

Agenda Item 4.5

Priorities in the Implementation of the
Triennium Work Plan (2010-2012)
Publicity and Outreach

Document 4-03

**Development of a Leaflet for Fishers
in the ASCOBANS Area**

Action Requested

- Take note of the report and recommendations
- Provide guidance for the implementation of the recommendations

Submitted by

Secretariat



NOTE:
IN THE INTERESTS OF ECONOMY, DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED TO BRING THEIR
OWN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING

Secretariat's Note

The draft text for a leaflet for fishers in the ASCOBANS Area has been discussed at the ASCOBANS/ECS Workshop on Cetacean Bycatch on 20 March 2010 in Stralsund, Germany. Comments received at or following this workshop have been taken into account in a revised draft which was tabled separately for this meeting as AC17/Doc.4-03 Addendum.

**Development of a Leaflet for Fishers in the ASCOBANS Area
– Information already provided on small cetacean bycatch and suggestions for
further targeted information**

(prepared by Joanna Claire Wharam)

Background and Methodology

1. The Triennium Work Plan for the Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of the Baltic, North East Atlantic, Irish and North Seas (ASCOBANS) requests the development of targeted information material for fishermen. This material should focus on conservation issues facing small cetaceans within the region, especially with respect to bycatch issues.
2. In order to assess the extent and efficacy of information already in existence, representatives from ASCOBANS Range States and Parties to the Agreement, Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs) and fishermen's organisations and Regional Advisory Councils (RACs) were contacted to gather details on information already available.
3. An initial e-mail to a list of over 130 contacts already held by ASCOBANS yielded over 35 responses. New contacts were made and corresponded with. Further e-mail postings to discussion fora such as MARMAM, ECS and UKCetnet also provided useful dialogue. As anticipated, engaging with representatives from the fishing sector was the most difficult.
4. Information already in existence (both targeted at fishermen and general information material for the public) was gathered from the ASCOBANS area and on an international scale. The information was analysed in order to identify regional and/or thematic gaps, and the results are discussed in detail below.

Available Information Material

5. There is a great deal of general information in existence on conservation issues facing small cetaceans in the ASCOBANS area. Information on such issues is generally provided by Government departments and NGOs. Some UK Sea Fisheries Committees have produced informative material for their members. However, very little targeted information for fishermen (especially with respect to bycatch) has been produced to date.
6. Information provision varies greatly between Parties to the Agreement and Range States within the area (a breakdown of information gathered by country and then by organisation is provided at the end of this document) and very little targeted information for fishermen has been produced in the ASCOBANS area. The information produced tends to focus on the harbour porpoise, especially in the Baltic Sea. However, this is likely to be the species and population most at risk from bycatch within the ASCOBANS area.
7. Of the Baltic States, Russia, Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have not produced any information material for fishermen on small cetacean conservation issues. Finland, Sweden and Poland have produced posters and leaflets targeted at fishermen and concerning the harbour porpoise. Germany has produced a general information leaflet aimed at the general public.
8. Of the remaining countries in the ASCOBANS Agreement area, Belgium, the Netherlands, Denmark, Norway, Portugal and Spain have not produced any information material for fishermen on small cetacean conservation issues. France has produced an information sheet for fishermen in an attempt to improve information gathered on cetacean observations at sea, the United Kingdom has produced an information sheet on

pingers, and a Cetacean Code of Practice, along with a DVD on the application of EC Regulation 812/2004, and Ireland has produced a species identification guide – whilst not directly targeted at fishermen, this guide has been well received by the fishing industry.

