The collaborative research program on the humpback whale population in the Gulf of Maine, known as MoNAH, has received major grants from the Island Foundation and the Beneficia Foundation.

The large whale disentanglement program thanks the National Marine Fisheries Service for ongoing support. A great many thanks are also due to the following agencies and organizations for dedicated in-kind support during the attempt to disentangle the right whale known as Kingfisher in March: Wildlife Trust, New England Aquarium, Florida Marine Research Institute (FMRI), NMFS/EREO, Georgia Department of Natural Resources, USCG Group Mayport, Florida USCG Station Fort Mason, North Carolina, the Beaufort NOAA Laboratory, and the University of North Carolina at Wilmington.

CCS thanks the following for their sponsorship of April’s benefit dinner and science exhibition at Anthony’s Commanook Inn: A Celebration of Right Whales: Cape Cod Five Cents Savings Bank, Cape Cod Times and Peguin’s Foundation.

Stainless Marine and Mercury Marine are owed a debt of gratitude for the generous donation of two 225 HP Optimax engines for R/V Shaka, the former U.S. Coast Guard 30 foot rigid hull inflatable that was donated to CCS last year by the U.S. Nat’l Guard at Otis AFB.

The Humane Society of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts has provided funding for Cape Cod Waterways to publish a non-hockey’s safety guide in traditional and electronic versions.

General operating support was provided by the following individuals and organizations: Nancy Fales, Kingman Yacht Center, and Wellfleet Foundation.

Recent additions to the staff include: Amy Kennedy, humpback whale program research assistant (Maine Maritime Academy, B.S. in ocean studies); Cathy Mengert, administrative assistant and Elderhostel coordinator (Eastern Illinois University, B.S. in education); Steve Ruh, store manager (Florida Keys Community College, A.S. in marine biology); Brian Sharp, whale rescue operations manager (Virginia Tech, B.S. in animal sciences); and Terri Smith, research assistant in the Cape Cod Bay monitoring program (Cape Cod Community College, A.A. in environmental science anticipated December 2004).

As the humpbacks migrate back to Stellwagen Bank, so too do CCS’s dedicated whale watch naturalists. Returning this season are Carole Carlson, Mark Gilmore, Clarisse Hart, and Nancy Scaglione-Peck. They join CCS year-round staffers Joanne Jarzobski, Pauline Kamath, Amy Kennedy, Phil Kibler, Scott Landry, Owen Nichols and Mike Reardon. And last but not least, Mike Bertoldi of Provincetown, a longtime whale watch jack-of-all-trades, has formally joined the crew.

Finally, although she has left her staff position at CCS to join her longtime collaborators in right whale studies at the New England Aquarium, Dr. Moira Brown continued to help direct this past season’s right whale survey in Cape Cod Bay as an adjunct scientist.
On term limits served continu...