

North Atlantic Right Whale Consortium
Annual Meeting - Business meeting
October 26th, 2022

Board Elections

Heather Pettis thanked the outgoing NARWC Board members and welcome those newly elected members.

Outgoing:

Moira Brown	Canadian Whale Int./Campobello Whale Rescue Team/NEAq
Peter Corkeron	Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life at NEAq
Amy Knowlton	Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life at NEAq
Hansen Johnson [^]	Dalhousie University

[^]Student Representative

Incoming:

Vice-Chair

Heather Pettis	Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life at NEAq
----------------	--

General Members

Mark Baumgartner	Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Nathan Crum	Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission
Tim Frasier	St. Mary's University
Bob Lynch	Center for Coastal Studies
Jessica Redfern	Anderson Cabot Center for Ocean Life at NEAq

Student Representative

Leah Crowe	Integrated Statistics NEFSC/University of Otago
------------	---

2022 Data Access Requests

Heather Pettis reviewed data access requests made to the NARWC in 2022. In total, there were 35 requests to date: 11 management, 17 publication, 3 education, and 5 for images.

Data Sharing/Access Working Group

Heather Pettis shared a summary of the new Data Sharing/Access Working Group. The group met in late June 2022 to kick off. For the initial meeting, there were two primary points of discussion:

1. Data Access

- Process/review vs open
 - Maintaining access process and review
- Migrating to more efficient access management system
 - Working group identified platform (Monday.com); working on migration post meeting
- Revising access protocols
 - Updates to review of management requests
 - Data requirements for journal publications
 - Clarity around specificity in access request detail

2. Data Contributors

- Are we missing data?
 - Yes, particularly effort data from Canadian surveys
 - Potentially other opportunistic data
- System of notification when data goes out
 - Better contributor notification
 - Challenge -> 800+ contributors

- Tracking point rep for orgs
- Need to ensure data can be tracked back to source
- Working group of data contributors and curators
 - Will continue to work over winter
 - Review and revise access protocols
 - Update access tracking and notification system

Annual Report Card

Posted online in January 2023

Obtaining DOI and host on WHOI's open access library

2023 Meeting

Overwhelming support to hold in Canada (likely Halifax) and to offer remote participation again. Several folks highlighted the need to know about remote participation options in advance so that options are known prior to submitted travel requests.

Heather opened the floor for a discussion on hybrid meeting feedback:

- It would be nice if virtual participants could voice their questions
 - Feedback from tech partners is that it is nearly impossible to do this and do it well.
- Have all talks pre-recorded?
 - Gives equity to pre-record all
 - It's a lot of work to watch all beforehand
 - Pre-recording allows more time for discussion
 - It also allows us to have a few more presentations, but it is not the goal
 - Pre-recorded talks can be paused and re-watched
- Hybrid system requires more of everyone: presenters, audience, moderator
- Have someone that is in-person stand in for online audience
 - Physically raise their hand
- Have visual abstract that gets shown when pre-recorded presentations are introduced
 - Alternative: some small clip for each talk that is equivalent to an abstract
- Could make the meeting longer so that all presentations could be shown
- Used to have posters and some would like to bring them back
- Board should discuss the audience for the consortium
 - Make decisions on presentation formats based on that conversation
- Make sure that there is a day before the meeting to view talks (make it separate from the travel day)
- People online would like to see who is asking the questions
- Suggestion to make all talks five minutes
- Helpful to have the videos downloadable to watch. Didn't like the new Brandlive screen option
- Chat – want to be able to react to comments/questions in the chat box
- Moderators would benefit from having a computer to view the live meeting/chat. Hard to have the virtual folks behind you on the screen.
- Have someone who is tasked with being the virtual liaison – not breaks, when we are coming back, etc.

Other

Andrew Wright spoke to the membership about the need for improved conservation messaging and recommended that the NARWC utilize experts in this area to help with moving right whale conservation messaging forward.

Discussion on this highlighted the challenges with any “coordinated” messaging coming from the NARWC as our membership is diverse and there is no single message on most (if not all) topics of interest that would satisfy all. Instead, may be useful for the NARWC to host a Conservation Messaging webinar/workshop for those interested. The Board will pursue this as a possibility in 2023.