

Circular Communication to Commissioners, Contracting Governments and
Members of the Scientific Committee
IWC.ALL.403
c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC

Relaunch: Journal of Cetacean Research and Management

This Circular informs members of the IWC community that the IWC's *Journal of Cetacean Research and Management (JCRM)* has been updated and relaunched, and is now available at:

<https://journal.iwc.int/index.php/jcrm>

Introducing these changes, the aims of the Editorial Board of *JCRM* are to improve visibility and accessibility, and the submission and review process, and to create a new layout designed for today's online readership.

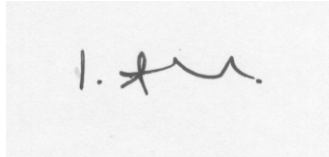
The journal is housed on a new website that makes it much easier to find and access specific papers. A digital repository known as LOCKSS is now used to 'future-proof' articles, ensuring every paper published is conserved independently of either *JCRM* or the IWC. Visibility is also much improved with the introduction of Digital Object Identifiers (DOIs) which increase discoverability of papers published in *JCRM*, and acceptance in the Directory of Open Access Journals.

Increased visibility and accessibility builds measurable impact, with benefits for authors as well as readers. New software also makes the submission process quicker and more intuitive for authors, and another important step forward is a new process of editorial review. All these steps should ensure that the time from submission to publication, and the effort involved, are greatly reduced.

The final set of updates focus on layout. The vast majority of readers now access *JCRM* digitally and a new layout has been designed to maximise clarity and ease of use on-screen.

As the long-standing journal of the IWC, it's fitting that *JCRM* is relaunched as the IWC commemorates its 75th anniversary and an evolution that reflects the broad range of challenges to healthy cetacean populations today. The updating of *JCRM* for the digital age is an integral part of this story.

Please share this information and the new webpage link with your colleagues, students and anyone with an interest in cetacean science and research.

A handwritten signature in black ink on a light grey background. The signature consists of a vertical line, a horizontal line, and a wavy line.

Dr Iain Staniland
Head of Science, Conservation and Management