

Annex T

E-mail Correspondence Groups and Terms of Reference

Group	Sub-committee	Terms of Reference	Membership
(1) North Atlantic fin whales <i>ISTs</i> (Steering Group)	RMP	Assist with work related to: (1) finalising any outstanding coding required (and updating associated datasets); (2) completing the conditioning; and (3) running the revised trials and presenting the results in the standard format.	Elvarsson (Convenor), Allison, Butterworth, de Moor, Donovan, Gunnlaugsson, Punt, Witting.
(2) MSYR (Steering Group)	RMP	Coordinate the intersessional work including identification of diagnostic plots.	de la Mare (Convenor), Allison, Butterworth, Cooke, Kitakado, Punt.
(3) North Atlantic fin and minke whales (Steering Group)	RMP	Organise and prepare for the back-to-back Workshops.	Donovan (Convenor), Allison, Butterworth, Punt, Vikingsson.
(4) North Pacific common minke whale <i>Implementation Review</i> (Steering Group)	RMP	Provide feedback to those developing research programmes for North Pacific minke whales during the intersessional period.	Butterworth (Convenor), Allison, An, Baker, de Moor, Donovan, Double, Gaggiotti, Hoelzel, Kanda, Kelly, Kitakado, Miyashita, Park, Pastene, Punt, Wade, Waples.
(5) North Atlantic minke whale <i>Implementation Review</i> (Steering Group)	RMP	Facilitate progress on: (1) finalising any outstanding coding required (and updating associated datasets); (2) completing the conditioning; and (3) running the revised trials for the 'with research' options if necessary and presenting the results in the standard format.	Walløe (Convenor), Allison, Butterworth, de Moor, Donovan, Palsbøll, Punt, Vikingsson, Witting.
(6) Requirements and Guidelines for conducting surveys and <i>Implementations</i> (Steering Group)	RMP/ AWMP	Coordinate intersessional work, develop an agenda and facilitate preparations for the Workshop on model-based estimation with a pre-meeting to explain the package suggested to member country participants.	Butterworth (Convenor), Bravington, Cooke, Kitakado, Leaper.
(7) Aboriginal Whaling Scheme development (Steering Group)	AWMP	Guide intersessional work towards an AWS that can be accepted by the Commission.	Allison, Brandão, Donovan, Givens, Punt, Witting.
(8) <i>Bowhead Whale SLA</i> (Steering Group)	AWMP	Help guide developments of the <i>Bowhead Whale SLA</i> between meetings.	Givens (Chair), Allison, Brandão, Donovan, Punt, Witting.
(9) Modelling work for Gray Whale Rangewide Workshop (Steering Group)	BRG/ AWMP	Oversee modelling work prior to the Workshop.	Bickham, Donovan, Punt, Reeves, Scordino, Weller.
(10) Small technical Workshop prior to Gray Whale Rangewide Workshop (Steering Group)	BRG	Guide work needed for the small technical Workshop: (1) conduct review of updated modelling; and (2) review projections and identify updated framework and trial runs to be submitted to SC/66b.	Donovan and Punt (co-Convenors), Bickham, Cooke, Lang, Reeves, Scordino, Weller.
(11) Gray whale technical drafting (Steering Group)	BRG	Provide new draft text to update the scientific components of the IUCN/IWC Conservation Management Plan, with an emphasis on new information on stock structure, movements and modelling to be submitted to SC/66b.	An, Bickham, Brownell, Cooke, Donovan, Kato, Lang, Reeves, Weller.
(12) IWC-POWER Survey Planning (Steering Group)	IA	Finalise plans for 2016 IWC-POWER survey.	Kato (Convenor), An, Bannister, Brownell, Clapham, Donovan, Ensor, Kelly, Matsuoka, Miyashita, Murase, Pastene, Walløe.
(13) POWER Technical Advisory Group (Working Group)	IA	Initial consideration of medium-term plans for IWC-POWER.	Kitakado (Convenor), Bravington, Donovan, Hedley, Kelly, Matsuoka, Palka.
