

NATIONAL REPORT DENMARK 2025

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1. INCREASE INVOLVEMENT, AWARENESS AND COOPERATION

- Fjord&Belt in Kerteminde "Marine Tracker" app for porpoise detections
- Middelfart listening station, 2017 – ongoing <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=aPOIRi9Ouls> and <https://bios.au.dk/forskningraadgivning/temasider/baelt-i-balance/>
- hvaler.dk on Facebook - very active



Hvaler.dk - Hval og sæl observationer i Danmark

Offentlig gruppe · 10,3 tusind medlemmer



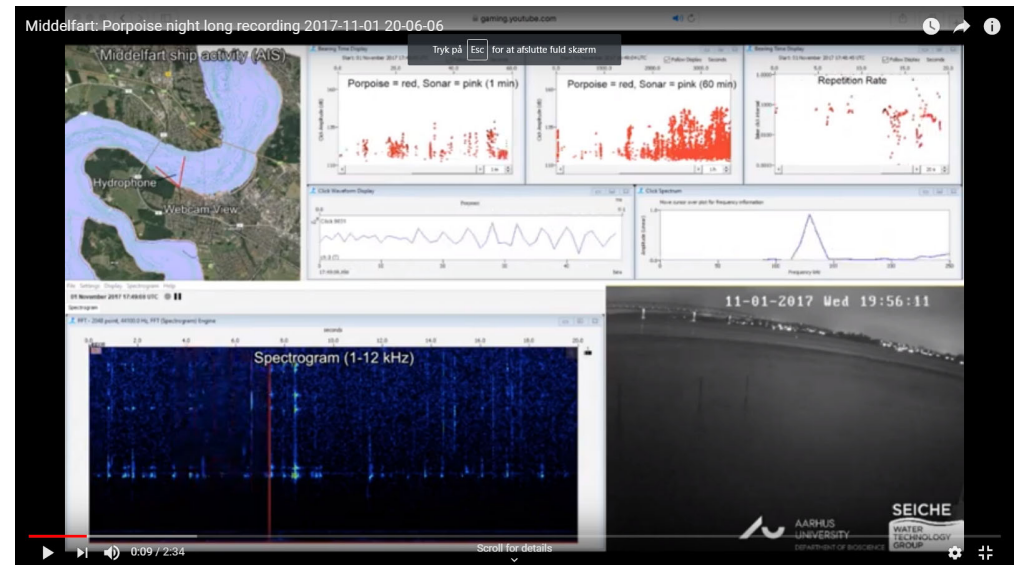
+ Inviter

Del

Medlem



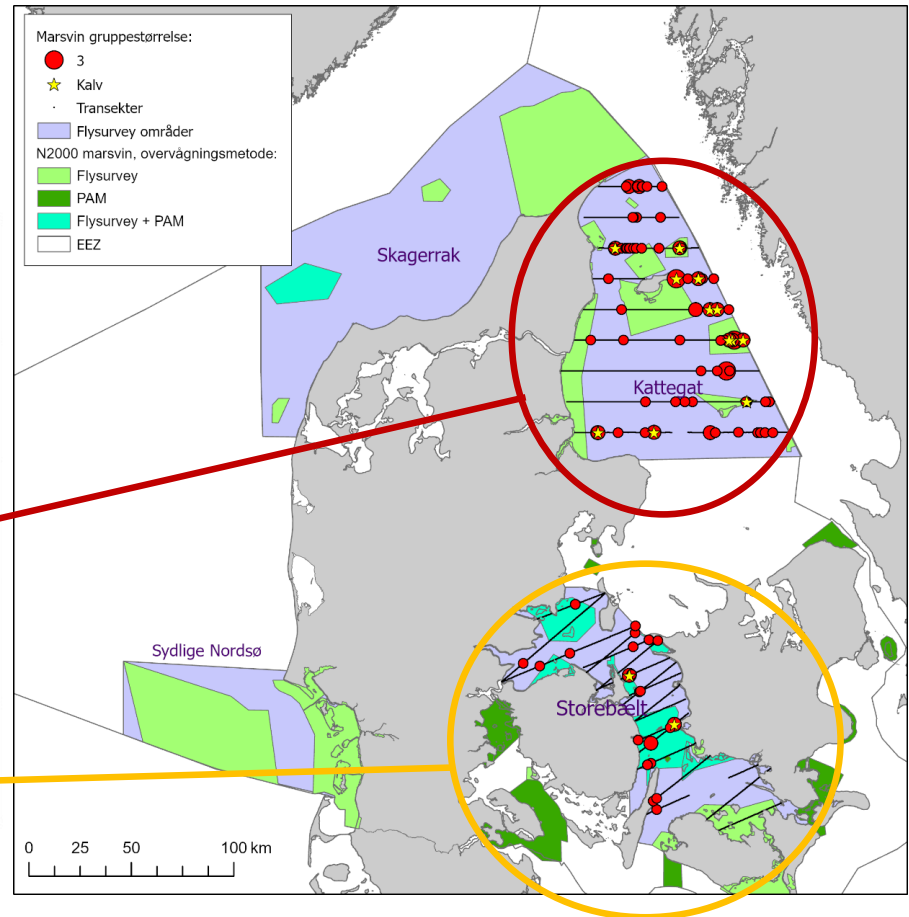
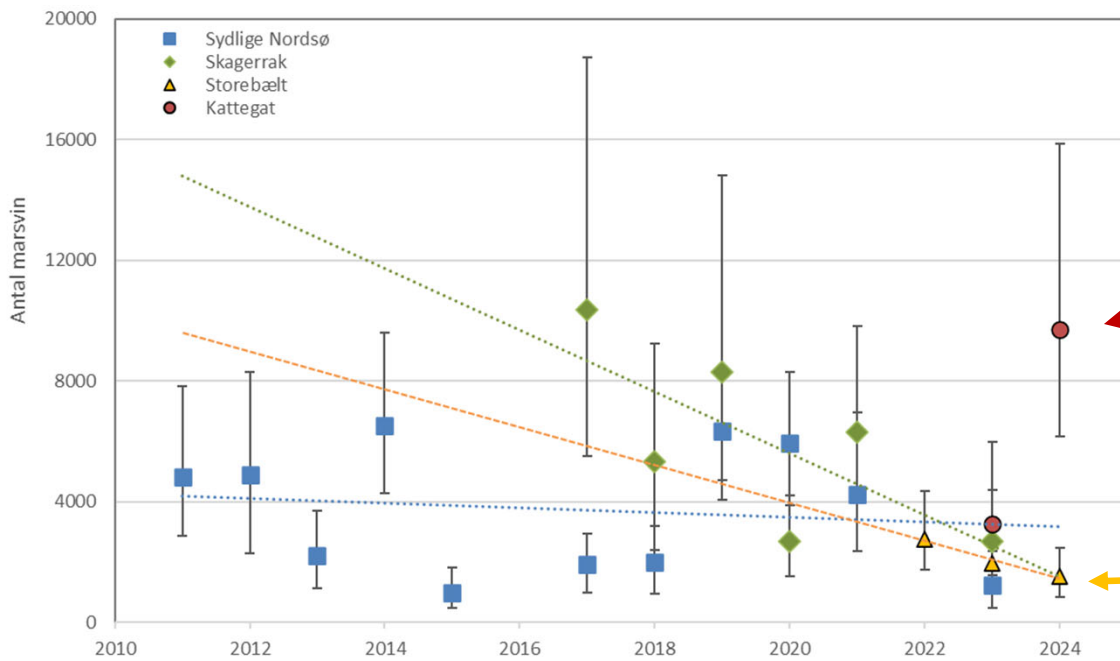
- Danish Marine mammal Symposium 2025



