

# Annex V

## Intersessional E-mail Groups

November 2023

This list contains the intersessional groups identified at SC69A. It has been divided into the following group types:

- (1) **Steering Groups (SG):** these are groups that have been set up to ensure that particular meetings, workshops or identified pieces of work are completed by SC69B. They have the authority to make decisions on behalf of the Committee within the context of their terms of reference (e.g. meeting budget spends, participants, agreements on parameters for analyses). Numbers are limited and members agreed at the meeting although the Convenor may request additional members or respond to late requests to be members. The expected outcomes will be either a workshop/meeting report or an analytical paper.
- (2) **Intersessional Correspondence Groups (ICG):** these are groups that have been set up to ensure progress on particular topics within the intersessional period. Membership is more flexible and open. It is expected that a written report on progress will be submitted to the Committee at SC69B.
- (3) **Advisory Groups (AG):** these are occasional groups established by the Committee to provide scientific and technical issues on specific issues if requested by a Contracting Government.

SC Agenda Item/Sub-Committee	Type	Group (short name)	Terms of Reference	Members
Item 8.1.1 IA	SG	North Pacific humpback whales	Further the preparations for the North Pacific humpback whale Comprehensive Assessment, including organising virtual meetings and an in-person intersessional workshop.	Palka (Convenor), Baker, Calambokidis, Clapham, Cheeseman, Donovan, Herr, Katara, Katsumata, Kitakado, Ivashchenko, Matsuoka, Mizroch, Palacios, Privitera-Johnson, Punt, Steel, Urbán, Wade, Weinrich and Zerbini.
Item 8.1.3 IA	SG	WNP common minke whales	Further the preparations for the western North Pacific common minke whales In-depth Assessment, including organising an intersessional meeting.	Donovan (Convenor), Allison, Baker, Butterworth, de Moor, Hakamada, Herr, Hoelzel, Katara, J.H. Lee, Kitakado, Palka, Punt, Tiedemann, Wade and Wilberg.
NH	ICG	NA Sei whales	Continue to identify and evaluate data on distribution, abundance, stock structure and catches, with a particular focus on the western North Atlantic.	Cholewiak (Convenor), Breiwick, Brownell, Mallette, Mizroch, Palka, Robbins, Sigurðsson and Weinrich.
NH	ICG	NA Humpback whales	Identify and evaluate data available for a potential future assessment.	Robbins (Convenor), Allen, Allison, Cerchio, Cholewiak, Chosson, Clapham, Donovan, Jones, Katara, Lang, Mallette, Mattila, Øien, Palka, Palsbøll, Punt, Rosenbaum, Sigurðsson, Tiedemann, Vély, Weinrich, Wilberg, Weinberg and Witting.
SH	ICG	SH mark-recapture	Advise on construction and analysis of southeast Pacific, southeast Indian Ocean and southwest Pacific mark recapture datasets, including timespan, regions to include, and modelling framework.	Jackson (Convenor), Barlow, Butterworth, Cooke, Double, Findlay, Fewster, Galletti, Gill, Herr, Jenner, Matsuoka, Möller, Olson, Salgado-Kent, Torres, Torres-Florez, Weinrich and Zerbini.
SH	ICG	Antarctic blue whale song	Low- and mid-latitude analysis of Antarctic blue whale song to establish any differences between wintering grounds.	Buchan (Convenor), Barlow, Branch, Brownell, Cerchio, Harris, McCauley, Miller, Samaran, Shabangu, Širović, Sousa-Lima, Stafford and Torres.
SH	ICG	Antarctic blue whale population structure hypotheses	Consideration of options for proposing alternative population structure hypotheses.	Lang (Convenor), Branch, Herr, Olson, Sremba and Torres-Florez.
SH	ICG	Southern right whale body condition	Finalize a global, standardized southern right whale body condition and visual health assessment protocol for IWC endorsement.	Vermeulen, Charlton (co-Convenors), Christiansen, Findlay, Gregory, Hörbst, Kent, Leslie, Minton and Moore.
