

February 14, 2013

## Activity – Purse Seine Daily Activity Log

Instructions: Complete the blank Daily Activity Log using information in the following passage. Work in groups of 2 and consult your manual.

You board the fishing vessel ‘Sea Breezer 34’ (vessel code GAB6732; observer code 999; trip 00101) at 2:15 p.m. on July 8, 2010. The vessel is at Port Mole, Libreville, 0° 23.0 S/ 9° 26.3E. The captain gives you a brief tour of the vessel including the basic safety features and assigns you to a room with the cook. You take a few hours to unpack, make notes in the Observer Logbook (including completion of the Safety Checklist), and assess where you might take samples and record information in the bridge. At 10:00 p.m. you go to bed and the vessel leaves port at 0100 the next morning.

You sleep well for a few yours and wake around 0400 not feeling so well. You manage to drink some water and return to bed. You do not wake up again until 0800. After grabbing a quick cup of tea, you go up to the bridge at 0815 to check where you are and what the vessel is doing. The vessel is still steaming to the fishing grounds at 10.5 knots and the estimated time that the crew will start searching is 1500. The water temperature is 26.8 and vessel’s position is 0° 50.75N/ 7° 23.3E. Cloud cover is 75% and the horizon is clear in the distance. Seas are less than a meter and the wind is varying from 5-10 knots. There is no glare. You and the captain talk for a little while and then you go down for something to eat at 8:25 a.m. You return to the wheelhouse at 0900 and go on effort (vessel position is: 0° 50.83 S/ 7° 18.57 E). Conditions have not changed since you were last on the bridge. At 0947 you see a flock of birds feeding at the surface but there is no sign of mammals or larger fish. The captain is not interested in this flock of birds.

The vessel’s position at 1015 is 0° 52.5 S/7° 14.8 E. By noon, your stomach is grumbling but you want to keep on effort for a while longer. At 1210 the vessels position is 0° 54.5 S/7° 10.0 E and water temp is 27.3. You break for lunch at 1230.

By the time you return at 1310 (position 0° 54.8 S/7° 10.3 E), the weather has picked up a bit (winds 15 knots and waves are just over 1 meter) and the vessel slows down to 9.5 knots. Weather, visibility and glare conditions haven’t changed.

The vessel has been making good time (1° 00.2 S/ 7° 09.37 E ; water temp=27.6) and at 1515 the captain has one crew member monitoring the radar for birds and another person goes to the crows nest and starts scanning the fishing grounds with the big eyes.

1610 – Position 1° 02.4 S/ 7° 08.9 E & water temperature=27.3

1706 – The captain sees a splash and you see a blow. You both realize it is a humpback whale at the same time (position 1° 05.3 S/ 7° 08.0 E). The vessel slows down to 3 knots and you watch for several minutes. It blows a few times at the surface and then disappears after 10 minutes. The vessel decides there are no fish associated with the whale so speeds back up to 9.5 knots at 5:17 pm.

The observation conditions starts to diminish (could still see a small bird to 300m) around 1800. There is glare on 1 side of the observation zone as well. By 1830 it is too dark to make any further observations so you stop effort for the day (position 1° 08.9 S/ 7° 06.9 E; water temp=27.6). The vessel slows down

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to 5 knots at 1900 and the guy in the crow's nest stops observations and the bird radar is turned off. At 2200 (position 1° 09.5 S/ 7° 04.8 E; water temp=27.7) stops and drifts for the night.

You wake up at 0500 because you can't sleep. You grab a cup of coffee and head to bridge. You hang out with the mate for a while. The vessel starts motoring again at 2 knots around 0600 (position 1° 09.3 S/ 7° 03.7 E; water temp=27.7). The wind and seas have picked up even more (~20 knots). There are moderate waves, taking a more pronounced long form and there are many white horses; the weather appears to be full cloud cover. It's still too dark to make observations so you go eat breakfast. You come back on the bridge ~0625 and prepare to start observations. It's completely overcast but the cloud cover is high so you can see to the horizon. The captain sends 2 crew up to the crow's nest to man two sets of bigeyes, speeds up to 8.5 knots and you start effort at the same time. The position is (position 1° 09.4 S/ 7° 002.4 E; water temp is the same as earlier).

0800 - (position 1° 09.4 S/ 7° 01.1 E; water temp=27.8).

At 0807 the crew see some splashes but it was never confirmed if they were fish or something else.

At 0949, a floating object sighted ~ 1km from vessel (position 1° 09.5 S/ 6° 58.9 E; water temp=27.8) The vessel did not investigate- they knew it belonged to another vessel.

The crew see more splashes about 1 nmi to port at 1131. It is determined to be a free school so the vessel slows to 5 knots and steams closer to investigate (1141; position: 1° 09.5 S/ 6° 56.7 E)). At 1153, the vessel deploys the first set (position: 1° 09.5 S/ 6° 56.6 E; water temp = 27.9)

1345 resume searching at 9 knots with 1 guy on bigeyes.

1400 observer back on effort (position: 1° 09.6 S/ 6° 56.3 E; water temp=27.8). Visibility, sea state or weather remain the same



