

CONVENTION ON THE CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES OF WILD ANIMALS

A. PROPOSAL

To include *Grampus griseus* in Appendix II of the Convention; only the populations of the Baltic Sea and the North Sea.

B. PROPONENT

Kingdom of the Netherlands

C. SUPPORTING STATEMENT

1 Taxon

1.1	Classis	Mammalia
1.2	Ordo	Cetacea
1.3	Familia	Delphinidae
1.4	Genus and species	<i>Grampus griseus</i> (G.Cuvier, 1812)
1.5	Common names	
	English	Risso's dolphin
	French	Dauphin de Risso
	Spanish	Fabo calderon
	Dutch	Gramper

2 Biological data

2.1 Distribution (current and historical) - see also 5.

Risso's dolphin is reported from tropical and temperate seas worldwide, generally in water deeper than 180 m. In the North Atlantic it has been found from Newfoundland, Shetland and Sweden to the Mediterranean and Lesser Antilles (Mitchell, 1975a, Evans 1987).

2.2 Population (estimates and trends)

No information on population is available, but the species does not appear to be very rare within its range.

2.3 Habitat (short description and trend)

Cephalopods are the main food species (Mitchell, 1975a). There appear to be no particular habitat threats.

2.4 Migrations (kinds of movement, distance, proportion of the population migrating)

None known.

3 Threat data

3.1 Direct threat of the population (factors, intensity)

Direct catches appear to be all occasional, as part of more general small cetacean fisheries. The meat is used for human consumption. Areas with such fisheries include Japan, Lesser Antilles and Indonesia (Mitchell, 1975b).

Incidental takes also occur, mainly through other fishing operations. Some have been documented in European waters Hentschel, 1937; Pilleri and Gahr, 1969 and Duguy, 1977).

There has been some live capture for display (Mitchell, 1975b), but details of the catching sites have not been found.

Risso's dolphin appears to be a species kept for display rather than performance and demand is not therefore likely to be great or to expand. No populations appear to be under pressure at present, but in the absence of information on capture sites care is needed to check that all captures are not made in the same place.

3.2 Habitat destruction

Its North Sea habitat changes through disturbance, such as by ships and mineral surveys, pollution, and possibly food limitation through overfishing (Evans 1987).

3.3 Indirect threat (e.g. reduction of breeding success by pesticide contamination).

No information.

3.4 Threat connected especially with migrations

None known

3.5 National and international utilization

Some live specimens will be caught, mainly for display. The products of this species, as such, are not in demand.

4 Protection status

4.1 National protection status (North Sea and Baltic Sea)

Belgium:	
Denmark:	Protected
Federal Republic of Germany:	
Finland:	
France:	Protected
German Democratic Republic:	
Norway:	

Poland:	
Sweden:	Protected
The Netherlands:	Not protected
Union of Socialist Soviet Republics:	
United Kingdom:	Protected

4.2 International protection status

CITES Appendix II

4.3 Additional protection needs

The main need is for more information on biology and population so that possible problems can be identified. De numbers taken as bycatches should be recorded and more use made of strandings.

5 Range States (North Sea and Baltic)

Denmark, Federal Republic of Germany, France, Sweden, The Netherlands, United Kingdom, international waters.

6 Comments from Range States

None received

7 Additional remarks

None.

8 References

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- Hentschel, E. 1937. Naturgeschichte der nordatlantischen Wale und Robben. p. v + 54. In: H. Lubbert and E. Ehrenbaum (Eds). Handbuch der Seefischeri Nordeuropas 3 (1).
- Mitchell, E.D. 1975a. (Ed) Review of the biology and fisheries for smaller cetaceans. Report of the meeting on smaller cetaceans. International Whaling Commission, J. Fish. Res. Board Can. Vol. 32. Nr. 7 p. 875-1240.
- Mitchell, E.D. 1975b. Porpoise, dolphin and small fisheries of the world. IUCN Monograph No. 3. Morges, Switzerland.
- Pilleri, G. and Gahr, M. 1969. On the anatomy and behaviour of Risso's dolphin (Grampus griseus G. Cuvier) p. 13-61. In: G. Pilleri (Ed.) Investigations on Cetacea Vol. 3 (1).