

Large Whale Entanglement Report 2002

updated October 2003

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2002 Large Whale Entanglement Report

Table 1: Summary of 2002 large whale entanglement reports for live entangled whales.

Indication of Entanglement* - Live Whales			
Common name	Yes	No	Total
Right Whale	7		7
Humpback Whale	14	3	17
Fin Whale			0
Minke Whale	2		2
Blue Whale	1		1
Unidentified	1	1	2
Total	25	4	29

Table 2: Summary of 2002 large whale entanglement reports for dead stranded or floating dead whales.

Indication of Entanglement*- Dead Whales			
Common name	Yes	No	Total
Right Whale	1		1
Humpback Whale	5		5
Fin Whale	1		1
Minke Whale	3		3
Unidentified	2		2
Total	12	0	12

* "Indication of Entanglement" is marked 'Yes' 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.
- Marks/wounds from gear were documented on a whale carcass, excluding healed scars.
- Gear was reported on a whale by an inexperienced observer who was interviewed by NMFS or CCS staff and the account was descriptive enough to eliminate doubt about whether or not the whale was entangled.

NOTE:

- Some of the reports that follow are still under analysis. Data are represented as accurately as possible with information received as of October 2003.
- New England Aquarium provided sighting and life history information for right whales.
- Center for Coastal Studies provided sighting and life history information for humpback whales.

Table 3: Key for acronyms used in this report

Acronyms

CCS	Center for Coastal Studies
CCS/MA DMF	Center for Coastal Studies and Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
CCSN	Cape Cod Stranding Network
COA	College of the Atlantic
DFO	Department of Fisheries and Oceans (Canada)
ECE	East Coast Ecosystems (Canada)
EWS	Early Warning System
FMRI	Florida Marine Research Institute
FRC	Fast response craft
GMWSS	Grand Manan Whale and Seabird Research Station
IFAW	International Fund for Animal Welfare - Research crew from vessel “Song of the Whale”
MA DMF	Massachusetts Division of Marine Fisheries
ME DMR	Maine Department of Marine Resources
MEP	Massachusetts Environmental Police
MMSC	Marine Mammal Stranding Center
NAIB	National Aquarium in Baltimore
NEAq	New England Aquarium Right Whale Research Team
NMFS	National Marine Fisheries Service
NMFS DEII	NMFS Research Vessel Delaware II
NMFS PSB	NMFS Protected Species Branch, Northeast Fisheries Science Center
NMFS SAS	NMFS Sightings Advisory System, Protected Resources Div., Northeast Regional Office
NOAA	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
RI DEM	Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management
SAG	Surface active group
UNC - W	University of North Carolina, Wilmington
USCG	United States Coast Guard
VMSM	Virginia Marine Science Museum
WCNE	Whale Center of New England
WHOI	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
WW	Whale watch

NMFS No.	E1-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	2/1/2002
Species	Minke
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	1 mile south of Frisco Pier, Dare County, NC
Latitude/Longitude	35° 13.3' N 075° 39.1' W
Event Description	2/1/2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale washed ashore in moderate stage of decomposition. • Necropsy was performed. • Necropsy team documented line marks on fluke.
Description of Gear on Whale	None noted
Description of Wounds	Line marks wrapping peduncle and leading down the fluke. U-shaped abrasion through blubber and skin.
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	475 cm subadult
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E2-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st observed entangled	2/12/2002
Species	Right Whale
No. of animals	1
Individual ID	1424
Location	5 miles E. of the S. end of Amelia Island, Florida
Latitude/Longitude	~ 30° 31'N ~ 81° 20' W
Event Description	<p>2/12/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Entangled right whale sighted off Florida. • Assessment: whale appeared healthy, uninjured, and did not appear in immediate danger. • Action Plan: Monitor. Should opportunities arise: Pursue better documentation of right side of head and flipper. Reduce trailing line. Implant tag. Cut loop of rope over back. <p>2/26/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Further assessment of photos revealed an additional loop of rope around the rostrum, near the forward tip. • Entanglement upgraded to serious, life threatening. <p>3/29/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #1424 sighted off Cape Cod by CCS plane, photo documented but plane had to leave the scene to refuel. R/V <i>Shearwater</i> and plane were unable to relocate the whale. • Photos suggested that the whale's condition had deteriorated since last sighting. <p>4/17/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAA-SAS plane sighted #1424 north of Stellwagen Bank (42° 27.80'N / 70° 24.30'W). • <i>Silver II</i> (WCNE), R/V <i>Shearwater</i> and CCS plane responded. • Telemetry buoy attached tenuously as weather deteriorated. Data suggested that the buoy was attached for 3 hrs before having gone adrift. <p>5/6/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAA-SAS plane sighted #1424 ~55 miles E. of Nantucket. NOAA R/V Albatross IV responded, the whale proved evasive and was eventually lost. No photo documentation. • Aerial team indicates overall health of #1424 appeared unchanged since the 4/17/2002 sighting. <p>5/12/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAA-SAS sighted #1424 in the Great South Channel, 34 NM E. of Nantucket (41° 18.8'N / 69° 12.2'W). • No disentanglement response. <p>06/18/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAA-SAS sighted #1424 ~115 nm E. of Race Point, MA. • No disentanglement response. <p>4/14/2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • MA-DMF/CCS Aerial survey sighted #1424 in Cape Cod Bay. • Several attempts made to attach working line/telemetry tether were unsuccessful.

