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CONSERVATION OF MIGRATORY SPECIES AND THE USE OF INDICATORS FOR MONITORING CLIMATE CHANGE IMPACTS

(Submitted by the Joint Nature Conservation Committee of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)

Summary:

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, through a contract to the British Trust for Ornithology funded by the Department of Environment, Food and Rural Affairs via the Joint Nature Conservation Committee, has undertaken a review of climate change and migratory species. The review is provided to the 6th meeting of the Sessional Committee of the Scientific Council meeting as a draft subject to final editing.

The report of this work is provided in a series of four INF documents:

Inf.12.4.1a: Impacts of climate change on migratory species Inf.12.4.1b: Conservation of Migratory Species and the use of Indicators for Monitoring Climate Change Impacts Inf.12.4.1c: Migratory Species and Their Role in Ecosystems Inf.12.4.1d: Case Studies

Parties are invited to read the Inf documents in parallel with Document 30.1.4.

Part 2 - Conservation of Migratory Species and the use of Indicators for Monitoring Climate Change Impacts

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Summary

Whilst the impacts of climate change on natural systems are ubiquitous, they are occurring in a non-uniform manner across time and space. These complexities mean that, compared to resident species, developing conservation programs to help mitigate climate change impacts on migratory species, which can span extensive geographical regions and habitat types, as well as crossing jurisdictional borders, is particularly challenging. Although there are an increasing number of examples of conservation efforts adapting to climate change, there is limited documentation of the extent to which this is taking place, and virtually no evaluation of the effectiveness of adaptation measures in the scientific literature. We conducted a literature review with the aim to describe conservation interventions that have previously been employed on migratory species, in the context of climate change. We then outline key considerations for the conservation of migratory species, providing examples of studies that have demonstrated these.

To maximise effectiveness and value for money, conservation actions should, as far as possible, be well informed; on-going monitoring and re-evaluation is critical to the success of any conservation program. Drawing from review articles retrieved in the literature search, we propose some additional steps to the CMS '*Framework for Action*' (UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC5/Doc.6.4.5), including structured monitoring of a species prior to implementing actions, and then ongoing monitoring and evaluation of adaptation actions so they can be adjustments as part of an adaptive management framework.

We also consider the potential to develop ecological indicators of the impacts of climate change on migratory species, building on the evidence for impacts listed in Part 1. We do this through an additional, rapid assessment of climate change indicators created since 2009, and highlight promising indicators that could be used to assess the climate change impacts on migratory species, using the framework set out by Newson *et al.* (2009). We discuss the urgent need to identify and test outcome-based indicators of climate change adaptation, to allow effectiveness of adaptive measures and outcomes to be assessed as part of that monitoring and evaluation framework.

A total of 51 articles that describe conservation interventions on CMS-listed (or closely related) species were reviewed in detail. All of the CMS taxonomic groups, apart from sharks, were represented, although there were biases towards some taxa (birds, reptiles and mammals), over others (insects, bats and fish). The scale of conservation interventions ranged from the broad designation of protected areas (that can benefit an extensive suite of species and habitats), to the management of particular habitats (e.g. restoration of coastal dunes for migratory birds), and fine-scale interventions to manage individuals (e.g. shading turtle nests). Only 23 % of the studies involved more than one jurisdiction, despite the fact that all species considered in the review move through multiple countries during migration.

Studies in the database reiterate several key considerations for the conservation of migratory species. For example, to provide protection through their annual cycle, species require a coherent and inter-connected network of passage and stop-over sites along their migratory routes, in addition to their breeding and wintering grounds. A combination of regional (multi-national) and local (site-specific) conservation actions will be required to achieve this. The establishment of effective networks of protected areas for migratory species, that span key migratory pathways, should be a high priority, necessitating on-going collaboration among nations. Recognising, and accounting for, the extent of climate-induced range shifts will be critical to the continued efficacy of designating protected areas, in all ecosystems.

Conservation management interventions at key points in the annual cycle are required to increase resilience to specific climate change impacts, and if based on robust evidence, can have a relatively high probability of efficacy. However, conservation programs often involve trade-offs and conflicts, as well as synergies and opportunities between multiple conservation and climate change mitigation programs (explored in detail in Part 3). These considerations include the socio-economic and cultural well-being of local communities, the conservation of multiple species and habitats, and developments aimed to mitigate the ongoing impacts of climate change. Care should thus be taken to account for these complications when implementing conservation programs, and monitoring the consequences of adaptation actions on those multiple objectives.

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1. Introduction

As the world's climate continues to change at an unprecedented pace, the availability of suitable habitats for vulnerable wildlife, like migratory species, continues to decline. Rising temperatures, altered rainfall patterns, rising sea-level, the erosion of coastal habitat and extreme weather events have all been implicated in the persistence of migratory species (Part 1, Trouwborst, 2012). Such changes are difficult to predict, and are occurring in a non-uniform manner across space and time. This uncertainty means that, compared to resident species, developing conservation programs to help mitigate these impacts on migratory species, which span extensive geographic regions and rely on multiple habitat types, is particularly challenging. These complexities are exacerbated when migratory routes span multiple jurisdictions because a coherent, co-ordinated response among nations is required (Robinson *et al.* 2009; Groves *et al.* 2012; Ranius *et al.* 2023).

A number of studies outline decision support frameworks to help guide the development of conservation plans, some of which have been specifically designed with migratory taxa in mind (Foden *et al.* 2019; D'Aloia *et al.* 2019; Silva *et al.* 2018). A discussion paper presented to the 5th Sessional Committee of the CMS Scientific Council (UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC5/Doc.6.4.5) included a '*Framework for Action*' for conserving CMS species in the context of climate change, among other threats. Depending on the presence of 'barriers' across a species' existing range (including its migratory route), the framework directs users to the appropriate conservation action(s), including: conservation, restoration, adaptation and translocation interventions. Further work, to place this framework in context of the broader literature, including any existing conservation actions applied to migratory species. The success and lessons learned from previous conservation programs can complement and further develop the existing CMS '*Framework for Action*'.

Although there are an increasing number of examples of climate change adaptation being undertaken (e.g. http://www.cakex.org/), there is limited evidence of the extent to which adaptation is taking place and virtually no evaluation of the effectiveness of adaptation measures in the scientific literature (IPCC 2022). Effective monitoring across migratory ranges and evaluation of adaptations can be difficult due to a range of conceptual, analytical and practical challenges (Fuller et al. 2021; Pearce-Higgins et al. 2022), but there is growing evidence that adaptation actions can help species respond to climate change. For example, in a recent study. Bowgen et al. (2022) performed a literature review in which they assessed the efficacy of conservation interventions to help species adapt to climate change. Overall, 30% of studies reported a positive impact on populations also affected by a climate variable. Management that targeted particular species was found to be most effective with a 73% modelled probability of being beneficial than more generic interventions associated with habitat management or site protection, although these have the potential to impact a wider range of species. The authors noted that there was a broad suite of species and ecosystems considered, concluding that there is strong potential, and an urgent need, for further work in this field. Here, we take a similar approach to Bowgen et al. (2022), but place a specific focus on migratory species (and note that we did not systematically assess the efficacy of a study's intervention). Specifically, we conducted a literature review with the aims to:

- a) describe conservation strategies categorised by the IUCN (2012) that have previously been employed with the specific aim of conserving migratory species in the context of climate change
- b) outline key considerations for the conservation of migratory species, and provide examples of studies that have demonstrated these
- c) place our findings in context of the CMS Framework for Action, and

d) discuss how conservation initiatives can involve local communities, and explore consequences from a social perspective (cultural and economic outcomes).

We then review literature on developing indicators to monitor climate change impacts on migratory species (section 4.4) with the aim to:

- e) highlight indicators developed since 2009 that could be used to assess the climate change impacts on migratory species.
- f) discuss the urgent need to identify and test outcome-based indicators of climate change adaptation measures (Morecroft *et al.* 2019; Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2022).

We focused on species listed in Appendices I and II of the CMS (*CMS list*, hereafter), but also included studies of closely related non-listed migrant species (sub-species, or species of the same genus), to broaden the database. In addition, whilst some countries in North America, particularly, are not signatories of the CMS, we nevertheless include studies based on CMS species on this continent, on the assumption that their management is applicable and relevant to other geographical regions.

2. Methods

To begin, we considered literature cited by Bowgen *et al.* (2022). This study assessed articles on *all* terrestrial fauna (marine species were omitted), published up to and including 2017, and so we extracted studies from their database that focused on migratory species, only, including those on the CMS list. Their literature search was then repeated, to find articles published more recently. Specifically, a search was conducted on 10/05/2023 in Web of Science (incorporating the Web of Science Core Collection, BIOSIS Citation Index, MEDLINE(r), Zoological Record, KCI_Korean Journal Database and SciELO citation Index databases), using the basic search bar (searching in 'topic'). In the interests of time searches were constrained to 2018-search date inclusive, which produced 28,517 results (but note that only the top 1000 most relevant articles were considered further, Table 1). Search terms included:

((shift* OR change* OR colon* OR extinc*) AND (rang* OR communit* OR expansion* OR distribut*) AND "climate change" AND (conserv* OR adapt*) AND (specie* OR ecolog*)).