2. MONITOR AND ESTIMATE ABUNDANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

New results from national monitoring programs or large-scale surveys

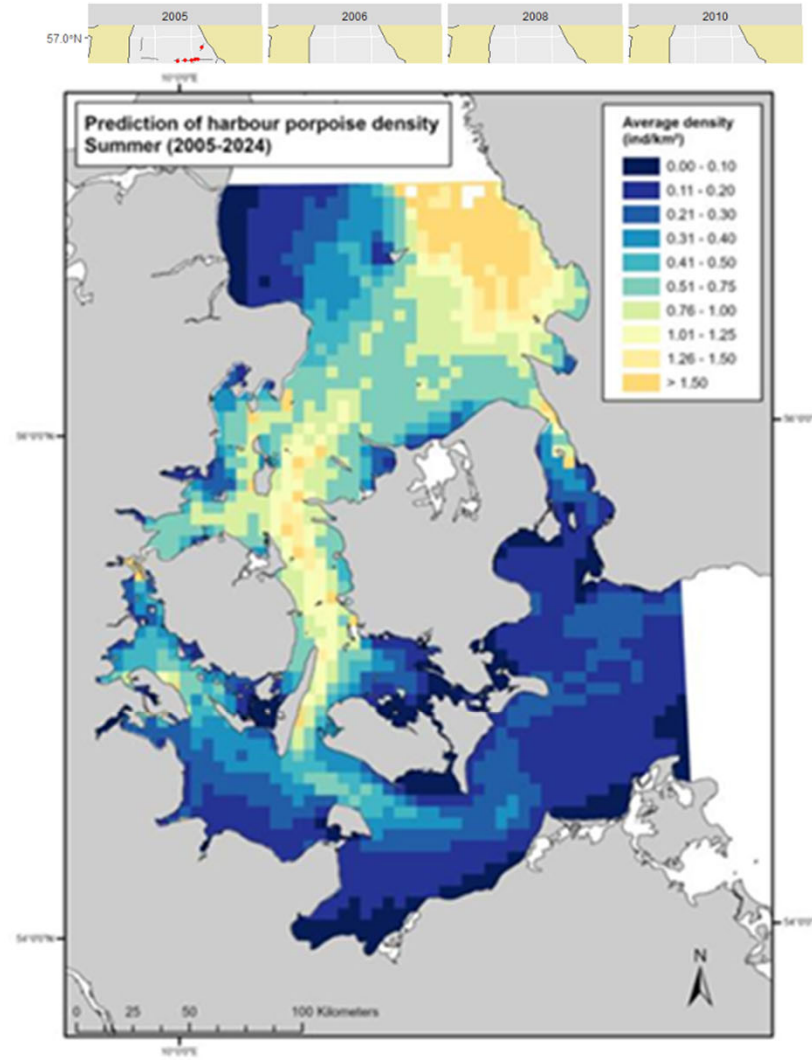
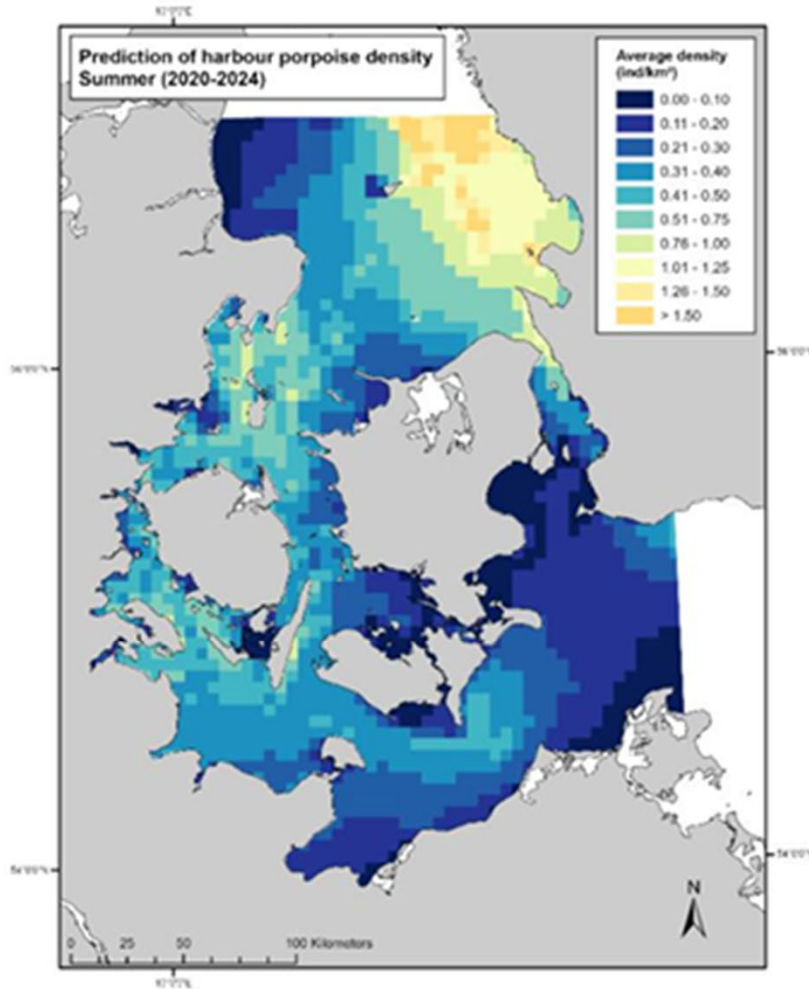
WBBK



2. MONITOR AND ESTIMATE ABUNDANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

New results for
large-scale surveys
WBBK

- Gilles et al
harbour porpoise
Sea.
<https://dce.au.dk/udgivelser/2025/1202.pdf>



