Forensic Review “Definitions” for Surface Gear

• “Extent of surface system”: extensive (defined as 3 or more trailing buoys present (if known) and/or 5 fm (30+ ft) of apparent or actual surface gear in total; or minimal (less than extensive)

• Is the surface system “involved in the entanglement”: the surface system is known or appears to be part of the entangling gear on the animal; or buoys are observed very close or on top of animal suggesting at least immediate proximity

• Where is the entanglement located with respect to the gear/water column?
  • “Top”: generally involving the surface gear;
  • “middle/top”: entanglement known or apparent to be somewhere within `5 fm of surface gear
  • “Middle”: generally with buoys trailing +5 fm
  • “bottom”: generally portions of gear observed such as traps or gillnet
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• Can ID numbers be seen on buoy(s)? Yes
• Are buoy tags present? Yes; to state and fisherman
• Extent of surface system? Extensive (1 set)
• Is the surface system (including trailing buoys/lines) involved in the entanglement? Yes
• Are there indications that multiple gear sets are involved? Yes
• Where is entanglement located with respect to the gear/water column? top
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• Attachment point(s) on the animal: fluke
• Line color(s) observed: blue-green, red, light/white
• line size: 3/8ths  line type (vertical): neutral
• Use of leads on vertical lines? No
• Depth of gear set? 80-100 fm
• Are there any indications entanglement may have occurred with lost gear or debris? no