

Agenda Item 2

Review of New Information on Threats to
Small Cetaceans (reporting cycle 2017 only)

Document Inf.2.b

**2017 Annual National Report:
The Netherlands**

Action Requested

- Take note

Submitted by

The Netherlands



**NOTE:
DELEGATES ARE KINDLY REMINDED
TO BRING THEIR OWN COPIES OF DOCUMENTS TO THE MEETING**

Secretariat's Note

The Rules of Procedure adopted at the ASCOBANS 8th Meeting of Parties remain in force until and unless an amendment is called for and adopted.

NATIONAL REPORTING FORMAT FOR ASCOBANS

1ST JANUARY – 31ST DECEMBER 2017

As outlined in ASCOBANS [RESOLUTION 8.1](#) on National Reporting, the national reports covering the year 2017 will cover the following sections of the Annex to the Resolution, in addition to the standard sections I and VII:

- bycatch (section II A1)
- resource depletion (section II A2)
- marine debris (section II C9)
- surveys and research (section III)
- use of bycatches and strandings (section IV).

The reports submitted will inform discussions at the 24th Meeting of the Advisory Committee, which will be held in September 2018 and will tailor its agenda to focus on the topics selected for this national report.

Date: Click or tap to enter a date.

SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION

Party Information

A. Name of Party	The Netherlands
B. Details of National Coordinator (Focal Point) for ASCOBANS	MWF Peijs
	Function
	Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation
	Bezuidenhoutseweg 73, 2594 AC Den Haag
	+31638825315
	m.w.f.peijs@minez.nl
C. Details of Delegates (contributors to the report) <i>(For each, mention Name, Function, Organization, Postal Address, Telephone, Email)</i>	Steve Geelhoed, researcher, Wageningen Marine Research, PO box 57, NI-1780 AB Den Helder, The Netherlands, +31612394531, steve.geelhoed@wur.nl
	Bram Couperus, researcher, Wageningen Marine Research, PO box 68, NL-1970 AB, IJmuiden, The Netherlands Bram.couperus@wur.nl
	Lonneke IJsseldijk, <u>Department of Pathobiology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, Yalelaan 1, NL-3584 CL Utrecht, The Netherlands.</u> L.L.IJsseldijk@uu.nl
D. List of relevant national institutions <i>(List of national authorities, organizations, research centres and rescue centres active in the field of study and conservation of cetaceans. For each one mention the name, postal address, contact person, telephone and email address)</i>	<u>Coastal & Marine Union (EUCC)</u> . P.O. Box 11232, NL-2301 EE Leiden, The Netherlands. m.siemensma@kustenzee.nl ; www.eucc.net
	<u>Department of Pathobiology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, Yalelaan 1, NL-3584 CL Utrecht. The Netherlands.</u> L.L.IJsseldijk@uu.nl
	<u>Ministry of Economic Affairs, Agriculture and Innovation</u> , P.O.Box 20401, NL_2500 EK The Hague, The Netherlands. m.w.f. peijs@minez.nl
	<u>Ministry of Infrastructure and Environment, DG Water</u> . P.O.Box 20901, NL-2500 EX the Hague, The Netherlands. Rene.dekeling@minvenw.nl
	<u>Naturalis</u> Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity Naturalis. Postbus 9517, NL-2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands. +31 71 568 76 00. guido.keijl@ncbnaturalis.nl ; www.naturalis.nl