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New results from national monitoring programs or large-scale surveys

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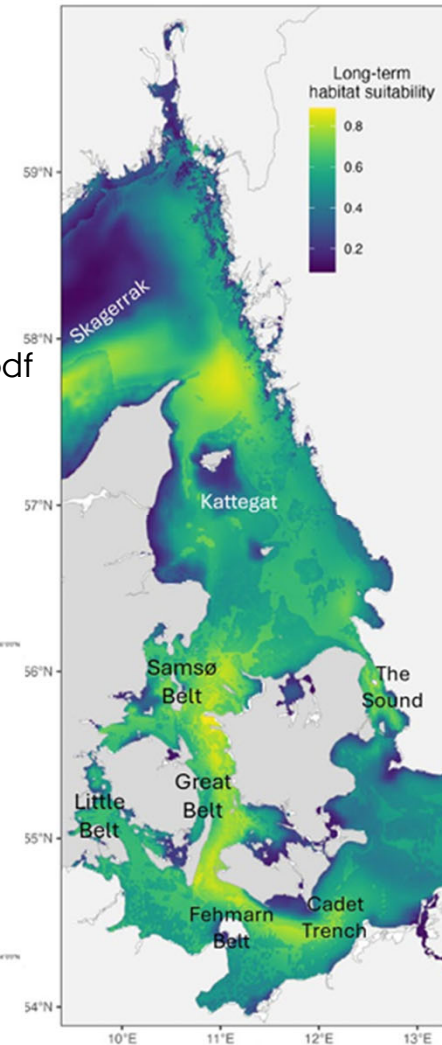
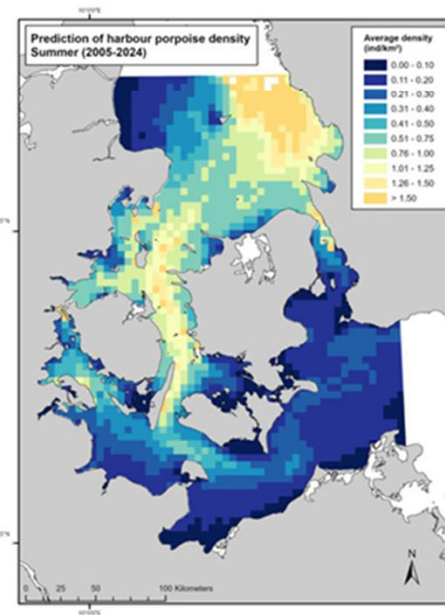
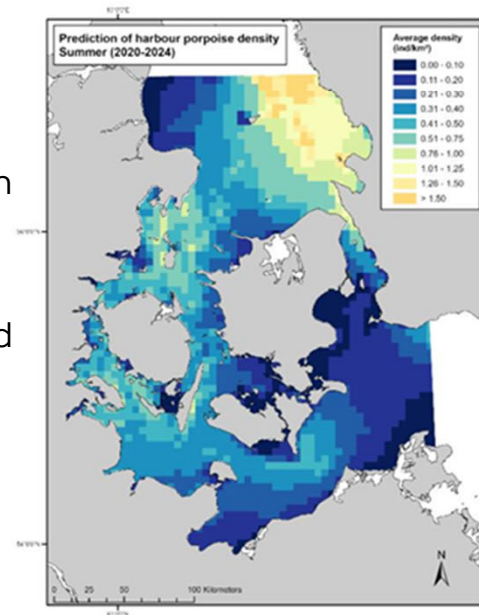
- Sveegaard & Nabe-Nielsen 2026. Harbour porpoise distribution in the Western Baltic. A comparison of existing models. Aarhus University, DCE - Danish Centre for Environment and Energy, 16s. https://dce.au.dk/fileadmin/dce.au.dk/Udgivelser/Notater_2026/N2026_02.pdf