9. More details are contained in Annex 1 to this document.

Recommendations

10. Bycatch of small cetaceans is the issue most likely to affect, and therefore be of interest to, fishermen. It is also the main issue affecting small cetaceans within the ASCOBANS area. The majority of targeted information produced for fishermen provides general information on cetacean identification and asks for sightings and/or bycatch to be reported. How to best gather this information needs further exploration as fishermen are likely to be able to provide a great deal of information on cetacean sightings and bycatch that is not only useful to conservationists, but to themselves in the long-term as improved knowledge on the distribution of cetaceans and their interactions with fisheries will help to solve the problem of cetacean bycatch. Unfortunately, a great deal of suspicion exists amongst the fishing community regarding the reporting of cetacean bycatch. There is a general feeling that fishermen are likely to cause themselves more problems by reporting sightings and/or bycatch. Provision of targeted information to alleviate this suspicion is required.
11. Different fisheries interact with cetaceans in different ways. However, very little fishery- or gear-specific information has been produced. Information specific to gear types would be particularly useful.
12. Since the introduction of EC Regulation 812/2004, there have been numerous conflicting reports on the degree of bycatch in different fisheries and sea areas, and the efficacy of the various mitigation methods currently available. The fishing industry is generally aware of the issue of cetacean bycatch, and there is an interest amongst fishermen in reducing cetacean bycatch. However, very little practical information to help the industry to become more engaged in solving the issue of cetacean bycatch has been produced. The pinger seems to be the most practical mitigation method, and the industry is keen to supply products that they have confidence in. Unfortunately, there are still huge issues in both the inshore and offshore fleets as there is no guarantee that if fishermen deploy pingers on their nets (without any monitoring) that the device will a) continue to work; b) reduce cetacean bycatch and c) not affect their targeted catch.
13. Targeted information is required on:
 - How (and why) to report sightings
 - How (and why) to report bycatch
 - Current research on pingers (and any other mitigation measures)
 - Which pingers are available on the market and which are the most appropriate for different types of gear/fishery
 - How to fit the pingers, what spacing to use etc.
 - Whether grants or other financial aid are available to assist with purchase of pingers
 - Vessel accreditation and certification schemes for environmentally friendly and sustainable fishing practices – benefits beyond reducing cetacean bycatch and knock-on benefits to fishermen
14. This information should be gear- and/or fishery-specific. It must also be tailored to each country as information on grants and accreditation schemes will vary between countries within the ASCOBANS area.

15. A single point of contact for new information on issues relating to small cetaceans and fisheries should be established – ASCOBANS is well placed to serve this role. The information can be provided via leaflets or laminated posters that can be displayed on fishing boats. DVDs may also be useful, though these will be more costly to produce and more difficult to update as new information becomes available. They are also time-consuming to watch. It is important that information is readily available in manageable quantities so as to be of most use to fishermen. As the majority of fishermen have access to the internet, web-based media can be a useful source of information.
- A section of the ASCOBANS website (or a separate website hosted by ASCOBANS) could serve as a hub for information on bycatch-related issues in the ASCOBANS area suggested above. The website would need links to the appropriate national pages and would need to be multi-lingual.
16. However, it is important to ensure that fishermen are aware of where and how to find new information. Country specific fishermen's organisations and news publications would be an effective way of launching any new initiatives.

Information material already in existence on conservation issues facing small cetaceans in the ASCOBANS (and wider) area:

International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)

ICES does not produce information material directly focused at fishermen, but does provide advice to the European Commission (EC) and the OSPAR Commission on bycatch issues. These documents are public and a number of useful advice documents can be found on the ICES website <http://www.ices.dk/advice/icesadvice.asp>

2005 [DG ENV request on dolphin by-catch](#)

2005 [Technical annex to Dolphin bycatch request from DG Fish](#)

2005 [HELCOM request on seals and harbour porpoise in the Baltic marine area](#)

2005 [Technical annex to HELCOM request on Baltic seals](#)

2007 [DG Fish request - Status of small cetaceans and bycatch in European waters](#)

2008 [EC request - Format for national reports under EU Regulation 812-2004.pdf](#)

2008 [OSPAR request - Status of seals and harbour porpoises in the North Sea](#)

2008 [Status of small cetaceans and bycatch in European waters](#)

2009 [Information on impact of fisheries on components of the ecosystem](#)

2009 [OSPAR request on quality assurance arrangements for EcoQOs](#)

2009 [Status of small cetaceans and bycatch in European waters](#)

Reports of the ICES Study Group on Bycatch of Protected Species are also available from the ICES website <http://www.ices.dk/workinggroups/ViewWorkingGroup.aspx?ID=291>

European Commission (EC)

The EC has not produced any targeted information material for fishermen. However, the EC has produced a number of reports on the issue of cetacean bycatch. These are found on the EC website http://ec.europa.eu/index_en.htm Relevant reports include:

