



## North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission

30<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting, 29-30 March 2023

### **NAMMCO principles for integrating a precautionary approach in NAMMCO's management of cetaceans and pinniped stocks adopted by NAMMCO 30<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting, 29 March 2023**

- 1) Anthropogenic removals of marine mammals should be assessed for sustainability.
- 2) Sustainable management actions should be to maintain or restore stocks at levels ideally above 60% of their equilibrium in the absence of anthropogenic removals, disturbance, and resource competition.
- 3) Stocks that are depleted below 60% should be managed to increase so that they can recover to the 60% level in a reasonable time period. For example, by having total removals that ensure at least a 70% probability of increase.
- 4) Stocks that are small (<1000 individuals, unless there are more than 400 reproductive age females in the population) should be fully protected from exploitation unless a data-based assessment is able to recommend a sustainable hunt.
- 5) Management decisions should be based on the best available science, which may include hunter and user data and observations.
- 6) Where the best available science is insufficient the precautionary approach shall be widely applied, particularly for small stocks. With greater uncertainty more caution is required.

### **NAMMCO criteria for prioritising the assessment of marine mammal stocks undergoing anthropogenic removals (without any order of priority) adopted by NAMMCO 30<sup>th</sup> Council Meeting, 29 March 2023**

- Stocks with concerning population status.
- Stocks for which no assessment has been conducted.
- Assessments should be conducted at a minimum of every 5-10 years, or more frequently if there is concern on population status.

**NAMMCO**

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