

# 2017 Atlantic Large Whale Entanglement Report

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**This report is dedicated to  
Joe Howlett (1958-2017)**

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# 2017 Atlantic Large Whale Entanglement Report

This report summarizes all of the entanglement reports for the Atlantic coast that are known to the National Marine Fisheries Service (NOAA Fisheries) and only addresses animals with indications of involvement with fishing gear that occurred in the calendar year of 2017.

Table 1. 2017 Atlantic large whale entanglement reports.

	Indication of Entanglement*		
	Live	Dead	Total
Right Whale	7	2	9
Humpback Whale	24	2	26
Finback Whale	1	0	1
Minke Whale	3	4	7
Sei Whale	1	0	1
Unknown	1	0	1
TOTAL	37	8	45

\* "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 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 NOAA Fisheries 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 cases may obtain new information outside 2017 Atlantic Large Whale Entanglement Report - Page 3

of the production time frame of this report which may alter any determination, status or sighting information. Whales not deemed to have a serious injury or mortality by NEFSC are categorized in this report as having 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 in the NEFSC Mortality and Serious Injury report. The NEFSC “Mortality and Serious Injury Determinations for Baleen Whale Stocks along the Gulf of Mexico, United States East Coast and Atlantic Canadian Provinces, 2013-2017” report is available online. Stock assessment reports that summarize the full status of a species are also available on our website. [XXXXXXXXXXXX](#)

#### 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 U.S. and Canadian partners within the Atlantic Large Whale Disentanglement Network (ALWDN). The reports contain all known U.S. east coast-wide large whale entanglement data, including animals that fall under U.S. protection but were outside U.S. borders (e.g. North Atlantic right whales, Gulf of Maine humpback whales). The reported cases within this report should be considered a minimum number and not comprehensive.
- The presence or absence of line is difficult to determine in monofilament cases. When applicable, the first gear-free sighting should not be taken as definitive assessment of lack of monofilament line due to environmental conditions, lighting, and animal behavior, which can make detectability of line difficult. CCS compiles thousands of photographs from numerous whale watch companies and ALWDN partners for these determinations. We are grateful for their analysis and contribution to this report.
- 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;
  - Disentangled – monitor = animal had all life-threatening gear removed with some non life-threatening gear remaining that is expected to be shed.
- Gear analysis was conducted by NOAA staff on recovered gear or through owner interviews when possible. 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.
- Demography and sighting information for humpback whales was provided by CCS, with contributions from Blue Ocean Society, Boston Harbor Cruises, Dolphin Fleet, Hyannis Whale Watcher Cruises, Florida Fish and Wildlife Commission, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Gotham Whale and Whale and Dolphin Conservation. Please contact Jooke Robbins of CCS for more information.
- Scott Landry of CCS supplied the entanglement diagrams.
- Many thanks to numerous NOAA Fisheries staff and the GARFO policy series editors that offered helpful comments.

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Table 2. Key for common acronyms

ALWDN	Atlantic Large Whale Disentanglement Network
AMAPPS	Atlantic Marine Assessment Program for Protected Species
AMCS	Atlantic Marine Conservation Society
BOS	Blue Ocean Society
CCS	Center for Coastal Studies, MA
COA	College of the Atlantic, ME
CWI	Canadian Whale Institute (Canada)
CWR	Campobello Whale Rescue (Canada)
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans (Canada)
ECE	East Coast Ecosystems (Canada)
EWS	Early Warning System
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
NLWRS	Newfoundland and Labrador Whale Release and Strandings (Canada)
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
WHOI	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, MA
WW	Whale Watch

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Table 3. Atlantic entanglement summary for 2017 confirmed cases. Continued on next page

Entanglement Report Number	Species	Date of First Observation	Dead / Alive	SI Determination	Gear Collected	Type of Gear	Gear part ID
E01-17	Humpback	1/05/2017	Alive		No	U.S. sink gillnet	N
E02-17	Right	1/05/2017	Alive		Yes	Canadian snow crab	T, V
E03-17	Right	4/23/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	U
E04-17	Sei	5/11/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E05-17	Right	6/21/2017	Dead		Yes - DFO	Canadian snow crab	B, T, V
E06-17	Right	7/05/2017	Alive		Yes - DFO	Canadian snow crab	B, V
E07-17	Minke	7/06/2017	Dead		No	U.S. lobster	B, V
E08-17	Finback	7/07/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E09-17	Right	7/08/2017	Alive		No	Canadian snow crab	S, V
E10-17	Right	7/09/2017	Alive		No	Canadian snow crab	S, V
E11-17	Humpback	7/15/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E12-17	Humpback	7/19/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E13-17	Right	7/19/2017	Alive		No	Canadian snow crab	S, V
E14-17	Humpback	7/20/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E15-17	Humpback	7/21/2017	Alive		Yes	Canadian snow crab	S, V
E16-17	Humpback	7/26/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E17-17	Humpback	8/01/2017	Dead		No	Unknown	N
E18-17	Minke	8/03/2017	Alive		No	U.S. lobster	B, V
E19-17	Humpback	8/10/2017	Alive		Yes	U.S. lobster	B, 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; SI (PR) = insufficient information available to make an informed determination, prorated value of 0.75. Abbreviations within the Gear part ID: 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 entangle

Table 3 continued. Atlantic entanglement summary for 2017 confirmed cases.

Entanglement Report Number	Species	Date of First Observation	Dead/Alive	SI Determination	Gear Collected	Type of Gear	Gear part ID
E20-17	Minke	8/11/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E21-17	Minke	8/12/2017	Dead		Yes	Unknown	U
E22-17	Humpback	8/14/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E23-17	Humpback	8/14/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E24-17	Humpback	8/18/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E25-17	Humpback	8/19/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E26-17	Humpback	8/28/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	S, V
E27-17	Minke	8/28/2017	Dead		Yes	U.S. lobster	B, V
E28-17	Right	8/28/2017	Alive		No	Unknown Canadian	U
E29-17	Humpback	9/05/2017	Dead		No	Unknown trap/pot	
E30-17	Humpback	9/12/2017	Alive		Yes	U.S. Lobster	B,V
E31-17	Right	9/15/2017	Dead		Yes – DFO	Canadian Snow Crab	T, V
E32-17	Humpback	9/18/2017	Alive		No	Canadian lobster	B, V
E33-17	Humpback	9/24/2017	Alive		Yes	U.S. lobster	B, T, V
E34-17	Humpback	10/01/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E35-17	Unknown	10/02/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	S, V

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Table 3 continued. Atlantic entanglement summary for 2017 confirmed cases.

Entanglement Report Number	Species	Date of First Observation	Dead/Alive	SI Determination	Gear Collected	Type of Gear	Gear part ID
E36-17	Humpback	10/03/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E37-17	Humpback	10/06/2017	Alive		Yes	Unknown gillnet	N
E38-17	Minke	10/09/2017	Alive		Yes	Ghost and U.S. lobster	B,G, T,V
E39-17	Minke	10/10/2017	Dead		Yes	U.S. lobster	B, V
E40-17	Humpback	10/10/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E41-17	Humpback	10/14/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E42-17	Humpback	10/21/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E43-17	Humpback	10/21/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	B, V
E44-17	Humpback	11/12/2017	Alive		No	Unknown	M
E45-17	Humpback	11/30/2017	Alive		No	Canadian Lobster	S

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; SI (PR) = insufficient information available to make an informed determination, prorated value of 0.75. Abbreviations within the Gear part ID: 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.