This search was repeated on Google Scholar, with search terms listed as key-words, in which 420 articles were retrieved (Table 1). As noted above, Bowgen *et al.* (2022) focussed on terrestrial and freshwater systems, deliberately excluding the marine environment because, conceptually, the impacts of climate change and potential adaptation responses in the marine environment are very different to terrestrial. This review, however, is more focused on types of intervention strategies, rather than the underlying mechanisms of climate change impacts, and so we included studies that focused on migratory marine species, as well.

Articles were first filtered by title, and then by abstract, and results, and any that were deemed to be irrelevant were removed from the database (Table 1). Relevance was based on the following questions:

1. Is the species on the CMS list (or is it closely related to species on the list)?

- 2. If yes, does the study apply a conservation intervention?
- 3. If yes, does the intervention buffer the species from one or more climate change impacts (defined in Part 1)?

Whilst many of the retrieved studies assessed the impacts of climate change on migratory species (Part 1), relatively few considered the outcomes of a conservation intervention focussed on buffering the impacts of climate change on migratory species (n = 38, Table 1). Therefore, to expand the database, we included studies cited within a number of recent review articles (listed in section 7.1), some of which were focused on a specific taxonomic group (e.g. turtles, Patricio *et al.* 2021), whilst others discussed a particular conservation strategy (e.g. use of artificial structures, Watchhorn *et al.* 2022). Note that we initially filtered the articles for CMS-listed species, and then later included additional studies on closely related species, but conducted no further searches to expand the literature to migratory species in general (i.e. no further supplementary searches were performed).

Table 1. Flow table listing the number of articles in the database after successive filtering steps. Note that review articles are included in the first three steps, but are removed from the final database counts (bottom row of the table). Papers found within review articles are also listed. Taxa refers to CMS listed species (Section 7.2), as well as migrants not on the list, and 'topic' describes papers that are not relevant to this study (e.g. genetic analyses, laboratory experiments on species' thermal tolerances, vulnerability assessments, fishery or agricultural policies). Review articles, from which 13 studies were sourced, are listed in Section 7.1.

| Filtering step | Bowgen <i>et al.</i> (2022) | WoS | Google scholar | Literature reviews* | Total |
|---|--------------------------------|------------------|-------------------|------------------------|-------|
| Initial search total | 77 | 28,517 (1000) | 420 | - | 1456 |
| Articles remaining after duplicates removed | 77 | 1,000 | 292 | - | 1369 |
| Articles remaining after title and abstract filtered by taxa and topic | 38 | 156 | 40 | - | 232 |
| Articles remaining after results filtered for intervention to buffer climate change impacts. | 16 | 9 | 13 | 13 | 51 |

For each article, where possible, we extracted information for the following metrics:

1. The *scale* at which the intervention was applied, according to those defined by the IUCN (2012): land/water protection, land/water management or species management (Table 2, and see Bowgen *et al.* 2022)

- 2. The *type* of action, according to CMS *Framework for Action*: Conservation, Restoration, Adaptation, Translocation (Table 2)
- 3. The geographic location, and whether the intervention involved multiple jurisdictions (countries)

Modelling studies were included (unlike Bowgen *et al.* 2022, where they were excluded), where they: i) compared future predicted distributions with protected areas, ii) compared predicted phenological events (e.g. opening of fishways for seasonal migration) or iii) tested an explicit change in a species habitat, for example, the impacts of sea-level rise on turtle nesting habitat (Katselidis *et al.* 2014). Articles were grouped and reported by relevant conservation action, listed by the IUCN (2012).

Table 2. Potential conservation actions defined by the IUCN (2012, and utilised by Bowgen *et al.* 2022), in context with the CMS '*Framework for Action*', with examples of each and how they might be expected to buffer against climate change impacts.

| IUCN Conservation Action classification | CMS Action Strategy | Examples of intervention | Climate change impact buffered against |
|--|------------------------|--|---|
| Land/water protection | Conservation | Protection of habitat by designation of reserves. | Long-term changes in climate and habitat suitability |
| Land/water management | Restoration | Removal of invasive species Reduction of bycatch/hunting | Interactive stressors between abiotic stress and competition/predation |
| Land/water management | Adaptation | Artificial reefs Expansion of wetlands Controlled burns | Extreme events like coral bleaching, drought, fire and storm surges Long-term changes in climate suitability, including sea-level rise |
| Species management | Adaptation | Provision of nest boxes, food or water Spraying bat or bird colonies with water Cooling of nests | Extreme events like drought, storm surges heat waves and gradual rises in temperature |

| Species Translocation management | Assisted migration Re-introduction or translocation of individuals Re-location of nests | Disrupted environmental cues (temperature and photoperiod) Long-term changes in climate suitability, including sea-level rise |
|----------------------------------|---|--|
|----------------------------------|---|--|

3 Results

A total of 51 articles were found in the literature review (Tables 3 and 4), within which specific conservation interventions aimed to adapt to the impacts of climate change, on a migratory species. Among the species represented, 44 (86% of total) are listed in the CMS Appendices I and II, while the remaining seven (14%) were closely related, migratory species. There were biases towards some taxonomic groups over others with a large proportion of the articles focusing on birds (n=21 studies, 41% of total), terrestrial mammals (n=14, 27%) and reptiles (n=7, 13%). In contrast, insects were represented by one study, and bats and marine mammals by two studies, each (Tables 3 and 4).

Grouping articles by conservation action (IUCN, 2012) also revealed biases to some strategies over others. Nearly half of the studies (n=24, 47 %) considered the designation of protected areas (*land/water protection*) as the primary action (Table 3). Three quarters of these (n=18) performed predictive modelling to assess mismatches under future climate scenarios, while the remaining six relied on observational data (i.e. no predictive modelling was performed). Twenty (39%) articles performed some form of *species management*, whilst only seven (13%) considered *land/water management*. Of these studies that conducted a direct intervention (Table 4), eleven (30%) aimed to mitigate the impacts of climate change on reproductive output, whether through manipulating nests, controlling predation, or providing nest boxes. A further ten (27%) managed habitat and resources in either breeding, overwintering or at stop-overs along migratory routes. Three studies aimed to remove direct barriers along species' migratory paths. Finally, single studies reported a cessation of human interference (hunting), translocation of individuals, or changes in the phenology of migration (achieved indirectly, through the management of livestock in the region).

Of the 24 articles that focused on protected areas, eleven (47%) were performed within one country. Only eight articles (33%) encompassed a regional area (e.g. 'Europe', 'the Himalayas', or more than three adjacent countries). Three studies captured the migratory routes of species between continents, including Europe, Africa and central Asia, all of which focused on migratory waterbirds (Breiner *et al.* 2022; Nagy *et al.* 2022; Pavón-Jordán *et al.* 2020). With this in mind, there was a geographical bias across studies, with 13 (25%) and eleven (21%) studies being conducted within Europe and North America, respectively. Whilst 12 studies were performed within Asia, these were relatively evenly split across the broad continent, between the Himalayas (alpine habitats, five studies), central Asia (grassland plateau, two studies) and east Asia (tropical/coastal habitats, three studies). North Africa, Central America and South America were, in contrast, less well represented (one, two and two studies, respectively).

4. Analysis of results and discussion

1.1 4.1. Conservation actions and climate change

4.1.1 Land/water protection

Many vulnerable migratory species rely on protected areas, during breeding, over-wintering, and at stop-overs during migration. In the future, however, such designated areas may become redundant as areas of habitat suitability and range envelopes shift beyond their static boundaries. It has recently been recognised that the inclusion of climate change impacts in the designation of protected areas is critical to their continued success. Indeed, during the literature search we identified reviews emphasizing this point, in terrestrial (Ranius *et al.* 2023), marine (Wilkes *et al.* 2019), coastal (Wikramayake *et al.* 2020) and freshwater systems (Bower *et al.* 2015).

The suitability of existing protected areas under future climate scenarios varied among the articles in our database (Table 3). Protected areas in the United Kingdom, for example, are expected to remain suitable for migratory avian species (such as many passerines, Stone Curlew and Nightjar, Gillingham *et al.* 2015) as their distributions shift poleward,

Thirgood *et al.* (2004) tracked annual movements of Wildebeest (*Connochaetes taurinus*, not a CMS species) during their migration across the Serengeti, to find that the species spent 90% of their time within protected areas. Migration routes have changed slightly since the 1970s, however, such that herds spend a greater proportion of their time close to reserve boundaries, where they are vulnerable to persecution. Ongoing assessment of the protected area is therefore required, to ensure any further shifts in the species' range are accounted for.

