

# Annex A

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# Annex B

## Agenda

1. Introductory items
  - 1.1 Chair's welcome and opening remarks
  - 1.2 Remembrances
  - 1.3 Appointment of Rapporteurs
  - 1.4 Meeting procedures and time schedule
  - 1.5 Establishment of sub-committees and Working Groups
2. Adoption of Agenda
3. Review of available data, documents and reports
  - 3.1 Documents submitted
  - 3.2 National Progress Reports on research
  - 3.3 Data collection, storage and manipulation
  - 3.4 Guidance for the format of recommendations and discussion of Database of Recommendations
  - 3.5 Review of Commission Resolutions from 2018
4. Cooperation with other organisations
  - 4.1 Summary of Secretariat cooperation with other organisations
  - 4.2 African States Bordering the Atlantic Ocean (ATLAFCO)
  - 4.3 Arctic Council
  - 4.4 Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
  - 4.5 Convention for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR)
  - 4.6 Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)
    - 4.6.1 Scientific Council
    - 4.6.2 Conference of Parties
    - 4.6.3 Agreement on Small Cetaceans of the Baltic and North Seas (ASCOBANS)
    - 4.6.4 Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and Contiguous Atlantic Area (ACCOBAMS)
  - 4.7 Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Flora and Fauna (CITES)
  - 4.8 Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)
  - 4.9 Inter-American Tropical Tuna Commission (IATTC)
  - 4.10 IUCN Task Force on Marine Mammal Protected Areas (formerly ICMMPA)
  - 4.11 International Council for the Exploration of the Sea (ICES)
  - 4.12 International Maritime Organisation (IMO)
  - 4.13 International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
  - 4.14 North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO)
  - 4.15 North Pacific Marine Science Organisation (PICES)
  - 4.16 Protocol on Specially Protected Areas and Wildlife (SPA) of the Cartagena Convention for the Wider Caribbean
  - 4.17 Other
5. General assessment and modelling issues
  - 5.1 Evaluate the energetics-based model and the relationship between  $MSYR_{1+}$  and  $MSYR_{mat}$
  - 5.2 Implications of ISTs for consideration of species' and populations' status
  - 5.3 Progress on previous recommendations and on the work plan
6. AWMP *Implementation*-related matters
  - 6.1 Common minke whales off Greenland
    - 6.1.1 Synthesis paper on testing framework and results for the 'G-common minke *SLA*' for common minke whales off West and East Greenland
    - 6.1.2 Conclusions on carryover and interim allowance for the 'G-common minke *SLA*'

- 6.2 *Implementation Review* for North Pacific gray whales (Chukotka and Makah hunts)
  - 6.2.1 Review of new information
  - 6.2.2 Undertake new modelling if deemed necessary
  - 6.2.3 Conclusions and workplan if required to complete the Implementation Review
  - 6.2.3 Conclusions on carryover and interim allowance for Eastern North Pacific gray whales
- 6.3 Progress on previous recommendations
- 6.4 Biennial work plan
- 7. Stocks subject to Aboriginal Subsistence Whaling (ASW)
  - 7.1 New information and progress on recommendations
    - 7.1.1 Eastern Canada/West Greenland bowhead whales
    - 7.1.2 North Pacific gray whales (see Item 6.2)
    - 7.1.3 Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas bowhead whale
    - 7.1.4 Common minke whale stocks off East Greenland (see Item 6.1)
    - 7.1.5 Common minke whale stocks off West Greenland (see Item 6.1)
    - 7.1.6 Fin whales off West Greenland
    - 7.1.7 Humpback whales off West Greenland (see Item 8.1.4)
    - 7.1.8 Humpback whales off St. Vincent and The Grenadines (see Item 8.1.4)
  - 7.2 Biennial work plan
- 8. Whale stocks not subject to directed takes
  - 8.1 Comprehensive or In-depth Assessments
    - 8.1.1 Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific humpback whales
    - 8.1.2 Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific sei whales
    - 8.1.3 Progress on in-depth assessment of western North Pacific common minke whales
    - 8.1.4 Preparation for in-depth assessment of North Atlantic humpback whales (see Items 7.1.7 and 7.1.8)
    - 8.1.5 Biennial work plan
  - 8.2 Potential new assessments: progress on previous recommendations and prioritised work plan\*
    - 8.2.1 Non-Antarctic blue whales in the Southern Hemisphere
    - 8.2.2 Antarctic blue whales
    - 8.2.3 Southern Hemisphere right whales not the subject of CMPs
    - 8.2.4 North Pacific blue whales
    - 8.2.5 North Atlantic sei whales
    - 8.2.6 North Atlantic right whales
    - 8.2.7 Gulf of Mexico Bryde's whales
    - 8.2.8 Omura's whale
    - 8.2.9 Biennial work plan
  - 8.3 New information for other northern stocks
    - 8.3.1 North Atlantic blue whales
    - 8.3.2 North Atlantic common minke whales
    - 8.3.3 Biennial work plan
  - 8.4 New information for other Southern stocks
    - 8.4.1 Southern Hemisphere humpback whales
    - 8.4.2 Southern Hemisphere fin whales
    - 8.4.3 Biennial work plan
  - 8.5 Progress on previous recommendations
- 9. Stocks that are or have been suggested to be the subject of Conservation Management Plans (CMPs)
  - 9.1 Stocks with existing CMPs: new information and progress with previous recommendations
    - 9.1.1 Southeast Pacific southern right whales
    - 9.1.2 Southwest Atlantic southern right whales
    - 9.1.3 North Pacific gray whales
    - 9.1.4 Franciscana
  - 9.2 Progress with identified priorities
    - 9.2.1 Humpback whales in the northern Indian Ocean including the Arabian Sea
    - 9.2.2 Central American humpback whales
    - 9.2.3 Mediterranean sperm whales
    - 9.2.4 Mediterranean fin whales
    - 9.2.5 South American river dolphins
    - 9.2.6 South Asian river dolphins

