

2015 False Killer Whale Take Reduction Team Meeting Documents

Background documents for the April 29-May 1, 2015 False Killer Whale Take Reduction Team meeting are listed below. Most are linked to specific meeting agenda items. Documents are grouped as follows:

1. *For review.* Please review these documents and come to the meeting prepared to discuss them.
2. *For reference – not previously distributed.* We are providing these documents as background to many of the agenda items. In most cases, we will be providing presentations that summarize the documents. If you have time, it may be helpful to review the documents ahead of the meeting.
3. *For reference – previously distributed.* These documents have been previously distributed to the TRT through various emails and updates. Like the documents in the second group, these documents provide background to many of the agenda items, and in most cases we will be providing presentations that summarize the documents. If you have time, it may be helpful to review the documents ahead of the meeting, if you have not done so already.

Within each of the three groups, documents are listed in the order of the agenda items to which they are linked. At the end of this document, we also list all documents (from all three groups combined) in the order of the agenda flow, which may help you organize the documents for the meeting.

For review

A. TRT Operating Protocols [*13 pages*]

This document is linked to the Day 1 AM agenda item “Introduce Program-wide TRT Operating Protocols (*Long*)”. The document, which builds on our ground rules, outlines operating protocols that are intended to provide all participants with a clear understanding of the take reduction team process.

B. False Killer Whale Take Reduction Plan Monitoring Strategy [*11 pages*]

This document is linked to the Day 2 AM agenda item “Review Monitoring Strategy for TRP (*Young*).” The document, developed in consultation with the TRT and the TRT Monitoring Work Group, was finalized in December 2014. It will be used to guide our assessment of the effectiveness of and regulatory compliance with the TRP.

For reference – supporting agenda items; not previously distributed

- C. Bradford et al. 2015. Revised stock boundaries for false killer whales in Hawaiian waters. PIFSC Working Paper WP-15-003. [20 pages]

This paper is linked to the Day 1 AM agenda item “Review updated false killer whale stock boundaries and abundance estimates (*Bradford*).” The paper documents the process and decisions for revising the boundaries for the three false killer whale stocks in Hawaiian waters.

- D. Hamer et al. 2015. Two devices for mitigating odontocete bycatch and depredation at the hook in tropical pelagic longline fisheries. ICES Journal of Marine Science, doi: 10.1093/icesjms/fsw013. [15 pages]

This paper is linked to the Day 1 PM agenda item “Bycatch and depredation mitigation device testing proposal (*Ishizaki*).” The paper describes research to assess the efficacy of two odontocete depredation mitigation devices in two pelagic longline fisheries in Australian and Fijian waters. One of the devices has been proposed to be tested in the Hawaii longline fishery. Some of the observations in this paper may also be applicable to discussions related to research needs and priorities.

- E. Non-Longline Fisheries TRT Work Group teleconference summaries (2) [1st summary - 6 pages + 2nd appendix (3 pages); 2nd summary - 4 pages]

These documents are linked to the Day 3 AM agenda item “Provide overview of Non-Longline Fisheries Work Group deliberations to-date (*Young*).” The documents summarize the Work Group’s discussions and the identified next steps. The first call summary has two appendices. Appendix 1 includes four background documents that were provided to the Work Group ahead of their call (total of 66 pages), while Appendix 2 includes additional information from invited experts submitted after the call (3 pages). Because Appendix 1 is very long, we have included in your meeting document a version of the first call summary that does **not** include Appendix 1. If you would like to read the full summary including both appendices, it is available online at the TRT website: <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/fkwtrt/workgroups/non-longline-teleconference-nov2014.pdf>.

- F. Boggs et al. 2015. Marine mammals reported under catch lost to predators on fishermen’s commercial catch reports to the State of Hawaii, 2003-2014. PIFSC Data Report DR-15-006. [14 pages]

This paper is linked to the Day 3 AM agenda item “Analysis of state fisheries depredation data (*PIFSC*).” The paper provides preliminary summaries of marine mammal depredation data reported on State of Hawaii commercial fish catch reports.

- G. Rabearisoa et al. 2015. Assessing interactions between dolphins and small pelagic fish on branchline to design a depredation mitigation device in pelagic longline fisheries. ICES Journal of Marine Science, doi: 10.1093/icesjms/fsu252. [9 pages]

- The document is not linked to a specific TRT meeting agenda item, but is included in the meeting materials to provide you with information on depredation mitigation research in other fisheries. Similarly to the Hamer et al. (2015) paper above, some of the observations in this paper may be applicable to discussions related to research needs and priorities (e.g., Day 3 PM agenda item “Revisit current research priorities in light of Team deliberations; consider the need for new research projects and priority-setting.”)

