

Fifth Compilation of Annual National Reports

Bonn, 2001



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Preface

For ASCOBANS, the year 2001 is marked by an anniversary: ten years have elapsed since the signing of the Agreement's final act in 1991. These first ten years have naturally been decisive years, years of continued change and development, characterised by many difficulties and obstacles encountered and frequently, though by no means in all cases, overcome.

These challenges and the efforts undertaken by Parties to meet them, to implement ASCOBANS, are to some extent reflected in the annual reports submitted pursuant to Article 2.5 of the Agreement. The Secretariat feels that in addition to providing a useful overview of Party activities in any given year, the growing number of compilations also permits us to discern certain patterns of problems encountered and measures taken to counteract them, from which valuable insights may be gained. Above all, the compilations published to date tell a story of continued efforts and commitment on the part of the Parties and, indeed, of some Non-Party Range States to achieve the aims of the Agreement and improve the conservation status of small cetaceans in the Agreement Area.

The Secretariat is very pleased, therefore, to present the 5th Compilation of Annual National Reports.

Rüdiger Stempel
Executive Secretary

Bonn, November 2001

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Summary of Party Details

Party	Period Covered	Report Compiler	Coordinating Authority
Belgium	1 January 2000 - 31 December 2000 (overlapping previous annual report)	Jan Haelters / Dr. T. G. Jacques	Dr Thierry Jacques, MUMM* Ministère de la santé publique et de l'Environnement, Gulledulle 110 1200 Bruxelles
Denmark	2000	Palle Uhd Jepsen in cooperation with the Danish Institute for Fisheries Research, the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fishery, the Fjord & Belt Center, National Environmental Research Institute, and the project Focus on Whales	Mr Palle Uhd Jepsen National Forest and Nature Agency, Nature and Wildlife Section, Ålholtvej 1 6840 Oksbøl
Finland	1 April 2000 - 31 March 2001	Penina Blankett	Penina Blankett Ministry of the Environment P.O. Box 380 00131 Helsinki Finland
Federal Republic of Germany	1 January 2000 - 31 December 2000		Dr Tilman Pommeranz Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation and Nuclear Safety Postfach 120629 53048 Bonn
Poland	1 January 2000 - 31 December 2000	Iwona Kuklik Hel Marine Station University of Gdańsk P.O. Box 37 84-150 Hel	Dr Zygmunt Krzeminski Ministry of Environmental Protection, Natural Resources and Forestry, Department for Nature Conservation Ul Wawelska 52/54 00-922 Warsaw
Sweden	2000	Håkan Westerberg National Board of Fisheries Box 423 40126 Göteborg	Christina Rappe Swedish Environmental Protection Agency Blekhölmsterrassen 36 10648 Stockholm
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	1 January 2000 - 31 December 2000	Stacey Hughes, DEFRA	Mr John Clorley Dept. for Environment, Food & Rural Affairs (DEFRA) Species Conservation Branch Temple Quay House 2 The Square Bristol BS1 6EB

2. Institutions and Organisations mentioned in national reports

<i>Country</i>	<i>Name</i>	<i>Pages</i>
Denmark	Danish Environmental Research Institute	19
	Danish Institute for Fisheries Research	5, 20
	Danish Outdoor Council	24
	Fisheries and Maritime Museum, Esbjerg	24
	Fjord & Belt Center, Kerteminde	5, 19, 22, 23, 25
	Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fishery	7
	National Forest and Nature Agency	19, 24
	Zoological Museum, Copenhagen	24
Finland	Ministry of Environment	25
	Särkänniemi Dolphinarium	25
France	Centre de Recherche sur les Mammifères Marins, La Rochelle	19
Germany	Forschungs- und Technologiezentrum Westküste, University of Kiel	12
	German Oceanographic Museum, Stralsund	17, 25
	Institute for Baltic Research, Warnemünde	17
	Institute for Fish and Fish Products Cuxhaven	16
	Multimar-Wattforum, Tönning	25
	National Park Service	25
Irish Republic	Irish Whale and Dolphin Group (IWDG)	26
	University of Cork Coastal Research Centre	11
Poland	Hel Marine Station, University of Gdańsk	20, 26
	Regional Fund for Nature Protection and Water Management, Gdańsk	26
Sweden	Kolmårdens Djurpark	20
	Stockholm University	20
UK	Centre for Environmental Data and Records (CEDaR)	18
	Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS)	10, 23, 24
	Ceredigion County Council	12
	Cornish Fish Producers' Organisation	6
	Countryside Council for Wales (CCW)	12, 18
	Department of Trade and Industry (DTI)	15
	Environment and Heritage Service (N. Ireland)	18, 26
	"Friends of Cardigan Bay"	22
	Institute of Zoology	7, 17, 23, 24
	Joint Nature Conservation Committee (JNCC)	12
	Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF)	6, 10, 21
	Ministry of Defence	12
	Moray Firth Partnership	15
	Natural History Museum, London (NHM)	17, 18
	Research Unit for Wildlife Population Assessment	21
	Sea Watch Foundation	21
	Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) Veterinary Science Division	7, 17
	Scottish Fishery Protection Agency	7
	Scottish Executive Rural Affairs Department (SERAD)	10
	Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH)	22
	Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU)	6, 7, 8, 10, 17, 18, 21, 22
	Talisman Energy	24
	Ulster Museum	18, 26
University of Aberdeen	21, 22	
Veterinary Research Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (N. Ireland)	18	

**B. NEW MEASURES/ACTION TOWARDS MEETING THE RESOLUTIONS OF
THE 2ND MEETING OF PARTIES**

1. Direct interaction of small cetaceans with fisheries

a. Investigations of methods to reduce bycatch

Belgium

No information provided.

Denmark

A Joint Task Group has assessed the interaction between fisheries and harbour porpoises.

The 1998-2000 EU-funded EPIC (Elimination of Porpoise Incidental Catch) project, carried out by the Danish Institute for Fisheries Research in cooperation with the Fjord & Belt Center in Kerteminde and partner institutions was terminated by October 2000. One of its main objectives was to investigate the foraging of harbour porpoises and their reaction to acoustic stimuli and potential deterrent devices. A significant component of foraging behaviour is a head-down vertical feeding on the seabed - "bottom-grubbing", where both eyes and sonar are directed to the seabed. Preoccupation with bottom-grubbing and catching prey suggested an increased chance of entanglement in bottom-set nets unless porpoises were alerted to the threat. The project investigated the possibility of optimising "beacon mode" pingers and found in particular that deterrent signals could be reduced to 1/4 of their traditional 300 ms duration without losing their effect.

