

Marine Mammal and Sea Bird Incidental Take Log Instructions
NOAA Fisheries Panama City Laboratory

This form is to be used to record all marine mammal or sea bird involvement with longline gear. This does not include animals that may be observed near the gear but animals that are; mouth hooked, hook snagged or entangled in the gangion, dropline or mainline. Each animal should be entered onto the log sheet as a separate entry, photographed to confirm species identification and record detailed comments describing how the animal was involved in the gear including the position of hook, if hooked or description of how animal was entangled. Also note how much gear was left attached to the animal upon release and whether any injury was evident.

HEADER

1. **OBS/TRIP IDENTIFIER:** Record your 3 character observer identifier + 3 digit numeric number for this trip. Example: LFH-001
2. **VESSEL NAME:** Record the NAME (no punctuation)
3. **VESSEL NUMBER:** Record vessel USCG or state documentation number
4. **DATE LANDED:** Record the date the vessel returned to the dock. This may not be the same date as the unloading.
5. **PAGE NUMBER:** Record Page 1 OF _____ (Total number of Incidental Take logs)

INCIDENTAL TAKE INFORMATION:

6. **HAUL NUMBER:** Record the haul number in which this animal occurred.
7. **SPECIES NAME:** Record the common name for species taken.
8. **CONDITION CODE:** Record the condition code that best describes the animal upon its release.
9. **EST. LENGTH:** Record an estimated FL to the nearest whole foot and convert to centimeters (30 cm=1 foot)
10. **PHOTO TAKEN?:** Record whether a photograph was taken for this animal. Answer should be YES=1 unless circumstance prevents. Please explain.
11. **LIGHT STICK ON HOOK?:** Record a 0 for NO or a 1 for YES (if animal was not hooked but entangled record dash(-) and describe in COMMENTS)
12. **NUMBER GANGIONS TO NEXT FLOAT:** Record the number of Gangions to next float (not to the nearest float) Example: If the animal was on hook 2 of 5 between floats then the number to record is 3.

13. **COMMENTS:** Record details about how the animal was involved in the gear, how much gear(nearest foot) was left attached to the animal and the condition of the animal upon its release. E.g. 1, Animal was tail wrapped in a dropline, 2 wraps, approx 4' mono left attached animal dove downward strongly, no evidence of injury.

E.g. 2, Animal dead. Throat hooked, trying to take the bait. Water soaked condition of the body suggests it may have been taken during the set.