

Entanglements in Fishing Gear and Strandings reported to the
Whale Release and Strandings Group in Newfoundland and Labrador
and a summary of the
Whale Release and Strandings Program during 2020

A Report to the Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Canada –
Newfoundland and Labrador Region

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The working relationship we have with DFO fisheries officers in this capacity is unique, professional and needed. Thanks also to Jackie Kean, Jody Roach and Chelsea Austin of DFO for overseeing the program during 2020. Thanks to Jack Lawson, the DFO Marine Mammal Scientist who we work with.

Thanks to the Navigator magazine for running reduced fee ads for the toll-free number to fishers advertising details of whom to call when you have or see a marine animal entrapped or stranded in Newfoundland waters.

The Canadian Coast Guard Marine Communications and Traffic Services (MCTS) Centers diligently report entrapped and stranded marine animals and sightings regularly to the hotline. Thanks for the service. Thank you to the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's and Harbour Authorities of Bauline, Duntara, Keels and Kings Cove.

Thanks to Marine Atlantic for calling in sightings of whales and leatherback turtles on their routes.

To the fishers of the Newfoundland DFO Region who have continued to support this program throughout its long history, the success of our work releasing entrapped animals would not be possible without your continued support and participation.

We thank our Board Members Shawna Prince and John Joy for their many suggestions and help.

Whale Release and Strandings Group

The Whale Release and Strandings Group (Tangly Whales, Inc.) is a non-profit environmental organization responsible for the disentanglement and response to strandings of marine animals in Newfoundland and Labrador since 2000 and incorporated in July 2002. The organization has a board of directors.

The Mission statement for the Whale Release and Strandings Group is:

- To conserve biodiversity
- To release whales from fishing gear
- To attempt to save fishing gear to the extent possible during a disentanglement
- To coordinate strandings on marine animals
- To conduct research work on marine animals
- To conduct all other work on marine animals as seen fit.

From 1978 through 2020 assistance has been offered to fishers in the Newfoundland Region who incidentally have large whales, leatherback sea turtles and basking sharks entangled in their fishing gear and for live stranded marine animals. This service has been provided with cooperation from Fisheries and Oceans, Canada.

Summary reports

During this time-period (1978-2020) information from fishers regarding whale interactions has been recorded and monitored. Included are the incidences of entrapments, strandings and sightings of twenty different species of cetaceans, leatherback sea turtles, and sharks that have been recorded in continuous reports and summaries from 1978 - 2020.

This report represents the forty fourth (44th) of such reports in a similar format produced by the Whale Research Group and the Whale Release and Strandings Group. The purpose of these yearly reports is to summarize activities of important events, such as entrapments, entanglements and strandings of animals at risk and under study, and research and/or educational studies undertaken. These reports are catalogued at the Memorial University Library (Centre for Newfoundland Studies) and Fisheries and Oceans Canada and with the Whale Release and Strandings Group. One of the benefits of these reports is quick access to changes in entrapments and entanglements in the Newfoundland region related to changes in fishing gear and distributions of large marine animals, as well as the various strandings, ice-entrapments and sightings of rare animals and animals under study.

Introduction

The program, which has been run by the Whale Release and Strandings Group (WRS) from 2001-2020, plus providing during 2000 a one-year mentorship with the Canadian Coast Guard, uses methods of which the most important is working with stakeholders (harvesters) for disentangling of large whales from fishing gear, which was pioneered by

Dr. Jon Lien (Lien 1980), and with a few modifications, these methods remain those of choice today.

The disentanglement program in use today was designed and developed for the highly rural nature of over 800 fishing communities spread over the 17,000 km coastline of Newfoundland and Labrador (NL). The disentanglement assistance program has benefited fishers, whales, leatherback sea turtles, basking sharks and the people of Canada. It provides assistance to often financially stretched fishers, saving them thousands of dollars in what would be lost fishing gear and downtime if they did not have skilled support in releasing a large whale entrapped in their gear. WRS releases large and often endangered whales, leatherback sea turtles and basking sharks from fishing gear and allows them to continue their life processes. We have the largest feeding population of humpbacks in the northwest Atlantic, with about 5,000 individuals visiting NL waters during spring, summer and fall. These whales are the basis for a large tourism industry in the region.