AIM: Comparison of results from existing models:

Aerial surveys based distribution models

Vs.

Habitat suitability models based on tagging data

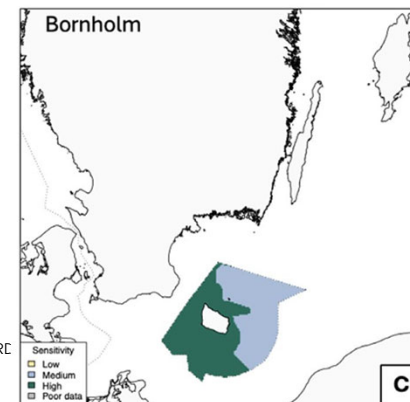
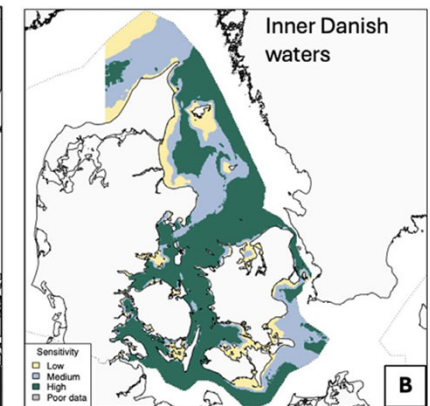
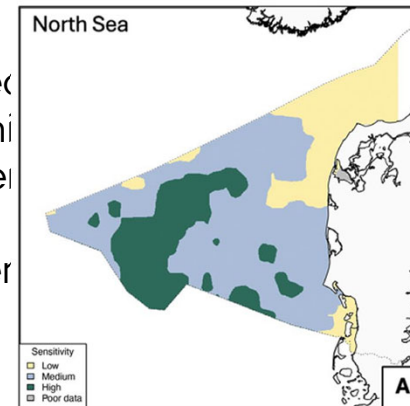


2. MONITOR AND ESTIMATE ABUNDANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

New results from national monitoring programs or large-scale surveys

WBBK

- Stokholm et al. (2025). Sensitivity mapping of harbour seal construction and operation of offshore windfarms in Danish waters. Aarhus University, DCE - Danish Centre for Environment and Energy. Center for Miljø og Energi Bind 2025 Nr. 667: <https://dce.au.dk/fileadmin/dce.au.dk/Udgivelser/Vider>



Stokholm et al. (2025)

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New results from national monitoring programs or large-scale surveys

WBBK

- Sveegaard et al. (in press) Passive acoustic monitoring - optimising the power to detect temporal changes in relative density of a cetacean population under pressure. *Mar Ecol Prog Ser* :0-0
<https://doi.org/10.3354/meps15155>
- Van Beest et al. (2025) Shifts in habitat suitability for harbour porpoises leads to reduced importance of marine protected areas. *Biological Conservation*, 302, Artikel 111009. <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.biocon.2025.111009>

