

ACTION POINTS FROM THE 16TH MEETING OF THE JASTARNIA GROUP

Jastarnia and WBBK Plans

(Adopted by the Advisory Committee)

Reference	Action Point (old reference)	Jastarnia Plan		WBBK Plan	
		App lies	Mandate	App lies	Mandate
JG16/AP1	Parties shall establish or further improve local and national monitoring programmes for Harbour Porpoise occurrence and to further ensure these are aligned in terms of timing and methodology between countries, in order to complement large-scale international monitoring activities. (JG15/AP1)	X	MON-01: Implement and harmonize long-term continual acoustic Harbour Porpoise monitoring	X	Objective d: Monitoring the status of the population
JG16/AP2	All Parties, and other countries bordering the Baltic Sea, are strongly encouraged to support SAMBAH-II, specifically in terms of fundraising, in order for a project proposal to be submitted in 2020 and for the project to start in 2021. Noting that management authorities are required to be formal partners for the SAMBAH-II Life application. (JG15/AP2)	X			
JG16/AP3	Parties are strongly encouraged to continue to undertake and cooperate on inter-SCANS surveys of the WBBK Harbour Porpoise population and evaluate trends in population density and abundance. (JG15/AP3/WBBK)			X	Rec.7: Estimate trends in abundance of Harbour Porpoises in the Western Baltic, the Belt Sea and the Kattegat
JG16/AP4	Parties are strongly encouraged to use the data provided by SAMBAH and national monitoring programmes, in particular in connection with the establishment of MPAs for Harbour Porpoises, as well as with regard to management plans and mitigation measures. (JG15/AP4)	X	MIT-06: Expand the network of protected areas for Harbour Porpoises, improve its connectivity, and develop and implement appropriate management plans including monitoring schemes for these areas		
JG16/AP5	Parties should investigate possible detrimental effects of	X	RES-07: Improve knowledge on	X	Objective e: Ensuring habitat

Reference	Action Point (old reference)	Jastarnia Plan		WBBK Plan	
		App lies	Mandate	App lies	Mandate
	various types of sound and disturbance on Harbour Porpoises (including pinger signals, noise from vessels, seismic surveys, underwater explosions, wind parks or construction). Parties should initiate and support studies on the effect of anthropogenic noise on the Harbour Porpoise both on the individual and on a population level. (JG15/AP5)		impact of impulsive and continuous anthropogenic underwater noise on Harbour Porpoises, and development of threshold limits of significant disturbance and GES indicators		quality favourable to the conservation of the Harbour Porpoise
JG16/AP6	Parties are encouraged to develop and adopt HELCOM-wide harmonized national regulations on sound emissions associated with anthropogenic activities in the marine environment. Such regulations should set upper limits to sound emissions and be consistent with the relevant Indicators for Good Environmental Status to be developed for the Marine Strategy Framework Directive. Parties are also encouraged to develop and adopt HELCOM-wide coordinated guidelines for noise mitigation, taking into account the CMS Family Guidelines on Environmental Impact Assessments for Marine Noise-generating Activities. (JG15/AP6)	X	MIT-05: Implement regionally harmonized national threshold limits and guidelines for regulation of underwater noise	X	
JG16/AP7	Parties should promote research on the consequences of impacts on prey communities for Harbour Porpoises. (JG15/AP7)			X	Rec.10: Include monitoring and management of important prey species in national Harbour Porpoise management plans
JG16/AP8	Parties are required to establish systems to effectively monitor bycatch covering all sizes of fishing vessels, in line with the HELCOM Roadmap on fisheries data in order to assess incidental bycatch and fisheries impact on benthic biotopes in the Baltic Sea and the ICES Special Request Advice on emergency measures	X	MON-03: Monitor and estimate Harbour Porpoise bycatch rates and estimate total annual bycatch	X	Rec.6: Estimate total annual bycatch

Reference	Action Point (old reference)	Jastarnia Plan		WBBK Plan	
		App lies	Mandate	App lies	Mandate
	to prevent bycatch of common dolphin and Baltic Proper harbour porpoise in the Northeast Atlantic. (JG15/AP8)				
JG16/AP9	Parties should consider the recommendations of the October 2015 ASCOBANS Workshop on Remote Electronic Monitoring (REM) and implement this technique for bycatch monitoring as appropriate in the national context. (JG15/AP9)	X	RES-03: Improve methods for monitoring and estimation of Harbour Porpoise bycatch	X	
JG16/AP10	Parties are strongly encouraged to carry out spatio-temporal risk-assessments of Harbour Porpoise bycatch using Harbour Porpoise distribution and fishing effort data. (JG15/AP10)	X	RES-04: Carry out a spatio-temporal risk assessment of Harbour Porpoise bycatch	X	
JG16/AP11	Parties should implement, in cooperation with stakeholders, any available fishing gear that does not cause, or is shown to significantly reduce, harbour porpoise bycatch, and strive to replace static nets with such alternative gear, especially in MPAs, as soon as possible. (JG15/AP11)	X	RES-05: Further develop and improve fishing gear that is commercially viable with no Harbour Porpoise bycatch MIT-01: Implement the use of fishing gear that is commercially viable with no Harbour Porpoise bycatch	X	Objective b: Mitigation of bycatch
JG16/AP12	Parties should continue to develop, in cooperation with stakeholders, alternative fishing gear that does not cause, or is shown to significantly reduce, harbour porpoise bycatch, to replace static nets. (JG15/AP11)				
JG16/AP13	Parties should promote the development of pingers not audible to seals and alerting devices other than pingers. (JG15/AP12)	X	RES-05: Further develop and improve fishing gear that is commercially viable with no Harbour Porpoise bycatch	X	
JG16/AP14	Parties should monitor the use and functioning of deterrent and alerting devices, including studies to assess their effect on bycatch reduction and on	X	MIT-03: Continue or implement the use of acoustic deterrent devices (pingers) and acoustic alerting devices proven to be	X	Rec. 9: Ensure a non-detrimental use of pingers by examining habitat exclusion and long-