EC latest report on this issue

<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=COM:2009:0368:FIN:EN:PDF>

Pingers Regulations

http://eur-lex.europa.eu/Result.do?T1=V2&T2=2004&T3=812&RechType=RECH_naturel&Submit=Search

Implementation of Pingers Regulations (stakeholder meeting in March 2009)

http://ec.europa.eu/fisheries/meetings_events/events/archives/events_2009/240309/presentations_en.htm

Cetacean Bycatch Resource Center

Sponsored by the World Wildlife Fund (WWF), the Cetacean Bycatch Resource Center <http://cetaceanbycatch.org/index.cfm> serves as an online clearinghouse for information, statistics, news, inquiries, scientific papers, technological advances and the latest developments in cetacean bycatch mitigation. It also serves as the virtual headquarters of the Cetacean Bycatch Task Force, an international network comprised of leading authorities on bycatch mitigation. This website was set up in 2002 and appears not to have been updated since 2005.

Bycatch reduction database

The Bycatch Reduction Techniques database <http://www.bycatch.org/> was created as a resource for scientists, fishermen, and fisheries managers to have easier access to references and summaries from bycatch reduction studies, as well as descriptions of various techniques. The website and database are hosted by the Consortium for Wildlife Bycatch Reduction with assistance from the US National Marine Fisheries Service.

The database holds information on bycatch of a number of different species, and holds over 30 papers relating to bycatch of small cetaceans.

Belgium

Governmental

Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS) has not produced any information material for fishermen. However, there are currently only four gillnetters in Belgium and the RBINS communicates personally with them on a regular basis. RBINS is currently undertaking a project assessing the impact (on small cetaceans) of bottom trawling vs. gillnetting in which the fishermen participate.

In 2008, RBINS produced a 60p report on 'The Harbour Porpoise in the southern North Sea – Abundance, threats and research- and management proposals'. Whilst not directly targeted at fishermen, this report was distributed to them. (e-copy available)

In 1998 a general booklet with information on what to do with stranded or bycaught birds and cetaceans was produced. This was distributed to fishermen.

Two current websites provide information on what to do with stranded or bycaught marine mammals <http://www.mumm.ac.be/EN/Management/Nature/strandings.php> (website also in English) and <http://www.zeezoogdieren.org/wordpress/>

Denmark

Non-governmental

During 2009 Fjord and Bælt hosted a visit of the Fishery Minister to discuss issues around harbour porpoise bycatch.

In 2008, through an agreement with the Danish Ministry of Environment (Skov og Naturstyrelsen) Fjord and Bælt arranged a 1-day workshop around the harbour porpoise bycatch problems. More than 30 people participated, including environmental NGOs, government officials, and many Danish harbour porpoise scientists and their students.

Finland

Governmental

Ministry of the Environment has produced an A3 colour poster in Finnish and Swedish (2005) which explains how to identify a harbour porpoise and how to distinguish between a harbour porpoise and grey and ringed seals. (hard copy available)

Ministry of the Environment also produced an A4 tri-fold colour leaflet on the harbour porpoise (2004), again in Finnish and Swedish. This was widely distributed, including to fishermen's organisations. The leaflet provides information on how to identify a harbour porpoise, typical harbour porpoise diet, legislation relating to the harbour porpoise, the ASCOBANS Agreement, asks people to report their sightings of harbour porpoise and provides information on who to report the sighting to, brief information about the bycatch issue, and how to proceed if a dead harbour porpoise is discovered. (hard copy available)

France

Governmental

IFREMER has produced an A4 information sheet as part of their observation programme dedicated to Regulation 812/2004 (2006). The information sheet was distributed to pelagic trawlers and netters in order to gather information on observations of cetaceans at sea. The sheet provides brief information on the eight most common species of cetacean in French waters, population abundance estimates for seven species of cetacean and two species of seal off the French coasts, mentions solitary sociable cetaceans, and provides information on the effectiveness of pingers. (e-copy available)

In 2006, an A4 (3-sided) colour information sheet was developed which gave information on an onboard observer programme to evaluate the accidental capture of marine mammals. This was produced by the Ministère de l'Agriculture et de la Pêche, Cofrepeche, CNPMM, CRMM, and Ifremer. The document provided information on timetabling of the programme but no information on small cetacean bycatch. (e-copy available)

