



## TWENTY SEVENTH MEETING OF THE COUNCIL

3 - 4 April 2019, Tórshavn, Faroe Islands

<b>DOCUMENT 19</b>	<b>NEW PROPOSALS FOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT</b>
<b>Submitted by</b>	NAMMCO Committees
<b>Action requested</b>	To note
<b>Background</b>	

## 1. PROPOSALS FOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT GENERAL

### PROCEDURES

- Requests older than 10 years be retired unless specifically renewed by Council (on the condition that there be a review process within the management committees first and that all retired requests be retained in an archive)
- Encouraging reliable reporting on struck and lost be developed as a joint initiative between SC and CHM

### MARINE MAMMAL – FISHERIES INTERACTIONS

- FO: Implement a reporting system for vessels below 15 GMT
- FO/IS: Add the selection of local marine mammal species to e-logbook design
- FO/IS: Information available on by-catch from foreign vessels should be presented to BYCWG
- IS: Describe the coverage in by-catch reports (even if there is none) so as to inform by-catch risk
- IS: Provide details of the amount of observer effort in pelagic trawl fleets
- NO: Modify the design of the Coastal Reference Fleet (both the selection process and the number of vessels in areas of concern) according to BYCWG recommendations
- ALL: Do not use logbooks for calculating by-catch rates, only as a qualitative indicator for raising concern

New recommendations for research:

### MULTISPECIES APPROACHES TO MANAGEMENT / ECOSYSTEM MODELLING

- Funding be sought to apply and extend the approach of the MareFrame project to focus on marine mammals and the unique needs of NAMMCO

### OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES

- SEC: Review available pollutant research on all marine mammals relevant to NAMMCO and report to SC 26

## 2. PROPOSALS FOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT CETACEANS

### KILLER WHALE

- GL: Regulate the hunt and restrict quotas in a precautionary way.
- GL: Validate catch records, improve reporting (including struck and lost) and include in existing mandatory reporting schemes.

### HUMPBACK WHALE

- SLAs that are developed in the IWC be used for advice for large whales in Greenland.
- Annual strikes of no more than 25 humpback whales off West Greenland from 2019 to 2024.

### NARWHAL

- Recognize the hunting areas in East Greenland, Tasiilaq, Kangerlussuaq and Ittoqqortormiit, as three separate management areas.
- Catches of less than 10 narwhals in both Ittoqqortormiit and Kangerlussuaq.
- The advice for the southern hunting areas applies only to Kangerlussuaq fjord. No catches south of 68°N.

New recommendations for research on cetaceans:

### HUMPBACK WHALE

- A workshop on humpback tagging projects across the Atlantic be held in 2020 in combination with the IWC meeting.

**NARWHAL**

- An *ad hoc* WG be convened to assess the status of narwhals in east GL and report results to SC/26.

**BOTTLENOSE WHALE**

- An analysis of sighting data from 2015 be done.

**KILLER WHALE**

- Further monitoring and sampling be performed in all NAMMCO countries and pollutant and genetic analyses conducted.
- Further research be carried out on abundance & population structure in the west Atlantic.

**LONG FINNED PILOT WHALE**

- A pre-assessment meeting be held prior to PWWG to ensure that the data necessary for performing an assessment is available.

**HARBOUR PORPOISE**

- Combined genetics analysis be done with samples from all NAMMCO countries.

**SURVEYS**

- A workshop on novel abundance survey and estimation methods be held, preferably before the next NASS.
- A common NAMMCO / IWC sighting survey database be hosted by NAMMCO.
- The ongoing spatial analysis at SMRU using NASS/NILS data series be supported to completion.

**3. PROPOSALS FOR CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT SEALS AND WALRUSES****HARBOUR SEALS**

- GL: Improve the accuracy and validation of reported catches and provide accurate information to the catch database.

**WALRUS**

- GL: Total allowable landings: North West 79; West 74; East 17
- GL: Protect haul-out sites in regular use through creating an exclusion zone
- GL: Establish dialogue between managers and hunters on methods for collecting struck and lost data
- GL: Report struck and lost in the "Særmeldingsskjema"
- GL/CA: Evaluate the possibility of a joint management process for shared stocks
- GL/CA: Advance cooperation on shared stocks.
- CA: Encouraged to provide more complete catch data

New recommendations for research for seals and walruses:

**WALRUS**

- GL: Explore relationship between by-catch findings and other impacts from anthropogenic activities
- GL: Update age/tusk relationships for all GL populations
- GL/CA: Maintain regular surveys of all GL stocks & coordinate with CA surveys
- GL/CA: Improve data on stock structure and seasonal movements between GL & CA