

Scientific Committee's Prior Year Spending and Future Work Plan 2023-2024

Prepared by: The Secretariat

1. Prior Year Spending

- 1.1. For 2021, the Research Fund opened with a balance of unspent funds of £376,367. The approved Scientific Committee Research Fund budget was £226,400 and no voluntary contributions were received into the fund. Expenditure of £100,922 had occurred during the year, giving a closing balance for 2021 of £501,845. Refer to Annex 1 for further detail.
- 1.2. It should be noted that due to the COVID-19 pandemic, a significant number of projects were postponed, and these projects were reviewed by the Scientific Committee at the annual meeting in April 2022.
- 1.3. The balance of the contingency fund at the end of 2021 was £44,848, substantially higher than the target of 10% of the Committee's budget allocation as outlined in the Rules of Procedure.
- 1.4. Annex 2 shows the projects which were approved by the Commission in prior years that are continuing to progress.

2. 2022 Spending to Date

- 2.1. For 2022, the approved Scientific Committee Research Fund budget was £230,900 and no voluntary contributions were received into the fund. Expenditure of £84,621 had occurred to 31 July 2022. Refer to Annex 3 for further detail.

3. Fund Reallocations

The table below shows the funds that were identified for reallocation within the research funds at the SC68D meeting.

Project Title	Reallocated £	Notes
R67018 Exploration of Survey Methods - West Australian BSD Humpbacks	4,000	Project paid for by Australian Government
R68C006 SRW Australia Aerial Survey	10,516	Not all IWC funding required due to additional funding from Australian Government
TOTALS	14,516	

4. Proposals for 2023-2024

- 4.1. The Scientific Committee propose a research programme for 2023-2024, as shown in Annex 4. The amounts for the next two years are:

- 2023 - £229,626
- 2024 - £227,796

4.2. A rigorous process of scoring and ranking was applied to ensure fair evaluation of each proposal. The total amount requested from the Commission for each year is lower than that requested for 2022. In-kind support for these projects totals over £2.3m.

4.3. The Scientific Committee did not approve funding for three projects:

- Climate Change Workshop Part II - £42,680 for 2023
- Development of GIS (meta) database on information on human activities that might have an adverse impact on SRW - £3,240 for 2023 and £10,020 for 2024
- Rock 'n' Whales: can we detect blue and fin whale acoustic presence from a land-based seismic station in the equatorial Atlantic Ocean? - £13,470 for 2023 and £6,240 for 2024

5. Recommendation

5.1. The BSC is asked to note the Scientific Committee request for funding for the 2023-2024 budget.

ANNEX 1 – SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE RESEARCH FUND POSITION AT END OF 2021

