

NAMMCO



MEETING OF THE
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE
FOR CETACEANS

23 March 2021
Online

REPORT

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Please cite this report as:

NAMMCO-North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (2021). *Report from the Management Committee for Cetaceans*. March, 2021. Tromsø, Norway: NAMMCO.

Available at https://nammco.no/topics/mc_reports/

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1. CHAIR'S OPENING REMARKS

The Chair of the Management Committee for Cetaceans (MCC), Guro Gjelsvik (NO), welcomed participants to the meeting (see Appendix 1 for the full list of participants) and noted that Fern Wickson from the NAMMCO Secretariat would act as rapporteur.

The Chair noted that all the meeting documents had been made available on the NAMMCO website two weeks prior to the meeting. The list of meeting documents is available in Appendix 2 of this report. The Chair drew particular attention to the following documents as relevant for all agenda items:

NAMMCO/28/MC/05: List of Proposals for Conservation and Management and Recommendations for Research, with Responses from the Parties.

NAMMCO/28/MC/06: List of Active Requests from the NAMMCO Council to the Scientific Committee, with Responses from the Scientific Committee.

It was noted that Member Countries had been invited to submit updates in writing on their advances towards the implementation of previous proposals for conservation and management and recommendations for research.

Prior to the meeting, all Member Countries had reported their catch statistics and the online [NAMMCO catch database](#) had been updated accordingly.

The Chair informed participants that due to time constraints connected to the online format, the meeting would focus on:

- a) Reviewing new management advice regarding hunting quota,
- b) Deciding whether to endorse new proposals for conservation and management and recommendations for research (with implications for Member Countries) made by the Scientific Committee (SC) during their meetings in 2019 and 2021, and
- c) Determining whether any requests for advice may be considered completed and closed.

This means that only information related to the above listed items was presented during the meeting. Additional information on all species is available in the SC reports (see document NAMMCO/28/08).

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA

The Chair noted a request that item 3.5 on narwhal stocks be taken as the final item for discussion and the MCC agreed. With this minor amendment in the order in which items would be discussed, the agenda was adopted and is available as Appendix 3 to this report.

3. CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT MEASURES FOR WHALE STOCKS

3.1 BALEEN WHALES

3.1.1 Requests for Advice Considered Answered by the SC

Request R-3.2.4: *To conduct a formal assessment of humpback whales following the completion of the T-NASS. In addition, to investigate the relationship between the humpback whales summering in West Greenland and other areas and incorporate this knowledge into their estimate of sustainable yields of West Greenland humpback whales.*

SC24 recommended annual strikes of no more than 25 humpback whales off West Greenland as sustainable for 2019–2024 and noted that this level of removals would also allow for an increase if the population was depleted. SC24 also recommended that the strike limit algorithms (SLAs) developed in the IWC be used to provide advice on sustainable yields for Greenland. SC25 clarified that the advice of the SC was based on the humpback SLA without any use of a needs statement and reiterated that

SLAs provide the best scientific basis for advice on sustainable takes of large whales in Greenland so long as they are applied without the use of needs statements. SC26 provided further information on how SLAs may be used without needs statements (see NAMMCO/28/08). The SC thereby considered this request for advice to have been answered.

The MCC was satisfied with the answer provided by the SC and **agreed** to recommend to Council that this request could now be closed.

Request R-1.7.12: *To give information on sustainable yield based on new abundance estimates expected from TNASS-2015 for all large baleen whales in West Greenland waters.*

SC27 noted that it had previously recommended that SLAs (used under the IWC ASW framework) are the best method to provide advice on sustainable removals for all large baleen whales in West Greenland waters. At SC26, it also provided more information and further clarification of how these SLAs may be used without needs statements (see NAMMCO/28/08). With the provision of this information, the SC considers this request answered.

The MCC was satisfied with the answer provided by the SC and **agreed** to recommend to Council that this request could now be closed.

3.1.2 Request Older than 10 years

It has previously been agreed that requests that are older than 10 years are automatically withdrawn unless the MCs choose to renew them. This year, the following request is due to be withdrawn unless it is specifically renewed by the MCC.