The program also responds to all reported live and dead stranded cetaceans and sea turtles, as well as pack ice entrapments.

The purpose of the assistance is: (1) to assist fishers in releasing whales from fishing gear, thus decreasing downtime and damage to fishing gear. The length of time a large marine animal is entrapped in fishing gear is directly correlated to greater gear damage and loss of income due to the gear not fishing properly or at all (Lien 1983), (2) to release entrapped marine animals as quickly and safely as possible to allow them to continue their life processes, such as feeding, migrating, mating, rearing their young, (3) to communicate with fishers and communities about marine animals, including species at risk, and habitat protection, and (4) to add to the scientific knowledge of cetaceans, leatherback sea turtles and sharks that inhabit Newfoundland and Labrador waters.

Fish harvesters have come to realize that calling a government sponsored program offers them a safer, faster and more efficient alternative to dealing with a gear-entrapped animal than attempting a release on their own. Fishers and untrained persons who take whales out of gear often leave large amounts of fishing gear on the animal perhaps because they do not or cannot look underwater to see all the gear that is on the entrapped animal. Whales caught in crab gear that are cut loose by fishers and other untrained persons are often released with vast amounts of rope and pots still attached (Ledwell and Huntington 2001, 2002, 2006). This provides more opportunity for whale re-entrapment and more gear damage and allows the animal to move from the vicinity in which it was entrapped and be difficult to relocate, and/or difficult to catch to remove the gear still on it. A timely response by experienced personnel results in the removal of most, if not all gear from the animals, less gear damage and fishing downtime, particularly important to the economically marginalized inshore fishers.

From 1979 to 2020 one thousand one hundred and seventeen (1,117) humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*), one hundred and sixty-four (164) minke whales (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*), sixteen (16) fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*), two right

whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*), two (2) killer whales (*Orcinus orca*), one (1) bowhead whale (*Balaena mysticetus*) and eighty-eight (88) unknown large whales were reported entrapped or entangled in fishing gear in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Eighty-two (82) leatherback turtles (*Dermochelys coriacea*) have been reported entangled in fishing gear in this region with a mortality of 25%. There have been fifteen (15) reported leatherback turtle strandings with 11 of those being dead animals reported in the Newfoundland region. Two (2) live leatherbacks that had stranded were rescued and returned to sea by members of the WRS group. A loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) was collected cold stunned in Hermitage harbour and returned to ocean from the Harbour Breton harbour after it was rewarmed (Ledwell and Huntington 2007).

Entrapments, strandings and sightings of other cetaceans, either unusual to the area or under study or animals free swimming but in poor health and marine animals such as sea turtles, sharks, walrus, have also been documented (Lien 1994; Ledwell and Huntington 2000-2012; Ledwell, Huntington and Sacrey 2013-2015, Ledwell and Huntington 2016, Ledwell, Huntington and Enserink 2017, Ledwell, Huntington and Ledwell 2018, Ledwell, Huntington and Sacrey 2019).

From 1992 to 2000 funding for a marine animal release program was varied and at times non-existent.

The most common types of fishing gear associated with entanglements in this region currently include gillnets (cod, herring, mackerel, lumpfish, flounder, monk, skate and turbot), snow crab pots, whelk pots, toad crab pots, box traps (caplin, cod, herring, mackerel and squid), unspecified and illegal gillnets, ropes/buoys and moorings. In other words, most types of fishing gear have the potential to incidentally catch whales and they do. In recent years fishing effort in Newfoundland and Labrador has shifted offshore. This shift in gear has led to an increase in the number of offshore entrapments reported and offshore entanglements have primarily involved snow crab and whelk pot gear.

Methods

Whale, leatherback sea turtle and basking shark entanglements in fishing gear and strandings and sightings of marine animals were reported to the Whale Release and Strandings Program in 2020 by calling a Canada-wide advertised toll-free number (1-888-895-3003) which can be accessed 24 hours a day seven-days a week year round. A trained release team responds by providing suitable, safe advice, or sending expert personnel to the site for needed assistance. The trained crew is equipped and ready to deploy immediately with an inflatable zodiac and necessary specialized tools for disentanglement of whales, leatherback sea turtles and basking sharks. The objective of each disentanglement is the safe, gear free release of the whale or other marine animals from the fishing gear and minimal or no damage to the fishing gear involved in the entanglement. The disentanglement crew also responds to whale and leatherback sea turtle strandings. Calls concerning entanglements, strandings and dead floating animals were also forwarded to the group by DFO Fisheries Officers, Coast Guard Centers, fishers, Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP), Whale Watching businesses, Crime

Stoppers and the general public. Fisheries and Oceans Canada funded the program in 2020. Additional funding was provided through Canada Summer Jobs- Service Canada and the Town of Portugal Cove-St. Philip's, Harbour Authorities of Bauline and Duntara, Keels and Kings Cove.

