

Species	Right Whale	Whale ID	Eg #2212		
Date first observed entangled (date seen prior without gear)		14 Sep 1998 (12 Sep 1998)			
Sex	Male	Birth year	1992	Age at entanglement	6

Case study ID	PCCS	NMFS	GEAR ID
		E38-98	J091498
Gear sample collected?	Yes	Gear type	Lobster

No drawing available

Reproductive prior to/after entanglement detection?					
Entanglement injury severity			Minor		
Entanglement configuration risk					
High					
Wound severity	Mouth	Head/ Rostrum	Flippers	Body	Flukes
	Low	Low	Unknown	Unknown	Unknown
Duration of time carrying gear		Minimum 1 day, maximum 2 days			
Disentangled?		Yes - partially 14 Sep 1998			
Status		Presumed dead - Last sighted in 1998			
Number of prior entanglement interactions		4			

Entanglement configuration	Whale free swimming; single line through mouth and over top of head. It had just been disentangled from lobster gear on 12 Sept 1998.
Anchoring point(s)	Mouth
Gear configuration confidence	High
Remaining questions	None
Comments	Line down throat observed and determined to be from first entanglement in August 1997 (first detected on 24 July 1998)

Polymer type	PP	PP	PP/PET	PP/PET	PP/PET
Gear component	Vertical				
Rope diameter (inches)	9/16 (0.559)	3/8 (0.354)	3/8 (0.394)	7/16 (0.457)	5/16 (0.335)
Breaking strength (lbs)	Tested	3 532	1 420	1 784	2 100
	New	4 590	2 430	2 600	3 600



PCCS 14 Sep 1998



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DATA SHEET

FORENSIC ANALYSIS OF ROPES WHALE ENTANGLEMENT PROJECT

SPECIMEN ID NO.

J 091498

NMFS NO.

E38-98

Gear Description:

The gear consisted of two large sets with four total pieces. Item (a) was long while the others were relatively short. Item (c) was joined to (a) by a T splice (in the left side of the third figure). The lines were part of trap gear.





Items (a) yellow, (b) black and (c). speckled grey. Note splices. Knots may have been made post recovery.

Rope Descriptions:

J091498-a

$\frac{9}{16}$ Yellow PP monofilament 3-strand. Discolored and random broken filaments may indicate UV degradation. This was a very long length and apparently made up most of the set.



Rope (a)

Tested (T) or adjusted (A) strength	Typical new strength	Rope condition
3,532 (T)	4,590 lbs	Good

J091498-b

$\frac{3}{8}$ Black PP monofilament 3-strand, Appeared in good condition. Only a short segment present. This may have been used to make secondary attachments.



Rope (b)

Tested (T) or adjusted (A) strength	Typical new strength	Rope condition
1,420 (T)	2,430 lbs	Good

J091498-c

$\frac{3}{8}$ 3-Strand construction. In each strand there are 3 rope yarns of black PP monofilament are twisted in parallel with 3 PET multifilament rope yarns. This line has a Tee splice into specimen (a), the yellow PP. Refer to the photo. This rope design is seen frequently and known as “Easy Haul”



Rope (c). Known in trade as “Easy Haul)

Tested (T) or adjusted (A) strength	Typical new strength	Rope condition
1,784 (T)	2,600 lbs	Good

J091498-d

$\frac{9}{16}$ 3-Strand construction. Each of 4 rope yarns has PET wrapped around PP, the fifth strand is all green monofilament. The rope has moderate surface abrasion.



Rope (d)

Tested (T) or adjusted (A) strength	Typical new strength	Rope condition
2,160 (A)	3,600 lbs	Fair