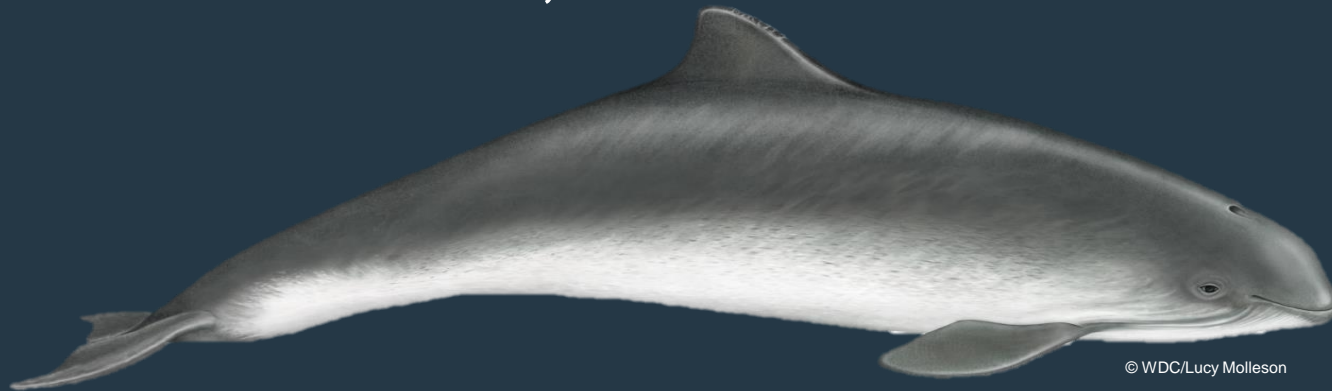


Readdressing the CMS listing of species in the ASCOBANS region

Document AC24/Inf.9.3.b

Fiona L. Read, Peter G.H. Evans, Nicola Hodgins, Mark P. Simmonds, Ida Carlén and Sarah J. Dolman



© WDC/Lucy Molleson

WHALE AND
DOLPHIN
CONSERVATION

WDC



PRIFYSGOL
BANGOR
UNIVERSITY



**HUMANE SOCIETY
INTERNATIONAL**
EUROPE

Coalition Clean Baltic

OVERVIEW

- The Convention on Migratory Species (CMS) sets out provisions for the protection and conservation of migratory species, including cetaceans
- CMS Appendices listings for the ASCOBANS region need revision
- This report (paper AC24/Inf.9.3.b) covers the species in the ASCOBANS Agreement Area: Baltic & North Seas, NE Atlantic

Examples of current CMS Appendix II listings

Lagenorhynchus albirostris (only North and Baltic Sea populations)
Lagenorhynchus acutus (only North and Baltic Sea populations)
Lagenorhynchus obscurus
Lagenorhynchus australis
Grampus griseus (only North Sea, Baltic Sea and Mediterranean populations)
Tursiops aduncus (Arafura/Timor Sea populations)
Tursiops truncatus * (North Sea, Baltic Sea, Mediterranean and Black Sea populations)

CMS Appendices

- **Appendix I – Endangered migratory species**
- Species listed on Appendix I are ‘Endangered Migratory Species’ which includes species that are *‘facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild in the near future’*. Range States of Appendix I species are required to strictly protect them by *‘prohibiting the taking of such species, with very restricted scope for exceptions; conserving and where appropriate restoring their habitats; preventing, removing or mitigating obstacles to their migration and controlling other factors that might endanger them’*.
- **Appendix II - Migratory species conserved through Agreements**
- Species listed on Appendix II are ‘Migratory species conserved through Agreements’ and covers species that *‘have an unfavourable conservation status and that require international agreements for their conservation and management, as well as those that have a conservation status which would significantly benefit from the international cooperation that could be achieved by an international agreement’*. It further requests that Range States *‘conclude global or regional Agreements for the conservation and management of individual species or groups of related species’*.

