



# Convention on Migratory Species

## Memorandum of Understanding for the Conservation of Cetaceans and their Habitats in the Pacific Islands Region

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### CMS, CITES and IUCN LISTINGS OF CETACEANS PRESENT IN WATERS OF THE PACIFIC ISLANDS REGION

(Prepared by the Secretariat)

1. The Signatories to the Pacific Cetaceans MoU have agreed to “[t]ake steps to conserve all cetaceans and fully protect species listed in CMS Appendix I that occur in the Pacific Islands Region.” (Pacific Cetaceans MoU, operative paragraph 1)
2. The following table represents the known cetacean species of the region, and their listings under CMS Appendix I and II. Annex 1 contains explanations of the meaning of the listings and categories.
3. Annex 1 provides additional information on the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES) Appendix I and II listings and the most recent IUCN Red List status.

| Scientific name  | Commons name                              | CMS Appendix                       | CITES Appendix | IUCN status <sup>1</sup>                                 |
|--|---|------------------------------------|----------------|--|
| <i>Eubalaena australis</i>                                 | Southern right whale                      | I                                  | I              | LC   |
| <i>Eubalaena japonica</i>                                  | North Pacific right whale (North Pacific) | I                                  | I              | EN   |
| <i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>                               | Blue whale                                | I                                  | I              | EN   |
| <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>                              | Humpback whale                            | I                                  | I              | EN (Oceania subpopulation)<br>LC (all other populations) |
| <i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>                               | Sei whale                                 | I/II                               | I              | EN   |
| <i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>                               | Fin whale                                 | I/II                               | I              | EN   |
| <i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>                               | Irrawaddy dolphin                         | I/II                               | I              | VU   |
| <i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>                              | Sperm whale                               | I/II                               | I              | VU   |
| <i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>                            | Antarctic minke whale                     | II                                 | I              | DD   |
| <i>Balaenoptera edeni</i> ( <i>B.edeni/brydei</i> complex) | Bryde's whale                             | II                                 | I              | DD   |
| <i>Balaenoptera omurai</i>                                 | Omura's whale                             | II                                 | -              | DD   |
| <i>Caperea marginata</i>                                   | Pygmy right whale                         | II                                 | I              | DD   |
| <i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>                            | Peale's dolphin                           | II                                 | II             | DD   |
| <i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>                             | Dusky dolphin                             | II                                 | II             | DD   |
| <i>Orcaella heinsohni</i>                                  | Snubfin dolphin                           | II                                 | II             | NT   |
| <i>Orcinus orca</i>  | Orca                                      | II                                 | II             | DD   |
| <i>Sousa chinensis</i>                                     | Indo-Pacific humpback dolphin             | II                                 | I              | NT   |
| <i>Neophocaena phocaenoides</i>                            | Finless porpoise                          | II                                 | I              | VU   |
| <i>Phocoena dioptrica</i>                                  | Spectacled porpoise                       | II                                 | II             | DD   |
| <i>Tursiops aduncus</i>                                    | Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphin           | II (Arafura/Timor Sea populations) | II             | DD   |
| <i>Stenella attenuata</i>                                  | Pantropical spotted                       | II (eastern                        | II             | LC   |