SH	ICG	Using satellites to study whales	Coordination of information, data, and code-sharing among research groups conducting active research using satellite images to monitor whales. This group aims to facilitate	Clarke (Convenor), Acebes, Alfaro, Alonso, Amorim Corrêa, Andrews-Goff, Archer, Arias, Baird, K., Baldwin, Bamford, Barreto, Bejder, Bell, Borowicz, Brownell,

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			development of automated methods, avoid duplication of effort, and negotiate better tasking opportunities with satellite providers.	Burkhardt, Carroll, Charry, Cholewiak, Collins, Coscarella, Crespo, Cubaynes, Dalla Rosa, Davenport, Di Sciara, Domit, Double, Elwen, Eler, Ferguson, M., Ferguson, S., Fernández, Fewster, Fretwell, Frias, García-Garin, Garita, Goetz, Green, Groch, Ham, Hines, Hodgins, Hoeschle, Houegnigan, Houliston, Ivanchikova, Jackson, Jenner, Katara, Kapoor, Kelly, Khan, Kot, Krebs, Lauriano, Leaper, Lundquist, Mallette, Mcfarlane Mizroch, Mustika, Natoli, Neveceralova, Olavarria, Olson, Palacios, D., Palka, Panigada, Pisano, Plön, Porter, Ritter, Robbins, Rodofili, Rogan, Rowles, Sahri, Schteinbarg, Schubert, Sousa-Lima, Stack, Stewart, Stockin, Sucunza, Tissier, Torres-Florez, Tulloch, Urban, Vazquez, Vermeulen, Voss, Watt, Weinrich, Wilkin, Willson and Zerbin.
SH	ICG	Southern right whale calls	Assess what southern right whale call data exists offshore and at high latitudes (including IMOS and SOHN data), and consider appropriate analysis framework for using these data to assess southern right whale offshore distribution.	Vermeulen (Convenor), Burkhardt, Calderan, Carroll, Charlton, Findlay, Friedlander, Leaper, McCauley, Miller, Reyes Reyes, Schall, Shabangu, Širović, Ward and Webster.
SH	ICG	Southern right whale catch data	Compile new SRW catch series and update regional catch estimates.	Findlay (Convenor), Allison, Andrews-Goff, Azizeh, Bell, Brownell, Carroll, Charlton, Chatwin, Double, Katara, Kemper, Jackson, Paton, Reeves, Richards, Smith, Tryniw, Vermeulen and Zerbin.
SH	ICG	Southern right whale stock structure hypotheses	Review of the available historical and contemporary evidence for southern hemisphere stock structuring, develop stock structure hypotheses for review and ranking, based on available evidence; and identify data gaps where further work is required to discriminate hypotheses.	Jackson (Convenor), Agrelo, Azizeh, Baker, Carroll, Charlton, Evans, Findlay, Galletti-Vernazzani, Groch, Matsuoka, Richards, Rosenbaum, Sironi, Tiedemann, Torres-Florez, Valenzuela, Vermeulen, Weinrich and Zerbin.
SH	ICG	Southern right whale modelling	Progress towards the application of a common modelling framework on long-term sighting history datasets from southern right whale calving grounds to assess common: (1) population dynamics patterns; and (2) environmental drivers.	Charlton and Vermeulen (co-Convenors), Agrelo, Brandão, Butterworth, Carroll, Cooke, Double, Groch, Leaper, Rayment, Ross-Gillespie, Rowntree, Seyboth, Sironi, Staniland and Watson.
SH	ICG	Fin whale population structure	Conduct inter-regional comparisons of SH fin whale songs, similar to Širović <i>et al.</i> (2018) for blue whales.	Širović (Convenor), Aulich, Harris, Miller, Samaran, Shabangu, and Van Opzeeland.
SH	ICG	Opportunistic sighting data protocol	Review protocol for opportunistic sighting data collection.	Herr (Convenor), Biuw, Burkhardt, Buss, Cheeseman, Dalla Rosa, Hevia, Iñiguez, Mizroch, Secchi, Torres-Florez, Viquerat, Waluda and Weinrich.
SH	ICG	Summary of fin whale information	Provide summary of fin whale data, data gaps and data need for a future In-Depth assessment.	Herr (Convenor), Biuw, Harris, Miller and Mizroch.
SH	ICG	Key aspects of a further humpback whale In-depth assessment	Provide summary of humpback whale data, data gaps and data need for a further In-Depth assessment.	Butterworth, Weinrich (co-Convenors), Torres-Florez and Vermeulen.