**2017 Entanglements**

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E01-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	1/05/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Not identifiable
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	6.2 NM E of Virginia Beach, VA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	36° 50.6'N 73° 50.4'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A recreational boater reported the anchored animal that appeared to be entangled with gillnet and a surface system. While standing by the reporter witnessed a fisherman come into the area and haul the entangling gear. It appeared this action freed the whale as it swam away without any gear in tow. The USCG and VAQ responded but they were unable to relocate the animal.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Gillnet was seen over the head but the exact full configuration was unknown.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	
<b>Sighting Prior to Entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E01-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 10517 Mn	Date First Observed	1/05/2017
Location First Observed	6.2 NM E of Virginia Beach, Virginia 36° 50.6'N, 73° 50.4'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A	
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A	
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	1/04/2017	
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown	
	Fisherman	Interview	Location	36° 50.6'N, 73° 50.4'W
	Other		Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown	
Gear Type:	Sink gillnet	Target Species:	Dogfish	
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Fisherman retained their gear. Fisherman stated their buoy markers are secured with 22lbs Danforth anchors.</p>				
<p><u>Comments:</u> Fisherman was cooperative about providing information about their set. The gear was found compliant with appropriate weak links and ALWTRP blue color mark.</p>				
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The description from the reporting party described gillnet and the surface system involved at least on the head area. The documentation resolution prevented understanding of the exact configuration and gear involvement. The whale had a relatively simple entanglement with sink gillnet gear that was targeting dogfish.</p>				
Current Location of Gear	Fisherman recovered gear			

<b>Initial Status</b>	<b>E02-17</b>
	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status</b> (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	1/05/2017
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#3530 Ruffian
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	17.6 NM E of Cumberland Island, GA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	30° 55.2'N 81° 04.0'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>1/5/17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A FWC aerial survey found, and reported the animal to GA DNR. While the response team was underway the FWC aerial team continued to document the whale. Once GA DNR arrived and documented the whale further they attached a telemetry buoy to continue operations on the following day.</li> </ul> <p>1/6/17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>After tracking the animal through the night, the GA DNR response team with assistance from the FWC aerial survey relocated the whale early in the morning. The response team made a strategic cut near the head and the whale was able to shed the remaining gear which was recovered.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Multiple lines exiting both sides of the mouth and then forming a bridle near the blowholes. One of those lines led to something heavy being dragged behind.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Overall fair condition with some new raw entanglement trauma present. Old entanglement trauma was also visible.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None

<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	8/14/2016
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	1/06/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Adult Male
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

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### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E02-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 10517 Eg	Date First Observed	1/05/2017
Location First Observed	17.6 NM E of Cumberland Island, GA 30° 55.2'N, 81° 04.0'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	#3530 Ruffian	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	1/06/2017	Gear Retrieved By	GA DNR, FL FWC
Date Gear Received	1/18/2017, 2/14/2017	Received From	GA DNR
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Other	Location	Unknown
Depth		Unknown	
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> 451 feet of 5/8" line was recovered with a large conical steel trap (134 lbs) that had empty bait bags, and a partially destroyed plastic funnel. Cut-out areas in the mesh of the trap were consistent with those required in the snow crab fishery per DFO. Some of the line recovered also has a unique core build that is not used in any known U.S. Atlantic fishery, but has been identified in other confirmed Canadian snow crab cases.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> No twine remained in the mesh cut-outs suggesting that the trap was in the water for at least a period of four months per DFO. No trap tag or surface buoy was present to help identify the exact location of the fishery or fisher.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Recovered gear is consistent with the Canadian snow crab fishery. Growth on the trap, line and the missing escape vents suggest that the gear was in the water for at least a period of 4 months.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Narragansett, RI - GARFO		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E03-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	4/23/2017
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#4146
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	2.9 NM W of Truro, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 00.1'N 70° 08.7'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>4/23/17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCS aerial survey discovered the entangled whale and reported it to their response team. The CCS team attempted a number of times to remove the line exiting the mouth but the evasive whale made it difficult. After reviewing the documentation further, it was believed the entanglement was minor and the animal may be able to shed the gear on its own.</li> </ul> <p>5/8/17</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCS aerial survey team spotted the animal gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Line exiting the left side of the mouth terminating beyond the flukes.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Fresh wounds on the tailstock
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Yes 4/21/2018
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile Female
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E03-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 42317 Eg	Date First Observed	4/23/2017
Location First Observed	2.9 NM W of Truro, MA 42° 00.1'N, 70° 08.7'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#4146	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	N/A
	CCS	Date Lost	N/A
	Fisherman	Location	N/A
	Other	Depth	N/A
Bottom Type		N/A	
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Line was documented trailing from the mouth approximately 25 beyond the fluke.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Line is of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E04-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	5/11/2017
<b>Species</b>	Sei
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	Cape Lookout Bight, NC
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	34° 38.6'N    76° 32.8'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A recreational boater reported the entangled whale later that evening sometime after they left the whale. A search was conducted the following day with no success.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Heavily fouled line draped over the whales back behind blow holes.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E04-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 51117 Bb	Date First Observed	5/11/2017
Location First Observed	Cape Lookout Bight, NC 34° 38.6'N, 76° 32.8'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Sei	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	N/A
	CCS	Date Lost	N/A
	Fisherman	Location	N/A
	Other	Depth	N/A
Bottom Type		N/A	
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Heavily fouled line and buoy was documented over the back of the animal.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Line and buoy is of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E05-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Dead
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Deceased
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	6/21/2017
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#3603 Starboard
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada. 67.3 NM E of Chandler
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	48° 13.5'N 63° 02.0'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Dead whale found by NEFSC aerial survey. Line and multiple polyballs visible on the carcass.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Line seen on the right flipper and possibly entering the mouth on the right side. Lines extending opposite directions down to weighted gear.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	April 23, 2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Adult female
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E05-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 62117 Eg	Date First Observed	6/21/2017
Location First Observed	Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada. 67.3 NM E of Chandler 48° 13.5'N, 63° 02.0'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes-DFO
Individual ID	#3603 Starboard	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes-DFO

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	Unknown	Gear Retrieved By	Unknown
Date Gear Received	Unknown	Received From	Unknown
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	June 3 and June 16th
	CCS	Date Lost	Between June 12-21, 2017
	Fisherman	Location	Area 12 in GoSL
	Other	Depth	55 and 39 fathoms
		Bottom Type	Unkonwn
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> All information was provided by DFO in their Incident Report – North Atlantic Right Whale Mortality Event in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 2017. A minimum of 2 separate traps were involved from different fishers, although as many as four were possible.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> Traps had to be released to provide opportunity to tow the carcass for recovery.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Whale hit initial snow crab trap between June 12-16<sup>th</sup> and dragged the configuration at the minimum 8NM into the second snow crab trap on June 16-21<sup>st</sup>. The exact entanglement configuration and total number of sets is unknown.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Unknown - DFO		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E06-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/05/2017
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#4510
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	37.9 NM SE of Miscou Island, New Brunswick Canada
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	47° 31.0'N 63° 42.7'W
<b>Event Description</b>	NEFSC aerial survey reported and stood by until the research vessel M/V Shelagh with members from CWI, NEAq, and CWRT, as well as later joined by DFO and were able to remove all the gear. Aerial team was able to confirm the whale was gear-free
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Line and buoy exiting the left side of the mouth that was wrapped with another line exiting the right side of the mouth which led down to weighted gear.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Extensive entanglement trauma all over the animal, with some bleeding at the peduncle region
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None noted.
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	7/07/2015
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown sex and age
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E06-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 70517 Eg	Date First Observed	7/05/17
Location First Observed	37.9 NM SE of Miscou Island, New Brunswick Canada 47° 31.0'N, 63° 42.7'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes-DFO
Individual ID	#4510	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes-DFO

