



Understanding marine animal entanglement in Scottish waters

This questionnaire is designed to find out a few things about your experiences of marine animal entanglement, and the associated economic impacts of this to Scottish fisheries through lost or damaged gear. You do not have to have had an entanglement to complete this questionnaire, feedback from fishermen who have never experienced this is just as important. Please answer the questions truthfully, there are no right or wrong answers. If there are any questions you don't wish to answer please leave these blank.

The Scottish Entanglement Alliance (SEA) is a multi-partner European Maritime and Fisheries Fund (EMFF) project. This work is to enable us to better understand marine animal entanglements and will be used for statistical purposes only. Any information you share will be treated anonymously. More information about the project can be found at www.scottishentanglement.org.

[Please fill in the relevant lines and boxes, or delete options as appropriate]

1. What is your function on board your vessel?

Skipper

Crew

In fishing, do you work

Full-time

Part-time

2. What kind of fishing gear do you use? _____

If you fish with creels, what number of creels do you fish? _____

What is the estimated total length of your gear when deployed (e.g. 10 x 360 fathom fleets + 100 fathom ends)?

3. What is the maximum distance you would travel from your home base to your fishing grounds? _____ nm/miles

What depth of water are you fishing in? _____ metres/fathoms

What distance from shore are you usually fishing?

0-6nm

6-12 nm

12+ nm

4. What is/are your main target species? _____

5. What is the longest you would typically leave a fleet before hauling it?

_____ day/s

6. Do you ever see large marine animals in your fishing area?

Yes

No

-> if answer is no, go to question **9**

7. What kind of marine animals do you see? How frequently do you see them?

	Daily	Weekly	Monthly	Annually
Species <i>e.g. harbour porpoise, minke whale, common dolphin, risso's dolphin, humpback whale, orca, pilot whale, basking shark, turtle, seal etc.</i>				

8. Do you ever see these animals in close proximity to your gear during fishing operations?

Yes

No

Don't know

If yes, which species? _____

9. Have you ever suffered loss or damage to your gear (*e.g. as a result of weather/tides, gear conflicts, animal entanglement etc.*)?

Yes

No

-> if answer is no, go to question **11**

a) If yes, in the last ten years, how often have you suffered damage to your fishing gear?

1-5 times

5-10 times

over 10 times

don't know

10. a) What do you think was the MAIN cause of gear loss?

10. b) Do you think there were OTHER causes of gear loss?

10. c) If there was more than one cause, can you estimate (%) the breakdown of those causes over the last ten years (e.g. gear conflict 50%, weather 40%, entanglement 10%)?

11. Have you ever encountered a marine animal entangled in your fishing gear?

Yes

No

-> if answer is no, go to question **14**

If yes, how many of these encounters took place in the last ten years? (please specify entangled species and if the animal was released alive or dead)

If yes, did this incident(s) cause any damage to or loss of your fishing gear?

Yes

No

12. After this entanglement incident(s):

a. What percentage of your fishing gear was lost or damaged and therefore out of use?

Yes

No

b. Can you estimate how much of that day's income was lost due to the incident(s) (£)?

c. Did you lose any further fishing time following the incident? If yes how many hours/days?

13. If you have suffered any loss / damage of fishing gear due to marine animal entanglements, could you quantify this in terms of cost?

Yes

No

Don't know

Prefer not to say

If yes please provide the type, quantity and costs in terms of lost or damaged gear:

Gear type and quantity	Lost or damaged?	Cost (£) of replacement
<i>e.g. creel x5</i>	<i>Lost</i>	<i>£30 each</i>

14. When gear is lost (e.g. due to weather, gear conflict etc.) do you try to retrieve this?

Yes

No

If yes, how successful are you?

Complete recovery

Partial recovery

No recovery

If no, why not? (please specify) _____

The following questions are based on your opinion.

15. Marine animal entanglements have a MAJOR ECONOMIC IMPACT on your fishing sector. How much do you agree or disagree with this statement?

Strongly disagree

Disagree

Neither agree nor disagree

Agree

Strongly agree

Based on your knowledge and experience of your fishery, please can you give reasons for your answer above?

16. In your opinion, what do you think are the factors that cause gear loss/damage?

17. In your opinion, what factors do you think lead to large marine animals becoming entangled in fishing gear?

18. Can you think of any measures that could help to reduce or prevent the risk of entanglement in fishing gear?

19. Do you know of any initiatives to prevent/address entanglements?

Yes No

If yes, where? _____

Were you aware of any Best Practice guidelines for entanglement before taking this questionnaire *(please see www.scottishentanglement.org/downloads)?*

Yes No

20. Do you have any information or photos regarding entanglement that you would be willing to share with the Scottish Entanglement Alliance? *(If yes please email this to ellie.maclennan@sac.co.uk. Any information shared will be treated anonymously).*

Yes No

21. If there was no cost to you, would you be willing to test ideas that may help reduce the risk of entanglements? *(if yes, please include your contact details below. These details will be held by the project co-ordinator and will not be shared).*

Yes No

22. Would you be interested in taking part in a free training session to assist in reporting, sampling and/or disentangling entangled marine animals? *If yes, please include your contact details below. These details will be held by the project co-ordinator and will not be shared.*

Reporting entangled animals and requesting assistance:	Yes	No
Photographing and sampling dead at-sea entangled animals:	Yes	No
Disentanglement of live entangled animals:	Yes	No

Your name:

Your contact phone number:

Any additional comments?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire.

Please return this to the SEA project Co-ordinator Ellie MacLennan via email at ellie.maclennan@sac.co.uk, or by post to Scottish Marine Animal Stranding Scheme, SAC Veterinary Services, Drummondhill, Inverness, IV2 4JZ.