Sub Comm	RP	Project ID	Project Name	2021 Opening Balance	2021 Reallocation of Funds	2021 Budget	2021 Total Budget	2021 Adj	2021 Income	2021 Expenditure	2021 Closing Balance
ALL		Contingency	Unassigned	44,848			44,848				44,848
ALL			Set aside to support Commission Recommendations	-			-				-
ALL		RO001	RO001 Invited Participants	100,000			100,000				100,000
2021 PROJECTS											
Meetings / Workshops											
RMP	68bRP28	R67013	R67013 Implementation Review NP Minke Whales	15,000			15,000				15,000
ASI	68aRP05	R67025	R67025 Pre-Meeting of the Abundance Steering Group	6,000			6,000				6,000
CMP	68bRP11	R67026	R67026 SWA Right Whale CMP Workshop	7,600			7,600				7,600
CMP	68bRP12	R67027	R67027 CAHW CMP Workshop	11,460			11,460				11,460
CMP	68bRP23	R67028	R67028 Franciscana Workshop	16,600			16,600				16,600
E	68bRP24	R67029	R67029 Climate Change Workshop	20,000			20,000				20,000
WW	68bRP30	R67030	R67030 Chile & Peru Whale Watching Workshop	4,210			4,210				4,210
Modelling / Computing											
IA	68bRP15	R67031	R67031 Computing Support to WNP Minke	13,500			13,500				13,500
Research											
SH	68bRP01	R67032	R67032 Pygmy Blue Whale Pre-Assessments	7,535			7,535		(7,535)		-
SH	68bRP02	R67033	R67033 Acoustics Blue Whale Oman	12,000			12,000		(4,000)		8,000
SH	68bRP07	R67035	R67035 Mid-Latitude Antarctic Blue Whale Acoustics	4,400			4,400		(2,900)		1,500
CMP	68bRP08	R67036	R67036 ASHW Songs India	11,897			11,897		(5,143)		6,754
CMP	68bRP09	R67037	R67037 ASHW Body Conditions & Fisheries Mapping	12,825			12,825		(6,413)		6,412
CMP	68bRP10	R67038	R67038 Southeast Pacific Right Whale Acoustics	20,000			20,000		(20,000)		-
IA	68bRP16	R67039	R67039 NPHW Mixed Stock Analysis	13,200			13,200		(6,600)		6,600
SM / CMP	68bRP27	R67040	R67040 Franciscana Aerial Survey	23,820			23,820				23,820
E	RP07	RO002	RO002 POWER Cruise	48,034			48,034		(7,358)		40,676
Databases / Catalogues											
	68aRP03	R67041a	R67041a SH Blue Whale Catalogue	20,037			20,037		(19,225)		812
SH	68bRP03	R67041b	R67041b SH Blue Whale Catalogue - Chile	10,428			10,428				10,428
SH	68bRP03b	R67042	R67042 Reconciling Chilean Blue Whale Catalogue	2,000			2,000				2,000
HIM	RP18	RO005	RO005 Ship Strike Coordination	12,500			12,500		(12,500)		-
Secretariat	68bRP22	RO007	RO007 Secretariat Database Support	2,228			2,228		(2,228)		-
Reports											
E	RP04	RO003	RO003 SOCR	4,000			4,000		(4,000)		-
PRIOR YEARS / ONGOING PROJECTS											
		R66006	R66006 JCRM SOWER	33,650			33,650		(260)		33,390
		R66017	R66017 Data Archiving NI Ocean Humpbacks	-			-		1,875		1,875
IA	RP19	R66023	R66023 IA NP Humpbacks	11,481			11,481				11,481
		R66031	R66031 Priority Arabian Sea Humpbacks	913			913				913
CMP	RP10	R66032	R66032 Strandings Emergency Response	9,915			9,915				9,915
		R66036	R66036 Development of Permanent Blue W Reference Library	4,000			4,000				4,000
		R67003	R67003 Simulating Line Transect Data	-			-		3,000		3,000
CMP	RP15	R67004	R67004 Quantitative assessment of threats to Arabian Sea humpback whales	7,291			7,291		(3,650)		3,641
CMP	RP11	R67006	R67006 Population Dynamics SR Whales Peninsula Valdes	1,400			1,400				1,400
EM	RP08	R67007	R67007 Ecosystem Functioning Workshop 2020	20,550			20,550				20,550
WW	RP27	R67008	R67008 MAWI Workshop	17,000			17,000				17,000
CMP	RP12	R67009	R67009 Abundance Estimates Franciscana Buenos Aires	1,775			1,775				1,775
IA	RP20/68bRP17	R67010	R67010 In-depth Assessment of NP Sei Whales	5,000			5,000		(2,500)		2,500
NH	RP37	R67017	R67017 Comparative biology, health, status and future NA Right Whales	10,000			10,000				10,000
	68aRP01	R67018	R67018 Exploration of Survey Methods - West Australian BSD Humpbacks	4,000			4,000				4,000
RMP	RP02	R67023	R67023 Amendment of RMP Guidelines	2,366			2,366				2,366
	68aRP04	R67024	R67024 Photo ID SR Right Whales in Brazil and Argentina	2,000			2,000				2,000
CMP	RP16		Western Gray Whale CMP	10,500			10,500				10,500
			Cumulative Impacts Pre-Meet (CDOC)	9,817			9,817				9,817
			Masking & Ship Noise	4,000			4,000				4,000
			Historic Catch Data	2,988			2,988				2,988
			Bank Charges & Currency Adjs	-			-		(1,486)		(1,486)
TOTAL				602,767	-	-	602,767	-	-	(100,922)	501,845

