



INTERNATIONAL  
WHALING COMMISSION

The Red House  
135 Station Road  
Impington, Cambridge  
CB24 9NP, UK

**t.** +44 (0) 1223 233971  
**f.** +44 (0) 1223 232876  
**e.** [secretariat@iwc.int](mailto:secretariat@iwc.int)  
[www.iwc.int](http://www.iwc.int)

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Circular Communication to Commissioners. Contracting Governments and  
Members of the Scientific Committee  
**IWC.ALL.225**

**State of the Cetacean Environment Report (SOCER) 2015**

The editors of the State of the Cetacean Environment Report (SOCER) have requested contributions for this year's draft which will be dedicated to North and South Pacific Ocean. The solicitation letter is attached to this Circular.

Previous SOCER reports can be viewed at: <http://iwc.int/socer>

Please note that the deadline for submissions for this year's SOCER is **31 March 2015**.

Simon Brockington  
Secretary to the Commission

*c.c. Accredited observers to the IWC*

## **SOLICITATION LETTER TO POTENTIAL CONTRIBUTORS TO THE STATE OF THE CETACEAN ENVIRONMENT REPORT (SOCER)**

This letter is a call for submissions to enable us to produce a draft State of the Cetacean Environment Report (SOCER) for consideration by the IWC's Scientific Committee. The objective is to provide Commissioners (in response to Resolution 2000-7) and other interested parties with a non-technical periodic summary of events, developments and conditions in the marine environment that are relevant to cetaceans. Such developments might range from unusual mortalities to new legislation protecting marine habitats.

The report is compiled on an annual basis, with pre-selected regions to be treated each year. These regions include: Mediterranean and Black Seas; North and South Atlantic; North and South Pacific; Arctic and Southern Ocean; and Indian Ocean. Each report also contains a brief Global section and a glossary of technical terms.

### **This year will be devoted to the North and South Pacific Ocean**

We are asking for submissions of information that in your opinion merit inclusion in this report. This should primarily include information from 2013, 2014 and the months of 2015 before the submission deadline, although earlier data may be submitted if relevant over the long term. Please submit the information as follows:

Send an email to one of the SOCER editors (see below) and include the relevant scientific paper(s) as an attachment (e.g. pdf). With few exceptions, only information stemming from published scientific papers and reports or other authoritative sources can be accepted. If you have other forms of information please provide any supporting documentation to assist in the editorial decision-making process.

### **The deadline for submissions for the 2015 SOCER is: March 31, 2015**

The draft version will be written by the principal SOCER editors and circulated as a Scientific Committee document at the Scientific Committee meeting for comments and suggestions.

Thanks for your help in keeping us updated about cetaceans and their changing environment.

Michael Stachowitsch  
Dept. of Limnology and Bio-Oceanography  
University of Vienna  
Althanstrasse 14, A-1090  
Vienna, Austria  
Email: [stachom5@univie.ac.at](mailto:stachom5@univie.ac.at)

Naomi Rose  
Animal Welfare Institute  
900 Pennsylvania Ave.  
Washington, D.C. 20003 USA  
Email: [naomi@awionline.org](mailto:naomi@awionline.org)

Chris Parsons  
Department of Environmental Science and Policy  
George Mason University  
Fairfax, VA 22030 USA  
Email: [ecm-parsons@earthlink.net](mailto:ecm-parsons@earthlink.net)