Editorial revisions:

Dear Dr. Boness,

Thank you very much for the opportunity to re-submit our note. I have made sure to implement all of your corrections as well as Dr. Rosel’s comments (see below). We appreciate the opportunity and hope the manuscript is now in a form that is ready for publication in Marine Mammal Science.

Sincerely,

Elias, Ryan, John, Judy, Cole

Associate Editor: Rosel, Patricia  
Comments to the Author:  
Just a few minor comments on the revised version. I suggest that table S1 be a real table in the manuscript.

* Done. We agree that the table is rather informative!

It provides the primary results of the project and it seems very worthwhile to me that the information be truly published and not just be included as supplementary material.  The second comment applies to supplementary table 2. The field numbers of at least the stranded samples should be provided in this table, and if the managed care facilities have unique identifiers that would be useful too.  Future studies of genome size (or other genomic research) could, potentially, get access to and use the exact same stranding sample(s).  It seems important to have this information available to the community.

* Done, we have provided all of the sample names for each sample used in the analysis.

Literature Cited:  There are still some problems with the literature cited section  
  
Line 152: Not sure the book by Gregory 2005 is cited correctly.  This looks to be an edited book. Is this a citation of a chapter in the book or for the entire book? Either way the formatting is incorrect

* This is actually a website database and we tried following MLA formatting style as we did not find the specific MMSci guidelines for website citations. Would you mind pointing us to the correct citation format?

Line 157: Gulliver 1875 citation is missing the journal volume number

* Added “Part I” as the closest description to a volume.

Line 161: When I look at citation for this book I see Heinemann Press. London as the publisher. Please verify correct publisher

* We find the publisher to be: “Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations or of the United Nations Environment Programme.” We have added this information in the citations. Thank you.

Line 164: Authors initials messed up.  Also, the citation is missing the publisher name before the city.

* Fixed, thank you.

Line 167: Authors initials are messed up

* Fixed.

Lines 170, 174: Mcgowen should be McGowen

* Fixed

Finally, note that at the end of the manuscript (lines 115-128) there are sections for Ethical statement, data accessibility, competing interests, authors contributions, funding.  These are not standard sections for MMS.

* Sections removed.