Request R-3.5.3: *To assess the status of Sei whales in West Greenland waters and the Central North Atlantic and provide minimum estimates of sustainable yield.*

The SC has regularly noted that there is insufficient data to answer this request and recent surveys have not had enough sightings to generate abundance estimates.

The MCC **agreed** not to renew this request given the lack of information available.

3.2 BELUGA

The NAMMCO-JCNB Joint Working Group on narwhal and beluga (JWG) met online from 26–30 October 2020. A presentation of the assessment of beluga performed by the JWG, including advice on sustainable catch quota, was presented by NAMMCO Chair of the JWG, Roderick Hobbs. A copy of this presentation is available on the NAMMCO website here: <https://nammco.no/meetings/management-committees/>

More information on the assessment of beluga and the SC review can be found from [page 18 of the SC27 report](#).

Hunters from East Greenland also noted that although beluga were previously rarely seen in the area, since 2010 they have been observed in increasing numbers. In 2020, for example, they were observed in plentiful numbers around Ittoqqortoormiit travelling in packs with young offspring and are undoubtedly also present in other places.

3.2.1 New Advice on Sustainable Catch

For the North Water stock (north of Cape York), SC27 recommended an annual landed catch of no more than 37 individuals.

For the West Greenland stock (south of Cape York and north of 65°), SC27 recommended an annual landed catch of no more than 265 individuals.

Both of these recommendations maintain a 70% probability for population increase.

The SC also reiterated its recommendations that there be seasonal closures and no hunt south of 65°.

Discussion

Greenland noted that the recommended catch quota for the North Water and West Greenland stocks had already been implemented for 2021. However, the MCC was informed that the Government of Greenland had decided not to follow the advice regarding seasonal closures and no hunt south of 65°. There were several reasons for this decision. The Government noted that a quota system had been in place since 2004 and that the allocated quota had not been caught for several years. Furthermore, the level of shipping and other human activities in the area may have significant impacts on beluga and make it very difficult to reestablish stocks south of Nuuk even if there were closures. In addition, the significant environmental changes that have taken place in the area since the 1920s may affect the possibility for beluga to reestablish in the area. This means that using seasonal closures and no hunt south of 65° with the intention to protect any possible belugas inhabiting the area and allow recovery of the stock may not be effective. It was suggested that substantially more research would be required to assess whether it would actually be possible to restore stocks in this area using these measures.

Following the discussion, the MCC **endorsed** the recommended advice on sustainable catch for the North Water and West Greenland stocks and agreed that this advice should be passed on to the Government of Greenland.

However, the MCC **did not endorse** the proposal for seasonal closures and no hunt south of 65°.

3.2.2 New Recommendations for Research

The JWG made the following new recommendations for research with implications for member countries:

- *New surveys for beluga be carried out in Somerset Island in the summer and West Greenland in the winter.*
- *A half day workshop be held (in connection with a JWG meeting) to exchange information on effective tagging practices for belugas.*

The MCC **endorsed** these new recommendations for research.

3.2.3 Requests for Advice Considered Answered by the SC

Request R-3.4.9: *To provide advice on the effects of human disturbance, including noise and shipping activities, on the distribution, behaviour and conservation status of belugas, particularly in West Greenland.*

SC26 noted that this request had been answered through the disturbance workshop organised by NAMMCO in 2015.

Regarding request R-3.4.9, the MCC **agreed** with the SC that the request had been answered and recommended to the Council that this request now be closed.

3.3 NARWHAL

The Chair of the Ad hoc Working Group on Narwhal in East Greenland (NEGWG), Roderick Hobbs, presented a summary of the assessment and advice generated during the last WG meeting in 2019. A copy of this presentation is available here: <https://nammco.no/meetings/management-committees/>

A summary of the NEGWG meeting report and the response of the SC can be found under section 9.5.2 from [page 40 of the SC26 report](#). Section 7.5.1 from [page 34 of the SC27 report](#) also provides updated information on current hunt quota and a reiteration of SC concern.