Predictive modelling studies can provide a picture of the efficacy of current protected areas under future climate scenarios. For example, distribution models of the Himalayan Brown Bear (Gobi Bear, *Ursus arctos isabellinus*), project that their distribution will fall well outside current protected areas (Mukherjee *et al.* 2021), and work is required to address this mismatch. Similar findings were found for the Red-crowned crane (*Grus japonensis*) in China (Liu *et al.* 2020; Gong *et al.* 2021). Herrera *et al.* (2021) showed that marine reserves in the Canary Islands are currently not large enough to protect a number of endangered cetacean species, and they also call for a revision of these reserves in light of projected climate change-induced distribution shifts.

Protected areas typically encompass extensive regions, such that they benefit multiple species and habitats (Thomas & Gillingham 2015). In the context of migratory species, and particularly those listed in the Appendices of the CMS that traverse across multiple jurisdictions, this conservation strategy provides valuable opportunities for multi-national co-operation. Only a quarter of the studies that considered protected areas encompassed multiple jurisdictions, however, and so it appears that the potential of a coordinated conservation approach, have not yet been fully realised.

Table 3. Summary of 24 articles that compared current protected areas (PA) with either observed (O) historical changes in species distributions, or modelled projections (P) of future distributions (Method). The expected status of the PA under future climates are listed as suitable (species remain within the PA) or unsuitable (species distribution is predicted to shift over the PA boundary), as highlighted by authors within the results or discussion sections within the article (not the opinions of the authors of this report). Species marked with * are those not on the CMS list (but are migratory), and values in brackets after the geographic region are the number of countries considered within each study.

| Species | Method | Geographic region | Status of PA | Reference |
|-------------------------------------|--------|---------------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| Insects | | | | |
| Monarch | 0 | North America (1) | Suitable | Perez-Miranda <i>et al.</i> (2020) |
| Birds | | | | |
| 301 waterbirds (165 on CMS list) | P | Europe, Africa, central Asia (>40) | Evaluation of PA – suitability of critical sites declines to a greater extent in Africa and the Middle East, compared to Eastern Europe | Breiner <i>et al</i> . (2022) |
| 97 waterbirds (70 on CMS list) | 0 | Europe (26) | Evaluation of PA – communities in specifically managed PA adapt to climate change faster than others | Gaget <i>et al</i> . (2022) |
| 61 waterbirds (46 on CMS list) | 0 | Europe and North Africa (41) | Evaluation of PA – abundances of waterbirds in protected wetlands increasing faster than unlisted wetlands (although region dependent) | Pavón-Jordán <i>et al.</i> (2020) |
| 25 waterbirds (22 on CMS list) | Р | Europe (21) | Suitable | Pavón-Jordán <i>et al.</i> (2019) |
| 197 waterbirds | P | Europe and Africa (>40) | Depends on species, season and location. General reductions in suitability for dispersive | Nagy <i>et al.</i> (2022) |

| (139 on CMS list) | | | species and breeding periods but increases for passage and wintering periods. | |
|------------------------------------|---|---------------------------|---|--|
| 11 migratory birds (5 on CMS list) | Р | Europe (1) | Suitable | Gillingham <i>et al.</i> (2015) |
| Red-crowned crane | Р | Himalayas (3) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Liu <i>et al</i> . (2020) |
| Red-crowned crane | Р | East Asia (1) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Gong <i>et al.</i> (2021) |
| Fish | | | | |
| 23 species* | Р | South America (4) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Bailly <i>et al.</i> (2021) |
| Reptiles | | | | |
| Loggerhead turtle | Р | Europe (1) | Unsuitable: sea-level rise causes beach to become unsuitable for nesting | Katselidis <i>et al</i> . (2014) |
| Marine Mammals | | | | |
| 18 Cetaceans (all on CMS list) | 0 | Europe (1) | Unsuitable: correct location, but too small | Herrera <i>et al</i> . (2021) |
| North Atlantic Right Whale | 0 | North America (1) | Unsuitable: 'hotspots' are shifting away from the protected area | Quintana-Rizzo <i>et al.</i> (2021) |
| Terrestrial Mammals | | | | |
| Wildebeest* | 0 | Sub-saharan Africa (2) | Unsuitable: species shifting towards the boundary of PA | Thirgood <i>et al</i> . (2004) |

| Gorilla | P | Sub-saharan Africa (3) | Variable: but most models suitable | Thorne <i>et al.</i> (2013) |
|--|---|---------------------------|--|------------------------------------|
| Himalayan brown bear (Gobi bear) | Р | Himalayas (2) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Dar <i>et al</i> . (2023) |
| Himalayan brown bear (Gobi bear) | P | Himalayas (2) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Mukherjee et al. (2021) |
| Asian Elephant | P | East Asia (1) | Unsuitable: Correct location, but fragmented and too small | Li <i>et al.</i> (2019) |
| Snow Leopard | Р | Himalayas (6) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Forrest <i>et al.</i> (2012) |
| Snow Leopard | Р | Himalayas (11) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Li <i>et al</i> . (2020) |
| Three ungulates (including Goitered Gazelle) | P | Central Asia (1) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Malakoutikhah <i>et al.</i> (2021) |
| Kiang, Tibetan Gazelle | Р | East Asia (1) | Unsuitable: distribution shifting | Zhang <i>et al.</i> (2022) |
| Caribou* | 0 | North America (1) | Suitable, but could be expanded | Johnson <i>et al</i> . (2022) |
| Saiga Antelope | P | Central Asia (1) | Suitable, but could be expanded | Singh & Milner-Gullard (2011) |

4.1.2. Land/water management

We found four articles that applied conservation interventions to mitigate the impacts of climate change on the habitat quality and availability of CMS species (Table 4), including different restorative and adaptive actions. For example, reproductive output of the declining Hen Harrier in Wales increased due to cessation of human interference (persecution), combined with increases in May temperature (Whitfield *et al.* 2008). In North American rivers, where Green Sturgeon are declining, opening a dam later in the autumn season supported delayed migration patterns (Steel *et al.* 2019). Indeed, leaving the dam open all year-round (after decommissioning), allowed for unhindered migration, a higher number of individuals reaching their spawning grounds, and a rapid increase in population abundance. The seasonal management of fishways in Norway have also been implicated in the early-spring and late-autumnal migration patterns of European Grayling salmon and Brown Trout, respectively (van Leeuwen *et al.* 2016, and see García-Vega *et al.* 2018).

Habitat modifications might also come about unintentionally, through changes in land use surrounding a population's key habitat. An over-wintering population of Black-tailed Godwit in Spain, has grown over recent decades, due to an increase in agricultural production in the region (Márquez-Ferrando *et al.* 2014). New rice fields and fish farms adjacent to the colonies support more abundant and diverse invertebrate communities, important prey for this largely coastal species. In contrast, populations of the Black-tailed Godwit that overwinter in northern Africa, in the absence of such resources, have steadily declined (Márquez-Ferrando *et al.* 2014). In the UK, population recoveries of the Greater Horseshoe bat have been attributed to a combination of habitat restoration (afforestation), improved management (agri-environment schemes) and climatic conditions that have become more suitable for the species' breeding and survival (Froidevaux *et al.* 2017). Management of land and water at local scales allows for a degree of flexibility, such that practices can be adapted to account for specific threats on a case by case basis. However, the success of conservation actions at one site along a migratory route rely on the appropriate management of habitats across the remainder of a species range.

Table 4. Summary of 18 articles describing the results of a direct intervention buffering the impacts of climate change, on species or their habitats. CMS Action refers to the action defined within the CMS *Framework for Action*, where A = Adaptation, R = Restoration and T = Translocation. Those marked with indicate studies categorised into *Land/water Management* (Section 3.1.2), all other studies focused on *Species Management* (Section 3.1.3). Species marked with * are those not on the CMS list (but are migratory), and numbers in brackets after the geographic region are the number of countries considered within each study.

| Species | Intervention | CMS Action | Climate Change Impact | Geographic region | Reference |
|-------------------------------------|---|------------------|--------------------------------------|-------------------|--|
| Birds | | | | | |
| Snowy Plover Least Tern | Relocation of nests and predator control | R, T | Rising temperature | North America (1) | Koenen <i>et al.</i> (1996) |
| Magellanic Penguin* | Increases in vegetation cover over nests | R, A | Rising temperature | South America (1) | Stokes & Boersma (1998) |
| Common Tern | Multiple (habitat modification, reduction in human disturbance and predation) | R, A, T | Rising temperature | North America (1) | Morris <i>et al</i> . (1991) |
| Fours species (Common Tern) | Altered elevation of nests | A | Storm surges and increased flooding | North America (1) | Rounds <i>et al</i> . (2004) |
| Black-tailed Godwit | Provision of wetland habitat for nesting and foraging | RLWM | Rising temperature, altered rainfall | Europe (1) | Márquez-Ferrando <i>et al.</i> (2014) |
| Three species (including Dunlin) | Restoration of wetland habitat | R ^{LWM} | Rising temperature | North America (1) | Reynolds <i>et al.</i> (2017) |