Results and Discussion

Results of the Entrapment Assistance Program from previous years have been summarized in annual reports to Fisheries and Oceans and/or the Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Fisheries (Lien 1979; Lien 1980; Lien and Aldrich 1982; Lien et al. 1982; 1983; 1984; 1985; 1986; 1987; 1988; 1989; Lien 1990; 1991; 1992; 1993; 1994; 1995; (1996; 1997, 1998, 1999 personal papers Lien); Ledwell, Huntington and Lien 2000; Ledwell and Huntington 2001; 2002; 2003; 2004; 2005; 2006; 2007; 2008; 2009; Ledwell, Huntington and Kelly 2010; Ledwell and Huntington 2011; 2012; Ledwell, Huntington and Sacrey 2013; 2014; 2015. Ledwell and Huntington 2016; Ledwell, Huntington and Enserink 2017, Ledwell, Huntington and Ledwell 2018, Ledwell, Huntington and Sacrey 2019).

Humpback whales reported entangled in fishing gear in Newfoundland and Labrador during 2020

Humpback Whales

3rd January

Whale entrapped in herring nets in Back Cove, Bay L'Argent, Fortune Bay. WRS geared up to respond, but a search by DFO Marystown couldn't locate the whale. It is assumed the whale self-released. There were 3 to 4 humpbacks in the area sighted feeding on herring.

20th June

Whale entangled in a fleet of 2 herring nets plus other gear it had towed into the net including an anchor. Animal had mouth, body and tail wraps. We removed all the gear and assisted the fishermen to retrieve the nets. We suspect it to be the same animal previously reported on the 15th due to the close distances between the communities.

23rd June

Humpback entangled in either a herring or illegal salmon net. Close to shore in heavy surf the whale was released gear free from netting across its back and tail flukes together with head rope through its mouth. WRS were towed to the entrapment by DFO fisheries officers from Springdale out of Goodyears Cove, Halls Bay and managed to release the animal before dark.

25th July

Humpback entangled in whelk gear and slowly moving off of Sept Isles, Quebec. WRS geared up to respond on request by Quebec DFO. The animal was not resighted.

26th July

Humpback dead drifting entangled in rope with a highflyer staff and reflector. Reported by intra-provincial ferry vessel MV Flanders to Coast Guard and to WRS. We suspect because of the nature of the gear description that it was snow crab gear.

31st July

Side scan sonar crew removed trailing rope from a moving humpback off of St. Lawrence, Placentia Bay. Animal still entangled in the gear. We alerted the Marystown DFO and together, we responded with the DFO RHIB out of St. Lawrence. We searched all day in perfect weather conditions but couldn't relocate the whale.

9th August

Reviewing camera footage of a humpback calf while on a disentanglement response to an entangled fin whale in the same area, WRS discovered a fishing lure attached to the fluke of the calf while we were assessing the animal for scarring and possible entanglement. This is the first instance where we have seen this in our waters. There were between 20-30 recreational boaters in the area fishing cod and multiple humpbacks and fins in the same area were observed in very close proximity to the boats.

Fin whales

9th August

Reports to WRS that there was a minke with gear on it off of Seal Cove, Conception Bay. WRS responded and discovered it was an adult fin with rope through its mouth; a bunched up mound loosely swaying on its head and side. We spent 8 hours in perfect weather amidst a variety of recreational boats fishing cod and other whales -fins, humpbacks and minkes, all in the same general area. The whales including the fin were weaving in and out amongst the boats making it somewhat dangerous for us to be chasing the animal for fear it or one of the humpbacks could hit one of the boats. The fin had no trailing rope and our only chance was to hook the rope on top of its head, however it proved impossible due to the animals short length of time at surface and unpredictability in its surfacing area.