ANNEX 2 – PROJECTS WHICH WERE APPROVED BY THE COMMISSION IN PRIOR YEARS THAT ARE CONTINUING TO PROGRESS

Project title	Sub-Comm	Funds to be spent in 2022 £	Funds remaining for 2023 £	Funds remaining for 2024 £
Invited Participants 2022			50,000	50,000
Amount to support Commission Recommendations			15,000	
Responding to Commission Developments			108,684	
Contingency Fund			44,848	
R67025 Pre-Meeting of the Abundance Steering Group	ASI		6,000	
R67003 Simulating Line Transect Data	ASI		750	
R67026 SWA Right Whale CMP Workshop	CMP	7,600		
R67027 CAHW CMP Workshop	CMP	11,460		
R67028 Franciscana Workshop	CMP	16,600		
R67043 Western Gray Whale CMP	CMP		10,500	
R68C002 Chile-Peru SRW CMP Workshop	CMP	8,750		
R67004 Quantitative assessment of threats to Arabian Sea humpback whales	CMP	3,641		
R67006 Population Dynamics SR Whales Peninsula Valdes	CMP	1,400		
R67009 Abundance Estimates Franciscana Buenos Aires	CMP	1,775		
R67036 ASHW Songs India	CMP		2,762	
R67037 ASHW Body Conditions & Fisheries Mapping	CMP		6,412	
R67040 Franciscana Aerial Survey	CMP		23,820	
R68C009 Chile-Peru SRW Acoustics	CMP		19,400	
R68C011 ASHW Conservation	CMP		14,845	
R66032 Strandings Emergency Response	E		9,915	
R67007 Ecosystem Functioning Workshop 2020	EM		20,550	
R66023 IA NP Humpbacks	IA		10,000	
R67013 Implementation Review NP Minke Whales	IA		15,000	
R67010 In-depth Assessment of NP Sei Whales	IA		2,500	
R67031 Computing Support to WNP Minke	IA	6,000		
R68C005 HW Tag Data Analysis	IA		9,860	
RO004 Essential Computing Support (refer to R67031 too)	IST	4,000	3,500	
R67023 Amendment of RMP Guidelines	IST		1,250	
R68C001 NA Humpback Workshop	NH		16,960	
R68C007 MEGARA 2022	NH	6,000		
RO002 POWER Cruise	SEC	39,220	16,562	
RO007 Secretariat Database Support	SEC	6,000		
R66006 JCRM SOWER	SEC			19,740
Seed Funding - Communications Small Group	SEC		15,000	
R67033 Acoustics Blue Whale Oman	SH		2,000	
R67035 Mid-Latitude Antarctic Blue Whale Acoustics	SH		1,500	
R68C003 SH Blue Whale Catalogue	SH		11,500	
R68C004 Madagascar Blue Whale Photographs	SH		400	
R68C006 SRW Australia Aerial Survey	SH	6,492		
R68C008 Antarctic BW Stock and Movement	SH		16,076	
R68C010 Blue Whale Acoustics Oman	SH		2,003	
R67041a SH Blue Whale Catalogue	SH	812		
R67041b SH Blue Whale Catalogue - Chile	SH		7,800	
R66017 Data Archiving NI Ocean Humpbacks	SH		1,875	
R66036 Development of Permanent Blue W Reference Library	SH		4,000	
R67030 Chile & Peru Whale Watching Workshop	WW		4,210	
TOTAL		105,000	487,232	69,740