(14) Sei whale assessment (Steering Group)	IA	(1) Review the proposed model structure to be developed by Punt and advise on model choices including stock boundaries and ranges for input parameters; and (2) collate the available data sources and develop a 'data document' which summarises the details of each data source to be used as input to the model.	Cooke (Convenor), Allison, Kishiro, Mizroch, Palka, Pastene, Punt.
(15) POWER cruise recommendations (Working Group)	IA	Summarise the recommendations made in the POWER cruise reports in preparation for the planning meeting.	Matsuoka (Convenor), Mizroch.
(16) DESS sightings data revisions (Steering Group)	IA	Assist with implementing suggested revisions to the existing data in DESS.	Palka (Convenor), Hughes.

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(17) DESS upgrade (Steering Group)	IA	(1) review of database needs, across the broad range of scientific and management data collected by the IWC; (2) documentation of the issues with the current system; and (3) use of the first two points to help develop scope for a tender for a bespoke comprehensive database system.	Palka (Convenor), Allison, Donovan, Hughes, Matsuoka, professional database developer.
(18) Estimate minimum abundance of BSD (Steering Group)	SH	To further evaluate the preliminary minimum estimate of BSD used in the assessment of humpback whale breeding stocks D/E/F.	Double (Convenor), Bannister, Butterworth, Kelly, Jackson.
(19) Mixed stock analyses of humpback whales (Steering Group)	SH	Continuation of the previously established intersessional email group on mixed stock analysis of humpback whales.	Jackson (Convenor), Baker, Butterworth, Double, Kitakado, Pastene, Ross-Gillespie, Waples, Weinrich.
(20) Prioritisation of SH humpback whale data and modelling needs (Steering Group)	SH	To decide a prioritisation scheme for work contributing to future SH humpback whale assessments (considering current data gaps and modelling needs), and establish set of draft priorities.	Jackson (Convenor), Baker, Bell, Butterworth, Kaufman, Rosenbaum, Ross-Gillespie, Weinrich, Zerbini.
(21) SH humpback whale mtDNA database (Steering Group)	SH	To develop a Southern Hemisphere humpback whale mitochondrial DNA sequence database with common nomenclature, hosted by the IWC.	Baker (Convenor), Allison, Donovan, Double, Kershaw, Rosenbaum, Steel.
(22) Arabian Sea (Working Group)	SH	Continuation of the previously established intersessional Arabian Sea Working Group.	Baldwin (Convenor), Brownell, Carlson, Collins, Findlay, Gales, Leslie, Rosenbaum, Weinrich, Willson, Zerbini.
(23) Antarctic blue whale baleen plates (Steering Group)	SH	Match up the baleen plates at the Smithsonian Institution with the original collection data in Japan.	Brownell and Kato (co-Convenors), Kishiro, Ososky, Potter.
(24) Pygmy blue whale photos (Steering Group)	SH	Find pygmy blue whale photo-IDs collected by IWC in the 1980s off Sri Lanka.	Brownell (Convenor), Donovan, Olson.
(25) Abundance and trends for Antarctic blue and fin whales (Working Group)	SH	Inspect post-CPIII sightings data collected for Antarctic blue whales and fin whales, and Antarctic blue whale photo-IDs, with a view to providing updated abundance/trend estimates.	Kelly (Convenor), Branch, Butterworth, Olson.
(26) mtDNA nomenclature and sample sets for SH blue whales (Steering Group)	SH	Identify and label mtDNA sequences from duplicated samples present on GenBank, and agree a common haplotype nomenclature for Southern Hemisphere blue whales.	Lang (Convenor), Attard, Baker, Palsbøll, Rosenbaum.
(27) Acoustic reference set for SH blue whales (Steering Group)	SH	Reconcile different vocalisations for pygmy blue whales in order to agree a set of calls for comparative purposes.	Širović (Convenor), Brownell, Cerchio, Miller.
(28) Assessment of pygmy blue whale stock structure (Steering Group)	SH	Identify datasets (e.g. acoustic and genetic), analyses and studies relevant to assessing blue whale population structure and prepare summaries and reports for SC/66b. Ensure standard nomenclature for geographic regions associated with calls.	Lang (Convenor), Baker, Branch, Brownell, Double, Jackson, Mesnick, Rosenbaum, Zerbini.