For reference – supporting agenda items; previously distributed

- H. McLellan et al. 2014. Longline hook testing in the mouths of pelagic odontocetes. ICES Journal of Marine Science, doi: 10.1093/icesjms/fsu181. [8 pages]

This paper is linked to the Day 1 AM agenda item “Update and discussion on testing of hook-tissue interactions in toothed whale mouths using HI longline fleet gear (*McLellan, via teleconference*).” The paper was previously distributed to the TRT with the October 2014 TRT status update. It documents Dr. McLellan and colleagues’ work to measure how longline hooks behave within odontocete mouths.

- I. False Killer Whale Take Reduction Plan Research Priorities (revised March 2014) [17 pages]

This document is linked to the Day 1 PM agenda item “Review 2013/2014 Work Group recommendations related to research priorities (*Young*).” The document was previously distributed to the TRT by email in March 2014. The document summarizes the research priorities reevaluation undertaken by the TRT Research Priorities Work Group in 2013, which was reviewed and approved by the TRT in early 2014.

- J. Handling/Release TRT Work Group teleconference summary [4 pages]

This document is linked to the Day 2 PM agenda item “Overview of the status of handling/release activity (*Young*).” A link to the summary was previously distributed to the TRT with the October 2014 TRT status update. The document summarizes the Work Group’s discussion and the identified next steps.

- K. Baird et al. 2014. False killer whales and fisheries interactions in Hawaiian waters: Evidence for sex bias and variation among populations and social groups. Marine Mammal Science, doi: 10.1111/mms.12177. [12 pages]

This paper is linked to the Day 3 AM agenda item “Overview of Marine Mammal Science paper on false killer whale fisheries interactions in Hawaiian waters (*Baird*).” The paper was previously distributed to the TRT with the October 2014 TRT status update. It documents Dr. Baird and colleagues’ work to assess scarring patterns as evidence of fisheries interactions for the three Hawaii populations of false killer whales.

All meeting documents, organized by agenda heading and presentation linkage

The main agenda heading is noted with a filled bullet point, the specific presentation is noted by an open bullet point, and the linked meeting document is in italics. Meeting documents have the same lettering (A-K) as used in the list above and in the documents' electronic filenames.

Day 1

- Welcome, Introductions, and Getting Organized
 - Introduce Program-wide TRT Operating Protocols (Long)
A - TRT Operating Protocols
- False Killer Whale Stock Assessment Update
 - Review updated false killer whale stock boundaries and abundance estimates (Bradford)
C - Bradford et al. 2015 – Revised stock boundaries for false killer whales in Hawaiian waters
- Research Activities (Part I)
 - Update and discussion on testing of hook-tissue interactions in toothed whale mouths using HI longline fleet gear (McLellan, via teleconference)
H - McLellan et al. 2014 – Longline hook testing in the mouths of pelagic odontocetes
- Research Activities (Part II)
 - Review 2013/2014 Work Group recommendations related to research priorities (Young)
I - False Killer Whale Take Reduction Plan Research Priorities (revised March 2014)
- Research Activities (Part III)
 - Bycatch and depredation mitigation device testing proposal (Ishizaki)
D - Hamer et al. 2015. Two devices for mitigating odontocete bycatch and depredation at the hook in tropical pelagic longline fisheries.

Day 2

- Discussion: TRP Monitoring Strategy and Initial Results
 - Review Monitoring Strategy for TRP (Young)
B - False Killer Whale Take Reduction Plan Monitoring Strategy
- Discussion: Handling/Release Work Group
 - Overview of Handling/Release Work Group deliberations (Young)
J - Handling/Release TRT Work Group teleconference summary

Day 3

- Discussion: Non-Longline Fisheries Work Group
 - Overview of Non-Longline Fisheries Work Group deliberations to-date (Young)
E (1 and 2) - Non-Longline Fisheries TRT Work Group teleconference summaries

- Overview of Marine Mammal Science paper on false killer whale fisheries interactions in Hawaiian waters (Baird)
 - K - Baird et al. 2014. False killer whales and fisheries interactions in Hawaiian waters: Evidence for sex bias and variation among populations and social groups.*
- Analysis of state fisheries depredation data (PIFSC)
 - F - Boggs et al. 2015. Marine mammals reported under catch lost to predators on fishermen's commercial catch reports to the State of Hawaii, 2003-2014.*
- Discussion: Research Needs and Priorities
 - Revisit current research priorities in light of Team deliberations; consider the need for new research projects and priority-setting
 - G - Rabearisoa et al. 2015. Assessing interactions between dolphins and small pelagic fish on branchline to design a depredation mitigation device in pelagic longline fisheries.*