No sign of habituation was observed during a three-week experiment, with four sound sessions a day. This was most likely due to the variety of deterrent signals used (variation in both type and duration), pointing to the necessity of varying as much as possible the sound output in pingers. Two new concepts were explored: 1) "Interactive" pingers which only transmit deterrent sounds when triggered by the porpoise's own sonar; such transmission "on-demand" would considerably reduce the acoustic energy contributed to the water and would also delay the habituation process; 2) "Acoustic masking" of the weak sonar echoes returning from fish prey; this can be achieved by transmitting low-level noise, concentrated within the narrow bandwidth of the porpoise's sonar signal. It should discourage porpoises from foraging inside an area exposed to the noise and should be totally insensitive to habituation. Results obtained in both cases were very promising, although more experiments in controlled situations are required before, field experiments can be undertaken. The EPIC final report was accepted by the EU in February 2001.

Finland

None.

Federal Republic of Germany

Data analysis of the research project “Understanding the echolocation behaviour of harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) in order to reduce bycatch” [see AC7/Doc.7(P)] was continued.

Poland

Due to an absolute low number of small cetaceans by-caught in Polish small boat fishery, no investigations have been undertaken.

Sweden

No action. The final report from the BY-CARE project finalised in December 1998 includes the latest investigations carried out in the Swedish part of Skagerrak, and Kattegat.

United Kingdom

The Sea Mammal Research Unit (SMRU) in collaboration with the Cornish Fish Producers' Organisation and two Irish partners ran a field trial to investigate the effectiveness of Dukane Netmark 1000™ pingers in minimising the bycatch of porpoises in the Celtic Sea set net fishery. The work was funded mainly by the European Commission, with a contribution from the UK's Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food (MAFF). A draft report has been submitted to the European Commission. The results suggest that these pingers were effective in reducing bycatch by more than 90%. Some problems associated with battery changing and pinger durability were identified, but it was concluded that at present pingers are the only effective technical means of reducing porpoise bycatch. The use of floating headlines and closed areas were also investigated as potential means of reducing bycatch, but these were found unsatisfactory.

MAFF is also funding a three-year SMRU project which began in July 2000. The research has two objectives. The first is to monitor cetacean bycatch in areas and fisheries not covered during previous studies, with the aim of providing bycatch estimates for offshore, South Western and Irish Sea set net fisheries and of pelagic trawl fisheries (see paragraph below on estimates of bycatch). The second objective is to seek to establish how and why porpoises become entangled in gill nets and whether specific gear characteristics can influence the probability of entanglement. SMRU propose to test whether or not multi-monofilament nets are more likely to catch harbour porpoises than monofilament nets, and investigate porpoise behaviour around

nets to find out, for example, whether porpoises are attracted to nets, particularly those which hold entangled fish.

The Institute of Zoology (IoZ) carried out necropsies on 10 harbour porpoise carcasses in 2000 that were retrieved directly from fishing vessels as part of observer-based research conducted by SMRU in England. The Scottish Agricultural College Veterinary Science Division (SACVSD) performed a total of 50 necropsies on cetaceans bycaught or stranded on the coast of Scotland. Of these, bycatch was identified as the possible cause of death in one porpoise. Also a young minke whale was discovered at a fish market in the West Coast of Scotland. This animal had died after becoming entangled in a creel rope. An officer from the Scottish Fishery Protection Agency (SFPA) took the carcass and passed it to SACVSD for examination. A further two minke whales were similarly diagnosed at necropsy as having died as a result of entanglement.

b. Implementation of methods to reduce bycatch

Belgium

Proposals to completely ban the use of bottom set gill nets in recreational fisheries have been made, but so far these proposals had little success. The use of these nets has diminished due to a new legislation setting a minimum mesh size (Royal Decree of 12 April 2000, Official Journal of 3 May 2000), and local legislation setting a maximum net length. The use of these nets is not allowed on two beaches that were declared nature reserves recently.

A new, fairly large, fishing vessel using bottom set gill nets (up to 15 km length) was built, but due to unforeseen circumstances it did not start fishing in 2000 (it started fishing in mid-March 2001).

Denmark

The Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fishery is the implementing authority. The ministry is prepared to take the necessary measures to reduce the incidental bycatches of harbour porpoises. The following measures are considered by the Task Group: 1) development and use of acoustic alarms; 2) modifications to fishing equipment; and 3) regulation of certain types of fishery.

The Danish Action Plan for mitigating incidental bycatch of harbour porpoises is now under implementation. In 2000, the Ministry of Food, Agriculture and Fishery issued a ministerial order on compulsory application of “pingers” in certain types of gill-net fishery for cod in the North Sea in the period 1 August to 31 October.

Finland

None.

Federal Republic of Germany

Currently no methods to reduce bycatch are implemented.

Poland

No implementation.

Sweden

No action.

United Kingdom

The marine habitats and the majority of the marine species Biodiversity Action Plans (BAPs) for the UK were published in 1999 (the harbour porpoise action plan was published in 1995). Under the auspices of the UK Marine BAP Co-ordinating Group, the first meeting of the Cetacean and Turtle BAP Group was held in October. This Group is responsible for implementing the five Marine Species Action Plans: harbour porpoise, marine turtle, baleen whales, small dolphins and toothed whales. Bycatch was identified as a priority and so it was agreed that a working group should be set up to look at this particular issue. This Group will review existing bycatch mitigation methods and recommend the way forward to address this problem. The first meeting of this Fisheries Group was held in January 2001.

Franz Fischler, the European Fisheries Commissioner, spoke at the June 2000 Fisheries Council about the need to address the problem of cetacean bycatch. He followed up this statement by writing towards the end of December to all EU Member States seeking their co-operation in finding effective solutions at Community level. In particular, he is seeking information on levels of bycatch within particular fisheries with a view to limiting mortality rates as vigorously as possible. The SMRU work should prove helpful in this respect.

c. Estimates of bycatch in set net and pelagic trawl fisheries

Belgium

Estimates of bycatch in set net and pelagic trawl fisheries			
Species	Estimated number of by-caught animals	Area (ICES area or more detailed)	Notes (type of fishery, effort, seasonal variations etc.)
Harbour porpoise	1 (to 3 + ?)	area IVa)	?