- 9.3 Progress on previous recommendations
- 9.4 Biennial work plan
- 10. Stock definition and DNA testing
  - 10.1 DNA testing and advice on stock structure to other sub-groups as required
    - 10.1.1 New techniques for species, stock, and individual identification
    - 10.1.2 Reference databases and standards for DNA registries
  - 10.2 DNA data quality and genetic analyses guidelines
    - 10.2.1 Review and finalise updated DNA quality guidelines (including Next Generation Sequencing data and precautions when using GenBank)
  - 10.3 Recommendations on the avoidance of sample depletion
  - 10.4 Review terminology used for stock structure related terms used within the IWC
  - 10.5 New genetic approaches of use to the Scientific Committee in addition to stock structure issues
  - 10.6 Progress on previous recommendations
  - 10.7 Biennial work plan
- 11. Cetacean abundance estimates, stock status
  - 11.1 Review of abundance estimates
  - 11.2 Review and provide advice on surveys (past and future)
  - 11.3 Methodological issues
    - 11.3.1 Amendments to RMP guidelines to consider model-based abundance estimates
    - 11.3.2 Progress on simulation software to evaluate methods for abundance estimates
    - 11.3.3 Consider diagnostic methods for mark-recapture models
    - 11.3.4 Review new survey techniques/equipment
  - 11.4 Provide advice to the Commission on the status of stocks
  - 11.5 Progress on previous recommendations
  - 11.6 Biennial work plan
- 12. Bycatch and entanglements
  - 12.1 IWC's Bycatch Mitigation Initiative
    - 12.1.1 Update on progress of Expert Panel
    - 12.1.2 Identification of pilot projects
    - 12.1.3 Review of other activities and provision of advice, if requested
  - 12.2 Review new methods and estimates of entanglement rates, risks and mortality
  - 12.3 Review mitigation measures for preventing bycatch and entanglement
  - 12.4 Reporting of bycatch (including small cetaceans) and large whale entanglements
    - 12.4.1 Review progress on the global entanglement database
    - 12.4.2 National progress reports
  - 12.5 Collaboration on bycatch mitigation with IGOs (including FAO, Regional Fisheries Management Organisations and others)
  - 12.6 Provide advice on observer schemes in South Africa
  - 12.7 Progress on previous recommendations
  - 12.8 Biennial work plan
- 13. Ship strikes
  - 13.1 Review new methods and estimates of rates of ship strikes, risk of ship strikes and mortality (including review progress on Ship Strike Database)
  - 13.2 Mitigation of ship strikes in high risk areas
    - 13.2.1 Review progress towards assessing and mitigating ship strikes in previously identified high risk areas
    - 13.2.2 Provide advice on routing measures
    - 13.2.3 Review new research relevant to mitigation
  - 13.3 Co-operation with IMO Secretariat and relevant IMO committees
  - 13.4 Approach for requesting/providing marine traffic data
  - 13.5 Progress on previous recommendations
  - 13.6 Biennial work plan
- 14. Environmental concerns
  - 14.1 Chemical pollution
    - 14.1.1 Final report of the Pollution 2020 project

- 14.1.2 Review Terms of Reference and recommend a biennial work plan for Pollution 2025
  - 14.2 Diseases of concern
  - 14.3 Strandings and mortality events
    - 14.3.1 Update on the IWC Strandings Initiative and work plan 2020-22
    - 14.3.2 New information on unusual mortality events
  - 14.4 Progress from workshop on noise
  - 14.5 Review the Report of the Workshop on Marine Debris
  - 14.6 SOCER Report (Atlantic Ocean)
  - 14.7 Progress on previous recommendations
  - 14.8 Biennial work plan
15. Ecosystem modelling
- 15.1 Cooperation with CCAMLR and CMS on multi-species modelling including progress from workshop(s)
    - 15.1.1 Plan for postponed Workshop on the Role of Cetaceans in Ecosystem Functioning: Gap Analysis
    - 15.1.2 Finalise response to Commission's request on review of contributions of cetaceans to ecosystem functioning (Resolution 2016-3)
    - 15.1.3 Planning of the future joint IWC-CCAMLR workshop(s) and possible MoU
  - 15.2 Progress on species distribution models (SDMs)
  - 15.3 Modelling of competition among whales including progress with IBEMs
  - 15.4 Standing topics
    - 15.4.1 Progress on considering effects of long-term environmental variability on whale populations
    - 15.4.2 Review progress on evaluation of krill distribution and abundance
  - 15.5 Progress on previous recommendations
  - 15.6 Biennial work plan
16. Small cetaceans
- 16.1 Review and consolidation of previous recommendations
  - 16.2 Poorly documented hunts of small cetaceans for food, bait or cash and changing patterns of use including summary of workshops and databases
  - 16.3 Small Cetacean Task Team
  - 16.4 Review of intersessional workshops on *Sotalia guianensis*
  - 16.5 Review direct takes and live captures of small cetaceans
  - 16.6 Status of the Voluntary Fund for Small Cetacean Conservation Research
  - 16.7 Biennial work plan
17. Whale watching
- 17.1 Assess the impacts of whale watching and swim-with-whale operations on cetaceans
    - 17.1.1 Studies on assessing impacts: (i) short-term; (ii) mid- to long-term; (iii) swim-with operations; and (iv) emerging areas of concern
    - 17.1.2 Progress on plans for 3<sup>rd</sup> Workshop on Modelling and Assessment of Whale Watching Impacts (MAWI)
  - 17.2 Finalise IWC's General Principles for Whale Watching
  - 17.3 Progress with regional reviews of whale watching
    - 17.3.1 Sri Lanka
    - 17.3.2 Latin America
  - 17.4 Collaborative work within the IWC
    - 17.4.1 IWC's Whale Watching Handbook
    - 17.4.2 Work of the Conservation Committee Standing Working Group on Whale Watching
    - 17.4.3 Collaboration with other SC sub-committees on platforms of opportunity and citizen science
  - 17.5 Progress on previous recommendations
  - 17.6 Biennial work plan
18. Whale sanctuaries
- 18.1 Updates from relevant sub-committees on new information relevant to the SOS management plan
  - 18.2 New information for other sanctuaries
  - 18.3 Biennial work plan
19. IWC list of recognised species