Item 17.1.2 WW	SG-	Modelling and Assessment of Whale Watching Impacts (MAWI) Steering Group	Planning for and distributing the questionnaire, analysing the results.	Suydam (Convenor), Baldwin, Cooke, Cosentino, Currie, Forestell, Frey, Jiménez-Assmus, Leaper, Minton, New, Noren, Parsons, Reyes, Robbins, Rose, C. Smith, Vermeulen, Weinrich, Urbán and Webster.
Item 17.1 WW	ICG-	Human-induced behavioural changes of concern	Continue to monitor the relevant literature on, e.g. solitary sociable cetaceans, out of habitat cetaceans; seek to produce a new review of information for the Committee across the whole range of interactions with humans; review appropriate terminology (e.g.	Simmonds (Convenor), Cosentino, Currie, Fonseca, Forestell, Minton, Nunny, Parsons, C. Smith, Suydam, Vail, Wells, Weinrich and Urbán.

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			'habituation'); and continue to consider the relevance of this topic to the work of the sub-committee, including how this topic might best be studied in future.	
Item 17.3 WW	ICG	Timor-Leste whale watching	Continue communication Timor-Leste on development of guidelines and regulations, to facilitate communication between the Committee and the Government of Timor-Leste and the ATM-TL.	Porter, New (co-Convenors), Edyvane, Höschle, Noren, Parsons, Rose, Ritter, Suydam and Urbán.
Item 17.4.2 WW	ICG	Communication between the CC's SWG on WW and WW	Continue and enhance methods for disseminating information and advice between the SWG and WW.	Iñíguez (Convenor), Campbell, Parsons, Rojas-Bracho, Simmonds, Slooten, Suydam and Urbán.
Item 2.1 SD&DNA	ICG	Gray whale population structure	To clarify the terminology used to describe the gray whale stock structure hypotheses; re-evaluate plausibility of the hypotheses, including consideration of adding new variants if needed, to inform the Range-wide Review of the Status and Population Structure of gray whales.	Lang (Convenor), Bickham, Donovan, Hoelzel, Goto, Nakamura, Pampoulie, Punt, Scordino, Tiedemann and Weller.
Item 2.6 SD&DNA/SM	ICG	<i>Sotalia guianensis</i> population structure	Review genetic and other evidence relating to population structure in <i>Sotalia guianensis</i> ; provide advice on the proposed management unit delineations.	Lang and Caballero (co-Convenors), Archer, Baker, Briceño, Buss, Cipriano, Cunha, Domit, Fruet, Hoelzel, Lunardi, Natoli, Sousa-Lima, Tiedemann, Torres-Florez and Zerbini.
Item 2.7 SD&DNA	ICG	North Atlantic fin whale population structure	Review existing stock structure hypotheses and identify additional analyses that may be used to assess plausibility of existing hypotheses and to inform mixing parameters.	Pampoulie and Tiedemann (co-Convenors), Buss, Lang, Mizroch, Palsbøll (to confirm) and Witting.
Item 4.1 SD&DNA	ICG	DNA quality	Review recent revisions in sections of the DNA quality guidelines that pertain to data produced using NGS approaches. Identify approaches to increase the visibility and use of the guidelines.	Tiedemann (Convenor), Archer, Baird, Baker, Bickham, Carroll, DeWoody, Hoelzel, Goto, Jackson, Lang, Palsbøll, Pampoulie, Sremba, Taguchi, Torres Florez and Waples.
Item 4.2 SD&DNA	ICG	Genetic data analysis	Generate a checklist of key aspects of the genetic data analysis guidelines and identify aspects of the guidelines that may need updating, particularly in the context of genomic methodologies and analysis. Identify approaches to increase the visibility and use of the guidelines.	Tiedemann (Convenor), Bickham, Buss, DeWoody, Hoelzel, Lang and Pampoulie.
Item 5 SD&DNA	ICG	Sample depletion	Discuss and provide recommendation on genomic approaches to maximise the utility of tissue samples, particularly those in danger of depletion.	Lang (Convenor), Archer, Baker, Bickham, Buss, Carroll, Harmon, Hoelzel, Goto, Jackson, Natoli, Palsbøll, Robertson, Sremba, Taguchi, Tiedemann and Torres Florez.