Denmark

Estimates of bycatch in set net and pelagic trawl fisheries:			
Species	Estimated number of by-caught animals	Area (ICES area or more detailed)	Notes (type of fishery, effort, seasonal variations etc.)
Harbour porpoise	3,000 per year (2000 estimate). The information will be updated as part of an ongoing monitoring programme on bycatch.	<u>IV b</u> (mainly in coastal and off-shore waters along the West Coast of Jutland <u>III a, b and c</u> The monitoring programme on bycatch includes the Inner Danish Waters. The bycatch of harbour porpoise in the Inner Waters seems to be lower than expected.	Set-net fishery for cod and turbot mainly in late summer and fall. Turbot fishery has declined within the last years.
Other species	Few, but the exact number and species involved unknown.		

Finland

None

Federal Republic of Germany

It is assumed that there is only little direct interaction of German fisheries with small cetaceans in the North Sea, as Germany has only a few (about 1 or 2) vessels fishing with set nets in the area. Therefore bycatch of harbour porpoises presumably does not exceed a small number per year there.

In the Baltic there may be heavier interactions. Bycatch of 10 harbour porpoises in the Kiel Bight area of the western Baltic (see table below) is most likely an underestimate due to underreporting by fishermen. Bycatch of harbour porpoises in the Mecklenburg Bight and further east towards the Polish border is probably given more accurately, as the fishermen of that region have been used to reporting bycatches to the authorities for several decades.

Estimates of bycatch in set net and pelagic trawl fisheries			
Species	Estimated number of by-caught animals	Area (ICES area or more detailed)	Notes (type of fishery, effort, seasonal variations, etc.)
Harbour porpoise	A few at most	Area Ivb	Set net fisheries
Harbour porpoise	10	Area IIIc, ICES Area 22: Kiel Bight	Set net fisheries
Harbour porpoise	6	Area IIIId, ICES Area 24: Mecklenburg Bight	Set net fisheries

Poland

Because of insufficient data both on fishing effort and population size of harbour porpoises in the Baltic Sea, only an absolute number of the bycatch is available from the Polish waters. The bycatch has been reported mainly in set net coastal fishery.

Species	Estimated number of by-caught animals	Area (ICES area or more detailed)	Notes (type of fishery, effort, seasonal variations, etc.)
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	5	ICES/III d – Polish central coast and the Gulf of Gdańsk	salmon and cod set nets

Sweden

Estimates of bycatch in set net and pelagic trawl fisheries:

The BY-CARE report addresses bycatch in bottom set gillnets for cod but no new estimates have been made for 2000. The effort in the Skagerrak-Kattegat area by this fishery has decreased to less than 20% of the level during BY-CARE, however.

Species	Estimated number of by-caught animals	Area (ICES area or more detailed)	Notes (type of fishery, effort, seasonal variations etc.)
Harbour porpoise	About 100 per year.	IIIa, in the Swedish part of Skagerrak	Cod and pollock bottom set gillnets.
Harbour porpoise	About 50 per year	IIIa, Swedish Kattegat Sea.	Cod and pollock bottom set gillnets.

United Kingdom

The SMRU, with funding from MAFF, continue to monitor set net and pelagic trawl fisheries for cetacean bycatch, and to analyse landings and effort data to estimate total bycatch levels. Over a three-year period, SMRU aim to monitor approximately 300 days at sea in the set net fisheries with around 300 further days at sea on pelagic trawl vessels. In collaboration with CEFAS and SERAD, fishing effort data have been analysed to estimate the total number of net hauls by each of the fisheries involved. Bycatch estimates are derived from these estimates of fishing effort by fishery and observed bycatch rates in each fishery. Bycatch rates for the fisheries involved have been derived from sampling between 1995 and 2000. The latest total bycatch estimates apply to 1999, the most recent year for which fishing effort data are currently available. Estimates for 2000 will follow. Downward trends in fishing effort have resulted in declining estimates of porpoise bycatch since 1995.

Species	Estimated number of by-caught animals	Area (ICES area or more detailed)	Notes (type of fishery, effort, seasonal variations, etc.)
Harbour porpoise	436 (351-684 95% CL)	IV a-c (UK fleet, North Sea, but excluding offshore freezer netters working off Shetland)	Cod, sole and skate/turbot set net fisheries
Harbour porpoise	22 (14-39 95% CL)	VI a (UK boats west coast of Scotland, excluding offshore freezer-netters)	Dogfish and crayfish set net fisheries

2. Reduction of disturbance to small cetaceans

- a. Information on levels of disturbance (e.g. seismic surveys, new high-speed ferry routes, studies about acoustic impacts on cetaceans etc.)

Belgium

Since 2000, a 'whale-watcher' is on board the Belgian state oceanographic vessel *Belgica* during its scientific seismic surveys in the Porcupine Basin, south of Ireland, in collaboration with the Coastal Resources Centre of the University of Cork (*Cetaceans and Birds at Sea project*). This centre is particularly interested in the deep-tow streamer systems, in order to (passively) detect and listen to whales and dolphins.

Denmark

The EU-funded EPIC (Elimination of Porpoise Incidental Catch) project is now completed and a summary of findings was submitted to the 8th Meeting of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee, April, 2001.

Very limited information is available on disturbance from various sources. The impacts on harbour porpoises and other small cetaceans from high-speed ferries are not known. However, the operations with that type of vessel are strictly regulated as new routes cannot be established without a proper EIA procedure including considerations on the disturbance to water birds and marine mammals.

Finland

Finland has produced a report on high-speed ferries.

Federal Republic of Germany

A seismic survey has been conducted in the German Baltic in spring 2000. The aim of this survey was to find the best route for a gas pipeline between Sweden and Germany. The survey

track runs parallel off the coast of the Federal State of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern, along the Darss to its likely landing point west of Rostock. The area covered by the survey is situated between 12° - 14°E and 54° - 55°N.

There are several high-speed ferry routes off the German coasts. The data available are, however, not yet in a suitable form to be summarised here. Germany will therefore present an appropriate separate report later.

A study on the potential impact of explosive noise on small cetaceans was continued by the Forschungs- und Technologiezentrum Westküste, University of Kiel, in close collaboration with U.S. scientists. The study attempts to quantify the potential risk for small whales in the Baltic arising from ship-shock (i.e. explosive) testing by the German Navy as well as to design and implement mitigation measures.

Poland

New high-speed ferry routes:

Swinoujście – Malmö, 1 round trip a day

Hel – Kaliningrad, 2 round trips a week (only summer season)

Sweden

No action.