20. IWC databases and catalogues
    - 20.1 Guidelines for IWC catalogues and photo-ID databases
    - 20.2 Progress with existing or proposed new catalogues
      - 20.2.1 Southern Hemisphere right whale photo catalogues
      - 20.2.2 Happywhale database
      - 20.2.3 Arabian Sea Whale Network's Flukebook
      - 20.2.4 Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue (SHBWC)
      - 20.2.5 Antarctic Blue Whale Catalogue (ABWC)
      - 20.2.6 Fin whale photo catalogues
      - 20.2.7 Western gray whale catalogue
    - 20.3 Progress with existing IWC databases
    - 20.4 Potential future IWC databases
      - 20.4.1 Global database for disentanglement activities
      - 20.4.2 Global bycatch database
  21. IWC multinational research programmes and national research cruises that require IWC endorsement
    - 21.1 IWC-POWER and co-operation with Japan
    - 21.2 Southern Ocean Research Partnership (IWC-SORP)
    - 21.3 National cruises that require IWC oversight
    - 21.4 Work plan
  22. Scientific Committee budget for the current biennium
    - 22.1 Status of funded research, workshop proposals, data processing and computing needs
      - 22.1.1 Funded proposals for the current biennium 2019-20
      - 22.1.2 Funded proposals in previous years still ongoing
      - 22.1.3 Report on funds reallocations and contingencies for the Research Fund, Voluntary Fund for Small Cetaceans and SORP Voluntary Fund
    - 22.2 Proposed budget for 2021-22 developed under the Committee's guidelines
  23. Committee priorities for the biennium 2021-22 and initial Agenda for 2021
  24. Working methods of the Committee
    - 24.1 Updates on Rules of Procedure and Handbook of the Scientific Committee
    - 24.2 Biennial reporting to the Commission and related matters
    - 24.3 Capacity building and succession plan for Scientific Committee
    - 24.4 Update on Data Availability requests and consideration of potential updates/clarifications
    - 24.5 Committee involvement in the IWC Database of Recommendations
    - 24.6 Governance Review: Review of papers from the Working Group on Operational Effectiveness
    - 24.7 Any other matters
    - 24.8 Biennial work plan
  25. Publications
  26. Adoption of Report
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## Annex C

### List of Documents

#### SC/68B/ASI/

01. CALAMBOKIDIS, J., PÉREZ, A. AND LAAKE, J. Updated analysis of abundance and population structure of seasonal gray whales in the Pacific Northwest, 1996-2017. 73pp.
02. GIVENS, G.H., GEORGE, J.C., SUYDAM, R. AND TUDOR, B. Bering-Chukchi-Beaufort Seas bowhead whale (*Balaena mysticetus*) abundance estimate from the 2019 ice-based survey. 19pp.
03. CRESPO, E.A., COSCARELLA, M.A., ARIAS, M. AND SUEYRO, N. Abundance estimation of franciscana dolphins by means of aerial surveys in Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. 8pp.
- 03rev1. CRESPO, E.A., COSCARELLA, M.A., ARIAS, M. AND SUEYRO, N. Abundance estimation of franciscana dolphins by means of aerial surveys in Buenos Aires Province, Argentina. 9pp.
04. SUCUNZA, F., DANILEWICZ, D., SECCHI, E.R., ANDRIOLO, A., CREMER, M., FLORES, P.A.C., FERREIRA, E., DE S. ALVES, L.C.P., DE CASTRO, F., PRETTO, D., SARTORI, C.M., SCHULZE, B., DENUNCIO, P., PEREZ, M.S. AND ZERBINI, A.N. Assessing bias in aerial surveys for threatened cetaceans: results from experiments conducted with the Franciscana (*Pontoporia blainvillei*). 33pp.
- 04rev1. SUCUNZA, F., DANILEWICZ, D., SECCHI, E.R., ANDRIOLO, A., CREMER, M., FLORES, P.A.C., FERREIRA, E., DE S. ALVES, L.C.P., DE CASTRO, F., PRETTO, D., SARTORI, C.M., SCHULZE, B., DENUNCIO, P., PEREZ, M.S. AND ZERBINI, A.N. Assessing bias in aerial surveys for threatened cetaceans: results from experiments conducted with the Franciscana (*Pontoporia blainvillei*). 33pp.
05. SUCUNZA, F., DANILEWICZ, D., OTT, P.H., NEVES, M., BERCHIERI, N., FARRO, A., P., MARTINS, A. AND ZERBINI, A.N. Population size and IUCN Red Listing of the isolated population of the franciscana (*Pontoporia blainvillei*). 25pp.
06. SUCUNZA, F., DANILEWICZ, D., CREMER, M., FERREIRA, E. AND DENUNCIO, P. Abundance of the endangered franciscana in southern Brazil. 16pp.
07. DANILEWICZ, D., SUCUNZA, F., OTT, P.H., FERREIRA, E., PEREZ, M.S., BERCHIERI, N., ALVARES, D., ANDRIOLO, A., SECCHI, E.R., FLORES, P.A.C., FARRO, A.P., MARTINS, A. AND ZERBINI, A.N. Abundance and distribution of franciscanas (*Pontoporia blainvillei*) in northern Rio de Janeiro (FNA Ib), Brazil. 15pp.
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03. MATSUOKA, K., BROWNELL, R.L., JR., CLAPHAM, P., CRANCE, J., DONOVAN, G., KATO, H., KELLY, N., KIM, H.W., KITAKADO, T., MIYASHITA, T., MURASE, H., PALKA, D., PASTENE, L.A., ZHARIKOV, K.A. AND ZERBINI, A. Report of the Steering Group of the IWC-POWER (North Pacific Ocean Whale and Ecosystem Research Programme) Programme to SC68B. 8pp.
04. COOKE, J., ALLISON, C., HAKAMADA, T., KITAKADO, T., MATSUOKA, K., MIZROCH, S., PALKA, D., PUNT, A.E., YOSHIDA, H. AND BUTTERWORTH, D.S. Report of the Intersessional Correspondence Group on North Pacific sei whales (SG-2, 2019-20). 13pp.
05. DONOVAN, G., ALLISON, C., BUTTERWORTH, D.S., KIM, H.W., KITAKADO, T., PALKA, D., PASTENE, L.A., PUNT, A.E. AND TIEDEMANN, R. Report of the Intersessional Steering Group on Western North Pacific Common Minke Whales. 3pp.