(29) Future work on pygmy blue whales (Steering Group)	SH	Agree set of regional recommendations for future work on pygmy blue whales for discussion at SC/66b.	Brownell (Convenor), Bannister, Branch, Double, Findlay, Galletti, Miller, Zerbini.
(30) SH blue whale catalogue terms of reference (Steering Group)	SH	Update terms of reference for the SH pygmy blue whale catalogue and initiate discussion forum to discuss and fix technical difficulties with catalogue usage. Discuss migrating catalogue to IWC servers.	Jackson (Convenor), Double, Findlay, Galletti, Olson, Salgado, Weinrich.
(31) Engage regional catalogue holders from Chile/Peru in the SH pygmy blue whale assessment process (Steering Group)	SH	Identify key contributors, form an email group, communicate IWC needs and organise a group meeting if necessary at the next Latin American Marine Mammal Conference (end 2016) to discuss this further, with a view to contributing photo-identification data to the upcoming IWC assessment.	Zerbini (Convenor), Brownell, Olson, Palacios.
(32) Habitat modelling (Steering Group)	SH	Investigate blue whale sightings collected from seismic vessels operating off New Zealand and Australia in the context of upwelling foci/habitat features.	Palacios (Convenor), Double, Lundquist, Torres.
(33) Chilean blue whale abundance (Steering Group)	SH	Build regional habitat model and consider options for using abundance estimate to be informative about wider-scale density and abundance of this species.	Redfern (Convenor), Brownell, Galletti, Jackson, Palacios, Zerbini.
(34) Future sperm whale assessment (Steering Group)	SH	Continue to identify data availability and needs to undertake a future assessment of sperm whales. Information would be sought in the following categories: (1) population structure within ocean basins; (2) population size within ocean basins and abundance in smaller areas; (3) catch history; and (4) consideration of the development of a new assessment model.	Brownell (Convenor), Baker, Bannister, Bell, de la Mare, Hoelzel, Kasuya, Kato, Leaper, Mate, Matsuoka, Mesnick, Miyashita, Murase, Palacios, Perrin, Reeves, Smith, Whitehead.
(35) Sperm whale stock structure (Steering Group)	SH	Identify datasets, analyses and studies relevant to assessing sperm whale population structure and prepare summaries and reports for SC/66b.	Mesnick (Convenor), Alexander, Baker, Brownell, Clapham, Constantine, Ivaschenko, Lang, Møller, Moore, Oliveira, Willson.

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(36) IWC photo-ID catalogue guidelines (Steering Group)	SH	Develop a draft set of IWC guidelines for photo-ID catalogues supported by the IWC and developed for the purposes of stock assessment.	Jackson, Olson (co-Convenors), Allison, Baker, Bell, Brownell, Carlson, Constantine, Double, Donovan, Findlay, Galletti, Genov, Kaufman, Matsuoka, Weinrich.
(37) Ship strike review (Working Group)	HIM	Continue to work on topics including data standardisation, database handbook and definitions of strikes.	Leaper (Convenor), Brownell, Cañadas, DeMaster, Donovan, Double, Ferguson, Holm, Mattila, Panigada, Ritter, Rowles.
(38) Stock definition terminology (Working Group)	SD	Identify stock-related terms used by different sub-committees and working groups as well as by relevant outside groups (e.g. the IUCN).	Lang (Convenor) Cipriano, Fortuna, Natoli, Rodriguez-Fonseco, Tiedemann.
(39) Towards ensemble averaging of cetacean distribution models (Steering Group)	EM	Advance objectives of Ensemble Averaging Distribution Model Workshop.	Becker, DeAngelis, Palacios, Redfern.
(40) EM Correspondence Group 1	EM	Sub-group 1: Review statistical literature and techniques.	Palacios (Convenor).
(41) EM Correspondence Group 2	EM	Sub-group 2: Conduct sensitivity analysis.	Becker (Convenor).
(42) EM Correspondence Group 3	EM	Sub-group 3: Identify potential management objectives/advice required.	DeAngelis (Convenor).
(43) Oil spill Workshop (Working Group)	E	Begin planning for a Workshop on oil spills and their impacts on cetacean populations and their habitats.	Stimmermayr (Convenor), Rosa, Rosenbaum.