United Kingdom

Ceredigion County Council, supported by the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW), conducted a study on cetacean site use and boat traffic along the Marine Heritage Coast and Cardigan Bay cSAC between 1994 and 1999. Results showed that behaviour of recreational motor boat and speedboat users had not changed over the study period. In 2000 Ceredigion CC attempted to improve adherence to the Code of Conduct by issuing a system of warnings to persistent users. A report is due in 2001.

The Joint Nature Conservation Committee's (JNCC) "Guidelines for minimising acoustic disturbance to marine mammals, including small cetaceans" continued in use through the year, with some further guidance being provided to seismic surveyors to improve usage of the guidelines. A report on use of the guidelines and sightings of marine mammals made from seismic vessels during 1999 was issued (Stone, 2001¹).

At its 7th Meeting in Bruges in March 2000, the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee asked the Secretariat to continue monitoring information on high-speed ferries and their potential impact on small cetaceans. The DETR is currently obtaining the information required for 2000.

The annual liaison meeting between the Ministry of Defence, statutory bodies and non-Governmental organisations in Scotland took place in November at the naval base at Faslane.

¹ Stone, C.J. 2001. Cetacean observations in during seismic surveys 1999. JNCC Report No 316.

The group's remit is to discuss any possible environmental impact of naval operations around the west coast of Scotland. Apart from the usual training exercises, there was no major Royal Navy activity in the area during 2000.

b. Implementation of guidelines, new legislation etc. to reduce disturbance

Belgium

A new implementing order on the protection of species is in preparation. This implementing order will provide for a better protection of small cetaceans. It will make the intentional disturbance of all cetaceans illegal, and will provide the opportunity to set guidelines for scientific seismic surveys. Seismic surveys for commercial purposes are already subject to an environmental assessment procedure (law of 20 January 1999, Official Journal of 12 March 1999). The application of guidelines in scientific seismic surveys can be a prerequisite for these to take place. The implementing order also provides for the officialising of the coordination of scientific research of stranded or bycaught cetaceans. Fishermen will have to report the bycatch of cetaceans, and - if technically feasible – provide the coordinating authority with the (dead) bycaught animals.

Denmark

Within some nature and wildlife reserves, e.g. the Wadden Sea, general measures (speed limits) are taken to reduce disturbance to marine mammals. Special guidelines and legislation are not implemented.

Finland

None.

Federal Republic of Germany

In the Federal State of Lower Saxony a revision of the National Park Law was proposed which now explicitly includes the protection of harbour porpoises.

Poland

No implementation.

Sweden

No action.

United Kingdom

The guidelines, published by DETR with the assistance of the JNCC, aimed at minimising disturbance to cetaceans from recreational activities and whale watching operations continue to be in use. A review of the need for these guidelines and, if appropriate, their content, will be conducted in 2001.

3. Protected areas for small cetaceans

a. Measures taken to identify, implement and manage protected areas

Belgium

No information provided.

Denmark

The Danish implementation of the EU Habitat Directive includes the designation of several sites that are considered important for harbour porpoises. A list of Danish designated Habitat Directive sites important for harbour porpoises was included in the National Report 1998.

Finland

None.

Federal Republic of Germany

In the Federal State of Schleswig-Holstein a revised Act for the Protection of the Wadden Sea (National Park Act) entered into force on 30th December 1999 defining a Whale Protection Area with a size of 124.000 ha off the islands of Sylt and Amrum. It is also laid down in the Coastal Fisheries Order. The new act for instance delineates the seaward border of the Whale Protection Area at twelve nautical miles offshore. These waters are a preferred habitat for harbour porpoises and an important nursery ground. In the Whale Protection Area a ban is imposed on fisheries resulting in bycatches (high bottom set nets and industrial fisheries). It is intended to introduce a speed restriction for vessels.

The identification, implementation and management of marine protected areas was further discussed during a workshop under the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (OSPAR-Convention). The workshop was initiated by the group "Development of a system of marine protected areas in OSPAR maritime area" (lead country: Germany). All recommendations of the project group took the issues of small cetacean conservation into account.

Poland

No new information.

Sweden

No action.

United Kingdom

Annex V to the OSPAR Convention, which contains provisions with regard to the protection and conservation of the ecosystems and biological diversity of the North-East Atlantic, including identifying marine protected areas where necessary, came into force on 30 August 2000. The Biodiversity Committee, established by the OSPAR Commission in June 2000 to facilitate the implementation of the OSPAR Biodiversity Strategy, agreed at its first meeting in November to prepare a list of priority species and habitats in the North-East Atlantic for which early action was necessary. The criteria for selecting these species and habitats, agreed in 1999, was further tested in 2000 specifically on cetaceans. Once the priority species and habitats have been identified consideration will be given to what programmes and measures, which could include sites for cetaceans, might be appropriate.

The European Commission acknowledged the difficulty in identifying Special Areas of Conservation (SACs) for the harbour porpoise (in accordance with Article 4 of the Habitats Directive). To seek to address this difficulty, a special meeting of scientific representatives, nominated by the EC's Habitats Committee, met in December 2000. Its conclusions were discussed at the Habitats Committee on 1 March 2001.

The UK has yet to propose any SACs for the harbour porpoise, and is awaiting the outcome of the EC's deliberations. A project to determine if any SACs should be proposed in UK continental shelf waters (12-200nm offshore) has started following a court judgement in the UK that these waters should be included when implementing the Habitats Directive. Two sites have been put forward for the bottlenose dolphin: the Moray Firth and Cardigan Bay.

The Cardigan Bay bottlenose dolphin candidate Special Area of Conservation (cSAC) management is being progressed with relevant authorities and interested groups in Wales and a report on the consultation on the draft management scheme is due in 2001.

The Moray Firth Partnership has continued with the development of a management scheme for the bottlenose dolphin SAC through the work of the management group. Working groups have been set up to consider a range of priority management issues such as fishing, noise, contaminants, wildlife watching and other boat traffic, oil industry-related activities and SAC monitoring. A draft management plan is being produced for wider consultation.

The Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) conducted a Strategic Environmental Assessment (SEA) of an area to the North and West of Shetland to provide information for a possible oil and gas licence round in that area. The SEA included potential impacts on cetaceans in

its scope. The SEA is currently out to consultation and may be accessed from the DTI's website: <http://www.og.dti.gov.uk/whatsnew/habitat/habitat.htm>

4. Further research on small cetaceans

a. Implementation of schemes to use and gain information from stranded cetaceans

Belgium

An implementing order with actions to be undertaken in case of the stranding or bycatch of a cetacean is being prepared (see 2.).

