

MARINE MAMMAL SIGHTING SHEET

Cruise # _____ Leg # _____ Date _____ / _____ / _____ Sighting # _____
Year Month Day

Observer Code: _____ Effort: ON OFF Biopsy Attempt: YES NO

Observer Initials: _____ Photos: YES NO Biopsy Collected: YES NO

Species 1 _____ Species 2 _____

BEHAVIOR AND REACTION TO SHIP

00 - unknown 02 - resting 04 - complex social 06 - milling 08 - fast travel 10 - other 12 - breaching
01 - slow travel 03 - feeding 05 - bow riding 07 - spy hopping 09 - tail slaps 11 - diving

What was the behavior of the group when initially sighted (list all that apply)?

Did the ship approach the group to within 50 yards (for dolphins) or 100 yards (for whales)? YES NO

If yes, did the behavior of the group change when the ship approached to within 50-100 yards? YES NO CBD

If the behavior of the group changed, what was the new behavior (s)?

What was the direction of travel relative to the ship when **initially sighted**? Estimated Angle _____ (0 = ship heading)

Toward the ship Away from the ship Left to Right Right to Left No Net Movement (Milling)

Did the direction of travel change during the sighting? YES NO

At what distance did the direction of travel change? _____ (UNITS: r = reticle, m = meters)

What was the new direction of travel? Estimated Angle _____ (0 = ship heading)

Toward the ship Away from the ship Left to Right Right to Left No Net Movement (Milling)

In your opinion, was this group: *attracted to vessel fleeing vessel indifferent CBD*

What was the shape of the group when **initially sighted**?

Dispersed individuals Single tight group Multiple subgroups Unknown Other (describe in comments)

Approximate distance between subgroups or individuals: _____ (meters) - circle subgroups or individuals

Number of subgroups _____ Minimum subgroup size _____ Maximum subgroup size _____

Did the shape of the group change? YES NO At what distance? _____ (UNITS: r = reticle, m = meters)

What was the new shape of the group?

Dispersed individuals Single tight group Multiple subgroups Unknown Other (describe in comments)

Approximate distance between subgroups or individuals: _____ (meters) - circle subgroups or individuals

Number of subgroups _____ Minimum subgroup size _____ Maximum subgroup size _____

COMMENTS (describe aggregation, movements, and behaviors, etc.)
