

2009 Preliminary Large Whale Data

2009* Preliminary Large Whale Entanglement, Ship Strike, and Mortality Summary¹ United States and Canadian Waters

	Reports of Individual Animals With Previously Unreported Entanglements ²	Reports of Individual Animals With Indications of Ship Strike ³	Total Confirmed Mortalities ⁴
Right Whale	7	2	5
Humpback Whale	17	4	19
Fin Whale	3	1	3
Sei Whale	0	1	2
Minke Whale	4	0	3
Sperm Whale	0	0	2
Sowerby's Beaked Whale	0	0	1
Bryde's Whale	0	1	1
Unknown	1	3	7
TOTAL	32	12	43

* Up to and including October 27, 2010

¹ This is preliminary data which is being released to the Atlantic Large Whale Take Reduction Team (ALWTRT) for purposes of providing the ALWTRT with an initial summary of 2009 large whale entanglement, ship strike and mortality information. It has not been formally disseminated by the National Marine Fisheries Service. It does not represent and should not be construed to represent any agency determination or policy. Additional information gathered after the release of this summary may alter, add or delete cases.

² Numbers include live and dead animals

³ Numbers include live and dead animals with indication of ship strike although it could not be confirmed that the interaction was pre-mortem

⁴ Numbers include carcasses, carcasses with indication of entanglement as well as carcasses with indication of ship strike.

As of October 25, 2010, there were thirty-two whales that were reported and confirmed entangled by survey aircraft, fishermen, whale watch vessels and various other sources within the United States and Canadian waters. The reports of animals within Canadian waters should not be considered comprehensive. Of the thirty-two individuals, twenty-one of the animals were assessed and responded to; the remaining animals were not responded to due to the fact that they were either lost by the reporting platform, were not found by the responder (typically because no one stood by), conditions (sea state, time of day, range offshore) did not allow a response, deceased or were reported to have a minor entanglement or shed the gear during the initial observation of the animal.

Breakdowns of the first and important sightings of new entangled cases are listed below (identification of individual is unknown unless stated):

- Right whale #3311 on 01/14/09, multiple disentanglement attempts
- Right whale #3420 on 01/31/09, tag deployed same day, tag came off with ~50ft of line on 02/12/09, sighted gear free on 2/19/10
- Right whale #3714 on 02/07/09, partially disentangled on 02/12/09
- Humpback whale on 02/25/09, disentangled on 02/26/09
- Humpback whale on 03/17/09
- Humpback whale on 04/09/09
- Humpback whale on 04/11/09
- Humpback whale on 04/20/09, disentangled
- Fin whale on 04/27/09
- Humpback whale, 2008 calf of "Ravine", on 05/04/09, disentangled
- Humpback whale on 05/23/09
- Humpback whale on 05/23/09
- Humpback whale "Pepper" on 06/06/09, sighted gear free on 05/13/10
- Humpback whale on 06/09/09
- Right whale #1019, "Radiator", on 07/18/09
- Unknown large whale on 08/03/09
- Minke whale on 08/11/09
- Humpback whale "Anvil" on 08/14/09, monofilament entanglement
- Humpback whale on 08/17/09, deceased
- Minke whale on 08/17/09, deceased
- Humpback whale on 8/21/09, deceased, cause of death undetermined (due to state of carcass) although some gear present and entanglement trauma documented
- Minke whale on 09/02/09
- Right whale #1151, "Mavynne", on 09/04/09, disentangled
- Fin whale on 09/09/09, partially disentangled
- Humpback whale, 2009 calf of "Blackhole", on 09/20/09, monofilament entanglement, gear free sighting on 10/02/09
- Right whale #3821 on 09/26/09, disentangled
- Fin whale on 10/09/09, disentangled
- Minke whale on 10/11/09, disentangled
- Humpback whale on 10/21/09, disentangled
- Humpback whale on 11/20/09
- Right whale #3850 on 11/26/09, sighted gear free on 01/13/10
- Humpback whale on 12/09/09, partially disentangled (non-Atlantic Large Whale Disentanglement Network member) on 01/12/10

* Highlighted cases are when a disentanglement response was possible. Some gear may have been removed in previous sightings which could lead to a gear-free status or the whale with some entangling gear remaining. Gear remaining on a whale does not necessarily mean the whale is in a life-threatening entanglement.

