

6th Meeting of the 'Steering Group for the Conservation Plan for the Harbour Porpoise in the North Sea' (HP NSSG) - ASCOBANS

Date: Monday, 19 June 2017, 9:00 AM – 6:30 PM & 20 June 2017, 9:00 AM – 12:00 AM
Place: Common Wadden See Secretariat, Wilhelmshaven, Germany

DRAFT AGENDA

- 1 Welcome and announcements
 - 1.1 Adoption of Agenda
 - 1.2 Appointment of Rapporteur
- 2 Minutes of the 5th NSSG meeting, 28 September 2015, The Hague, The Netherlands
- 3 Implementation Review: Bycatch estimation (Actions 3 and 4)
 - 3.1 New information on bycatch estimates (as reported to ICES WGBYC)
 - 3.2 Monitoring projects
 - 3.2.1 Remote Electronic Monitoring projects
 - 3.2.1.1 Update on Danish REM projects
 - 3.2.1.2 Update on Dutch REM project
 - 3.2.1.3 Update on any other REM projects
 - 3.2.2 Other monitoring projects
 - 3.2.2.1 Update on the Danish monitoring project in recreational fisheries
 - 3.3 Voluntary reporting
 - 3.4 Assessment of bycatch in the North Sea – knowledge gaps
 - 3.4.1 Missing fisheries
 - 3.4.1.1 Update on bycatch situation in the southern North Sea and Channel (ICES Areas IVc, VIIId, VIIe)
 - 3.5 Identification of bycatch – outputs from the necropsy protocols workshop
 - 3.6 Common Fisheries Policy – current status of developments relating to cetacean bycatch
 - 3.7 Recommendations
- 4 Implementation review: Development of alternative mitigation methods (Action 5)
 - 4.1 Any updates on the German PAL project and the alternative and ecosystem-friendly fishing gear project
 - 4.2 Update on Dutch projects (Banana pinger+)
 - 4.3 Update on UK projects
 - 4.4 Update on changes in fishing procedures (France, the Netherlands, Denmark, Sweden, any others?)
- 5 Other activities contributing to the conservation of the harbour porpoise in the North Sea:
 - 5.1 EU Habitats Directive:
 - 5.1.1 Review of North Sea SCIs/SACs concerning harbour porpoise
 - 5.1.2 Progress in designing conservation objectives, management plans and conservation measures (e.g. noise disturbance) for harbour porpoises in Natura 2000 areas
 - 5.2 New Surveys – monitoring trends in distribution & abundance (including DEPONS Project, SCANS-III) (Action 7)
 - 5.3 Update on MSFD and marine mammal indicators
 - 5.4 Update on Bonn Workshop relating to safe bycatch limits for harbour porpoises
 - 5.5 Certification schemes – Marine Stewardship Council
 - 5.6 Others

- 6 Overall progress in the implementation of the Conservation Plan
- 7 Calendar of Actions 2017-2018
 - 7.1 Priorities of action points of the North Sea Plan
 - 7.2 Priorities of the Work Plan for the NSSG
 - 7.3 Prospects for a new NSSG Co-ordinator or short-term Consultant
- 8 Communication
 - 8.1 Relationship with the ICES WGs
- 9 Election of Chair
- 10 Next SG meeting
- 11 Close