

## **MD DNR 2009-2010 Activities for ALWTRT March 1, 2011**

### **2010**

#### **2010 General management items & whale strandings:**

- Crab pot ghost gear removal – Chesapeake Bay 2010 (decreasing gear and line in potential whale habitat)
- Crab license buyback – Chesapeake Bay 2010 (decreasing vertical lines in potential whale habitat)
- Currently examining potential for Section 6 project by multiple state effort – (large whale aerial surveys)
- Currently examining available distribution data for marine mammal and sea turtle for offshore wind management issues
- Assisted Delaware with Sei whale stranding June 2009 (ship strike) – Driscoll = Large Whale Necropsy Team Leader
- Documented whale off Ocean City, MD coast - apparently normal/ feeding activity June 20, 2010
- Assisted Delaware with Fin whale (June 2010) and NARW stranding July 6, 2010
- Necropsied 2 humpback whales in March 14 & July 8, 2010 (ship strikes) – Driscoll = Large Whale Necropsy Team Leader
- Provided NPS/ Assateague Island National Seashore outreach materials (humpback whale fact sheets)
- Documented live breaching humpback in lower MD portion of Chesapeake Bay (Hooper's Island) – April 30, 2010
- Worked with VAQS on attempting to locate a reported entangled humpback whale in VA portion of the Chesapeake Bay May 2010 (no live or dead stranded carcass found)

### **2010**

#### **Partnerships/ Collaboration:**

\*JHU – MS student partial fulfillment of MS degree: MD DNR Marine Mammal Contaminants Summary

#### **Presentations:**

- \*Special Species Symposium – Cornell University & University of PA – “Marine Mammal Conservation”  
Lab: “Marine Mammal Necropsy Techniques”
- \*Univ. of PA Coll. Of Vet Med. “Marine Mammal Conservation & Disease”
- \*VMRCVM - Public Policy: “Marine Mammals, Sea Turtles, Fish & Wildlife Laws”
- \*Univ. of MD ANSC 340: “Wildlife, Marine & Terrestrial Diseases”
- \*Univ. of MD ANSC 252: Marine Mammal Diseases”
- \*MD Dept of Health - Zoonotic Disease Updates – “Fish & Wildlife Health Program – Mortality Reporting”
- \*Mid-Atlantic Zoonotic and Vector-Borne Disease Group -“Terrestrial & Aquatic Wildlife Disease & the MD DNR Fish & Wildlife Health Program”
- \*NERS Annual Meeting – “Large Whale Case Reports - Sei Whale Ship Strike “
- \*Wildlife Disease Association - “Marine Mammal Strandings in MD 1990-2009”
- \*Aquavet – June – SUNY /Long Island, NY – “Aquatic Birds”; “Careers”: “Oil Spills”
- \*MarVet – July 21-29 – Grand Cayman Island, “MM Conservation & Diseases”;  
“Zoonotics”: “Laws”: “Careers”; “2 Stranding Case Reports: Beaked Whale; Sei Whale”
- \*St. Matthews University - GCI – July 21-29: “Terrestrial & Aquatic Wildlife Diseases”  
Partnership of the Americas – “ Fish & Wildlife Health Program and Marine Mammal Conservation”
- \*Univ. of PA Ecotoxicology: “Aquatic and Terrestrial Wildlife Studies - Wildlife Laws”
- \*NE Regional Stranding Conference Large Whale Stranding Workshop – “MD Large Whale Case Reports”

#### **Newspaper Interviews:**

Ask the Expert: “Chessie the Sea Monster” – Marine Mammals in the Chesapeake Bay  
Humpback Whale Strandings 2010 – multiple interviews

**Session Chair:**

NOAA National Stranding Conf. Sheperdstown, WV – April 2010 -Session Chair – Carcass Disposal Issues

Lab – Carcass Digester Demonstration (using marine mammal carcasses)

\*ISAAH (Int'l Symp. Aqu. An. Health)– Student Poster Session Chair/ Organizer

**Published:**

Bi-Lateral USA-Russia Conference Proceedings – “Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Strandings 1990-2008”

**Other MD DNR Marine Mammal and Sea Turtle Stranding Program activities related to ALWTRT**

Johns Hopkins University – MS student partial fulfillment of MS degree: Marine Mammal Contaminants

MD Fishing Challenge – Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Display/Table

MD Coast Days – Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Display/Table

MD DNR Stranding Brochure – updated & edited/ printed

Easton High School Students – Mentored 2 students “Marine Mammal Strandings” (poster)

Oxford Day – Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Strandings – tent/ displays

Chesapeake Christian School in Easton MD – Supplied materials for education of elementary schoolers

Oxford Community Center Community Celebration - November 2010

Goldsboro Daycare -provided materials for MM education

MD DNR Ask The Expert: Why do marine mammals strand?

---

**2009**

**2009 MD DNR Large Whale Strandings**

\*Necropsied humpback whale - March 11, 2009

\*Assisted VA with tracking of humpback floater – March 26, 2009

**2009 MD DNR Marine Mammal Outreach Activities**

\*MD Fishing Challenge – Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Display/Table

\*MD Coast Days – Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Display/Table

\*Oxford Day – Marine Mammal & Sea Turtle Strandings – tent/ displays

\*Delaware – Marine Mammal Necropsy Workshop – conducted marine mammal necropsy for DE volunteers

\*Delaware – Marine Mammals and Oil Spills Workshop – “Marine Mammals and Necropsy Findings”

**2009 MD DNR Outreach Presentations:**

\*Univ. of PA Coll. Of Vet Med. “Marine Mammal Conservation & Disease”

\*VA-MD Regional College of Veterinary Medicine - Public Policy: “Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife Laws”

\*International Association of Aquatic Animal Medicine – “MD DNR Marine Mammal Strandings” - poster

\*AquaVet – (veterinary student training)June – Woods Hole, MA – “Careers – Marine Mammals and Aquatics”

\*MarVet (veterinary student training)– July – Grand Cayman Island: “Aquatic Birds”, “MM Conservation & Diseases”; “Reptile & Amphibian Diseases”; “Laws”: “Careers”; “Zoonotic Diseases”

LABS: Sea Turtle Clinical; Sea Turtle Necropsy; Bird Necropsy; Fish Necropsy; Corals

\*St. Matthews University School of Veterinary Medicine – July - GCI: “Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife Diseases”

\* Univ. of PA Ecotoxicology: “Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife Studies & Laws”