| Northern Lapwing | Provision of wet features in the landscape | A | Altered rainfall | Europe (1) | Eglington <i>et al.</i> (2010) |
|---|--|------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| Northern Bald Ibis | Provision of fresh water | А | Drought | North Africa (1) | Smith <i>et al.</i> (2008) |
| Hen Harrier | Cessation of human interference | R ^{⊥wm} | Rising temperature | Europe (1) | Whitfield et al. (2008) |
| Lesser kestrels | Provision of nest boxes | А | Extreme heat events | Europe (1) | Catry <i>et al.</i> (2011) |
| 13 seabirds (including Laysan Albatross and Black- footed Albatross) | Modelling – habitat management | A | Sea-level Rise and storm surges | North America (1) | Reynolds <i>et al.</i> (2015) |
| Piping Plover* | Modelling – habitat management | А | Sea-level Rise | North America (1) | Sims <i>et al</i> . (2013) |
| Waterbirds (habitat) | Modelling – habitat availability | A | Sea-level Rise and storm surges | East Asia (1) | Wikramanayake <i>et al.</i> (2020) |
| Fish | | | | | |
| Green sturgeon | Restoration of migratory route | R, T ⊾wm | Advanced seasonal timing | North America (1) | Steel <i>et al</i> . (2019) |
| Brown Trout* European Grayling* | Restoration of migratory route | R, T ⊾wm | Advanced seasonal timing | Europe (1) | van Leeuwen <i>et al.</i> (2016) |
| Brown Trout* | Modelling – altered management practises | R, T ⊾wм | Advanced seasonal timing | Europe (1) | García-Vega <i>et al.</i> (2018) |

| Reptiles | | | | | |
|--|--|------|------------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Olive Ridly turtle | Watering nests | A | Rising temperature | South America (1) | Hill <i>et al.</i> (2015) |
| Leatherback turtle | | | | | |
| Green turtle | Watering and shading nests | A | Rising temperature | Oceania (2) | Smith <i>et al.</i> (2021) |
| Green turtle | Watering and shading nests | A | Rising temperature | Oceania (1) | Jourdan & Fuentes (2015) |
| Leatherback turtle Hawksbill turtle | Shading and translocation of nests | A | Rising temperature | Central America (1) | Esteban <i>et al</i> . (2018) |
| Green turtle | | | | | |
| Leatherback turtle | Shading of nests | A | Rising temperature | Central America (1) | Patino-Martinez <i>et al.</i> (2012) |
| Leatherback turtle | Shading of nests (and explore options for tree planting) | A | Rising temperature | Oceania (1) | Wood <i>et al.</i> (2014) |
| Bats | | | | | |
| Brown pipistrelle | Provision of roosting boxes | A | Extreme heat events | Europe (1) | Flaquer <i>et al.</i> (2006) |
| Greater Horseshoe | Habitat restoration surrounding roosts - afforestation and agri- environment schemes | RLWM | Complements warmer temperatures | Europe (1) | Froidevaux <i>et al.</i> (2017) |
| Terrestrial Mammals | | | | | |
| Scimitar-Horned Oryx | Translocation of individuals | Т | Altered rainfall | Sub-Saharan Africa (1) | Mertes <i>et al.</i> (2019) |

| Elk (Wyoming, USA)* | Provision of food to young | A | Altered rainfall | North America (1) | Smith & Anderson (1998) |
|------------------------|--|---|--------------------------------|-------------------|--------------------------------|
| Saiga Antelope | Vaccination of livestock prior to the arrival of adults in | A | Changes in migration phenology | Central Asia (1) | Khanyari <i>et al</i> . (2022) |

4.1.3 Species management

Conservation actions that focus on the management of species can have immediate and tangible outcomes, and can be performed over a relatively short time-frame (e.g. in response to extreme climatic events). Thirteen articles that applied a direct intervention on a CMS species were found, although there were biases towards certain taxonomic groups and conservation actions (Table 4). With the exception of one study on each of the Brown pipistrelle bat (Flaquer *et al.* 2006), Elk (Smith & Anderson, 1998) and Scimitar-Horned Oryx (Mertes *et al.* 2019), all other studies considered either reptiles or birds. Indeed, six studies focused on manually regulating temperature within turtle nests, to reduce feminization rates in hatchlings (Table 4, see Part 1 for description of temperature-dependent sex determination). Such interventions included cooling nests with sea-water (Jourdan & Fuentes 2015; Smith *et al.* 2021), erecting shade cloths over the nests (Patino-Marinez *et al.* 2012; Wood *et al.* 2014), and re-locating eggs to a cooler side of an island (Esteban *et al.* 2018). Conversely, whilst sex of the Estuarine Crocodile hatchlings is also determined by nest temperature, we found no studies reporting similar conservation actions for this species.

In addition to turtles, direct interventions have helped to buffer bird nests from extreme events like heat waves and storm surges (Table 4). For example, manual elevation of nests improved reproductive rates of Common Tern, in comparison to those that remained at sea level and were thus subject to floods (Rounds *et al.* 2004). Similarly, lifting nests to higher ground and erecting predator-proof fences helped to maintain productivity of Snowy Plover and Least Tern colonies (Koenen *et al.* 1996) in the USA. Finally, in Argentina, the restoration of native vegetation around Magellanic Penguin rookeries has helped to lower temperature within the nests (by increasing shade), as well as reduce predation on eggs and chicks (Stokes *et al.* 1998); a relatively simple intervention that has improved the reproductive success of the colony.

It should be stressed that direct interventions must be well informed to avoid any unintended consequences. For example, nest boxes were provided to Lesser Kestrel in an attempt to support a declining population in Portugal (Catry *et al.* 2011). Wooden boxes with a southerly aspect, however, became very hot under extreme heat events, causing increased mortality and reduced fitness of fledglings. Similar effects were reported in a study of the Brown Pipistrelle bat: in a human modified landscape (rice fields in Spain), the provision of breeding boxes for this species improved reproductive output, however the proper location of boxes was deemed to be critical to avoid mass die-offs during heat-waves (Flaquer *et al.* 2006).

In addition to extreme heat and storm surges, direct interventions have been employed to reduce the effects of drought. Northern Bald Ibis were provided supplementary water sources near the species' Moroccan breeding grounds (Smith *et al.* 2008). The authors report a significant improvement in reproductive output, especially during 'dry' years (although the effect was significant in all years) and this intervention is now an integrated part of the ongoing conservation of the species.

Similarly, although not in direct response to drought, the provision of 'wet' features in the increasingly dry landscape of southern England acts to supplement prey abundances of the Northern Lapwings, helping to stabilise population declines of this species (Eglington *et al.* 2010), a measure that applies positively across breeding waders (Franks *et al.* 2018). With increasing evidence that summer drought conditions can reduce the availability of soil invertebrates to migratory species that feed on them (Pearce-Higgins & Morris 2023), habitat management to reduce artificial drainage, or to raise water levels, is likely to have a generic

beneficial impacts in such systems as a mechanism to increase their resilience to hot, dry conditions (e.g. Carroll *et al.* 2011).

In peatlands, (re-)wetting of landscapes can also have wider adaptation and mitigation benefits, reducing the risk of wildfire with associated carbon emissions (Kirkland *et al.* 2023), reducing carbon loss associated with the oxidation of the peat, improving water quality and reducing downstream flood risk (Martin-Ortega *et al.* 2014; Bonn *et al.* 2016), and restoring general habitat condition. While species-management interventions have generally shown to be successful, they are limited in terms of scalability, particularly in remote areas like the Pacific Islands (in the case of critically endangered turtles). Moreover, they do not necessarily provide sustainable, long-term solutions in the absence of broader conservation measures, such as designating protected areas and regulating hunting or bycatch.

4.2. Considerations for migratory species (a dynamic, holistic approach)

4.2.1 Coordinated responses across jurisdictions

The conservation of migratory species, especially those on the CMS list, requires coordination amongst multiple jurisdictions. Some articles in our database particularly highlighted where such management is required. For example, distribution models of the Snow Leopard, revealed that the species range is predicted to shift northward from Nepal into China, and the authors call for greater collaboration between the two nations (Li *et al.* 2022). Similarly, the Vulnerable Red-crowned Crane is projected to shift distribution from China into Russia and Mongolia (Liu 2020). The ongoing conservation of these species will thus require collaboration between countries.

Formal legislation, regulations and other policy tools can ensure effective collaboration among nations when mitigating the impacts of climate change on migrations. The Ramsar Convention, for example, which aims to conserve global wetlands that are critical for migratory birds, has implemented several resolutions since its inception in 1971 to directly address climate change impacts on these important habitats (Gitay *et al.* 2011¹). Legally binding regulations on marine fishery practices are another example where international laws can help to conserve migratory species, as they traverse across international borders, and into areas beyond national jurisdictions² (Gjerde *et al.* 2008, and see section 4.2.3 for further discussion of dynamic conservation strategies). While work remains to ensure the most relevant biological data are readily available to policy-makers and managers (Dunn *et al.* 2019), these existing agreements provide working frameworks into which policy changes, that aim to mitigate climate impacts, can be applied (e.g. Sahri *et al.* 2020).

