

# 13th Meeting of the Jastarnia Group

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Wilhelmshaven, Germany



Ida Carlén, Coalition Clean Baltic  
[ida.carlen@ccb.se](mailto:ida.carlen@ccb.se)

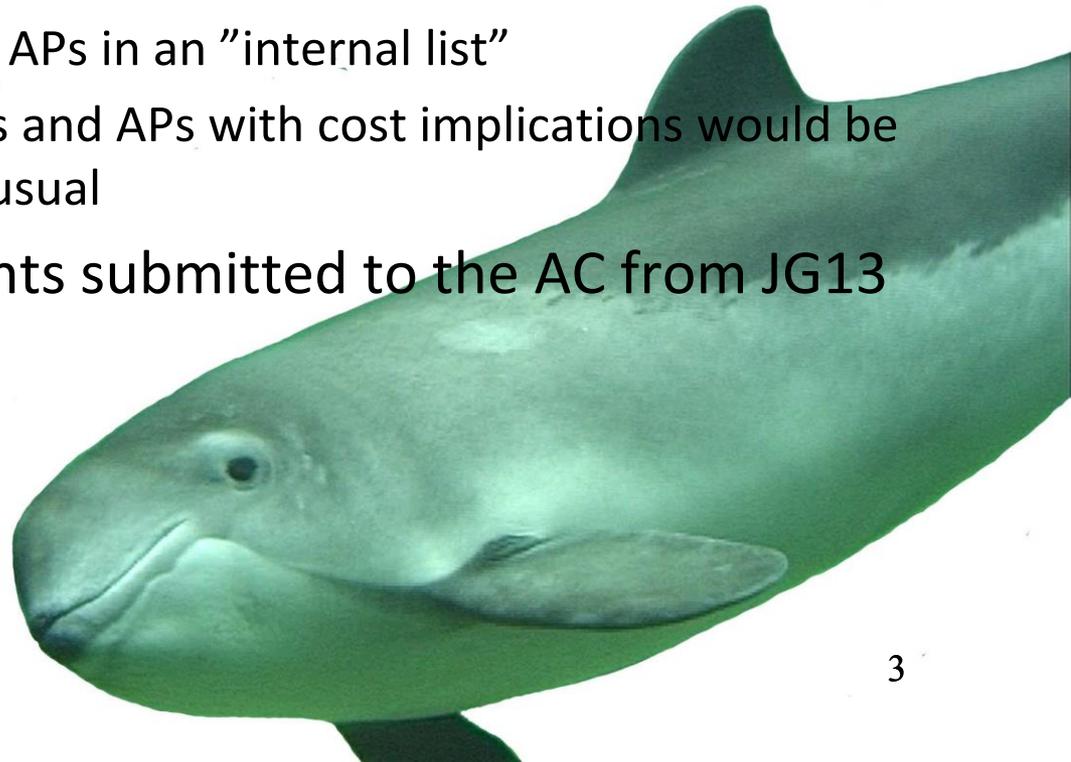
# North Sea Group – Jastarnia Group

## Joint session

- Jacob Nabe-Nielsen presented the DEPONS project, an individual-based model of disturbance effects on the harbour porpoise population in the North Sea
- Rüdiger Strempele presented the work of the Common Wadden Sea Secretariat
  - Suggestion to the AC to recommend the harbour porpoise to be addressed by the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation, which had not previously been done
  - Suggestion to strengthen collaboration between the Trilateral Wadden Sea Cooperation and ASCOBANS
- Agreement on the benefits of having joint sessions between the two WGs on some regular interval

# Implementation of the Jastarnia Plan and the Western Baltic, Belt Sea and Kattegat Plan

- First meeting to discuss JP and WBBK Actions Points in parallel instead of in separate sessions
- Concerns that there were a large number of actions points from JG12
  - Agreement to put some APs in an "internal list"
  - Politically important APs and APs with cost implications would be submitted to the AC as usual
- A total of 41 action Points submitted to the AC from JG13



