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## Editorial

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Welcome to the first issue of the third volume of the *Journal of Cetacean Research and Management*. The Journal is progressing well and in its first two years of existence has lived up to the high aims it set itself. This is particularly true in our attempts to help and encourage scientists working on cetacean issues in areas of the world where there is only a short history of such studies. The present issue is no exception to this and we have three interesting papers from South America covering both a large whale species (the humpback whale) and a small cetacean species (the franciscana).

This issue also addresses matters related to the management of aboriginal subsistence whaling, a subject to which the International Whaling Commission and its Scientific Committee has attached high priority. The papers cover aspects of assessment (bowhead whales), stock identity and migration (gray whales) and management strategies for multi-species fisheries (such as in Greenland).

With respect to small cetaceans, one of the major conservation problems is that of bycatches in fishing gear. The Journal has published a number of papers on this topic, covering both the documentation of the problem around the world and attempts to develop solutions. This issue is no exception and the paper published here illustrates the importance of continuing to monitor the situation even after a potential solution has been identified.

The relationship between cetaceans and their environment is receiving increasing attention and a number of the papers here address various aspects of that issue, ranging from possible effects of El Niño to organochlorine pollutants.

An important aspect of cetacean science is the improvement of traditional techniques and the development of new techniques. In this issue, we have papers covering the use of newer techniques such as acoustics and telemetry, and the development of field and laboratory techniques.

G.P. Donovan  
*Editor*