To provide some additional context for the case of narwhal in East Greenland, the Head of Delegation for Greenland, Amalie Jessen, informed the MCC that both Tasiilaq and Ittoqqortoormiit are very remote and isolated communities. Ittoqqortoormiit has around 350–400 inhabitants. There are 13 individuals in the community with a professional hunting license, and 60 registered recreational hunters. Tasiilaq has around 3000 inhabitants, and of these, 95 possess a professional hunters license.

Hunters from East Greenland were represented at the meeting by Åge Hammeken and Tobias Ignatiussen (KNAPK), who gave a presentation on their knowledge related to narwhal in East Greenland, as well as their response to the management advice proposed by the SC. As this was the first time the presentation was given and it was not available in another report, a more extensive description of the content is provided below, with the full presentation available on the MCC meeting website here: <https://nammco.no/meetings/management-committees/>.

Summary of Presentation given by Åge Hammeken and Tobias Ignatiussen (KNAPK)

The presentation provided information on the three different types of narwhals identified by hunters in East Greenland: ordinary, slim and offshore narwhals. Hunters have begun to document these different types of narwhals through photographs to provide evidence for some of their differences.

Slim narwhals have less meat than the other types (although blubber mass is the same for all types). They are considerably faster than other types of narwhals and are spotted all around. Males, females, calves and mature animals gather and travel together. They appear around spring/summer (May–July) and may be travelling either north or south. Scientists may have little knowledge of this narwhal because they are never found in inlets nor in the late summer when scientists typically conduct their research in East Greenland.

Offshore, or Of the sea, narwhals have a wide body with a lot of meat. They have a lot of spots on the back and swim very calmly, surfacing almost entirely while swimming. They also have a different diving pattern. Females, males, calves and adults all gather and travel together. This is the scarcest of the three types and is only visible in the summer (July–September). Scientists are likely to have little (if any) knowledge of these narwhals because they are usually located in areas of East Greenland where the biologists do not conduct surveys.

Ordinary narwhals are visible all year round, with the ice determining where they are and can be seen. They have a light stomach and a dark back. These narwhals are found in different locations according to age and sex. They swim calmly and surface almost entirely while swimming. The ordinary narwhals are the largest of group by number and are the type most familiar to scientists.

The presentation noted that these three different types of narwhals inhabit different areas of East Greenland and information on the locations and direction of travel for the different types was provided (see the full presentation for maps with this information). The MCC was informed that although scientists have been told that the different types of narwhals are present in different areas, the scientists tend to return to the same area at the same time of year to conduct their research and therefore are not necessarily collecting knowledge on all the different types.

The presentation also addressed the level of collaboration between scientists and hunters in East Greenland. It was noted that hunters have provided scientists with living narwhals for the last 10 years, and have also provided samples to biologists studying the species. The hunters have regularly expressed their willingness to work more closely with scientists but this has been without success, especially in terms of assisting with surveys. It was suggested that scientists have performed surveys in foggy conditions with poor visibility and that this affects their estimates of abundance. It was stated that hunters have now stopped helping scientists with their research and surveys as the terms of the cooperation are considered unreasonable. For example, the scientists do not come to their local communities and although they often use the hunters' nets to catch animals for their research, they cut the animals out of the nets and do not compensate the hunters for destroying this expensive equipment. The scientists also do not give hunters advanced notice of their work. For example, they received no information when scientists were conducting noise experiments and have received no report from this research. The scientists tend to base themselves in one area, which means that the satellite tags they deploy only cover a limited range. Although the hunters have informed the scientists that narwhals are also found in other areas, they do not appear to have listened.

The presentation also noted that there is a high degree of shipping traffic (sail boats and tourist vessels) in the fjord systems of East Greenland and that narwhals will avoid areas with a high level of noise.

Hunters from East Greenland have consistently observed a high number of narwhals everywhere they travel and have seen neither a decline nor increase in the number of animals. The presentation noted that narwhal can be difficult to count as they can travel in large groups, sometimes move in circles, and offshore narwhals can come in from areas that are not covered by scientific surveys. It was emphasised that hunters do not take large numbers of animals since they use small boats and do not want to diminish the stocks. Hunters therefore do not agree with the scientists' conclusion that the species is threatened with extinction.