(44) Data integration and mapping of POPs (Working Group)	E	(1) Assess the latest cetacean persistent organic pollutant (POP) data from Europe and elsewhere, as appropriate, with a specific focus on PCBs and what this information tells us about sources; (2) define the current options to reduce cetacean PCB exposures in the marine environment and consider any novel options; and (3) identify the current data-gaps in PCB exposure data for particular species and regions.	Jepson (Convenor).
(45) CDoC (Working Group)	E	(1) Improvement of outreach and capacity building to/between veterinarians and biologists, as well as between the Commission and non-Commission participants through a variety of mechanisms, such as listserves, sharing resource lists, and websites; (2) development and maintenance of a list of cetacean reference or diagnostic labs that would be available as a resource on the Commission website for cetacean biologists and veterinarians. The information on this list will be obtained through other bodies or requests to member countries and continue to expand the extended expert list and maintain the quarterly CDoC updates.	Rosa (Convenor), Brownell, Cozzi, Di Guardo, Fernández, Galletti, Iníguez, Marcondes, Mattila, Mazzariol, Parsons, Podestá, Robbins, Rowles, Stimmermayr, Weller.
(46) Strandings (Working Group)	E	(1) Determine how data from the National Progress Reports could be compiled into a single database; and (2) work on developing the investigations of large mortality events and mass strandings Workshop.	Someone (Convenor), Rosa, Stimmermayr.
(47) Climate change (Correspondence Group)	E	For details see Annex K, Item 10.1.	Simmonds (Convenor), Feindt-Herr, Holm, Moore, S., Palacios, Parsons, Rojas-Brachos, Simmonds, Smith, Stachowitsch, Vikingsson, Wells.
(48) Arctic cetaceans (Working Group)	E	Review and prioritise the remaining science-related recommendations.	Moore, S. (Convenor), Baulch, George, Rosa, Rowles, Rosenbaum, Stimmermayr, Thomas, Vikingsson.
(49) Marine debris (Working Group)	E	(1) Address key gaps in our understanding of the extent and significance of marine debris impacts on cetaceans; (2) disseminate the outcomes of the IWC marine debris Work shops and, in particular, promoting the standardised collection of ingestion and entanglement data during necropsies of stranded and bycaught cetaceans, including through the development of a standardised data collection forms and the dissemination of the necropsy guidance to strandings networks; and (3) facilitate the collation of relevant data, including via information requests to, for example, listservs such as 'MARMAM' and directly to strandings networks requesting submission of information/analyses to the Committee.	Simmonds (Convenor), Baulch, Fossi, Hall, Mattila, Parsons, Stimmermayr, Ylitalo.
(50) Pollution 2020 (Working Group)	E	Continue guiding and overseeing the project.	Rosa.
(51) Hector's dolphin surveys (Steering Group)	SM	Oversee and ensure all work is done, including review, analyses and liaising with New Zealand government.	Scheidat (Convenor), Donovan, Fortuna, Palka.

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(52) Hector's dolphin review (Steering Group)	SM	Undertake a thorough review of the estimates produced by Mackenzie and Clement (2014) ¹ and try to reach a consensus view of the appropriate estimate or range of estimates that will be of value to the New Zealand Government in developing appropriate conservation and management actions.	Scheidat (Convenor), Clement, Currey, Donovan, Fortuna, Hammond, Lundquist, Mackenzie, Palka, Slooten.
(53) Marine bushmeat (Intersessional Group)	SM	(1) Continue development of a detailed terms of reference; (2) develop a 'toolbox' of investigative techniques to assist in documenting more clearly takes of small cetaceans; and (3) hold a workshop comprising a multi-disciplinary group of biologists, social scientists, managers and NGO's with a global scope.	Porter (Convenor) Baker, Brownell, Fortuna, Reeves, Ritter, Simmonds.
(54) Small Cetacean Task Team (Steering Group)	SM	Assist the Scientific Committee in providing timely and effective advice on situations where a population of cetaceans is or suspected to be in danger of a significant decline that may eventually lead to its extinction; the ultimate aim being to ensure that extinction does not occur.	Simmonds (Convenor), Chair and co-Chair of the SM sub-committee, Donovan, Genov, Reeves.
