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A note on sperm whale (Physeter macrocephalus) records from the Sultanate of Oman and United Arab Emirates

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A note on sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) records from the Sultanate of Oman and United Arab Emirates

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Abstract

Records of sighted (n = 141) and stranded (n = 27) sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*) in the waters off Oman and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) are documented and summarized. A list of samples and specimens from the region is also provided. Sources include the literature and various databases available to the authors at the time of writing. Records span a time period between 1954 and 2017 and include Soviet and Norwegian whaling catch data and a dataset collated from 19^{th} century American whaling logbooks (Townsend, 1935). Sightings and strandings clearly occur in the region throughout the year. Sperm whale sightings are generally made in deep waters (128 m - 3,450 m), and are frequently associated with the continental shelf. The spatio-temporal pattern of sperm whale sightings generally reflects effort. Sightings are particularly abundant in the region off Dhofar in the south of Oman, which was an important whaling ground for whalers in the 1800s and 1960s. Evidence for mortality related to human activities, such as ship-strike injury and fisheries interaction, is documented. Further research on sperm whales, particularly on their conservation status and taxonomic affinities, and the threats facing putative regional populations is strongly recommended.

Introduction

The occurrence of sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*) off the coast of Oman and United Arab Emirates (UAE) has been previously documented (see Gallagher, 1991; Baldwin, 1998). However, dedicated research on sperm whales in the region is lacking.

Catch data from whaling expeditions (Townsend, 1935; Holt, 1979; Mikhalev, 2000; Wray & Martin, 1981; Smith *et al.* 2012) as well as more recent sightings data from platforms of opportunity (e.g. Ballance & Pitman, 1998), dedicated surveys (e.g. Alling *et al.* 1982; Minton *et al.* 2010) and incidental sightings (e.g. Brown, 1957; Slijper *et al.* 1964), suggest that sperm whales occur year round in the Arabian Sea. Reports of mixed schools of nursing females and young individuals have been reported (Berzin, 1971 in Gallagher, 1991; Gallagher, 1991; Baldwin, 1998) and Soviet catches of reproductively active males, lactating females and females in the early stages of pregnancy (Mikhalev, 2000), show that sperm whales breed in the Arabian Sea. Furthermore, Mikhalev (2000) surmised from patterns in foetal length data that sperm whales had two distinct breeding cycles in the Arabian region, although this pattern could also be explained by the long gestation period in sperm whales (Mikhalev, 2000).

Herein, we review all historic and unpublished records of sperm whale sightings and strandings from Oman and the UAE available to the authors at the time of writing. We also include a collated list of skeletal specimens and tissue samples collected from the region.

Materials and Methods

All sightings and strandings records from Oman and the UAE are summarized below (see Fig. 1 for a map of the region). These records are deposited in the Oman Cetacean Database (OMCD) and Oman Cetacean Stranding Database (OMCSD) and include records from published literature (e.g. Minton *et al.* 2010) and those already reviewed elsewhere (e.g. Gallagher, 1991; Baldwin, 1998). Also included are unpublished data from recent cetacean surveys in Oman and incidental records from the authors or third parties. Further records of sperm whale sightings and strandings from the UAE have been provided by

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the UAE Dolphin Project and the Fujairah Whale Research Project. Other unpublished sources of sperm whale records come from marine mammal observers (MMOs) working on oil exploration vessels in the region. Finally, we include catch data from Norwegian and Soviet whaling fleets operating in the Arabian Sea between 1963-67 (IWC Database) and maps showing whaling locations for American whalers during the 19th century (from Townsend, 1935).

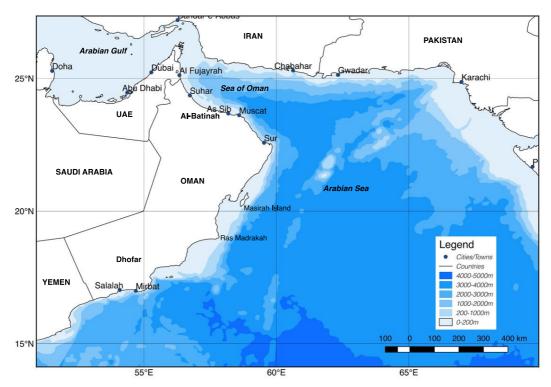


Figure 1. Map of the Arabian Sea region, indicating referenced shore locations.

All sightings were categorised as follows. 1) Whaling: sightings from catch data and logbooks. 2) Platforms of Opportunity: includes sightings where an observer is carrying out a dedicated marine mammal survey on a platform that does not share the same objective (e.g. Ballance & Pitman, 1998 and MMO sightings). 3) Dedicated Surveys: includes sightings and strandings where the principal objective of the survey was to document cetaceans and the observers had full control over where and how to direct search efforts. 4) Incidental: includes all reports of sperm whales where searching for marine mammals was not the primary objective at the time of sighting. Here we include records from vessels operating/transiting offshore (e.g. sightings in Brown, 1957; Slijper et al. 1964) and other third party reports.

Where records included associated sighting coordinates, these were plotted in QGIS (QGIS Development Team, 2017). A degree of variation exists in the accuracy of positions for any given sighting or stranding record. For sightings obtained during dedicated surveys and platforms of opportunity, the sighting position of the platform is assumed to be accurate. Where a bearing and distance to a sighting was given (sometimes several kilometres away), we calculated the actual position of the sighting. Bearing and distance estimation at the time of sighting are also assumed to be accurate. Where this information was not available, the position of the platform was plotted. In some cases, particularly for incidental sightings from third parties, a position was estimated, either by the observer or author (if there was enough information to do so), using Google Earth. For strandings, if no GPS position was provided, the position of the closest given site (usually a town) was used. American whaling records from the 19th century (Townsend, 1935) were considered separately due to reduced accuracy of position data compared to more recent records (but see Smith *et al.* 2012). As with the Norwegian and Soviet catches, these data show positions where whales were killed (Smith *et al.* 2012).

Only records positively identified as sperm whales are considered in the plots. Positive identification was made by the authors (either first hand or by photographs) or through trusted sources.

Length and sex data, available from Soviet and Norwegian whaling catch records, are also summarised here.

Results

Sightings

Excluding all whaling data, the authors reviewed 109 records of live sperm whales documented from Oman and the UAE between 1954 and 2017 (OMCD). Of these, 93 were positively identified as sperm whales and include sightings made incidentally (n = 17), on platforms of opportunity (n = 38) or during dedicated marine mammal surveys (n = 23). Additional records (n = 26) came from Norwegian and Soviet whaling data (IWC Database) (Appendix I.).