ANNEX 3 - SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE RESEARCH FUND POSITION AT END OF JULY 2022

Sub Comm	RP	Project ID	Proponent	Project Name	2022 Opening Balance	2022 Reallocation of Funds	2022 Budget	2022 Total Budget	2022 Income	2022 Expenditure	2022 Balance @ 31 July 2022
ALL		RO001		RO001 Invited Participants	100,000			100,000			100,000
ALL				Set aside to support Commission Recommendations	-		15,000	15,000			15,000
ALL				Seed Funding - Communications Small Group	-		15,000	15,000			15,000
ALL				Responding to Commission Developments	-	94,093	14,591	108,684			108,684
ALL	Contingency			Unassigned	44,848			44,848			44,848
2022 PROJECTS											
Meetings / Workshops											
NH	5	R68C001		NA Humpback Workshop	-		16,960	16,960			16,960
CMP	1	R68C002		Chile-Peru SRW CMP Workshop	-		8,750	8,750		(1,450)	7,300
Modelling / Computing											
IST	10	RO004		Essential Computing Support (refer to R67031 too)	-		13,500	13,500		(6,000)	7,500
Research											
IST, IA	12	RO002		RO002 POWER Cruise	40,676		15,106	55,782		(5,466)	50,317
SH	7	R68C003		SH Blue Whale Catalog	-		11,500	11,500			11,500
SH	8	R68C004		Madagascar Blue Whale Photographs	-		400	400			400
IA	11	R68C005		HW Tag Data Analysis	-		9,860	9,860			9,860
SH	6	R68C006		SRW Australia Aerial Survey	-		17,008	17,008			17,008
NH	4	R68C007		MEGARA2022	-		6,000	6,000		(3,000)	3,000
SH	9	R68C008		Antarctic BW Stock and Movement	-		16,076	16,076			16,076
CMP	13	R68C009		Chile-Peru SRW Acoustics	-		19,400	19,400		(7,000)	12,400
CMP	17	R68C010		Blue Whale Acoustics Oman	-		16,904	16,904		(14,901)	2,003
CMP	16	R68C011		ASHW Conservation	-		14,845	14,845			14,845
Databases											
HIM	2	RO005		Ship Strike Coordination	-		10,000	10,000			10,000
GDR	18	RO007		Secretariat Database Support	-		6,000	6,000			6,000
Reports											
PRIOR YEARS / ONGOING PROJECTS											
ASI		R66006		R66006 JCRM SOWER	33,390	(16,650)		16,740			16,740
SH		R66017		R66017 Data Archiving NI Ocean Humpbacks	1,875			1,875			1,875
IA	RP19	R66023		R66023 IA NP Humpbacks	11,481	(1,481)		10,000			10,000
CMP	RP10	R66032		R66032 Strandings Emergency Response	9,915			9,915			9,915
SH		R66036		R66036 Development of Permanent Blue W Reference Library	4,000			4,000			4,000
ASI	RP36	R67003		R67003 Simulating Line Transect Data	3,000			3,000		(2,250)	750
CMP	RP15	R67004		R67004 Quantitative assessment of threats to Arabian Sea humpback	3,641			3,641		(3,641)	-
CMP	RP11	R67006		R67006 Population Dynamics SR Whales Peninsula Valdes	1,400			1,400		(1,400)	-
EM	RP08	R67007		R67007 Ecosystem Functioning Workshop 2020	20,550			20,550			20,550
CMP	RP12	R67009		R67009 Abundance Estimates Franciscana Buenos Aires	1,775			1,775		(1,775)	-
IA	RP20/68bRP17	R67010		R67010 In-depth Assessment of NP Sei Whales	2,500			2,500			2,500
IST	68bRP28	R67013		R67013 Implementation Review NP Minke Whales	15,000			15,000			15,000
SH	68aRP01	R67018		R67018 Exploration of Survey Methods - West Australian BSD Humpbacks	4,000			4,000			4,000
IST	RP02	R67023		R67023 Amendment of RMP Guidelines	2,366	(1,116)		1,250			1,250
CMP	RP16	R67043		Western Gray Whale CMP	10,500			10,500		(3,000)	7,500
	68aRP04	R67024		R67024 Photo ID SR Right Whales in Brazil and Argentina	2,000			2,000			2,000
ASI	68aRP05	R67025		R67025 Pre-Meeting of the Abundance Steering Group	6,000			6,000			6,000
CMP	68bRP11	R67026		R67026 SWA Right Whale CMP Workshop	7,600			7,600		(3,473)	4,127
CMP	68bRP12	R67027		R67027 CAHW CMP Workshop	11,460			11,460			11,460
CMP	68bRP23	R67028		R67028 Franciscana Workshop	16,600			16,600		(7,560)	9,040
WW	68bRP30	R67030		R67030 Chile & Peru Whale Watching Workshop	4,210			4,210			4,210
IA	68bRP15	R67031		R67031 Computing Support to WNP Minke	13,500	(7,500)		6,000			6,000
SH	68bRP02	R67033		R67033 Acoustics Blue Whale Oman	8,000			8,000		(6,000)	2,000
SH	68bRP07	R67035		R67035 Mid-Latitude Antarctic Blue Whale Acoustics	1,500			1,500			1,500
CMP	68bRP08	R67036		R67036 ASHW Songs India	6,754			6,754		(3,992)	2,762
CMP	68bRP09	R67037		R67037 ASHW Body Conditions & Fisheries Mapping	6,412			6,412			6,412
SM / CMP	68bRP27	R67040		R67040 Franciscana Aerial Survey	23,820			23,820			23,820
SH	68aRP03	R67041a		R67041a SH Blue Whale Catalogue	812			812		(812)	-
SH	68bRP03	R67041b		R67041b SH Blue Whale Catalogue - Chile	10,428	(2,628)		7,800			7,800
				Bank Charges & Currency Adjs	(1,486)			(1,486)		(300)	(1,786)
COMPLETE / CANCELLED PROJECTS											
		R66031		R66031 Priority Arabian Sea Humpbacks	913	(913)					
WW	RP27	R67008		R67008 MAWI Workshop	17,000	(17,000)					
		R67011		R67011 Develop an age-structured emulator for the individual based energetics model (IBEM)	-						
NH	RP37	R67017		R67017 Comparative biology, health, status and future NA Right Whales	10,000	(10,000)					
E	RP06	R67022		R67022 2019 Marine Debris Workshop	-						
E	68bRP24	R67029		R67029 Climate Change Workshop	20,000	(20,000)					
SH	68bRP01	R67032		R67032 Pygmy Blue Whale Pre-Assessments	-						
SH	68bRP05	R67034		R67034 Acoustic Catch Separation Durban	-						
CMP	68bRP10	R67038		R67038 Southeast Pacific Right Whale Acoustics	-						
IA	68bRP16	R67039		R67039 NPHW Mixed Stock Analysis	6,600			6,600		(6,600)	
SH	68bRP03b	R67042		R67042 Reconciling Chilean Blue Whale Catalogue	2,000			2,000		(2,000)	
E	3	RO003		SOCER	-		4,000	4,000		(4,000)	
		RO006		RO006 AWMP Workshops	-						
				Cumulative Impacts Pre-Meet (CDOC)	9,817	(9,817)					
				Masking & Ship Noise	4,000	(4,000)					
				Historic Catch Data	2,988	(2,988)					
TOTAL					501,845	-	230,900	732,745	-	(84,621)	648,124