Strandings/ Miscellaneous sightings and solitary social belugas

A mass stranding of fifteen (15) pilot whales on the Port au Port Peninsula November 9th. All were discovered dead and DFO officials concluded that because of Covid 19 physical distancing would be an issue and that they were not a species at risk, and thus it is not a priority to perform full necropsies on these animals. Tissue samples and teeth were taken by fisheries officers for DFO Marine Mammals.

New disentanglement tools/Tool kits

A complete WRS disentanglement tool kit was requested and funded by DFO for use within the region in 2020. The kit is for use on the Labrador Coast and is located in Happy Valley Goose Bay, Labrador.

The First Large Whale Disentanglement Tool Workshop

A disentanglement whale tool workshop scheduled for the fall 2020 was also put on hold due to Covid 19. The goal of this workshop was to bring together representatives of various groups who work on getting gear off of large whales here under the direction of master machinist Philippe Germain who manufactures WRS tools together with Wayne Ledwell at the Flume tank at the Marine Institute. The objective is to test the effectiveness of the various cutting tools currently used on different ropes and netting along with bringing together ideas for designing other knives.

Collaboration from a group of responders with diverse knowledge and varied experience within the field is an ideal and invaluable contribution to continue this innovative process, and a workshop to achieve this is set to be held at the Flume Tank at the Marine Institute of Memorial University.

The evolution of fisheries and accompanying gear has been reflected in the selection and development of appropriate tools for safe and effective disentanglement of marine wildlife. Novel modifications to tools may further enhance disentanglement capacity, allow for more efficient response, create safer environments for responders, and subject both responders and marine wildlife to reduced risk of injury.

Disentanglement training and school outreach in Coastal Labrador

Although large whale entanglements in Labrador have historically been low compared to the island portion of the province, in recent years, reports of entanglements and requests for responses from our group have been increasing. As the only group within the province equipped to safely respond to whale entanglements, and in order to address these gaps, it was requested that our team provide training workshops to interested groups in several coastal communities to improve marine animal response capacity within Labrador. Over the month of October 2020, three team members of Tangly Whales (Whale Release and Strandings), had planned to travel to the coastal communities of Nain, Natuashish, Postville, Makkovik and Rigolet, Labrador to deliver small cetacean disentanglement training workshops developed for fishers, fisheries officers and other interested community members.

Additionally, the WRS team had planned to engage with school groups through our marine wildlife outreach program, which aims to connect and engage kindergarten to grade 12 students with their natural environment, and to inspire curiosity and appreciation of local marine ecosystems. Several school principals and teachers were eager to participate in our grade-specific programming and outdoor learning opportunities, and we hoped to reach Jens Haven Memorial in Nain, Mushuau Innu Natuashish School in Natuashish, B. L. Morrison School in Postville, J. C. Erhardt Memorial School in Makkovik and Northern Lights Academy in Rigolet. Although we had received encouraging support from the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District Labrador Region program specialist and schools' staff, unfortunately due to the pandemic, we were unable to visit schools at this time and have postponed visits until it is deemed safe to do so.

Additional School Outreach Activity in Labrador 2020

During the month of February 2020, in collaboration with Let's Talk Science, a charitable organization focused on STEM education and skills development, a member of the Tangly Whales team had the opportunity to connect with several hundred students in Labrador and engage with them in an interactive learning environment through diverse, hands-on activities and discussions to complement curriculum concepts. Programming was provided to several hundred students in kindergarten through grade 12 classes at Peacock Primary and Queen of Peace Middle School in Happy Valley Goose Bay, and Lake Melville School in North West River, Labrador.

Reducing endangered sea turtle bycatch and entanglement through collaboration, education and training in mitigation techniques

Tangly Whales has also been involved in a three-year project in collaboration with FFAW, CPAWS-NL and WWF-Canada, which will provide educational materials and disentanglement tools to fishers along the south shore of Newfoundland to help enable them to safely interact with entangled leatherback sea turtles. The project will also engage fishers by asking for input and feedback on tool design, ideas for gear deployment adjustments to reduce risk of bycatch, and best practices to be shared throughout the industry.

During this first year of the project, preliminary planning and development of educational materials has taken place, as well as the ordering and manufacturing of line cutter tools. During the second and third year, the group will be meeting with fishers, providing educational material and line cutter tools, as well as soliciting feedback to be incorporated into the design and manufacturing of the next iteration of tools. Engaging in project objectives over three years will allow sufficient time to effectively integrate fisher feedback, refine tools, and develop best practices.