(55) <i>Tursiops</i> taxonomy review (Working Group)	SM	Natoli and Rosel to provide an overview review of this species for the North and South Atlantic.	Natoli, Rosel.
(56) Modelling and Assessment of Whalewatching Impacts (MAWI) (Steering Group)	WW	Define specific research questions and hypotheses that will benefit understanding of the impact of whalewatching, identify those whalewatching locations that would be most suitable and amenable for targeted studies addressing these questions, and summarise the current modelling tools available to analyse the data that will be collected.	New (Convenor), Carlson, Cook, Kaufman, Leaper, Parsons, Ritter, Robbins, Rose, Simmonds, Weinrich.
(57) Review of the SOS and the SAWS proposal (Steering Group)	WW	(1) Solicit contributions and collate the necessary information to assist with the review of the scientific aspects of the SOS and the SAWS proposal; (2) identify potential external scientists with recognised expertise in research fields relevant to the review of the SOS and SAWS proposal to attend the SAWS review workshop and the Scientific Committee meeting and assist with the reviews; and (3) coordinate the reviews of the scientific aspects of the SOS and the SAWS proposal.	Zerbini (Chair), Almeida, Bjørge, Butterworth, de la Mare, DeMaster, Donovan, Fortuna, Hall, Iñiguez, Leaper, Morishita, Oosthuizen, Pani-ego, Rojas-Bracho.
(58) Swim-with-whale operations (Working Group)	WW	Assess the extent and potential impact of swim-with-whale operations.	Rose (Convenor), Gero, Kaufman, Parsons, Ritter, Sironi, Weinrich.
(59) Providing input to the Standing Working Group on Whalewatching (Working Group)	WW	Collate information to assist Commission's Standing Working Group on Whalewatching to populate the Whalewatching Handbook; prepare summaries of areas of concern; other tasks as needed.	Rojas-Bracho (Convenor), Carlson, Iñiguez, Kaufman, Luna, Parsons, Ritter, Weinrich.
(60) Guiding principles for data collection forms (Working Group)	WW	Work on finalising a list of standardised elements, with descriptions/ explanations, which should be included in a data collection form for use on platforms of opportunity, to be hosted by the Commission website.	Rose (Convenor), Carlson, Kaufman, Ritter, Rodríguez-Fonseca, Robbins, Vinding, Weinrich.
(61) Developing a structure for the annual whalewatching digest summary table (Working Group)	WW	Finalise the parameters to be included in the table presenting the information in the annual whalewatching digest.	Parsons (Convenor), Carlson, Kaufman, Rose.
(62) EM planning (Steering Group)	EM	Solicit contributions, liaise with prospective invited participants.	Kitakado (Convenor), Butterworth, de la Mare, Friedlaender, Punt, Walloe.
(63) Joint IWC SC/EM and SC-CCAMLR WG-EMM facilitation and planning (Steering Group)	EM	Continue formalisation of a relationship between IWC and CCAMLR. Commence planning of a joint Workshop between IWC SC/EM and SC-CCAMLR WG-EMM.	Butterworth, Currey, de la Mare, Ichii, Kawaguchi, Kitakado, Kock, Kovacs, Trathan, Watters, Thomas.
(64) Effects of long-term environmental variability on whale populations (Correspondence Group)	EM	Identify long time series (≥ 20 yr) of cetacean demographic parameters and/or abundance. Identify potentially relevant environmental time series	Cooke (Convenor), de la Mare, Palacios.
(65) Applications of species distribution models (SDMs) (Correspondence Group)	EM	Develop guidelines and recommendations for best practice in modelling steps	Murase (Convenor), Friedlaender, Kelly, Kitakado, McKinlay, Palacios, Palka.
(66) Informal correspondence group on welfare (Correspondence Group)	All	Facilitate informal discussions on the consideration of welfare in the Scientific Committee in light of the IWC Welfare Action Plan and the work of the Commission's Intersessional Working Group on Welfare.	Rendell (Convenor), Bass, Donovan, Lars, Leaper, Simmonds, Suydam, further members TBA.

¹Mackenzie, D. and Clement, D. 2014. Abundance and distribution of ECSI Hector's dolphin. New Zealand Aquatic Environment and Biodiversity Report No. 123. Ministry for Primary Industries: 79pp.