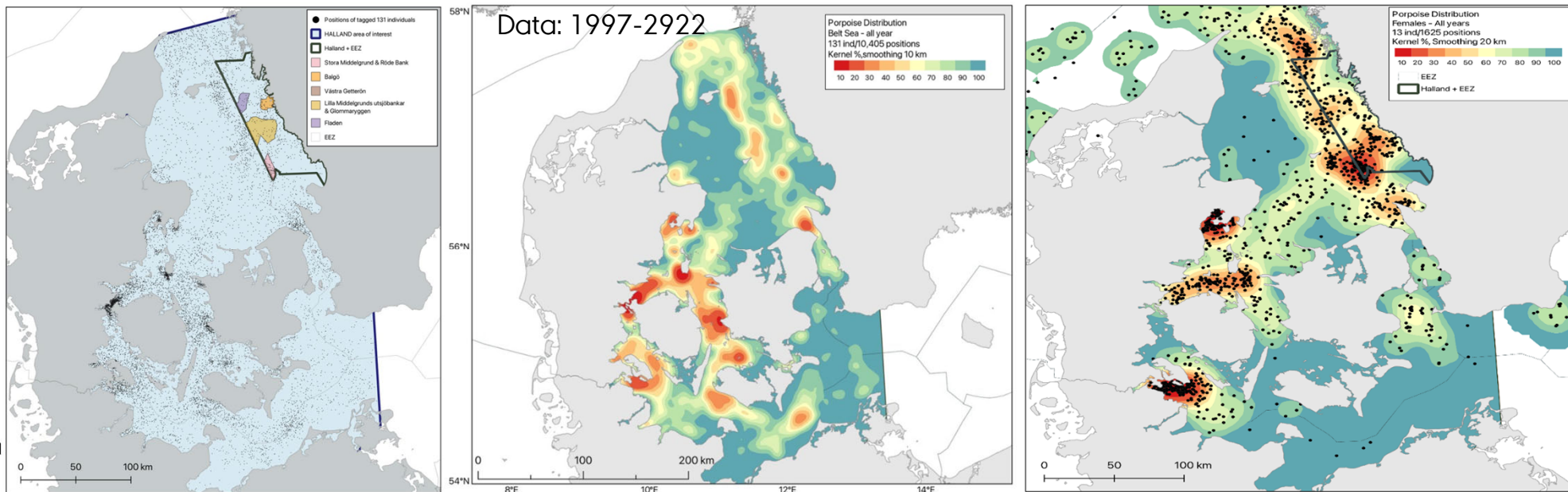
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WBBK

Hansen et al. (2025). THE USE OF SCANDINAVIAN MARINE WATERS/MARINE WATERS OF HALLAND BY HARBOUR PORPOISES IN TIME AND SPACE. Aarhus University, DCE - Danish Centre for Environment and Energy. Videnskabelig rapport fra DCE - Nationalt Center for Miljø og Energi Nr. 677

https://dce.au.dk/fileadmin/dce.au.dk/Udgivelser/Videnskabelige_rapporter_600-699/SR677.pdf



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Baltic Prober

- SAMBAH-II data collected 2024-2025, CUMBIAH begun feb. 2026 (analysis of SAMBAH-II)

MONITOR, ESTIMATE AND REDUCE BYCATCH



DTU AQUA



4 MONITOR AND MITIGATE IMPACT OF UNDERWATER NOISE

Projects/research/monitoring in underwater noise and its impact on harbour porpoises

- **National noise monitoring** stations continued (3 stations in area).
- **DTO project** to model porpoise behavior to click train type.
- **SAMBAH II** has two noise monitoring stations.
- **A sound marine environment:** Monitoring of noise from ships and recreational vessels in Aarhus Bay, including effects on porpoises: Methods for monitoring ships, how best to minimize noise ect. (2 PhDs)
- **SATURN:** impact on porpoises from vessel traffic.
- **Sea Sounds:** Comparing dTag data from marine mammals against noise maps, including from SAMBAH.

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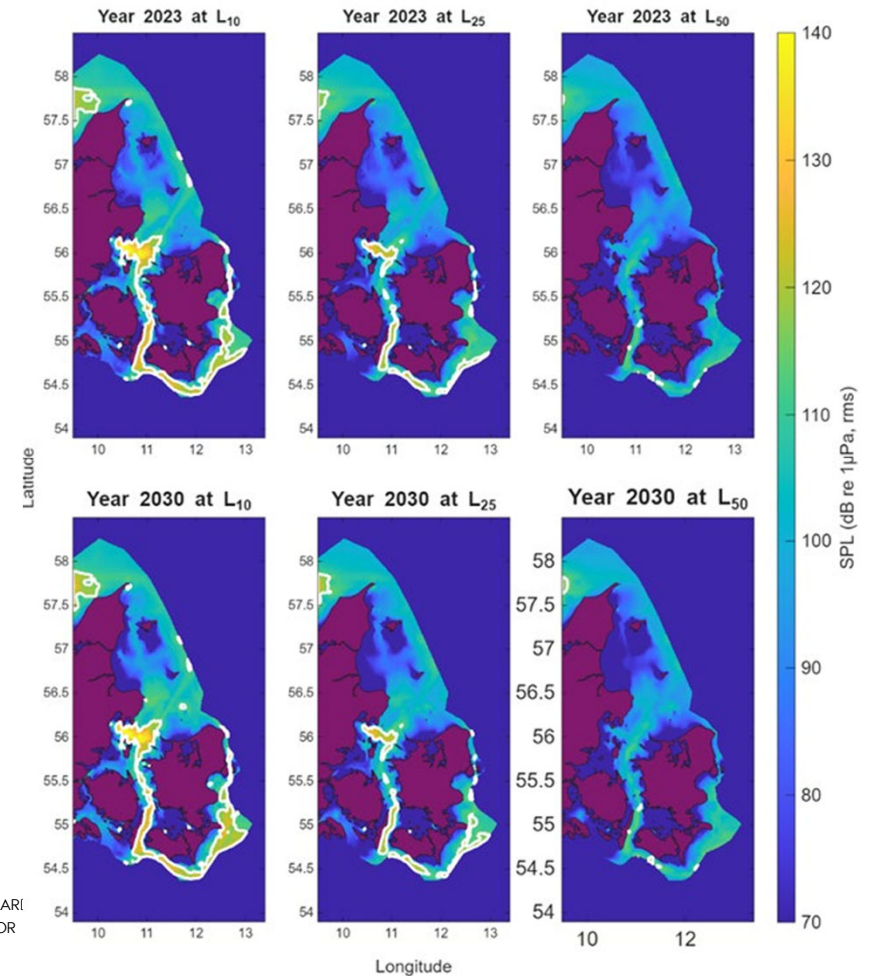
Griffiths et al. 2026. Cumulative effects of large-scale offshore wind development on underwater noise levels in Danish waters. Aarhus University, DCE – Danish Centre for Environment and Energy, 40 pp. Scientific Report No. 692

