

ICELAND

PROGRESS REPORT ON MARINE MAMMALS IN 2022

Compiled by Sædis M. Grunpiot, Sverrir D. Halldórsson, Valerie Choussin and Guðjón M. Sigríðsson.

Marine and Freshwater Research Institute (MFR), Hálförðjörku, Iceland

I INTRODUCTION

The following is a brief summary of research on marine mammals in Icelandic and adjacent waters in 2022. The studies were conducted by the following research institutes: Marine and Freshwater Research Institute (MFR), Húsavík Research Centre (HRC), Húsavík Whale Museum (HMV), Keidar, Institute for Experimental Pathology (KEIP), The National University Hospital of Iceland, The Icelandic Institute of Natural History (IINH), University of Iceland (UI), University of British Columbia in Canada, University of Barcelona in Spain, University of St Andrews in Scotland, The Icelandic Seal Center (ISC), Høller University College, Natural History Museum of Denmark, Maine University, University of Aarhus, RIF research center, North West Iceland Nature Research Centre, West Iceland Nature Research Centre, Orca Guardian Iceland (OGI) and University of Potsdam. Queries for information on research were sent to all offices, individuals and private commercial platforms such as whaling and whale watching companies known to have been involved in marine mammal research or data collection during the period.

II RESEARCH BY SPECIES 2022

Fin whale

Studies continued at the MFR on the biology and ecology of Fin whales based on data from commercial catches in 2022 and recent years. Fin whale research conducted at the whaling station in Hvalfjörður is wide ranging and includes (a) studies on age, reproduction, feeding ecology, energetics, pollutants, genetics, hybridization, anatomy and physiology and involves several research institutions including the National University Hospital of Iceland, University of British Columbia in Canada, University of Barcelona and Keidar, Institute for Experimental Pathology.

North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission

Poetbox 6453, Sykkumarkn 21-25, N-9294 Trondheim, Norway.

Tel: +47 77687372; Fax: +47 77687374; E-mail: nammoc@nammoc.no

Website: www.nammoc.no