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	7/05/2017	Gear Retrieved By	CWRT
Date Gear Received	Unknown	Received From	Unknown
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> All information was provided by DFO in their Incident Report – North Atlantic Right Whale Mortality Event in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 2017. An unknown amount of line and buoys were recovered.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> DFO made the conclusion the animal was entangled in Canadian snow crab gear.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Unknown - DFO		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E07-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Deceased
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/06/17
<b>Species</b>	Minke
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	41.4 NM NE of Manomet Point, Plymouth, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 28.54' N 70° 02.138' W
<b>Event Description</b>	A commercial fisherman found the anchored minke whale entangled in a lobster trawl and reported it to the CCS response team via the Plymouth Harbor Master. While the response was underway, the whale became entangled in a second trawl. Shortly after the interaction with the second set of gear the animal barrel rolled and then dove. CCS arrived approximately 30 minutes after the barrel roll and the whale did not surface in that time. CCS requested the gear to be hauled and the minke was found deceased in the gear.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Presumed the whale had a buoy line through the mouth that descended to the trawl. It was also described as being wrapped around the peduncle.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown sex and age
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	Human-induced injury

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E07-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 70617Ba	Date First Observed	7/06/2017
Location First Observed	41.4 NM NE of Manomet Point, Plymouth, MA 42°28.54' N, 70°02.138' W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	July 3, 2017
	CCS	Date Lost	N/A
	Fisherman	Location	42° 28.54'N, 70° 02.14'W
	Other	Depth	40 feet
		Bottom Type	Rocky
Gear Type:	American trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Both sets of gear were identified and the fishermen were interviewed. No gear was recovered.</p> <p>Primary set – the interviewed fisherman stated their set was a five pot trawl with 3/8” endline and 600lbs weak links, Endline is comprised of 30 feet of float line on the bottom with the remaining being sink line. Endline is also marked with red twine or tape for the ALWTRP color mark.</p> <p>Secondary set - the interviewed fisherman stated their set was a nine pot trawl with 3/8” line and two end lines and 600lbs weak links. No float line was used anywhere in the set.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The whale became entangled in the 5 trap trawl and dragged that gear into the 9 trap trawl of lobster gear.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E08-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/07/2017
<b>Species</b>	Finback
<b>Individual ID</b>	#0919
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	25.0 NM SE of Gloucester, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42 26.5'N 70 08.1W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>7/7/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW vessel reported the entangled fin whale to CCS response team. The WW vessel was unable to stand by and due to the sea condition no response was possible.</li> </ul> <p>7/11/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• This individual was observed by the BOS gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Orange and white buoy seen trailing a short distance behind whale.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Yes, 7/11/2018
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E08-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 70717 Bp	Date First Observed	7/07/18
Location First Observed	25.0 NM SE of Gloucester, MA 42 26.5'N, 70 08.1W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Finback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#0919	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
Bottom Type		Unknown	
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented towing a line and bullet buoy.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was towing a line and buoy of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E09-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/08/17
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#1317 Ergo
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	22.8 NM SE of Miscou Island, NB, Canada
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	47° 43.0'N 70° 01.0'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>7/8/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>NEFSC aerial survey team found a right whale that appeared to be entangled in a buoy line. The plane had to re-fuel and was unable to relocate the whale despite searching the area.</li> </ul> <p>7/25/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The Mingan Islands Cetacean Studies vessel was in the area and spotted the animal which appeared to be gear free, although a full confirmation was not possible.</li> </ul> <p>8/18/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DFO aerial survey confirmed the whale was gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Rope in the mouth and over the rostrum
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Active and overall condition appeared good.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	Healing wounds on tailstock
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	4/23/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Yes 7/25/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Adult Male
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	E09-17		
Field No.	PR 70817Eg	Date First Observed	7/08/17
Location First Observed	22.8 NM SE of Miscou Island, NB, Canada 47° 43.0'N, 70° 01.0'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#1317 Ergo	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes - DFO

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab
<u>Gear Description:</u> All information was provided by DFO in their Incident Report – North Atlantic Right Whale Mortality Event in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 2017. No gear was recovered.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> DFO made the conclusion the animal was entangled in Canadian snow crab gear.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E10-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/09/2017
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#4123
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	22.5 NM E of Sainte-Maire Saint-Raphael, New Brunswick, Canada
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	47° 44.6'N 64° 01.1'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>7/09/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A boater reported an entangled whale in the evening, prompting a response from NEFSC the next day.</li> </ul> <p>7/10/2017</p> <p>The NEFSC aerial survey found the entangled whale the following morning. DFO, NEAq and CWRT responded. The response team made to cuts to the body wraps and line leading into the mouth. The last cut allowed the whale to shed the remaining gear, which was confirmed by the aerial survey.</p>
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Line exiting the left side of the mouth leading down to a heavy weight. Multiple lines wrap around the back just behind pectoral flippers, with an orange polyball pinned to the back by numerous lines.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	7/08/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Adult Male
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E10-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 70817Eg	Date First Observed	7/09/2017
Location First Observed	22.5 NM E of Sainte-Maire Saint-Raphael, New Brunswick, Canada 47° 44.6'N, 64° 01.1'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#4123	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes-DFO

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
Bottom Type		Unknown	
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> All information was provided by DFO in their Incident Report – North Atlantic Right Whale Mortality Event in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 2017. Gear was lost during the disentanglement effort.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> DFO made the conclusion the animal was entangled in Canadian snow crab gear.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E11-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled - Monitor
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/15/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2016 calf of Thumper
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	6.3 NM NW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 09.2'N 70° 19.1'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Multiple WW vessels sighted a humpback with a monofilament line in tow that appeared to be hooked on right fluke. Additional sightings did not provide enough information to confirm status.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Potentially hooked on the dorsal side of the right fluke balde.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	7/14/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	7/28/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile, unknown Sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	E11-17		7/15/2017
Field No.	PR 71517 Mn	Date First Observed	
Location First Observed	1.5 NM southeast of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 02.4' N, 70° 13.9' W	Subsequent Status	Entangled - Monitor
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	2016 Calf of Thumper	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
Bottom Type		Unknown	
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
<u>Comments</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E12-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/18/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2017 Calf of Firefly
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	3.7 NM NE of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 06.9'N 70° 12.3'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>7/19/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW vessel sighted the calf with a green lure and some monofilament line on the left fluke of the whale.</li> </ul> <p>7/27/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple WW vessels sighted the animal gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Green lure hooked into dorsal left fluke with monofilament line trailing.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	7/17/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	7/26/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Male calf
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E12-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 71817 Mn	Date First Observed	7/18/2017
Location First Observed	3.7 NM NE of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 06.9'N, 70° 12.3'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	2017 Calf of Firefly	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E13-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/19/2017
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#4094 Mayport
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	26.5 NM SE of Sainte-Marie Saint-Raphael, New Brunswick, Canada
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	47° 33.6'N 64° 00.0'W
<b>Event Description</b>	NEFSC aerial survey reported the free-swimming whale that was trailing a line and buoy from the mouth. The overall appearance and visible entanglement trauma suggested the whale was entangled for some time.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Buoy line lodged in the right mouth line and trailing to a set of buoys with line sinking, suggesting some weighted gear was attached. It appeared the buoy line may have twisted back on itself and led back into the mouth.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Overall poor condition
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	4/23/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Adult Female
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E13-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 71917 Eg	Date First Observed	7/19/2017
Location First Observed	26.5 NM SE of Sainte-Marie Saint-Raphael, New Brunswick, Canada 47° 33.6'N, 64° 00.0'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#4094 Mayport	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes-DFO

