NATIONAL REPORT DENMARK

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Input from:
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Line Kyhn, Aarhus University
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=aPOlRi9Ouls and https://bios.au.dk/forskningraadgivning/temasider/baelt-i-balance/

hvaler.dk on Facebook - very active
MONITOR AND ESTIMATE ABUNDANCE AND DISTRIBUTION

New results from national monitoring programs or large-scale surveys
Latest report is from 2020.

WBBK

• Rotation of PAM stations in SACs continues
• PAM results in all 6 N2000 shown a steady increase in detections since 2012.
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• Rotation of PAM stations in SACs continues
• PAM results in all 6 N2000 shown a steady increase in detections since 2012.
• MiniSCANS-II in July 2020 – by aerial survey coordinated and funded by Germany, Denmark, and Sweden completed and reported.

BALTIC PROPER

• PAM monitoring around Bornholm planned for 2023-2024 - hopefully part of SAMBAH-II

Future plans

• SCANS-IV in July 2022
MONITOR, ESTIMATE AND REDUCE BYCATCH

Bycatch monitoring
• By-catch monitoring program with video - 8 boats year round – more may be added. Data is reported and used in ICES WGBYC

Bycatch estimates

- Electronic video monitoring in the Danish commercial gillnet fleet
- Detected fishing activity, 16 vessels, incl. bycatches, 2010-2016
- North Sea, Skagerrak, Kattegat, Belt Seas and Western Baltic Sea.
- Results: mesh size, fishing depth, distance to shore and time of the year were important contributors.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Area</th>
<th>Quarter 1</th>
<th>Quarter 2</th>
<th>Quarter 3</th>
<th>Quarter 4</th>
<th>Year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>North Sea</td>
<td>123 (0-337)</td>
<td>515 (246-822)</td>
<td>984 (492-1,644)</td>
<td>0 (0-0)</td>
<td>1,622 (739-2,804)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Skagerrak</td>
<td>64 (28-106)</td>
<td>134 (56-223)</td>
<td>211 (105-344)</td>
<td>96 (48-154)</td>
<td>505 (238-827)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Øresund</td>
<td>19 (10-30)</td>
<td>10 (5-18)</td>
<td>30 (15-46)</td>
<td>43 (23-69)</td>
<td>102 (52-163)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belt Seas</td>
<td>57 (21-100)</td>
<td>145 (95-199)</td>
<td>201 (130-282)</td>
<td>90 (48-144)</td>
<td>493 (294-752)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>All areas</td>
<td>263 (59-573)</td>
<td>804 (402-1,262)</td>
<td>1,426 (743-2,317)</td>
<td>229 (119-366)</td>
<td>2,722 (1,323-4,518)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
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Bycatch estimates

Ongoing projects with alternative gear
• DTU Aqua research focus on pots, seine, pearl net, rattle pingers, low nets.
• Pots – efficiency across the year and with different bait. Pearl net trials will begin this year – follow up on Isabella Kratzer’s PhD.
• Big challenge is the low cod quota, making trials in cod fishery impossible.

Reduce bycatch: in the Baltic Sea: Delegated act
MONITOR AND MITIGATE IMPACT OF UNDERWATER NOISE

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

- National noise monitoring stations continued

MONITOR AND ASSESS POPULATION HEALTH STATUS

Status of collection of dead porpoises:
Data from 2019: STRANDEDE HAVPATTEDYR I DANMARK 2019 Beredskabet vedrørende Havpattedyr (National Contingency Plan)”.
• 59 dead harbour porpoises (56 stranded/3 known bycatches)
• 14 harbour porpoises necropsied - > no signs infectious diseases/negative for morbillivirus. Six of the necropsied porpoises were assessed to be potential bycatches
• Denmark has funding for dissecting 25 porpoises per year

Interesting cases to mention? no
INVESTIGATE HABITAT USE AND PROTECT IMPORTANT AREAS

Projects/Research on porpoise distribution or habitat use?

Belt Sea: several EIA assessment studies using PAM in Kattegat 2020 – 2022, Results confirm known distribution.

Baltic Sea: “Energi Island Bornholm, 3 GW wind farms” Assessment in 2021-2023. PAM and aerial surveys.
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New protected areas designated for harbour porpoises?
In 2020, 20 new N2000 sites were added to the existing 16 sites.
Investigate habitat use and protect important areas

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Conservation measures and/or management plans in place for existing areas?
No