Description of Gear on Whale	Heavy green/blue poly or poly blend trailing between 150-300 ft behind the flukes. Line runs forward and enters left side of mouth, forming a large loop that drapes back ~4 ft behind blowholes before reentering right side of mouth. Also a tight wrap near front end of rostrum.
Description of wounds	No acute wounds- over subsequent sightings whale appeared thinner, skin condition worsened, cyanid patches.
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting prior to entanglement	9/17/2001 in Bay of Fundy
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	Male, ~45 feet in length. First seen in 1981.
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E3-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	3/14/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown (Temporary ID: CCS 02-05)
Location	13 miles east of Block Island, Rhode Island
Latitude/Longitude	41° 06 .02'N 71° 18 .02'W
Event Description	<p>3/14/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing vessel crew reported entangled humpback, anchored and surfacing frequently • CCS <i>Skymaster</i> arrived on scene and verified entanglement. Waning daylight precluded a rescue attempt. <p>3/15/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The reporting vessel, with CCS disentanglement team aboard, located the whale. • A control line and large poly balls were attached to the gear. • The grapple came loose, but a second attachment was more secure. • Flotation and resistance of buoys pulled gear free from the whale. • Whale was completely disentangled by CCS aboard the fishing vessel. • Gear was retrieved and submitted to NMFS for evaluation.
Description of Gear on Whale	Line and buoy
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Lobster - inshore
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	~25 ft, subadult
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E4-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	3/24/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Dam Neck, Virginia Beach, VA
Latitude/Longitude	36.78486° N 75.95747°W
Event Description	<p>3/24/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcass washed ashore in Virginia Beach in moderate stage of decomposition • VMSM documented possible entanglement scars on peduncle. • Partial necropsy performed, carcass too decomposed for histology.
Description of Gear on Whale	None noted
Description of Wounds	Deep groove on dorsal keel at insertion of the fluke and along left fluke
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	~ 26 ft male
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E5-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	4/2/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown (Temporary ID: CCS 02-06)
Location	50 NM east of Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude	42° 14'N 69° 07' W
Event Description	<p>4/2/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing vessel crew reported a whale, entangled by the tail and not diving. • CCS-MA DMF plane crew located the whale and documented. • No disentanglement operation was mounted due to weather. • NOAA -SAS sighted and further documented the whale. <p>4/5/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCS plane located the whale in same location still anchored in gear • Improvement in weather allowed CCS to launch disentanglement response. • R/V <i>Shearwater</i> arrived on scene and located the whale, with assistance from the fishing vessel which provided the original report. • The disentanglement team attached a control line and large balloon buoy. • Whale was kept at surface and the team cut the single, very tight wrap around the tail stock. • Whale was completely disentangled.
Description of Gear on Whale	Line and buoy
Description of Wounds	Minor fresh scuffing near area of entanglement, otherwise appeared uninjured.
Gear Type	Slime eel gear
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	~50ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E6-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	4/3/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	0.8 miles south of ramp 49, Frisco, NC
Latitude/Longitude	35.22970° N 75.61918° W
Event Description	<p>4/3/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dead whale washed near shore in Frisco, NC in moderate stage of decomposition. • Whale positioned upside-down and submerged in small amount of water at low tide. • Team documented wounds consistent with line entanglement on flukes.
Description of Gear on Whale	None noted
Description of Wounds	Left flipper had 2 thin line cuts wrapping around leading edge. Left fluke lobe had 3-4" cut on ventral side.
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	880 cm in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E7-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	4/7/2002
Species	Right
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	3120
Location	Frying Pan Shoals, off Bald Head Island, Cape Fear, NC
Latitude/Longitude	33°42.109 N 77° 52.516' W
Event Description	<p>4/7/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Party boat captain reported an entangled free-swimming whale. Boat did photo document, but was not able to stand by. • Members of UNC-W disentanglement team responded with the help of USCG, and were not able to relocate whale. • Analysis of images from captain showed a serious entanglement. • The entanglement was considered life-threatening due to young age of animal and multiple wraps of line. <p>4/20/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEAq identified as #3120. <p>5/23/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #3120 sighted by NOAA plane in Great South Channel, 36 NM east of Nantucket. • Photo-documentation showed a serious and complex entanglement, although the overall condition of the whale appeared relatively good. • Whale seen swimming in close proximity with other whales, feeding and defecating. <p>7/24/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ECE naturalist aboard commercial whale watch vessel reported sighting #3120 to Canadian Coast Guard, 4 miles NW of Boar's Head, Long Island, Nova Scotia. • Despite a considerable search effort, the whale was not seen again in the area. <p>8/21/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • #3120 was sighted by a Grand Manan whale watch vessel. • Multiple vessels responded and VHF and satellite tags were attached and functioning. <p>8/24/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Disentanglement operations got underway in the Bay of Fundy by the Canadian Network (44°43.4 N / 66°22.0W) • The telemetry buoy came lose with some gear (wad of line and buoy) from the tail area, which made the whale untrackable and also reduced the length of workable line running from the tail which would make future attachments more difficult. <p>2/19/2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FMRI reported and documented ~6 NM east of Jacksonville, FL (30° 11.8'N / 81° 14.4' W). Late in day, no disentanglement operation possible. <p>2/20/2003</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Later analyses of photos (2/23/2002) revealed that #3120 appeared in 3 photos taken on the EWS survey being conducted the same day. The whale was not recognized in the field as being entangled before being lost.
	<p>6/24/2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAA Aerial survey reported an entangled whale, later identified as 3120, at Mayo swell (~54 nm NE of Race Point, MA). • The gear appeared to have loosened up since previous sightings off of FL. • Overall condition of whale appeared to have slightly improved since previous sightings. • Decision made to monitor 3120. Although it was not certain that 3120 would continue to improve and rid itself of the gear, it seemed less certain that any disentanglement action at this time would improve those chances.
Description of Gear on Whale	Line and buoy. Initially seen as two wraps of the rostrum with at least one emerging from the right side of the mouth, running diagonally over the blowholes to the left flipper, where it appears to wrap several times. From there, line runs aft of the tail stock, where it is again wrapped several times with a small buoy attached.
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Lobster - inshore - state waters
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	12/23/2001 in the calving area (as a yearling) still with #1911 (mother).
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	~33 ft in length. Yearling bom the winter of 2000/2001
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E8-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	5/30/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	~ 100 miles SE of Nantucket, MA
Latitude/Longitude	40° 11' N 68° 43' W
Event Description	<p>5/30/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAA employee aboard reported and photo documented a floating small humpback whale carcass in moderate state of decomposition. • Flukes reported to have appeared abraded and cut. • Photo-documentation shows evidence of wrapping at the ventral peduncle and the leading edges of the flukes. Scuffing also noted at the widening of the notch. However, documentation provided was sufficient to differentiate between fresh and healed scars .