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> All information was provided by DFO in their Incident Report – North Atlantic Right Whale Mortality Event in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 2017.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> DFO made the conclusion the animal was entangled in Canadian snow crab gear.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E14-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/20/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Firefly
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	8.5 NM N of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 06.2'N 70° 12.3'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>7/20/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whale was documented with monofilament line with an unknown attachment point.</li> </ul> <p>7/27/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple WW vessels documented the animal gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Monofilament on the tip of the left fluke blade.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	7/20/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	7/26/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Adult Female
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E14-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 72017 Mn	Date First Observed	7/20/2017
Location First Observed	8.5 NM N of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 12.2'N, 70° 14.9'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Firefly	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E15-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/21/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	GOM #1784
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	2.8 NM E of Nauset Inlet, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	41° 48.2'N 69° 52.4'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A charter vessel reported an entangled humpback but lost the animal and could not relocate. The CCS response team was quickly in the area and managed to relocate the whale. After a difficult disentanglement operation with multiple cuts the line began to unwind and eventually pulled from the whale's mouth. It was believed that all gear was recovered.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Heavy line bridled through the mouth that led to a twist at the area between the dorsal fin and flukes. The twist then continued to a very large jumble of very thick line and buoys. The gear trailed about 100ft past the flukes.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Overall poor condition. Thin, gray skin condition, with flukes covered in fresh entanglement trauma.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	Noted a small amount of blood, likely coming from the head area, post-entanglement.
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	None
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E15-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 72117 Mn	Date First Observed	7/21/2017
Location First Observed	2.8 NM E of Nauset Inlet, MA 41°48.2'N, 69° 52.4'W	Subsequent Status	Disentangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	7/21/2017	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	???	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> 3 polyballs, a partial bullet buoy and <del>XXX</del> amount of 5/8" and 7/8" line was recovered. Markings on the buoys matched no known U.S. east coast fishery. An orange piece of twine was woven into one of the lines but the GARFO gear team concluded this was a marker to notify the fisher where they were in the haul.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u> Initially, the case was turned over to OLE as the gear appeared non-compliant to U.S. regulations. CCS was reviewing a DFO snow crab report and noticed the buoy markings matched a listed fisherman.</p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Based on the configuration not matching any known U.S. east coast fishery, a unique line construction not known to be in a U.S. east coast fishery and the buoy markings matched an individual listed in a Marine Stewardship Council Fishery Assessment final report from September 2012, the conclusion is the animal became entangled in a Canadian snow crab set.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Narragansett, RI		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E16-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	7/26/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Sprinkles
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	8.2 NM NW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 10.0'N 70° 21.9'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>7/26/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple WW vessels sighted the animal with monofilament trailing from the fluke.</li> </ul> <p>7/28/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCS and WW vessels confirmed the whale was gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Monofilament line trailing from the tip of the left fluke blade.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	7/25/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	7/28/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile male
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E16-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 72617 Mn	Date First Observed	7/26/2017
Location First Observed	8.2 NM NW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 10.0'N, 70° 21.9'W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Sprinkles	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E17-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Deceased
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/01/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2017 Calf of Cajun
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	21.9 NM SE of Gloucester, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 18.3'N 70° 20.4'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>8/01/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW vessel observed the calf with gillnet coming out of the right side of the mouth .</li> </ul> <p>8/08/2017, 8/18/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multiple WW vessels sighted the entangled whale. The gear had shifted and a large portion was now exiting the left side of the mouth.</li> </ul> <p>10/24/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCS sighted the animal still entangled. The whale's health was noticeably declining.</li> </ul> <p>12/17/2017, 2/12/2018, 2/15/2018, 2/20/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sighted in the southeast via aerial survey. No gillnet was visible exiting the mouth but it was seen over the rostrum. The calf's condition continued to deteriorate.</li> </ul> <p>2/24/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FWS aerial survey team found the carcass of the calf. An on-water GA DNR and FWC team responded and documented the carcass with some of the gear still present.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Gillnet exiting the right side of the mouth and ending around the right flipper.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	<p>8/08/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gear shifted to exiting the left of the mouth and a few strands crossing over the rostrum.</li> </ul> <p>2/12/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Gear only visible over the rostrum.</li> </ul>

<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Multiple injuries but still very active
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	Deteriorated over the course of observation, until deceased.
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	5/13/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Female calf
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

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**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E17-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 80117 Mn	Date First Observed	8/01/2017
Location First Observed	21.9 NM SE of Gloucester, MA 42° 18.3'N, 70° 20.4'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	2017 Calf of Cajun	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown gillnet	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> No gear was recovered. Documentation initially shows gillnet mesh exiting the mouth.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was involved with gillnet of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E18-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Partial Disentanglement - Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/03/2017
<b>Species</b>	Minke
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	6.8 NM SE of Bar Harbor, ME
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	44° 18.2'N 68° 05.3'W
<b>Event Description</b>	WW reported the entangled whale and stood by until the MMP responded and was able to remove most of the gear from the animal. The team was able to cut the line exiting one side of its mouth and the longest length of line trailing from the flukes. The whale swam off at this point with line trailing from the peduncle that seems likely it will be shed by the whale.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Whale appeared to have bitten down on the bottom portion of a buoy line, resulting in line through the mouth leading to a couple of wraps around the tailstock and then leading to partially anchored gear, most likely one or more traps on the bottom.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	None
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E18-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 80317 Ba	Date First Observed	8/03/2017
Location First Observed	6.8 NM SE of Bar Harbor, ME 44° 18.2'N, 68° 05.3'W	Subsequent Status	Partial Disentanglement - Entangled
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	American trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<u>Gear Description:</u> No gear was recovered.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Gear was identified by Maine Marine Patrol as lobster gear.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E19-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/10/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2017 Calf of Hancock
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	5.2 NM NE of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 05.6'N 70° 08.63'W
<b>Event Description</b>	WW sighted an entangled Humpback whale calf and stood by until CCS team could respond. WW believes they were there when the entanglement occurred because the calf was sighted gear-free earlier in the day, and when they were observing a large groups of whales, the mother and calf's behavior changed radically. The speed of the mother and calf and the presence of other whales made disentanglement attempts difficult. During the operation the buoy and line eventually broke free and was recovered.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Buoy trailing behind the whales flukes, unknown attachment point
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	8/10/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	8/10/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Female calf
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E19-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 81017 Mn	Date First Observed	8/10/2017
Location First Observed	5.2 NM NE of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 05.6'N, 70° 08.63'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	2017 calf of Hancock	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	8/10/2017	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	???	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	8/10/2017
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	American trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Recovered gear is a setup for a single trap which consists of <b>XX" line measuring XXX?</b> The gear is complaint with appropriate amount of hog rings for a weak link and proper red + yellow ALWTRP mark in all three places.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Whale became entangled in the end line of a single lobster trap.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Narragansett, RI - GARFO		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E20-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/11/2017
<b>Species</b>	Minke
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	3.8 NM SE of York, ME
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	43° 04.5'N    70° 34.9'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A commercial fishermen reported an entangled minke and stood by while a response was coordinated with MMP. While the response was underway, a recreational boater cut the line from the whale and it swam away with line and buoys intact. MMP conducted a search for the whale but did not relocate the animal.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Unknown
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	Human-induced injury

