

Observer Reports

Sections 6.a through 6.c. contain annual reports from the Observer Program. They contain information on fishing effort, observer coverage, and protected species interactions. These reports can be found on the NMFS PIRO Observer Program website:

http://www.fpir.noaa.gov/OBS/obs_qtrly_annual_rprts.html

The annual reports in section 6.a. for the years 1994 to 2001 are for combined deep-set and shallow-set trips. The year 2001 represents a combined shallow- and deep-set report as shallow set fishing occurred only during the 1st quarter of that year.

The annual reports in section 6.b. for the years 2002 to 2009 are for deep-set trips only.

The annual reports in section 6.c. for the years 2004 to 2009 are for shallow set trips only. The shallow set fishery was closed in 2001 and reopened in 2004 with restrictions on allowable gear used in the fishery. Due to vessel confidentiality rules, there is no annual report for 2007.

Section 6.d. contains 9 representative Marine Mammal Biological Data Forms from longline interactions with false killer whales. This representative sample includes 5 iterations of the data form, showing the progression of the type and amount of data that are collected from these interactions. This sample also shows a variety of interaction types, including both hookings and entanglements.

Below is a brief description of the 9 example forms:

Example 1: Hooking. Earliest incarnation of the Protected Species form (version 00). It includes a brief description on the reverse side. The second form is an early sighting form; this sighting of false killer whales occurred shortly after the interaction.

Example 2: Hooking. Earliest incarnation of the Protected Species form (version 00). It includes an extensive description on the reverse side.

Example 3: Hooking. Second form version (version 88). It has only a brief description of this interaction, on a separate comment form.

Example 4: Hooking. New form version (version MM 04.06.). It has an extensive description of this interaction. The second form is a new sketch form version with additional information about the interaction.

Example 5: Entanglement. Same as previous form (version MM 04.06.). It has an average description of this interaction. The second form is a new sketch form version with additional information about the interaction

Example 6: Hooking. New form version (version MM 07.03).It has an average description of this interaction. The second form is a 'test version' of the next form version; the observer filled it out

to help us assess it.

Example 7: Entanglement. New form version (MM 08.04). It has an good description of this interaction. The second form is a drawing showing the entanglement in detail.

Example 8: Hooking. Same as previous form version (MM 08.04).It has a good description of the interaction. The second form is a sketch that shows the hooking area in detail.

Example 9: Hooking and entanglement. Same as previous form version (MM0804) It has a good description of the interaction. This is a shallow set interaction.