Migratory species encounter a broad suite of threats, which can differ between their breeding and wintering grounds, and along their migration routes. As such, in addition to the protection of broad regions through protected areas, fine-scale interventions that are

¹ <u>https://enb.iisd.org/events/10th-meeting-conference-parties-ramsar-convention-cop10/summary-report-28-october-4-november</u>

² <u>https://www.un.org/depts/los/index.htm</u>

optimised for the local conditions, are required. Such an integrated approach was demonstrated by Morris *et al.* (1991), who employed a number of conservation actions for the Common Tern in the Canadian Great Lakes. At one breeding colony, managers reduced human disturbance, predation of eggs from Ring-billed Gulls, and restored various aspects of the species habitat. These interventions were deemed a success, as the population has since recovered. At a nearby colony, however, ecologists focused more on vegetation control, the exclusion of nesting gulls, reduction of human disturbance and the construction of new habitat. The abundance of Common Tern at this colony initially stabilised, but then continued to decline. The authors proposed that the disappointing outcome at the second colony was due to, among other reasons, closer proximity to a large urban centre and greater exposure to mammalian predators. Despite the different outcomes, this work demonstrates the need for multiple, complementary interventions running concurrently at any given location, as well as a site-specific approach.

4.2.2 Conservation of migratory routes

Migratory species are generally poorly covered by protected areas, with only 9% of migratory birds adequately covered compared to 45% of non-migratory species (Runge et al. 2015). There are existing key gaps in the annual cycle of many migratory species, particularly to protect important passage habitats and locations, which climate change, given its impact on species distributions and movements, will exacerbate. In response, the establishment of effective networks of protected areas for migratory species should be a high priority (Johnston et al. 2013), not just to protect existing sites and populations, but also because by protecting those sites, they provide areas of suitable habitat for range-shifting species to colonise (e.g. Gillingham et al. 2015). Importantly, this requires international action and coordination, as noted earlier. Combining regional (multi-national) and local (site-specific) conservation actions is required to conserve coherent and inter-connected migratory routes. Indeed, migratory species rely not only on suitable winter and breeding habitat, but also 'stepping stones' along their migratory path. For example, nature reserves in south-east China provide some sanctuary for Asian Elephants, under both current and a future (2050) climate scenario (although suitable habitat is severely restricted in the latter, Li et al. 2019). The authors note, however, that these protected areas are small and fragmented, and hence can only support small Elephant populations that are likely to become unviable. To adequately conserve this species, protected corridors between the reserves, to allow migration, are required. In some groups, such as migratory shorebirds, these stepping stones habitat patches are separated by thousands of kilometres, so are required to be highly productive in order to provide sufficient food resource to fuel the next stage of the migration (Piersma & Lindström 2004).

The establishment and conservation of inter-connected migratory pathways in marine habitats has seen some success. One such approach is the creation of 'sister sanctuaries', paired marine reserves that together aim to conserve wintering, breeding and migration grounds of endangered marine migrants (di Sciara *et al.*, 2016). Conservation managers in the USA, Dominican Republic and Martinique and Guadalupe, for example, are working together to protect sanctuaries in the breeding and feeding grounds of the Humpback Whale (Hoyt 2011); similar networks of reserves are found in the North and East Pacific, among others (Chin *et al.* 2017). Another example is that of the Special Protection Area network established under the EU Birds Directive (EC/79/409), modelled to be important for continuing to support internationally important breeding seabird and migratory waterbird populations in the UK under future climate change scenarios (Johnston *et al.* 2013). The network has also been recently demonstrated to provide effective conservation benefit to the

rare and conservation priority habitat specialists that rely on them, and to better support cold-adapted bird species vulnerable to climate change (Barnes *et al.* 2023), particularly towards their southern range-margin (Gillingham *et al.* 2015).

4.2.3 Dynamic conservation strategies

Technological advances in animal tracking, satellite imagery and data processing, can facilitate the development of new conservation strategies that can address the considerations outlined above. 'Dynamic' management tools, for example, aim to provide targeted actions that are flexible in time and space (Maxwell et al. 2020; D'Aloia et al. 2019). 'Mobile marine protected areas' are designated areas whose boundaries shift, in line with shifts in target species or habitats, including the movements of migratory species. Such frameworks can be designed to change from daily to seasonal time-frames, as required. Practices reflecting this dynamic approach are already well-integrated into management programs of fishery industries. Longline fishing zones in Australian seas, for example, are dictated by shifting abundances of Bluefin Tuna: updates of the species' movements are provided, almost in real-time, so that restrictions can be adjusted and quotas are not exceeded (Hobday et al. 2011). In the North Pacific, a volunteer-based program, Turtle Watch, tracks turtle migration and sea-surface temperature, to apply restrictions on fishing during critical periods of the species' life-cycles (Howell et al. 2015). Mobile protected areas have also been implemented, or proposed, for Saiga Antelope (Saiga tatarica, Bull et al. 2013) and Canadian Caribou (Rangifer tarandus, Taillon et al. 2012).

Climate change is altering the timing and distance of migratory routes of species, although such responses have been found vary from year to year, in part depending on local weather conditions (which can also act as a phenological cue). An increasing proportion of European wildfowl and wading birds are shifting their winter distribution towards the north-east in response to milder winter temperatures (e.g. Maclean et al. 2008; Pavón-Jordán et al. 2018). These responses are particularly driven by warmer winters in Scandinavian and central European breeding grounds, as individuals undertake shorter migrations and 'short-stop' before they reach more traditional, milder wintering grounds of western and southern Europe (Burton et al. 2020). These shifts mean that having a network of protected sites is increasingly important in a changing climate to maintain protection of critical habitats and populations (Johnston et al. 2013; Pavón-Jordán et al. 2015). Importantly, though, warmer sites that may no longer be regularly used as species' shift their distribution should still be maintained as they can then become reoccupied and important during colder winters. This means that an integrated dynamic approach to protected area networks is required. considering the protection, management and creation of sites in order to maximise the resilience of the network, and the species that use it, to a changing climate (Dodd et al. 2010).

Dynamic habitat management has also been successfully employed in wetlands in the USA, to conserve migrating wetland birds, including Dunlin (Reynolds *et al.* 2017, Table 4). These species rely on ephemeral wetlands in the southern United States on their southward migrations. The distribution of species within the wetlands, however, varies between years depending on rainfall and cropping patterns. This means that traditional, fixed designation

boundaries would need to encompass an unnecessarily large area to provide suitable habitat in any one year. In this instance, farmers within the wetland region were invited to participate in a conservation program, in which they received funds, through a reverse-auction process, to manage part of their cropping land as wetland habitat for the species (Reynolds *et al.* 2017). Follow-up monitoring confirmed that fields included in the program supported higher abundances of birds in comparison to those that were not included. This initiative is performed on an annual time-frame, allowing for targeted, cost-effective management, in critical habitat, when required. Where resources are available, such programs could be adapted to migratory species in other ecosystems (e.g. Polar Bear and African ungulates), to track migrations in real-time and impose targeted conservation actions in the relevant locations.

4.3 Wider considerations for conservation

4.3.1 Trade-offs and synergies

While there is a growing push towards climate change mitigation, to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and combat climate change, there is little sign that emissions will substantially reduce in the near future, there is an urgent need to consider the potential for adaptation to reduce the risks that climate change poses to species, alongside adaptation in other sectors of human society. These twin adaptation goals can result in synergies and opportunities, but also conflicts and trade-offs, between different responses to climate change (Morecroft *et al.* 2019). For example, large-scale tree planting has been suggested as a win:win for biodiversity conservation and climate change mitigation, but inappropriate planting has the potential for significant negative consequences for open country species of conservation concern, such as across tropical savannas or northern peatlands of Europe, both of which are important habitats for migratory species (e.g. Pálsdóttir *et al.* 2022). Conversely, the restoration of natural hydrological regimes on those peatlands has the potential to deliver climate change mitigation, nature-based solutions to improving water quality and reducing downstream flood risk, and climate change adaptation.

Another example of synergistic benefits is provided by Johnson *et al.* (2022), who mapped biodiversity hotspots, the presence of unique species with high conservation value, climate refugia, and soil carbon storage (which, if released, would add to Canada's total carbon emissions), all within the broad distribution of Caribou. The authors demonstrate that, by protecting the Caribou's habitat, a number of other biodiversity- and ecosystem-services would also be conserved, and propose that the species could be used as a 'proxy' for the future designation of protected areas across the region. Ecosystem services provided by migratory species, and the far reaching benefits associated with their conservation, are discussed in detail in Part 3 of this report.

Designating areas for protection can have substantial ramifications for local communities, through the exclusion of agriculture (and added pressures on food security), urban growth and housing, industrial activities, and economic stability (see Lamprey *et al.* 2022). Therefore, the costs of incorrectly allocating protected areas are not trivial, especially for developing nations. In northern Uganda, researchers have identified key forest habitat, a corridor that links two protected areas and is essential for the migration of Chimpanzee, among other fauna. In recent years however, pressure from agriculture (subsistence and commercial), non-indigenous tree plantations, oil extractions and urban growth has progressively encroached onto this important corridor, such that only small, fragmented patches now remain (and researchers predict that 99% of the habitat will be lost by 2025; Lamprey *et al.* 2022). Conservation interventions are thus urgently required, but ecologists

stress that any work must engage local communities and provide a viable economic alternative to current, consumptive industries.