Recommendations

All vessels in the Newfoundland region should have the toll-free number stickers onboard alerting them who to call when they have an entrapped whale or see an entrapped or stranded whale or leatherback sea turtle. By having the toll-free number visible in the wheelhouse, fishers may decide to call for expert advice when they have or as soon as they see a whale or leatherback entrapped and not attempt to cut animals free and leave them with large amounts of gear attached which may cause the animal to become re-entrapped or die. This situation can be at least partially avoided if boats have the entrapment assistance hotline number easily visible onboard and upon calling the WRS group they can be advised on the proper release procedures, or be advised that a release team is available to attend to the entanglement. This may, in turn, lessen the number of whales and / or sea turtles each season free swimming with gear attached. See Appendix I for toll-free sticker.

Because of the dangers inherent in fishing boats encountering entangled large whales in their fishing gear in the offshore, especially snow crab gear, fishing groups need to be advised by an experienced disentanglement group on procedures to protect lives and lessen gear damage.

Table 1. Humpback whales reported entangled in fishing gear in Newfoundland and Labrador during 2020

| Date | Area | Gear type | Description |
|-------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|--|
| 3 rd January | Bay L'Argent, Fortune Bay 4754N, 5488W | Herring nets | WRS geared up to respond. Animal busted free from the net |
| 15 th June | Greenspond, Bonavista Bay 4907N, 5357W | Lobster or herring net | DFO Fisheries Officers searched area, but animal was not resighted |
| 19 th June | Pouch Cove 4741N, 5270W | Towing rope and small red poly buoy | Mother and calf pair. The cow was towing the gear. WRS responded, but due to fog the whales were not resighted |
| 20 th June | Wesleyville, Bonavista Bay 4914N, 5355W | Herring net and other gear | WRS responded and released the animal gear free from the net |
| 23 rd June | Grouchers Cove, Beaumont, Long Island, Green Bay 4959N, 5563W | Herring or illegal salmon net | WRS responded and successfully released the whale completely free of all gear |
| 25 th July | Port Cartier, Sept Isles, Quebec 5002N, 6687W | Whelk gear | WRS asked to respond and geared up to go, but animal not resighted |
| 26 th July | 3nm off Cape St. Francis 4750N, 5250W | Pot gear | Whale dead and bloated with high flyer, staff and radar reflector attached |
| 31 st July | St. Lawrence, Placentia Bay 4692N, 5539W | Rope | Side scan sonar crew removed some rope from a humpback trailing gear. Animal still had ropes attached to it. WRS responded with DFO fisheries officers but were unable to relocate the whale |
| 1 st August | 12nm Off Bay Bulls, Southern Shore 4722N, 5223W | Pot gear | Dead drifting. Whale dead and bloated with highflyer staff and radar reflector attached. Same whale as reported 26 th July |
| 2 nd August | Harbour Grace 4741N, 5312W | Netting | Whale reported by DFO wharf monitor with netting on it. Unable to relocate |
| 2 nd August | Sops Arm, White Bay 4977N, 5687W | White float and rope | Video sent of whale towing small white float and rope. Unable to relocate |
| 9 th August | Seal Cove, Conception Bay 4747N, 5308W | Fishing lure | While trying to get gear off of a fin in the same area, discovered a juvenile humpback with a lure attached to its fluke |

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|-------------------------|--|---------------------------|---|
| 16 th August | Ferryland, Southern Shore.4703N, 5288W | 2 small orange poly buoys | It appears that the animal became entangled in a net, began thrashing and broke free of the gear, as when it was resighted the orange buoys were not seen on the animal. Uncertain entanglement |
| 18 th August | ???? | Towing gear | Reported to DFO St. John's by helicopter pilot. Unable to relocate |

Table 2. Other whales reported entangled in fishing gear to the Whale Release and Strandings Group in 2020

| Date | Area | Species | Description |
|------------------------|--|--------------|--|
| 6 th August | Bell Island, Conception Bay 4763N, 5297W | (species)??? | Whale moving towards Little Bell Conception Bay with small orange poly buoy and rope. WRS responded but unable to relocate |
| 9 th August | Seal Cove, Conception Bay 4747N, 5308W | Fin | Adult fin with rope through its mouth and bunched up rope on its head. WRS responded and spent 8 hours unsuccessfully trying to get opportunity to remove the gear |

