

**Report of the meeting of the Anthropogenic Underwater Noise working group (AUNWG) to develop the Workplan (2022-2024)**

The AUNWG met on 27 September 2022 to develop the AUN Workplan for the period 2022 – 2024. The following table summarises the results of the discussion. The Conservation Committee and Commission are asked for comments on the draft workplan and, if agreed, endorsement.

<b>Anthropogenic Underwater Noise</b>					
<b>Aim</b>	<b>Deliverable/Action</b>	<b>Progress</b>	<b>Responsibility</b>	<b>Timescale</b>	<b>Costs (if applicable)</b>
<p>Consider and act upon, as appropriate, the advice and recommendations from the SC on the impacts of anthropogenic noise on cetaceans.</p> <p>Establish linkages between the IWC and other relevant bodies to ensure the dissemination of advice on anthropogenic noise.</p>	<p>Further identify and engage with appropriate regional and international bodies addressing anthropogenic noise and progress any opportunities for capacity building, in particular with regards to the IMO (<i>IWC/64/Rep5. IWC/64/Rep1</i>).</p> <p>With input from SC68C and D update the CC workplan for 2022-2024 on underwater noise.</p> <p>Review management recommendations from other IGOs working on this topic and update the 2020 paper.</p> <p>Review progress of outreach activities and information flow, specifically provide advice on how the IWC could further enhance its outreach and capacity building activities.</p>	<p>Meeting held September 2022</p>	<p>Conservation Committee</p> <p>Secretariat</p> <p>Anthropogenic Underwater Noise Working Group</p>	<p>2020-Ongoing</p> <p>For IWC68</p>	
<p>Provide a report to the Commission synthesising progress in addressing IWC Recommendations on the mitigation and management of anthropogenic noise.</p>	<p>SC and CC workshops on underwater noise will be held during this intersessional period to review recommendations arising from previous relevant workshops and publications such as:</p>		<p>Anthropogenic Underwater Noise Working Group</p> <p>SC Sub-committee on Environmental Concerns (Noise)</p>	<p>2024. The reports of these workshops will be presented to IWC69.</p>	<p>Depending on format of workshop a funding request may be</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increased Marine Activities on Cetaceans in the Arctic (<i>IWC/65/Rep07 Rev1</i>)</li> <li>Workshop on the evaluation of stress and sound (<i>IWC66 rep1 (2015) 12.4.3</i>).</li> </ul>		Sub-Committee on Unintended Human Induced Mortality (shipping)		submitted to the VCF
Describe the extent of seismic exploration activities worldwide, and identify areas where cetacean populations, especially threatened ones, could be exposed	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review the existing recommendations from the IWC on seismic activities and provide updates if needed.</li> <li>Compile published and unpublished literature on this issue.</li> <li>Engage with appropriate regional and international bodies addressing seismic exploration (such as CMS) to scope further work on dissemination of guidelines related to Anthropogenic Underwater noise.</li> </ol> <p>To describe the extent of seismic activities worldwide the following steps will be taken:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>distribute the questionnaire through notification from IWC Secretariat to contracting governments, and different bodies such as CMS, CBD, etc.</li> <li>Map the data with a Geographical Information System.</li> <li>Prepare a final document to circulate with the IWC CC, the IWC SC and the Commission.</li> </ol>		<p>Conservation Committee</p> <p>Secretariat</p> <p>Anthropogenic Underwater Noise Working Group</p>	<p>2021- Ongoing</p> <p>A report will be submitted to the next SC and CC meeting</p> <p>4-6 months (collect the information)          IWC SC 69A (preliminary report)</p>	
Identify other important issues and synergies related to anthropogenic underwater noise (e.g., vessel noise)	Coordinate with other existing initiatives or groups within the IWC (e.g., ship strike, WW, stranding, etc.) to find synergies for common mitigation		<p>Anthropogenic Underwater Noise Working Group</p> <p>Scientific Committee groups</p> <p>Ship Strikes SWG</p> <p>SWG on Whale Watching</p>	Ongoing	