Germany

Governmental

No targeted materials produced. However, between 2006-2008 the Federal Agency for Nature Conservation (Isle of Vilm branch) (BfN) and the Federal Ministry of Environment, Nature Protection and Nuclear Safety (BMU) commissioned ICES to undertake the Environmentally Sound Fisheries Management in Marine Protected Areas (EMPAS) project. The main aim of the project was to develop fisheries management plans for ten marine Natura 2000 sites. ICES provided a 15p report advising on fisheries management measures to protect, e.g. harbour porpoise. (e-copy available)

Non-governmental

WWF produced an 89p report 'Der Schweinswal in der Nord- und Ostsee (1991 – distribution unknown). The brochure provides information on the harbour porpoise in the North Sea – including bycatch of the species. (e-copy available)

WWF has also produced background material. In 2008, the 64p report 'Towards Low Impact Fishery Techniques' provided information on how to mitigate the ecosystem effects of fishing. (e-copy available)

The WWF website also has several pages of information on bycatch (including that of whales and dolphins). <http://www.wwf.de/themen/meere-kuesten/beifang/loesungen-gegen-beifang/technik/>

WWF (International) also runs the annual SmartGear competition <http://www.smartgear.org/>. This contest brings together the fishing industry, research institutes, universities and government to develop innovative fishing gear designs to reduce bycatch (including that of whales and dolphins). The SmartGear web pages provide information on the bycatch issue, including problems and potential solutions.

The International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW) has produced a number of reports: Harbour Porpoises in European waters. Summary of information about distributions, abundance and major threats. Report prepared for IFAW by Kristin Kachner, July 2005; Harbour Porpoise Research: Information about set-net fisheries in the German Baltic. A report commissioned by IFAW, prepared by N. Kempf, J. Schwarz & E. Spielmann, March 2004; and Why minimising bycatch will benefit marine mammals and fisheries - Net Loss vs Net Gain. Paper prepared by M. Gianni for IFAW, Brussels 2004. (e-copies available)

In 2002, IFAW also produced an A4, single fold, colour leaflet on harbour porpoises in the Baltic Sea. This brochure was distributed to the general public and provided information on bycatch of harbour porpoises in the Baltic and potential mitigation measures. (e-copy available)

Lithuania

Governmental

In 2008, the Lithuanian Sea Museum celebrated its 6th International Harbour Porpoise Day. Lectures and discussions were held on harbour porpoises and issues surrounding them. The possibility of

collaboration between the Ministry of the Environment and local fishermen to improve the conservation of the Baltic harbour porpoise was emphasised.

The Netherlands

Governmental

In 2009, the Ministry of Agriculture, Nature and Food Quality produced a 26p report (in English) 'A brief summary of the knowledge and studies of incidental catches of harbour porpoises in the Dutch fisheries'. This report discusses the current situation and the most recent findings on incidental catches of harbour porpoises: it reviews the size of the harbour porpoise population, the extent to which the current mortalities could pose a threat for the population, and the extent to which a relationship can be made between strandings and fisheries operations. The report also includes any relevant findings from other European states, and examines potential measures to reduce bycatch. (e-copy available)

Non-governmental

In 2008, the Seal Rehabilitation and Research Centre (SRRC) published a paper on 'Bycatch and drowning in harbour porpoises stranded on the northern Dutch coast'. The paper advocates a careful study of the fishing methods used in Dutch waters and close co-operation with fishermen to determine effective measures to reduce the bycatch of harbour porpoises. (e-copy available)

In 2009, SRRC produced a report on a survey among Dutch fishermen on the bycatch of harbour porpoises. In the Dutch fleet, the requirements of Regulation 812/2004 for observer programmes are only applicable to a limited number of vessels. The authors had a 31% response rate to their questionnaire, and the majority of fishermen indicated a willingness to take part in observer programmes to provide insight into the frequency of bycatch and mitigation. (e-copy available)

Poland

Governmental

In 2007, the Polish Sea Fisheries Institute (MIR) produced a report on the monitoring of incidental catches of cetaceans in the Baltic Sea. This gives information on the monitoring required under EC Regulation 812/2004. (e-copy available)

In 2008, the Ministry of Environment produced two leaflets which were distributed at meetings, exhibitions, and fairs where fishermen's representatives were present. The 6 page leaflet 'Fishermen and harbour porpoises' provides information on environmental protection requirements and fishing practices. The 6 page 'Pinger' leaflet provides information regarding the application of acoustic devices on fishing nets. (e-copy available)

A sticker was also produced for distribution to fishermen, sailors and other users of the sea to encourage people to report sightings of harbour porpoises.

