**Abstract**

**Introduction**

There are fewer than 500 North Atlantic right whales (Eubalaena glacialis) remaining in the world. The species is highly endangered and is considered as such by the U.S. and Canadian governments. Recognizing individual whale specimens is important if we are to help the species recover to sustainability. Recognizing individual specimens from shipborne or helicopter imagery is a tedious task for marine biologists. To the best of our knowledge automated “face” recognition techniques have not previously been proposed for recognizing right whales. In this report we summarize our analysis of using convolutional neural networks to recognize individual North Atlantic right whales.