

SHORT TITLE

Preparation of the State of the Cetacean Environment Report (SOCER)

RELEVANT AGENDA ITEM (NO. AND TITLE)

Item 12.1 Receive State of the Cetacean Environment Report

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND WHY IT IS NECESSARY TO YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

The annual SOCER report was requested by a resolution via the Commissioners (Resolution 2000-7). These funds are for the research and preparation time for the State of the Cetacean Environment Report, which is prepared annually by the editors in response to Commission Resolution 2000-7. The focus topic for 2015 will be the Pacific Ocean, and the Arctic Ocean in 2016, together with a section on issues of global concern.

RESEARCHERS' NAME

Michael Stachowitsch, Naomi Rose, and E.C.M. Parsons

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST WITH BREAKDOWN AS NEEDED (E.G. SALARY, EQUIPMENT)

£4,000 – salary and reference subscription costs for three editors

SHORT TITLE

Pollution and Pollution 2020

RELEVANT AGENDA ITEM (NO. AND TITLE)

Item 7 - Pollution

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND WHY IT IS NECESSARY TO YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

This work addresses the IWC Resolution 2012-1, adopted at the 64th meeting (“Resolution on the importance of continued scientific research with regard to the impact of the degradation of the marine environment on the health of cetaceans and related human health effects”). The Steering Group met in 2014 to assess the findings of the work and prioritise options for future work. These were developed further at the sub-committee meeting and adoption of the workplan was recommended.

RESEARCHERS' NAME

Ailsa Hall and Gina Ylitalo

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST WITH BREAKDOWN AS NEEDED (E.G. SALARY, EQUIPMENT)

Oil spills – exposure and impacts	
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Organise a Workshop on the <u>impacts of oil spills on cetaceans</u> . This would come with lessons learned from the Deep Water Horizon spill, would include: determining exposure and effects of oil on mammals in general and on cetaceans in particular; guidelines for assessing impact including the effect of oil spill response activities, in situ burning and dispersants. It would look at the various risk areas including the Arctic, the Gulf of Mexico and the North Sea. A Steering Group would meet during SC 66a to draw up the agenda	Intersessional year SC 66b and SC 67a or pre-meeting 67a
Refinement of the individual based population effects model	
Contaminants of concern in cetaceans – The questionnaire will be circulated to experts in the field to identify which contaminants are of highest priority and should be focused on in future modelling efforts. The list includes for example, the POPs, current use pesticides, flame retardants, PAHs, TBT, pharmaceuticals, plasticizers etc	Salary for constructing web-based questionnaire and analysis of results - £2,000
Carry out a literature review and database for dose-response relationships of the priority chemicals as identified in 1) above. Which compounds have enough data on dose-response relationships that can be used for future modelling efforts?	Salary for literature review and construction of database - £2,000
One of the areas of uncertainty in the individual based model is the amount of POPs transferred from the female to the foetus <i>in utero</i> . A dataset of paired samples exists at the Marine Mammal Center in Sausalito, collected from harbour porpoise on the west coast of the US so these samples will be analysed for a suite of POPs allowing the <i>in utero</i> transfer proportion estimate to be updated.	Salary - £2,000 for statistical analysis, modelling and write up – 2016 depending on analysis of samples
Pollutant information for conservation and management plans and risk assessment	
Map, by ocean basin, changes in measured POP blubber concentrations over time for key species.	
1. Data discovery 2015-2016 – focus meeting at SC 66a, 4 IPs to contribute trends and status of pollutants in cetaceans - data for inclusion in dataset for mapping in step 2	2015 – 4 IPs to attend SC 66a to contribute and summarize data. 2015-2016 - £5,000 for data processing, analysis and QA/QC and integration into data format for mapping
2. The second step (2016-2017) would be to develop and produce maps at appropriate time periods (decadal at least) or a GIS layer that would feed into the health mapping initiative.	For 2016-2017

SHORT TITLE

Topic 1: Sound field mapping in data-poor and data-rich priority regions

RELEVANT AGENDA ITEM (NO. AND TITLE)

Item XX

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND WHY IT IS NECESSARY TO YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

1) In a high priority region where limited or no sound mapping products exist, preliminary regional to ocean basin scale mapping products should be produced. Baseline status and trend analyses should be conducted in these regions, and where there is limited collection of acoustic data, efforts to obtain this data should be expanded.

2) In a region(s) with high quality data to support high resolution predictive sound mapping, case studies should be conducted quantifying uncertainty in predicted sound levels, model sensitivity to varying input parameters, and ideally, verification or comparison of model results with empirical data.

RESEARCHERS' NAME

Jason Gedamke, Rob Williams (with subcontracts to acousticians)

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST WITH BREAKDOWN AS NEEDED (E.G. SALARY, EQUIPMENT)

£15,000 – contract fees for acoustician to predict sound fields in high priority region

£15,000 – contract fees for acoustician to conduct sensitivity & uncertainty analysis

IP travel to present study results to E/SC

SHORT TITLE

Topic 2: Masking and ship noise

RELEVANT AGENDA ITEM (NO. AND TITLE)

Item XX

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND WHY IT IS NECESSARY TO YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

The SWG considered ship noise in 2004, but key members were unavailable to attend, and the field has been the focus of much more research in recent years. We propose that E consider masking as either a one-day pre-meeting or a focus area at a future SC meeting, with a particular emphasis on theoretical and field studies to assess how anthropogenic noise could mask biologically important signals used by cetaceans for vital life functions.