Harbour porpoise – Baltic Proper

Overview of current status

- CMS Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- OSPAR threatened and endangered list
- IUCN Critically endangered pop'n
- EU - 'Unfavourable-Bad'

Harbour porpoise Conservation Status: Marine Baltic		
Member State	2007-2012	2001-2006
Germany	Unfavourable-Bad	Unfavourable-Bad
Denmark	Unfavourable-Bad	Unfavourable-Bad
Poland	Unfavourable-Bad	Unfavourable-Bad
Sweden	Unfavourable-Bad	Unfavourable-Bad
Finland	NA	NA
Latvia	Unknown	Unfavourable-Bad
EU	Unfavourable-Bad	Unfavourable-Bad

Proposed amendments

- Based on ICES WGMME (2018) advice, include 'Baltic Proper' population in Appendix I

Harbour porpoise – Iberian population

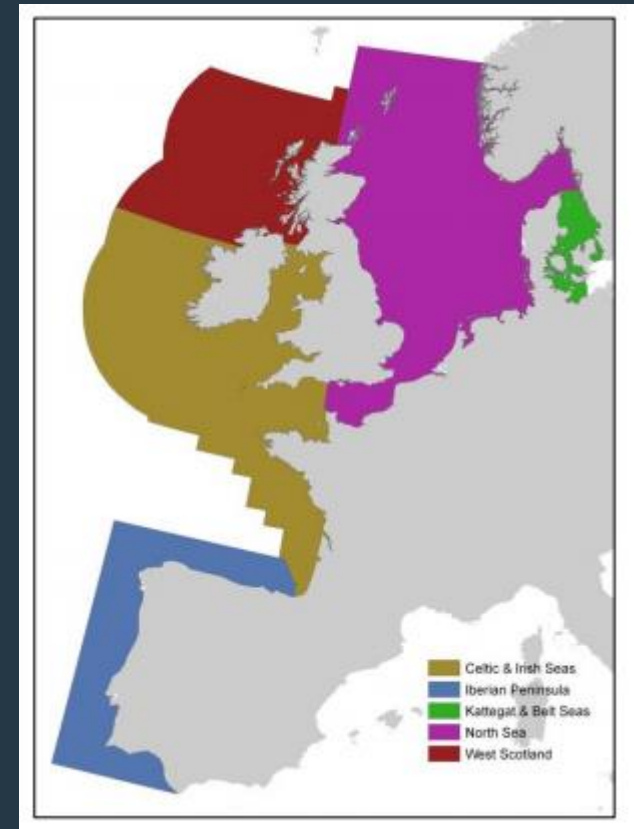
Overview of current status:

- CMS Genetically distinct (Fontaine et al., 2007, 2010, 2014; ICES, 2009, 2014)
- Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- 2,900 porpoises (SCANS III)
- High bycatch (Read, 2016)
- Portugal list as 'vulnerable' & report 'Unfavourable-Inadequate' to EU Article 17

Proposed amendments

- Add to CMS Appendix II as separate Iberian population (as identified by ICES, 2014)

Iberian harbour porpoise
Management Unit (ICES, 2014)



Harbour porpoise – Marine Atlantic

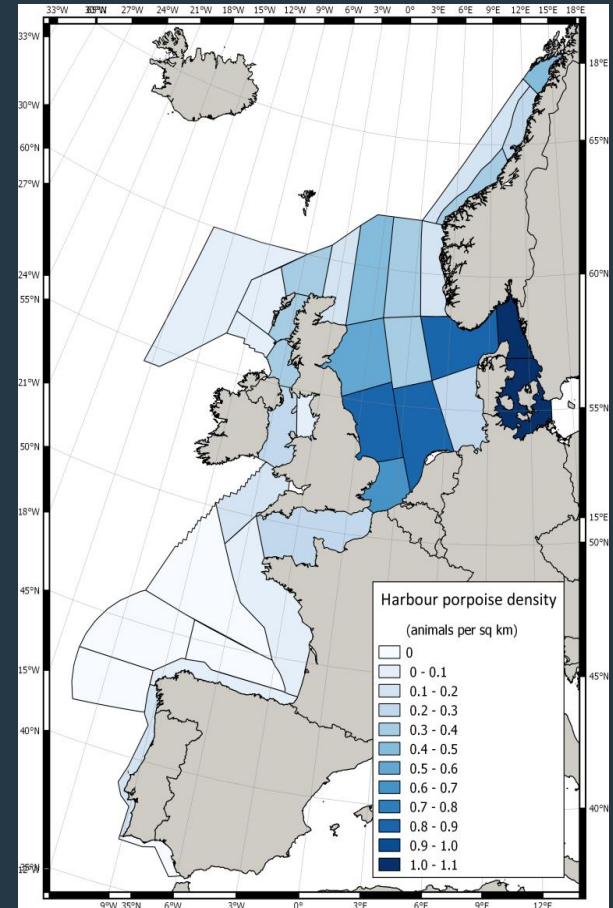
Overview of current status

- CMS Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- OSPAR threatened and endangered list
- Least concern for ASCOBANS region
- ‘Favourable’ Conservation Status by EU

Proposed amendment

- CMS Appendix II range changed to ‘Northeast Atlantic, North and Baltic Sea’