Denmark

A Danish contingency plan concerning marine mammals includes guidelines for handling stranded cetaceans. As many stranded harbour porpoises as possible are collected for analyses in order to improve the knowledge on population structure, age and sex ratio, nutritional status, general health and the levels of contaminants in tissues and organs.

The plan also deals with handling of other specimens of stranded marine mammals.

The following observations of stranded cetaceans were recorded in 2000

White-beaked dolphin: 8

Long-finned pilot whale: 1

Minke whale: 2

Bryde's whale: 1 (first recording for Europe)

Sperm whale: 1

Northern bottlenose whale: 1 (live stranding)

Harbour Porpoise: about 110 (some are probably discarded of bycaught animals)

Sightings were reported for the following species: common dolphin, bottlenose dolphin, killer whale and minke whale.

Finland

Cf. point 5.

Federal Republic of Germany

A stranding network for cetaceans has existed since the 1950s in the Baltic Sea (coast of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern) and since 1990 in the North Sea and Baltic Sea (coast of Schleswig-Holstein). Necropsies of all stranded and by-caught cetaceans were done by the University of Kiel, the Institute for Fish and Fish Products (Cuxhaven) and the German Oceanographic Museum (Stralsund). Samples for organic pollutants were taken and analysed

at the Institute for Baltic Research, Warnemünde. In 2000, 35 harbour porpoises were studied in Schleswig-Holstein and 12 in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern. No unusual illness or particular epidemics were found.

Poland

No new implementation.

Sweden

No action. Information has been collected by the public and delivered to the responsible institutions but the information has not yet been compiled.

United Kingdom

During the year 2000 a total of 416 cetacean strandings were reported in England, Wales, Scotland and the Isle of Man (see Annex 1).

As the DETR renewed its funding for research on stranded cetaceans in UK waters in the year 2000, The Natural History Museum, London, (NHM) has continued to gather information on all cetacean strandings (also bycaught cetaceans and those seen floating dead at sea) in England and Wales. Suitable carcasses are conveyed to the Institute of Zoology for post-mortem examination by a veterinary pathologist. The resultant information on species, sex, length, place and date of stranding is combined with that from Scotland provided by the Scottish Agricultural College (SAC) and recorded on the NHM's computer database. Samples of teeth, parasites and stomach contents from cetaceans are studied at the NHM to provide information on the ages and biology of dead stranded cetaceans. Where possible, confirmation of species identification is also carried out using the skeletal remains of cetaceans initially found in a badly decomposed state. Data from these analyses is then collated as appropriate for the production of scientific publications. The NHM also continues to receive into its research collections the skeletal remains of cetaceans acquired through the DETR UK strandings programme.

As part of the DETR-funded research the Institute of Zoology (IOZ) is continuing to investigate diseases, causes of death and potential links between health status and chronic exposure to environmentally persistent contaminants (particularly organochlorines and heavy metals) in cetaceans (mainly harbour porpoises) stranded in England and Wales. Pathological and other data from strandings investigations conducted in England and Wales, together with strandings data from the parallel research in Scotland, continue to be archived centrally in the Poseidon database held at the Institute of Zoology. In 2000 the IOZ conducted 68 necropsies of stranded cetaceans in England and Wales, and a further 11 necropsies of harbour porpoise bycatches retrieved from fishing vessels (mainly as part of observer-based research conducted by SMRU). Of the stranded cetaceans examined in England and Wales during 2000, bycatch was identified as the cause of death of 8 (20%) harbour porpoises and 10 (50%) common dolphins. These figures are similar to 1999 but lower than in the mid 1990s. In addition, 8 har-

bour porpoises were killed by bottlenose dolphins (all in the Cardigan Bay area) and 7 harbour porpoise died due to pneumonia caused by combinations of parasitic, bacterial and mycotic infections.

In Scotland, of the necropsies carried out on porpoises by SACVSD, bottlenose dolphin kills were the single most common cause of death with 8 cases. In contrast to previous years, more neonatal porpoises were seen. There was a mass live stranding of 6 Atlantic white sided dolphins in Sutherland in October. Rescues were attempted but all 6 animals died. There was no evidence of any underlying or predisposing disease. *Brucella* was found in 1 cetacean during the year: an Atlantic white-sided dolphin with splenic necrosis.

Strandings data from Northern Ireland is collated by the Environment and Heritage Service (EHS) and the Ulster Museum and recorded on the Centre for Environmental Data and Records (CEDaR) database. It is then passed to the NHM and the Irish Naturalists Journal. In 2000 three harbour porpoises and one unidentified cetacean were reported stranded in Northern Ireland. Two of the harbour porpoises were examined by the Veterinary Research Laboratory of the Department of Agriculture and Rural Development in Northern Ireland to establish cause of death.

In addition to the strandings co-ordinators funded by DETR, the National Assembly for Wales is funding the Welsh Strandings Co-ordinator in conjunction with the Countryside Council for Wales (CCW). Until March 2000, strandings co-ordination was partly funded in a joint Irish-Welsh project under the EU INTERREG scheme

The SMRU have been investigating feeding habits of porpoises based on stomachs of animals recovered from fishing nets. Gadoid fish, especially cod and whiting, and herring were the most important diet items by weight. Most of the fish consumed, as estimated from otolith sizes, were less than 30cm in length, with a modal value of 16cm.

b. Research on abundance, population structure etc.

Belgium

The project on seabirds and marine mammals: pathology, ecology and ecotoxicology ends in 2001. It is possible that a new, similar project will start in the near future.

In 2000 in Belgium and in Belgian waters 7 harbour porpoises washed ashore, 2 dead animals were sighted at sea and 1 dead animal was found in fishing gear (possible bycatch from other gear). Out of the 7 stranded animals one was probably bycaught and one was possibly by-caught. Three of the stranded animals were neonates or stillborn (July and August).

In 2000 one white-beaked dolphin washed ashore in Belgium.

Another 4 animals were received from the north of France, in cooperation with the French local authorities and local collaborators of the Centre de Recherche sur les Mammifères Marins of La Rochelle (France): 2 harbour porpoises (1 possible bycatch) and 2 white-beaked dolphins.

All these animals were reported to the official instances and are being thoroughly investigated.