Following the presentation from the hunters, Sofie Abelsen (GL) gave a brief presentation on the cultural and nutritional importance of narwhals for the communities in East Greenland. It was noted that narwhals are the most important catch for hunters in these communities, both in terms of providing income and meat. Narwhals provide a nutrient rich source of food for these remote communities, which is especially important given that cargo ships supplying grocery stores only arrive once or twice a year. It was stated that knowledge passed down through generations on both hunting methods and food culture would be lost if the narwhal hunt in East Greenland were to be discontinued.

Discussion

Norway reiterated the findings of the NEGWG and the SC, noting that the SC had expressed concern over continuing high catches on a declining population and following a precautionary approach, had recommended an immediate reduction to zero catches in all three management areas (at least until a new abundance estimate is generated). Acknowledging the difficulties of eliminating subsistence harvest in an area, Norway welcomed Greenland's efforts to stepwise implement the precautionary approach recommended by the SC. Norway also noted that genetic analyses had shown that East Greenland narwhals are genetically distinct from animals in West Greenland and from those in Northeast Greenland and Svalbard. This was presented as an additional reason to implement a precautionary approach. Furthermore, Norway noted that two major oceanographic changes have recently been observed in coastal areas of Southeast Greenland - a lack of pack ice in summer and increasing sea temperatures. While there have recently been several sightings of narwhals in areas north of their traditional range, evidence suggests that a combination of hunting and climate change is negatively impacting the long-term viability of populations in Southeast Greenland, where reduced fertility in narwhals is also observed. To ensure the long-term viability of the natural resources that are a prerequisite for a sustainable development of the hunting communities in East Greenland, Norway strongly encouraged Greenland to implement the SC's precautionary approach recommendations as quickly as possible in this critical situation.

The Chair of the NEGWG thanked the hunters for their presentation and acknowledged that reconciling the differences in the viewpoints of scientists and hunters on this issue was not easy. He emphasised the importance of improving the collaboration and communication between scientists and hunters and noted how valuable it would be to have the hunters document their sightings so that this information may be included in future assessments. He noted that the NEGWG had recommended that hunters be compensated for their collaboration in scientific work and asked the hunters to give their opinion on the lack of sightings in the Tasiilaq area from aerial surveys.

Åge Hammeken (KNAPK) emphasised that it was important that the scientists carry out additional surveys over an expanded area. He also noted that no satellite tagging had been carried out in the Tasiilaq area and that not enough research had been done to reliably claim that narwhals in East Greenland are currently at risk of extinction.

Greenland thanked the hunters for their presentation on this issue that has been a subject of debate since 2015. The change in scientific advice on stock delineation from 1 to 3 stocks over just a few years was noted, as was the fact that there have not been many surveys conducted in the area. It was suggested that since hunters have a consistent presence and are able to observe the animals all year round rather than only during a short survey period, their observations and knowledge should be listened to, respected and incorporated into assessments. It was also noted that their observations regarding the different types of narwhals are being confirmed through DNA analysis. Furthermore, it was noted that while the Cabinet had agreed on a stepwise quota reduction for the coming years, a

significant amount of new information had been received from the hunters and this needed to be taken into account. It was recognised that it is important to collect user knowledge in a structured manner so that it may inform assessments and quota advice. The very different pictures being presented by scientists and hunters need to be reconciled, which requires significant additional and ongoing work.

The Chair of the SC noted that it was interesting to hear the perspectives of the hunters and emphasised that the advice from the SC follows a precautionary approach and is based on the information that is available. He suggested that the scientists in the SC would be happy to share the information that is available and that further cooperation would be welcome. He recognised that hunters can collect knowledge in areas where it can be very difficult for scientists to gather information and therefore that an enhanced cooperation would be highly beneficial.

