



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Monitoring the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan

January 21, 2015

ALWTRP Monitoring Strategy

- Finalized in 2012, anticipated vertical line rule and extended monitoring period
- Contains a variety of metrics:
 - Stock Assessment updates, Serious Injury/Mortality updates, Enforcement updates, Outreach updates, Observer data analyses, Recovered gear analyses
- Automatic TRT triggers, including serious injury/mortality events, entanglements in new fisheries, etc.



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ATLANTIC LARGE WHALE TAKE REDUCTION PLAN

NOAA Fisheries Service implemented the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Plan (ALWTRP) to reduce injuries and deaths of large whales due to incidental entanglement in fishing gear. The ALWTRP is an evolving plan that changes as NOAA Fisheries Service learns more about why whales become entangled and how fishing practices might be modified to reduce the risk of entanglement. It has several components including restrictions on where and how gear can be set; research into whale populations and whale behavior, as well as fishing gear interactions and modifications; outreach to inform and collaborate with fishermen and other stakeholders; and a large whale disentanglement program.



Right Whale Photo by David Wiley

What's New

- 2014 ALWTRP Amendment Final Rule (December 12, 2014)
- 2014 Final Rule
 - Fishery Bulletin
- 2014 Final Environmental Impact Statement

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ATLANTIC LARGE WHALE TAKE REDUCTION PLAN

Reports

Entanglement and Ship Strike

- 2011
- 2010
- 2009
- 2008
- 2007
- 2006
- 2005
- 2004
- 2003 (entanglement only)
- 2002 (entanglement only)
- 2001 (entanglement only)

Monitoring Strategy

- Monitoring Strategy (January 2012)
- Annual Monitoring Report

Mortality and Serious Injury

- 2002-2006
- 2001-2005
- 2000-2004
- 1999-2003

Workshop Reports

- 2005 Low Profile Groundline Workshop
- March 2003 Disentanglement Workshop

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Moving Forward

- Short Term Updates
 - Regular reporting on all monitoring metrics
 - More frequent website posting
 - More frequent email communication
- Long-term Analyses (5+ years)
 - More analysis to connect outputs to outcomes

What's Next

- Acknowledge “monitoring phase” of the TRP
- Seeking TRT participation in:
 - Developing the structure and data sources needed for annual short-term updates
 - Assisting in planning 5+ year analyses
- Email Kate with further ideas or to volunteer to participate in a Monitoring Workgroup

Questions?