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| Scientific name                           | Commons name                  | CMS Appendix  | CITES Appendix  | IUCN status <sup>1</sup> |
|---|-------------------------------|---|---|--------------------------|
|   | dolphin                       | tropical Pacific and Southeast Asian populations)             |   |                          |
| <i>Stenella longirostris</i>              | Spinner dolphin               | II (eastern tropical Pacific and Southeast Asian populations) | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>              | Striped dolphin               | II (eastern tropical Pacific)                                 | II  | LC                       |
| <i>Lagenodelphis hosei</i>                | Fraser's dolphin              | II (Southeast Asia populations)                               | II  | LC                       |
| <i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata subspp.</i> | Common and dwarf minke whales | -   | I (Exception - West Greenland population is in Appendix II) | LC                       |
| <i>B. musculus breviceauda</i>            | Pygmy blue whale              | -   | -   | DD                       |
| <i>B. musculus intermedia</i>             | Antarctic blue whale          | -   | -   | CR                       |
| <i>Cephalorhynchus hectori</i>            | Hector's dolphin              | -   | II  | EN                       |
| <i>Delphinus capensis</i>                 | Long-beaked common dolphin    | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Delphinus delphis</i>                  | Short-beaked common dolphin   | -   | II  | LC                       |
| <i>Feresa attenuata</i>                   | Pygmy killer whale            | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>         | Short-finned pilot whale      | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Globicephala melas</i>                 | Long-finned pilot whale       | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Grampus griseus</i>                    | Risso's dolphin               | -   | II  | LC                       |
| <i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>            | Hourglass dolphin             | -   | II  | LC                       |
| <i>Lissodelphis peronii</i>               | Southern right whale dolphin  | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Peponocephala electra</i>              | Melon-headed whale            | -   | II  | LC                       |
| <i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>               | False killer whale            | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Steno bredanensis</i>                  | Rough-toothed dolphin         | -   | II  | LC                       |
| <i>Tursiops truncatus</i>                 | Common bottlenose dolphin     | -   | II  | LC                       |
| <i>Kogia breviceps</i>                    | Pygmy sperm whale             | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Kogia sima</i>                         | Dwarf sperm whale             | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Berardius arnuxii</i>                  | Arnoux's beaked whale         | -   | I   | DD                       |
| <i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>              | Southern bottlenose whale     | -   | I   | LC                       |
| <i>Indopacetus pacificus</i>              | Longman's beaked whale        | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon bowdoini</i>                | Andrew's beaked whale         | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon carlhubbsi</i>              | Hubb's beaked whale           | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>            | Blainville's beaked whale     | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon ginkgodens</i>              | Ginkgo-toothed beaked whale   | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon grayi</i>                   | Gray's beaked whale           | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon hectori</i>                 | Hector's beaked whale         | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon layardii</i>                | Layard's beaked whale         | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon mirus</i>                   | True's beaked whale           | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon peruvianus</i>              | Pygmy beaked whale            | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Mesoplodon traversii</i>               | Spade-toothed whale           | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Tasmacetus shepherdi</i>               | Tasman's beaked whale         | -   | II  | DD                       |
| <i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>                | Cuvier's beaked whale         | -   | II  | LC                       |

1 EX = Extinct; EW = Extinct in the Wild; CR = Critically Endangered; EN = Endangered; VU = Vulnerable; NT = Near Threatened; LC = Least Concern; DD = Data Deficient; NE = Not Evaluated

**CMS Appendices I and II** (Excerpt from the Convention text):

**Article III**

**Endangered Migratory Species: Appendix I**

1. Appendix I shall list migratory species which are endangered.
2. A migratory species may be listed in Appendix I provided that reliable evidence, including the best scientific evidence available, indicates that the species is endangered.
3. A migratory species may be removed from Appendix I when the Conference of the Parties determines that:
  - a) reliable evidence, including the best scientific evidence available, indicates that the species is no longer endangered, and
  - b) the species is not likely to become endangered again because of loss of protection due to its removal from Appendix I.
4. Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall endeavour:
  - a) to conserve and, where feasible and appropriate, restore those habitats of the species which are of importance in removing the species from danger of extinction;
  - b) to prevent, remove, compensate for or minimize, as appropriate, the adverse effects of activities or obstacles that seriously impede or prevent the migration of the species; and
  - c) to the extent feasible and appropriate, to prevent, reduce or control factors that are endangering or are likely to further endanger the species, including strictly controlling the introduction of, or controlling or eliminating, already introduced exotic species.
5. Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I shall prohibit the taking of animals belonging to such species. Exceptions may be made to this prohibition only if:
  - a) the taking is for scientific purposes;
  - b) the taking is for the purpose of enhancing the propagation or survival of the affected species;
  - c) the taking is to accommodate the needs of traditional subsistence users of such species; or
  - d) extraordinary circumstances so require; provided that such exceptions are precise as to content and limited in space and time. Such taking should not operate to the disadvantage of the species.
6. The Conferences of the Parties may recommend to the Parties that are Range States of a migratory species listed in Appendix I that they take further measures considered appropriate to benefit the species.
7. The Parties shall as soon as possible inform the Secretariat of any exceptions made pursuant to paragraph 5 of this Article.