3.3.1 New Advice on Sustainable Catch

SC26 recommended that there be an immediate reduction to 0 catches in all three management areas of East Greenland (i.e., Ittoqqortormiit, Kangerlussuaq, and Tasiilaq), at least until a new abundance estimate is generated. This advice was reiterated by SC27.

Discussion

Greenland informed the MCC that the Cabinet in Greenland has set a gradual quota reduction for narwhal in East Greenland over the period 2020–2023.

There is a law in Greenland that requires Cabinet to take both scientific advice and user knowledge into account in its decision-making. In this case, Cabinet determined that an immediate reduction to zero quota would threaten food supply and cultural continuity for the communities in East Greenland.

The MCC was also informed that a new executive order on user knowledge is currently in development and work is being done to enable user knowledge to be gathered in a structured manner so that it may inform future assessments and advisory processes.

The Faroe Islands acknowledged the decision by Greenlandic authorities to implement a stepwise reduction in the quota.

Based on the information provided by Greenland, as well as the presentations from the Chair of the NEGWG and the hunters from East Greenland, the MCC **did not endorse** the advice on catch quota.

3.3.2 New Proposals for Conservation and Management

- A new meeting of the Ad hoc Working Group for Narwhal in East Greenland (NEGWG) be held in 2021 to review the latest data and update the assessment.

- Greenland include information on body length in reports of any landed animals.

Discussion

Regarding the first proposal on the next meeting of the NEGWG, the Vice-Chair of the SC noted that the NEGWG planned to review data from a new survey at its next meeting. This survey is scheduled to be conducted in early May and will therefore be a spring survey while previous surveys have been conducted in the summer. While the initial plan was to conduct this new aerial survey using Constable Point as a base, it was now clear that this will not be possible due to restrictions related to the COVID-19 pandemic. The current plan is therefore to base the aerial survey out of Reykjavik. While there had been an intention to invite hunters from East Greenland to participate in this survey, it was noted that this would be difficult now that the survey had to be based out of Iceland. It was suggested that it may be possible for the hunters to be involved in the planning of the survey, even if it was not possible for them to participate in the survey itself. However, the hunters emphasised that the survey results will not be trusted unless a hunter representative is able to participate. This information will be conveyed to the scientists responsible for planning and carrying out this new survey.

Greenland informed the MCC that the new executive order currently under development will include body length in the reports.

Following the discussion, the MCC **endorsed** the proposals for conservation and management.

3.3.3 New Recommendations for Research

- *Abundance estimates in East Greenland be reviewed by the JCNB at the next JWG.*

Greenland

- *Investigate ways to improve reporting of user observations to inform future assessments.*

- *Recognise and include the negative impact of climate change on narwhals in management decision-making on all stocks.*

- *Hunters receive payment for assisting scientific research to clarify stock structure and abundance.*

Discussion

Regarding the last recommendation that hunters receive payment for assisting scientific research, Greenland emphasised that such costs need to be covered by the relevant research institutions. It was noted that scientists have previously paid hunters for the live narwhals provided for research purposes. Greenland also noted that there was a question of whether this recommendation would apply to research collaborations on all species, and that adopting such a principle required further discussion between the relevant stakeholders.

The MCC **agreed** that the recommendation regarding payment to hunters required further discussion before it could be endorsed.

The MCC **endorsed** the other new recommendations for research.

3.4 WHITE-SIDED, WHITE-BEAKED AND BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS

In considering its plans for a future working group meeting to assess the status of dolphin species in the NAMMCO area, SC26 made a new proposal for conservation and management.

3.4.1 New Proposals for Conservation and Management

- *Greenland develop a way to distinguish between white-sided and white-beaked dolphins in reporting.*

The MCC **endorsed** the new proposal for conservation and management.

3.5 HARBOUR PORPOISE

The Chair of the NAMMCO SC, Bjarni Mikkelsen (FO), gave a presentation on the work conducted on harbour porpoises since the last Council meeting.