Some publications:

- Das K., V. Debacker, G. Lepoint, S. Gobert, L. Holsbeek, C.R. Joiris & J.-M. Bouquegneau, 2000. Marine mammals stranded on the Belgian and Dutch coasts: approach of their feeding ecology by stable isotope and heavy metal measurements. *European Research on Cetaceans* 14, in press
- Das K., G. Lepoint, V. Loizeau, V. Debacker, P. Dauby & J.-M. Bouquegneau, 2000. Tuna and dolphin associations in the North-East Atlantic: Evidence of different ecological niches from stable isotope and heavy metal measurements. *Marine Pollution Bulletin* 40: 102-109
- Haelters, J., T.Jauniaux & J. Van Gompel, 2000. Harbour porpoises on Belgian beaches from 1990 to 1999. ASCOBANS Advisory Committee Meeting, Document AC7/Doc.12(P),5 p.
- Haelters, J., 2000. Possibilities of combining the Tour d'Horizon with other activities: recording sightings of marine mammals, especially cetaceans. 8 p. IN: Donnay, E. & Haelters, J., 2001. Tour d'Horizon - April 2000 – report. MUMM, Brussels (in prep.)
- Jauniaux, T., G. Charlier, M. Desmecht, J. Haelters, T. Jacques, B. Losson, J. Van Gompel, J. Tavernier & F. Coignoul, 2000. Pathological findings in two fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*) with evidence of Morbillivirus infection. *J.Comp.Path.* Vol. 123: 198-201
- Jauniaux T., J. Haelters & F. Coignoul, 2000. 10 years of MARIN – Marine Animals Research & Intervention Network – The causes of marine mammals death. Poster presented at the 7th Advisory Committee Meeting of ASCOBANS (Agreement on the Conservation of Small Cetaceans of Baltic and North Seas), Brugge (Belgium), 13-16 March 2000

Denmark

The Danish project on satellite tracking of tagged harbour porpoises, cooperation between the Danish Environmental Research Institute, the Danish Fisheries Research Institute, the Fjord & Belt Center and the National Forest and Nature Agency, continued and so far 10 porpoises have been marked. Eight porpoises have been marked in 2000, including 5 from Skagen and 3 from Fyn (2 from Kerteminde and 1 from Hesnæs on Falster). Position was received for as long as 306 days for a porpoise marked in September 1999, and up to more than 180 days for porpoises marked in 2000 (4 tags are still sending at the end of February, 2001).

Genetic research using DNA micro-satellites, and tooth ultrastructure studies, undertaken by the Danish Fisheries Research Institute as part of the EU-funded BYCARE project, have been used to differentiate population structure of harbour porpoises in the North and Baltic seas. The project will be reported in 2000.

Finland

No scientific research on abundance etc., but cf. point 5.

Federal Republic of Germany

The abundance and population structure of harbour porpoises has been extensively studied in the 1990s. An additional research project, which examined the genetic structure of the Baltic, Kattegat and Belt Seas populations was finalised and the results will be published soon. Morphometric investigations were done on the skulls of harbour porpoises from the German Bight, the outer part or transition area of the Baltic Sea and the central Baltic Sea. The results of this study indicate the existence of populations in the Baltic different from the North Sea populations. Further differences were found between the animals from the transition area and the central Baltic Sea respectively, indicating the occurrence of a separate population in the Baltic proper.

The routine monitoring of strandings and bycatches was continued. A new project was planned for the following years to investigate small cetacean abundance along certain coastal waters of Mecklenburg-Vorpommern using the newly-developed porpoise detectors (T-PODs).

Poland

Continuation of both biological and ecological research and interaction with fisheries in Hel Marine Station, University of Gdańsk.

Sweden

A research programme covering most aspects of harbour porpoise biology, ecology and conservation is ongoing at Stockholm University:

- Tiedemann, Berggren, Kuklik et al. Investigation of porpoise population sub-structure in the Baltic Sea and determination of population range based on mitochondrial DNA
- Berggren. Investigation of time-area closures as mitigation measure to harbour porpoise bycatch in the Baltic region.
- Berggren, Carlström, Tregenza. Mitigation of small cetacean bycatch; evaluation of acoustic alarms. (MISNET). Field-work to be conducted April-June 2001.
- Berggren, Wade, Carlström. Population viability analysis of harbour porpoise in the Baltic.

The EU-funded EPIC (Elimination of Porpoise Incidental Catch) project, was carried out in 1998-2000 by the Danish Institute for Fisheries Research, Denmark, in co-operation with the Kolmårdens Djurpark and partner institutions. It was terminated in October 2000. One of the main objectives was to investigate the foraging of harbour porpoises and their reaction to acoustic stimuli and potential deterrent devices. A significant component of foraging behaviour is a head-down vertical feeding on the seabed - "bottom-grubbing" - where both eyes and sonar are directed towards the seabed. Preoccupation with bottom-grubbing and catching prey suggests an increased chance of entanglement in bottom-set nets, unless the porpoises are alerted to the threat. The project also investigated the possibility of optimising "beacon mode" pingers and found in particular that deterrent signals could be reduced to 1/4

of their traditional 300 ms duration without losing their effect. No sign of habituation was observed during a three-week experiment, with four sound sessions a day. This was most likely due to the variety of deterrent signals used (variation in both type and duration), pointing out the necessity of varying as much as possible the sound output of pingers. Two new concepts were explored: 1) "Interactive" pinger, which only transmits deterrent sounds when triggered by the porpoise's own sonar. Such transmission "on-demand" would considerably reduce the acoustic energy contributed to the sea, and would also delay the habituation process; 2) "Acoustic masking" of the weak sonar echoes returning from fish prey; this can be achieved by transmitting low-level noise, concentrated within the narrow bandwidth of the porpoise's sonar signal. It should discourage porpoises from foraging inside an area exposed to the noise and should be totally insensitive to habituation. Results obtained in both cases were very promising, although more experiments in controlled situations are required before field experiments can be undertaken. The EPIC final report was accepted by the EU in February 2001.

United Kingdom

The Research Unit for Wildlife Population Assessment (RUWPA) and the SMRU at the University of St Andrews have been developing a statistical model of the North Sea harbour porpoise population, under contract to the UK's MAFF, and at the suggestion of the ASCOBANS Advisory Committee. The method uses Bayesian sequential importance sampling to fit a stochastic population model to the available data on fishing effort, bycatch rates, population size and trends in sighting rates, and life history parameters of harbour porpoises. The model was developed under a 'one-population' scenario and a 'two-population scenario' to investigate the possible population level consequences of spatially structured bycatch. The estimates of current population size (250,000-310,000) and bycatch (6,600-7,800; 3-4% of population size) are consistent with the available data, giving confidence that the estimation of model parameters is robust. The estimated instantaneous rates of change are not significantly different from 1.0 in either the one or two population case. It is clear that the 'two-population' model requires further work, including assessing whether or not the implemented way of formulating this is the best approach.

