

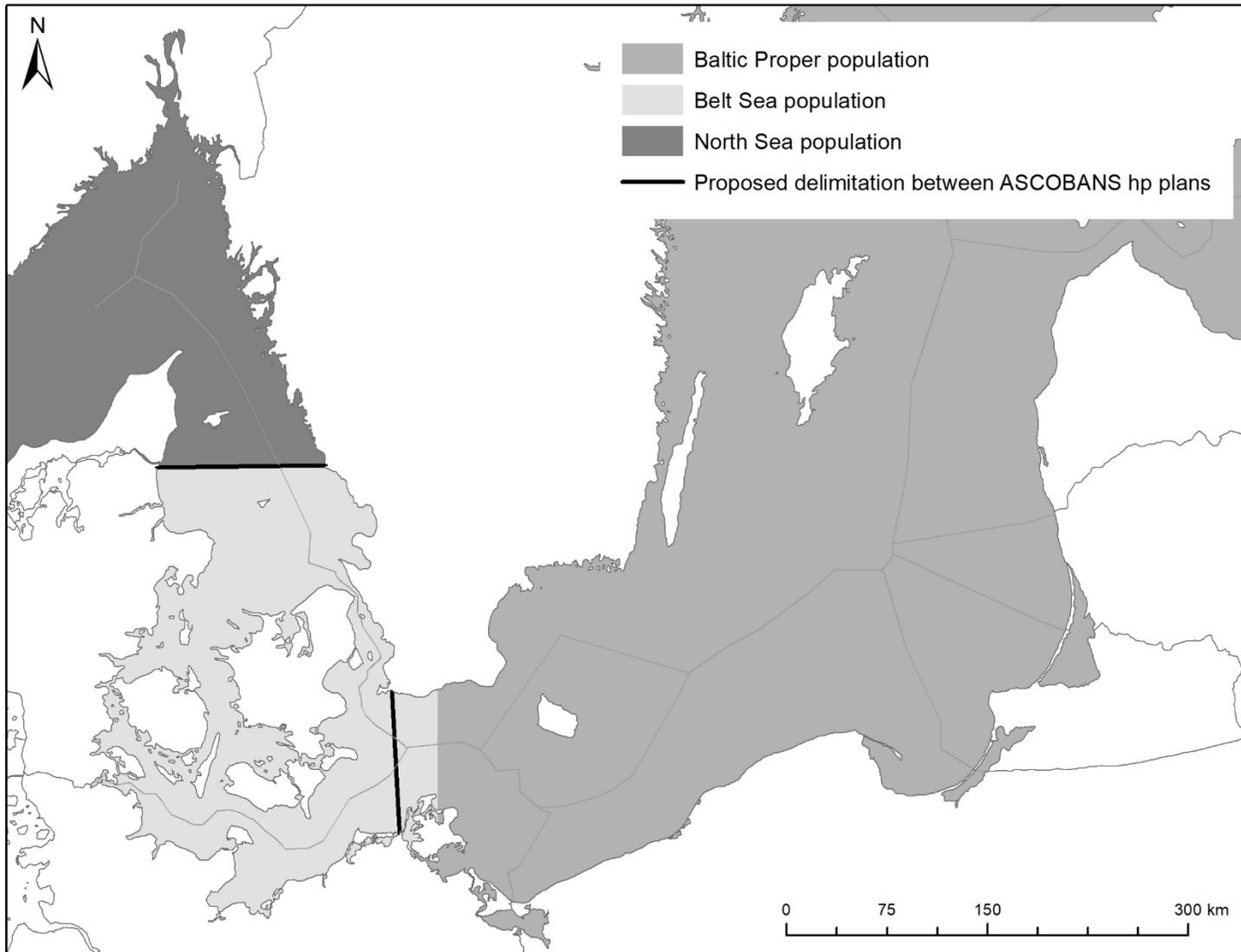
An underwater photograph of several dolphins swimming in clear, teal water. The dolphins are captured in various positions, some swimming towards the camera and others away. The lighting is soft, highlighting the sleek bodies of the dolphins.