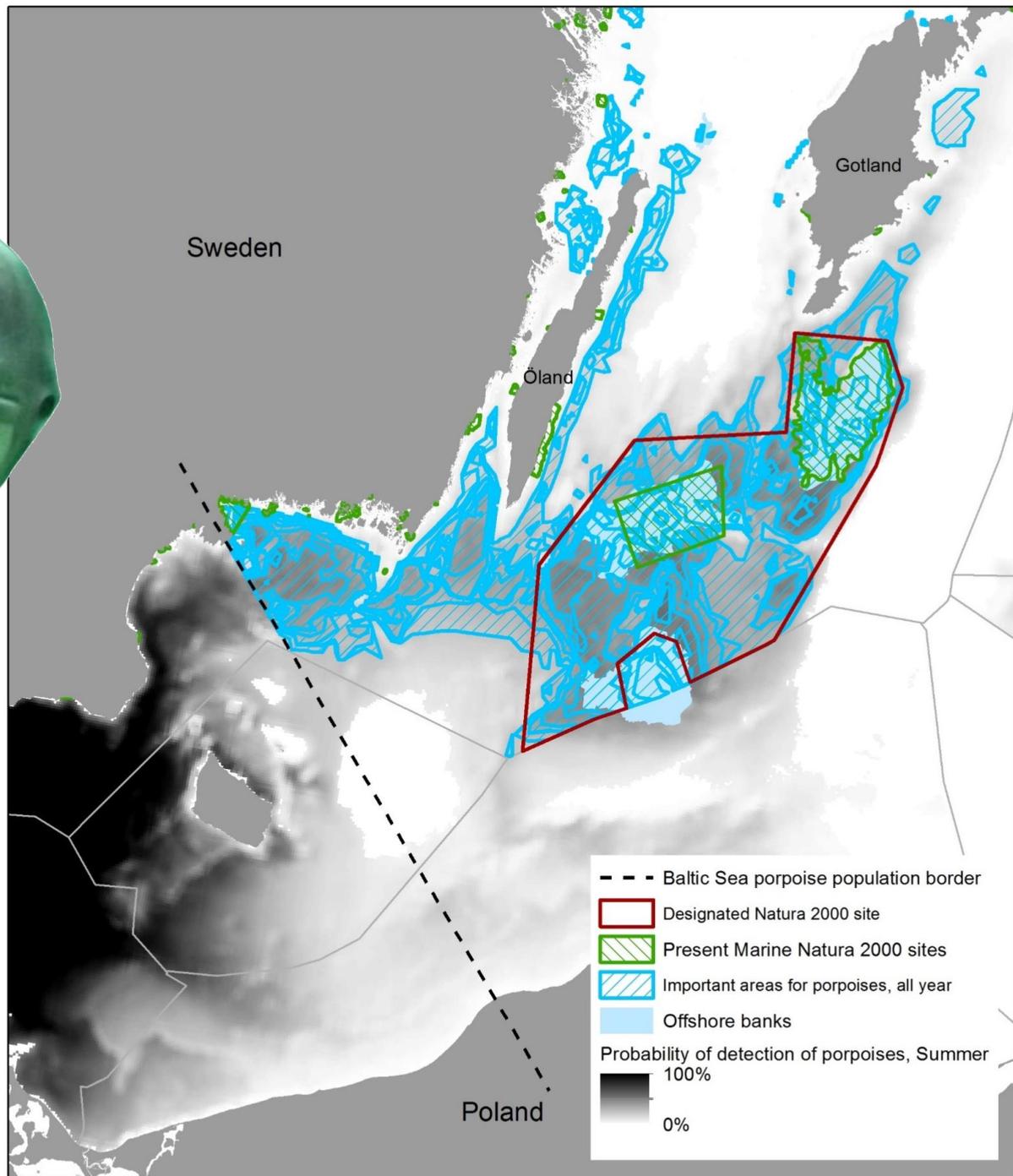
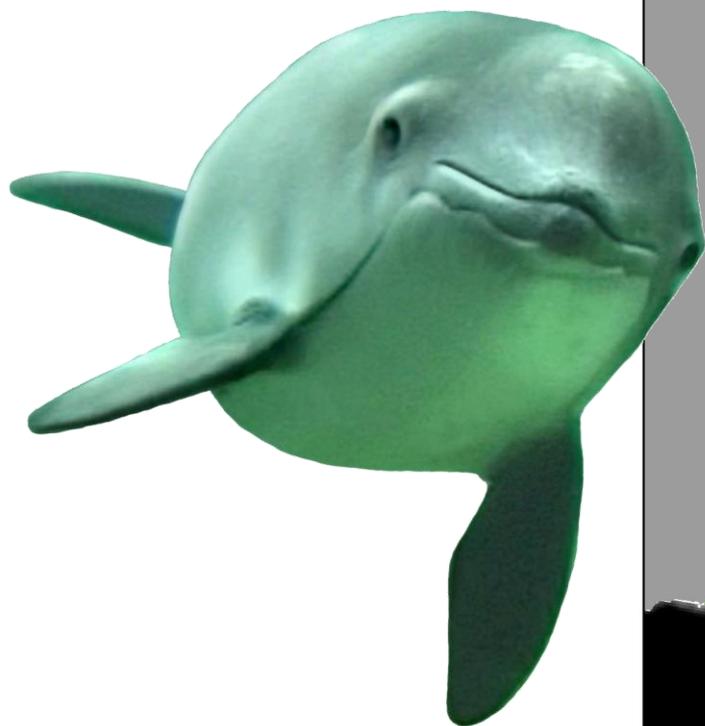
# Implementation and progress of the JP and WBBKP – Summary

