

North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium 2017 Annual Meeting

22 October 2017
St. Mary's University
Halifax, NS Canada

Goal: The goal of this annual meeting is to (1) clearly communicate the science behind the status of the population and our concern regarding population decline and the impact of entanglement, vessel strikes and recent mortality crisis, and (2) form an international working group to reduce mortality from vessel strikes and fishing gear entanglements.

0800-0830: Check in and breakfast

Opening/Historical Overview

- 0830 Opening of Meeting:** Mark Baumgartner
0840 DFO Welcome
0850 Unexpected Consequences of Shifting Distributions and Conflicts with Human Activities: Implications for Right Whale Recovery: Scott Kraus

Population Status

- 0910 North Atlantic Right Whale Report Card:** Heather Pettis
0920 North Atlantic Right Whale Species Decline and Life Expectancy: Peter Corkeron

Distribution

- 0940 Right Whale Distribution: Historical Perspectives and Recent Shifts:** Philip Hamilton and Genevieve Davis

Entanglement

- 1000 Historical Overview of North Atlantic Right Whale Entanglements and Their Impacts:** Amy Knowlton

1020-1115 Break

- 1115 Entangled North Atlantic right whales, October 2016 – October 2017:** Moira Brown
1130 Preventing Entanglements of North Atlantic Right Whales (*Eubalaena glacialis*) in Pot Fishing Gear: Tim Werner

Vessel Strikes

- 1145 Mitigation of Vessel-Strike Risk to North Atlantic Right Whales in Canadian Waters: Historical Perspectives and Updated Risk Analyses:** Angelia Vanderlaan

- 1205 Assessing Speed Reductions: Efficacy, Data Gaps, and Opportunities:** Julie van der Hoop
- 1220 Current Efforts to Mitigate Ship Strikes Using Real-Time Acoustic Monitoring of Right Whales from Autonomous Platforms:** Kim Davies and Mark Baumgartner

Gulf of St. Lawrence Mortality Event

- 1235 North Atlantic Right Whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*) Mortality Event in the Gulf of St. Lawrence, 2017:** Tonya Wimmer, Laura Bourque, and Emilie Couture

1325-1430 Lunch

Management

- 1430 Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada: Monitoring Plans for Canada:** Hilary Moors-Murphy
- 1445 Department of Fisheries and Oceans Canada: Recovery Plan and Management Actions:** Cathy Merriman
- 1500 NOAA Fisheries Service (NMFS) Update on North Atlantic Right Whale Recovery Actions:** Michael Asaro

International Working Group and Panel Discussion

- 1515 Assembling an International Working Group:** Mark Baumgartner
- 1545 Panel Discussion**

Closing of Meeting

- 1700 Closing Remarks:** Mark Baumgartner