The Jastarnia and WBBK Plans

Progress report 2023

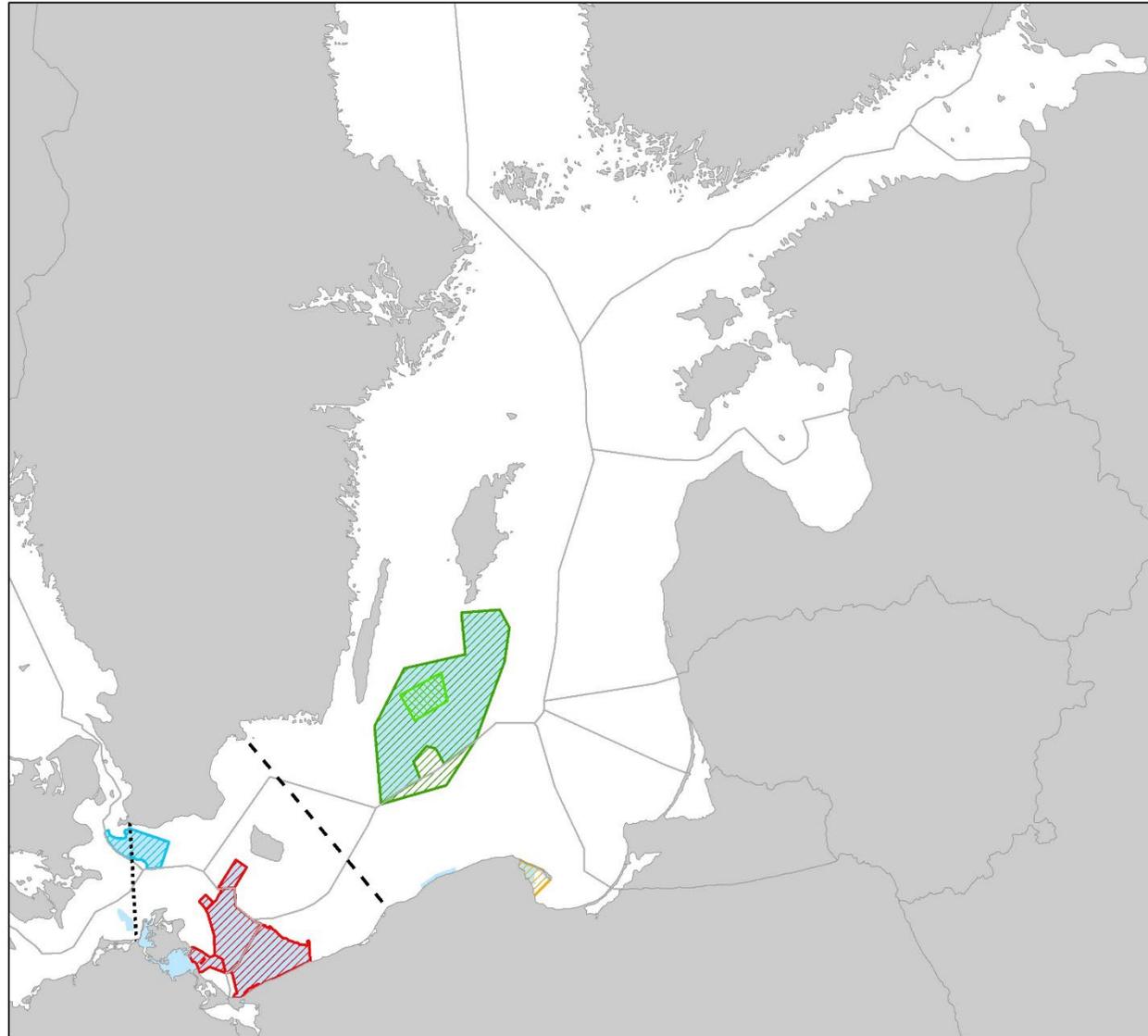
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Harbour porpoises in the Baltic Sea Region



- Western Baltic, Belt Sea and Kattegat population (WBBK)
- Baltic Proper population

