


Public Hearing Comments

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 1 attachments (797 KB)

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Comments on Docket #2023-R-F-0020 -- Proposed Lobster Regulation Amendments

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Organization:

Comments:

With only 32 human interactions with right whales In the past year (I believe) I have a hard time seeing trackers installed on all lobster boats would do anything to lessen these incidents. Biased reports and studies can point finger in any direction but installing trackers on Delaware's lobster boats is a pretty far shot out on helping the right whales and is another electronic/expense those hard working individuals would have to maintain and take into consideration. Just a thought.

curator for the Consortium.

To date, New England Aquarium analysis has detected 32 human-caused injuries to right whales in 2023, including six fishing gear entanglements with attached gear, 24 entanglement injuries (with no attached gear), and two vessel strikes. Efforts to protect North Atlantic right whales, one of the most endangered large whale species in the world, have involved conservationists, scientists, government agencies, and the fishing and shipping industries from both the United States and Canada. Despite these efforts, entanglements and vessel strikes continue to threaten the survival of the species and additional measures are needed. Advances in ropeless or “on-demand” fishing technology show promise, though widespread implementation will require significant financial support to escalate the manufacturing of the gear and provide training and support for the fishing industry to adopt gear use. NOAA has also been working to develop vessel