

NAMMCO SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE 27**WORKING GROUP ON BY-CATCH***28 May 2020, Videoconference***DRAFT ANNOTATED AGENDA**

- 1. Chair welcome**
- 2. Adoption of agenda**
- 3. Appointment of rapporteurs**
- 4. Review of available documents**
- 5. Icelandic by-catch updates**
 - 5.1 Monitoring and data collection
 - 5.2 Lump sucker gillnet fishery
 - 5.2.1 Harbour porpoise
 - 5.2.2 Seals
 - 5.4. Cod gillnet discussion, no new information
Discuss how to proceed with information for Assessment groups given data-poor situation and recommendations from previous WG meetings
- 6. Norwegian by-catch updates**
 - 6.1 Address WG recommendations from last video conference
 - 6.2 Monitoring and data collection
 - 6.1. Cod and monkfish gillnet fisheries
 - 6.1.1. Seals
 - 6.1.2. Harbour porpoise
- 7. Faroese corrigendum on by-catch**
- 8. Steps and data needed to assess risk in fisheries without by-catch estimates**
- 9. Recommendations**
 - 9.1. Recommendations for research from this WG
 - 9.2. Other recommendations from this WG
- 10. Other business**
- 11. Adoption of report**
- 12. Next meeting**

Annotations

Item 5. Icelandic bycatch updates

The Scientific Committee Coastal Seal WG will meet in November 2020 and needs to have bycatch rate of seals to include in its assessment of coastal seal stocks.

The estimates of seal bycatch in the lumpsucker gillnet fishery (with high bycatch rate of seals) were endorsed by the working group in April 2018, though the group suggested improvements to the stratification scheme (see report in Background documents). A new estimate will be available for that fishery, which will include data from the 2018 fishing season.

The cod fishery was last discussed at the October 2018 video conference meeting (see report in Background documents). The WG did not endorse either the seal bycatch estimates or the harbour porpoise bycatch estimates. However, as an interim measure the stratified estimates of harbour porpoises from 2013-2017 were considered an upper bound to use in the WSHRNA. The group did not endorse any provisional estimates for seals.

Item 6. Norwegian bycatch updates

Norway has revised its estimate of harbour porpoise and seal bycatch in the cod and monkfish gillnet fisheries, taking into account the recommendations of this WG and the recommendations of the *Norwegian Workshop on Marine Mammal Bycatch Monitoring and Mitigation*, Ålesund, 10-20 June 2019.

The WG needs to consider the new estimates for endorsement.

The Scientific Committee Coastal Seal WG will meet in November 2020 and needs to have updated bycatch rate of seals to include in its assessment of coastal seal stocks.

This fishery was last discussed at the October 2018 video conference meeting, and focused mainly on harbour porpoises. The WG recommended revisions to the analysis and did not fully endorse the estimates; however, the WG agreed that the ratio estimates could be considered as “preliminary” and used by the WSHRNA. Seal bycatch in Norwegian fisheries was last discussed at the May 2017 WG meeting (see report in Background documents). The WG advised that the ratio estimates be revised prior to use by the Coastal Seals Working Group.

Item 7 Faroese corrigendum on bycatch

The Faroe Islands provided the Secretariat a corrigendum on the bycatch data which had been previously reported to NAMMCO, either in the annual National Progress Reports or in meetings documents. The corrigendum has been added to the Bycatch Working Group report from its 2017 meetings as an appendix.

The WG may consider whether it wants to review its assessment of the bycatch risk associated with different Faroese fisheries, as given in its 2017 report.

Item 8. Steps and data needed to assess risk in fisheries without bycatch estimates

The WG needs to address how to progress with this task, corresponding to ToR 1 of the WG. Greenland has provided a document, which may serve as a starting point.



Terms of Reference of the Scientific Committee ByCatch Working Group established by SC 21:

- 1. Identify all fisheries with potential bycatch of marine mammals*
- 2. Review and evaluate current bycatch estimates for marine mammals in NAMMCO countries.*
- 3. If necessary, provide advice on improved data collection and estimation methods to obtain best estimates of total bycatch over time.*