https://dce.au.dk/fileadmin/dce.au.dk/Udgivelser/Videnskabelige_rapporter_600-699/SR692.pdf

AIM: estimate future underwater noise pressure on harbour porpoises: 2023 vs 2030

Level of Onset of Biologically Adverse Effects (LOBE)

LOBE = 115 dB at $L_{ddec,125\text{ Hz}}$
Q1 Western Baltic Scenario



5 MONITOR AND ASSESS POPULATION HEALTH STATUS

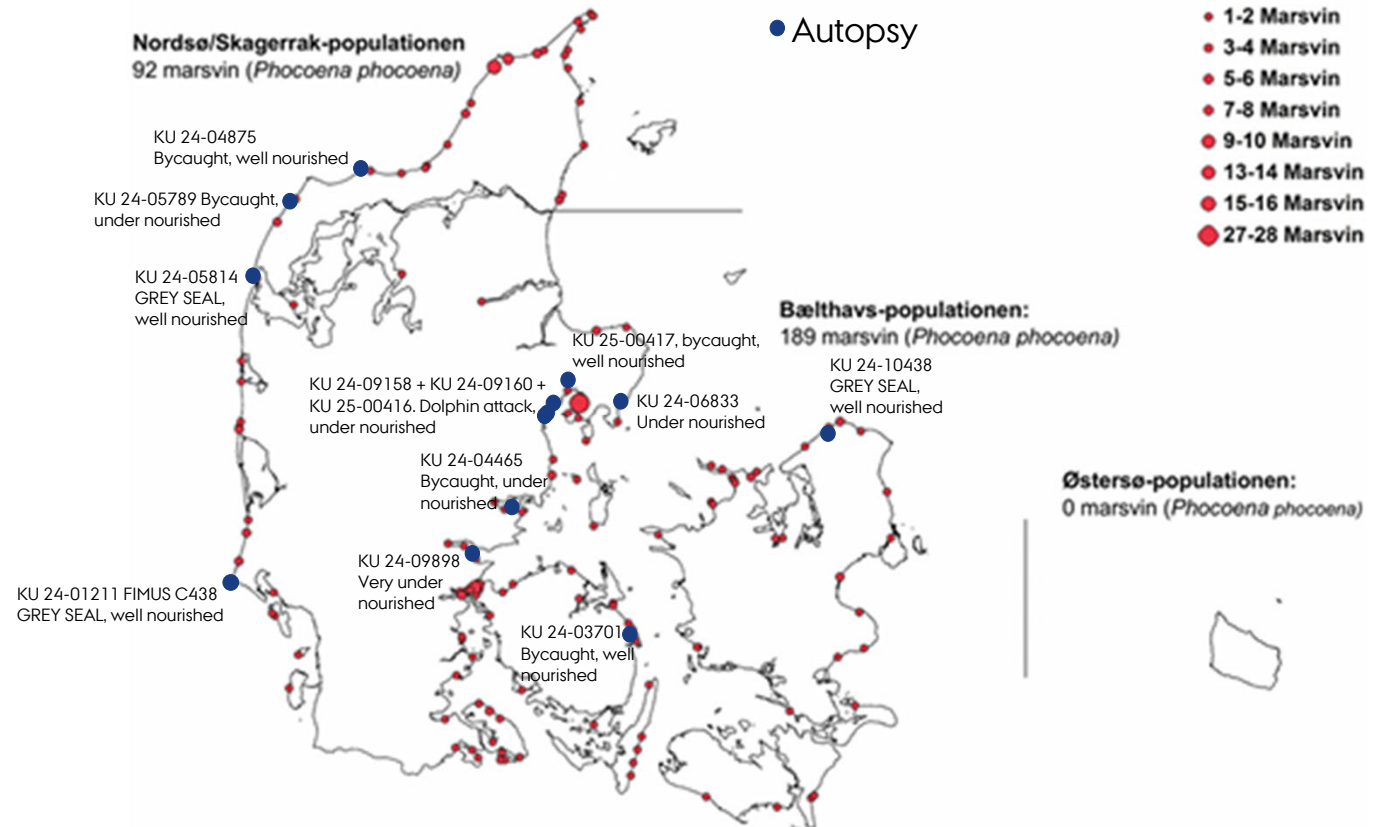
Status of collection of dead porpoises:

