National Reporting: Area-based Conservation / Marine Protected Areas

- Summary of the national reporting information
- Discussion and recommendations
Resolution 5.7 (2006)

- Invites Parties and Range States to continue or initiate research aimed at identifying the location of any further suitable sites for the establishment of protected areas, and to implement appropriate management actions in these areas on their own or in the context of other intergovernmental bodies to ensure the protection of small cetaceans.
Workplan 2017 - 2020

AP 20

- Review best practice approaches to management of MPAs for small cetaceans. Make recommendations to Parties and other relevant authorities for further action.

AP 21

- Contribute to the development of a map of MPAs where cetaceans form part of the selection criteria, for the entire ASCOBANS Area, including information provided in National Reports, taking into account the work done by other organizations (funding may be required).
National report questions:

• Please complete and/or update the following table, providing **details of existing or proposed MPAs with cetaceans forming part of the selection criteria**.

• Provide **information on management measures** particularly relevant to small cetaceans in MPAs listed above. Including any temporal/spatial restriction of activities (i.e. seasonal fishery closures, changes to vessel activity etc.)

• Provide details of **existing or proposed monitoring schemes** related to the effectiveness of MPAs /management measures listed above for small cetaceans.

• Recommend any **best practice approaches** to management (threat mitigation) of MPAs listed above for small cetaceans.

• **List new initiatives/projects** involving studies of cetaceans relating to MPAs in your country

• **List new reports/publications** involving studies of cetaceans relating to MPAs in your country

• Provide web links to **other relevant information**.
## National Reporting – Summary of Status Quo

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Number of MPAs designated for small cetaceans</th>
<th>Type</th>
<th>Species</th>
<th>Management measures?</th>
<th>Monitoring programme?</th>
<th>Shapefiles or maps online?</th>
<th>Best practice recommendations?</th>
<th>Links to maps/shapefiles</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>SAC Other</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
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<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>16 16</td>
<td>SAC Other</td>
<td>Harbour porpoise</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no entry</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>Yes</td>
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<tr>
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<td>SAC Other</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
<td>No entries</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>54 49</td>
<td>SAC Other</td>
<td>Harbour porpoise, Bottlenose dolphin, Common dolphin</td>
<td>yes (some MPAs at least)</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no entry</td>
<td>Some (national)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Germany</td>
<td>32 30</td>
<td>SAC Other</td>
<td>Harbour porpoise</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no entry</td>
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<td>Lithuania</td>
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<tr>
<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>11 8</td>
<td>SAC Other</td>
<td>Harbour porpoise</td>
<td>no - fisheries measures submitted</td>
<td>no entry</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>no entry</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Poland</td>
<td>4 4</td>
<td>SAC Other</td>
<td>Harbour porpoise</td>
<td>&quot;no data&quot;</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>&quot;no data&quot;</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sweden</td>
<td>PENDING</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>UK</td>
<td>11 10</td>
<td>SAC Other</td>
<td>Harbour porpoise, Bottlenose dolphin, Risso's dolphin</td>
<td>yes (for some MPAs)</td>
<td>yes (for some MPAs)</td>
<td>yes</td>
<td>yes, some suggestions</td>
<td>yes</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Key points

• Vast majority of MPAs are designated for harbour porpoise and key driver is the Habitats Directive

• Management measures only implemented for some sites within the Agreement Area, otherwise management tends to be wider

• Information about monitoring programmes has not been provided by all Parties.