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01. PUNT, A.E. Results of carryover and interim allowance analyses for North Pacific gray whales. 17pp.
02. WILLOUGHBY, A.L., STIMMELMAYR, R., BROWER, A.B., CLARKE, J.T. AND FERGUSON, M.C. Gray whale carcasses in the Eastern Chukchi Sea, 2009-2019. 10pp.
03. AKMAJIAN, A.M., SCORDINO, J., GEARIN, P. AND GOSHO, M. Body condition of gray whales (*Eschrichtius robustus*) feeding on the Pacific Coast reflects local and basin-wide environmental drivers. 28pp.
04. SCORDINO, J., LITOVKA, D. AND KIM, H.W. Ship strikes and entanglements of gray whales in the North Pacific Ocean, 1924-2018. 116pp.
05. RAVERTY, S., DUIGNAN, P., GREIG, D., HUGGINS, J., HUNTINGTON, K.B., GARNER, M., CALAMBOKIDIS, J., COTTRELL, P., DANIL, K., D'ALESSANDRO, D., DUFFIELD, D., FLANNERY, M., GULLAND, F., HALASKA, B., KING, C., LAMBOURN, D., LEHNHART, T., URBÁN RAMIREZ, J., ROWLES, T., RICE, J., SAVAGE, K., WILKINSON, K. AND FAUQUIER, D. Post mortem findings of a 2019 gray whale unusual mortality event in the Eastern North Pacific. 31pp.
06. PUNT, A.E., ALLISON, C. AND WITTING, L. Consolidated testing of *Strike Limit Algorithms* for West and East Greenland common minke whales. 24pp.
07. STEWART, J.D. AND WELLER, D.W. A Bayesian approach for estimating eastern North Pacific gray whale calf production. 9pp.
08. SCORDINO, J., LITOVKA, D., KIM, H.W., URBÁN, J. AND COTTRELL, P. Ship strikes and entanglements of gray whales in the North Pacific Ocean, 1924-2018: revised. 60pp.

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01. PALKA, D. Update on the Gulf of Mexico (Bryde's) whale research - 2019- 3pp.
02. J.W. LAWSON, J.W., ADAPTED FROM A PRESENTATION BY DFO RESEARCHERS, HARVEY, V., AULANIER, F., BOUDREAU, S.A., BESLIN, W., BRENNAN, C.E., CHASSÉ, J., EVERS, C., GOSSELIN, J.-F., GOULET, P., HARDY, M., HAMMILL, M., JOHNSON, C.L., LANG, S.L.C., LAVOIE, D., LAWSON, J.W., LEHOUX, C., LESAGE, V., MCDERMID, J., MOORS-MURPHY, H.B., PEPIN, P., PLOURDE, S., RATELLE, S., RICARD, D., ROY, N., SHEPPARD, L., SIMARD, Y., SOROCHAN, K.A., SURETTE, T., THOMPSON, E., WRIGHT, A.J., XU, J. AND VANDERLAAN, A.S.M. Fisheries and Oceans Canada: update on research and monitoring activities for North Atlantic right whales (NARW) from 2017 to 2019, and proposed for 7pp.
03. HIEMER, K., VAN OPZEELAND, I., BOEBEL, O., BURKHARDT, E., SPIESECKE, S. AND TOMISCH, K. Vocal behaviour of bowhead whales (*Balaena mysticetus*) in eastern Fram Strait. 11pp.
04. PATTERSON, E., FAUQUIER, D., LONG, K., GOOD, C., SPRADLIN, T., WILKIN, S., BETTRIDGE, S., BORGGGAARD, D., ASARO, M. AND ZOODSMA, B. U.S. management efforts to recover North Atlantic right whales. 6pp.
05. PACE, R.M., III., LINDEN, D.W. AND CHOLEWIAK, D. Status update: North Atlantic right whales. 5pp.