**Article IV**

**Migratory Species to be the Subject of AGREEMENTS: Appendix II**

1. Appendix II shall list migratory species which have an unfavourable conservation status and which require international agreements for their conservation and management, as well as those which have a conservation status which would significantly benefit from the international cooperation that could be achieved by an international agreement.
2. If the circumstances so warrant, a migratory species may be listed both in Appendix I and Appendix II.
3. Parties that are Range States of migratory species listed in Appendix II shall endeavour to conclude AGREEMENTS where these should benefit the species and should give priority to those species in an unfavourable conservation status.

4. Parties are encouraged to take action with a view to concluding agreements for any population or any geographically separate part of the population of any species or lower taxon of wild animals, members of which periodically cross one or more national jurisdiction boundaries.
5. The Secretariat shall be provided with a copy of each AGREEMENT concluded pursuant to the provisions of this Article.

### **CITES Appendices I and II**

CITES Appendix I includes species threatened with extinction. Trade in specimens of these species is permitted only in exceptional circumstances.

CITES Appendix II includes species not necessarily threatened with extinction, but in which trade must be controlled in order to avoid utilization incompatible with their survival.

### **IUCN Redlist Categories and Criteria**

**Extinct (EX):** A taxon is Extinct when there is no reasonable doubt that the last individual has died. A taxon is presumed Extinct when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.

**Extinct in the Wild (EW):** A taxon is Extinct in the Wild when it is known only to survive in cultivation, in captivity or as a naturalized population (or populations) well outside the past range. A taxon is presumed Extinct in the Wild when exhaustive surveys in known and/or expected habitat, at appropriate times (diurnal, seasonal, annual), throughout its historic range have failed to record an individual. Surveys should be over a time frame appropriate to the taxon's life cycle and life form.

**Critically Endangered (CR):** A taxon is Critically Endangered when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Critically Endangered (see Section V), and it is therefore considered to be facing an extremely high risk of extinction in the wild.

**Endangered (EN):** A taxon is Endangered when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Endangered (see Section V), and it is therefore considered to be facing a very high risk of extinction in the wild.

**Vulnerable (VU):** A taxon is Vulnerable when the best available evidence indicates that it meets any of the criteria A to E for Vulnerable (see Section V), and it is therefore considered to be facing a high risk of extinction in the wild.

**Near Threatened (NT):** A taxon is Near Threatened when it has been evaluated against the criteria but does not qualify for Critically Endangered, Endangered or Vulnerable now, but is close to qualifying for or is likely to qualify for a threatened category in the near future.

**Least Concern (LC):** A taxon is Least Concern when it has been evaluated against the criteria and does not qualify for Critically Endangered, Endangered, Vulnerable or Near Threatened. Widespread and abundant taxa are included in this category.

**Data Deficient (DD):** A taxon is Data Deficient when there is inadequate information to make a direct, or indirect, assessment of its risk of extinction based on its distribution and/or population status. A taxon in this category may be well studied, and its biology well known, but appropriate data on abundance and/or distribution are lacking. Data Deficient is therefore not a category of threat. Listing of taxa in this category indicates that more information is required and acknowledges the possibility that future research will show that threatened classification is appropriate. It is important to make positive use of whatever data are available. In many cases great care should be exercised in choosing between DD and a threatened status. If the range of a taxon is suspected to be relatively circumscribed, and a considerable period of time has elapsed since the last record of the taxon, threatened status may well be justified.

**Not Evaluated (NE):** A taxon is Not Evaluated when it has not yet been evaluated against the criteria.