

From: St. Lawrence Coalition  
Sent: Thursday, August 31, 2017 10:46 AM  
To: Hicks, Darren  
Subject: Re: EMGS EA Report - comments

Dear Darren,

I have been reading the documents for the EMGS survey on the EAST coast and something important struck me. On page 1 of the amendment tabled to the C-NLOPB on June 12th 2017, EMGS affirms that they will have TWO marine mammal observers (MMO) on board the survey ship:

"In addition, the CSEM vessel will have a fisheries liaison officer (FLO) and two marine mammal observers (MMOs) onboard to spot fishing gear in the water during all survey operations, including receiver deployment operations."

On the contrary, the Western Nfld Environmental Assessment Report tabled to the C-NLOPB on May 2017 talks of only ONE marine mammal observer (page 2.3) :

"The survey vessel will also have a Fisheries Liaison Officer (FLO) and a seabird and marine mammal observer (SMMO) onboard."

This is pretty troubling given the wave of Right Whales deaths in the Gulf during this summer (over 11 deaths) and the role that collision with ships has played in the record number of dead whales.

Should I write you an addenda to our comments sent on July 26th? How can this important concern be integrated in your review of EMGS' EA Report,

Sincere thanks for your help.

St. Lawrence Coalition  
CPAWS Quebec.