Description of Gear on Whale	Reported as green line wrapped two to three times around caudal peduncle. Line trails behind whale 50-60 ft, the whale is not anchored.
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	35-40 ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E9-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	5/31/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Narragansett Bay, Rhode Island
Latitude/Longitude	41° 33.841' N 71° 24.080'W
Event Description	<p>5/31/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fishing vessel crew reported entangled whale to Mystic Aquarium and harbormaster. • Described as a 35-40 ft whale entangled by the tail stock with a single trailing line, heading south. • Fishing vessel, harbormaster, and RI DEM searched for the whale but whale was lost due to fog.
Description of Gear on Whale	Reported as green line wrapped two to three times around caudal peduncle. Line trails behind whale 50-60 ft, the whale is not anchored.
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	35-40 ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E10-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	6/3/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown (Temporary ID: CCS 02-07)
Location	Between Ram Island and Eagle Island, Maine
Latitude/Longitude	43° 28.32' N 70° 21.20'W
Event Description	<p>6/3/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USCG received report from passing motor vessel of live whale anchored and wrapped multiple times in rope. Whale surfaced and dove occasionally, did not seem to be in immediate distress. • USCG and ME DMR stood by and photo documented while CCS was underway. • NMFS and fishermen were also on hand to assist. • Whale was anchored in multiple lines of fixed gear. • CCS removed all gear except for a short piece of rope left in the mouth, that the team believed the whale would shed shortly. <p>6/7/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humpback whale carcass came ashore on Richmond Island, South Portland, ME. • Stranding network photo documented and CCS verified that the carcass was the same whale disentangled by CCS on 6/3/2002. • Carcass was located on a slippery ledge. Due to hazardous location, the stranding network was unable to perform a full necropsy. • The stranding network externally examined the carcass, and took blubber sample to test for starvation. • Entanglement wounds documented and whale was noted as emaciated.
Description of Gear on Whale	Wrapped in line, five buoys attached to the gear.
Description of Wounds	Indent from line on left rostrum, marks on tail stock
Gear Type	Lobster - inshore - state waters
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	985 cm in length.
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E11-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	6/17/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown (Temporary ID: CCS #02-08)
Location	Just outside Sesuit Harbor, Dennis, MA
Latitude/Longitude	41° 45.8' N 70° 09.03' W
Event Description	<p>06/17/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Harbormaster reported and stood by until CCS arrived. • Whale was emaciated and had poor skin condition. • The whale's tail fluke appeared dislocated and twisted vertically. • Multiple wraps were present around both blades of fluke with 4' line trailing. • CCS attached a control line and buoy. • CCS noted ~ 6 lines embedded in the top fluke, ~12-15 lines embedded in right (lower) blade. • All lines were cut and removed, except some that were too far embedded into the wounds.
Description of Gear on Whale	At least 10 tight wraps of line around each side of the fluke back to the peduncle.
Description of Wounds	Fluke blades twisted 90 degrees clockwise and dislocated. Severe cuts into both blades of the fluke.
Gear Type	Unknown - 5/16" & 3/8" floating rope recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	~ 30-35 ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E12-02
Indication of Entanglement	No
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	6/20/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Peeler
Location	Stellwagen Bank, ~ 5 miles N/NW of the BD Buoy
Latitude/Longitude	42° 12.7' N 69° 55.7' W
Event Description	6/20/2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • While steaming back to port, WW vessel crew reported to the naturalist on board that the whale they had sighted was entangled. • Photos taken by naturalist confirmed the identification of the whale, but no gear was visible in the photos.
Description of Gear on Whale	Whale was free-swimming and trailing line
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	10/23/01at 42° 09.01' N / 70° 11.23' W
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	Juvenile female, born in 1999.
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E13-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	6/25/2002
Species	Minke
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	3/4 mile outside of Chatham Harbor, Chatham, MA
Latitude/Longitude	41° 39.283' N 69° 55.666' W
Event Description	6/25/2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recreational boater reported entangled whale to harbormaster. • Whale “spun around and swam off.” Onlookers report that the whale freed itself.
Description of Gear on Whale	Described as “lobster gear with a high flyer”
Description of Wounds	Chaffing behind dorsal fin and pink area on ventral portion of the tail stock
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	~15-18 ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E14-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	6/29/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Mauro
Location	3 miles north of Race Point, Cape Cod, MA
Latitude/Longitude	42° 06.91' N 70° 15.87' W
Event Description	<p>06/29/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Naturalists aboard WW Vessel reported a sighting of Mauro with a single line crossing over the back. • Reporting vessel and other WW Vessels stood by until the CCS boat arrived. • The whale became increasingly difficult to follow after the first sighting, and when the fog rolled in, the whale was lost. <p>7/11/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mauro was re-sighted by WW Vessels in virtually the same location as the 6/29/02 sighting. • Experienced naturalists reported that the line crossing the back was no longer visible, but a line was seen trailing along the left side of the whale.
Description of Gear on Whale	Blue-green polypropylene rope of unknown size
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	5/22/2002 at 41° 35.84' N / 69° 36.57' W
Re-sightings	7/12/2002 at 42° 07.22' N / 70° 16.75' W
Life History Information	Adult female, ~ 40 ft in length.
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E15-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	7/6/2002
Species	Right
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	3107
Location	2.5 miles north of Brier Island , Nova Scotia
Latitude/Longitude	44° 18.7' N 66° 23.1' W
Event Description	<p>7/6/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW vessel crew reported the entangled right whale. • ECE arrived on scene. They noted a small orange buoy floating on the surface behind the whale but no gear was seen on the head or the remainder of the body. • Coast Guard in Halifax was notified and dispatched two vessels from Westport. • ECE was to have stood by whale, but vessel left the scene. <p>8/1/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R/V <i>Neried</i> encountered the entangled whale, photo documented and visually assessed the entanglement. • NEAq team attempted to make one cut that they believed would free the whale of gear. Attempt was not successful. <p>8/8/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R/V <i>Stellwagen</i> crew reported the entangled whale to R/V <i>Nereid</i>. • R/V <i>Nereid</i> identified the whale as the same individual from 8/1/02. • Attempts from the <i>Nereid</i> to both make cuts in line and attach a telemetry buoy were unsuccessful. <p>8/10/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R/V <i>Stellwagen</i> crew reported the entangled whale to NEA . • R/V <i>Neried</i> arrived on scene, confirmed that it was the same whale from 8/1 and 8/8 and then attempted unsuccessfully to attach telemetry buoy. • Whale was last seen at 44° 30.7' N / 66° 36.1' W. <p>8/24/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R/V <i>Nereid</i> sighted the whale at 44° 43.34' N / 66° 22.16' W, and documented. • FRC arrived at scene and disentanglement operations got underway. • Several approaches were made by inflatable, in attempt cut line. None were successful. • FRC team was forced to abandon the effort due to fuel concerns. <p>8/30/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The disentanglement team on scene attached a telemetry buoy to the line entangling flukes. • NOAA SAS aerial survey crew photo-documented from the air. <p>9/1/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The telemetry buoy was still providing fixes, and disentanglement operations were planned for this day by Canadian Network. • Whale showed avoidance, team used hard approaches to get within cutting