Item 6 SD&DNA	ICG	Terminology	Revisit the definitions that were previously put forward for stock-related terms at IWC 2014, particularly those related to large whale assessments, and revise them where necessary.	Tiedemann (Convenor), Baird, Bickham, Carroll, Cipriano, Hoelzel, Lang and Scordino.
9.2.1 CMP	ICG	Humpback whales in the northern Indian Ocean including the Arabian Sea	Engage a group composed of Arabian Sea humpback whale experts, veterinarians/cetacean health experts, and satellite tagging practitioners, to advise on best practices for a proposed renewed tagging effort, aimed at informing species distribution modelling and associated ship strike and bycatch risk assessment.	Willson (Convenor), Baldwin, Brownell, Cerchio, Collins, Gulland, Minton, Palacios, Robbins, Van Bressema, Weller and Zerbini.
Item 15.1 E	SG	Pollution	Planning activities and work priorities for Pollution 2025.	Holm (Convenor), Barreto, Eisfeld-Pierantonio, Frey, Genov, Plön, Rowles, Simmonds, Staniland and Uhart.
Item E	ICG	Noise	Continue work.	Cholewiak (Convenor), Borsani, Burkhardt, Campbell, Cosentino, Frisch-Nwakanma, Genov, Kinneging, Leaper, Lundquist, Miller, B., Plön, Rosenbaum, Renell, Reyes, Simmonds, Širović, Sousa-Lima, Vrooman, Webster and Williams.

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E	ICG	Diseases of concern	Continue work.	Stimmelmayer (Convenor), Cholewiak, Colegrove, Davison, Delaney, Fernandez, Groch, Gulland, Hernandez, Holm, Lee, Marcondes, Mazzariol, Noren, Rowles, Sierra, Simmonds, Tashima and Uhart.
E	ICG	Climate change	(1) Take into account the latest information on how cetacean populations are affected by climate change. (2) Provide clear advice on tools to mitigate the negative impact of climate change and build resilience. (3) Seek to develop an IWC climate change response programme.	Simmonds (Convenor), Barreto, Campbell, Frey, Frisch-Nwakanma, Genov, Gulland, Holm, Mallette, Marcondes, Noren, Nunny, Palka, Renell, Rowles, Simmonds, Vrooman, Sousa-Lima, Staniland, Stimmelmayer, Tulloch, Webster and Zerbini.
E	ICG	Marine debris	(1) Identify 'hotspots' of cetacean exposure to plastic debris. (2) Prepare a synthesis of information related to the impacts of marine plastics on cetaceans. (3) Prepare a summary of approaches that the Scientific Committee should consider in developing global and regional risk assessments related to cetacean exposure to plastic debris.	Simmonds (Convenor), Campbell, Cholewiak, Dolman, Eisfeld-Pierantonio, Fossi, Frey, Frisch-Nwakanma, Genov, Gulland, Holm, Kumar, Long, Malatji, Marcondes, Mallette, Mankeshwari, Mattila, Neave-Webb, Nelms, Nunny, Panti, Perry, Pierantonio, Porter, Rowles, Sutaria, Svoboda, Warrie and Webster.
E	ICG	Deep-sea Mining	(1) Review the topic and report back to the next SC with a further assessment of the likely consequences of deep-sea mining for cetaceans. (2) Seek to establish contact with others who are investigating this matter. (3) Encourage further submissions on this topic to the SC.	Rose (Convenor), Barreto, Parsons Simmonds, Smith, C., Thaler, Thompson, Walløe and Williams.
15.5.1 E	ICG	One Health	TBD	Fisher, Gulland, Holm, Lee, Mallette, Marcondes, Noren, Plön, Renell, Rowles, Sucunza, Simmonds, Stimmelmayer and Uhart.
SM/E	ICG	Beaked whales	Develop response protocol, develop recommendations for improved data sharing (SC2181).	Simmonds (Convenor), Baird, R., Cholewiak, Fonseca, Iñiguez, Plön, Stimmelmayer, Trujillo, Vrooman and Zerbini.