RESEARCHERS' NAME

Jason Gedamke, Rob Williams

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST WITH BREAKDOWN AS NEEDED (E.G. SALARY, EQUIPMENT)

IP travel

SHORT TITLE

Topic 3: Anthropogenic noise and stress

RELEVANT AGENDA ITEM (NO. AND TITLE)

Item XX

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND WHY IT IS NECESSARY TO YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

In recent years, there has been a growing recognition that anthropogenic noise can cause physiological stress in marine mammals. This is an active research area, but much of the specialized research results have not been presented to the SC. We propose an IWC-hosted intersessional workshop on noise and stress, with IPs invited to report back on the workshop findings.

RESEARCHERS' NAME

Jason Gedamke, Rob Williams

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST WITH BREAKDOWN AS NEEDED (E.G. SALARY, EQUIPMENT)

£30,000 – intersessional workshop
IP travel to present workshop results

SHORT TITLE

Steering Group Meeting for Climate Change

RELEVANT AGENDA ITEM (NO. AND TITLE)

8.2 Climate Change

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND WHY IT IS NECESSARY TO YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

The steering group meeting is intended to facilitate the ongoing work by the Scientific Committee on change. The meeting would review the topic, including the latest work from other IGOs (for example by the Convention for Migratory Species, IUCN and ACCOBAMS) and the latest pronouncements from the IPCC and produce a proposed process for the future engagement in this topic by the SC. (If budget is available in a timely fashion the meeting could piggy-back on the International Marine Conference occurring in Glasgow in August 2014.)

1. Precise terms of reference

To review work by the SC to date; place this in the context of latest knowledge and processes being undertaken by other IGOs; and produce a plan for an ongoing work programme by the SC.

RESEARCHERS' NAME

Standing Working Group on Environmental Concerns

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST WITH BREAKDOWN AS NEEDED (E.G. SALARY, EQUIPMENT)

Travel and accommodation for 5 invited participants and minor overheads (~ 4 from Europe @ £500each; 1 from N America @ £1,500; 1 from Asia/Australia @ £2,000)

Contingency - £500

TOTAL: £6,000

SHORT TITLE

Continuing and Emerging Diseases Pre-Meeting

RELEVANT AGENDA ITEM (NO. AND TITLE)

X.X CERD

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND WHY IT IS NECESSARY TO YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

Hold a pre-meeting at IWC 66a, involving the CERD Steering Committee and 2-3 invited participants, during which scientific updates Continuing and Emerging Diseases will be presented detailed agenda for a stranding oriented meeting will be developed

Tentative agenda:

- Coordinate the work of the CERD work plan.
- Further develop CERD website and input additional data.
- Expand sections of the website (e.g. skin diseases, mortality events, visual health assessment).
- Upgrade software essential to CERD.
- Link and promote CERD website via social media.
- Monitor large whale mortality events, mass strandings and unusual mortality events.

RESEARCHERS' NAME

CERD WORKING GROUP

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST WITH BREAKDOWN AS NEEDED (E.G. SALARY, EQUIPMENT)

Travel and subsistence costs for 2-3 IPs £3000

SHORT TITLE

Stranding Response Workshop

RELEVANT AGENDA ITEM (NO. AND TITLE)

X.X CERD

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PROJECT AND WHY IT IS NECESSARY TO YOUR SUB-COMMITTEE TIMETABLE

Hold a meeting on Strandings and mortality events/mass stranding response proposed to be held in conjunction with the Biennial Meeting of the Marine Mammal Society (Dec, 2015 in San Francisco).

RESEARCHERS' NAME

CERD WORKING GROUP

ESTIMATED TOTAL COST WITH BREAKDOWN AS NEEDED (E.G. SALARY, EQUIPMENT)

Travel and subsistence costs for 2-3 international participants; 3 participants from matching funds £5000

SUMMARY

Priority Order	Project	Agenda Item	Year Requested	Budget	Amount Agreed by SWG	% of budget request	Additional IPs required	Comments
1	SOCER	1	both	£4,000 x 2 years = 8,000	£3,000 x 2 years = 8,000			
1	POLLUTION 2020	2	both	£11,000			4	
1	CERD PRE-MEETING	3	1	£ 3,000 (pre-meeting)				Travel for 2
1	STRANDING RESPONSE WORKSHOP at SMM	3	2	£ 5,000				Travel for 2
4	SOUND FIELD MAPPING-sound fields in high priority area	4	Either or later	£15,000			1	Contract
4	SOUND FIELD MAPPING-sensitivity and uncertainty analyses	4	Either or later	£15,000			1	Contract
2	MASKING & SHIP NOISE	4	2	£8,000 (if pre-meeting)			3 (if in meeting focus session)	Pre-meeting or focus meeting-IP travel only
3	NOISE & STRESS	4	later	£30,000	0		1	Planning only during this budget period with consideration of workshop for SC67
1	CLIMATE CHANGE - steering group meeting	5	1	£ 6,000				Intersessional 14 prior to budget Travel for 6
		TOTAL	2014-2016	£101,000				