• Links to spatial information for MPAs was provided – often it was to the NATURA 2000 website viewer where you can query the SACs at least
Les aires marines protégées françaises
Management Schemes/Measures – Examples

• France:
  • Reduce noise exposure for BD in Iroise marine nature park including jetski prohibition around Molene archipelago and ban on seaweed harvesting in certain areas

• Germany:
  • Navigation regulations and vessel speed restrictions inside National Parks
  • Low disturbance zones (navigation, fishing and introduction of noise)
  • Gillnet fisheries prohibited within 3nm of whale sanctuary and restrictions on mesh size and net height outside 3nm
  • Voluntary agreement to reduce total length of gillnets in Baltic Sea (in July and August, since 2013)

• UK:
  • Management scheme for Moray Firth SAC for BD – including development of guidance (e.g. Dolphin Space) and awareness raising with public.
MPA-specific monitoring

- **France**
  - BD photo-ID monitoring in Iroise Sea (marine nature park) and Normandy-Brittany Gulf (GECC)
  - Megascope: yearly offshore campaigns to monitor megafauna on Ifremer vessel

- **Denmark**
  - Annual aerial surveys North Sea
  - Western Baltic/Belt Seas mini-SCANS & six largest MPA monitored by PAM (5 CPODs for 1 year per six year monitoring period)

- **Germany**
  - Visual monitoring: aerial surveys conducted between May and August 2015 to assess distribution and density of HP.
  - Acoustic monitoring: C-PODs deployed throughout waters of Schleswig-Holstein during 2016-2018 (ongoing) in order to monitor acoustic activities in the German Wadden Sea.

- **UK:**
  - Moray Firth SAC – long-term photo-ID; acoustic monitoring
  - Cardigan Bay and Pen Llyn a’r Sarnau SACs – line transect & photo-ID
  - North East Lewis MPA – photo-ID
Marine Protected Areas – Other Work

- Inf.2.7a - Caloric map of prey
  - spatiotemporal energetic availability of different prey species to harbour porpoises in the North Sea
  - Seasonal energy maps produced Atlantic cod, whiting, European sprat, Atlantic herring, and sandeels
  - The condition of supporting habitats and processes, and the availability of prey is maintained.
Marine Protected Areas – Other Work

• Inf.2.7b - Design of SAC monitoring plan

Design of a monitoring plan for the Southern North Sea candidate Special Area of Conservation and wider area

Figure 2. Map of the Southern North Sea candidate Special Area of Conservation for harbour porpoise and offshore wind developments. Data obtained from TCE_Wind_Farm_All_20171218.shp (last updated online December 2017) © Crown Copyright (2017).
• Inf.2.7c - Bycatch and mitigation approaches in HP SACs

• Quantify bycatch in the SACs and wider Management Units
• Potential value of pingers & closed areas for SAC management
• Bycatch rates (porpoises per day at sea) were derived from observations conducted on over 2500 trips made during 3784 days at sea on gillnet fishing vessels between 1996 and 2018.
• Bycatch in SAC network <10% of the UK total
• Closures only effective if effort not redistributed
• Pingers would reduce bycatch by 60-95%; noise footprint 0.001 and 1.18% of the network
Marine Protected Areas – Other Work

- Inf.2.7d - Regional Seas Application of Area-based Management Tools, including Marine Protected Areas – Case Studies

- UNEP Regional Seas Programme: 18 regions; >146 countries participating in 18 Regional Seas Conventions and Action Plans.
- Two case studies:
  - OSPAR Commission
  - Mediterranean Action Plan
Marine Protected Areas – Other Work

• UK Dolphin and Porpoise Conservation strategy
• Due for consultation Autumn 2019
• A UK wide strategy aimed at ensuring effective management to achieve and/or maintain favourable conservation status for the eight of the most commonly occurring dolphin and porpoise species in UK waters.
How have MS done in relation to Action Points?

• AP 21 - development of a map of MPAs

• AP20 – Best approaches to management
National Reporting – Discussion Points

• How do we know if MPAs are being effective for cetacean conservation?

• What are the challenges of implementing appropriate management measures – on their own or in the context of other intergovernmental bodies – and how can they be overcome?

• What are the challenges of appropriate monitoring within MPAs, and how can they be overcome?

• Is there potential for collaboration and building transboundary approaches?

• Is there more work to be done in identifying any further suitable sites for the establishment of MPAs?