EM	ICG	Best practices for species distribution modelling (SDMs) and multi-species distribution modelling (MSDM)	(1) To finalize the guidelines for single species distribution models (SDMs). (2) To develop guidelines for multi-species distribution models (MSDMs). (3) To continue to conduct a literature review of SDMs and MSDMs. (4) To develop possible simulation platforms to evaluate SDMs and MSDMs.	Ferguson, Palacios, Kitakado (co-Convenors), Biuw, El-Gabbas, Genov, Herr, Kelly, Miller, New, Palka and Solvang.
EM	ICG	Cetacean and ecosystem functioning: a gap analysis workshop	Prepare the 2 <sup>nd</sup> Workshop under a Steering Group.	Kitakado, Ritter (co-Convenors), Biuw, Butterworth, Donovan, Double, Ferguson, Freitas, Galletti, Lindstrom, Punt, Renell, Roman, Schubert (organizing Convenor), Staniland, Zerbini, Webster and (more to come, TBD).
SM	ICG	Poorly documented takes of small cetaceans	Continue development of framework for SM work on Aquatic Wildmeat.	Porter (Convenor), Avila, Cassani, Ingram and Hodgins.
SM	AG	Small Cetacean Task Team	Provide ongoing advice and support to established Task Teams and consider any new proposals.	Simmonds (Convenor), Donovan, Genov, Minton, Parsons, Porter, Reeves, Rojas-Bracho, Staniland, Thomas and Trujillo.
SM	ICG	South Asian River Dolphin Planning Group	Progress towards developing a South Asian River Dolphin CMP.	Porter, Trujillo (co-Convenors), Bell, C., Iñiguez and Khan.
SM	ICG	SM Review of Recommendations	Make progress on a review framework and propose a mechanism to establish regional and species assessment teams.	Trujillo (Convenor), Porter, Jimenez, Couto di Tullio, Hodgins, Hielscher and Vrooman.
SM	ICG	Lahille's Dolphin Task Team	Conduct proposed workshop; provide a plan for CMP development; continue work on LBD TT objectives.	Vermeulen, Fruet (co-Convenors), Berninsone, Coscarella, Daura-Jorge, Laporta, Porter and Von Fersen.
SM	ICG	Direct takes	Make progress on the analysis of direct take database of small cetaceans held by the IWC Secretariat.	Katara (Convenor), Allison, Fisher, Hines and Porter.
SM	ICG	Tursiops taxonomy	Monitor new publications related to this issue and update Tursiops taxonomy database developed by this ICG.	Natoli (Convenor), Almosawi, Archer, Barreto, Brownell, Cipriano, Costa, Hoelzel, Krutzen, Lang, Louis and Porter.

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SM	ICG	Strait of Gibraltar, killer whale	compile information on the behaviour of the Strait of Gibraltar killer whale subpopulation; if possible, organise a workshop comprising experts, including marine mammal behaviouralists, to decide how best to approach this escalating issue.	Esteban (Convenor) Carvalho, Cosentino, García, Guinet, Barrett-Lennard, Bellido, Genov, Jimenez, Jourdain, Nunny, Pitman, Porter, Rose, Samarra, Sequeira, Simmonds, Smith, C., Staniland, Tixier, Towers and Zerbini.
SM	ICG	The South Pacific Island SM Group	Seek funding for a workshop focused on establishing collaborations with local researchers and other stakeholders throughout the South Pacific Island area; develop a workplan for 2024-28.	Porter (Convenor), Amepou, Beasley, Baird, K., Baird, R., Baker, Brannan, Childerhouse, Constantine, Garrigue, Katara, Lang, Miller, Oremas, Passadore, Poole, Read, Trujillo and Ward.
GDR	ICG	GDR planning	(1) Further develop the data management strategy, including consideration of all data submission processes and related IWC databases. (2) Consider ongoing maintenance, resourcing, capacity needs for SC-related IWC databases in preparation for the budgeting process at SC69B. (3) Review the information received from the National Progress Report questionnaire and continue to assess ways to improve the submission rates, data quality and value of these reports.	Staniland (Convenor), Allison, Bell, E., Branch, Barreto, Charlton, Double, Fortuna, Katara, Ki Sow, Reeves, S., O'Loughlin, Sigurðsson, Tandy and Zerbini.
