



Marine Mammal Commission

An independent agency of the U.S. Government



Tutorial: Survey of Federally Funded Marine Mammal Research

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What is the survey?

The Survey of Federally Funded Marine Mammal Research (FFR) is an online survey and data repository that is used to fulfill several of the Commission's duties by providing information at a Federal level on which agencies are supporting what marine mammal research, on which species, where, and at what cost



Purpose (why do it)

Stems from the Commission's duties under Section 202(a) of the MMPA which direct it to:

“conduct a continuing review of the condition of the stocks of marine mammals, of methods for their protection and conservation, of humane means of taking marine mammals, of research programs ... conducted under the authority of this Act, and of all permits for scientific research, public display, or enhancing the survival and recovery of a species or stock;” and

“undertake or cause to be undertaken such other studies as it deems necessary or desirable in connection with its assigned duties as to the protection and conservation of marine mammals.”

Purpose (uses of the info)

Specific activities the survey supports:

- guide the Commission and other audiences in identifying research gaps (in effort or funding),
- illuminate areas of strength in Federal research investment,
- inform our recommendations on agency actions and budget priorities,
- help select the focus of Commission Requests for Proposals and research program priorities,
- provide background for Hill visits, testimony, and responses to taskers,
- help determine session themes for our annual meetings,
- identify potential topic areas for workshops, dedicated survey efforts or more systematic program reviews.

Products

An online, query-able database of marine mammal research activities and funding across the federal government that will provide timely publication of select summary statistics and figures for the most recent fiscal year(s) on a dedicated page on the Commission's website.

No FFR report

Definition of Research

“projects funded as part of a recognized research/grants program¹...

¹ including funding for workshops, meetings, and conferences

Definition of Research

“projects funded as part of a recognized research/grants program¹, projects supported in response to hypothesis driven scientific research and monitoring²...”

¹ including funding for workshops, meetings, and conferences

² excludes monitoring for mitigation only

Definition of Research

“projects funded as part of a recognized research/grants program¹, projects supported in response to hypothesis driven scientific research and monitoring², and projects or activities conducted in whole or part to meet the requirements to prepare and update stock assessment reports under section 117 of the MMPA, including the collection and evaluation of abundance data, stock delineation and status information, and estimates of human-caused mortality and serious injury of marine mammals.”

¹ including funding for workshops, meetings, and conferences

² excludes monitoring for mitigation only

Project Info Collected

~~•~~ ~~Unit Data~~

- Fiscal Year
- Sponsoring Agency / Performing Entity
- Identifiers (title, PIs, etc.)
- Objectives
- Species (**not stocks and multi species option**)
- Location (LMEs **& zip codes**)
- Products
- Funding \$\$\$ (**rounded to nearest \$10K**)