

8.D.2(1)

124th SSC

False Killer Whale Take Reduction Team Non-Longline Fisheries Work Group Webinar August 31, 2016 Meeting Summary

Participants

TRT members: Robin Baird, David Laist, Alton Miyasaka, Paul Dalzel (and alternate Asuka Ishizaki), Sharon Young, Ryan Steen, Michael Jasny, Kristy Long (and alternate Lisa White)

Facilitators: Scott McCreary, Bennett Brooks

NMFS PIRO/PIFSC Team: Jean Higgins, Krista Graham, Susan Pultz, Dawn Golden, Kim Maison, Justin Hospital

Format and purpose of meeting

The webinar began with an overview of the agenda and discussion protocols and then focused on providing briefings to participants on the following topics:

- Jean Higgins reminded work group participants that the purpose of the meeting/webinar was to inform planning for NMFS's insular false killer whale (IFKW) recovery workshop as it pertains to fisheries-related threats. She summarized the linkage between past Take Reduction Team deliberations and the upcoming recovery planning process.
- Krista Graham presented on recovery planning process (purpose of recovery planning, new "Recovery Enhancement Vision" recovery planning approach), and information on the IFKW recovery planning workshop that will be held in Honolulu on October 25-28, 2016.

Presentation materials will be available on the web at
<http://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/fkwtrt/#groups>.

Summary of key questions and discussion

Below is a summary of Work Group member comments and recommendations based on key questions posed by NMFS. Feedback from the webinar will be used to inform Agency planning for the workshop. Participants were invited to provide additional feedback by email following the call.

(1): Given the aims of the workshop, does the planned participation and range of topics seem on point? Are there any gaps in topics/questions/participants?

Participant comments related to this question included the following:

- Given that the Western Pacific Fisheries Management Council produces an annual report of longline fisheries data, review this information, as appropriate, and provide to workshop participants, plus recreational module summarizing highly migratory species.
- Given their knowledge on familiarity with and ability to provide information on the mechanics of longline fishing, include Chris Boggs and Keith Bigelow in the fisheries portion of the workshop.
- Strike the proper balance between NMFS staff and outside experts and researchers; current workshop participation seems too NMFS-centric.

- Provide data to explain animal behaviors and fishing practices at the interaction points (what is the animal doing, what are fishermen doing, how to lessen likelihood of interaction, etc.); consider including additional fishermen in the workshop to inform this discussion.
- Some expressed concern that there may not be sufficient time for workshop participants to deliberate given the extent of materials to be covered.
 - From NMFS: Need to make clear that formal participant deliberations will be limited to the workshop itself; participants will not be asked to deliberate or submit comments following the workshop (though NMFS will likely opt to solicit additional perspectives as it moves forward with Recovery Plan drafting).
- Consider strategies to measure the success of recovery actions. For example, what baseline and metrics will be used to measure success or failure? Next, how will these metrics be tracked given existing (i.e., less than 100%) observer coverage levels?
- Expand the workshop topics to include discussion of recovery criteria.

(2) Are there any gaps in the fisheries-related topics?

Participant comments related to this question included the following:

- As noted above, it was suggested that recovery criteria be discussed during the workshop.
- Related to the overview of Hawaii fisheries:
 - Provide background material on management structure of the state fisheries particularly where relevant to bycatch management.
 - Provide a comprehensive overview of each of the various small boat fisheries – make sure we understand the point of interaction and other details that would be helpful, i.e., choice of gear. Materials presented must be specific to each fishery type.
 - Be prepared to take a “deeper dive” into at least some of the fisheries to provide insights into the nature of interaction.
 - Seek guidance from the workshop participants on how to foster communications with and among fishermen in the different fishery groups; effective communication will be key to recovery planning and implementation.

(3) What info is needed in advance of the workshop or at the workshop to foster deliberations?

Related to info from NMFS, from the State, and from others?

In addition to information needs already summarized above, participants offered the following feedback in response to this question:

- Provide data from Section 6 grant (if analyzed and available). [A. Miyasaka noted that the State and NOAA Fisheries are working now to fine-tune a Memorandum of Agreement that will facilitate the Section 6 grant analysis. R. Baird is hopeful that the research team will be able to complete the analysis in time to inform the workshop deliberations, but this is not yet certain. (We may know more closer to the workshop.)]

(4) What are key takeaways from TRT deliberations to-date on fisheries interactions that are important to discuss at the workshop? How might we best present these perspectives? (i.e., extent of

threat posed by nearshore fisheries? Potential overlap with longline fisheries? Varying risk dependent on IFKW social clusters? Research/data/analytic needs?)

Specific suggestions included the following:

- Provide background on the logic of the TRT's thinking regarding TRP aspects related to the insular false killer whale (e.g., shifting the longline boundary to minimize likelihood of overlap).
- Summarize past TRT discussions on research needs; important for workshop participants to benefit from the Team's thorough list of research priorities.
- To the extent relevant to insular false killer whales, share Team discussions related to observer coverage needs, monitoring plans, and related subjects.

Next Steps

Based on the call, NMFS outlined the following next steps:

- Krista – provide list of other workshop attendees and workshop draft agenda by Friday 9/2.
- Justin – provide Leila Madge et al. report – when it is available.
- Workshop participants – Provide additional feedback on workshop structure, participation and information needs by COB on Wednesday 9/7.
- Workshop participants – Provide feedback on webinar summary (this document) by Friday 9/9.

Note: No follow-on Work Group call is scheduled at this time.

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