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01. OLSON, P.A., BLOUNT, D., CHEESEMAN, T., HOLMBERG, J. AND MINTON, G. A cross-reference of Flukebook and Happywhale platforms. 10pp.
02. GALLETTI VERNAZZANI, B., CABRERA, E., ESPAÑOL, S., FINDLAY, K., OLSON, P. AND TORO, F. Preliminary results of comparisons within Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue (SHBWC) project in the southeast Pacific and Eastern Tropical Pacific region. 8pp.
03. KHAN, C., HOLMBERG, J., HAMILTON, P., PETTIS, H., BLOUNT, D., PARHAM, J., MUCHA, M., CHARLTON, C., ROWNTREE, V., VERMEULEN, E., RAYMENT, W., DAWSON, S., JOHNSTON, D. AND GROCH, K. From competition to collaboration: automated identification of right whales. 7pp.
04. OLSON, P.A., DOUBLE, M.C., MATSUOKA, K., PASTENE, L.A. AND FINDLAY, K. The Antarctic Blue Whale Catalogue: new data from 2015-2019. 7pp.
05. ZANARDELLIA, M., AIROLDIA, S., BÉRUBÉ, M., BORSANI, F., DI-MEGLIO, N., GANNIER, A., HAMMOND, P., JAHODA, M., LAURIANO, G., NOTARBARTOLO DI SCIARA, G. AND PANIGADA, S. Long-term photo-identification study of fin whales in the Pelagos Sanctuary (NW Mediterranean). 17pp.
06. BLOUNT, D., MINTON, G., KHAN, C., LEVENSON, J., DULAU, V., GERO, S., PARHAM, J. AND HOLMBERG, J. Flukebook - Continuing growth and technical advancement for cetacean photo identification and data archiving, including automated fin, fluke, and body matching. 13pp.

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01. LANG, A.R., WELLER, D.W., BURDIN, A.M., ROBERTSON, K., SYCHENKO, O., URBÁN R., J., MARTINEZ-AGUILAR, S., PEASE, V.L., LEDUC, R.G., LITOVKA, D.I., BURKANOV, V.N. AND BROWNELL, R.L., JR. Population structure of North Pacific gray whales in light of trans-Pacific movements. 46pp.
02. BRÜNICHE-OLSEN, A., BICKHAM, J.W., GODARD-CODDING, C.A., BRYKOV, V.A., URBÁN R., J. AND DEWOODY, A. Recent demographic history and population structure of gray whales inferred from complete mitochondrial genomes. 28pp.
03. BICKHAM, J.W., BRÜNICHE-OLSEN, A. AND DEWOODY, A. Stock structure issues related to western gray whales. 22pp.
04. CUNHA, H.A., DIAS, C.P., ALVARENGA, L.C., WELLS, R.S. AND CREMER, M.J. Microscale population structure and kinship analyses suggest philopatry of both sexes in franciscanas (*Pontopira blainvilliei*). 23pp.
05. CUNHA, H.A., BISI, T.L., BERTOZZI, C.P., DIAS, C.P., SANTOS-NETO, E.B., MANHÃES, B.M.R., OLIVEIRA-FERREIRA, N., MONTANINI, G.N., IKEDA, J., CARVALHO, R.R., AZEVEDO, A.F. AND LAILSON-BRITO, J. Population differentiation of endangered franciscanas in southeastern Brazil: new genetic, contaminant and stable isotope data support subdivision of FMAII. 11pp.
06. CUNHA, H.A., FARRO, A.P.C. AND CABALLERO, S. Review of population structure studies for *Sotalia guianensis* and a proposal for Management Units. 9pp.
- 06rev1. CUNHA, H.A., FARRO, A.P.C. AND CABALLERO, S. Review of population structure studies for *Sotalia guianensis* and a proposal for Management Units. 9pp.
07. CUNHA, H.A., GADRIBOLDI, M.C., MENDEZ, M., SECCHI, E.R., OLIVEIRA, L.R., OTT, P., TORRES-FLOREZ, J.P. AND FARRO, A.P.C. Review on franciscana stock structure and Franciscana Management Areas (FMA). 9pp.
08. GOTO, M., OIKAWA, H. AND TAGUCHI, M. An update of the Japanese DNA register for large whales. 2pp.

**SC/68B/SH/**

01. BRANCH, T.A. AND MONNAHAN, C.C. Sex ratios in blue whales from conception onward: the effects of space, time and size. 25pp.
02. VERMEULEN, E., WILKINSON, C. AND VAN DEN BERG, G. Report of the southern right whale aerial surveys - 2019. 27pp.
03. LANG, A.R., ARCHER, E.I., ATTARD, C., BAKER, C.S., BRANCH, T.A., BROWNELL, R.L., JR., BUSS, D., JACKSON, J., KELLY, N., MÖLLER, L., OLSON, P., SIROVIC, A. AND SREMBBA, A.L. Evaluating the evidence for population structure within Antarctic blue whales. 23pp.