	<p><u>NIOZ</u> Royal Netherlands Institute for Sea Research, Landsdiep 4, NL-1791 SZ 't Horntje, The Netherlands. Kees.Camphuysen@nioz.nl; www.nioz.nl</p> <p><u>Marine Science & Communication (MS&C)</u>. Bosstraat 123, NL-3971 XC Driebergen, The Netherlands. Phone +31(6)16 830 430. m.siemensma@msandc.nl</p> <p><u>SEAMARCO</u> (Sea Mammal Research Company), Applied research for marine conservation, Julianalaan 46, NL-3843 CC Harderwijk, The Netherlands. Tel (Office): +31-(0)341-456252; researchteam@zonnet.nl</p> <p><u>Stichting de Noordzee</u>. Natuur, Ruimtelijke Ordening. Drieharingstraat 25. 3511 BH Utrecht, The Netherlands. Phone +31 302340016. www.noordzee.nl</p> <p><u>Stichting Rugvin</u>; Jeruzalem 31a; 6881 JL Velp; the Netherlands; Tel: (+31) (0)26-3635444. rugin@planet.nl; www.rugin.nl</p> <p><u>TNO</u>, Netherlands Organisation for Applied Scientific Research; P.O. Box 96864, 2509 JG The Hague, The Netherlands. Phone +31 (0)88-8664119. Frans-Peter.Lam@tno.nl</p> <p><u>SOSDolfijn</u>. P.O.Box 293, NL-3840 AG Harderwijk, The Netherlands. Phone +31 341 467438.</p> <p><u>Wageningen Marine Research</u>; P.O. Box 68, NL-1970 AB IJmuiden, The Netherlands. steve.geelhoed@wur.nl or meike.scheidat@wur.nl; www.imares.nl</p>
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E. List of relevant fisheries stakeholders in your country
(List of fisheries associations and cooperatives, research centres, relevant private sector entities and other organizations involved in fisheries in waters frequented by cetaceans. For each one mention the name, postal address, contact person, telephone and email address)

Wageningen Marine Research, PO box 68, NL-1970 AB, IJmuiden, The Netherlands
Bram.couperus@wur.nl

Nederlandse Vissersbond, Ecopark 42, NL-8305 BK Emmeloord, The Netherlands,
secretaris@vissersbond.nl

SECTION II: HABITAT CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT (THREATS AND PRESSURES ON CETACEANS)

A. Fisheries-related Threats
1. Bycatch

a) How is the magnitude of the threat assessed/monitored? (Include percentage where applicable in the adjoining column)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Dedicated observer schemes	10 %
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fisheries observers	1%
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Remote Electronic Monitoring	1.5 %
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strandings	< 10%
	<input type="checkbox"/> None	%
b) In the last year, which species of small cetaceans were recorded as bycatch? (Include numbers) Please provide the following information where available: i. Species ii. Number of bycaught animals iii. Gear type iv. ICES area v. Overall sampling effort	None from dedicated observer schemes 20% of fresh necropsied harbour porpoises qualified as bycatch. However, the skewed sample (only fresh animals) might bias this percentage	
c) In the last year, were there any notable incidents? E.g. mass bycatch incidents, unusual species bycatch etc.	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If you answer is yes, please provide details. Click or tap here to enter text.
d) Are there any mitigation measures in place?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If you answer is yes, please provide details. Click or tap here to enter text.
e) If yes, what mitigation measures are being used and where? E.g. Acoustic deterrent devices, seasonal closures, gear modifications etc.	NA	
f) Other relevant information. E.g. provide links to OSPAR reports (FCS and GES being covered already so no need to duplicate), annual bycatch reports (for more detailed information) etc.	NA	
g) Relevant new research/work/collaboration on bycatch within the Agreement Area.	The field work for a REM project finished early 2017. Report not yet ready	

2. Resource Depletion		
a) Based on the latest stock assessments (carried out in advance of the December Council negotiations), are there any notable depletions of fish species which would be a concern for cetaceans?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If your answer is yes, please provide details:</p> <p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
b) In Parties' national waters, where are these depletions occurring? <i>By ICES Area</i>	NA	
c) What measures are being taken to manage pressures on depleted fish stocks, including relevant regulations/guidelines? <i>E.g. decrease in TAC, recovery plan etc.</i>	NA	
d) Is there any evidence within your national waters that resource depletion may be impacting cetaceans (e.g. evidence of starvation)?	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If your answer is yes, please provide details:</p> <p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>
e) Are there any national surveys which evaluate cetacean body condition?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If your answer is yes, please provide details:</p> <p>Necropsies of a sample (ca 50 yearly) stranded harbour porpoises by the <u>Department of Pathobiology</u>, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine</p>
f) Relevant new research/work/collaboration	Click or tap here to enter text.	
B. <u>Habitat Change and Degradation (incl. potential physical impacts)</u>		
1. Marine Debris		
a) What monitoring is in place to assess the level of marine debris? <i>E.g. type of litter (size, shape, material) amount, impacts on species, geographical location etc.</i>	<p>OSPAR Litter Monitoring Programme of beach litter</p> <p>OSPAR Plastic particles in Fulmar stomachs in the North Sea</p>	

