

**Summary of Activities Related to the Action Plan on Whale Killing Methods
(Submitted by Greenland (Denmark))**

**Summary of Activities Related to the Action Plan on Whale Killing Methods
(based on Resolution 1999-1)**

Please note that completion of this form is not compulsory but it will greatly aid the discussions at the forthcoming Working Group Meeting. The Secretariat would be grateful if you can complete this form as fully as possible, preferably electronically and return it to Secretariat@iwcoffice.org by 10 May 2010.

Contracting Government	Greenland (Denmark)
Season	2009
Area	Greenland
Fishery type (e.g. commercial, aboriginal subsistence, scientific permit)	Aboriginal Subsistence

Table 1. Summary of primary and secondary whale killing methods used (Note that the appropriate Method No. should be used throughout the form):

Method No.	Brief description of method (e.g. penthrite grenade, 'cold' grenade, rifle of <i>stated calibre</i>, etc). Put the most commonly used method first. Insert more rows if necessary.	Used as: (state whether primary killing method, secondary, or both)
1	Penthrite grenade (Whale Grenade-99)	Primary (minke whales in West Greenland). Primary and secondary (fin whales in West Greenland). Primary and secondary (bowhead whales in West Greenland).
2	Rifle, calibre larger than 7.62 mm (30.06).	Secondary (minke whales in West Greenland). Primary (minke whale collective hunt in West and East Greenland).

Summary of criteria used to indicate unconsciousness and death:

Criteria: When the whale does not move and the flippers are immovable. This includes when the whale has sunk and there is no movement in the harpoon line or floats.

Number of whales killed instantly are whales reported killed within 1 minute.

Table 2: Summary of information providers:

Percentage of data provided by:	
▪ inspectors	0
▪ scientists	0
▪ hunters	98
▪ other (please specify) Wildlife officers	2

Table 3: Summary of hunt:

Item	Species 1 [Minke whale, W-GRL]		Species 2 [Minke whale, E-GRL]		Species 3 [Fin whale]	
	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
Whale killing methods						
▪ Total no. killed (all methods summed) ¹	165		4		10	
▪ Total killed using Method 1 only	87	53 %	0	0%	10	100 %
▪ Total killed using Method 2 only	77	47	4	100 %	0	0 %
▪ Total killed using Method 3 only						
▪ Total needing secondary harpoon or other secondary killing method	Not available					
▪ If bullets used						
○ minimum number						
○ maximum number						
○ median number						
Time to unconsciousness/death (TTD)*						
▪ Total for which information recorded	123	75 %	4	100 %	7	70 %
▪ Total estimated TTD to be instant	28	23 %	0	0 %	1	14 %
▪ Maximum estimated TTD	120		70		45	
▪ Mean time to TTD	16		38		23	
▪ Median Time to TTD	10		30		25	
Other information						
▪ Total targeted and missed	Not available					
▪ Total struck and lost	11	7 %	0		2	20 %

**NB Resolution 1999-1 asks for TTD information for each whale not killed instantly. This can be provided via Table 4 below.*

¹ Including struck but lost animals and 1 by-catch of a female minke whale

Other: Any other relevant information e.g. with information on technical assistance given to other fisheries or with respect to new studies to (a) improve methods and TTD, (b) develop new criteria for TTD:

Statistics for TTD of minke whales by method, rather than by stock:

Time to death for minke whales killed with method 1 (N = 68 reports, or 78% of the catch):
28 whales (41%) were killed within 1 minute. 46 whales (68%) died within 5 minutes. The mean time to death was 5 minutes. The median time to death was 2 minutes. The largest time to death reported was 30 minutes.

Time to death for minke whales killed with method 2 (N = 59 reports, or 73% of the catch):
0 minke whale (0%) was killed within 1 minute, while 2 (3%) died within 5 minutes. The mean time to death was 29 minutes. The median time to death was 20 minutes. The largest time to death was 120 minutes.

Statistics for Struck and Lost minke whales by method, rather than by stock:

Struck but lost minke whales using method 1: 2 (1 % of struck animals)

Struck but lost minke whales using method 2: 9 (5 % of struck animals)

Additional information on fin whales:

The minimum time to death reported for fin whales was 0 minutes.
1 fin whale (14%) died within 5 minutes.

Additional information on bowhead whales:

The hunting of bowhead whales in West Greenland is for the forthcoming 3-5 years in a testing period and will be followed closely by wildlife officers, the Ministry of Fisheries, Hunting and Agriculture and The Greenland Institute of Natural Resources to improve the killing method and all activities related to the hunt.

Table 4: Reporting of data on individual whales killed

Whale:	Species	Killing method(s) used	Time to Death ¹	Samples taken
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
21.				
Etc.				

¹ Resolution 1999-1 encouraged reporting of time to death for each animal not killed instantly