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	E20-17		
Field No.	PR 81117 Ba	Date First Observed	8/11/2017
Location First Observed	3.8 NM SE of York, ME 43° 04.5'N, 70° 34.9'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
Bottom Type		Unknown	
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was described as towing line and a buoy.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The line and buoy are of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E21-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Deceased
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/12/2017
<b>Species</b>	Minke
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	0.9 NM W of West Tremont, ME
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	44° 14.5'N 68° 24.6'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A fresh entangled carcass was discovered and a necropsy was conducted by COA.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Unknown
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E21-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 81217 Ba	Date First Observed	8/12/2017
Location First Observed	0.9 NM W of West Tremont, ME 44° 14.5'N, 68° 24.6'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	Yes	Gear Retrieved By	MMP
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> A very small portion of non-descript line was recovered.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The line is of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E22-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled - monitor
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/14/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2014 calf of Echo
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	4.7 NM NE of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 06.6'N    70° 09.8'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>8/14/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCS witnessed a group of agitated whales and discovered one of them had monofilament line trailing down its body with an unknown attachment point.</li> </ul> <p>9/25/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Animal resighted but could not confirm gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Monofilament trailing down both sides of body
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	8/13/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	9/25/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile male
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E22-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 81417 Mn	Date First Observed	8/14/2017
Location First Observed	4.7 NM NE of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 06.6'N, 70° 09.8'W	Subsequent Status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	2014 calf of Echo	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E23-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/14/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Perseid
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	4.5 NM NE of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 06.1'N 70° 09.7'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>8/14/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple WW vessels and CCS documented the whale with monofilament trailing from the right fluke.</li> </ul> <p>8/18/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Multiple WW vessels confirmed the whale was gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Monofilament line streaming from the right fluke.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	8/13/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	8/16/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Adult female
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E23-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 81417 Mn	Date First Observed	8/14/2017
Location First Observed	4.5 NM NE of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 06.1'N, 70° 09.7'W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Perseid	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E24-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/18/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2017 calf of Hancock
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	Southern edge of Stellwagen Bank
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	TBD
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>8/18/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW vessel observed the whale with monofilament line over the back with an unknown attachment point.</li> </ul> <p>10/02/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Animal was sighted gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Monofilament line over the right side of the dorsal fin.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	8/14/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	10/02/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Female calf
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E24-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 81817 Mn	Date First Observed	8/18/2017
Location First Observed	Southern edge of Stellwagen Bank	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	2017 Calf of Hancock	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E25-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/19/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	1.7 NM SW of Smith Point, Long Island, NY
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	40° 43.1'N 72° 52.5'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>8/19/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>USCG received a report of a whale towing a buoy. AMCS responded with the USCG and relocated the whale that was towing an orange/red bullet buoy about 10ft past the flukes. The whale was taking long dives and was eventually lost.</li> </ul> <p>9/11/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>WW vessel sighted the entangled whale again which was now towing the buoy about 30-50' behind the fluke.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Unknown attachment point, line with buoy trailing behind whale
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E25-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 81817 Mn	Date First Observed	8/18/2017
Location First Observed	1.7 NM SW of Smith Point, Long Island, NY 40° 43.1'N, 72° 52.5'W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was documented towing a line and buoy.			
<u>Comments:</u> Gear was not recovered.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Line and buoy are of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E26-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/28/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Drifter
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	10.2 NM SE of Frenchboro, ME
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	44° 03.6'N 68° 08.6'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A commercial fisher reported the entangled humpback to MMP who responded. The MMP response team began making cuts at the area of the flukes. The whale then dove and the team was able to determine the animal was gear free.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	One-line wrapping around the peduncle and one wrap around the left fluke blade which led down to the anchoring gear.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Fresh entanglement trauma visible on tailstock and fluke
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	9/16/2014
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile female
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E26-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 82817 Mn	Date First Observed	8/28/2017
Location First Observed	10.2 NM SE of Frenchboro, ME 44° 03.6'N, 68° 08.6'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Drifter	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	8/28/2017	Gear Retrieved By	MMP
Date Gear Received	???	Received From	MMP
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Gear recovered was 42 feet of 3/8" sink line with two hard plastic Go Deep 7"X17" buoys. No weak links or line marking was present.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Line and buoys are of unknown origin.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E27-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Dead
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Deceased
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/28/2017
<b>Species</b>	Minke
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	Off Harpswell, ME
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	Unknown
<b>Event Description</b>	Unknown exact location or original reporter and despite the carcass appearing anchored, responders were unable to relocate the carcass.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Line visible around the throat leading to the right side of the mouth
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Entanglement trauma visible on ventral side of body and throat.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	None
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile male
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	Human-induced injury

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

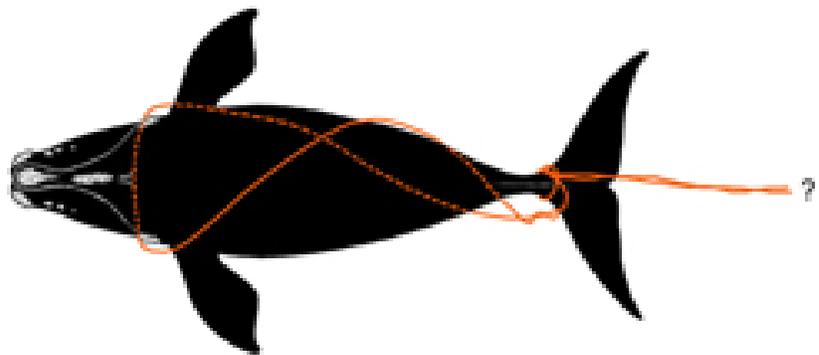
NMFS No.	<b>E27-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 82817 Ba	Date First Observed	8/28/2017
Location First Observed	Off Harpswell, ME	Subsequent Status	Dead
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	~ August 25, 2017
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	13184.2 X 25937.9
	Other	Depth	300 feet
Bottom Type		Gravel and mud	
Gear Type:	American trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> No gear was recovered. Fisherman was identified and interviewed. They described their set as a 10 pot trawl with 90 ft. of sink ground line between traps. Buoy line on each end with 1/3 3/8" float line at the bottom and the remaining line to the surface is 11/32" sink line. Two hard foam 8X16" buoys with a hard foam acorn buoy on top. Weak links are a combination of both hog rings and a Sea Side off the shelf 600# link.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Documentation shows the endline and at least part of the surface system involved. It is unclear how the whale was fully entangled. The whale interacted with a ten trap lobster trawl.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E28-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	8/28/2017
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#3245
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	37.7 NM SE of Gaspé, Quebec, Canada
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	48° 30.2'N 63° 42.0'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>8/28/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A DFO aerial survey reported the entangled whale.</li> </ul> <p>11/3/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>DFO aerial survey sighted the animal skim feeding with other whales and a change in configuration due to no obvious line observed over the back or wrapped around peduncle. Could not determine if it is gear free.</li> </ul> <p>1/17/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whale was sighted by CCS aerial team in good condition and with no gear present.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Multiple wraps around the fluke and tailstock that appears to be heading down to weighted gear. Loose line led from tailstock to right mouth and possible right flipper.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	

**C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale**



**Description of Wounds/Condition**

**A. During Initial Sighting**

Overall good condition, fresh entanglement trauma on body.