In 2008, a new website www.morswin.pl was established. This provides a large amount of information on the harbour porpoise, including electronic copies of the leaflets mentioned above.

A 3-year pilot project 'Active protection of harbour porpoise against bycatch' is also underway. This is financed by the National Fund of Environmental Protection & Water Management and the University of Gdansk. An integral part of the project is the delivery of information, ideas and anticipated effects of research and protective actions to local fishermen. However, this project is only in its second year so this information is yet to be produced.

Sweden

Governmental

In the 1990s, the Swedish Environmental Protection Agency (SEPA) and the National Board of Fisheries produced an A4 tri-fold colour leaflet targeted at fishermen. The leaflet provided information on what to do if fishermen unintentionally catch a small cetacean and asked that the bycatch be

reported to the Museum of Natural History and a tooth and part of the dorsal fin be sent to the museum. (hard copy available)

In 2005, the SEPA produced a new leaflet. Larger than A4, tri-fold and colour. 10,000 copies were produced and distributed to fishermen, the general public and schools with the aim of increasing awareness of harbour porpoise bycatch and asking for reports of bycatch to the Museum of Natural History. Very few of these leaflets remain and SEPA is in the process of updating and reproducing the leaflet. (hard copy available)

In 2007, the Museum of Natural History produced a poster for the same purpose. The poster has been well received. It is laminated which makes it easier to display on boats and ferries. (hard copy available)

United Kingdom

Governmental

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC) has not produced any materials targeted at fishermen in the past decade. Approximately 12 years ago, JNCC did produce some information on the reform of the Common Fisheries Policy which included information on bycatch issues. However, the feeling is that this material is likely to be out of date.

The Department for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (Defra) has produced a core brief which highlights the UK policy to date on cetacean bycatch and mitigation measures. This is used to respond to correspondence on the issue. Defra has not issued any guidance on bycatch.

Defra revised its UK Small Cetacean Bycatch Response Strategy in July 2009 (first published March 2003). This document sets out the UK Government's thinking on how to tackle the problem of bycatch in certain fisheries in UK waters and provides an overview of the progress in implementing the measures proposed in the strategy.

A new website has been launched to promote the work of the UK Cetacean Strandings Investigation Programme (CSIP) <http://ukstrandings.org/> to raise awareness and increase reporting of cetacean strandings around the UK.

In 2006, Cornwall Sea Fisheries Committee has produced a Cetacean Code of Practice (CoP). The CoP is voluntary and was developed to prevent the need for legal regulation. The CoP is available at <http://www.cornwall.gov.uk/default.aspx?page=7108>

Within the Sussex Sea Fisheries Committee, the certification of Hastings fisheries requires records of incidental catches of marine mammals to be maintained and made available through the SFC.

The Sea Fish Authority has produced an A4 Pinger Datasheet which provides information on available pingers, funding available for pingers, vessel accreditation and vessel certification schemes. (hard copy available)

Non-governmental

The Whale & Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCCS) reported that illegal fishing nets have caused problems for bottlenose dolphins in the Moray Firth, Scotland in the past. In response to this, a confidential hotline was set up to allow people to confidentially report illegal activities to the Police Wildlife Crime Unit (PAW). There has been little activity in recent years. However, this initiative is due to be revisited in the coming year.

In 2005, the Royal Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (RSPCA) produced a 20min DVD on 'Fishing and Pingers'. This DVD was targeted directly at fishermen and provides information on the requirements of EC Regulation 812/2004 and what it means for the fishing industry in the EU. Feedback on the DVD varied from 'well-received' to 'not very informative'. (DVD available)

The Aquatec Group produces AQUAmark acoustic pingers. The website www.aquatecgroup.com provides information on specification and deployment of the pingers.

