

## Appendix A: IWC Euthanasia Protocol Questionnaire

This questionnaire is focusing on cetaceans 5m and above in size, as smaller cetaceans, such as dolphins and porpoises, have well founded euthanasia protocols.

**Q1** What country are you based in?

**Q2** What is your current role/job? (eg Researcher/Veterinarian/etc).

**Q2.a** What experience do you have with whale euthanasia/strandings?

**Q3** Are you aware of recommendations set out by the International Whaling Commission for the euthanasia of stranded/beached whales?

Yes/No

**Q3.a** If your answer to Q3 was YES: Do they seem straight forward?

Yes/No

**Q3.a.i** If your answer to Q3a was NO: Why are they not straight forward?

**Q4** How relevant do you find the current recommendations?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Not Relevant	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very Relevant

**Q5** How did you hear about the IWC recommendations?

- I have not heard about them before now
- I use them in my job/life
- I know of them but have not implemented them
- I know of them but have had to use alternative methods for practical reasons

*[If you are unaware/would like a refresher on the IWC guidelines, feel free to follow this [link](#) and have a read]*

**Q6** In your opinion, whose responsibility is it to ensure the protocols are being implemented at the stranding site at the time of euthanasia?

- Local Animal Health Officer
- Veterinarian
- Ranger
- Police

- Other

**Q6.a** If you selected 'Other' Please Specify

**How much do you Agree/Disagree with the following statements?**

[Please rank: 1 = STRONGLY DISAGREE, 9 = STRONGLY AGREE]

**Q7** The IWC recommendations are being followed in this country.

**Q7.a** If you are unsure please select 'unsure'

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree

**Q8** The IWC recommendations are being followed to the best of our ability in this country

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree

**Q9** The IWC recommendations are difficult to follow accurately in this country

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree

**Q9.b** If you Agreed/Strongly Agreed with the statement in Q9, please could you expand on why you think this is?

**Q10.a** If you are unsure, please select 'unsure'

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
Strongly Disagree	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Strongly Agree

**Q11** In your opinion, which of these is the most important to uphold during an euthanasia/stranding event?

	Most Important	Mid-Importance	Least Important
Animal Welfare	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Public Safety	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
Emotions of General public	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**Q11.a** Do you believe your ranking (in Q11) is reflected in your country's protocols/guidelines?

Yes/No

**Q11.b** Do you believe your ranking (in Q11) is an accurate representation of the IWC protocols?

Yes/No

**Q12** Do you think your country's guidelines are an accurate representation of the IWC protocols?

Yes/No

**Q13** Do you feel that the IWC protocols are reasonable from a welfare perspective?

Yes/No

**Q13.a** If your response was NO: Could you please expand on why you think this is?

**Q14** Do you feel that the IWC recommendations are reasonable considering practical limitations in your country?

Yes/No

**Q14.a** If your response was NO: Could you please expand on why you think this is?

## **STRANDINGS (Questionnaire cont.)**

If you have been involved in strandings, then please answer the following questions.

If you have not been actively involved/have no experience of strandings, please skip to Q22.

**Q15** Can you give an example of the most recently used euthanasia method at a recent stranding in your area? Please include species/size/location. (If you have experienced multiple strandings recently, please feel free to include more information relating to these).

**Q16** To your knowledge, during a stranding where euthanasia is the outcome, are sedatives and analgesics used as routine?

Yes/No

**Q17** Is death achieved using a chemical sedative/agent?

- No: I've never been involved in an event where sedatives/analgesics/chemicals were used
- Yes: Sedation and analgesia given, followed by chemical euthanasia method
- Yes: Sedation and analgesia given, followed by mechanical euthanasia method
- Yes: Sedation alone followed by chemical euthanasia method
- Yes: Sedation alone followed by mechanical euthanasia method
- Yes: Analgesia alone followed by chemical euthanasia method
- Yes: Analgesia alone followed by mechanical euthanasia method
- Other

**Q17.a** If you selected Other, please specify:

**Q18** In the events where chemical agents were used, were you involved in calculating the weight of the animal/were you aware of it being done?

Yes/No

**Q18.a** If you answered YES: How was the weight of the animal calculated/estimated in these cases?

**Q19** When making a decision about which method to use, is disposal of the carcass a consideration?

Yes/No

**Q19.a** If YES: Please could you expand on how this influenced the euthanasia choice?

**Q20** Do the technical difficulties of euthanasia (resulting from species differences) influence practicalities/conformity to the recommendations?

Yes/No

**Q20.a** If YES: Please briefly describe:

**Q21** What is the most limiting factor when it comes to selection of euthanasia method? (eg cost/available expertise/etc)

**Q22** Would you be willing to provide further information? For example - event records?

Yes/No

**Q22.a** If YES: Please provide your preferred email address.

### SCENARIO BASED QUESTIONS (x10)

The next 10 questions will be scenario based and should take no more than a few minutes. These scenarios were created using SPSS with set variables randomly allocated to each scenario. Please answer to the best of your abilities.

#### SCENARIO EXAMPLE

- A whale was stranded in the surf, and was estimated to be 6 meters in length. It was euthanised with ballistics, without pre-medication, and it died in seconds.

How would you rate the welfare of the whale at the point of death?

	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
Very poor welfare	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Very good welfare