**B. Subsequent Descriptions**

None

**Sighting prior to entanglement**

8/25/2017

**Re-sightings Post-entanglement**

None

**Life History Information**

Adult male

**NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination**

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E28-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 82817 Eg	Date First Observed	8/28/2017
Location First Observed	37.7 NM SE of Gaspe, Quebec, Canada 48° 30.2'N 63° 42.0'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	#3245	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown Canadian	Target Species:	Unknown
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> No gear was recovered. Documentation shows larger diameter line used in a fixed gear fishery.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was sighted three days earlier gear free. Due to location it was determined the line was of Canadian origin but of an unknown source.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E29-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Dead
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Deceased
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	9/05/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Not identifiable
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	North Beach, Sable Island, NS, Canada
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	
<b>Event Description</b>	Severe entangled carcass washed ashore in a remote location. Responders managed to take basic documentation and measurements.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Multiple wraps on the head, tailstock and possibly in the mouth. A cylindrical steel trap was also resting closely to the animal.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Significant entanglement trauma around the mouth, base of fluke and around the head.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	Human-induced serious injury

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E29-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 90517 Mn	Date First Observed	9/05/2017
Location First Observed	North Beach, Sable Island, NS, Canada	Subsequent Status	Dead
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	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
Bottom Type		Unknown	
Gear Type:	Unknown Trap/pot	Target Species:	???
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Unknown if the gear was recovered and analyzed. Documentation shows line on the large end of the line diameter spectrum used in a fixed gear fishery. A cylindrical steel trap is also visible.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> It is unclear if the gear was recovered or identified due to the remote location of the stranding. The whale interacted with the line and trap/pot of unknown origin.</p>			
Report By:	Glenn Salvador	Date:	4/04/2018
		Current Location of Gear	N/A

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E30-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	9/12/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2016 calf of Sachal
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	1.1 NM east of Ballston Beach, Truro, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	41° 59.9'N 69° 59.7'W
<b>Event Description</b>	CCS discovered the entangled whale while on a research cruise. The team could see a buoy at the area of the flukes and two other buoys wrapped together behind flukes. The team cut both tight peduncle wraps and the entanglement fell away.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Two tight wraps of line around the peduncle with a buoy just below the surface at the area of the flukes. Two other buoys wrapped together 30ft behind the flukes.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Recent entanglement trauma around the peduncle
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	6/20/2016
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	9/12/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile; unknown sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E30-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 912217 Mn	Date First Observed	9/12/2017
Location First Observed	1.1 NM east of Ballston Beach, Truro, MA 41° 59.9'N, 69° 59.7'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	2016 Calf of Sachal	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	9/12/2017	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	???	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	
	CCS	Date Lost	
	Fisherman	Location	
	Other	Depth	
		Bottom Type	
Gear Type:	American trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><b>Gear Description:</b> Two portions of gear were recovered by the response team. One portion was 137 feet of 3/8" line tied into a trap (trap tags? ID?). The second portion was 10 feet of 3/8" line with 5 hog rings and a bullet buoy. Red and yellow ALWTRP color marks were present.</p>			
<p><u>Comments</u></p>			
<p><b>Conclusions:</b> The whale initially became entangled in the end line of one single and dragged the trap into two other single sets.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Narragansett, RI - GARFO		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E31-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Dead
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Deceased
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	9/15/2017
<b>Species</b>	Right
<b>Individual ID</b>	#4504
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	48° 09.0'N 63° 30.0'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Carcass was sighted and towed by DFO for necropsy.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Line visible in mouth, around head and body and flippers. Unknown full configuration
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	Line in the mouth with two complete wraps around the body.
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	8/15/2015
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile female
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E31-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 91517 Eg	Date First Observed	9/15/2017
Location First Observed	Gulf of St. Lawrence, Canada, 48° 09.0'N, 63° 30.0'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased - Entangled
Species	Right	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes-DFO
Individual ID	#4504	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes-DFO

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved			Gear Retrieved By	DFO
Date Gear Received			Received From	Unknown
Sources:	USCG		Date Set	Unknown
	CCS		Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman		Location	Unknown
	Other		Depth	Unknown
			Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Snow crab	
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> All information was provided by DFO in their Incident Report – North Atlantic Right Whale Mortality Event in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 2017. A single line of ~499 feet was recovered with three distinct sections and having the diameter of 3/4" and 7/8". An older style trap was also recovered with an old trap tag. Certain sections of the recovered line were relatively new with very little fouling.</p>				
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>				
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was entangled in Canadian snow crab gear. Due to the conflicting information, DFO concluded it is unknown if the gear was derelict as suggested by the old style trap and trap tag or being actively fished as suggested by the relatively new unfouled line.</p>				
Current Location of Gear	N/A			