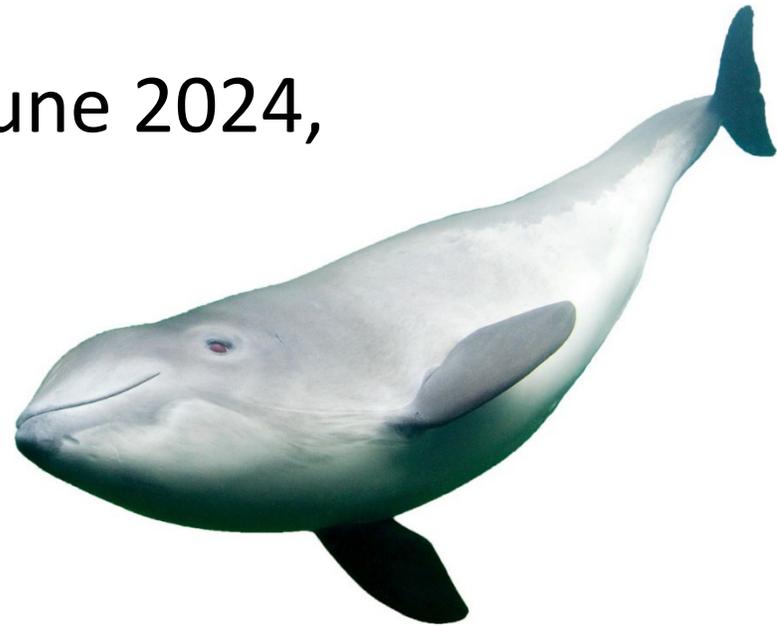
Baltic porpoise delegated act 2022/303



- Closure of Northern Midsea bank for all fisheries except pots, traps etc
- Closure of Hoburgs bank och Midsjöbankarna and the Polish part of the Southern Midsea bank for all static net fisheries
- Closure of static nets in “German/Polish SAC cluster” during Nov-Jan
- Obligatory use of pingers on static nets West and East of the “sandbank Ryf Mew” (Inner and Outer Puck Bay, within and outside the Natura 2000 site “Zatoka Pucka Półwysep Helski”
- Closure of “Sydvästskaånes utsjövatten” for static nets in Nov-Apr, and obligatory use of pingers in May-Oct

Continuation on joint rec from BALTFISH

- **Military concerns on use of pingers in static net fisheries** (AP14/JG19)
 - BALTFISH work on other measures
 - Real time closures (see AP20/JG19)
 - Polish BALTFISH presidency July 2023 – June 2024, will continue the work



EC Marine Action Plan

In February 2023, the EC published the Marine Action Plan under the Biodiversity Strategy

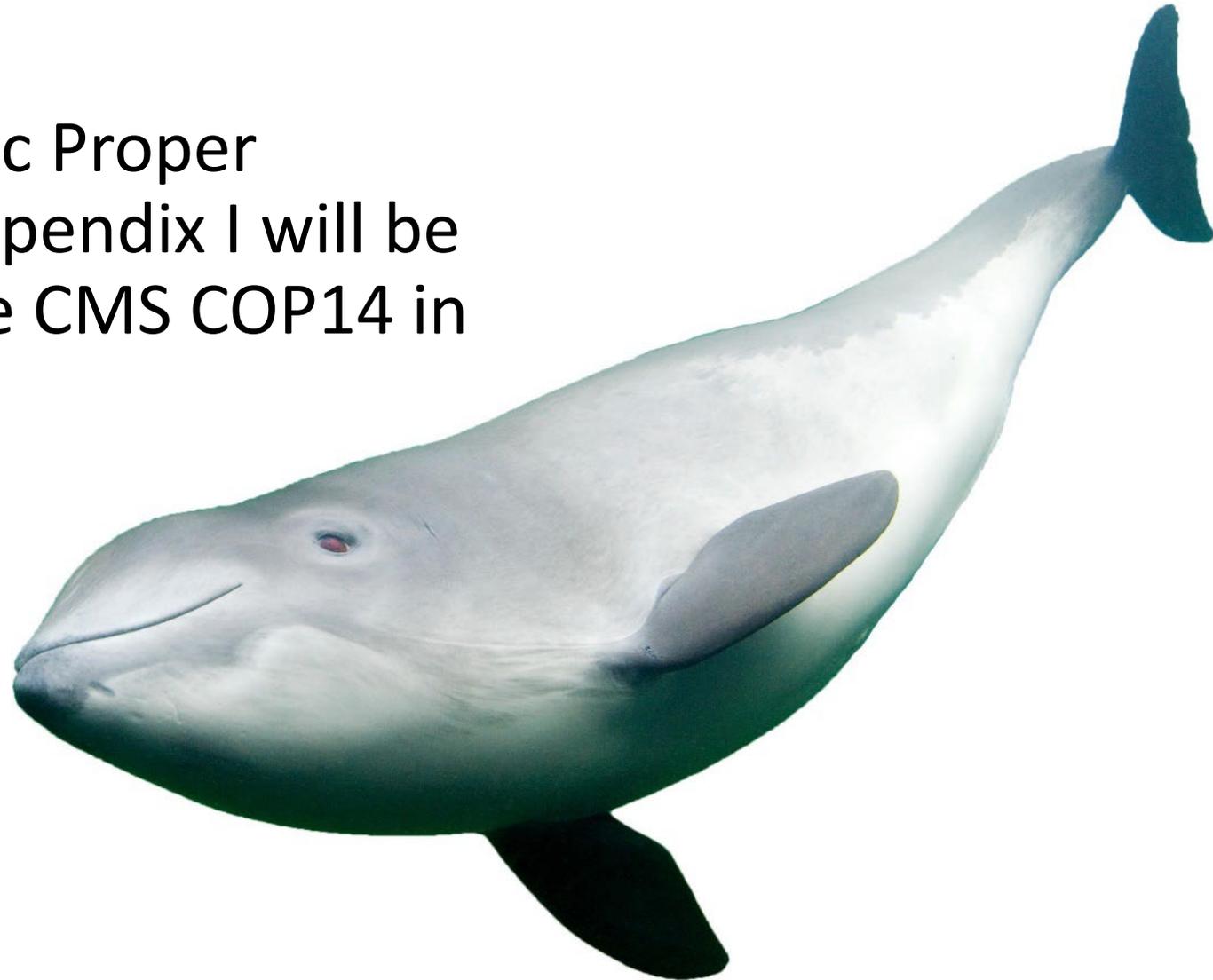
→ 31 Dec 2023 deadline for joint recommendations on mitigation of harbour porpoise bycatch in the Baltic Proper