SMRU has continued to collaborate with Aberdeen University in studies to investigate the population biology and status of the bottlenose dolphin population that inhabits Scottish east coast waters. This included analysis of the past 10 years of data to show a decline in the number of animals using the inner Moray Firth (believed to be the core area for this population) and increased data collection in St Andrews Bay and Fife coastal waters. Work to document the apparent southerly shift in distribution during the last few years is ongoing. SMRU is also using boat and aerial surveys in and around St Andrews Bay to monitor the presence and distribution of other small cetacean species, as well as bottlenose dolphins.

The JNCC, SMRU and the Sea Watch Foundation are working together to produce an Atlas of cetacean distribution for Northwestern European waters. This is due to be finalised shortly.

CCW are funding a number of projects examining population abundance and structure including trials on monitoring methods:

1. Cetacean sightings database for Wales.
2. Contribution to Risso's dolphin and harbour porpoise survey, Friends of Cardigan Bay. A report is due in 2001.
3. Comparative trialling of acoustic and visual monitoring methods for the bottlenose dolphins of Cardigan Bay. Progress has been made with development of hardware and software for acoustic data loggers (PODS) to differentiate the sonar pulses of bottlenose dolphin from other cetacean species. This project will be reporting in spring 2001.
4. Bottlenose dolphin prey and habitat sampling trials in Cardigan Bay. Large-scale maps produced from recent remote survey using RoxAnn are being used to determine sampling stations and the trawling gear has been trialled. This project will be reporting in spring 2001.

Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) has commissioned a report produced by Aberdeen University and SMRU that evaluates the various techniques for monitoring the abundance and behaviour of bottlenose dolphins using the Kessock Channel as a case study (Thompson et al, 2000)².

c. Research on the effects of pollutants on cetacean health

Belgium

Some publications:

Das K., V. Debacker & J.-M. Bouquegneau, 2000. Metallothioneins in marine mammals. *Cellular and Molecular Biology* 46: 283-294

Das K., V. Debacker, S. Pillet & J.-M. Bouquegneau, 2000. Heavy metals in marine mammals. In: *Toxicology of Marine Mammals*, Taylor and Francis publishers Washington D.C. *in press*

Denmark

The Fjord & Belt Center has been cooperating with the German project led by Dr. Ursula Siebert from Kiel University, "Investigation of the influence of pollutants on the endocrine and immune systems of harbour porpoises from the German North and Baltic Seas". The porpoises held in human care at the FBC constitute a kind of control group and a source of samples for establishing a specific *in vitro*-system to investigate the cellular immune response of porpoises.

² P. Thompson, L. Tufft, N. Spencer, K. Grellier and J. Durban. 2000. Evaluation of techniques for monitoring the abundance and behaviour of bottlenose dolphins – The Kessock Channel as a case study. Scottish Natural Heritage Commissioned Report F99LE01 (unpublished)

The Fjord & Belt Center project on reproduction continued, provided the first data on sex hormone levels in harbour porpoises, and providing long-term data series and behavioural parallels in porpoises. This constitutes the first baseline data on sex hormones in harbour porpoises.

Finland

None.

Federal Republic of Germany

A number of papers have been published or are in press on pollutant loads in harbour porpoises.

Germany is participating in the IWC international study Pollution 2000+. For this purpose a project was launched aiming to investigate the influence of pollutants on the endocrinium and immune system of harbour porpoises. Investigations were performed on animals originating from the North and Baltic Sea and from less polluted waters around Iceland, Norway and Greenland. Investigations on the hormone and immune systems were coupled with chemical analysis of endocrine disrupting chemicals such as PCBs, DDT, Toxaphene and PBDEs to reveal possible changes.

Possible effects of pollutants are furthermore recorded as part of pathological investigations in Lower Saxony.

Poland

No information.

Sweden

Patrik Börjesson 2000, *Patologianatomiska undersökningar av tumlare (Phocoena phocoena) insamlade under observatörs- och satellitprojekt på svenska västkusten 1995-1997*. Project report, unpublished.

United Kingdom

The Institute of Zoology, in collaboration with the Centre for Environment, Fisheries and Aquaculture Science (CEFAS) laboratory, has previously identified statistically significant links between elevated polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) and mercury levels in harbour porpoises stranded in England and Wales that died of infectious diseases. The most common causes of infectious disease mortality in harbour porpoises stranded in England and Wales (including these pollution-related studies) are pneumonias caused by parasitic and bacterial

infections (Jepson et al 2000³). Due to the relative importance of lung diseases to overall health of harbour porpoises, the Institute of Zoology published a review of the lung pathology of 197 harbour porpoises stranded in England and Wales (Jepson et al 2000⁴). This study demonstrated that harbour porpoises beyond the age of weaning are often very heavily parasitised with several species of lung parasites, and that these infections may predispose some individuals to secondary bacterial or fungal pneumonias which are often fatal. A WWF-funded study held by the Institute of Zoology to study the effects of potential endocrine disrupting chemicals on testicular development in harbour porpoises was ongoing in 2000, with additional material supplied during this period by the SAC Inverness. Additional IOZ research projects (in collaboration with CEFAS) investigating potential links between health status and lung parasite burdens in harbour porpoises and their exposure to organochlorines and heavy metals are due to be completed in 2001.

SNH and Talisman Energy (UK) jointly commissioned a literature review of the effects of oil spills on cetaceans. This has been published (Gubbay and Earll, 2000⁵).

5. Public awareness and education

a. Measures taken in the fields of public awareness and education to implement or promote the Agreement

Belgium

A poster concerning the causes of death of stranded cetaceans was presented during the 'Flemish Science Week' at Ostend (20,000 visitors):

Jauniaux T., J. Haelters & F. Coignoul, 2000. De doodsoorzaken von zeezoogdieren. Poster voorgesteld tijdens de Vlaamse Wetenschapsweek, Mediacenter Oostende, 21-22 oktober 2000.

