Please provide the following information, and submit to the NOAA DM Plan Repository.

Reference to Master DM Plan (if applicable)

As stated in Section IV, Requirement 1.3, DM Plans may be hierarchical. If this DM Plan inherits provisions from a higher-level DM Plan already submitted to the Repository, then this more-specific Plan only needs to provide information that differs from what was provided in the Master DM Plan.

URL of higher-level DM Plan (if any) as submitted to DM Plan Repository:

1. General Description of Data to be Managed

1.1. Name of the Data, data collection Project, or data-producing Program: Southeast Gulf of Mexico Sperm Whale Study

1.2. Summary description of the data:

Large vessel surveys were conducted during the summers of 2012 and 2014 in the southeastern Gulf of Mexico north of the Dry Tortugas. Data were collected on the abundance and spatial distribution of sperm whales and other marine mammals in this region. Satellite telemetry tags were deployed on sperm whales occupying these waters to examine residency and movement patterns. This aggregation of sperm whales may be distinct from those occupying the rest of the northern Gulf of Mexico and are associated with unique physical oceanographic features in this area. These data were used to evaluate the residency and habitat use patterns of this aggregation of sperm whales.

- **1.3. Is this a one-time data collection, or an ongoing series of measurements?** One-time data collection
- **1.4. Actual or planned temporal coverage of the data:** 2012 to 2014

1.5. Actual or planned geographic coverage of the data:

W: -88.5, E: -81, N: 28, S: 23.8 Gulf Of Mexico

1.6. Type(s) of data:

(e.g., digital numeric data, imagery, photographs, video, audio, database, tabular data, etc.) Table (digital)

1.7. Data collection method(s):

(e.g., satellite, airplane, unmanned aerial system, radar, weather station, moored buoy, research vessel, autonomous underwater vehicle, animal tagging, manual surveys, enforcement activities, numerical model, etc.)

1.8. If data are from a NOAA Observing System of Record, indicate name of system:

1.8.1. If data are from another observing system, please specify:

2. Point of Contact for this Data Management Plan (author or maintainer)

- **2.1. Name:** Keith D Mullin
- 2.2. Title: Metadata Contact

2.3. Affiliation or facility:

- 2.4. E-mail address: keith.d.mullin@noaa.gov
- **2.5. Phone number:** 228-549-1632

3. Responsible Party for Data Management

Program Managers, or their designee, shall be responsible for assuring the proper management of the data produced by their Program. Please indicate the responsible party below.

- **3.1. Name:** Lance Garrison
- **3.2. Title:** Data Steward

4. Resources

Programs must identify resources within their own budget for managing the data they produce.

4.1. Have resources for management of these data been identified? No

4.2. Approximate percentage of the budget for these data devoted to data management (specify percentage or "unknown"):

0

5. Data Lineage and Quality

NOAA has issued Information Quality Guidelines for ensuring and maximizing the quality, objectivity, utility, and integrity of information which it disseminates.

5.1. Processing workflow of the data from collection or acquisition to making it publicly accessible

(describe or provide URL of description):

Process Steps:

- Trackline, visual sightings, and passive acoustic data are collected using at-sea data collection programs. Field notes are recorded by observers and written onto paper datasheets which are then key entered into digital databases.

5.1.1. If data at different stages of the workflow, or products derived from these data, are subject to a separate data management plan, provide reference to other plan:

5.2. Quality control procedures employed (describe or provide URL of description): Visual sightings are reviewed by lead observers and the field party chief at sea to verify species identifications and group size counts. Effort and sightings data from digital records are reviewed post-survey and compared to field notes and error logs. Corrected survey effort shapefiles are visually reviewed and verified.

6. Data Documentation

The EDMC Data Documentation Procedural Directive requires that NOAA data be well documented, specifies the use of ISO 19115 and related standards for documentation of new data, and provides links to resources and tools for metadata creation and validation.

- **6.1. Does metadata comply with EDMC Data Documentation directive?** No
 - **6.1.1. If metadata are non-existent or non-compliant, please explain:** Missing/invalid information:
 - 1.7. Data collection method(s)
- **6.2. Name of organization or facility providing metadata hosting:** NMFS Office of Science and Technology
 - 6.2.1. If service is needed for metadata hosting, please indicate:

6.3. URL of metadata folder or data catalog, if known:

https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/inport/item/26504

6.4. Process for producing and maintaining metadata

(describe or provide URL of description):

Metadata produced and maintained in accordance with the NOAA Data Documentation Procedural Directive: https://nosc.noaa.gov/EDMC/DAARWG/docs/EDMC_PD-Data_Documentation_v1.pdf

7. Data Access

NAO 212-15 states that access to environmental data may only be restricted when distribution is explicitly limited by law, regulation, policy (such as those applicable to personally identifiable information or protected critical infrastructure information or proprietary trade information) or by

security requirements. The EDMC Data Access Procedural Directive contains specific guidance, recommends the use of open-standard, interoperable, non-proprietary web services, provides information about resources and tools to enable data access, and includes a Waiver to be submitted to justify any approach other than full, unrestricted public access.

7.1. Do these data comply with the Data Access directive?

7.1.1. If the data are not to be made available to the public at all, or with limitations, has a Waiver (Appendix A of Data Access directive) been filed? No

7.1.2. If there are limitations to public data access, describe how data are protected from unauthorized access or disclosure:

None

- **7.2. Name of organization of facility providing data access:** Southeast Fisheries Science Center (SEFSC)
 - 7.2.1. If data hosting service is needed, please indicate: No
 - 7.2.2. URL of data access service, if known:

7.3. Data access methods or services offered:

The data is available from a public web server by following the link in the URL field.

7.4. Approximate delay between data collection and dissemination:

365

7.4.1. If delay is longer than latency of automated processing, indicate under what authority data access is delayed:

N/A

8. Data Preservation and Protection

The NOAA Procedure for Scientific Records Appraisal and Archive Approval describes how to identify, appraise and decide what scientific records are to be preserved in a NOAA archive.

8.1. Actual or planned long-term data archive location:

(Specify NCEI-MD, NCEI-CO, NCEI-NC, NCEI-MS, World Data Center (WDC) facility, Other, To Be Determined, Unable to Archive, or No Archiving Intended) TO BE DETERMINED

8.1.1. If World Data Center or Other, specify:

8.1.2. If To Be Determined, Unable to Archive or No Archiving Intended, explain:

8.2. Data storage facility prior to being sent to an archive facility (if any): Southeast Fisheries Science Center - Miami, FL

Location Of The Main Office Of The South East Fisheries Science Center

8.3. Approximate delay between data collection and submission to an archive facility: 365

8.4. How will the data be protected from accidental or malicious modification or deletion prior to receipt by the archive?

Discuss data back-up, disaster recovery/contingency planning, and off-site data storage relevant to the data collection

The data resides on a secure government network requiring multi-factor authentication for network access.

9. Additional Line Office or Staff Office Questions

Line and Staff Offices may extend this template by inserting additional questions in this section.