Table 3. Ice entrapped, stranded and dead floating cetaceans reported in Newfoundland and Labrador during 2020

| Date | Area | Species | Description |
|------------------------|---|-----------------------|---|
| 14 th May | Lawn, Placentia Bay 4695N, 5554W | White – sided dolphin | Live stranding. DFO Marystown responded |
| 19 th May | Random Island, Trinity Bay 4817N, 5353W | Fin | Dead stranded female. WRS responded and carried out morphometrics and tissue sampling |
| 25 July | Sand Dunes, Port au Basques | Sperm | Reported to us by Jackie Kean. DFO fisheries officers sampled the whale |
| 31 st July | Bauline, Conception Bay 4771N, 5262W | Fin | Dead stranded female. WRS responded and collected tissue samples and morphometrics data for DFO Marine Mammals. |
| 8 th August | Lumsden, Bonavista Bay 4923N, 5360W | Humpback | Small female humpback dead stranded. Some local residents believed it had been caught in a |

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|---------------------------|--|------------------|--|
| | | | caplin purse seine. No gear marks on the whale |
| 17 th August | 180 nm SE of St. John's 4614N, 4845W | Fin | Dead drifting near Hibernia platform |
| 15 th October | Point au Gaul, Placentia Bay 4685N, 55.77W | Common dolphin | Dead stranded |
| 9 th November | Twillingate, New World Island 4964N, 54.76W | Unknown? | Dead on beach with possible propellor wounds |
| 10 th November | 4701N, 5936W | Large whale spp; | Decomposed dead drifting reported by Cabot Strait ferry |
| 9 th December | 10 km west from Lourdes, Port au Port Peninsula | 15 pilot whales | Mass stranding of 15 pilot whales discovered newly dead. WRS geared up for necropsies, but due to Covid 19 we were asked to stand down by DFO. |

Table 4. Miscellaneous cetaceans reported in Newfoundland and Labrador during 2020

| Date | Area | Species | Description |
|------------------------|---|----------|--|
| 2 nd April | Hillview, Hatchet Cove, St. Jones, Trinity Bay | Beluga | Solitary social moving between communities |
| 25 th July | Bay Roberts 4762N, 5320W | Humpback | Pink humpback reported. Suspect cyamid loaded |
| 4 th August | Keels, Trinity Bay 4860N, 5340W | Humpback | Humpback reported by tour group covered in cyamids |

Table 5. Sightings cruises/surveys in Newfoundland and Labrador 2020

| Dates | Vessel | Observer(s) | Area | Sightings |
|----------|--------|---|---|--|
| 1 August | RHIB | Elitza Germanov, Julie Huntington, Wayne Ledwell, and two DFO officers | St. Lawrence to Grand Bank | No whales |
| 8 August | Zodiac | Julie Huntington and Kathryn Welbourn | Bauline, Conception Bay to Cape St. Francis | Pod of about a hundred white-beaked dolphins |
| 9 August | RHIB | Julie Huntington, Cateline Landry, Wayne Ledwell | Conception Bay, St. Philips to Holyrood | Cow and calf humpbacks and fins, and |

| | | | | |
|----------------------------|--------|--|---|--|
| | | | | individual fins and humpbacks |
| 16 th September | Zodiac | Cateline Landry and Chris Prince | Off Trinity East to Trouty, Trinity Bay | At least 6-9 fin whales, 2 minke whales, pod of harbour porpoises |
| 5th October | Zodiac | Julie Huntington, Cateline Landry and Maria Peddle | East coastline of Avalon Peninsula from Bay Bulls to Ferryland. | Pod of 50-100+ white-sided dolphins, Atlantic bluefin tuna, 11 bald eagles (Tuna and dolphin sightings were just south of Bay Bulls) |

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1-888-895-3003

If you have a WHALE or TURTLE or basking shark (live or dead) caught in your fishing gear, call this toll-free number and we will respond with a trained team. If you see any whales, turtles or dolphins (live or dead) on a beach, please call. Should you see any leatherback sea turtles please call.



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Appendix II