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E32-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	9/18/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Not identifiable
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	29.3 NM SE of Jonesport, ME Grand Manan Banks
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	44° 17.2'N 67° 00.5'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A commercial fishermen reported the entangled humpback whale to the MARS hotline which was then forwarded to CWR. No response was possible due to the time of day. The fisherman later returned to the area and did not relocate the whale.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Whale was reported anchored by the flukes with light green line and an orange buoy.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	None
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E32-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 91817 Mn	Date First Observed	9/18/2017
Location First Observed	29.3 NM SE of Jonesport, ME Grand Manan Banks 44° 17.2'N 67° 00.5'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<u>Gear Description:</u> Described by reporting fisherman as a 30 trap trawl.			
<u>Comments:</u> Fisherman hauled the gear later in the day and only recovered 10 out of the 30 traps.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale interacted with a 30 trap trawl but the exact configuration and what remained on the animal was unknown.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E33-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	9/24/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	GOM #1744
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	7.7 NM NNW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 11.1'N 70° 18.1'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>9/24/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A recreational boater reported and entangled whale to a whale watch, who stood by while CCS was notified and responded. The team could see that two lines were trailing over its flukes, running forward to either the flippers and/or mouth. The team began cutting lines, removing one line and pot, but halted further attempts due to safety issues.</li> </ul> <p>10/18/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whale was sighted gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Simple wrap of left flipper with both lines leading under the body and then over the dorsal side of the right fluke. One line led to the buoy trailing about 30 feet behind. The other led down to a single pot.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Unresolved entanglement trauma from a previous incident.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	9/13/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	10/18/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E33-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 92417 Mn A	Date First Observed	9/24/17
Location First Observed	7.7 NM NNW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 11.1'N 70° 18.1'W	Subsequent Status	Gear shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	9/24/2017	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	???	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
Bottom Type		Unknown	
Gear Type:	American trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<u>Gear Description:</u> 66 feet of floating and 48 feet of sinking line comprised the end line, which led to a single trap. Red and yellow ALWTRP color marks were present along with hog ring weak links.			
<u>Comments</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale became entangled in the end line of a single trap from the Exempt MA Outer Cape state waters single trap fishery.			
Current Location of Gear	Narragansett, RI - GARFO		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E34-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear Shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/01/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2017 calf of Gumdrop
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	7.4 NM NW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 09.7'N 70° 20.6'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>10/01/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW discovered the entangled humpback and stood by while CCS responded. The evasive animal and difficult entanglement thwarted all disentanglement efforts.</li> </ul> <p>7/29/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The whale was sighted gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Bridle through the mouth, which twisted upon itself underneath the body. Buoy is just behind the right pectoral flipper.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	9/30/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	7/29/2018
<b>Life History Information</b>	Calf; unknown sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E34-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 100117 Mn	Date First Observed	10/01/2017
Location First Observed	7.4 NM NW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 09.7'N 70° 20.6'W	Subsequent Status	Gear Shed
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	2017 calf of Gumdrop	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:		Date set	Unknown
		Date lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Documentation showed the whale was involved with a line and buoy.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The animal was involved with the endline and buoy from an unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E35-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/2/2017
<b>Species</b>	Unknown
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	7.9 NM E of Atlantic City, NJ
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	39° 23.4'N 74° 14.4'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Tugboat operator reported an unconfirmed minke whale with multiple wraps of rope on the peduncle and towing a buoy. The reporting party was unable to stand by.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Rope on peduncle in association with one orange and one white buoy
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E35-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 100217 Un	Date First Observed	10/02/2017
Location First Observed	7.9 NM E of Atlantic City, NJ 39° 23.4'N 74° 14.4'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Unknown	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Whale was described with line around the body and towing two buoys.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Whale was involved with an endline and buoys of an unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E36-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Gear shed
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/03/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	GOM #1747, Same as E43-17
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	6.4 NM NW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 09.5'N 70° 18.5'W
<b>Event description</b>	<p>10/03/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>CCS was conducting a research cruise when they found the small humpback entangled in monofilament.</li> </ul> <p>10/21/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Whale was sighted gear free.</li> </ul>
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Monofilament line looped over and trailing from the left fluke tip.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	7/26/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	10/21/2017
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E36-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 100317 Mn	Date First Observed	10/03/2017
Location First Observed	6.4 NM NW of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 09.5'N, 70° 18.5'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Same as E42-17	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E37-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/06/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2015 calf of Xylem
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	4.04 NM E of Chatham, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	41° 41.9'N 69° 52.4'W
<b>Event Description</b>	<p>10/06/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCS noticed in post-trip analysis the whale was entangled.</li> </ul> <p>11/4/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Local whale watch reported the entangled whale but due to the location and time of day, no response was mounted.</li> </ul> <p>11/13/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CCS team and USCG Jones Beach attempted to disentangle the whale off New York. The team made multiple attempts to approach the whale, but due to the animals' behavior and high vessel presence, the team lost track of the whale and were not able to relocate.</li> </ul> <p>6/22/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• WW vessel sighted this animal still entangled in Raritan Bay, NJ. No response was mounted.</li> </ul> <p>6/27/2018 – 7/09/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whale sighted every 2-3 days or less by local whale watch companies or other boaters. No response was possible due to poor weather or other responses occurring during this time.</li> </ul> <p>7/12/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A large response consisting of seven organizations including, NOAA, CCS, USCG, New Jersey Fish and Wildlife Conservation Police, Monmouth County Sheriff's Office, Middletown Fire and Rescue, and Atlantic Highlands Fire and Rescue managed to cut some of the entanglement away. Documentation concluded that the rostrum wrap was no longer present and it was believed the whale would be able to shed the remaining gear.</li> </ul> <p>7/23/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Whale was sighted gear free by local WW.</li> </ul>

<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Gillnet floatline entering the mouth at least twice with some small floats exiting the left side. One wrap over the head/blowholes.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	<p>11/13/2017</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Body wrap were gone, tight line over the blowholes and leading into the mouth. Almost no trailing gear from mouth.</li> </ul> <p>7/5/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Float line of gillnet exiting both sides of the mouth forming a loop near the blowholes.</li> </ul>
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Actively feeding and in overall good condition
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	<p>6/25/2018</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Health of animal starting to deteriorate with graying and pitting of the skin, more sporadic feeding</li> </ul>
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	9/05/2015
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	7/23/2018
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile; unknown sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E37-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 100617 Mn	Date First Observed	10/06/2017
Location First Observed	4.04 NM E of Chatham, MA 41° 41.9'N 69° 52.4'W	Subsequent Status	Disentangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	2015 calf of Xylem	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	7/12/2018	Gear Retrieved By	CCS
Date Gear Received	7/12/2018	Received From	CCS
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown gillnet	Target Species:	Non-ground fish
<u>Gear Description:</u> Approximately 2 feet of a birds nest of 10" mesh with two hard plastic gillnet floats			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Mesh size indicates the whale was involved with a non-ground fish gillnet fishery, such as monk fish or flat fish.			
Current Location of Gear	Narragansett, RI - GARFO		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E38-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/09/2017
<b>Species</b>	Minke
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	5.9 NM E of Portsmouth, NH
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	43° 04.7'N 70° 36.0'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Commercial fishermen reported an entangled minke whale to the MMP and NOAA, who responded the next morning. The whale appeared to have been involved with two gear sets. The animal had bitten down on a fouled buoy line and appeared to have dragged one gear set (two pots) into the buoy line of another double. The team cut the entangling line exiting the left side of the mouth. The whale opened its mouth and expelled the remaining buoy line and buoy. The fouled gear was collected and fresh gear was set back.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	The animal had the fouled gear in the mouth with a bullet buoy out the right side and the line exiting the left side of the mouth. The fouled line led underneath the head/body to the right side and then became corded with the clean buoy line of the other set which led down to some of the anchoring gear. The clean line was over back coming from the left mouth area with the clean buoy trailing on the left flank. So clean line was likely simply wrapped just outside of left mouth area with fouled line, led over back and then became corded with fouled line near right flipper, which then led to anchoring gear.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Minor abrasion trauma on body and head.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown None

**Re-sightings Post-entanglement**

**Life History Information**

**NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality  
Determination**

Juvenile, unknown sex

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### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E38-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 100917 Ba	Date First Observed	10/09/2017
Location First Observed	5.9 NM E of Portsmouth, NH 43° 04.7'N, 70° 36.0'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	Yes
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	10/09/2017	Gear Retrieved By	MMP
Date Gear Received	???	Received From	MMP
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	American trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> The whale was entangled in two sets of doubles. The primary entanglement was with a set that was not being actively fished which appeared to be towed into the actively fished set.</p> <p><u>Primary:</u> The endline consisted of 36 feet of 3/8" float line spliced into 180 feet of 3/8" sink line. No weak links at buoy but could have been from an exempt area. No line marking and has a fair amount of growth and one of the traps was damaged.</p> <p><u>Secondary:</u> Single buoy with 600# weak link attached to 3/8" line with the top 2/3rds being sink and bottom 1/3 float line. End line was marked with red ALWTRP color mark. Ground line was 60 feet of 3/8" sink line.</p>			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> Based on the entanglement configuration MMP concluded the whale became entangled in the ghost gear first and dragged the set of doubles into the actively fished gear.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	Narragansett, RI - GARFO		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E39-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Dead
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Deceased
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/10/2017
<b>Species</b>	Minke
<b>Individual ID</b>	Unknown
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	5.0 NM E of Rockland, ME
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	44° 07.5'N 68° 59.4'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Commercial fisherman reported to MMP. Unclear if carcass drifted into line and buoys, two different sets of gear.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Flipper is involved and possibly mouth.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E39-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 101017 Ba	Date First Observed	10/10/2017
Location First Observed	5.0 NM E of Rockland, ME 44° 07.5'N 68° 59.4'W	Subsequent Status	Deceased
Species	Minke	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	Yes