Listing of the Baltic Proper porpoise in CMS Appendix I

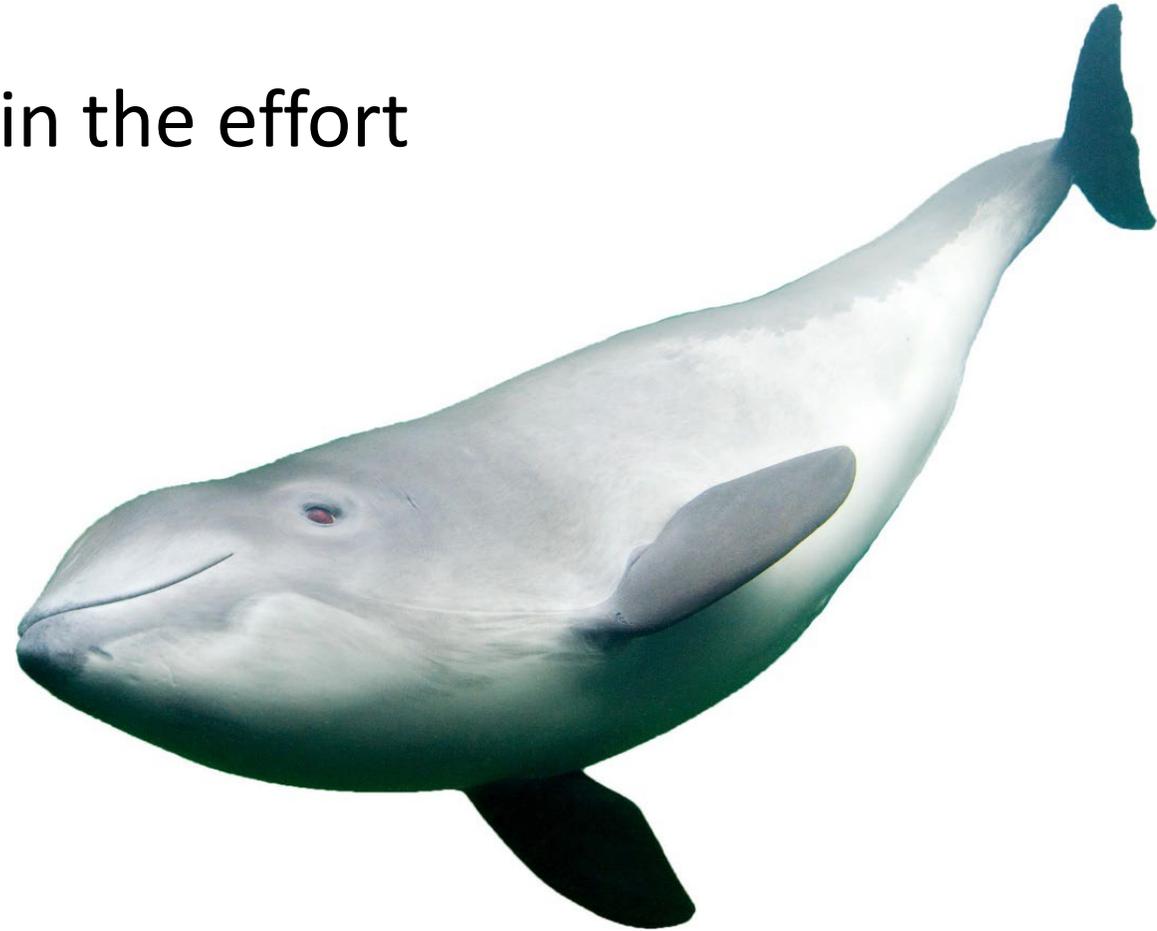
The proposal to list the Baltic Proper harbour porpoise in CMS appendix I will be put forward by the EU at the CMS COP14 in February 2024.