04. BELL, E.M. Annual Report of the Southern Ocean Research Partnership (IWC-SORP) 2019/20. 95pp.
- 04rev1. BELL, E.M. Annual Report of the Southern Ocean Research Partnership (IWC-SORP) 2019/20. 96pp.
05. BELL, E.M. IWC-SORP Research Fund: 2020 progress reports from funded projects. 118pp.
06. SREMBBA, A.L., MARTIN, A.R., WILSON, P., PITMAN, R., JACKSON, J. AND BAKER, C.S. Comparison of mitochondrial DNA haplotype diversity from pre-whaling and post-whaling samples of Antarctic blue whales. 5pp.
07. CARROLL, E., CHARLTON, C., VERMEULEN, E., JACKSON, J. AND CLARKE, P. Roadmap to success for the International Whaling Commission - Southern Ocean Research Partnership (IWC-SORP) Theme 6 - the Right Sentinel for Climate Change: linking southern right whale foraging ecology to demographics, health and climate. Report on the southern right whale workshop held at the World Marine Mammal Conference, Barcelona, Spain, in December 2019. 40pp.
08. CERCHIO, S., RASOLOARIJAO, T., MULLER-BRENNAN, B. AND CHOLEWIAK, D. Acoustic monitoring of blue whales (*Balaenoptera musculus*) and fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*) in the Mozambique Channel off the northwest coast of Madagascar. 14pp.
09. BRANCH, T.A. Progress report on pygmy blue whale assessments. 4pp.
10. SAZHINOV, E.G., BRANCH, T.A. AND IVASHCHENKO, Y. Morphologic distinctions and particularities of pygmy blue whale body proportions (translated from Russian). 9pp.
11. GALLETTI VERNAZZANI, B., OLSON, P.A. AND SALGADO-KENT, C. Progress report on Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue: period May 2019-April 2020. 10pp.
12. SAZHINOV, E.G., BRANCH, T.A. AND IVASHCHENKO, Y. Sexual and physical maturity of pygmy blue whales (*Balaenoptera musculus brevicauda*). 9pp.
13. OLSON, P.A., GALLETTI VERNAZZANI, B. AND ESPAÑOL-JIMÉNEZ, S. Using photo-identification to investigate the identity of blue whales at South Georgia: a comparison of photographs with Chile. 4pp.
14. NO PAPER.
15. CHARLTON, C., VERMEULEN, E., CARROLL, E.L., BUTTERWORTH, D., COOKE, J., ROSS-GILLESPIE, A., BRANDÃO, A., GROCH, K., LEAPER, R., RAYMENT, W., ROWNTREE, V., SIRONI, M., VANDENBERG, G., WATSON, M., DOUBLE, M. AND JACKSON, J. Progress Report on the intersessional working group 'Multi-ocean assessment of southern right whale demographic parameters and links to environmental correlates', June 2019 to May 2020.: 5pp.
- 15rev1. CHARLTON, C., VERMEULEN, E., CARROLL, E.L., BUTTERWORTH, D., COOKE, J., ROSS-GILLESPIE, A., BRANDÃO, A., GROCH, K., LEAPER, R., RAYMENT, W., ROWNTREE, V., SIRONI, M., VANDENBERG, G., WATSON, M., DOUBLE, M. AND JACKSON, J. Progress Report on the intersessional working group 'Multi-ocean assessment of southern right whale demographic parameters and links to environmental correlates', June 2019 to May 2020.: 5pp.
16. BRANCH, T.A. Assignment of South Georgia catches between southeast Pacific blue whales and Antarctic blue whales. 7pp.

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01. TRUJILLO, F., MARMONTEL, M., VAN DAMME, P.A., MOSQUERA, F., CAMPBELL, E., GILLEMANN, C., UTRERAS, V., BRICEÑO, Y., OLIVEIRA-DA-COSTA, M., CLAVIJO, L.C., GÓMEZ, V.T., DEL AGUILA, J. AND USMA, S. The piracatinga (*Calophysus macropterus*) fishery and its impact on river dolphin conservation: an update. 13pp.
02. NO PAPER.
03. DOMIT, C., BARRETO, A.S., BERTOZZI, C.P., VIDAL, L.G., CREMER, M.J. AND ZERBINI, A.N. Threats to franciscana dolphins (*Pontoporia blainvillei*) in FMA II: a review and future recommendations. 25pp.
04. PIERCE, G.J., WEIR, C., GUTIERREZ, P., VERUTES, G., FONTAINE, M.C., GONZALEZ, A.H., SAAVEDRA, C., LLAVONA, A., MARTÍNEZ-CEDEIRA, J., COVELO, P., LÓPEZ, A., READ, F.L. AND DOLMAN, S.J. Is Iberian harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) threatened by interactions with fisheries? 12pp.
- 04rev1. PIERCE, G.J., WEIR, C., GUTIERREZ, P., VERUTES, G., FONTAINE, M.C., GONZALEZ, A.H., SAAVEDRA, C., LLAVONA, A., MARTÍNEZ-CEDEIRA, J., COVELO, P., LÓPEZ, A., READ, F.L. AND DOLMAN, S.J. Is Iberian harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) threatened by interactions with fisheries? 12pp.
- 04rev2. PIERCE, G.J., WEIR, C., GUTIERREZ, P., VERUTES, G., FONTAINE, M.C., GONZALEZ, A.H., SAAVEDRA, C., LLAVONA, A., MARTÍNEZ-CEDEIRA, J., COVELO, P., LÓPEZ, A., READ, F.L. AND DOLMAN, S.J. Is Iberian harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*) threatened by interactions with fisheries? 13pp.
05. BRAULIK, G., ATKINS, S., BOUVEROUX, T., CAPUTO, M., CERCHIO, S., COLLINS, T., CONRY, D., DIAZ LOPEZ, B.D., DINES, S., ELWEN, S., GRIDLEY, T., JAMES, B., HÖRST, S., KISZKA, J., METHION, S., MOHSENIAN, N., MOSHIRI, H., MWANG'OMBE, M., PENRY, G., PEREZ, S., PLÖN, S., THORNTON, M., VARGAS-FONSECA, O.A., VERMEULEN, E., DULAU, V., MINTON, G. AND BLOUNT, D. Development of Flukebook automated photo-ID matching capability for the Indian Ocean humpback dolphin, *Sousa plumbea*. 5pp.
- 05rev1. BRAULIK, G., ATKINS, S., BOUVEROUX, T., CAPUTO, M., CERCHIO, S., COLLINS, T., CONRY, D., DIAZ LOPEZ, B.D., DINES, S., ELWEN, S., GRIDLEY, T., JAMES, B., HÖRST, S., KISZKA, J., METHION, S., MOHSENIAN, N., MOSHIRI, H., MWANG'OMBE, M., PENRY, G., PEREZ, S., PLÖN, S., THORNTON, M., VARGAS-FONSECA, O.A., VERMEULEN, E., DULAU, V., MINTON, G. AND BLOUNT, D. Development of Flukebook automated photo-ID matching capability for the Indian Ocean humpback dolphin, *Sousa plumbea*. 5pp.