A total of 99 sperm whale records include information on group size. Of these, 35 are records of single individuals. Group sizes between two to four individuals were reported on 29 occasions. Groups of five or more individuals are reported less frequently, however, groups as large as 50 or more individuals were reported on three occasions. Recorded depths across sightings ranges between 128 m and 3,450 m.

On three occasions, aggregations of sperm whales were sighted in marguerite formation off Muscat. One of these sightings was made off Sidab on 31st May 2006 (see Ponnampalam, 2016 for a detailed account). On 21st April 2016, an incidental report of sperm whales in marguerite formation off Muscat was obtained from a third party and included video footage of killer whales (*Orcinus orca*). It is assumed that the whales were responding to the presence of the killer whales, although both species are not seen together in any footage. Later the same year, ~31st December 2016, a third party reported 20-25 sperm whales in marguerite formation off Masirah Island. Associated video and photos showed approximately 15 killer whales surrounding the group. Sperm whales were allegedly killed, although there is no evidence of this in the available video or photos.

The distribution of sightings, excluding 19th century whaling data, (Fig. 2) is largely a reflection of effort. Specifically, a large number of sightings were made off the Dhofar coast, the focus of most dedicated marine mammal survey effort in Oman between 2000 and 2017 (e.g. Minton *et al.* 2010, Willson *et al.* 2016a). Between Ras Madrakah and Ras al Hadd, the majority of sightings were made from platforms of opportunity (e.g. during seismic exploration). Off the Sea of Oman coast, records are clustered around Muscat where there has been some dedicated survey for marine mammals and a number of incidental sightings, associated with recreational boating, fishing and whale watching. From these records it is evident that sperm whales occur in the deep waters off Oman and along the continental shelf, with sightings being particularly prolific where the continental shelf is narrow (e.g. off Ras al Hadd, Mirbat and the Muscat coast). These areas presumably facilitate easier detection rather than reflect distribution concentrations, although, they are associated with high productivity. Sightings plotted by month (Fig. 3) largely reflect effort at different times of the year e.g. Soviet/Norwegian whaling in October/November (assumedly to avoid the southwest monsoon). Nonetheless, this plot illustrates the year round occurrence of sperm whales in the region.

Further records of sperm whales from 19^{th} century whaling logbooks (n = 61) are considered in a separate plot (Fig. 4), adapted from Townsend (1935). These records show that sperm whales are widespread in the deep waters off Dhofar and that whales were taken at a similar time of year (September - December), and location, to Soviet/Norwegian whaling.

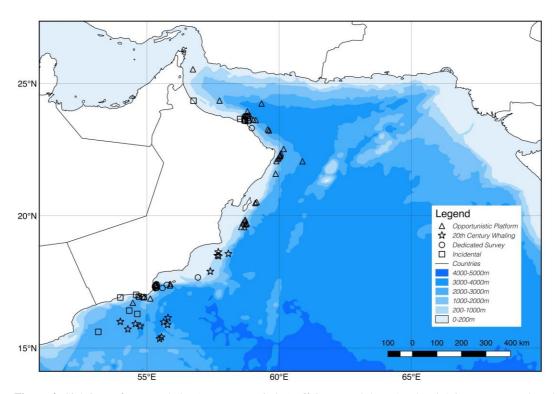


Figure 2. Sightings of sperm whales (*P. macrocephalus*) off Oman and the UAE, by sighting category, plotted in QGIS (QGIS Development Team, 2017). Sightings were categorised based on whether the primary objective at the time of sighting was to find marine mammals and whether there was a directed search effort from the platform to find marine mammals (see text for details). Only Soviet and Norwegian catch data is included in the whaling positions.

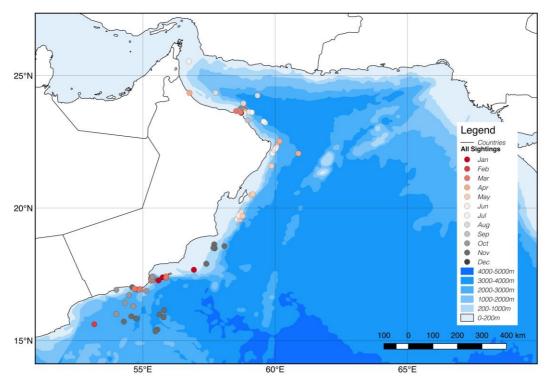


Figure 3. Sightings of sperm whales (*P. macrocephalus*) off Oman and the UAE, by month, plotted in QGIS (QGIS Development Team, 2017).

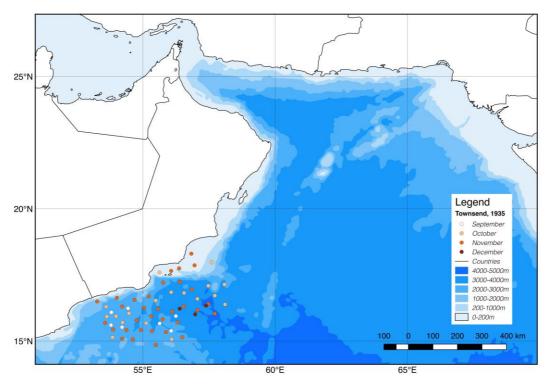


Figure 4. 19th century whaling catches of sperm whales (*P. macrocephalus*) off Oman by month (from Townsend, 1935).

Measurements of Length from Catch Data

Soviet and Norwegian whaling data (IWC database) allow for investigation of length measurements in male and female sperm whales. All females caught were between 8.5-9.7 m in length, whereas males ranged between 9.0 - 15.1 m (Fig. 5). Best *et al.* (2016) showed that the lengths of captured female sperm whales decreased moving from south to north across an ocean basin. Best *et al.* (2016) suggest that differences in foraging strategies with latitude could be a result of this. Female sperm whales from the Arabian Sea and Oman appear to fit this pattern (Fig. 6), however, analyses at this stage are rudimentary and further assessment is required.