Cornwall Wildlife Trust is currently working with the Sea Fish Authority on pinger trials with inshore fishermen. The project aims to trial practical mitigation measures to reduce cetacean bycatch.

Estonia

Governmental

No information has been produced for fishermen regarding small cetaceans and bycatch issues. There is no evidence of bycatch of small cetaceans in Estonian waters in the last 21 years.

Latvia

No information produced for Latvian fishermen on bycatch issues.

Spain

Governmental

No specific material produced on small cetaceans. However, the Ministerio de Medio Ambiente and the Ministerio de Agricultura, Pesca y Alimentation produced a DVD in 2005 entitled 'Environmental Awareness for the Fisheries Sector'. This 28min DVD (in English and Spanish) is aimed at fishing in an environmentally responsible manner touches on bycatch but does not specifically mention cetacean bycatch. (DVD available)

Non-governmental

The Sociedad Española de Cetáceos (SEC) produced a 53min DVD (Spanish with English subtitles) entitled 'Todos por la mar' (Everyone for the sea) on the conservation of cetaceans and turtles in Murcia and Andalucía. Whilst not directly targeted at fishermen, this DVD aims to raise awareness amongst various marine environment stakeholders. (DVD available)

Portugal

Governmental

The Instituto da Conservação da Natureza e da Biodiversidade is currently working on a leaflet (Portuguese) on cetacean bycatch which will be distributed to fishermen.

Norway

Governmental

No reply to correspondence.

Russia

Governmental

No reply to correspondence.

Ireland

Governmental

Bord Iascaigh Mhara (Sea Fisheries Board – under the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food) is responsible for the implementation of Regulation 812/2004 as has sponsored and trialed pingers and other bycatch mitigation devices (2006 ongoing) with the co-operation and support of the fishing industry. The results of these trials are presented on the website www.bim.ie

The National Parks and Wildlife Service (under the Department of the Environment, Heritage and Local Government) is the state agency responsible for wildlife conservation. In October 2009, they published a Conservation Plan for Cetaceans in Irish waters. This plan has just gone out to public consultation. The document considers bycatch and bycatch mitigation measures, and includes species-specific information on the cetaceans found in Irish waters. (e-copy available)

Non-governmental

The Irish Whale and Dolphin Group (IWDG) collect and collate the majority of information on cetacean activity around Ireland. Published information includes a quarterly newsletter; an 118p full colour book 'A guide to the identification of the whales and dolphins in Ireland'; an interactive DVD guide on how to observe, record and identify cetaceans in Irish waters; and a colour 'Boat users identification guide to Irish whales and dolphins'. <http://www.iwdg.ie/merchandise.asp?item=2> The boat users guide is laminated, and large quantities have been distributed free of charge to the fishing industry.

In 2007, the Coastal and Marine Resources Centre (University College, Cork) produced an 198p report entitled 'Risk Assessment for Marine Mammal and Seabird Populations in South-western Irish Waters'. <http://cmrc.ucc.ie/publications/reports/RAMSSI.pdf> This report provides an update on the cetacean bycatch issue in south-west Irish waters.

International

Australia

In 2009, the Department of the Environment, Water, Heritage and the Arts (Australian Government) produced an 83p report on the 'Impacts of Plastic Debris on Australian Marine Life'. This report details the occurrence and effects of entanglement of at least twelve species of cetacean in (mostly derelict) fishing gear. One of the recommendations is to seek involvement of fishers (commercial and recreational), fisheries authorities and marine tourism operators in collecting and sharing information about marine wildlife entanglements observed at sea. This could be aided by the distribution of a standardized recording form and clear instructions for submitting completed forms to the appropriate authorities. (e-copy available)

In terms of targeted information for fishermen, Australian Fisheries Managers have produced a number of protected species identification guides, but there has been little information produced regarding small cetacean bycatch. The following list gives information on material produced at both federal and state levels.

In 2003, Ocean Watch Australia produced a 38p, A4 colour booklet – 'Protected Species Handling Manual, Edition II'. This publication explains what protected species are, how to report interactions, who to report to, and has two pages dedicated to handling bycaught cetaceans. The document also provides useful references, websites, protected species links and contact information for relevant bodies.

