
Editorial

Welcome to the first issue of Volume 2 of the *Journal of Cetacean Research and Management*.

The Journal was established to publish papers on those matters of most importance to the conservation and management of whales, dolphins and porpoises, and in particular papers that are relevant to the tasks of the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission (IWC). These include papers on:

- population assessment and trends
- population dynamics
- population biology
- taxonomy and stock identity
- risk averse management strategies
- direct and indirect exploitation
- environmental changes and threats in the context of cetaceans
- scientific aspects of whale watching and sanctuaries.

It is perhaps a good time to briefly review the first year of the Journal. At the end of the present issue (Volume 2, issue 1), an author and subject index to Volume 1 has been provided. A total of 30 papers were published in the first year and papers on all of the topics mentioned above have been included. Some 81 authors from 20 countries were involved with these papers. I am particularly pleased to note that several of the papers were submitted by authors for whom English is not their first language and/or from those countries where cetacean research is at its early stages.

Reviewers play a major role in the development of any Journal, and it is appropriate here to thank those scientists

who have freely given their time to review manuscripts in a comprehensive and constructive manner. These include: L.W. Andersen, J. Barlow, S.D. Berrow, P.B. Best, A. Bjørge, M.V. Bravington, J. Carretta, P.J. Clapham, C.W. Clark, A. Collet, J.G. Cooke, E. Crespo, K.J. Finley, J. Forcada, J.C.D. Gordon, F. Hester, J.E. Heyning, R. Hoelzel, J. Ianelli, T. Kasuya, G.P. Kirkwood, F. Larsen, C. Lockyer, S.C. Long, K.G. Magnússon, J. Mead, N. Øien, D. Palka, P. Palsbøll, W.F. Perrin, A.E. Punt, T.J. Quinn II, R.R. Reeves, E. Rogan, G.J.B. Ross, J.E. Scarff, E.R. Secchi, T.D. Smith, G. Stefánsson, T. Schweder, B.L. Taylor, P. Thompson, C. Tynan, W.A. Walker, H. Whitehead and the Editorial Board of J.L. Bannister, P.S. Hammond, E. Hofmann, H. Kato, A.J. Read, D. DeMaster, A. Aguilar, L. Walløe and J.E. Zeh.

For Volume 1, the mean time to publication from submission of the original manuscript by the authors is just under six months. In circumstances where all stages of the process go well, it is possible for a manuscript to go from submission to publication in one month.

In addition to the three regular issues of the Journal, the first year of the Journal also saw publication of a Supplement, containing the full report of the 1999 meeting of the Scientific Committee of the International Whaling Commission (*J. Cetacean Res. Manage.* 1 (Suppl.): 1-284) and publication of the first Special Issue (P.J.H. Reijnders, A. Aguilar and G.P. Donovan, eds. 1999. *Chemical Pollutants and Cetaceans*. ix + 273pp.).

G.P. Donovan
Editor