	<p>distance.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Team was able to grapple onto the whale and pull closer. Whale did not try to get away. The critical line then pulled free of flesh under the tension. NEAq/DFO Disentanglement team reported from the Bay of Fundy that the whale was now free of gear. <p>9/30/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NOAA-SAS sighted and photo-documented juvenile animal that "looked as if it had recently become free of gear" at 41° 48' N / 68° 24' W. <p>10/12/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Dead right whale washed ashore at Sconset, Nantucket, MA.. NEAq and WHOI teams responded, no gear found on whale. Response teams reported that the carcass of the young female was emaciated with deep entanglement wounds on the caudal peduncle. <p>10/15/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> NEAq identified the dead whale on Nantucket as #3107, the whale that had been disentangled in the BOF on 9/1/2002.
Description of Gear on Whale	Line embedded into the fluke insertion on both sides. Lines twist together on dorsal flukes with a 6-8' loop before becoming entwined. Twisted line has small orange buoy and two rigid rods near fluke notch. No trailing line beyond 1 meter of the trailing edge of the flukes.
Description of Wounds	Scarring and chaffing on tail stock, the carcass exhibited deep wounds on caudal peduncle.
Gear Type	Consistent with inshore lobster
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	12/8/2001 off South Carolina at 32° 11.5' N / 80° 36.7' W, still with mother.
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	11 meters in length. Female yearling, 2001 calf of #1407
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E16-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	7/8/2002
Species	Unidentified
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	2 miles off of buoy 2, ½ mile N in Hampton Harbor near Portsmouth, NH
Latitude/Longitude	~42° 54.6' N ~70° 44.4' W
Event Description	<p>7/8/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale reported to USCG station Portsmouth by private boaters, who had problems with their GPS. Therefore, no exact location was reported. • Boaters were able to provide a detailed description of entanglement to CCS staff. • Although the boaters were able to provide a detailed description which suggested the whale may have been a humpback, there was not enough information to confirm the species.
Description of Gear on Whale	Netting across the back forward of the dorsal fin, "blue/green netting scrunched up."
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	~ 20 ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments –2004