Harbour porpoise density from the SCANS III survey in 2016



Long-finned pilot whale – Marine Atlantic

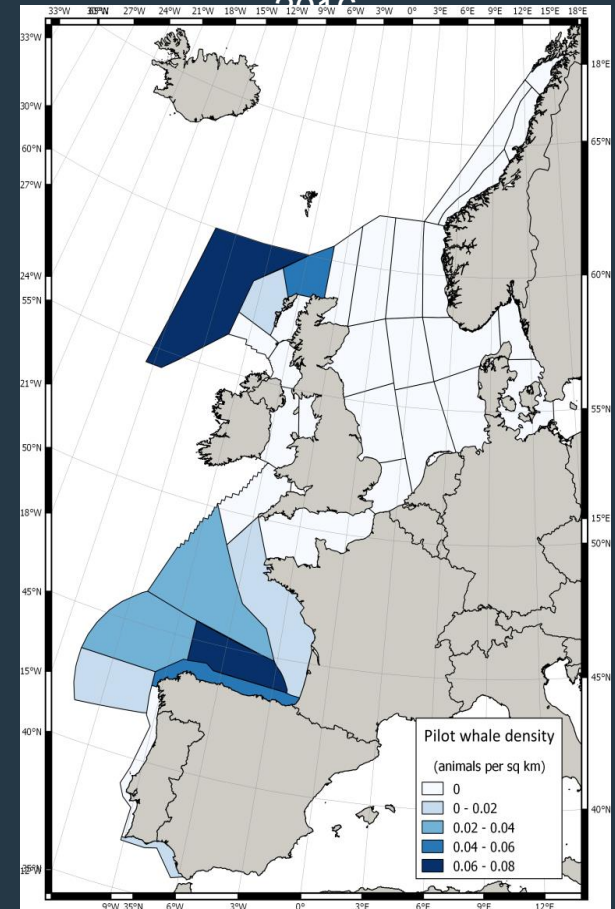
Overview of current status:

- CMS Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- Data deficient for ASCOBANS region
- ‘Unknown’ Conservation Status by EU
- Rarely found in North and Baltic Seas

Proposed amendment

- CMS Appendix II range extended to include ‘Northeast Atlantic’

Long-finned pilot whale density
from the SCANS III survey in
2016



White-beaked dolphin – Marine Atlantic

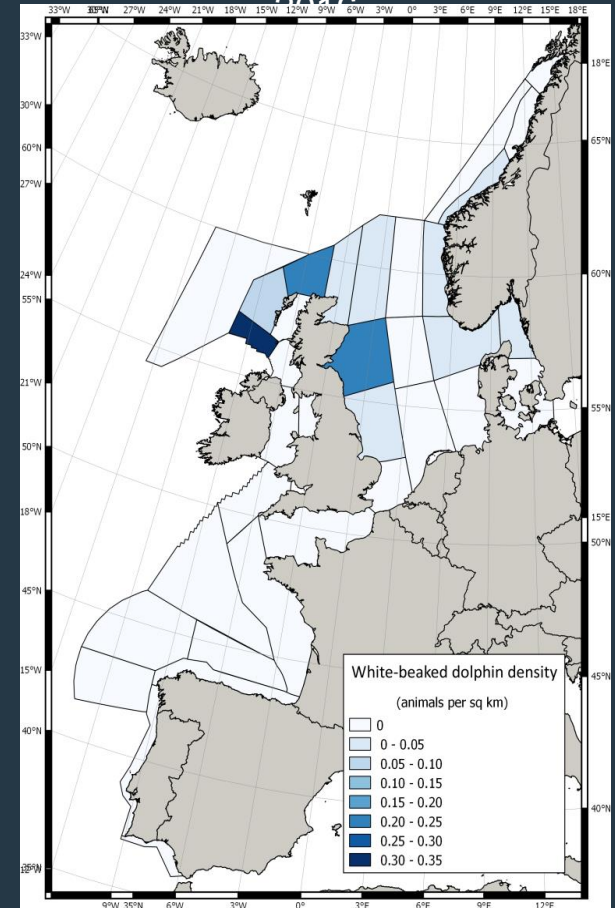
Overview of current status

- CMS Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- Least Concern for ASCOBANS region
- ‘Favourable’ Conservation Status by EU

Proposed amendment

- CMS Appendix II range extended to include ‘Northeast Atlantic’

White-beaked dolphin density
from the SCANS III survey in
2012



Atlantic white-sided dolphin – Marine Atlantic

Overview of current status

- CMS Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- Least Concern for ASCOBANS region
- ‘Favourable’ Conservation Status by the EU