<p>b) What parameters are provided through this monitoring?</p>	<p>Beach litter monitoring: Data on the amount of litter on a given stretch of coastline is recorded at item level. Items to be recorded are predefined by the Guideline for Monitoring Marine Litter on the Beaches in the OSPAR Maritime Area (OSPAR Agreement 2010-02).</p> <p>Plastic ingestion by Fulmars: Two types of plastic categories are distinguished in the OSPAR Common Indicator. Industrial plastic pellets are separated from consumer debris such as sheets, foams, threadlike materials, and hard fragments. For each of these categories the number of particles and mass (in grams and to the fourth decimal place) is recorded. The final assessment is based only on the total weight of plastics in stomachs, but industrial and consumer waste plastics have different sources and as such provide very useful information for interpreting the monitoring data.</p>	
<p>c) Are these data publicly available? Y/N If so, please provide a link.</p>	<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>Link</p> <p>https://oap.ospar.org/en/ospar-assessments/intermediate-assessment-2017/pressures-human-activities/marine-litter/beach-litter/ https://oap.ospar.org/en/ospar-assessments/intermediate-assessment-2017/pressures-human-activities/marine-litter/plastic-particles-fulmar-stomachs-north-sea/</p>
<p>d) In the last year, what species of small cetaceans were found to have been impacted by marine debris?</p>	<p>No entanglements were recorded. Ingested plastics are found in a small proportion of harbour porpoises</p>	
<p>e) Are there any mitigation measures in place? Y/N</p>	<p><input type="checkbox"/> Yes</p> <p><input type="checkbox"/> No</p>	<p>If yes, what mitigation measures are being used? <i>E.g. changes in gear to prevent loss, entanglement response, adoption of measures to reduce land-based/boat-based source of marine debris.</i></p> <p>OSPAR Regional Action Plan contains measures to reduce plastic pollution</p>
<p>f) Other relevant information. <i>E.g. link to OSPAR reports (FCS and GES being covered already so no need to duplicate)</i></p>	<p>Click or tap here to enter text.</p>	

g) Relevant new research/work/collaboration on marine debris.	Click or tap here to enter text.
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SECTION III: SURVEYS AND RESEARCH

A. Biological Information (per species)
1. Dedicated Surveys (abundance and distribution)
If additional space is required, please submit the information in a table in excel. Attach maps separately, clearly marking which survey they apply to.

Region (map of survey area)	Project	Time Period	Method (e.g. line transect, Photo ID etc.)	Species	Abundance of animals (including confidence limits) if applicable	Link to project/report/publication
Dutch Continental Shelf	KRM Bruinvis monitoring	July 2017	Aerial survey using distance sampling line transects	Harbour Porpoise	46,580 animals (CI = 23,986 – 92,842)	Click or tap here to enter text.
Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.			

B. Other relevant monitoring/survey activities

<p>1. Is there a national monitoring programme that enables Conservation Status of cetaceans in your waters to be assessed? <i>(provides abundance estimates and/or life history parameters and information on pressures)</i></p>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	<p>If yes, please provide details: WOT bruinvis monitor includes necropsies of a sample of stranded Harbour porpoises, providing material for KRM bruinvis monitoring.</p> <p>KRM bruinvis monitoring includes aerial surveys to estimate abundances, diet analysis and contaminant burden</p>
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2. Please provide an overview of current national monitoring programmes:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within MPAs 	<p>Approach:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Photo-ID <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Line transect surveys <input type="checkbox"/> Passive Acoustic Monitoring <input type="checkbox"/> Strandings
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wider Seas 	<p>Approach:</p> <input type="checkbox"/> Photo-ID <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Line transect surveys