As of August 23, 2010, there have been 12 reported ship strikes to the Northeast Regional Office. Please note that this number includes cases in which whales were observed with indications of ship strike, but it could not be confirmed that the interaction was pre-mortem. A breakdown of the indications of ship strike is listed below:

- Unknown whale, 03/31/09, Hilton Head, SC
- Right whale, 04/19/09, Stellwagen Bank, MA
- Sei whale, 05/19/09, Indian River, DE
- Humpback whale, 05/29/09, Pt. Pleasant, NJ
- Humpback whale, 2009 calf of Rapier, 06/17/09, Stellwagen Bank, MA
- Unknown whale, 06/20/09, off Race Point, MA
- Humpback whale, Bayou, 07/21/09, Stellwagen Bank
- Humpback whale, 07/28/09, Stellwagen Bank, MA
- Fin whale, 10/01/09, Port Elizabeth, NJ
- Bryde's whale, 10/04/09, Tampa Bay, FL
- Unknown animal (possible whale or basking shark), 10/08/09, Stellwagen Bank, MA
- Right whale, 12/14/09, Cape Henry, VA

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	Reports of Individual Animals With Previously Unreported Entanglements ²	Reports of Individual Animals With Indications of Ship Strike ³	Total Confirmed Mortalities ⁴
Right Whale	4	1	3
Humpback Whale	15	3	15
Fin Whale	0	1	5
Sei Whale	0	0	0
Minke Whale	4	0	5
Sperm Whale	0	0	4
Unknown Beaked Whale	0	0	6
Bryde's Whale	0	0	0
Unknown	1	0	12
TOTAL	24	5	50

* Up to and including October 27, 2010

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² Numbers include live and dead animals

³ Numbers include live and dead animals with indication of ship strike although it could not be confirmed that the interaction was pre-mortem

⁴ Numbers include carcasses, carcasses with indication of entanglement as well as carcasses with indication of ship strike.

As of October 25, 2010, there were twenty-four whales that were reported and confirmed entangled by survey aircraft, fishermen, whale watch vessels and various other sources within the United States and Canadian waters. The reports of animals within Canadian waters should not be considered comprehensive. Of the twenty-four individuals, thirteen of the animals were assessed and responded to; the remaining animals were not responded to due to the fact that they were either lost by the reporting platform, were not found by the responder (typically because no one stood by), conditions (sea state, time of

day, range offshore) did not allow a response, deceased or were reported to have a minor entanglement or shed the gear during the initial observation of the animal.

Breakdowns of the first and important sightings of new entangled cases are listed below (identification of individual is unknown unless stated):

- Humpback whale on 03/07/10
- Humpback whale on 05/05/10
- Humpback whale on 05/08/10, deceased
- Right whale #2470 on 05/13/10, disentangled
- Humpback whale “Pinch” on 05/18/10
- Humpback whale on 05/28/10, deceased
- Humpback whale on 06/19/10, partially disentangled, wounds severe
- Unknown whale (possible fin/sei whale) on 06/26/10, deceased
- Right whale on 06/27/10, deceased
- Humpback whale on 07/05/10
- Humpback whale “Vault” on 07/23/10, gear-free on 10/19/10 although health of the animal appeared poor
- Humpback whale on 07/26/10
- Humpback whale “Sodapop” on 07/27/10
- Humpback whale, 2007 calf of “Nocturne”, on 07/27/10, disentangled
- Humpback whale on 08/13/10, partially disentangled
- Minke whale on 08/14/10, disentangled
- Minke whale on 08/18/10, gear free
- Minke whale on 08/19/10, disentangled
- Humpback whale, 2008 calf of “Trident”, on 08/20/10, embedded line
- Minke whale on 08/21/10
- Humpback whale, 2007 calf of “Nocturne” (new entanglement), on 08/31/10, disentangled
- Right whale #1503 on 09/10/10
- Humpback whale on 10/02/10, possibly the same whale as 08/20/10 case but insufficient documentation prevents confirmation
- Right whale #3120 on 10/20/10

* Highlighted cases are when a disentanglement response was possible. Some gear may have been removed in previous sightings which could lead to a gear-free status or the whale with some entangling gear remaining. Gear remaining on a whale does not necessarily mean the whale is in a life-threatening entanglement.

As of October 25, 2010, there have been 5 reported ship strikes. Please note that this number includes cases in which whales were observed with indications of ship strike, but it could not be confirmed that the interaction was pre-mortem. A breakdown of the indications of ship strike is listed below:

- Humpback whale, 03/13/10, Ocean City, MD
- Fin whale, 03/15/10, Delaware Bay, DE
- Humpback whale, 06/10/10, Jones Beach State Park, NY
- Right whale, 07/02/10, Grand Manan, NB
- Humpback whale, 08/13/10, Stellwagen Bank, MA