Atlantic white-sided dolphin Conservation Status : Marine Atlantic		
Member State	2007-2012	2001-2006
France	Unknown	Unknown
Ireland	Favourable	Favourable
UK	Favourable	Unknown
EU	Favourable	Unknown

Proposed amendment

- CMS Appendix II range extended to include ‘Northeast Atlantic’

Risso's dolphin – Marine Atlantic

Overview of current status

- CMS Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- Data deficient for ASCOBANS region
- 'Unknown' Conservation Status by the EU
- Rarely found in Baltic Sea

Risso's dolphin Conservation Status : Marine Atlantic		
Member State	2007-2012	2001-2006
Spain	Unknown	NA
France	Unknown	Unknown
Ireland	Unknown	Unknown
Portugal	Unknown	Unknown
UK	Unknown	Unknown
EU	Unknown	Unknown

Proposed amendment

- CMS Appendix II range extended to include 'Northeast Atlantic'

Short-beaked common dolphin – Marine Atlantic

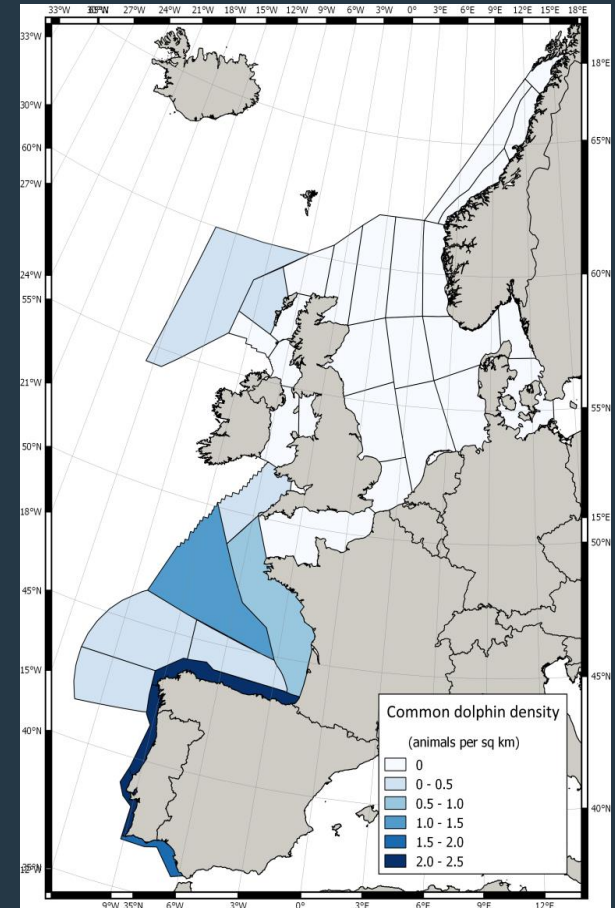
Overview of current status:

- CMS Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- Data deficient for IUCN
- Least concern for ASCOBANS region
- ‘Unfavourable-Inadequate’ Conservation Status by EU
- Rarely found in North and Baltic Seas

Proposed amendment

- CMS Appendix II range extended to include ‘Northeast Atlantic’

Common dolphin density from the SCANS III survey in 2016



Common bottlenose dolphin – Marine Atlantic

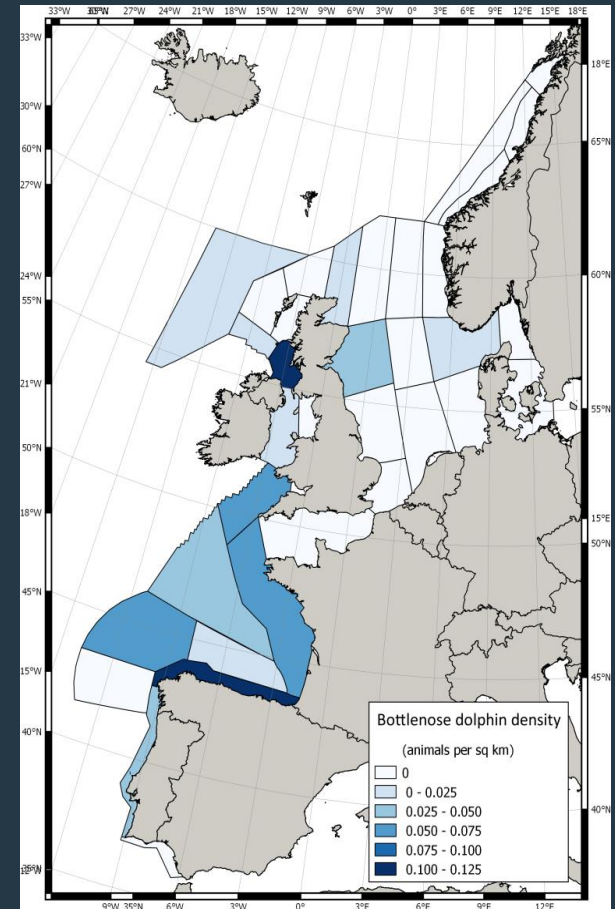
Overview

- CMS Appendix II (North and Baltic Seas)
- Data deficient for IUCN
- Least concern for ASCOBANS region
- ‘Unknown’ Conservation Status by the EU
- Rarely found in Baltic Sea