Good progress has been made in the areas of

- Habitat use and protection of important areas
- Monitoring and surveys
- Research on impacts of underwater noise
- Cooperation on necropsies and data collection
- Alternative gear and bycatch risk assessment in some areas

More progress especially needed on

- Bycatch monitoring and bycatch risk reduction



# Increase involvement, awareness and cooperation

- Involving fishermen and fishermen's organisations in eliminating potential risk of bycatch



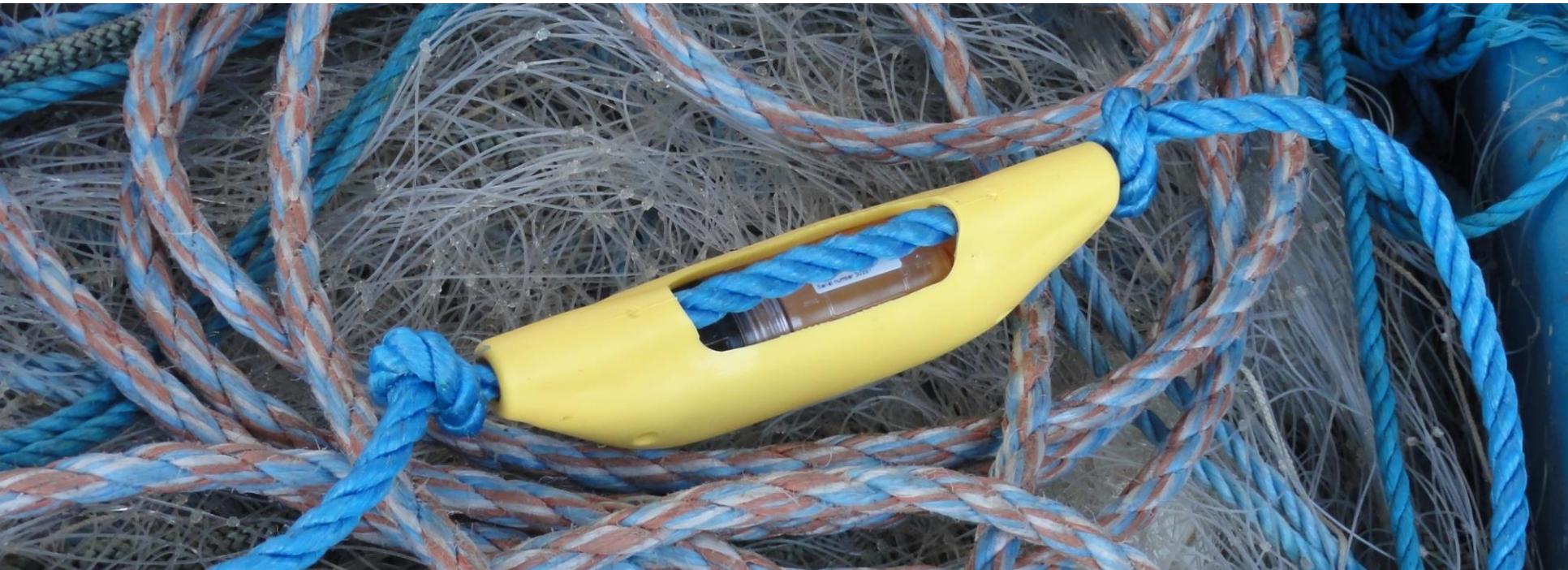
# Monitor and estimate abundance and distribution

