**IMPORTANT MARINE MAMMAL AREAS (IMMAs)**

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*(Prepared by the Aquatic WG)*

DRAFT DECISIONS

**IMPORTANT MARINE MAMMAL AREAS**

***Directed to Parties***

14.AA Parties are requested to:

1. Make use, as appropriate, of the identified Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) posted on the website of the IUCN Joint Species Survival Commission/World Commission on Protected Areas (SSC/WCPA) Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force (www.marinemammalhabitat.org) when identifying habitat at risk or designing threat mitigation measures, and when designating marine protected areas, or generally for marine spatial planning purposes, to support the conservation of CMS-listed marine mammals;
2. Report to the Conference of Parties at its 15th meeting on the progress in implementing the decision.

14.BB Parties are encouraged to apply the IMMA criteria in identifying areas important for marine mammals, including in regions not yet assessed by IUCN SSC/WCPA.

***Directed to the Scientific Council***

14.CC The Scientific Council is requested to collaborate with the IUCN SSC/WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force to include data on CMS-listed marine mammals in the identification of IMMAs.

***Directed to the Secretariat***

14.DD The Secretariat shall:

1. Inform Parties of newly identified IMMAs and the relevant CMS-listed species;
2. Reach out to other relevant regional and international organizations to bring to their attention the value of the identification of IMMAs for conservation planning, as well as already identified IMMAs;
3. Seek enhanced cooperation and coordination with the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity of areas beyond national jurisdiction (BBNJ).