Reference	Action Point (old reference)	Jastarnia Plan		WBBK Plan	
		App lies	Mandate	App lies	Mandate
	harbour porpoise behaviour and distribution. (JG15/AP13)		successful when and where deemed appropriate RES-06: Improve the knowledge on potential population-level effects of the use of pingers, and develop acoustic devices for bycatch mitigation further		term effects of pingers
JG16/AP15	With respect to recreational fisheries, Parties should work towards banning or limiting the use of those types of gear known to pose a threat to harbour porpoises, or introduce effective mitigation measures shown to significantly reduce or eliminate bycatch. (JG15/AP14)	X	MIT-02: Reduce or eliminate fishing effort with gillnets or other gear known to cause porpoise bycatch in areas with higher Harbour Porpoise density or occurrence, and/or in areas with higher risk of Harbour Porpoise bycatch, according to spatio-temporal risk assessments	X	Rec.3: Protect Harbour Porpoises in their key habitats in minimizing bycatch as far as possible Rec.5: Where possible replace gillnet fisheries known to be associated with high porpoise bycatch with alternative fishing gear known to be less harmful
JG16/AP16	Parties are encouraged to coordinate and standardize monitoring of stranded and bycaught animals, determining the appropriate number of animals to be necropsied in each country, ensuring that health, contaminant load, life-history parameters and cause of death is examined in a coherent manner, and that tissue samples are collected from all carcasses from the Baltic Proper harbour porpoise distribution range. (JG15/AP15)	X	MON-04: Collect dead specimens and assess health status, contaminant levels, cause of mortality and life-history parameters of Harbour Porpoises	X	Rec.8: Monitor population health status, contaminant load and causes of mortality
JG16/AP17	All Parties and range states should establish programmes for recording bycatch, strandings and opportunistic sightings for inclusion in a national database, and report annually to the ASCOBANS/HELCOM database. (JG15/AP16)	X	PACB-01: Improve communication and education for increased public awareness and collection of live observations and dead specimens of the Baltic Harbour Porpoise	X	Objective d: Monitoring the status of the population

Reference	Action Point (old reference)	Jastarnia Plan		WBBK Plan	
		App lies	Mandate	App lies	Mandate
JG16/AP18	The Jastarnia Group promotes further cooperation with HELCOM EG MAMA and will strive to cooperate with the HELCOM Fish Group. The Jastarnia Group should invite HELCOM to its meetings. (JG15/AP17)	X	COOP-02: Strive for close cooperation between ASCOBANS and other international bodies	X	Rec.2: Cooperate with and inform other relevant bodies about the Conservation Plan
JG16/AP19	ASCOBANS should join efforts with HELCOM to liaise with the European Commission and other relevant bodies to improve the implementation by Member States of the EU Technical Measures Regulation and the Data Collection Framework to better incorporate and tackle bycatch concerns. (JG15/AP18)	X		X	
JG16/AP20	Coordinating Authorities of the countries hosting the Group's meetings are asked to ensure the attendance of an expert on the Common Fisheries Policy (CFP) at the respective meetings of the Group. The Secretariat should recall this recommendation to the Coordinating Authority of the host country in good time before the meeting. (JG15/AP19)	X	COOP-02: Strive for close cooperation between ASCOBANS and other international bodies	X	Rec.2: Cooperate with and inform other relevant bodies about the Conservation Plan
JG16/AP21	Parties should ensure that Belt Sea and Baltic Sea populations of harbour porpoises are assessed and managed as separate populations, e.g. in management plans and national redlists. (JG15/AP20)	X	Other	X	Other
JG16/AP22	Parties are urged to swiftly agree on joint recommendations through Baltfish, following the ICES Special Request Advice on emergency measures to prevent bycatch of common dolphin and Baltic Proper harbour porpoise in the Northeast Atlantic as closely as possible.	X	MIT-02: Reduce or eliminate fishing effort with gillnets or other gear known to cause porpoise bycatch in areas with higher Harbour Porpoise density or occurrence, and/or in areas with higher risk of Harbour Porpoise bycatch, according to spatio-		

Reference	Action Point (old reference)	Jastarnia Plan		WBBK Plan	
		App lies	Mandate	App lies	Mandate
			temporal risk assessments MIT-03: Continue or implement the use of acoustic deterrent devices (pingers) and acoustic alerting devices proven to be successful when and where deemed appropriate		
JG16/AP23	Parties are urged to ensure a proposal to list the Baltic Proper harbour porpoise in CMS Appendix I is brought to CMS COP14.	X	Other		
JG16/AP24	Parties are encouraged to engage in the concerted action for the harbour porpoise populations in the Baltic Proper and the Iberian Peninsula, adopted by CMS COP13.	X	Other		