In 2005, the Queensland Government produced two similar documents:

'Looking after protected species in Queensland – a brief guide for commercial fishers'. 23p, A4 colour booklet which explains why interactions should be reported, including two pages on avoiding or minimising interactions with cetaceans; and

'Looking after protected species in Queensland – a comprehensive guide for commercial fishers'. 65p, A4 colour booklet which has four pages on avoiding or minimising interactions with cetaceans.

In 2005, the Australian Fisheries Management Association (AFMA) produced a 2p, A4 colour fact sheet entitled 'Reducing bycatch'. This has very little information on cetaceans. AFMA has also produced 10 'Threatened, Endangered and Protected (TEP) Species Management Fact Sheets'. These are 2p, A4 colour sheets – one relating to dolphins and porpoises and another to whales, though they provide little useful information on mitigation of bycatch.

In 2006, AFMA produced the 'Protected species ID guide'. A 104p, colour A5, waterproof booklet that contains 13 pages on cetacean identification. This was provided to all licence holders in Commonwealth-managed fisheries.

Pre-2007, the then Department of the Environment and Heritage produced a 24p, A5 colour 'Protected Marine Species Identification Guide'. This mentions cetaceans but provides little useful information on mitigation of cetacean bycatch.

In 2007, the Western Australian Government Department of Fisheries produced 'Marine Bycatch Matters' – a 4p colour A4 fact sheet that gives general information on bycatch of a number of marine animals, but does not specifically mention cetaceans. This fact sheet was made available on www.fish.wa.gov.au

In 2007, Fisheries Victoria (Department of Primary Industries) produced a 5p, A4 black and white leaflet entitled 'Reporting of Fisheries Interactions with Protected Species – FAQs'. This explains the information required for the completion of State log books. These are only required for export fisheries which need to be ecologically assessed and accredited.

In 2008, the South Australian Government produced the 'Wildlife Interaction and Identification Logbook'. This was provided to all licence holders in South Australian-managed fisheries. The logbook explains why interactions with protected species should be reported but does not mention why and how cetaceans are so vulnerable.

United States

The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's (NOAA) National Marine and Fisheries Service has produced a number of outreach materials for fishermen.

In 2006, the 'Guide to the Harbour Porpoise Take Reduction Plan' was produced for the Gulf of Maine. This 13p, colour A4 brochure provides information on area closures (timetables and charts of relevant areas), pinger requirements and placement of pingers on gillnets. A similar brochure was also produced for the mid-Atlantic.

The NOAA Fisheries Service Protected Resources Division also hosts a website http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/mmp/ which provides information on their Marine Mammal Program. Copies of the documents mentioned above can be found on the website, along with outreach supplements which show the closure areas overlaid onto high resolution NOAA charts.

The 'Guide to Reducing Marine Mammal Interactions in the Atlantic Trawl Fishery' is also available on the above website. This 8p, A5 colour brochure provides an introduction to the Marine Mammal Protection Act, species of concern (six cetacean species), areas of concern and voluntary measures to reduce takes in Atlantic trawl fisheries.

Additional outreach materials provided to fishermen include:

- Large Whale Disentanglement Network Fact Sheet
http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/stranding/LargeWhaleDisentanglementNetwork.pdf
- Guide to Reporting whale sightings
http://www.nero.noaa.gov/whaletrp/plan/disent/Guide%20to%20reporting%20Whale%20Sightings%20FINAL%20complete_8.7.07.pdf
- See a Spout Watch Out! Guidelines for recreational boaters
http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/mmv/SeeASpoutdraft-2.pdf
- Seal Watching Guidelines http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/stranding/NERSealWatching.pdf
- Dolphin Watching Guidelines http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/mmv/protectdolphins.pdf
- Helping Stranded Marine Life
http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/stranding/HelpingStrandedMarineLife.pdf
- Northeast marine mammal & sea turtle protection guidelines for recreational fishermen/boaters
http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/mmv/Rec%20Broch.%20vs7.%204.24.08.%20FINAL.pdf
- Whale Watching Guidelines
http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/mmv/Whale%20Watching.%20FINAL.%206.20.08_2.pdf