Proposed amendment

- CMS Appendix II range extended to include ‘Northeast Atlantic’

Bottlenose dolphin density from the SCANS III survey in 2016



Striped dolphin

Overview

- Appendix II listed on CMS as only in ETP and Mediterranean
- Data deficient for IUCN
- ‘Unknown’ Conservation Status by the EU

Striped dolphin Conservation Status: Marine Atlantic		
Member State	2007-2012	2001-2006
Spain	Unknown	Unknown
France	Unknown	Unknown
Ireland	Favourable	Unknown
Portugal	Unfavourable-Inadequate	Favourable
UK	Unknown	NA
EU	Unknown	Unknown

Proposed amendment

- Add to CMS Appendix II for the ‘Northeast Atlantic’

Cuvier's beaked whale, Sowerby's beaked whale

Overview

- Not listed on CMS Appendix II (only Baird's beaked whale and NBW)
- Data deficient for IUCN
- 'Unknown' Conservation Status by the EU

Proposed amendment

- Add to CMS Appendix II for the 'Northeast Atlantic'

Cuvier's beaked whale Conservation Status : Marine Atlantic		
Member State	2007-2012	2001-2006
Spain	Unknown	Unknown
France	Unknown	Unknown
Ireland	Unknown	Unknown
Portugal	Unknown	Unknown
UK	Unknown	NA
EU	Unknown	Unknown

Sowerby's beaked whale Conservation Status : Marine Atlantic		
Member State	2007-2012	2001-2006
France	Unknown	NA
Ireland	Unknown	Unknown
UK	Unknown	NA
EU	Unknown	Unknown

Recommendations 1/3: Harbour porpoise

- (1) The 'Baltic Proper' harbour porpoise population is included in Appendix I as well as Appendix II of CMS
- (2) Iberian harbour porpoise be listed as a separate population
- (3) The range of harbour porpoise is extended to include the Northeast Atlantic on Appendix II

Species	EU Conservation Status	IUCN Status	IUCN-ASCOBANS region	Propose change to range	Propose change to Status
Harbour porpoise - Baltic Sea	Unfavourable - inadequate	Critically Endangered	Critically Endangered	Change to 'Baltic proper'	Include in Appendix I
Harbour porpoise - Iberian Peninsula	Favourable	Vulnerable	Least Concern	Change to 'North Sea and Northeast Atlantic'	
Harbour porpoise – Marine Atlantic	Favourable	NA	Least Concern	Add as a separate population	Include 'Vulnerable' status

Recommendations 2/3: Proposed changes to range

The range of the following species should be extended to include the Northeast Atlantic on CMS Appendix II:

Species	EU Conservation Status	IUCN Status	IUCN-ASCOBANS region	Propose change to range
Long-finned pilot whale	Unknown	Data Deficient	Data Deficient	Extend range to include 'Northeast Atlantic'
White beaked dolphin	Favourable	Least Concern	Least Concern	
Atlantic white sided dolphin	Favourable	Least Concern	Least Concern	
Risso's dolphin	Unknown	Data Deficient	Data Deficient	
Short beaked common dolphin	Unfavourable - inadequate	Data Deficient	Least Concern	
Common bottlenose dolphin	Unknown	Data Deficient	Least Concern	

Recommendations 3/3: Cetacean species not currently on the CMS list - Marine Atlantic

Based on the lack of data concerning their distribution, abundance and status in the Eastern North Atlantic, these species should be added to Appendix II

Species	EU Conservation Status	IUCN Status	IUCN-ASCOBANS region	Propose change to range
Striped dolphin	Unknown	Data Deficient	Least Concern	Add to 'Northeast Atlantic'
Cuvier's beaked whale	Unknown	Data Deficient	Data Deficient	
Sowerby's beaked whale	Unknown	Data Deficient	Data Deficient	

ACTION REQUIRED

- We request that Parties submit proposed changes for consideration at the 20th CMS Conference of Parties in India in 2020



© WDC/Lucy Molleson