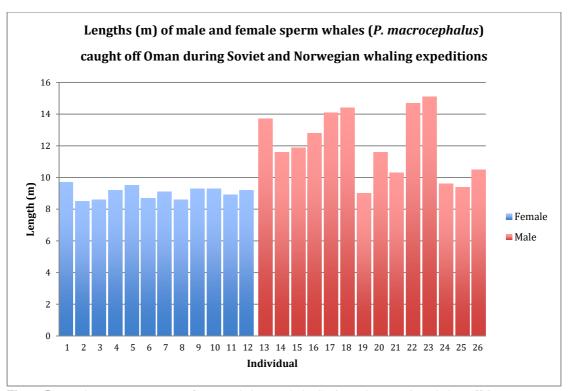


Figure 5. Length measurements (m) of sperm whales caught by Soviet and Norwegian whalers off Oman.

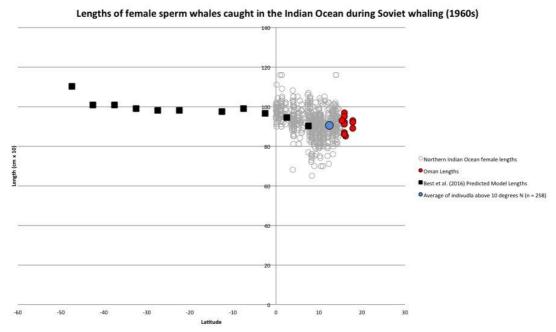


Figure 6. Lengths of female sperm whales caught in the Indian Ocean on Soviet whaling expeditions at different latitudes. Black squares = Best *et al.* (2016) predicted model lengths of females for different latitudes; Grey circles = raw length data from Soviet catches from the northern Indian Ocean; Blue circle = average length of females caught above 10° N (n = 258); Red circles = length measurements of female sperm whales caught off Oman.

Strandings

Between ~1977 and 2015, 27 sperm whale strandings were recorded (OMCSD). Of these, 22 were positively identified as sperm whales and are plotted below. Where available (n = 7), the distribution of stranded males (n = 5) and females (n = 2) is given (Fig. 7). Strandings are also plotted by month (Fig. 8) to illustrate strandings occur, and are reported, throughout the year.

The available lengths of individuals identified as 'adult' (n = 8) ranged between 900 - 1590 cm. Individuals identified as young (n = 5), including 'calves', 'juveniles' and 'sub-adults' ranged between 245 - 900 cm.

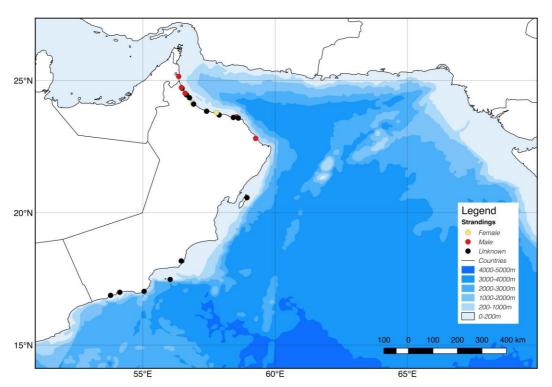


Figure 7. Stranding locations for sperm whales (*P. macrocephalus*) along the coast of Oman and the UAE. Where the data was available, the sex of the individual is indicated by colour.

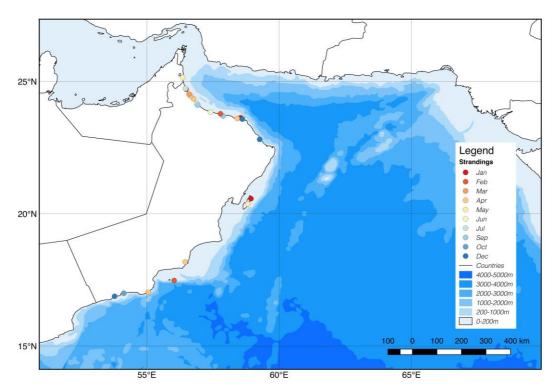


Figure 8. Stranding locations for sperm whales (*P. macrocephalus*) along the coast of Oman and the UAE by month.

Live Strandings

Three sperm whales are reported to have stranded alive along Oman's coast. The first of these is well documented and stranded near Sohar along the al-Batinah coast on 7th April 1981 (see Gallagher, 1991).

On 5^{th} October 2000, a stranded whale was recorded near Salalah. It is reported that initially two whales stranded alive, but one was helped back out to sea. The remaining whale is reported to have died on the 6^{th} October.

On 2nd of June 2012, a female adult was found near Saham along the al-Batinah coast. It was lying on its right side, mostly submerged, in the intertidal zone on a dissipative beach. No other whales were observed offshore. The whale was said to have swum in from the north and initially stranded alive around 22:00-23:00 and remained alive until about 03:00. The municipality buried the carcass on 5th June.

Interaction with Fisheries

On 12th December 2001, a stranded male sperm whale was recorded near Tiwi, Oman. The whale was found dead on a rocky shelf in the intertidal zone. It was still intact, but flesh was disintegrating, intestines were spilling and skin was peeling. Stomach contents were collected and included hundreds of squid beaks and a large ball of fishing twine.

On 13th March 2010, a male sperm whale calf was recorded near Sohar, Oman. A nylon rope was wrapped around the peduncle causing a deep impression. No fishing net was present on the body but there were gill-net impressions in the flesh from the peduncle to the pectoral fin.

Evidence of Ship Strike

On the 20th February 2003, 16th of January 2008 (Gray & Baldwin, 2008), and 11th July 2009, sperm whales were recorded near Sawadi (al-Batinah), Darsait (Muscat), and Shinas (al-Batinah), Oman, respectively, with wounds consistent with ship strike injuries. Whether these were the cause of death or occurred post-mortem at sea is uncertain.



Figure 9. A male sperm whale stranded off the Muscat coast, Oman (Darsait) 16/01/2008 with injuries consistent with ship strike. Whether these were the cause of death or occurred post-mortem is uncertain.

Other strandings of note

The carcasses of stranded sperm whales recorded on the 21st February 2012 and the 8th September 2013 were described as being emaciated. A stranding of a sperm whale at Fujairah, UAE, in May 2014 is the most northerly stranding of a sperm whale in the region recorded to date (slightly north of a stranding off Pakistan, Gore *et al.* 2007). The animal was buried, and the skeleton has been exhumed and is being prepared for educational display.

Samples and Specimens

Two sperm whale skulls (ONHM 29 and ONHM 866) are stored at the ONHM with partial or complete skeletons, including a fully mounted specimen on display. Listed in Collections of skulls and Cetacea: Odontoceti from Bahrain, UAE and Oman, 1969-1990 (M. D. Gallagher). Tissue samples collected from strandings (n = 25) and biopsy samples collected from free-ranging individuals (n = 19) are curated by ESO in Muscat, Oman with the exception of one curated at Al Maya Sanctuar, Office of the Crown Prince of the Emirate of Fujairah, UAE. For a list of samples and specimens see Appendix III.