06. READ, F.L., BEGOÑA SANTOS, M., FERREIRA, M., LÓPEZ, A. AND PIERCE, G.J. Harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) and fisheries interactions in the north-west Iberian Peninsula. 37pp.
- 06rev1. READ, F.L., BEGOÑA SANTOS, M., FERREIRA, M., LÓPEZ, A. AND PIERCE, G.J. Harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) and fisheries interactions in the north-west Iberian Peninsula. 24pp.
07. WEIR, C., LEENEY, R. AND COLLINS, T. Reinvigorating conservation efforts for the Atlantic humpback dolphin (*Sousa teuszii*): a brief progress report. 20pp.
08. ROJAS-BRACHO, L., TAYLOR, B.L., JARAMILLO-LEGORRETA, A., OLSON, P., RUIZ, D., HIDALGO, E., GERRODETTE, T. AND HENRY, A. Survey report for vaquita photographic identification research, 2019. 31pp.
09. MARMONTEL, M., FERNANDES DE MELO, J., PASCHOALINI FRIAS, M., DE ALMEIDA COELHO, A.G., CHÁVEZ-PÉREZ, H.I. AND PAVANATO JULIÃO, H.P. Amazonian river dolphin density estimates in the Mamirauá Sustainable Development Reserve 2017-2019. 17pp.
10. FRUET, P.F., VERMEULEN, E., LAPORTA, M., SIMMONDS, M., CIPRIANO, F., COSCARELLA, M.A., BERNINSONE, L., DAURA-JORGE, F. AND IÑÍGUEZ, M. Creation of a *Tursiops truncatus gephyreus* task team. 7pp.
11. FRUET, P.F., DAURA-JORGE, F., GENOVES, R.C., VOLKMER DE CASTILHO, P., LAPORTA, P., DI TULLIO, J.C., VERMEULEN, E., BERNINSONE, L., COSCARELLA, M.A., FAILLA, M. AND IÑÍGUEZ, M. Lahille's bottlenose dolphins: conservation status update, working in progress and follow up on the previous SC/66b/SM recommendations. 13pp.

#### **SC/68B/WW/**

01. PIROTTA, E. AND NEW, L. Predicting the effects of whalewatching activity on the vital rates of Eastern North Pacific blue whales. 13pp.
02. NEW, L. Update on the Third Modeling and Assessment of Whale-watching Impacts Workshop. 3pp.
03. SMITH, S. AND MINTON, G. Update on the Whale Watching Handbook. 5pp.
04. CASTRO, C. An update on the growth of whale watching in Puerto Lopez, Ecuador. 7pp.

#### **SC/68B/O/**

01. BELL, E., IWC-SORP SCIENTIFIC STEERING COMMITTEE AND IWC-SORP ASSESSMENT PANEL. PROPOSED allocation of funds from the IWC-SORP Research Fund - 18pp.
02. FISHERIES AGENCY OF JAPAN. Japan's Scientific Progress Reports on Large Cetaceans. 2pp.
03. SMITH, S. AND WEBSTER, I. Update on IWC database of recommendations. 7pp.
04. ISODA, T., ITO, N., INOUE, S., KUMAGA, S., NAKAMURA, G., OGIHARA, M., KIM, Y., NISHIMURA, F., YAMAMOTO, R., URUMA, H., CHIDA, A., MATSUMOTO, H., SAZAWA, R., FUKUYOSHI, M., HATANAKA, T., OIKAWA, H., YASUNAGA, G. AND KATO, H. Cruise report of the New Scientific Whale Research Program in the western North Pacific (NEWREP-NP) in 2019 - Pacific coastal component. 15pp.
05. YOSHIDA, H., ITO, N., MAEDA, H., NAKAMURA, G., OGIHARA, M., KOBAYAKAWA, T., KIM, Y., NISHIMURA, F., YAMAMOTO, R., URUMA, H., CHIDA, A., KUMAGAI, S., SAZAWA, R., TAKAHASHI, T., FUKUYOSHI, M., NODA, A. AND KATO, H. Cruise report of the New Scientific Whale Research Program in the western North Pacific (NEWREP-NP) in 2019 - Coastal component off Abashiri in the southern Okhotsk Sea. 22pp.
06. IWC SECRETARIAT. Report on the Research Fund financial position. 9pp.
- 06rev1. IWC SECRETARIAT. Report on the Research Fund financial position. 10pp.
07. IWC SECRETARIAT. Cooperation with other organisations. 15pp.
- 07rev1. IWC SECRETARIAT. Cooperation with other organisations. 16pp.
08. ALLISON, C. Catches reported for the 2019 season. 2pp.
09. IWC. Working Group on Operational Effectiveness Governance Reform Papers 1 and 2 for Consideration at IWC68: Potential Reforms to Commission Meeting Structure and Meeting Operations - Potential 'Low-Hanging Fruit' Items. 92pp.
10. IWC. WGOE Paper 3. IWC Strategic Principles and ToR for Working Group on Strategic Plan. 13pp.
11. IWC. WGOE Paper 4. IWC Budget Reform Strategy draft version 2.1, 3 February. For consultation. 72pp.
12. IWC Secretariat. Secretariat update to the Scientific Committee on cooperation with other organisations. 6pp.

