The Marine Mammal Management Toolkit: A tool for MPA managers and policy makers

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Francis Staub, Twinning Coordinator, Marine Mammal Twinning, EU Ocean Governance Project
Ocean Governance Project: Protecting and restoring marine ecosystems as catalysts for building peace and security and fostering sustainable economies in South-East Asia and the Atlantic Ocean basin
The Marine Mammal Twinning

MAIN OBJECTIVES

1. To build technical capacities of MPA managers by sharing knowledge, expertise and good practice.

2. To provide MPA managers with a toolbox (the self-assessment tool to "track" the integration of marine mammals into MPA management plans and the checklist).

3. To create a network of peers that could provide assistance to other MPA managers on an ad-hoc basis.

4. To promote the developed toolbox and Adapt the toolbox to other migratory species such as turtles or other significant species in South-East Asia.
Current Twinning Partners

• MPAs
  • Agoa Sanctuary
  • The Iroise Marine Nature Park
  • Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary
  • “Yarari” Marine Mammal & Shark Sanctuary

• National entities
  • Ministry of Agriculture & Env., Cape Verde
  • Gov. of Bermuda’s Dpt. Of Env. & Natural Resources
  • Fisheries and Oceans Canada, Government of Canada *

• Others
  • University of Iceland
  • SPAW-RAC
  • International Whaling Commission (IWC)*
  • Whale & Dolphin Conservation (WDC) *
Marine mammals management toolkit

This toolkit is being developed within the framework of the "Marine mammals, a way to enhance cooperation between Marine Protected Areas" twinning. This twinning is part of the Oceas Governance project.

The toolkit (which includes the factsheet, good practices and the Self-Assessment Tool) was designed to support managers, operators, policy makers and anyone interested in marine mammals' conservation.
Toolkit Components

• The Toolkit contains key components:
  • Factsheets
  • Self-Assessment Tool (incl. SAT-LITE*)
  • Community of Practice*
  • Good Practices
  • News, Newsletter & Events

• All designed to be supportive & interlinked
Factsheets

- 23 factsheets available
- Designed to accompany the self-assessment tool (SAT)
- Five core themes:
  - Management Framework
  - Addressing Activities & Threats
  - Research & Monitoring
  - Outreach & Engagement
  - Management Effectiveness
- Continually evolving with advances in conservation actions
Factsheets

Themes

The factsheets are designed to accompany the self-assessment tool (SAT) in supporting those involved in the integration of marine mammals into MPA management plans. The toolkit itself is flexible and will continue to evolve, as will these factsheets, to incorporate international best practice, new case studies, the latest scientific information, and new factsheets as relevant. The factsheets are continuously updated and should you have any comments/suggestions please do not hesitate to contact us.

Management framework

> MPA management with respect to marine mammals
> Coordination between agencies with respect to marine mammal conservation
> Zoning and permitting
> Planned responses and contingency plans for major incidents

Addressing the activities and threats

> Whale and dolphin watching
> Noise management
> Entanglement in fishing gear and other installations
> Marine Mammal By-catch (fishing)
> Collision / strike
> Strandings

Research and monitoring

> Baseline Knowledge – Ecology of Marine Mammal, their Habitats and their threats
> Ecological Monitoring – protocols and techniques
> Measured Ecological Variables (by MPA management or partner organisations)
> Frequency of Monitoring
> Data sharing
> Socio-economic monitoring
> Marine Mammal Research / scientific permits / agreements

Outreach and engagement

> Involvement of stakeholders and other partners in marine mammal management
> Education
> Communication / Awareness raising

Management effectiveness

> Compliance and Enforcement
> Reporting / Reviewing management effectiveness
> Overall management capacity across all operations affecting marine mammal conservation
> Resource Allocation to Research, Monitoring and Enforcement

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Self-Assessment Tool

- Excel Tool – Offline usability
- WEB-SAT - Online
- Guided multiple choice questions
- Questions are scored to produce a snapshot assessment of the MPA
- Performance against the 5 core themes
- Temporal monitoring
- Both tools available in French, Spanish and English
### Marine Management Group Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Max Score</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>MPA Management Framework</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>44</td>
<td>70.45%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Addressing Activities &amp; Threats</td>
<td>68</td>
<td>98</td>
<td>69.39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research and monitoring</td>
<td>55</td>
<td>81</td>
<td>67.90%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach and engagement</td>
<td>24</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>75.00%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management effectiveness</td>
<td>26</td>
<td>33</td>
<td>78.79%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>204</strong></td>
<td><strong>288</strong></td>
<td><strong>70.83%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Management Effectiveness Score

- **Total Score:** 204
- **Max Score:** 288
- **Percentage:** 70.83%
SAT-LITE

• SAT-LITE has been built in excel
• Acts as a pre-curser for the SAT – provides recommendations on ‘next steps’
• Reduced questions and increased interaction
• Next Steps
  • Requires final testing for dashboard and results
  • Will share with partners for review
  • Launch online
SAT-LITE DASHBOARD

Should I complete the full SAT?

YES: With special attention to the below themes

Marine Management Group Scores

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Group</th>
<th>Score</th>
<th>Max Score</th>
<th>%</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Management Framework</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>69%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Activities &amp; Threats</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>42</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research &amp; Monitoring</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>13%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outreach &amp; Engagement</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Management Effectiveness</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>33%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>48</strong></td>
<td><strong>114</strong></td>
<td><strong>42%</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Greatest Perceived Threats

- Noise: High
- Entanglement: Medium
- Ship strike: Low
- Stranding: Medium
- Bycatch: High
- Marine debris: High
- Marine Mammal Watching: None

MPA Management Framework

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Answer</th>
<th>Awarded Score</th>
<th>Max Score</th>
<th>% of Max Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Do the stated objectives of the MPA include marine mammal biodiversity?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Is marine mammal management within the MPA described clearly and in detail within a management plan?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Does the management plan allow for modifications to regulations in response to the following threats to marine mammals?</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- marine mammal watching</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- noise management</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- entanglement in fishing gear and other installations</td>
<td>Yes</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>100%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>- marine mammal by-catch (fishing)</td>
<td>No</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Community of Practice (CoP)

Providing a forum to discuss ideas, problems, issues and create invaluable networking opportunities for the effective management of marine mammals within, and around, MPAs for the users to the tool

- MPA Managers welcome to join & asked to complete the SAT for their MPA
- Will have access to mentors, exchange knowledge with other MPA managers
- Mailing list to ask questions
- Able to add the "logo" on their material
- Opportunities to attend conferences & workshops

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A Tool for Multiple Purposes

- A tool for Monitoring the progress of MPAs
- A checklist for developing management plans
- Understand weaknesses and successes in management plans
- Adaptive management
- Capacity building tool for empowering managers
- Towards effective management of marine mammals
How can you be involved

• Use the SAT (contact us if you need more information or help)
• Review to toolkit, especially the factsheets
• Submit good practices and case studies
• Join the Community of Practice

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Newsletter

Register to the newsletter:

https://marine-mammals.info/newsletter/
Thank-you

CONTACT US

ocean-governance@biodiv-conseil.fr

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www.marine-mammals.info/newsletter