Other Available Data

There are a small number of sperm whale acoustic recordings from Oman, which will be analysed in the near future. Photographs, suitable for individual identification, are also held by ESO and await cataloguing and analysis.

Discussion

Surveys to produce absolute population size estimates (DISTANCE sampling), and genetic analyses of samples currently available, would greatly improve our understanding of the conservation status of sperm whale populations off the coast of Oman and the UAE. Mikhalev (2000) suggests that sperm whales in the Arabian Sea form a discreet population, differing from other populations in the Indian Ocean based several 'peculiarities'. These are: 1) the smaller average size of individuals (Fig. 6), 2) the more frequent recovery of ambergris (including single pieces up to 70 kg in weight), and 3) an almost complete absence of pelagic shark wounds.

Little is known about the movements and area of critical habitat for sperm whales in the region. Whaling catch data shows sperm whales in high abundance in the region off Dhofar, but whether this is a reflection of whaling effort or is a region of important sperm whale habitat is not known. Male sperm whales are regularly reported off the Sea of Oman coast. A dedicated satellite telemetry project would provide insight into these areas, particularly when used in conjunction/collaboration with genetic studies.

Threats identified include an expanding fisheries industry. The extent to which sperm whales in the region are affected by this is not known. However, two strandings have been reported with some evidence

of interaction with fisheries (see above). Ship strike could be a greater concern for sperm whales, particularly in the Sea of Oman where there is a large amount of offshore shipping traffic entering/leaving the Gulf. Two records of sperm whales stranded on the Sea of Oman coast have exhibited wounds consistent with vessel collision. Whether these occurred post-mortem or were the cause of death is not known

A threefold increase in container vessel traffic has been noted from the northern Indian Ocean between 2004 and 2014, with mapping of satellite-derived AIS traffic densities showing a concentration of routes around the periphery of this area, (Willson et al. 2016b). The highest densities of traffic were noted off Southern Sri Lanka, the Gulf of Aden and Sea of Oman in approaches to the Straits of Hormuz. With the successful uptake of a whale mitigation project for Arabian Sea humpback whales in the port of Oman (Baldwin et al. 2015), a similar project has been launched by Five Oceans Environmental Services LLC (March 2017) in conjunction with the Government and Port of Fujairah, UAE. The first phase of the Fujairah Whale Project is to map cetacean diversity and abundance off Fujairah in an area previously absent of dedicated cetacean fieldwork. A vessel-based visual and acoustic line transect survey approach has been designed to cover waters >500m and up to 80km offshore with the purpose of understanding the seasonality and distribution of deep diving species, including sperm whales, in an area of high shipping traffic density. In addition to vessels transiting in and out of the Straits of Hormuz, over 14,000 vessels visited Fujairah Port in 2014, predominantly for bunkering services (Cpt. Massoud, pers comm. March 2017). As such, the port acts as a natural hub to engage greater participation from the shipping industry in awareness of mitigation measures. This model provides potential opportunities for the rest of the region as a means to stimulate research and environmental resource management.

Other potential threats in the region include sound pollution from oil exploration activities (e.g seismic and multi-beam echo sounder surveys), and military sonar (Gordon *et al.* 2003; Degollada *et al.* 2003).

Another, recently identified, threat to sperm whales in the region is tourism. The continental shelf off Oman is particularly narrow in some regions (e.g. off Dhofar and Muscat), allowing tourist operators to venture into deeper waters, and sperm whale habitat, more easily. There have been reports of tourist operators unwittingly harassing sperm whales with the alleged intention of venturing close enough to allow customers a 'swim-with' experience.

Conclusions

Dedicated cetacean research off the coast of Oman from 2000 onwards has focused on the endangered Arabian Sea humpback whale population (Minton *et al.* 2008; Minton *et al.* 2011; Willson *et al.* 2016a). Sperm whales, due to their preference for deeper offshore waters, have been more difficult to systematically study and document. Soviet catch data (Mikhalev, 2000) suggest that sperm whales in the region may also comprise a discreet Northern Indian Ocean population, potentially vulnerable to threats of fishing, shipping, oil and gas exploration and coastal development. Therefore, this species merits more dedicated research in order to design appropriate management and conservation strategies. The recent launch of the Fujairah Whale Research Project is a positive step forward.

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Appendix I. Table of sperm whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*) sightings off Oman and the United Arab Emirates. I = Incidental; W = Whaling; OP = Opportunistic Platform; DS = Dedicated Survey. Location accuracy codes are as follows: * = position calculated using GPS location, bearing and distance estimation; ** = Google Earth position estimate; *** = Vessel/Platform position; **** = position estimated from a figure from the literature by using it as an image overlay in Google Earth; ***** = unknown position accuracy; ****** = position estimated from an effort log; ******* = whaling positions for Norwegian and Russian vessels.

| Sighting Type | | | | | | Confirmed | | No. of individuals | | | Location |
|------------------|--|-----------------------|---|--------------|------------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| Sig | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | ບິ | Depth | No inc | Latitude | Longitude | Accuracy_ |
| I | Slijper <i>et al</i> . 1964 (Capt. Morzer Bruins) | | Netherlands Whale Research Group T.N.O. | Arabian Sea | 23/02/1954 | Y | | 1 | | | *** |
| I | Slijper <i>et al</i> . 1964 (Capt. Morzer Bruins) | | Netherlands Whale Research Group T.N.O. | Arabian Sea | 20/10/1954 | Y | | 4 | | | *** |
| I | Slijper <i>et al</i> . 1964 (Capt. Morzer Bruins) | | Netherlands Whale Research Group T.N.O. | Arabian Sea | 22/01/1955 | Y | | 1 | | | *** |
| I | Slijper <i>et al</i> . 1964 (Capt. Morzer Bruins) | | Netherlands Whale Research Group T.N.O. | Arabian Sea | 24/05/1957 | Y | | 1 | | | *** |
| I | Slijper <i>et al</i> . 1964 (Capt. Morzer Bruins) | | Netherlands Whale Research Group T.N.O. | Arabian Sea | 28/03/1958 | Y | | 6 + 1 male | | | *** |
| W | IWC Database | Thorshovdi | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 31/10/1962 | Y | | | 16.000000 | 54.000000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database | Thorshovdi | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 31/10/1962 | Y | | | 16.000000 | 54.000000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database | Thorshovdi | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 31/10/1962 | Y | | | 16.000000 | 54.000000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database | Thorshovdi | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 31/10/1962 | Y | | | 16.000000 | 54.000000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.916670 | 54.566670 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 16.150000 | 55.800000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.833330 | 54.750000 | ***** |