Denmark

A new project entitled "Look out for whales, dolphins and porpoises in Denmark" was commenced 2000 partly financed by the Danish Outdoor Council, the GB Bank Foundation and the Danish Forest and Nature Agency. The project is developed and coordinated by the Fisheries and Maritime Museum, Esbjerg and the Zoological Museum, Copenhagen

³ Jepson, P.D., Baker, J.R., Kuiken, T., Simpson, V.R., Deaville, R. & Bennett, P.M. Infectious disease mortality in harbour porpoises stranded in England and Wales 1990-1999. Proceedings of the fourteenth annual conference of the European Cetacean Society, Cork, Republic of Ireland 2-5 April 2000.

⁴ Jepson, P.D., Baker, J.R., Kuiken, T., Simpson, V.R., Kennedy, S. & Bennett, P.M. 2000. Pulmonary pathology of harbour porpoises stranded in England and Wales between 1990 and 1996. *Veterinary Record* 146, 721-728

⁵ S. Gubbay and B. Earl, 2000. Review of literature on the effects of oil spills on cetaceans. *Scottish Natural Heritage Review* No. 3.

The main objectives of the project are to raise public awareness on cetaceans in Denmark and to improve the Danish stranding network in close cooperation with the National Forest and Nature Agency, and to monitor the distribution of harbour porpoises in the Inner Danish Waters. A database and homepage has been established (www.hvaler.dk).

The Fjord & Belt Center houses harbour porpoises for research purposes and public education and awareness. It presented, through exhibitions, talks to the general public and special groups, information on harbour porpoises in general, the bycatch problem and the effort undertaken to mitigate it.

Finland

The ASCOBANS poster will be circulated widely in the coastal areas in Finland together with a brochure. This material will be available in Finnish and Swedish.

In the brochure there will be specific information on how to identify a harbour porpoise in the sea and how to distinguish it from seals. In the brochure there will also be contact information to enable the public to report on sightings and on stranded animals and other relevant information to the authorities.

There will also be a web-site on the issue in the home page of the Ministry of Environment and of the Särkänniemi dolphinarium

Federal Republic of Germany

Public awareness on harbour porpoises in German waters has been increased by posters, lectures, brochures and video tapes. Close cooperation with a number of fishermen was established in parts of the Kiel Bight in order to monitor distribution and bycatches of harbour porpoises more closely. The long-existing stranding scheme in Mecklenburg-Vorpommern has helped to increase public awareness on the precarious state of harbour porpoises in the Baltic.

In Schleswig-Holstein a brochure on harbour porpoises as well as another one on seals and cetaceans in the Wadden Sea were distributed by a nature conservation association. An additional leaflet on cetaceans and seals is published by the National Park Service. An exhibition is planned for the Multimar-Wattforum-Tönning, which will include information on harbour porpoises.

An exhibition on the biology and protection of harbour porpoises was arranged by the German Oceanographic Museum in Stralsund and was displayed in different European cities. A leaflet with the same topic was produced by the German Oceanographic Museum too.

Poland

A Polish version of the ASCOBANS exhibition on the harbour porpoise has been produced with some supplements about the local situation. The original exhibition was presented in Hel Marine Station in Hel, Poland during the 2000 season.

The rescue telephone (24h), works at Hel Marine Station for collecting information on stranded, by-caught and observed cetaceans and carcasses. The telephone number and the address have been included in all information materials to facilitate the delivery of the reports.

A new postcard and a telephone card with a picture of a harbour porpoise as an endangered species have been issued.

The so-called “Blue Schools” project, financed by the Regional Fund for Nature Protection and Water Management in Gdańsk, has been carried out to educate schoolchildren about the marine ecosystem and the role of marine mammals in the environment.

Sweden

A public information pamphlet regarding the obligation to report stranded harbour porpoises is continuously distributed.

United Kingdom

The Environment and Heritage Service in Northern Ireland and the Ulster Museum continue to collaborate with the Irish Whale and Dolphin Group (IWDG) in raising public awareness through talks, broadcasts and the IWDG All Ireland Strandings and Sightings Scheme. EHS part funded an updated version of the booklet “Face to Face with a Beached Whale”, which was distributed to all maritime district councils, HM Coastguard stations and yacht clubs in Northern Ireland. The IWDG ran a one-day workshop for Government and NGO representatives covering cetacean conservation issues, field identification, reporting and the rescue of live stranded cetaceans.

ANNEX 1

Cetacean strandings in Great Britain in 2000

(Statistics submitted as Annex to the Annual Report of the United Kingdom)

	ENGLAND, WALES AND ISLE OF MAN	SCOTLAND	TOTAL
FAMILY BALAENOPTERIDAE			
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	5	13	18
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	4	-	4
FAMILY DELPHINIDAE			
<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	54	10	64
<i>D. delphis/S. coeruleoalba</i>	-	1	1
<i>Globicephala melas</i>	9	6	15
<i>Grampus griseus</i>	3	7	10
<i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i>	-	14	14
<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	-	8	8
<i>Lagenorhynchus sp. Indet.</i>	1	2	3
<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	9	4	13
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	3	2	5
Unidentified dolphins	13	8	21
FAMILY PHOCOENIDAE			
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	149	47	196
FAMILY PHYSETERIDAE			
<i>Physeter catodon</i>	-	5	5
FAMILY ZIPHIIDAE			
<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	-	1	1
<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	1	2	3
Unidentified toothed whales	6	1	7
Unidentified cetaceans	24	4	28
TOTALS	281	135	416

ANNEX 2

List of relevant publications submitted as an annex to the Annual Report of the United Kingdom

Brucella Infections in Marine Mammals from Scottish Waters, 2000, I.A.P. Patterson, F.E. Howie, R.J. Reid, H.M. Ross, A. MacMillan, G. Foster and D. Buxton, Proceedings of the American Association of Zoo Veterinarians and International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine Joint Conference, New Orleans, Louisiana, September 17-21, 2000.

G. Foster, H. M. Ross, H. Malnick, A. Willems, R. A. Hutson, R. J. Reid and M. D. Collins *Phocoenobacter uteri* gen. Nov., sp. Nov., a new member of the family *Pasteurellaceae* Pohl (1979) 1981 isolated from a harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*), 2000, International Journal of Systematic and Evolutionary Microbiology, 50, 135-139.

Photographic and Strandings Data Highlighting the Problem of Marine Debris and Creel Rope Entanglement to Minke Whales (*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*) and Other Marine Life in Scottish Waters. Gill, A, Reid, R. J., Fairbairns, B. R. 2000 Proceedings of Fourteenth Annual Conference of European Cetacean Society, Cork, Ireland 3-6 April 2000.



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