ALL	SG	Group to assist the SC to transition to new budget and meeting schedules	(1) Assist the Committee in planning for a new reduced budget scenario and a revised meeting structure once the Commission agrees on a new budget for the IWC. (2) Provide advice to the Commission with respect to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the existing SC meeting format and possible changes to optimize a new meeting schedule;</li> <li>the use of the SC Research budget to support virtual meetings and in-person meetings; and</li> <li>the alignment of SC and Commission meetings should the SC meeting schedule change.</li> </ul>	Zerbini (Convenor), Bartmeier, Bjørge, Choi, Double, Fortuna, Iñiguez, Nelson, Palka, Porter, Staniland, Seakamela, Stachowitsch and Tandy.
4.12	SG	IUCN/IWC Coordination Group	(1) Develop a process to enhance coordination among IUCN, the IWC SC, and other relevant parties involved in conservation actions for cetaceans. (2) Facilitate coordination between those responsible for managing IUCN Red List assessments for cetaceans and developers of the IWC Status of Stocks Initiative, including: (a) Providing input to the Status of Stocks Steering Group regarding prioritisation of cases to consider; (b) assisting the Status of Stocks Group on Language, terminology, and content development in drafting website text for comparison of IUCN Red List and IWC Status of Stocks assessments; and (c) Advising all groups working on this project, as necessary, to help avoid duplication of effort, the appearance of conflicting results, and public confusion about whale statuses.	Braulik, Porter (co-Convenors), Abel, Allison, Andriolo, Cipriano, Cooke, Donovan, Fortuna, Givens, Panigada, Punt, Reeves, Sigurðsson, Staniland, Taylor, Trujillo and Zerbini.
12.2	ICG	Krill fishery bycatch	(1) Refine advice on data to be collected by observers and crew when whale entrapments occur including finalisation of data reporting form and data collection protocols. (2) In the longer term, provide advice for krill trawling operators to minimise whale entrapments (including development of technology to study how whales are interacting with krill trawling nets, move-on rules, etc.), and on refining designs of the marine mammal exclusion device.	Leaper (Convenor), Biuw, Double, Favero, Forster, Heinemann, Hines, Johnson, Kelly, Landry, Long, Mattila, Meyer, Parker, Passadore, Reeves, Soffker, Stimmelmayer, Walker and Weinrich.

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12.9	ICG	Pinger interference advice group	Collaboration with Baltic range states and European Commission on technical issues associated with acoustic interference of military activities by pingers.	Carlen (Convenor), Bell, C., Berggren, Bjorge, Cosentino, Dolman, Leaper, Parsons, Plön, Ritter, Simmonds and Staniland.
12.7	ICG	Rmax Group	Develop a list of potential methods for estimating/setting Rmax and an evaluation of the data requirements, strengths, and weaknesses of each approach.	Wilberg (Convenor), Butterworth, Cipriano, Cooke, Demaster, Donovan, Jackson, Lang, Mizroch, Punt, Slooten, Wade and Zerbini.
12.8	ICG	Small cetacean disentanglement	Adapt NOAA Small Cetacean Entanglement Response Best Practices for use in countries with fewer resources in terms of personnel and equipment/facilities.	Minton (Convenor), Aranha, Baird, Genov, Kolesnikovas, Marmontel, Mattila, Porter, Renell, Rojas-Bracho, Simmonds, Trujillo and Wells.
2.1, 5	SG	Abundance Steering Group (ASG)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Coordinate the intersessional review of abundance estimates by the ASI SWG.</li> <li>- At a pre-meeting for SC69B, review abundance estimates, make recommendations to ASI, and consider progress on the Status of Stocks Initiative.</li> <li>- Establish a SOSI Glossary working group with the terms of reference to draft a glossary of terminology for display on the SOSI website, and submit this draft for SC69B.</li> </ul>	Givens, New (co-Convenors), Bell, Brownell, Cholewiak, Donovan, Jackson, Katara, Kitakado, Palka, Porter, Robbins, Staniland, Walløe and Zerbini.