| Sighting Type | | | | | | Confirmed | | No. of individuals | | | |
|------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| Sigl Typ | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | Con | Depth | No. indi | Latitude | Longitude | Location Accuracy |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.833330 | 54.750000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.833330 | 54.750000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.833330 | 54.750000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.883330 | 55.783330 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.883330 | 55.783330 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.983330 | 55.633330 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.883330 | 55.783330 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.416670 | 55.550000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 18/11/1965 | Y | | | 15.350000 | 55.483330 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 5/11/1966 | Y | | | 15.716670 | 54.283330 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 6/11/1966 | Y | | | 17.900000 | 57.400000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 7/11/1966 | Y | | | 17.900000 | 57.400000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 7/11/1966 | Y | | | 17.900000 | 57.400000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 7/11/1966 | Y | | | 17.900000 | 57.400000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 7/11/1966 | Y | | | 18.483330 | 57.716670 | ***** |

| Sighting Type | | | | | | Confirmed | | No. of individuals | | | |
|------------------|--|-----------------------|----------------------------------|---------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| Sigh Typ | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | Con | Depth | No. | Latitude | Longitude | Location Accuracy |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 7/11/1966 | Y | | | 18.483330 | 57.716670 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 8/11/1966 | Y | | | 18.566670 | 58.083330 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 8/11/1966 | Y | | | 18.633330 | 57.700000 | ***** |
| W | IWC Database; Mikhalev, 2000 | Sovetskaya Ukraina | Whaling | Arabian Sea | 8/11/1966 | Y | | | 18.500000 | 57.666670 | ***** |
| I | OMCD; Gallagher, 1991 | | Incidental (near miss stranding) | Sohar | 07/04/1981 | Y | | 1 | 24.350000 | 56.766670 | **** |
| DS | OMCD; Alling et al. 1982 | Tulip | Research (WWF Netherlands) | Hallaniyat Islands | 14/01/1982 | Y | | | 17.273257 | 55.593044 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; Alling et al. 1982 | Tulip | Research (WWF Netherlands) | Hallaniyat Islands | 16/01/1982 | Y | | | 17.390174 | 55.753021 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; Alling et al. 1982 | Tulip | Research (WWF Netherlands) | Hallaniyat Islands | 18/01/1982 | Y | | | 17.672774 | 56.930954 | *** |
| I | OMCD; Gordon, 1982; Gallagher, 1991 | | WWF/IUCN | Salalah (Yemen border) | 14/02/1988 | Y | | 2 | 15.616670 | 53.166670 | **** |
| I | OMCD; Gallagher, 1991 | | Incidental | Mirbat | 29/11/1988 | Y | | 4 | 16.950000 | 54.700000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; Gallagher, 1991 | | Incidental | Mirbat | 29/11/1988 | Y | | 3 | 16.950000 | 54.700000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; Gallagher, 1991 | | Incidental | Wadi Hinna | 29/11/1988 | Y | | 1 | 17.016670 | 54.600000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; Baldwin 1998 IWC report | | Incidental | Muscat | 18/10/1994 | Y | | 50 | 23.715000 | 58.795000 | **** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 20/05/1995 | Y | | 1 | 19.580000 | 58.680000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 20/05/1995 | Y | | 3 | 19.680000 | 58.730000 | *** |

| Sighting Type | | | | | | Confirmed | | No. of individuals | | | |
|------------------|----------------------------|----------------------|------------------------------|----------------|------------|-----------|----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| Sigh Typ | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | Con | Depth | No. indi | Latitude | Longitude | Location Accuracy |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Gulf of Oman | 20/05/1995 | Y | | 2 | 19.700000 | 58.770000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 20/05/1995 | Y | | 1 | 19.720000 | 58.770000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 20/05/1995 | Y | | 2 | 19.700000 | 58.770000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Masirah Island | 01/06/1995 | Y | | 1 | 19.580000 | 58.570000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 01/06/1995 | Y | | 10 | 19.850000 | 58.720000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 01/06/1995 | Y | | 2 | 19.820000 | 58.700000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 01/06/1995 | Y | | 1 | 19.770000 | 58.670000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 01/06/1995 | Y | | 3 | 19.720000 | 58.630000 | *** |
| OP | Baldwin 1998 IWC report | DIVA | Oil Spill Emergency Response | Fujairah, UAE | 08/07/1995 | Y | 600-1300 | 4-6 | 25.540133 | 56.743735 | ** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Khabbah | 19/07/1995 | Y | | 1 | 22.270000 | 60.030000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Ras al Hadd | 19/07/1995 | Y | | 3 | 22.300000 | 60.050000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 19/07/1995 | Y | | 1 | 22.150000 | 59.950000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 19/07/1995 | Y | | 2 | 22.070000 | 59.900000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 19/07/1995 | Y | | 3 | 22.200000 | 59.980000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 19/07/1995 | Y | | 1 | 22.200000 | 59.980000 | *** |

| Sighting Type | | | | | | Confirmed | No. of individuals | | | Location |
|------------------|-------------------------------|----------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| S | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | ပိ Depth | ž .i | Latitude | Longitude | Accuracy |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Khabbah | 19/07/1995 | Y | 6 | 22.250000 | 60.020000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 23/07/1995 | Y | 1 | 23.230000 | 59.620000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Sifah | 23/07/1995 | Y | 5 | 23.270000 | 59.570000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Batinah coast | 24/07/1995 | Y | 1 | 23.630000 | 59.030000 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Ballance et al. 1996 | Malcolm Baldridge | NOAA Oceanographic Cruise | Offshore | 24/07/1995 | Y | 1 | 23.620000 | 59.120000 | *** |
| | OMCD | | | Offshore Arabian Sea | 29/09/1995 | N | 12 | 9.200000 | 64.800000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; Baldwin 1998 IWC report | | Incidental | Hino Island | 01/04/1996 | Y | 12 | 16.923630 | 54.876300 | *** |
| I | OMCD; Baldwin 1998 IWC report | | Incidental | Bandar al Jissah | 23/05/1996 | Y | 4 | 23.600000 | 58.716670 | *** |
| I | OMCD; Baldwin 1998 IWC report | | Incidental | Bandar al Jissah | 30/12/1996 | Y | 1 | 23.600000 | 58.716670 | *** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Arabian Gulf | 11/01/1997 | N | 1 | 26.140000 | 56.370000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | | 29/03/1997 | N | | 17.240000 | 56.480000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Offshore Arabian Sea | 30/03/1997 | N | 4 | 11.130000 | 57.810000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Red Sea | 02/04/1997 | N | | 15.400000 | 41.570000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Arabian Gulf | 28/07/1997 | N | 8 | 26.930000 | 51.770000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Somalia | 04/08/1997 | N | 12 | 0.770000 | 48.830000 | **** |

