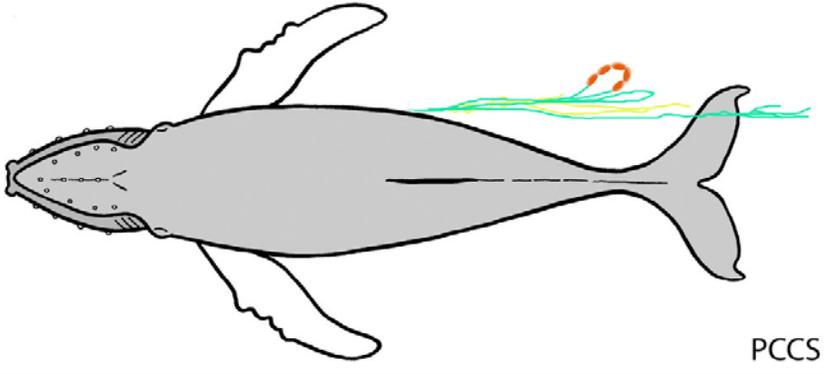
NMFS No.	E13-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Partial disentanglement – full status unknown
Date 1st Observed Entangled	10/04/2013
Species	Minke
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	4.2 NM southeast of Seal Harbor, ME
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	44° 14.4'N 68° 10.9'W
Event Description	Recreational boaters reported the anchored animal to the USCG. The USCG relayed the report to CCS who contacted COA to see if a local response was possible with MMP. As COA and MMP were responding, the boaters witnessed one small vessel approach the whale. A passenger illegally entered the water and then quickly re-boarded their vessel. A short time later a group of fishing vessels approached the whale and illegally removed at least the anchoring line from the whale.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	Unknown although based on the photographs it appeared to be anchored.
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
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced prorated injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E13-13		
Field No.	J 100413 mw	Date 1 st Observed	10/4/13
Location 1 st Observed	4.2 NM southeast of Seal Harbor, ME 44° 14.4' N, 68° 10.9' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Partial
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved				Gear Retrieved By			
Date Gear Received				Received From			
Sources:	USCG			Date Set			
	CCS			Date Lost			
	Fisherman			Location			
	Other			Depth			
				Bottom Type			
Gear Type:	No gear recovered.			Target Species:			
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">No gear recovered.</p>							
<u>Comments:</u> 							
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">No gear recovered.</p>							
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	4/2/15	Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E14-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Entangled
Date 1st Observed Entangled	10/04/2013
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	2.0 NM east of Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	41° 39.818'N 69° 53.782'W
Event Description	Recreational boaters reported the entangled whale and agreed to stand by until the CCS response team arrived. Unfortunately, the lack of trailing gear on the entanglement made an effort very difficult and despite multiple approaches the team was unsuccessful at removing any gear. Worsening sea conditions eventually forced the team to suspend the effort.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	A tangle of lines and small floats wedged between the right flipper and body. The lines terminated near the fluke.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	Described as emaciated and overall in poor condition.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown

Re-sightings Post-entanglement	None
Life History Information	Unknown
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced serious injury

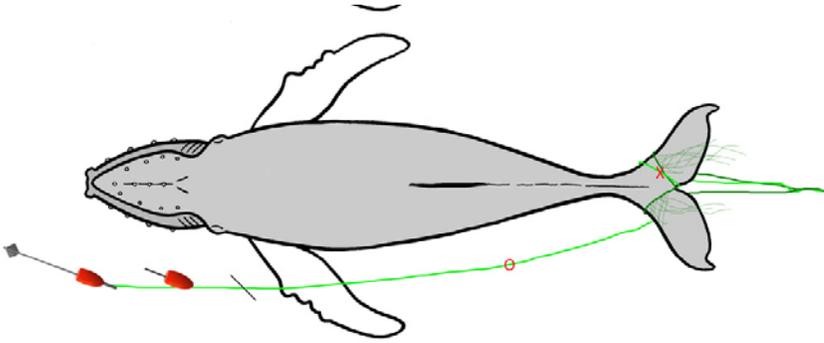
FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E14-13		
Field No.	J 100413 hw	Date 1 st Observed	10/4/13
Location 1 st Observed	2.0 NM east of Chatham, MA 41° 39.8' N, 69° 53.8' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Observation
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved				Gear Retrieved By			
Date Gear Received				Received From			
Sources:	USCG			Date Set			
	CCS			Date Lost			
	Fisherman			Location			
	Other			Depth			
		Bottom Type					
Gear Type:		Unknown		Target Species:			
<u>Gear Description:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">Documentation showed line with several small floats.</p>							
<u>Comments:</u> 							
<u>Conclusions:</u> <p style="text-align: center;">The whale was carrying some unknown gear type – line with small floats observed.</p>							
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	4/2/15	Current Location of Gear	N/A		