5	SG	Status of Stocks Steering Group	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Oversee the Status of Stocks Website project, ensuring consistency and communication among the related ICGs.</li> <li>- Determine priority order in which species will be added to the website.</li> <li>- Receive draft material from other ICGs. Solicit review of draft content as needed for consistency, clarity, and accessibility to the appropriate audience.</li> <li>- Solicit SC approval of final material.</li> <li>- Organize creation of draft website.</li> </ul>	Givens (Convenor), Staniland (Co-convenor), Braulik Cipriano, Fortuna, Katara, New, Porter, Punt, Tandy, Wilberg, Wilson and Zerbini.
5	ICG	Status of Stocks Model-based Assessment	TBD	Wilberg (Convenor), Allison, Branch, Butterworth, Donovan, Givens, Katara, Palka, Punt and Zerbini.
5	ICG	Status of Stocks Group on Language, Terminology and Content Development	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft Status of Stocks Website text for explanation of concepts such as population dynamics, carrying capacity, definition of stocks/population, and scientific uncertainty.</li> <li>- Finalize website text for comparison of IUCN Red List and IWC Status of Stocks assessments.</li> <li>- Finalize choices for terminology, labels, nature of statements about recovery, and similar aspects of the draft website.</li> <li>- Draft text for summary pages, ensuring consistent format and language, in consultation with species experts to be solicited by this group as necessary.</li> </ul>	Cipriano, Wilson (co-Convenors), Braulik, Butterworth, DeMaster, Donovan, Givens, Katara, Lang, Minton, Porter, Staniland, Tandy, Wade, Zerbini.
4.1	ICG	Mark-recapture Abundance Estimation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Draft a paper with guidelines for mark-recapture abundance estimation, including survey design, data processing and matching, analysis, diagnostics, and interpretation, also noting issues associated with data over long time frames or from very heterogeneous sources.</li> <li>- Present the paper to SC69B.</li> </ul>	Wade (Convenor), Butterworth, Fewster and Kelly.
3	ICG	Update IWC Abundance Webpage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update the IWC webpage to reflect any changes in content, design, or inclusion criteria agreed at SC69A or prior Committee meetings.</li> <li>- Consider amended and expanded explanation of a 'confidence interval' on this webpage.</li> </ul>	Givens (Convenor), Allison, Donovan, Genov, Katara and New.

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7.1	SG	IWC-POWER/SOWER	To provide advice on the 2023-2024 IWC-POWER cruises (including holding a Technical Advisory Group Meeting and Planning Meetings), on data analyses, storage and on requests for data/sample use of IWC-POWER/SOWER cruises.	Matsuoka (Convenor), An, Bizikov, Brownell, Clapham, Crance, Donovan, Goetz, Gushcherov, Kato, Kelly, Katsumata, Kitakado, Lang, Staniland, Miyashita, Murase, Palka, Pastene, Wade and Zerbini.
7.1	SG	IWC-ATLAFCO collaboration	Identify ways to: (1) facilitate ATLAFCO participation in the SC; and (2) build capacity and training for scientists and early career researchers.	Staniland (Convenor), Cerchio, Collins, Diallo, Freitas, Genov, Laamrich, Minton, Panigada, Plön, Ridoux, Tiedemann and Zerbini.
2.1	SG	Indian Ocean Sanctuary Cetacean Monitoring Initiative	Convene to review scope and Terms of Reference Report progress to SC69B.	Katara (Convenor), Anderson, Braulik, Calderon, Cerchio, Collins, Dulau, Kelly, Kitakado, Minton, Nelson, New, Palka, Passadore, Seakamela, Sutaria, Tiwari, Willson and Zerbini.
	ICG	Childcare at SC meetings	Look into how the IWC can provide a Child Care Support Network at the SC.	Brownell, Atkinson, Bell, Cerchio, Charlton, Cholewiak, Iñiguez, Jackson, Lang, Lent, Luna, Mallette, Porter, Svoboda, Stachowitsch, Trejos and Vermeulen.
	ICG	Small Cetacean Greenland Hunt	Review progress on previous recommendations. Report progress.	Dolman (Convenor), Fisher, Hodgins, Sigurdsson, Suydam and Zerbini.
	SG	San Review Steering Group		Parsons (Convenor), Bell, Double, Heinemann, Lauriano, Leaper, Porter, Rojas-Bracho, Slooten, Staniland and Zerbini.