

**MARINE MAMMAL DATA SHEET (MMDS)**  
**for Reporting Captive Births or a Death/Release/Escape**

OMB No. 0648-0084  
Expires XX-XX-XXXX  
NOAA FORM 89-882

**I. Reporting a Captive Birth:**

NOAA Identification No. \_\_\_\_\_ To be assigned by NIMM

Sex:  Male  Female  Unknown

Common Name \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date \_\_\_\_\_

Birth Date Certainty  Actual  Estimated

Owner (Person or other Entity With Custody (i.e., ownership)) \_\_\_\_\_

Facility (Physical location of the animal; if different from Owner) \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Identification No. \_\_\_\_\_

or

Animal Name \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose  Public Display  Scientific Research  Enhancement  Rehabilitation

Department of Defense; choose one of the following:  Active  Retired  Breeding Loan

Permit No. \_\_\_\_\_ (as applicable)

II. This Section is intentionally left blank

**III. Reporting a Disposition (Death or Release/Escape):**

Note: If you have a previously provided MMDS specific to your marine mammal, please use that MMDS to report the disposition of your marine mammal. You may request a MMDS for your marine mammal by contacting us via any of the contact options provided on page 2.

NOAA Identification No. \_\_\_\_\_

Animal Identification Number or Animal Name \_\_\_\_\_

A. Death Date \_\_\_\_\_

Cause of Death \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

B. Release Date \_\_\_\_\_ Permit No \_\_\_\_\_ OR  Unauthorized release/escape

Geographic Location \_\_\_\_\_ (as applicable) Lat: / Lon:

Tag number or description of other identifying markings: \_\_\_\_\_

**Marine Mammal Data Sheet (MMDS) Instructions and Notes**

In accordance with the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972, as amended (MMPA) (16 U.S.C. 1361 *et seq.*), the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) is required to establish and maintain an inventory of marine mammals under its jurisdiction (cetaceans and pinnipeds, except walrus) that are held in permanent captivity within the United States for public display. Animals held for scientific research or/and enhancement are also reported as per requirements of the permits, and animals held for national defense purposes have been voluntarily submitted to the inventory by the Navy.

The MMPA requires marine mammal owners and facilities to report when animals enter (i.e., births, transfers/transport) and leave their collections (i.e., death, release, transfer/transport). Inventory information submitted by email, fax, or mail will be entered into the National Inventory of Marine Mammals (NIMM).

- Births must be reported within 30 days after the date of the birth.
- Deaths should be reported within 30 day with the date and cause of death. If the cause of death has not been determined at the time of reporting, you may indicated that results are pending and update the cause of death once the results have been received.

Documentation required for this information collection is subject to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA). Personal or sensitive information that is subject to the Privacy Act will be redacted under FOIA.

**QUESTIONS?**

For additional information regarding marine mammal inventory reporting requirements under the MMPA, please visit our [website](#).

If you need assistance completing this form or would like to submit a completed form, please contact the Permits and Conservation Division via:

- a. Email ([NIMM.Inventory@noaa.gov](mailto:NIMM.Inventory@noaa.gov));
- b. Phone: 301-427-8401
- c. Fax (301-713-0376); or
- d. Mail (NMFS Permits and Conservation Division (F/PR1), 1315 East-West Hwy, Silver Spring, MD 20910).

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 30 minutes per response, including the time for reviewing instructions, search existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information to complete this form. Send comments regarding this burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Protected Resources, National Marine Fisheries Service, 1315 East-West Highway, Silver Spring, MD 20910. Notwithstanding any other provision of the law, no person is required to respond to, nor shall any person be subject to a penalty for failure to comply with, a collection of information subject to the requirements of the Paperwork Reduction Act, unless the collection of information displays a currently valid Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Control Number.

**Table 1. Data dictionary for MMDS fields.**

MMDS Field	Definition
NOAA Identification Number	The NOAA-assigned unique identification number (NOAXXXXXXX) that stays with the animal for all time
Sex	The sex of the subject animal
Common Name	The common name of the species
Birth Date	The actual or estimated birth date of the animal
Birth Date Certainty	Identifying the birth date as actual or estimated
Owner	Person or institution with legal custody (ownership) of the animal
Facility	Name of the physical location (institution) where the animal is held
Animal Identification Number	ID Number assigned by the Owner or Facility (only ID or name is required)
Animal Name	Name assigned by the Owner or Facility (only ID or name is required)
Purpose	The purpose or legal authority under Section 104 for which a marine mammal is being held (Public Display, Scientific Research, Enhancement, Rehabilitation (non-releasables), or Department of Defense)
Permit No.	NMFS permit number associated with a birth (if applicable)
Death Date	Date the animal died
Cause of Death	Primary cause of death of the animal
Release Date	Date the animal was released or escaped (if applicable)
Permit No.	NMFS Permit Number associated with a release (if applicable)
Unauthorized release/escape	Identifies whether the release was authorized under a permit or not
Geographic Location	General description of the geographic location associated with the release/escape of an animal; optional field
Latitude and Longitude Degrees	Identifies DMS location associated with the release/escape of an animal; optional field
Tag number or Description of other identifying markings	Tag Number or Description of an animal that has been released/escaped; optional field