

***Vessel/Whale Strike Reduction:
United States Coast Guard-
Ready, Relevant, Responsive***

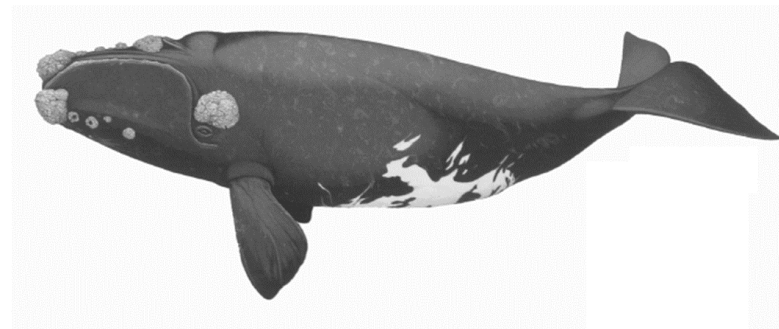


**Ms. Katie Moore
Marine Mammal Commission
Panel
April 2022**



Overview

- **USCG 101**
- **Whale/Vessel Strike Reduction Efforts**
- **Impact**
- **Challenges/Opportunities**
- **Looking ahead**



USCG is ...

- ***Military***
 - One of the five armed forces
- ***Multi-mission***
 - Has 11 statutory missions
- ***Maritime***
 - Oldest, continuous seagoing service





READY



RELEVANT



RESPONSIVE



11 Statutory Missions

- Defense Readiness
- Non-Citizen Interdiction
- Drug Interdiction
- Ports, Waterways, Coastal Security
- Other Law Enforcement
- Marine Environmental Protection
- Aids to Navigation
- Search and Rescue
- Ice Operations
- Marine Safety
- Living Marine Resources



USCG LANTAREA LMR Program Management: 5 Year Lines of Effort

- **Illuminate and Deter Global Illegal, Unreported, and Unregulated Fishing**
- **Protect U.S. Fish Stocks and Marine Protected Resources**
- **Build LMR/OLE Competency and Capacity**
- **Strengthen Partnerships**



A good day.

CGC *Harriet Lane*, OCT 2013





Not the best week.

**AIRSTA Elizabeth City and SEC NC assist
with live, stranded right whale.**

JAN 2009

Images collected under Permit #18786-06, Exp. 31DEC22



**STA Oak Island & CGC *Nathan Bruckenthal* with
UNCW assist with dead right whale.
FEB 2021**

Images collected under Permit #18786-06, Exp. 31DEC22



NOAA Fisheries, Large Whale Disentanglement Program
Award for Excellence



To the Crew of USCGC ELM (WLB-204)
For Excellence, Dedication and Cooperation during the December 12, 2005
Rescue of an Entangled North Atlantic Right Whale



**STA Oregon Inlet tows dead right whale
ashore for necropsy. Struck by a vessel.
FEB 2004**

CG Whale/Vessel Strike Reduction Efforts

NARW NE Implementation Team- Participant, Prior Lead	NARW SE Implementation Team Participant
NARW Speed Rule Enforcement/Compliance	Emergency Waterways Mgmt for Out-of-Habitat Whales
MM Health & Stranding Response Program: Co-Investigator, 1st Responder	Area to be Avoided, Traffic Separation Scheme Shift; 4 Recommended Routes Promulgator
Sighting Advisory System Funder	NARW Mandatory Ship Reporting System Enforcement/Compliance
Early Warning System Funder	NARW Approach Restriction Enforcement/Compliance
Seasonal Safety Broadcasts & Local Notices to Mariners	Emergency Broadcasts (DMAs, SLOW Zones, injured animals)

Like Rooms in a House

USCG's Impact

- **Level of Activity:**
 - **Large Whale Stranding responses in last 3 years: 28**



**AIRSTA Cape Cod & STA Sandy Hook
helps resight dead right whale.
JUN 2020.**

USCG's Impact

- **Level of Activity:**
 - **NARW NE Implementation Team- Member, Prior Lead**
 - **NARW SE Implementation Team Member**
 - **Seasonal Safety Broadcasts & Local Notices to Mariners; annually**
 - **Emergency Broadcasts (DMAs, SLOW Zones, injured animals); as implemented**

USCG's Impact

(e.g. Monitoring, Compliance, & Enforcement)

- **Observed Compliance:**
 - **Mandatory Ship Reporting System: 66%**
- **Enforcement Effort:**
 - **Speed Rule Hail/Inform Events: 237**
 - **Mandatory Ship Reporting System Sanctions: 6 in last 10 years**

USCG's Impact

- **Amount of \$ Provided:**
 - **Sighting Advisory System- \$80k/yr**
 - **Early Warning System- ≈\$150k/yr**
- **Change in Mariner Behavior:**
 - **Seasonal Management Areas, Dynamic Management Areas, SLOW Zones: adherence**
 - **Emergency Waterways Mgmt for Out-of-Habitat Whales: compliance with Captain of the Port Orders**
 - **(Voluntary) Area to be Avoided, Recommended Routes Promulgator: adherence**

Challenges/Opportunities

- **Level expectations about CG's marine protected resource conservation capacity.**
- **Balance appropriate marine protected resource focus alongside other agency missions.**
- **Continue to encourage less complex and more predictable management.**
- **Measure impact vice effort.**
- **Be nimble to evolving threats and science. Re-design some of the "rooms" in the house.**

Looking Ahead

- **Continue partner communication about evolving management measures.**
- **Refine CG's whale/vessel/mariner protection efforts based on continued critically endangered status of NARW and threat to vessel and mariner safety.**
 - *What should USCG do more of?*
 - *What should USCG do less of?*



Questions?

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