Indeed, the conservation of migratory species should aim to *benefit* local communities, enhancing economic and cultural well-being (which, in turn, generally improves conservation outcomes). In contrast to the example described above, a long-term conservation program for Chimpanzee in the Kigali National Park in western Uganda, has improved a number socio-economic outcomes in villages adjacent to the national park (Thompson *et al.* 2020). At any given time, the program employs up to 25 staff from local communities, and since its inception in 1987, has helped to develop health, literacy and scholarship programs, as well as sustainable energy initiatives. In return, the ongoing persistence of Chimpanzee in the park is largely due to a well-informed and engaged local community, which has taken ownership for the conservation of the species.

Migration events can also provide opportunities for seasonal eco-tourism and wildlife festivals, with associated benefits including the formation of protected areas, revenue specifically for conservation, economic benefits to the broader community, protection from other damaging industries, and increased public awareness and participation in wildlife protection (Hvenegaard, 2011). Migratory marine species, including rays, sharks, whales and dugongs, can provide unique tourism '*experiences*' and viable economic alternatives to fisheries and mining. Such alternatives (if conducted appropriately) are particularly valuable for developing nations, for which resources for environmental conservation can be limited (Mustika *et al.* 2020; Gonzalez-Mantilla *et al.* 2021). Moreover, a network of such programmes, across multiple jurisdictions, can help to maintain coherent migratory pathways (O'Malley *et al.* 2013). Conservation programs can also be integrated into forestry, farming or fishing policies, whereby stakeholders receive subsidies for performing conservation actions (Froidevaux *et al.* 2017; Reynolds et al. 2017).

4.3.2 Accounting for uncertainties

Given the uncertainties over the effectiveness of different interventions and future climate scenarios, there is an urgent need to both improve the evidence-base to improve decision-making (IPCC 2022), but also to effectively monitor and evaluate the success of interventions (Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2022). Conservation actions should *always* be well informed (as far as possible), and on-going monitoring and re-evaluation is critical to the success of any conservation program (see Chin *et al.* 2017), and for the avoidance of any unexpected consequences (e.g. Catry *et al.* 2011). The '*Framework for Action*', outlined in UNEP/CMS/ScC-SC5/Doc.6.4.5, was produced with the aim of guiding conservationists to the most appropriate type of intervention, for a migratory species or habitat, given a specific set of circumstances. The framework can be employed multiple times during the course of a species recovery (or protection), and adjustments made to the course of action, as required. Whilst it was not intended to be all encompassing, the framework could be further developed, to provide specific guidance on 1) initial planning, 2) initial monitoring, 3) evaluation of the intervention and 4) adaptation or refinement of the intervention should it be required (Watchorn *et al.* 2022; Grantham *et al.* 2010).

This feedback loop is important for a number of reasons, particularly in the context of climate change (Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2022). Firstly, as climate suitability changes and species'

distributions shift in time and space, the priorities for conservation in particular regions or locations may change, so that programs are essentially conserving 'moving targets'. This makes it difficult to define conservation objectives, as these may change through time. Secondly, ecological models, which are often used to identify the most vulnerable species, and inform the location and management of protected areas, come with a range of assumptions and uncertainties, especially for rare (data-deficient) species (Foden *et al.* 2019). As more data are collected and integrated into models, the accuracy of predictions can improve (or, at least, be better informed). Finally, there is often a time-lag before species begin to respond to an intervention, particularly for late-successional species, making the evaluation of its 'success' difficult (Watts *et al.* 2020). For this reason, a range of different indicators may be required that track improvements in enabling conditions and adaptation actions, species responses to climate change and ultimately, the status of species, communities and ecosystems (Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2022).

5. Indicators of climate change impacts and adaptation

5.1 Introduction

The Convention recognises the need to consider climate change and, in Part 1, we have reviewed the evidence of the impact of climate change on (mostly) individual migratory species. It is evident from the review that communicating the varying impacts of climate change succinctly and clearly across over six hundred species listed in the Convention is a challenging task. An alternative is to use more easily monitored indicators, which are known to be linked to climate change, to signal the impacts of climate change on a wide suite of migratory species, responding to similar ecological and physical changes.

Past indicators of climate change impacts have included metrics on organisms (e.g. body condition, behavioural aspects and phenology of biological events), populations (e.g. trends in abundance or recruitment of species or a group of species) or communities (e.g. biodiversity, ratio of cold-adapted species to warm-adapted species, Philippart *et al.* 2011). Most commonly, bioindicators use metrics relating to the populations of a group of species (Siddig *et al.* 2014). As different physical and ecological processes will be driving changes for different species and ecosystems, and some species will respond positively to climate change while others respond negatively, a suite of indicators will be required to facilitate interpretation across a broad coverage of taxonomic groups, habitats and regions.

Indicators can be very valuable to provide a cost-effective early warning of environmental impacts if used appropriately (Landres *et al.* 1988; Carignan & Villard 2002). However, it is important to interpret them appropriately, and use them cautiously for planning purposes, as they may be affected by confounding factors and change in their usefulness over time and spatially (Lindenmayer & Likens 2011; Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2015). Newson *et al.* (2009) developed a framework for identifying indicators of climate change impacts on migratory species. They recommended evaluating potential indicators based on a range of criteria (Table 5). In summary, climate change indicators should be usable (easy to understand and with policy relevance), useful (specific and sensitive to climate change) and available (good quality data at a reasonable cost) (Newson *et al.* 2009).

Newson *et al.* (2009) used this framework to evaluate 17 potential indicators. Four of these indicators (a bird indicator and three marine mammal indicators) were already monitored adequately for use, five were monitored but with significant gaps at species or geographical

coverage and the remaining eight were poorly implemented and are likely to require methodological development. Here, we carried out a rapid assessment of climate change indicators proposed or created since 2009. We highlight promising indicators that could be used to assess the climate change impacts on migratory species, using the framework set out by Newson et al. (2009). We discuss recommendations and identify important considerations and research needs in developing appropriate indicators of climate change impacts. We also discuss the urgent need to identify and test outcome-based indicators of climate change adaptation, to allow the effectiveness of adaptive measures and outcomes to be assessed (Morecroft et al. 2019; Pearce-Higgins et al. 2022).

Table 5. Criteria for evaluating impact of climate change indicators for migratory species (Newson et al. 2009).

| Impact, policy rele | vance, public perception and communication |
|-----------------------|---|
| Net impact | To what degree does the indicator measure net impact (negative impact of most interest here) of climate change on populations either regionally or globally? |
| Easy to understand | The indicator must be understandable for non-scientists and decision makers. |
| Policy relevance | What is the degree of policy-relevance to the Convention of Migratory Species (CMS), i.e. are the species listed on the CMS Appendices, those of its daughter agreements or other legislation or agreements (national, regional or international)? |
| Public profile | How high would the public profile of the indicator be? |
| Statistical properti | es of the indicator |
| Specificity | To what degree is the indicator specific to climate change as a single pressure or affected by a number of other pressures (exploitation, pollution, invasive species etc.)? |
| Sensitivity | To what degree is the indicator sensitive to climate change, i.e. is the slope of the relationship between a measure of climate change versus indicator response shallow or steep? |
| Responsiveness | Is there a lag in indicator responsiveness after a change in pressure (climate change)? If so, how long is the lag (years, decades)? |

| Theoretical basis | What is the strength of the theoretical basis underlying the indicator, i.e. is the indicator based on an existing body of theory, empirical or time series of data that allow a realistic setting of objectives? |
|--|---|
| Data requirements | |
| Data availability | How available are the data? Are data to support the indicator readily available or available at a reasonable cost/benefit ratio? |
| Data quality | What is the quality of the data? Are the data collected (or have the potential to be collected) through a well-designed monitoring program and/or likely to be of high quality? |
| Applicability of data | a collection methods |
| Applicability | How widely applicable are the data collection methods? Are the data collection methods readily applicable and a monitoring scheme feasible in less developed countries? |
| Continuity of the data collection scheme | What is the long-term continuity of the data collection scheme? |

5.2 Methods

Firstly, we used Google Scholar (which indexes a wide range of science and policy oriented material) to look at papers that referenced Newson *et al.* (2009). We assessed the relevance of these references based on their title and abstract.

Secondly, we carried out a Google Scholar search for papers after 2009 using the search terms "climate change impacts indicator species" and "climate change indicator adaptation"; and with "climate indicator" in the title. In these searches we identified particularly relevant references. We also followed relevant references in these papers and did specific searches where gaps were identified.

5.3 Results

Eighty-eight papers reference Newson *et al.* (2009), although only fourteen papers were relevant to indicating climate change impacts on migratory species. We identified 39 other papers about indicators of climate change impacts on biodiversity relevant to migratory species.