NMFS No.	E17-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	7/12/2002
Species	Right
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	1427, Polaris
Location	15 miles east of Atlantic City, NJ
Latitude/Longitude	39° 23.054' N 74° 05.873' W
Event Description	<p>7/12/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Private boater reported entangled whale to USCG. MMSC and CCS were notified. • USCG, with MMSC staff aboard, arrived on scene and stood by the whale. • CCS arrived at the scene and with USCG assistance, were able to cut 300 ft of trailing line and attach a telemetry buoy to the remaining trailing gear. • Disentanglement team was unable to identify the point of gear's attachment to the whale. <p>7/13/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sport fishing boat reported a sighting of #1427 off Indian River Inlet, Delaware. • Telemetry buoy was not consistently transmitting locations, probably due to choppy seas. • The whale moved on and was lost, no vessels stood by. • Analysis of yesterday's photos showed a tight white line wrapping the forward part of rostrum, and baleen protruding out of left side of mouth. <p>7/15/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NMFS and USCG initiated a search, and were able to relocate whale and document. <p>7/17/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Photographs revealed that the telemetry buoy was fouled, leaving the saltwater switch in the "off" position. This provided an explanation for the few transmissions received. • An apparently well meaning charter vessel captain sighted the whale off Diamond Shoals, southeast of Cape Hatteras, and cut free the telemetry buoy in an attempt to help the whale. • NMFS aerial survey attempted to relocate the whale. Plane was not able to relocate the whale. <p>7/21/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale was seen by a vessel and reported to USCG. Vessel stood by until USCG Helo 6563 arrived on scene. • USCG video documented the whale. <p>7/23/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A private vessel captain reported the whale 14 NM east of the northern coast of St. Simon's Island. • Vessel did not stand by. • Aerial surveys were not able to locate whale. <p>9/7/2003</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale was sighted and photo documented on Jeffreys Ledge. • Whale appeared to have shed gear, though appeared to still be in poor condition.
Description of Gear on Whale	150' trailing line with 18" orange buoy 30' behind the flukes. Green line, heavy diameter. Tight wrap of white line around rostrum..
Description of Wounds	Cuts on head and flukes
Gear Type	Unknown - 270 ft of 5/8" floating rope recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	4/4/2001 in Massachusetts Bay
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	First seen in the Bay of Fundy in 1984 as a calf (calf of #1168)
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E18-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	7/17/2002
Species	Minke
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	A couple of miles outside of Bar Harbor, ME
Latitude/Longitude	44° 18.22' N 68° 07.43
Event Description	<p>7/17/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW vessel crew reported a dead, floating whale. • The carcass was towed to Mount Desert Rock and necropsied by COA. • Entanglement wounds were noted on the tail stock as well as wounds on the ventral surface.
Description of Gear on Whale	None noted
Description of Wounds	Marks/wounds on tail stock
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	Female subadult, 190 inches in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E19-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	7/28/2002
Species	Fin
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	165 miles east of Truro, MA
Latitude/Longitude	41° 46.72' N 66° 43.59' W
Event Description	<p>7/28/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NOAA Marine Mammal Sighting Survey Team documented the dead floating whale from the air. • Carcass was in advanced stages of decomposition. • Line was documented around the tail stock and appeared embedded.
Description of Gear on Whale	Rope or line
Description of Wounds	Line appeared embedded in tail stock.
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	Unknown
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E20-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/3/2002
Species	Unidentified
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Off Gloucester, MA
Latitude/Longitude	42° 28.82' N 70° 38.41' W
Event Description	8/6/2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisherman called USCG to report a dead whale in his nets. • USCG arrived on scene, carcass sunk to 10-15 ft below the surface, USCG was therefore unable to ID species.
Description of Gear on Whale	Dragger net
Description of Wounds	Unknown
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	Unknown
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E21-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/4/2002
Species	Right
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	2320, Piper
Location	3 NM west of Boar's Head, Long Island, Nova Scotia
Latitude/Longitude	44° 23.2' N 66° 18.0' W
Event Description	<p>8/4/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECE reported the entangled whale to DFO, whale was apparently healthy and free-swimming. ECE stood by. Canadian Coast Guard in FRC arrived on scene and documented. FRC on scene was prepared and equipped to tag and disentangle. However, after they assessed that no trailing line was visible and whale was unapproachable, the effort was abandoned. <p>8/10/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Assessment of photos showed a single line through the whale's mouth, with ends coming out on either side of the mouth, crossing each other over the head before the blowhole, and disappearing into the water in the area of the flippers. Flipper involvement in the entanglement was undocumented and thus unknown. <p>3/24/2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Piper was sighted and photo documented 4.5 NM east of Nauset Beach (41° 49.76'N / 69° 50.45' W) by CCS aboard R/V <i>Shearwater</i>. CCS staff aboard R/V <i>Gannet</i> also responded, and teams made multiple attempts to attach satellite/VHF tag. The efforts were unsuccessful due to short length of trailing line. Analysis of photos showed entanglement about the head remains similar to previous sightings. Photos revealed new information on the trailing line, confirming that it was at least 40 ft long. Photos also revealed two large wounds on the right flank. <p>4/28/2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Piper sighted by CCS aerial team in western portion of Cape Cod Bay. Aerial support and R/V <i>Shearwater</i> stood by the whale. USCG brought the CCS Disentanglement team to the scene. Conditions deteriorated and the whale was lost. Images from aerial were blurry due to difficult conditions. Although not conclusive, images may indicate that the entanglement had more wraps than previously thought. In addition there may have been an increase in orange cyamids.
Description of Gear on Whale	Light green colored line, crossing over the upper jaw that enters and exits the mouth. Flipper involvement unknown. 40 ft trailing line.
Description of Wounds	Two large wounds on left flank, five or more white pock marks on the right flank.
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	8/2/2002, 14 miles NW of entangled 8/4/2002 sighting at 44° 23.2N / 66° 18.0'W

Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Female of unknown age
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E22-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/4/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Sickle - Unconfirmed
Location	12 miles east of Kennebunkport, ME
Latitude/Longitude	~43° 20.73' N ~70° 10.32' W
Event Description	<p>8/4/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW vessel sighted entangled whale with calf, 12 miles east of Kennebunkport, ME. The vessel did not contact the Disentanglement Network. • Vessel reported that the entangled whale was 'Sickle' with her calf. • Captain of the vessel believed that both whales would become entangled together and would die. • The mother whale came up alongside vessel, those on board gaffed the line, and hand-lined in the slack until the line was taught, and then cut the line. • Approximately 300' of gear were removed, NMFS did not receive the gear for analysis. • It was believed that the pectoral flipper wrap was still embedded, and the whale was left with only 20' trailing line. • Identification of this whale as 'Sickle' could not be confirmed because identifying photographs of the whale were not made available. <p>8/11/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Another WW vessel sighted Sickle and her calf at 42° 41.8' N / 70° 23.0' W and documented Sickle to be free of gear at this time. • Photos from this sighting showed scratches on Sickle's right side.
Description of Gear on Whale	Line
Description of Wounds	Line embedded in left pectoral flipper
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	6/12/2002 at 42° 06.10' N / 69° 49.96' W
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	Adult female
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E23-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/9/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Touchdown
Location	Northeast Bank, Grand Manan Bank
Latitude/Longitude	44° 16.96'N 67° 01.80' W
Event Description	<p>8/9/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • CCS team sighted the entangled whale and reported to Canada DFO. • DFO gave permission to tag the whale if the opportunity arose. However, the whale was evasive and could not be tagged. <p>8/16/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WW vessel sighted Touchdown west of Stellwagen Bank at 42° 19.66' N / 70° 31.30' W. • CCS responded aboard the vessel, <i>Gannet</i>. • Sea conditions caused the <i>Gannet</i> to turn back before having reached the whale. • Photographs from the WW vessel indicate whale was still entangled and was carrying a suspended weight on the line hanging from the right flipper. <p>5/5/2003</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Touchdown was sighted by a whale watch vessel approximately a mile offshore near the northern tip of Cape Cod at 42 05.17'n / 70 05.77'W. • Based on images and a description of the sighting it was believed, but not confirmed, that the whale may have been free of all gear at the time. • Further documentation was needed to confirm that gear had been shed.
Description of Gear on Whale	Single loop of rope through the mouth, with one end tied back to itself on the whale's back, posterior to the blowholes. The other end of line runs over one flipper and down into the water, to an unknown suspended weight below. Weight off right side noticeably affecting behavior, causing the whale to lean and dive to the right.
Description of Wounds	Moderate chaffing on back
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	9/16/2001 at 42° 09.82' N / 70° 19.90' W
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	Male, born in 1996. ~ 40 ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E24-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/10/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	12 NM south southeast of Schoodic Peninsula, Maine
Latitude/Longitude	44° 10.6' N 67° 52.1' W
Event Description	<p>8/10/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff aboard a WW vessel reported an entangled humpback whale. • No vessels stood by. • Therefore, no disentanglement response was launched. • The entanglement was determined to be a unique event, and not a re-sight of "Touchdown" due to notable differences in the nature of the entanglements and the behavior of whales.
Description of Gear on Whale	Heavy, clear monofilament causing a tight body wrap forward of the flippers
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Juvenile
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E25-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/10/2002
Species	Right
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	2040
Location	Miramichi Bay, Gulf of St. Lawrence Canada
Latitude/Longitude	47° 14.226' N 64° 57.913' W
Event Description	<p>8/10/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ECE reported a sighting of a right whale with green rope around the tail. <p>8/24/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Right whale 2040 sighted in Baies des Chaleurs. Based on the description of gear and geographic proximity, it was believed that the entangled whale sighted 8/10/2002 was also 2040. It appeared that the whale had been more extensively entangled than previously thought. Skin chaffing that was evident around the rostrum, body and flukes suggested that the whale had been able to shed some gear on its own. The remaining entanglements appeared minor, further documentation was needed. <p>9/17/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2040 was sighted by NEA with her calf in the Bay of Fundy. The whale is now free of gear.
Description of Gear on Whale	Green line on tail.
Description of Wounds	Extensive raw scarring on tail stock, white scarring on the area of baleen where line was previously, small piece of baleen sticking out of front of the mouth.
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	7/3/2002 at 42° 14.9' N / 70° 18.2' W in Gulf of Maine
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	12 year old female.
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E26-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/21/2002
Species	Minke
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Less than 1 mile south of Southwest Harbor, Mount Desert Island, ME
Latitude/Longitude	68° 17' W 44° 11' N
Event Description	8/21/2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A fisherman disentangled a minke whale from lobster gear. • The owner of the gear was on-site for the disentanglement. • All gear was removed and returned to the fisherman.
Description of Gear on Whale	Lobster gear (one double)
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Lobster - inshore - state waters
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Unknown
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E27-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/22/2002
Species	Right
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	1815
Location	Roseway Basin, Nova Scotia