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	10/08/2017
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	44° 07.5'N 68° 59.4'W
	Other	Depth	240 feet
Bottom Type		Gravel	
Gear Type:	American trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Gear was not recovered but MMP identified the fishermen involved. Whale became entangled in one set of triples and one set of doubles.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The exact entanglement configuration is unknown but the whale became involved with two sets of lobster gear.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E40-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/10/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Not identifiable
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	3.0 NM NE of Gloucester, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 35.5'N 70° 36.1'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Whale watch reported an entangled humpback and stood by while CCS mounted a response. WW vessel requested harbor master to aid in standing by; a local fishermen elected to stand by as well. The harbormaster reported that they had disentangled the whale. CCS continued to the scene, inspected what may have been the gear set and then surveyed the area for whales with any evidence of fresh entanglement.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Tail was involved as it was near the vertical
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E40-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 101017 Mn	Date First Observed	10/10/2017
Location First Observed	3.0 NM NE of Gloucester, 42° 35.5'N -70° 36.1'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown?	Target Species:	Unknown?
<u>Gear Description:</u> No gear was recovered. Photographs show the whale was involved with line and a buoy.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale became involved with a line and buoy of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E41-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/14/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Not identifiable
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	6.0 NM N of Race Point, Provincetown, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 09.6'N 70° 16.7'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Multiple passengers onboard a local whale watch reported seeing an entangled whale after the incident and when the vessel was nearly back to port. No response was mounted due to the time of day.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	An experienced, ex-WW staff, reported seeing a white buoy on the right flank of animal that descended when animal dove.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex.
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E41-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 101417 Mn	Date First Observed	10/14/2017
Location First Observed	6.0 NM N of Race Point, Provincetown, MA 42° 09.6'N 70° 16.7'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> The whale was reported with a buoy close to its flank, which submerged when the whale dove.			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale interacted with a line and buoy of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E42-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/21/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	2016 calf of Echo
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	9.1 NM NE of Gloucester, MA
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	42° 37.2'N 70° 27.5'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A recreational boater sighted the entangled whale and reported it to the NOAA hotline, CCS responded and started a disentanglement effort a few hours later with stand by assistance from the original reporter and USCG. Before CCS and the USCG arrived, another recreational boater approached the whale and cut off the buoy. CCS arrived and could not locate any noticeable gear on the animal despite the animal appearing to still be anchored. The response team began to sweep under the animal and eventually cut a line wrapped around the left fluke blade that had it anchored to the sea floor. After a radical behavior change and close pursuit, the team determined the whale to be gear free.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Line forming entanglement on flukes down to anchored gear. It is possible the original configuration before the CCS team arrived was different as at least one buoy was removed. The line around the fluke was deeply depressed into the skin allowing viewing almost impossible.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Raw entanglement trauma on body, dorsal fin and flukes
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	9/26/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Juvenile male

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### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E42-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 102117 Mn	Date First Observed	10/21/2017
Location First Observed	9.1 NM NE of Gloucester, MA 42° 37.2'N 70° 27.5'W	Subsequent Status	Disentangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	2016 Calf of Echo	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> The original report indicated a line and buoy were involved. No gear was recovered.			
<u>Comments:</u> The buoy was removed by a recreational boater before the responding team arrived.			
<u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was involved with an endline and buoy of unknown origin.			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E43-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	10/21/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	GOM #1747; same as E36-17
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	1.0 NM SE of Quogue, Long Island, NY
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	40° 47.68'N 72° 34.6'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A recreational boater reported the entangled whale to the NOAA hotline, but no response was mounted at that time. The whale appeared to be free-swimming with a black and red colored buoy in tow.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Black and red bullet buoy seen trailing behind the animal a short distance. Anchoring point of line was likely somewhere forward on the body or head/mouth.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	10/03/2017
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	None
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

**FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS**

NMFS No.	<b>E43-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 102117 Mn	Date First Observed	10/21/2017
Location First Observed	1.0 NM SE of Quogue, Long Island, NY 40° 47.68'N 72° 34.6'W	Subsequent Status	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Same as E36-17	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

**GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS**

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows the whale trailing a line and buoy close to the body. Unknown attachment point.</p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The whale interacted with an endline and buoy of unknown origin.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E44-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Entangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	11/12/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Not identifiable
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	0.1 NM S of Atlantic Beach, NY
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	40° 34.9'N 73° 44.3'W
<b>Event Description</b>	A recreational boater photographed a humpback whale with monofilament trailing off the flukes.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Monofilament line seen trailing from the flukes.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E44-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 111217 Mn	Date First Observed	11/12/2017
Location First Observed	0.1 NM S of Atlantic Beach, NY 40° 34.9'N 73° 44.3'W	Type of Event - Observation, Disentanglement, Stranding. Other (describe)	Entangled
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID		Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Unknown	Target Species:	Unknown
<u>Gear Description:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
<u>Comments:</u>			
<u>Conclusions:</u> Photo documentation shows monofilament line of unknown origin			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		

<b>NMFS No.</b>	<b>E45-17</b>
<b>Initial Status</b>	Alive
<b>Subsequent Status (as of the date the NMFS report was completed)</b>	Disentangled
<b>Date First Observed Entangled</b>	11/30/2017
<b>Species</b>	Humpback
<b>Individual ID</b>	Not identifiable
<b>Location First Observed Entangled</b>	17 NM south of Grand Manan Island, NS
<b>Latitude/Longitude First Observed Entangled</b>	44° 18.7'N 66° 52.1'W
<b>Event Description</b>	Fisherman discovered the whale entangled around the flukes in the line between the two surface system buoys. Fearing the animal was being pulled under the fisherman cut the lines and the whale swam off reportedly gear free.
<b>Description of Gear on Whale as Reported</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	Whale was entangled in the line connecting two polyballs of a surface system. The set was described as a 25 trap trawl.
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>C. Diagram of Entangling Gear on Whale</b>	None
<b>Description of Wounds/Condition</b>	
<b>A. During Initial Sighting</b>	None noted
<b>B. Subsequent Descriptions</b>	None
<b>Sighting prior to entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Re-sightings Post-entanglement</b>	Unknown
<b>Life History Information</b>	Unknown age and sex
<b>NMFS Serious Injury/Mortality Determination</b>	

### FISHERY INTERACTION GEAR ANALYSIS

NMFS No.	<b>E45-17</b>		
Field No.	PR 113017 Mn	Date First Observed	11/30/2017
Location First Observed	17 NM south of Grand Manan Island, NS 44° 18.7'N 66° 52.1'W	Subsequent Status	Disentanglement
Species	Humpback	Gear Recovered (y/n)	No
Individual ID	Unknown	Gear Analysis Conducted (y/n)	No

### GEAR DESCRIPTION / ANALYSIS

Date Gear Retrieved	N/A	Gear Retrieved By	N/A
Date Gear Received	N/A	Received From	N/A
Sources:	USCG	Date Set	Unknown
	CCS	Date Lost	Unknown
	Fisherman	Location	Unknown
	Other	Depth	Unknown
		Bottom Type	Unknown
Gear Type:	Canadian trap/pot	Target Species:	Lobster
<p><u>Gear Description:</u> The whale was described as being entangled in the line connecting two polyballs of a 25 trap trawl surface system. <span style="color: red;">DFO?</span></p>			
<p><u>Comments:</u></p>			
<p><u>Conclusions:</u> The whale was described as being entangled in the line connecting two polyballs of a Canadian lobster 25 trap trawl surface system.</p>			
Current Location of Gear	N/A		