Data from the **2024** Report of the National Contingency Plan
(Charlotte Bie Thøstesen, Fimus)

2024: 282 stranded porpoises

13 Dissections (4 NS/9 BS):

- 6 bycaught
- 3 grey seal attack
- 3 dolphin attack
- 7/13 under nourished



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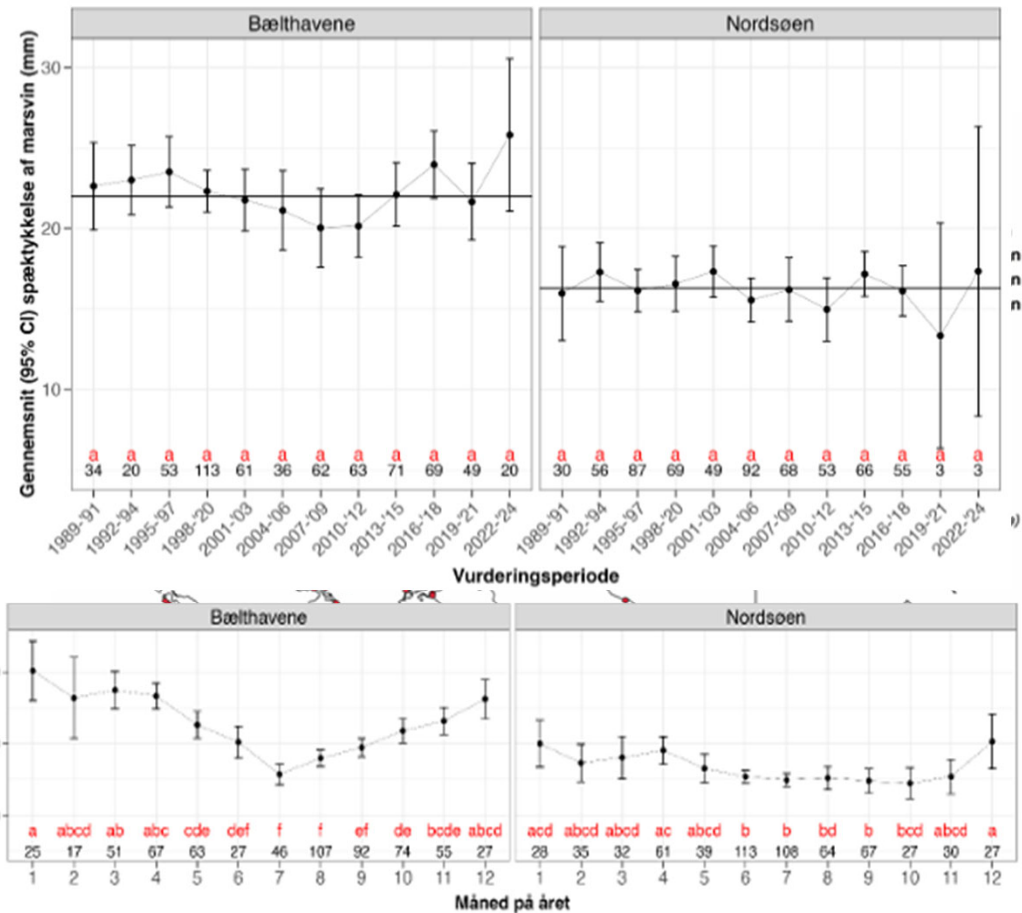
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Galatius, A., Kyhn, L., Van Beest, F. 2025. Spæktykkelse hos danske havpattedyr 2022-2024. Overvågning udført for Miljøstyrelsen. Aarhus University, DCE – Nationalt Center for Miljø og Energi, 36 pp. Teknisk rapport nr. 348 https://dce.au.dk/fileadmin/dce.au.dk/Udgivelser/Tekniske_rapporter_300-349/TR348.pdf



5 MONITOR AND ASSESS POPULATION HEALTH STATUS

SATURN project: Effects of ship noise on seals and porpoises studied by on-animal tags (D-tags). Paper out soon.

Fredrik Christensen - AU Project on estimation of porpoise fitness using drones – talk Monday.



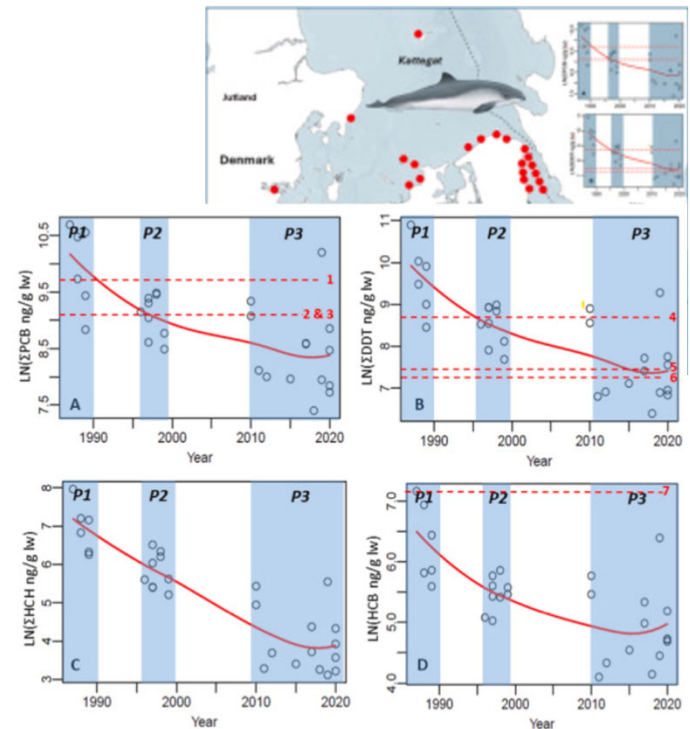
Chemosphere
Volume 398, April 2026, 144850