Latitude/Longitude	42° 56.0' N 65 22.7' W
Event Description	8/22/2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Crew aboard NOAA R/V <i>Delaware II</i> sighted the entangled right whale and photo documented. • The body of the whale was gray in color, and the whale was not seen to lift flukes "high" out of the water. • Pectorals were not seen.
Description of Gear on Whale	Line across back to left pectoral, blow holes and rostrum.
Description of Wounds	None noted, body gray in color
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	9/20/2001 in Bay of Fundy
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Adult female of unknown age, mother of at least 2 calves
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E28-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/26/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Off of Long Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude	42° 02.0' N 70° 07.0' W
Event Description	<p>8/26/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • USCG Woods Hole reported a small humpback entangled in lobster gear. • Five minutes later, USCG called back to report that the whale had freed itself from the gear. • WW vessel in the area verified that the whale was a humpback and was free of gear. • This is believed to be the same event as a report on the same day from a fisherman in the same area: A small humpback became entangled in his gear and it began breaching and dragging the pot as it swam away. Then, the "whale-safe" buoy popped free and the whale swam off gear-free.
Description of Gear on Whale	Described as lobster gear, two buoys and some line across the back and head
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	~ 25 ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E29-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/30/2002
Species	Right
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Bay of Fundy, Canada
Latitude/Longitude	44° 40.5' N 66° 25.1' W
Event Description	<p>8/30/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • NEAq staff sighted and documented the entangled right whale in a Surface Active Group (SAG). <p>9/2/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • WHOI research vessel re-sighted whale, again in SAG. • Disentanglement teams searched the bay for the whale. The whale was not re-sighted. <p>9/25/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • R/V <i>Nereid</i> sighted the whale at 44° 41.5' N / 66° 23.4' W and documented.
Description of Gear on Whale	Two tight wraps of brown line visible in the left of rostrum
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown - Previously unknown individual
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Adult
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E30-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	8/31/2002
Species	Blue
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	328
Location	St. Lawrence River, Canada
Latitude/Longitude	48° 34.5' N 69° 00.2' W
Event Description	8/31/2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mingan Island Cetacean Station observed and documented an entangled blue whale.
Description of Gear on Whale	Unknown
Description of Wounds	Unknown
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Adult, ~ 80 ft in length
Serious Injury/Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E31-02
Indication of Entanglement	No
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	9/5/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Timelapse
Location	Grand Manan Island, New Brunswick, Canada
Latitude/Longitude	Unknown Unknown
Event Description	<p>9/5/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale found entrapped inside herring weir. • Fisherman removed top poles and dropped top twine. <p>9/8 or 9/9 (overnight)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale swam out on its own.
Description of Gear on Whale	No gear on whale
Description of Wounds	No apparent injuries
Gear Type	Entrapment - herring weir
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	4/27/02 by WCNE at 42°26.55N and 70°29.19W
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	20 -22 ft; tips of both flukes missing (healed); Born no later than 2001
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E32-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	9/9/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Perseus
Location	18 miles south of Newport, RI (Rhode Island Sound)
Latitude/Longitude	41° 12.948' N 71°10.853' W
Event Description	<p>9/9/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisherman reported whale anchored in his gear & stood by. • CCS responded and team was on scene by 4 pm.. • The whale was evasive, despite being anchored. <p>9/10/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Three vessels (CCS vessel Shearwater, the reporting vessel and a larger fishing vessel) worked cooperatively to haul gear and cut lines. • Whale was disentangled.
Description of Gear on Whale	A blue line looped around the top of the head, through either side of the mouth and twisted together at the throat which then led to anchoring gear
Description of Wounds	Indentation noted from line on the head
Gear Type	Lobster - inshore
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	9/ 2/2002 in Cape Cod Bay/Provincetown Harbor, MA
Re-sightings	None known
Life History Information	Male, healed scars indicate the whale had been entangled before; Born no later than 2001
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E33-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	9/21/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	8 miles N of Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude	42° 12.0' N 70° 18.4' W
Event Description	9/21/02 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported and documented by fisherman. • Whale was free-swimming. • No one stood by. • Therefore, no response was mounted.
Description of Gear on Whale	Gear coming out of mouth described as 14" brown cordage
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Unknown
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E34-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	9/28/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Hexed
Location	Mass Bay , 5 nm S/SE of Gloucester, MA
Latitude/Longitude	42° 31.94' N 70° 35.72' W
Event Description	<p>9/28/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reported and documented by naturalist aboard a whale watch vessel. • Response was not mounted due to darkness. • Naturalist also documented ship strike injuries to flukes and dorsal ridge. <p>9/29/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hexed was sighted and documented free of gear by whale watch naturalist in Cape Cod Bay.
Description of Gear on Whale	A loose loop of small diameter line wrapped over and around right fluke and trailing a few feet. Long buoy stick with flag on the end was attached to either the right flipper or mouth
Description of Wounds	Ship strike injuries to flukes and dorsal ridge