This included information on the Joint NAMMCO-IMR International Workshop on the Status of Harbour Porpoises in the North Atlantic, which was held at the end of 2018 and reviewed by the SC at their 2019 meeting. The full report from this international workshop is available at: <https://nammco.no/topics/scientific-workshops-symposia-reports/>

It also included the SC26 review of the assessment and advice for harbour porpoises in West Greenland provided by the Harbour Porpoise Working Group (HPWG). Further information on this assessment and advice is available in section 9.11.4 from [page 50 of the SC26 report](#).

3.5.1 New Advice on Sustainable Catch

For West Greenland, SC26 recommended an annual catch (animals reported landed) of no more than 1,869 harbour porpoises as sustainable.

Given the demonstrated importance of reliable and complete reporting of removals, it also strongly recommended that Greenland work to eliminate underreporting and validate catch statistics.

Discussion

Greenland noted that although it had no objection to endorsing the recommended catch quota, it was not possible to say when the advice may be implemented. This is because the Government of Greenland is currently working on a new regulation that will allow quota to be set for harbour porpoises and other small cetaceans (in addition to narwhal and beluga where a quota system is already in place). It was noted that a municipality in West Greenland had asked for quota on harbour porpoises. This advice on sustainable catch quota would therefore need to be considered within the context of the new executive order currently under development. The MCC will be given an update on the status of this at the next annual meeting.

The MCC **endorsed** the recommended advice on the sustainable level of catch for harbour porpoises in West Greenland and agreed that the management advice should be passed on to the Government of Greenland.

3.5.2 New Proposals for Conservation and Management

- Greenland work to eliminate underreporting and validate the catch statistics for harbour porpoises.
- Greenland ask hunters in East Greenland to provide samples to scientists when harbour porpoises are caught.
- Norway expand its reference fleet as part of an effort to obtain more reliable by-catch estimates.

NAMMCO:

- Conduct a formal assessment for Norway with updated by-catch estimates when new abundance estimates become available.
- Conduct a formal assessment for Iceland following a full review of available data, including the use of close-kinship genetic analysis to arrive at abundance estimates.
- Update the West GL assessment as soon as a new abundance estimate becomes available and no later than 2029.

Discussion

Greenland noted that it had no objections to endorsing the proposals for conservation and management. However, it wished to note that there was ongoing work to improve catch statistics and that when the executive order on small cetaceans is finalised, there would be a scheme that would likely improve catch reporting. The MCC was also informed that Greenland would have a dialogue with hunters in East Greenland and the hunter organisation KNAPK regarding how the proposal relating to the provision of samples may be implemented in practice and that further dialogue was required before any plans for sampling could be developed.

Norway informed the MCC that by-catch estimates for harbour porpoises in the period 2006–2018 have been generated using various statistical methods and were recently published in a peer-reviewed journal. Since precise estimates have now been obtained for harbour porpoises, there was no need to expand the reference fleet to obtain reliable estimates.

Taking into account the additional information provided by Member Countries, the MCC **endorsed** the proposals relating to Greenland and the timeframe for future assessments within NAMMCO.

However, the MCC **did not endorse** the proposal that Norway expand the reference fleet.

3.5.3 New Recommendations for Research

- All assessment areas provide samples to support a multidimensional investigation into population structure and stock identity and allow for all datasets to be merged into a common analysis.
- New surveys for harbour porpoises be carried out in NAMMCO areas, and particularly off Iceland since the last dedicated survey there was now over 12 years old.

- *Greenland* conduct follow up research to investigate how widespread underreporting of catches is in the Piniarneq system.
- *Greenland* support the research required to establish a West Greenland sub-population and take the case forward within the IUCN.
- *Iceland and Norway* carry out tagging and tracking studies to help answer questions about stock identity and the appropriate management units.
- *Faroe Islands* work to obtain reliable removals data, update abundance survey, and conduct tagging studies to provide the information required to perform an assessment.

Discussion

Greenland questioned the proposal to take the recognition of a new sub-population forward within the IUCN system, and why this was being requested for harbour porpoise in West Greenland but not for narwhal in East Greenland. It was noted that NAMMCO as an organisation had never previously recommended that the recognition of new sub-populations be advanced within the IUCN system, even if NAMMCO scientists may have been involved in such processes. It was suggested that additional information regarding the IUCN process was required before this recommendation could be endorsed.