ANNEX 4 – 2023-2024 SCIENTIFIC COMMITTEE BUDGET REQUEST

RP Number	Sub Committee	Project Title	2023 Budget Request £	2024 Budget Request £
General				
n/a	ALL	Invited Participants 2023/24	50,000	50,000
n/a	ALL	Support Commission recommendations	-	-
n/a	ALL	Responding to Commission developments	-	-
n/a	ALL	Contingency Fund	-	-
26	ALL	Seed Funding - Communications Small Group	-	7,500
Meetings / Workshops				
2	ALL	Annual meeting of the Abundance Steering Group	5,340	11,340
7	SH, CMP	SRW catch series, stock structure, and catch allocation review workshop	1,284	11,720
25	SAN	Southern Ocean Sanctuary review	-	1,985
Modelling / Computing				
5	SH	Assessment of Antarctic blue whales	22,362	-
11	IA	Assessments: computing to support Secretariat	17,000	25,500
12	IA	NP sei and humpback whale modelling	-	2,500
Research				
1	ALL	POWER Cruises 2023/24	16,208	29,870
4	SH, CMP	Assessing movement rates of SW Atlantic SRW between Argentina and Brazil	5,808	-
6	SH	Mark recapture analysis of Southern Hemisphere BW photo-ID datasets to estimate regional abundance	-	18,000
9	SH	Passive acoustic monitoring of cetaceans from the former Durban whaling ground, western Indian Ocean	1,590	1,590
16	CMP, SH	Passive Acoustic monitoring of the Eastern SP SRW	20,200	11,000
18	CMP	Assessment of spatiotemporal distribution of humpback and blue whale song along the Arabian Sea coast of Oman	9,650	9,250
19	CMP	Continuation of field deployments in 2023/24 for passive acoustic monitoring for humpback, blue and other baleen whales off Oman	17,903	-
22	E	Contaminant mapping in cetaceans: Review of spatial and temporal trends in POPs and heavy metals	10,000	-
24	NH	Assessing endangered baleen whales in the Eastern North Atlantic through passive acoustic monitoring off Senegal	12,420	10,000
15	SM	Assessment of the traditional drive-hunt in the Solomon Islands: Collaborating with Indigenous communities and updating the IWC direct take database	2,500	2,500
Databases				
13	HIM, SM	Ship strikes database coordinator	10,000	10,000
8	SH, PH	Southern Hemisphere blue whale catalogue 2023/24	3,306	15,041
14	GDR, SH, PH	Secretariat database support	6,000	6,000
23	NH	Review of the Spanish statistics in the IWC catch database	12,555	-
Reports				
3	WW	Communicating the science of sustainable, responsible Whale Watching	1,500	-
20	E	State of Cetacean Environment Report (SOCER) for 2023/24	4,000	4,000
TOTALS			229,626	227,796