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	1/6/2002 in Cape Cod Bay MA
Re-sightings	11/4/02 - in Cape Cod Bay by CCS
Life History Information	Juvenile male; Born no later than 2001
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E35-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	10/1/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown (Temporary ID: CCS-0235)
Location	Floating 1.5 miles E of Plymouth, MA; Beached N. end of North beach, Race Point, Provincetown, MA
Latitude/Longitude	41° 57.2' N 70° 31.4' W
Event Description	<p>10/1/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Boater reported a dead whale anchored in gear. • MEP responded and found and documented floating carcass. • Whale was drifting ENE. <p>10/2/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcass washed up on Race Point, Provincetown, MA. • Fresh entanglement scars were documented and fibers of twisted green line, identified as polypropylene warp was collected from the entanglement wound. <p>10/3/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Full necropsy was conducted. • 12 wraps evident from rope burn abrasions identified around the body.
Description of Gear on Whale	No gear recovered
Description of Wounds	Bruising was associated with areas of abrasion from entanglement (right gape of mouth, left and right pectoral flippers, peduncle and flukes).
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	None known
Re-sightings	None (mortality)
Life History Information	750 cm Male; probably a 2002 calf
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E36-02
Indication of Entanglement	No
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	10/4/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Approximately one mile offshore of Virginia Beach, VA
Latitude/Longitude	36° 49.6' N 75° 57.5 W
Event Description	10/4/2002 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale was observed surfacing in gillnet gear. • Whale was not seen again. • Gear was examined and appeared intact.
Description of Gear on Whale	Green line across back behind the blow hole
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Unknown
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E37-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	10/10/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Holepunch
Location	Off of Brier Island, Nova Scotia, Bay of Fundy, Canada
Latitude/Longitude	Unknown Unknown
Event Description	10/10/02 <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale partially disentangled by Canadian team (limited details available). • Approximately 14 ft of line was left trailing.
Description of Gear on Whale	Unknown
Description of Wounds	Unknown
Gear Type	Unknown
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	8/12/2002 at 42° 09.90' N / 70° 07.83' W
Re-sightings	None
Life History Information	Born in 2000, calf of Sloop
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E38-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	10/15/2002
Species	Minke
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Gloucester Harbor, Gloucester, MA
Latitude/Longitude	42° 36' N 70° 39' W
Event Description	<p>10/15/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcass was found anchored in gear. <p>10/16/02</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Carcass was towed in for necropsy. • Necropsied by NEAq and WCNE. • Flipper wrap and entangling gear documented hanging from the mouth.
Description of Gear on Whale	Entangling Gear hanging from the base of the mouth. One flipper wrap
Description of Wounds	Left pectoral flipper (at insertion) bruised at site of rope abrasion. Abrasions also noted on left side of mouth
Gear Type	Lobster - inshore - state waters
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	514 cm subadult Female
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E39-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Dead
Date 1st Observed Entangled	10/27/2002
Species	Unidentified
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	One mile off of Eastern Head, Cutler, ME
Latitude/Longitude	~ 44°37' N ~ 67° 10' W
Event Description	<p>10/25/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fisherman reported that he had lost gear one week earlier. Then, on this day he saw his buoys just under the surface of the water. When he hauled the gear, he found the carcass hung up in his gear. • Carcass was not reported until 10/27. • Carcass was in advanced decomposition, no photo documentation. <p>10/27/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Patrol investigated from shore in poor visibility (saw white carcass). <p>10/28/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Marine Patrol investigated; by this time, the carcass was gone.
Description of Gear on Whale	Unknown
Description of Wounds	Unknown
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	None - mortality
Life History Information	~ 25 ft
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E40-02
Indication of Entanglement	No
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	11/1/2002
Species	Unidentified
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Outside of Sesuit Harbor, Barnstable, MA
Latitude/Longitude	41° 45.4' N 70° 11.5' W
Event Description	<p>11/1/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Whale was observed from shore using binoculars and telescope. • Observer noted fisherman cutting something free from near the vessel. • Whale swam off with 'red hook' described still around tail • Harbormaster responded and saw a humpback free of gear very close to reported location. <p>11/3/2002 (estimated)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Humpback with an injury on the fluke that could likely have been mistaken for a 'red hook' was observed feeding close to shore in the area.
Description of Gear on Whale	'Red hook' described around tail
Description of Wounds	None noted
Gear Type	Unknown - no gear recovered
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	Unknown
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004

NMFS No.	E41-02
Indication of Entanglement	Yes
Live/Dead Outcome	Live
Date 1st Observed Entangled	11/20/2002
Species	Humpback
No. of Animals	1
Individual ID	Unknown
Location	Indian River Inlet, DE
Latitude/Longitude	38°37.39' N 75° 02.15'W
Event Description	<p>11/20/2002</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Commercial fisherman reported to the USCG that a live whale was anchored in his pot gear. • Stranding Network and USCG stood by. • The fisherman removed the slack and applied pressure to his gear. The whale reportedly "rolled out" of gear and swam away.
Description of Gear on Whale	Pots and line
Description of Wounds	Minor abrasions along the caudal peduncle
Gear Type	Conch traps - state waters
Sighting Prior to Entanglement	Unknown
Re-sightings	Unknown
Life History Information	~ 45 ft
Serious Injury/ Mortality Determination	Pending U.S. Atlantic and Gulf of Mexico Marine Mammal Stock Assessments-2004