The Faroe Islands noted that it was willing to endorse the recommendations for research, however, it informed the MCC that there had been low interest in hunting harbour porpoises in the Faroe Islands over the last 30 years, and that the information currently held on removals was reliable.

Furthermore, the MCC was informed that an updated abundance survey and tagging studies would be carried out in the Faroe Islands when possible.

Based on the information provided and the following discussion, the MCC **did not endorse** the recommendation asking Greenland to support the research required to establish a West Greenland sub-population and take the case forward within the IUCN.

The MCC **endorsed** all other new recommendations for research on harbour porpoises.

4. ANY OTHER BUSINESS

No additional items were presented for discussion.

5. CLOSE OF MEETING

The Chair thanked the participants for their attendance and contributions.

The meeting was closed at 17:45 on 23 March 2021.

6. ADOPTION OF REPORT

A draft of the report was circulated on 24 March 2021 and was finalised and adopted on 25 March 2021.

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APPENDIX 2: DOCUMENT LIST**MANAGEMENT COMMITTEES - JOINT LIST OF DOCUMENTS**

Doc. No.	Title	Agenda
NAMMCO/28/08	Summary: Scientific Committee Reports 2019 & 2021	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/28/MC/01	Joint List of Documents for the Management Committees	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/28/MC/02a	Draft Agenda Joint Meeting of the Management Committees (MCJ)	MCJ
NAMMCO/28/MC/02b	Draft Annotated Agenda Joint Meeting of the Management Committees (MCJ)	MCJ
NAMMCO/28/MC/03a	Draft Agenda Management Committee for Seals and Walrus (MCSW)	MCSW
NAMMCO/28/MC/03b	Draft Annotated Agenda Management Committee for Seals and Walrus (MCSW)	MCSW
NAMMCO/28/MC/04a	Draft Agenda Management Committee for Cetaceans (MCC)	MCC
NAMMCO/28/MC/04b	Draft Annotated Agenda Management Committee for Cetaceans (MCC)	MCC
NAMMCO/28/MC/05	List of Proposals for Conservation and Management and Recommendations for Research, with Responses from Parties	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/28/MC/06	List of Active Requests from the NAMMCO Council to the Scientific Committee, with Responses from the Scientific Committee	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/28/MC/07	Strengthening User Knowledge in NAMMCO	MCJ
For Information		
NAMMCO/28/MC/FI01	Report from the 27 th Meeting of the Scientific Committee - 2021	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/28/MC/FI02	Report from the 26 th Meeting of the Scientific Committee - 2019	MCJ, MCC, MCSW
NAMMCO/28/MC/FI03	FAO (2021). Fishing operations. Guidelines to prevent and reduce bycatch of marine mammals in capture fisheries. FAO Technical Guidelines for Responsible Fisheries No 1, Suppl.4. Rome.	MCJ
NAMMCO/28/MC/FI04	Baffinland (2018). Popular Summary: Mary River Project, Phase 2 Proposal.	MCJ

NAMMCO/28/MC/FI05	Arctic Council (2019). Meaningful Engagement of Indigenous Peoples and Local Communities in Marine Activities: Findings for Policy Makers	MCJ
NAMMCO/28/MC/FI06	NORDECO Project Description - Arctic User Knowledge Network: From Local to Global	MCJ
NAMMCO/28/MC/FI07	A. Jessen (2021). Arctic User Knowledge in Practice in Greenland: Presentation at NORDECO project workshop	MCJ

APPENDIX 3: AGENDA

AGENDA

- 1. Chair's Opening Remarks**
- 2. Adoption of Agenda**
- 3. Conservation and Management Measures for Whale Stocks**
 - 3.1. Baleen whales**
 - 3.2. Beluga**
 - 3.3. Narwhal**
 - 3.4. White-beaked, white-sided and bottlenose dolphins**
 - 3.5. Harbour porpoise**
- 4. Any Other Business**