(AP21/JG19)



SAMBAH II

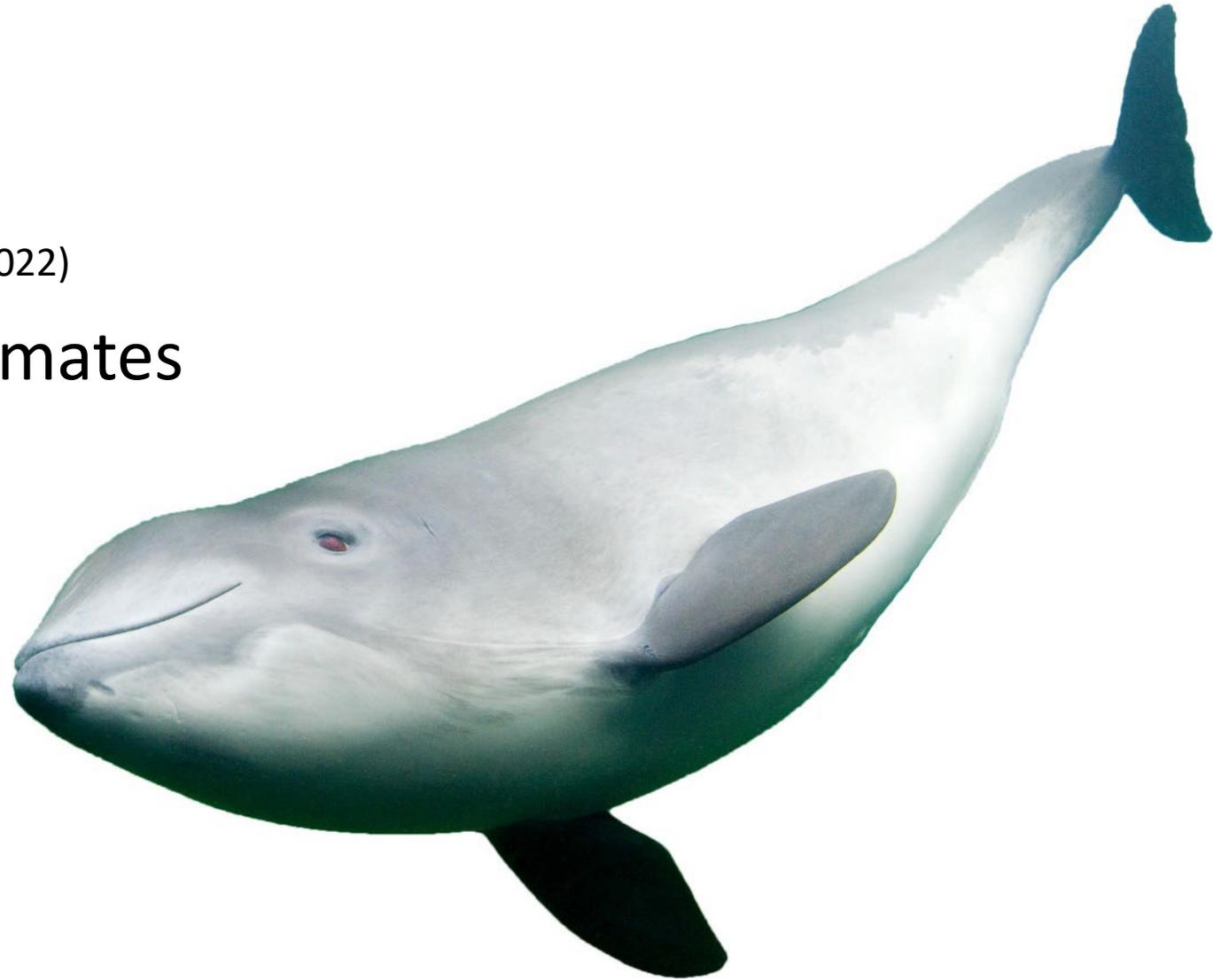
- The SAMBAH results are now 10 years old
- New survey urgently needed
- All Baltic range states urged to join the effort



WBBK area

Recent studies indicates

- Population decline (Gilles et al 2022)
- Unsustainable bycatch estimates (Larsen et al 2021, Kindt-Larsen et al 2023)



Update of the WBBK plan

AC28 requested to make funding available for a consultant to update the WBBK plan so that it can be adopted by MOP10 in 2024 (AP26/JG18)

→ Relevant in light of indications of decline as well as recent bycatch estimates