Decreases in contaminant loads and risk of adverse effects in harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) from Inner Danish waters over three decades

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0045653526000275>

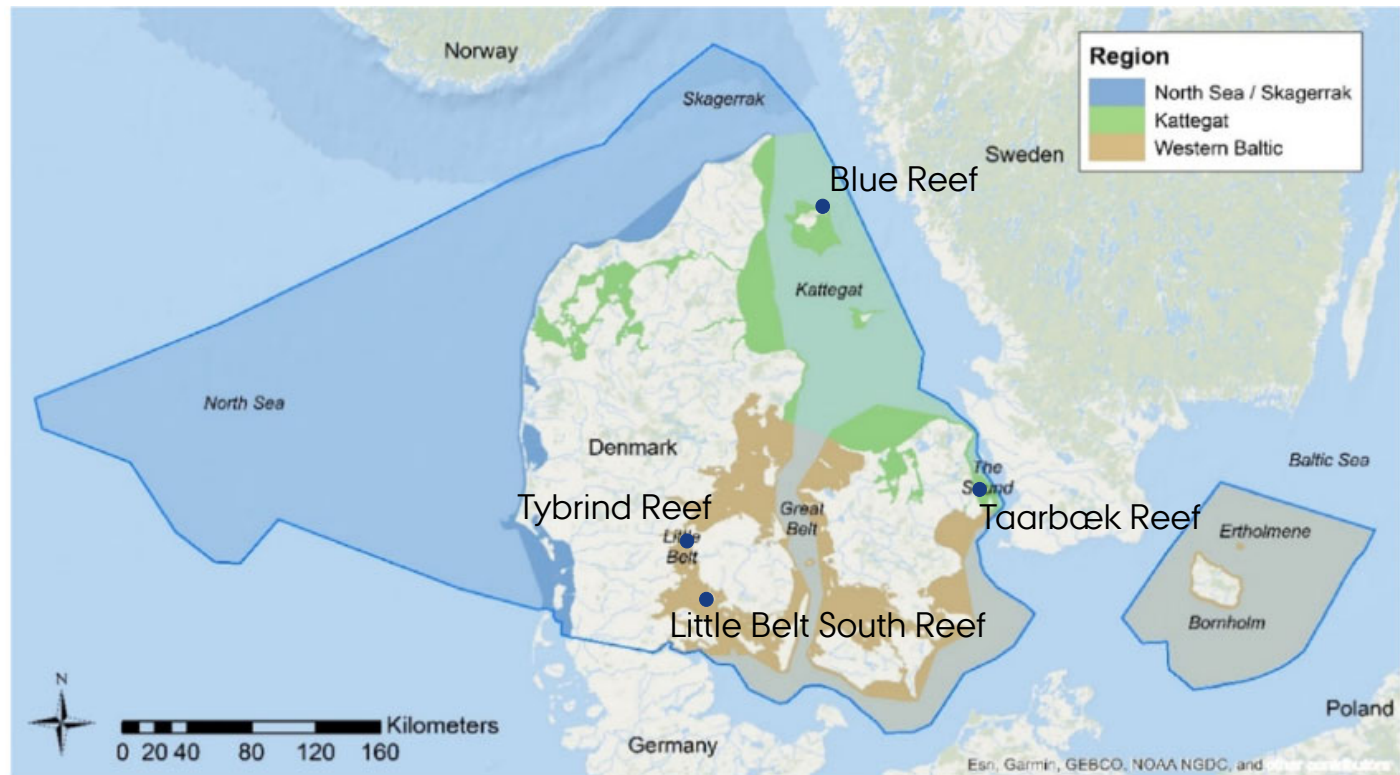
Rune Dietz^a, Gabriel Berenguer López^{a b c}, Rossana Bossi^b, Igor Eulaers^{a d},
Anders Galatius^a, Line Kyhn^a, Martin Mørk Larsen^a, Christina Lockyer^e,
Emma Martinez Lopez^{c f}, Frank Farsø Rigét^a, Jakob Strand^a, Signe Sveegaard^a,
Jens Søndergaard^a, Jonas Teilmann^a, Katrin Vorkamp^b, Christian Sonne^a



6 INVESTIGATE HABITAT USE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT AREAS

Projects/Research on porpoise distribution or habitat use?

Long term monitoring of stone reef establishments: 4 reefs between 2020-2030





AARHUS
UNIVERSITY