| Sighting Type | | | | | | Confirmed | | No. of individuals | | | Location |
|------------------|-------------------------------|------------|-----------------|-------------------------|------------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| S T | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | ٽ | Depth | ž .i | Latitude | Longitude | Accuracy |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Offshore Arabian Sea | 10/10/1997 | N | | 4 | 18.250000 | 65.580000 | **** |
| OP | OMCD; Baldwin 1998 IWC report | Calgary | Seismic | Taqah | 29/10/1997 | Y | 1750 | 20 | 16.713670 | 54.472500 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; Baldwin 1998 IWC report | Calgary | Seismic | Ras Janjari | 29/10/1997 | Y | 1350 | 13 | 16.877330 | 55.132330 | *** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Yemen | 16/02/1998 | N | | 3 | 14.830000 | 52.290000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Somalia | 24/02/1999 | N | | 1 | 12.150000 | 50.730000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Somalia | 24/02/1999 | N | | 1 | 12.150000 | 50.730000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | | Incidental | Batinah coast | 13/06/1999 | N | | 3 | 24.299200 | 58.521630 | *** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Bandar al Jissah | 01/01/2000 | N | | 3 | 23.560000 | 58.640000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Bandar al Jissah | 01/02/2000 | N | | 20 | 23.550000 | 58.650000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Yemen | 11/05/2000 | N | | 15 | 15.190000 | 52.440000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Bandar al Jissah | 01/01/2001 | N | | 3 | 23.550000 | 58.650000 | **** |
| DS | OMCD, Minton et al. 2010 | | DH-02-01 | Mirbat | 21/02/2001 | Y | | 25 | 16.924370 | 54.824070 | *** |
| OP | OMCD, MMO | Geo-Baltic | Seismic | Gulf of Oman | 28/04/2002 | N | 3450 | 1 | 23.218630 | 60.224600 | *** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Muscat | 08/03/2004 | Y | 800 | 1 | 23.665000 | 58.530000 | **** |
| OP | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | Sanjeeda | Sanjeeda Survey | Bandar Qinqari | 11/03/2004 | Y | 320 | 8 | 16.945530 | 54.901740 | *** |

| Sighting Type | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | Confirmed | Depth | No. of individuals | Latitude | Longitude | Location Accuracy |
|------------------|---|----------|-----------------|--------------------|------------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| OP | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | Sanjeeda | Sanjeeda Survey | Ras Nuss | 16/03/2004 | N | | 3 | | | |
| OP | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | Sanjeeda | Sanjeeda Survey | Mirbat | 19/03/2004 | Y | 1000 | 2 | 16.959090 | 54.691950 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | Sanjeeda | Sanjeeda Survey | Hallaniyat Islands | 26/03/2004 | Y | 2414 | 17 | 17.368080 | 55.877290 | *** |
| OP | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | Sanjeeda | Sanjeeda Survey | Hallaniyat Islands | 26/03/2004 | Y | 1900 | 55 | 17.422120 | 55.891300 | *** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | | 18/04/2004 | N | 1000 | 1 | 23.793333 | 58.670000 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Fahal Island | 03/02/2005 | Y | | 12 | | | |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG; Ponnampalam, 2009 | | MCT-SUR-09-05 | Ras Abu Daud | 13/09/2005 | Y | 128 | 2 | 23.316180 | 58.967200 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG; Ponnampalam, 2009 | | MCT-10-05 | Offshore | 01/10/2005 | Y | 1097 | 2 | 23.760280 | 58.709550 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG; Ponnampalam, 2009 | | MCT-10-05 | Offshore | 01/10/2005 | Y | 1097 | 2 | 23.765050 | 58.712760 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG; Ponnampalam, 2009 | | MCT-10-05 | Offshore | 01/10/2005 | Y | 1100 | 1 | 23.766800 | 58.757940 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG; Ponnampalam, 2009 | | MCT-10-05 | Offshore | 01/10/2005 | Y | 1100 | 1 | 23.773070 | 58.770560 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG; Ponnampalam, 2009 | | MCT-10-05 | Offshore | 01/10/2005 | Y | 2000 | 1 | 23.783960 | 58.839010 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG; Ponnampalam, 2009 | | MCT-10-05 | Offshore | 01/10/2005 | Y | 1340 | 2 | 23.707320 | 58.820180 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; Ponnampalam, 2009; Ponnampalam, 2016 | | MCT-05-06 | Sidab | 31/05/2006 | Y | 499 | 35 | 23.662080 | 58.692900 | *** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Muscat | 25/04/2008 | Y | 1000 | | 23.644870 | 58.875250 | **** |

| Sighting Type | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | Confirmed | Depth | No. of individuals | Latitude | Longitude | Location Accuracy |
|------------------|-----------------|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|------------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Muscat | 04/07/2008 | Y | | 15 | 23.582870 | 58.823920 | **** |
| I | OMCD; 3rd Party | | Incidental | Bandar al Jissah | 21/11/2008 | N | | 15 | | | |
| OP | MMO Report | Blackford Dolphin | Rig | 18 | 07/12/2009 | N | | 3 | 24.946055 | 56.907903 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | BOS Atlantic | Seismic | 59 | 15/04/2010 | Y | 2761 | 1 | 22.529279 | 60.170815 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | BOS Atlantic | Seismic | 59 | 16/04/2010 | Y | 3032 | 1 | 22.063517 | 60.880953 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | BOS Atlantic | Seismic | 59 | 27/04/2010 | Y | 1700 | 1 | 22.366118 | 60.067078 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | BOS Atlantic | Seismic | 59 | 19/05/2010 | Y | 549 | 1 | 20.490707 | 59.104072 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | BOS Atlantic | Seismic | 59 | 19/05/2010 | Y | 543 | 2 | 20.486095 | 59.100727 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | BOS Atlantic | Seismic | 59 | 19/05/2010 | Y | 595 | 1 | 20.522488 | 59.151654 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | BOS Atlantic | Seismic | 59 | 28/05/2010 | Y | 1894 | 10 | 21.591258 | 59.868146 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | BGP Challenger | | | 25/02/2011 | Y | | | | | |
| OP | MMO Report | BGP Challenger | | | 25/02/2011 | Y | | | | | |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | Mouj al Amal | DOF-MAR-2011 | Hasik | 27/03/2011 | Y | | 30 | 17.264320 | 55.326108 | * |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 22/02/2012 | Y | 450 | 7 | 17.377649 | 55.333121 | * |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 28/02/2012 | Y | | 10 | 17.365490 | 55.314940 | *** |