- Monitoring and data collection on sub-regional and local levels based on SAMBAH-methods
- Initiate SAMBAH II to start in 2021
- Cooperation on inter-SCANS surveys of WBBK population



# Monitor, estimate and reduce bycatch

- Improve bycatch monitoring and implement a system for monitoring regardless of vessel size
- Continue to develop, conduct research on and implement use of alternative fishing gear and pingers not audible to seals
- Make efforts to eliminate bycatch, especially in MPAs



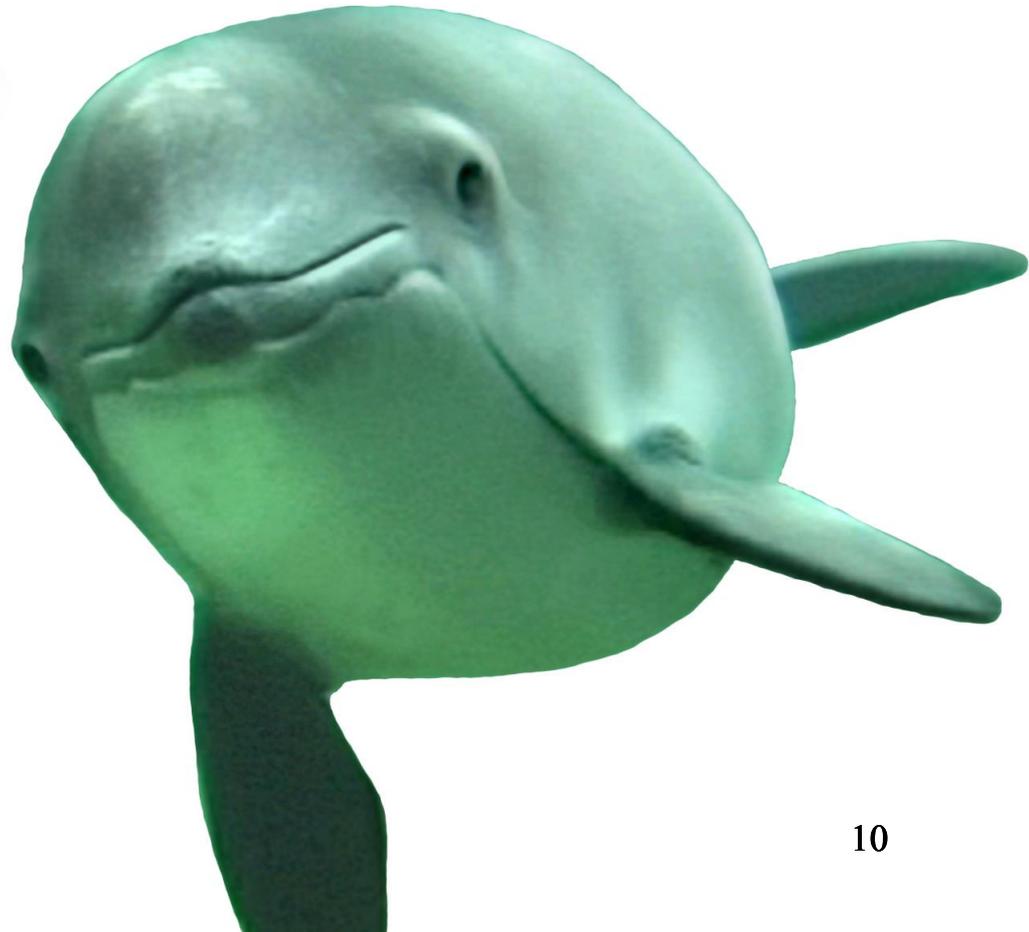
# Monitor and mitigate impact of underwater noise

- Baseline studies of underwater noise as a reference point for future impact assessments
- Investigate detrimental effects of various types of sounds
- Adopt regulations on reduction of sounds emissions from construction of offshore windfarms



# Monitor and assess population status

- Coordinating collection and standardizing necropsies of stranded animals



# Investigate habitat use and protect important areas

- Use SAMBAH results to inform management plans and mitigation measures



## Cross-cutting issues and misc.

- Parties are encourage to take turns hosting the JG meetings and ensuring that the necessary funding is available
- Adapt focus of JG meetings to correspond to the focus of the following AC meeting
- TORs have been produced for a Baltic Sea/WBBK/North Sea Coordinator