	<input type="checkbox"/> Passive Acoustic Monitoring <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Strandings	
	Target Species: Harbour Porpoise	
3. Are any of these programmes carried out in collaboration with other Parties?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide details: MPA surveys are done by DPM consultancy as part of bird monitoring
4. Links to Relevant Outputs	Click or tap here to enter text.	
C. <u>Life history parameters by ASCOBANS species – if easier please submit information in a table in Excel format.</u>		
1. Age at sexual and physical maturity	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide links and details where applicable: Click or tap here to enter text.
2. Inter-birth intervals	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide links and details where applicable: Click or tap here to enter text.
3. Calf and adult mortality rates	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide links and details where applicable: Click or tap here to enter text.
4. Potential reproductive span/capacity	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide links and details where applicable: Click or tap here to enter text.
5. Longevity	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide links and details where applicable: Click or tap here to enter text.
6. Diet	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide links and details where applicable: Stomach analysis of 50 animals annually
7. Age and sex structure	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide links and details where applicable: Age structure binned in age classes
8. Other relevant factors	<input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide links and details where applicable: Annual necropsies of 50 Harbour porpoises, other species depending on case by case funding
<i>If you are entering information for more than one species, please enter the data in the above-mentioned categories here:</i> Click or tap here to enter text.		
SECTION IV: USE OF BYCATCHES AND STRANDINGS		
A. <u>Stranding Network</u>		
1. Is there a national stranding network in place?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide details below: Click or tap here to enter text.

2. Please add the names and URLs of all national stranding/necropsy networks	Walvistrandingen.nl UU.nl\strandingsonderzoek.nl	
3. Does this cover the whole or part of the reporting country's coastline?	Yes	
4. Are necropsies carried out to determine cause of death?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide details below: A sample of 50 fresh stranded Harbour porpoises is necropsied annually
5. Are any cases photographed, measured or sampled even if not collected for necropsy?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide details below: Volunteers provide pictures and measurements of stranded animals. Training is needed to improve data collection by volunteers
6. Is there a database of strandings?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide link to and details of responsible institutions: Walvistrandingen.nl maintained by Naturalis Natural Museum
7. Is the data available online or downloadable on request?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	If yes, please provide details below: Walvisstrandingen.nl
8. ASCOBANS is currently developing a web-accessed database for marine mammals strandings and necropsy data (see AC23/Inf.9.1.a). Please indicate which national stranding network(s) you designate to become part of this international web-accessed database:	See above	
9. Please state whom to contact for integrating this stranding network into the ASCOBANS database (name, position, email, telephone)	Guido Keijl Naturalis Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity Naturalis. Postbus 9517, NL-2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands. +31 71 568 76 00. Email contact: guido.keijl@ncbnaturalis.nl ; www.naturalis.nl	
B. <u>Parties Involved</u>		
1. Live-Stranding Responses Details (phone, email, website)	SOS Dolfijn: P.O.Box 293, NL-3840 AG Harderwijk, The Netherlands. Phone +31 341 467438.	
2. Reporting of Carcasses Details (phone, email, website)	Guido Keijl Naturalis Netherlands Centre for Biodiversity Naturalis. Postbus 9517, NL-2300 RA Leiden, The Netherlands. +31 71 568 76 00. Email contact: guido.keijl@ncbnaturalis.nl ; www.naturalis.nl Lonneke IJsseldijk <u>Department of Pathobiology</u> , Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University,	

Yalelaan 1, NL-3584 CL Utrecht. Email contact:
L.L.IJsseldijk@uu.nl

C. Stranding numbers from reporting year (2017)

If additional space is required, please submit the following information in a table in excel, as an attachment with this form.

Species	Total number of stranding events	Total number of individuals (dead/alive)	Number necropsied	Most common cause of death	Other Causes of Death
Harbour porpoise	683	683	53	Infectious disease (36%)	Bycatch (20%) and grey seal attack (18%)
White-beaked Dolphin	1	1	1		
Sowerby's Beaked Whale	2	2	2		
Common Dolphin	1	1	0	NA	Click or tap here to enter text.
Striped Dolphin	1	1	0	Click or tap here to enter text.	Click or tap here to enter text.

D. New and Relevant Publications

(Including new methods and any new projects using samples/outputs)

JA van Franeker ea 2018. Plastic ingestion by harbour porpoises *Phocoena phocoena* in the Netherlands: Establishing a standardised method. Ambio

SECTION V: OTHER MATTERS

A. Other information or comments important for the Agreement

Click or tap here to enter text.

B. Difficulties in implementing the Agreement

Click or tap here to enter text.