NMFS No.	E15-13
Initial Status	Alive
Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled
Date 1st Observed Entangled	11/14/2013
Species	Humpback
Individual ID	Unknown
Location 1st Observed Entangled	2.7 NM east of Manasquan, NJ
Latitude/Longitude 1st Observed Entangled	40° 08.475'N 73° 59.97'W
Event Description	<p>11/14/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A marine mammal observer aboard a dredge reported the anchored whale to the USCG and NMFS. The USCG went out to verify the report and confirmed the whale was likely anchored. NMFS contacted CCS who agreed to send some staff to help disentangle the whale. Overnight the USCG stationed a vessel next to the animal to prevent any harassment or shipstrike. <p>11/15/2013</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CCS responded with the USCG and found the anchored whale wrapped with line and gillnet around the tail. Eventually a few cuts were made and the whale managed to shed the remaining gillnet on its own.
Description of Gear on Whale as Reported	
A. During Initial Sighting	None; the whale never lifted its tail to the surface indicating at least the tail was entangled.
B. Subsequent Descriptions	Multiple wraps around the fluke with some line leading down to the anchoring gear. One line led from the fluke to the buoy surface system.

C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale	
Description of Wounds/Condition	
A. During Initial Sighting	None noted
B. Subsequent Descriptions	None
Sighting prior to entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings Post-entanglement	11/15/2013
Life History Information	Unknown
NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Human-induced injury

FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E15-13		
Field No.	J 111413 hw	Date 1 st Observed	11/14/13
Location 1 st Observed	2.7 NM north northeast of Manasquan, NJ 40° 8.5' N, 74° 0.0' W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Disentanglement
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	11/15/13	Gear Retrieved By	PCCS
Date Gear Received	11/15/13	Received From	PCCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Gear was set on 11/13/13
	CCS	Date Lost	
	Fisherman	Owner Interview	Location Same location as entanglement.
	Other		Depth
Bottom Type			Sandy
Gear Type:	Sink gillnet	Target Species:	Dogfish
<p>Gear Description: The recovered gear includes a high flyer, tide buoy and a portion of vertical line. The high flyer is 12' LOA with a poured concrete weight, a 7"x15" float, two flags (one orange, one black) and a radar reflector. The high flyer attaches through an 1100# weak link and carabineer clip to the tide buoy with a separation of approximately 14 feet. The tide buoy is a single 5"x12" bullet buoy. The portion of vertical line recovered is approximately 105 feet. The gear was originally set as a string of four 50 fathom nets. Mesh size was 6" with 61mm mono. The panels were hung with 80# leadline and endlines ranged from 150' to 175'.</p>			
<p>Comments: While each buoy was attached to the buoy line with a weak link meeting the ALWTRP requirements, the method of attachment did not meet the ALWTRP requirement of: "<i>Weak links must be designed in such a way that the bitter end of the buoy line is clean and free of any knots when the weak link breaks.</i>" In this case the weak links were attached to the buoy line with carabineer type clip.</p>			
<p>Conclusions: The whale was found entangled in a gillnet panel and end line and was subsequently disentangled by PCCS. As the recovered gear was not totally in compliance with the ALWTRP, NOAA OLE was contacted to follow up with the owner.</p>			
Report By:	John F. Kenney	Date:	4/2/15
		Current Location of Gear	NMFS, RI