| Sighting Type | | | | | | Confirmed | | No. of individuals | | | Location |
|------------------|--|-----------------|-----------------|--------------|------------|-----------|-------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|
| - S F | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | <u> </u> | Depth | Z . <u>E</u> | Latitude | Longitude | Accuracy |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 28/02/2012 | Y | | | 17.351819 | 55.328468 | * |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 29/02/2012 | Y | | | 17.416690 | 55.363201 | * |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 01/03/2012 | Y | 1000 | | 17.322460 | 55.306515 | * |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 02/03/2012 | Y | | | 17.380120 | 55.376170 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 22/03/2012 | Y | 1000 | 1 | 17.281482 | 55.377410 | ***** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 22/03/2012 | Y | | 2 | 17.274378 | 55.343919 | ***** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DHF-FEB-2012 | Hasik | 22/10/2012 | Y | | 7 | 17.323152 | 55.331437 | *** |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | ESO1 | DOF-OCT-2012 | Hasik | 27/10/2012 | Y | 1000 | 30 | 17.410420 | 55.363313 | * |
| DS | OMCD; ESO/OWDRG | Mouj al Amal | DOF-FEB-2014 | Hasik | 19/02/2014 | N | | 1 | 17.211465 | 55.296850 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | Jupiter | MBES & Coring | 41 | 24/04/2014 | N | | 1 | 23.691057 | 58.790600 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | Jupiter | MBES & Coring | 41 | 10/08/2014 | Y | | 10 | 24.357000 | 57.748700 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | Jupiter | MBES & Coring | 41 | 20/08/2014 | Y | 3378 | 50 | 24.248183 | 59.335653 | * |
| OP | MMO Report | Jupiter | MBES & Coring | 41 | 27/08/2014 | Y | 2680 | 12 | 23.955590 | 58.805654 | * |
| I | UAE Dolphin Project Database; 3rd Party | | Incidental | | Dec-14 | Y | | 1 | | | |
| I | 3rd Party | | Incidental | Sifah | 16/01/2015 | Y | | 8 | | | |

| Sighting Type | Source | Platform | Activity/Survey | Block/Region | Date | Confirmed Depth | No. of individuals | Latitude | Longitude | Location Accuracy |
|------------------|--|----------|---------------------------------------|----------------|-----------------------|-----------------|-----------------------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|
| I | 3rd Party | | Incidental | Sifah | 16/01/2015 | Y | | | | |
| I | UAE Dolphin Project Database; 3rd Party | | Incidental | | 10/02/2016 | Y | 1 | | | |
| I | 3rd Party | | Incidental | Muscat | 21/04/2016 | Y | 7 | | | |
| I | 3rd Party | | Incidental | Muscat | 20/03/2017 | Y | 2 | 23.622220 | 58.693790 | ** |
| I | 3rd Party | | Incidental | Muscat | 06/04/2017 | Y | >10 | | | |
| I | 3rd Party | | Incidental | Muscat | 14/04/2017 | Y | ~20 | | | |
| I | Gallagher, 1991 | | Incidental | Ras Raysut | Autumn | Y | | 16.916667 | 54.000000 | **** |
| I | Brown, 1957 | | National Institute of Oceanography | Arabian Sea | Mar-May/1952- 1956 | Y | | 16.292802 | 54.641163 | **** |
| I | 3rd Party | | Incidental | Masirah Island | 31-12-2016 | Y | 20-25 | 20.409937 | 59.17613 | ** |

Appendix II. All sperm whale (*P. macrocephalus*) strandings off Oman and the UAE. I = Incidental; DS = Dedicated Survey; M = male; F = female; UK = unknown; A = Adult; C = calf; J = juvenile; SubA = sub-adult. * = used site location for position estimate. ** = typo in report, so changed position accordingly.