Twelve of the papers examined multi-species indicators, which generally averaged population trends comprehensively across a taxonomic group of species (Table 6). Nine

papers used similar data, but investigated community-level change by comparing the trends of cold-adapted and warm-adapted species. Eleven papers examined phenological changes although the link to climate change indicators was often weak (Table 6).

The papers most commonly focussed on birds, with papers examining bat and fish indicators also common (Table 6). The papers relating to bat indicators highlighted recent technological advances in biodiversity monitoring, reviewed by Stephenson (2020), which will improve our ability to develop climate change indicators, especially in regions where traditional biodiversity monitoring is challenging. There were also recent papers that discussed the possibility and urgency of developing indicators of climate change adaptation (Morecroft *et al.* 2019; Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2022).

Table 6. Papers relevant to climate change indicators found in our literature search, divided by the type of indicator they were related to, and the taxonomic group examined.

| Indicator type | Birds | Terrestrial mammals | Bats | Marine mammals | Fish & Sharks | Reptiles | Insects | General review |
|--|--|---------------------------------|--|--|---|--------------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| Behavioural change | Wilcox <i>et al</i> . 2018 | | | Wilcox <i>et</i> <i>al</i> . 2018 | | | | |
| Phenological change | Dolenec 2013; Farnsworth <i>et al.</i> 2016; Thackeray <i>et al.</i> 2016; Franks <i>et al.</i> 2018 | Thackeray <i>et al.</i> 2016 | Stepanian & Wainwright 2018; Haest <i>et al.</i> 2021 | Cherry <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2013; Thackeray <i>et al.</i> 2016 | Peer & Miller 2012; Thackeray <i>et al.</i> 2016; Langan <i>et al.</i> 2021 | Mazaris <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2009 | Thackeray <i>et al.</i> 2016 | Anderson <i>et al.</i> 2013 (marine) |
| Single-species (or small selection of species) population metrics | Trivelpiece <i>et al.</i> 2011; Cook <i>et al.</i> 2014; Zmarz <i>et al.</i> 2015 | Shilla 2014 | | McClatchie <i>et al.</i> 2016; Hanzen <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2019 | Hanzen <i>et al.</i> 2019 | | | Hanzen <i>et al.</i> 2019 (marine top predators) |

| Multi-species (comprehensive across taxonomic group) population metrics | Eglington & Pearce- Higgins 2012; Renwick <i>et al.</i> 2012; Martay <i>et al.</i> 2017; Fraixedas <i>et al.</i> 2020 | Martay <i>et</i> <i>al</i> . 2017 | Jones <i>et al.</i> 2013; Border <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2017; Martay <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2017 | Nash <i>et al.</i> 2016a & 2016b | Martay <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2017; Newson <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2017 | Parmesan <i>et al.</i> 2013; Oliver & Morecroft 2014; Korner- Nievergelt <i>et al.</i> 2022 |
|--|--|--------------------------------------|---|-------------------------------------|---|--|
| Community Temperature Index and other community-level indicators of climate change impacts. | Devictor <i>et al.</i> 2008; Gregory <i>et al.</i> 2009; Clavero <i>et al.</i> 2011; Devictor 2012; Pearce-Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2015; Pérez- Granados & Traba 2021 | | Tuneu- Corral <i>et al.</i> 2020 | Bowler & Böhning- Gaese 2017 | Devictor 2012; Martay <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2016 | |
| Indicators of climate change adaptation | | | | | | Morecroft <i>et al.</i> 2019; Prober <i>et al.</i> 2019; Bowgen <i>et al.</i> 2022; Pearce- Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2022 |

5.4 Discussion

Newson *et al.* (2009) identified a range of indicators of climate change impacts on migratory species, generally using population-level metrics, such as abundance and reproductive success. Since that review, there have been a range of developments, both technologically and statistically, that will improve our ability to monitor climate change impacts on biodiversity. The key changes since 2009 are the development of climate-related community metrics and large technological advances, and reduction in cost, for (automated) biodiversity monitoring (Stephenson 2020), although these will not be applicable to all systems. Most recently, the development of indicators of climate change adaptations (i.e. human interventions to facilitate climate change adaptation) has been identified as an urgent priority (Morecroft *et al.* 2019; Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2022). Examples of climate change adaptation actions include habitat restoration, site management and invasive species control (Bowgen *et al.* 2022).

We identified seven types of indicators, from metrics on organisms (e.g. behavioural aspects and phenology of biological events), populations (e.g. trends in abundance or recruitment of species or a group of species) to community-level metrics (e.g. ratio of cold-adapted species to warm-adapted species), and indicators of climate change adaptation (Table 7). We assessed the indicators identified in the review, using a simplified framework set out by Newson *et al.* (2009), to assess the extent to which they are:

- (a) **Usable** (clear aims (Landres *et al.* 1988), easy to understand and communicate, and with policy relevance),
- (b) Useful (specific, sensitive and responsive to climate change), and
- (c) **Available** (good quality data, available, widely applicable, at a reasonable cost and with available or potential long-term monitoring.

| Indicator | (a) Usability | (b) Usefulness | (c) Availability |
|--|---|---|---|
| | Easy to communicate and with policy relevance | Specific, sensitive and timely indication of climate change impacts | Widely available, good quality, preferably long-term data |
| Foraging time of Australian seabirds and pinnipeds (Wilcox <i>et al.</i> 2018). | Used to indicate climate change impacts. Foraging time is likely to be associated with long-term changes in population size. This indicator may lack policy relevance and be hard to communicate unless the link between foraging times and population sizes is confirmed. Applicability to other taxonomic groups was not assessed but likely to | Foraging time is sensitive to climate change and is more responsive to climate change than diet, body mass, breeding phenology, breeding success and population size. Specificity was not assessed . | Monitoring foraging time usually involves expensive tracking devices and requires individuals to be caught. This may make long-term monitoring inaccessible for monitoring marine climate-change impacts but useful where tracking projects are carried out. |

Table 7. Recent indicators of climate change impacts and adaptation relevant to migratory species. These were assessed using a simplified framework developed by Newson *et al.* (2009).

| | reflect resources used by other taxa. | | |
|--|--|--|---|
| Phenological changes in breeding and migration across many taxonomic groups (Thackeray <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2016). | Phenological changes are a key signal of the biological impacts of climate change but the link between phenological change and population change is limited (Samplonius <i>et al.</i> 2021). In general, bird species that show greater advances in migration and breeding phenology have more positive population trends (Franks <i>et al.</i> 2018; Koleček <i>et al.</i> 2020). The policy relevance of phenology indicators may therefore be unclear . The aims when using phenological indicators should be clarified. | Phenological changes are generally strongly linked to climate change, although can be linked to other factors such as photoperiod (Anderson <i>et al.</i> 2013) (variable specificity). Short- term changes can often be linked to weather (good responsivity) but phenological change is very variable between species (Thackeray <i>et al.</i> 2016) (variable sensitivity) and may not reflect wider population changes. | Weather surveillance radars have been used to monitor bat and bird migration phenology (Farnsworth <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> 2016; Haest <i>et al.</i> 2021). Citizen science schemes are often used to monitor bird and butterfly phenology (Thackeray <i>et al.</i> 2016; Franks <i>et al.</i> 2018). Professional schemes such as light-trap monitoring and suction traps have been used to monitor insect phenology (Thackeray <i>et al.</i> 2016). |
| Population trends of Hippo, Waterbuck, Wildebeest & African Elephant (Shilla 2014) | Used to indicate climate change impacts. These species are charismatic species and important for ecosystem services, which would give them high public interest. However, it is unclear how much trends reflect climate change impacts and how applicable these indicators are to other species. | Species that were considered to be sensitive to climate change were selected. However, population trends of these species will be heavily impacted by other environmental changes, indicating very low specificity . | The availability of data was not discussed. Long-term monitoring of these species is currently carried out in some locations. |
| Marine top predators The use of metrics relating to marine top predators to indicate climate and other changes are reviewed by Hanzen <i>et al.</i> | Monitoring top predators is likely to reflect broader ecosystem health and can help guide conservation efforts (Hanzen <i>et al.</i> 2019). | Species that are sensitive and responsive to climate change impacts should be selected. Predators with a specialised diet, or those with highly restricted ranges, are likely to be more sensitive to | Many marine predators are relatively easy to observe compared to other marine species, which aids monitoring. However, monitoring marine predators can be expensive. Technological advances, such as improvements in |