### **RESEARCH PROPOSALS**

#### **SC/68B/RP/**

01. Research Proposal for SH - Pygmy blue whale pre-assessments. 13pp.
- 01rev1. Research Proposal for SH - Pygmy blue whale pre-assessments. 12pp.
02. Research Proposal for SH - Passive Acoustic Monitoring for blue whales and other baleen whales off Oman. 14pp.
03. Research Proposal for SH - Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue 2021. 11pp.
04. Research Proposal for SH - Reconciling a long-term photo-id database for blue whales in Chilean Patagonia. 11pp.
05. Research Proposal for SH - Using bioacoustics to separate historic catches of Antarctic and pygmy blue whales from the former Durban whaling ground, western Indian Ocean. 12pp.
06. Research Proposal for SH - Acoustic occurrence and behaviour of Antarctic blue whales and other whales off the west coast of South Africa in relation to environmental conditions. 13pp.



07. Research Proposal for SH - Assessing regional variation in Antarctic blue whale regional song calls from mid-latitude sites in the Southern Ocean. 9pp.
08. Research Proposal for CMP - Songs of Arabian Sea humpback whales off the west coast of India. 13pp.
09. Research Proposal for CMP - Assessment of Arabian Sea humpback whale body condition and co-occurrence with human activities in Oman. 12pp.
10. Research Proposal for CMP - Passive Acoustic Monitoring of the Eastern South Pacific Southern Right Whale, a key to improve Conservation Management Plan outputs 2021. 10pp.
11. Research Proposal for CMP - Workshop on the IWC Conservation Management Plan for the Southern Right Whale Southwest Atlantic Population - a comprehensive review. 19pp.
12. Research Proposal for CMP - Workshop to develop a proposal to a Conservation Management Plan on the Central America Humpback Whales. 6pp.
13. Research Proposal for EM - Cetaceans and Ecosystem Functioning - a gap analysis - UPDATE MAY 2020. 12pp.
14. Research Proposal for IA - Second Workshop on the Comprehensive Assessment of North Pacific Humpback Whales. 7pp.
15. Research Proposal for IA - Essential computing support to the Secretariat for IA for the in-depth assessment of Western North Pacific common minke whales. 9pp.
16. Research Proposal for IA - Mixed-stock analysis and population assignment of North Pacific humpback whales to assist in allocation of catches. 11pp.
17. Research Proposal for IA - Assessment modelling for an in-depth assessment of North Pacific sei whales - 8pp.
18. Research Proposal for E - Compilation of the State of the Cetacean Environment Report (SOCER) for 2021. 10pp.
19. Research Proposal for ASI - Pre-meeting of the Abundance Steering Group and the Intersessional Steering Group on Status of Stocks. 7pp.
20. Research Proposal for IST - Workshop to complete the updating of the IUCN/IWC CMP on western gray whales and to develop conservation-related questions to be addressed within the Rangewide population modelling framework - updated proposal from last year. 7pp.
21. Research Proposal for ASI - IWC-POWER cruise in 2021 including associated meetings and processing. 9pp.
22. Research Proposal for Secretariat - Ongoing database hosting by the Secretariat. 5pp.
- 22rev1. Research Proposal for Secretariat - Ongoing database hosting by the Secretariat. 4pp.
23. Research Proposal for CMP - Franciscana assessment workshop. 11pp.
24. Research Proposal - Climate Change Workshop: Charting a path for the IWC Scientific Committee - a review of available information on effects on cetaceans and recommendations for a way forward.: 12pp.
25. Research Proposal for E - IWC Strandings Initiative - emergency response and investigations. 14pp.
26. NO PAPER.
27. Research Proposal for SM - A franciscana aerial survey in Uruguay: overcoming a challenge. 10pp.
- 27rev1. Research Proposal for SM - A franciscana aerial survey in Uruguay: overcoming a challenge. 13pp.
28. Research Proposal for IA - Workshop to further the in-depth assessment of Western North Pacific minke whales with a focus on J-stock(s). 7pp.
29. Research Proposal for HIM - Progressing the development and use of the IWC Ship Strikes Database. 11pp.
30. Research Proposal for WW - Chile-Peru Workshop of Experience Exchange on Whale Watching Regulation and Research Permit Systems. 11pp.
31. Research Proposal for E - Cetacean diseases of concern, morbillivirus and brucella and their interaction with other immune suppressive stressors. 10pp.
32. Research Proposal for CMP - Research on and monitoring of endangered Western North Pacific gray whales feeding off Sakhalin Island in 9pp.
33. Research Proposal for SH - RP03B - Southern Hemisphere Blue Whale Catalogue 2021 - matching of new photo-IDs (right hand side only) from Centro Ballena Azul and Universidad Austral de Chile. 10pp.

## REPORTS OF INTERSESSIONAL MEETINGS

### SC/68B/Rep/

01. Report of the Meeting of the IWC-POWER Technical Advisory Group (TAG), 18-19 January 2020, Tokyo, Japan. 24pp.
02. Report of the Planning Meeting for the 2020 IWC-POWER Cruise, 20 January 2020, Tokyo, Japan. 15pp.
03. Report of the IWC Workshop on Marine Debris: The Way Forward. 3-5 December 2019, La Garriga, Catalonia, Spain. 39pp.
04. Report of the South Asian River Dolphin Task Team Workshop, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 19-21 July 2019. 31pp.
- 04rev1. Report of the South Asian River Dolphin Task Team Workshop, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, 19-21 July 2019. 31pp.
05. Report of the *Sotalia guianensis* Pre-assessment Workshop, 26-28 November 2019, São Paulo, Brazil. 64pp.
06. Report of the Pre-Meeting on Advancing Efforts to Address Underwater Noise from Shipping, 11 May 2020, Virtual Meeting. 7pp.