| | | | | | | | ed ID | | | | |
|-------------------------|-------------|---|------------|------------------------|-----------|-----------|----------|-----|------|-------------|-------|
| Relevant Database ID | Report Type | Source | Date | Site name | Latitude | Longitude | Confirme | Sex | Age | Length (cm) | Notes |
| 160 | I | OMCD; Gallagher 1991 | 1977-1980 | Dawwah, Masirah | 20.580000 | 58.820000 | N | UK | | | |
| 1001 | I | OMCD; MECA | 07/06/2008 | Shinas | 24.727252 | 56.476328 | N | UK | | 1400 | * |
| 1041 | I | OMCD; 3rd Party | 01/03/2011 | Salalah, Baleed | 17.005910 | 54.144373 | N | UK | UK | | * |
| 1062 | I | OMCD; MECA | 10/07/2009 | Wadiyat, Shinas | 24.777884 | 56.461627 | N | UK | A | 1600 | * |
| 1063 | I | OMCD; MECA | 20/01/2008 | Qareem | | | N | UK | UK | 900 | |
| 156 | I | OMCD; Gallagher, 1991 | 07/04/1981 | Sohar | 24.350000 | 56.766670 | Y | UK | | 1056 | |
| 157 | I | OMCD; Gallagher, 1991 | 13/09/1986 | Barka | 23.700000 | 57.883333 | Y | UK | | | ** |
| 158 | I | OMCD; 3rd Party | 05/10/2000 | Salalah, Dahariz | 17.000000 | 54.130000 | Y | UK | A | | |
| 159 | I | OMCD; Gallagher, 1991; Papastravou & Salm, 1991 | 19/04/1988 | Sadh | 17.033330 | 55.050000 | Y | UK | | | |
| 161 | I | OMCD; Gallagher, 1991 | 06/12/1987 | Mughsayl | 16.883330 | 53.783330 | Y | UK | | 1450 | |
| 162 | DS | OMCD | 09/02/2000 | Hallaniyat Islands | 17.482720 | 56.035000 | Y | UK | J | 245 | |
| 708 | I | OMCD | 12/12/2001 | Tiwi | 22.814310 | 59.265440 | Y | M | | 1250 | |
| 896 | I | OMCD | 20/02/2003 | Sawadi | 23.783330 | 57.783330 | Y | F | J | 1500 | |
| 902 | I | OMCD; 3rd Party | 23/04/2003 | Sohar, Majiz al Khubra | 24.461141 | 56.651569 | Y | UK | A | | * |
| 940 | DS | OMCD | 30/01/2006 | Masirah Island | 20.574960 | 58.935840 | Y | UK | | | |
| 977 | I | OMCD | 16/01/2008 | Darsayt | 23.632440 | 58.544130 | Y | M | A | 1590 | |
| 1022 | I | OMCD; MECA | 02/06/2012 | Saham | 24.168806 | 56.889055 | Y | F | A | 1550 | * |
| 1031 | I | OMCD; MECA | 18/04/2012 | Lakbi | 18.181697 | 56.452720 | Y | UK | A | | * |
| 1032 | I | OMCD; MECA | 21/02/2012 | Shinas | 24.709028 | 56.485547 | Y | UK | A | 1200 | * |
| 1057 | I | OMCD; MECA | 05/06/2010 | Mussanah | 23.842258 | 57.411002 | Y | UK | C | 350 | * |
| 1061 | I | OMCD | 13/03/2010 | Sohar | 24.523820 | 56.599019 | Y | M | C | 4000 | * |
| 1105 | I | OMCD; 3rd Party | 08/09/2013 | Saham | 24.111577 | 56.919700 | Y | UK | J | 960 | * |
| 1137 | I | OMCD; 3rd Party | 25/05/2010 | Masirah Island | 20.376150 | 58.809188 | Y | | UK | | * |
| 1157 | I | OMCD | 23/04/2015 | Khuwair | 23.605489 | 58.420312 | Y | UK | SubA | 920 | |
| 995 | I | OMCD; MECA | 11/07/2009 | Shinas | 24.737600 | 56.459780 | Y | M | A | | * |
| 1030 | I | OMCD | 05/12/2011 | Cat Island | 23.581888 | 58.609609 | Y | UK | A | 900 | * |
| | I | UAE Dolphin Project Database; 3rd Party | May-12 | Fujairah Port, UAE | 25.157122 | 56.357270 | Y | M | | 1300 | |
| | I | | May-14 | Fujairah, UAE | | | Y | | | | |

Appendix III. Table of sperm whale (*P. macrocepahlus*) samples and specimens from Oman. Samples labelled 'ONHM' are skeletal specimens curated at the Oman Natural History Museum.

| Date | Individual Sample | | | | In ESO |
|------------|--------------------|--------------------------|------------|--------|---------|
| Collected | record | Location | Live/ Dead | Type | Freezer |
| 31/05/2006 | 31-05-06-?? | Sidab | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 31/05/2006 | 31-05-06-?? | Sidab | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 31/05/2006 | 31-05-06-01 | Sidab | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 31/05/2006 | 31-05-06-04 | Sidab | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 31/05/2006 | 31-05-06-05 | Sidab | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 31/05/2006 | 31-05-06-06 | Sidab | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 31/05/2006 | 31-05-06-07 | Sidab | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 17/02/2010 | 17-02-10-01 | Ras al Hadd/Sur | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 17/02/2010 | 17-02-10-02 | Ras al Hadd/Sur | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 17/02/2010 | 17-02-10-04 | Ras al Hadd/Sur | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 17/02/2010 | 17-02-10-05 | Ras al Hadd/Sur | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 17/02/2010 | 17-02-10-06 | Ras al Hadd/Sur | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 28/02/2012 | 28-02-12-01 | Hasik | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 28/02/2012 | 28-02-12-02 | Hasik | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 28/02/2012 | 28-02-12-03 | Hasik | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 01/03/2012 | 01-03-12-01 | Hasik | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 27/10/2012 | ESO1-27-10-12-C-01 | Hasik | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 28/10/2012 | ESO1-27-10-12-C-02 | Hasik | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 29/10/2012 | ESO1-27-10-12-C-03 | Hasik | live | biopsy | Yes |
| 12/12/2001 | 12-12-01-01 | Tiwi | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 20/02/2003 | 20-02-03-01 | Sawadi | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 26/02/2006 | 26-02-06-01 | Masirah Island | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 17/01/2008 | 17-01-08-01 | Darsait | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 29/01/2008 | 29-01-08-01 | Al Batinah? | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 11/07/2009 | 11-07-09-01 | Shinas | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 07/02/2010 | 07-02-10-01 | Musunah | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 13/03/2010 | 13-03-10-01 | Sohar | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 05/06/2010 | 05-06-10-01 | Musunah | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 01/03/2011 | 01-03-11-01 | Salalah | dead | tissue | Yes |
| 03/06/2012 | 03-06-12-01 | Saham | dead | tissue | Yes |
| ??/06/2012 | Jun-12 | Lakabi | dead | tissue | ? |
| ??/06/2012 | Jun-12 | Lakabi, Near Pink Lagoon | dead | tissue | ? |
| 07/06/2008 | 07-06-08-C-01 | Shinas | dead | tissue | ? |
| 31/12/2008 | 31-12-08-C-01 | Sorgah | dead | tissue | ? |
| 10/07/2009 | 10-07-09-C-01 | Shinas | dead | tissue | ? |
| 20/01/2008 | 20-01-08-C-01 | Batinah coast | dead | tissue | ? |
| 18/04/2012 | 18-04-12-C-01 | Lakbi | dead | tissue | ? |
| 21/02/2012 | 21-02-12-C-01 | Shinas | dead | tissue | ? |
| 12/04/2009 | 12/04/2009 | Batinah coast | dead | tissue | ? |
| 05/12/2011 | 05-12-11-C-01 | Cat Island | dead | tissue | ? |
| 08/09/2013 | 08-09-13-C-01 | Saham | dead | tissue | ? |
| 25/05/2010 | 25-05-10-C-01 | Masirah Island | dead | tissue | ? |
| 23/04/2015 | 23-04-15-C-01 | Khuwair | dead | tissue | ? |
| 07/04/1981 | ONHM 29 | Sohar | dead | bone | N |
| 13/09/1986 | ONHM 866 | Barka | dead | bone | N |
| ??/05/2014 | tba | Fujairah, UAE | dead | tissue | N |