

Management frameworks for entanglement risk

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Management responses to entanglements - 2020

- Requirement to use only the amount of line necessary
- Permanent pot limits reduced by 1/3 each year starting May 1
- Summer buoy tag required May 1
- Line marking requirement



Status of the ITP process

- Seeking coverage for humpback and blue whales and leatherback turtles
- Analysis focused on 2013-2019
- Process of sharing drafts with NOAA staff for review as they are completed
- Coordination with NOAA and the three states
- Goal: draft completed for internal review by the end of 2020



Science needs for Washington

- We need more information on whales, specifically relative to when, where, and in what densities they are present off the Washington coast.
 - How do we expect those to change from year to year?
- We hope to have a better understanding of which ecological indicators are most appropriate for management use and how they can help predict entanglement risk in Washington



Future management

- We have a regulatory system that allows us to be nimble with our management tools
- Planning process is looking at both short-term and long-term options
- We want to work with fishermen so they can be innovative with their gear and build a more robust toolbox.
- We need to understand whale populations and a way to link factors that influence their behavior so we can be most effective at reducing entanglement risk