| (2019). Examples include California Sea Lion juvenile mortality (McClatchie <i>et al.</i> 2016), and seabird breeding success (Cook <i>et al.</i> 2014). | Charismatic species such as Polar Bear may help to capture public attention. | ecosystem change, e.g. Antarctic penguins are sensitive to environmentally mediated changes in the abundance or distribution of krill (<i>Euphausia superba</i>) (Trivelpiece <i>et al.</i> 2011; Hanzen <i>et al.</i> 2019). Indicators based on reproductive success are often more responsive to environmental change than those based on abundance changes in long-lived predators (Cook <i>et al.</i> 2014). | automated sampling, are likely to improve the accessibility of these indicators in the future (Hanzen <i>et al.</i> 2019). An example of remote sampling includes using Unmanned Aerial Vehicles to monitor penguin populations (Zmarz <i>et al.</i> 2015). |
|---|--|--|--|
| Marine fish biomass (Nash <i>et al.</i> 2016a & 2016b) | Used to indicate impact of fisheries. If changes in fishery activity was accounted for this could be used to indicate climate change impacts. Applicability to other taxonomic groups has not been assessed. | The indicator was found to be influenced by habitat so habitat should be accounted for to improve specificity. More research would be required to test the sensitivity and responsiveness, after accounting for fishery activity. | Fish biomass monitoring is commonly undertaken so research into using currently available data in conjunction with data on fishery activity could be a cost-effective method to develop a marine climate change indicator. |
| Multi-species population metrics Averaged population trends across a group of species. These will respond to a variety of environmental factors, so modelling must be carried out to estimate climate-driven population changes (Fraixedas <i>et al.</i> 2020). For example, the climate change impacts on birds, mammals and insect groups were modelled in Martay <i>et al.</i> (2017). | These can be clear and easy to communicate if the climate change impacts on populations can be disentangled from other environmental changes. This approach can also be used to compare the relative impact of climate and other changes, which has high policy relevance . An example is the finding that climate change has had a relatively minor impact on UK bird populations compared to changes in | It can be very challenging to attribute population trends to climate change (Parmesan <i>et al.</i> 2013; Fraixedas <i>et al.</i> 2020). The mechanisms of climate change impacts and the interaction between climate and land-use change are poorly understood (Oliver & Morecroft 2014). Additionally, species' responses to increasingly frequent extreme events can be difficult to predict. It is therefore important to carry out modelling work to ensure that these indicators are specific, sensitive and | Typically, these indicators require long-term, large- scale monitoring of a group of species to develop these indicators, restricting their use to better-monitored regions and taxa . The robustness of indicators are improved by the inclusion of rare species (as these may be at the edge of their range), which requires more extensive monitoring (Renwick <i>et al.</i> 2012; Korner-Nievergelt <i>et al.</i> 2022). |

| | land-use intensity (Eglington & Pearce- Higgins 2012). | responsive to climate change. | |
|--|--|--|--|
| Community Temperature Index (Devictor <i>et al.</i> 2008) and other community-level indicators of climate change impacts. | Since 2009, there has been increasing use of robust community-level indicators (Morecroft <i>et al.</i> 2019). They can be used to highlight regions and habitats where climate change impacts are | These indicators have been found to be more responsive, sensitive and specific to climate change than multi-species population metrics (Devictor <i>et al.</i> 2008; Pearce-Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2015; Martay <i>et al.</i> 2016). | Typically, these indicators require long-term, large- scale monitoring of a group of species to develop these indicators, restricting their use to better-monitored regions and taxa . |
| These compare population trends of cold-adapted and warm-adapted species within a group of species. Climate change impacts are indicated by a rise in warm-adapted species relative to cold-adapted species. | greatest (Pearce-Higgins et al. 2015). A disadvantage of these compared to averaged multi-species indices is that they are less intuitive and more difficult to communicate than simple population trends or biodiversity measures: they indicate climate-driven changes in | However, these indicators can be influenced by other environmental factors (Clavero <i>et al.</i> 2011; Pearce- Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2015). The specificity of these indicators can be improved by taking species' responses to other factors, such as habitat into account (Bowler & Böhning-Gaese 2017). These indicators may lack | Data for these indicators are often collected using citizen science projects (e.g. the UK's Breeding Bird Survey, Pearce-Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2015), but professional data collection is sometimes required (e.g. Martay <i>et al.</i> 2016). |
| Community-level indicators of climate change indicators have been used in European countries for birds (Devictor <i>et</i> | climate-driven changes in species assemblages, but not whether species or biodiversity are generally declining. Indicators based on bat communities have been identified as having high policy relevance as bats | sensitivity if research is not conducted to identify which aspects of weather species respond to (Martay <i>et al.</i> 2016). It is important to note that climate change indicators can change in effectiveness over | There have been recent advances and reductions in cost in acoustic monitoring of bats using passive monitors that can be left in the field, and software to identify species from their calls, with little expert input |

| al. 2008; Gregory et al. 2009), butterflies (Devictor 2012), moths (Martay et al. 2016), marine fish (Bowler & Böhning- Gaese 2017) and bats (Tuneu-Corral et al. 2020). | often indicate invertebrate abundance, provide a range of ecosystem services such as pollination, and correlate with responses of other taxa (Jones <i>et al.</i> 2009; Tuneu-Corral <i>et al.</i> 2020). However, it should be noted that bats generally undertake shorter migrations than migratory birds, so indicators based on bat community metrics will not represent all of the climate change that many migratory birds experience across their cross-continental migration routes. | time, and short-term impacts can differ from long-term impacts, so a dynamic assessment of indicators and modifications is important (Morecroft <i>et al.</i> 2019; Pearce-Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2022). | required (Jones <i>et al.</i> 2013). Passive acoustic monitoring of bats can be combined with citizen science to maximise the scale and extent of monitoring possible (Border <i>et al.</i> 2017). This makes bats a good candidate group for indicating climate change impacts on terrestrial biodiversity, especially in regions where large-scale monitoring of other taxonomic groups is challenging. Acoustic monitoring may be applicable to other taxa in the future such as birds and insects (Newson <i>et al.</i> 2017; Pérez-Granados & Traba 2021). |
|---|---|--|--|
| Indicators of climate change adaptation Indicators can be PROCESS-BASED measures of: Input (e.g. resources available), Activity (e.g. area of land managed), and Output (e.g. condition of the managed habitat) or they can be RESULTS-BASED | The IPCC (2022) states that although many adaptation plans and strategies have been developed to protect ecosystems and biodiversity, there is limited evidence of the extent to which adaptation is taking place and very limited evaluation of the effectiveness of adaptation measures in the scientific literature (Bowgen <i>et al.</i> 2022). Two recent papers have identified the urgent need to identify and test outcome-based | There are conceptual challenges : what is climate change adaptation and what does success look like (Pearce-Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2022). In some cases adaptation may seek to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on species and ecosystems, whilst in others it may be used to facilitate desirable climate-driven change (Prober <i>et al.</i> 2019; Pearce-Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2022). There are also analytical challenges : firstly, it can be challenging to attribute observed ecological changes in the absence of adaptation to climate change; secondly, | There are practical challenges : indicators of climate change adaptation generally require large-scale or long-term data, and it can be unclear how to measure success in short-term vs a long-term target (Pearce- Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2022). |

| measures of: Outcomes (e.g. the persistence of climate-threatened species within protected areas compared to outside these areas), and | indicators of climate change adaptation, to allow effectiveness of adaptive measures and outcomes to be assessed (Morecroft <i>et al.</i> 2019). | it can be challenging to attribute observed responses to adaptation interventions (Pearce-Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2022). | |
|---|---|---|--|
| Impact (e.g. change in species extinction risk) (Pearce-Higgins <i>et al.</i> 2022). | | | |

5.5 Migratory indicators of climate change

To monitor the impacts of climate change on migratory species, it is important to develop indicators that are useful for policy decisions, indicative of climate change across a wide range of migratory species and relatively simple and cost-effective to monitor. Different groups of migratory species will have very different migration routes and be sensitive to a wide variety of climatic changes. It is therefore recommended that a suite of indicators be selected to encompass as much of that variation as possible.

5.5.1 Indicators of marine climate change impacts

Marine climate change impacts have been indicated using fish biomass, predator foraging times, population metrics of top predators, migration phenology and community-temperature index (Cherry *et al.* 2013; Nash *et al.* 2016b; Bowler & Böhning-Gaese 2017; Wilcox *et al.* 2018; Hanzen *et al.* 2019; Langan *et al.* 2021). These indicators use a wide range of methods such as surveys carried out by boat, tracking devices and unmanned aerial vehicles, which vary in cost and practicality. Other marine climate change indicators may become feasible with technological advances in, and reduction in cost of, methods such as environmental DNA and satellite-based remote sensing (Stephenson 2020). Current examples include using eDNA of marine species to indicate the impacts of oil extraction and the effectiveness of marine reserves (Lanzen *et al.* 2021; Sanchez *et al.* 2022). Remote sensing has been used to create indicators of primary productivity (Kulk *et al.* 2020), which will impact migratory marine species. Further research to compare these indicators, taking into account regional differences in species, resources and current monitoring would allow the most appropriate indicators to be identified for use.

5.5.2 Indicators of terrestrial climate change impacts

Over the past fifteen years there has been increasing use of community-level metrics in terrestrial species to indicate climate change impacts on biodiversity (e.g. the Community Temperature Index, Devictor *et al.* 2008). These have generally relied upon using spatial associations between species' distribution and climate to indicate climate change responses from temporal changes in species' distributions, populations or communities. As an

alternative, analyses of temporal changes in species' populations can be used to separate species into their likely responses to climate change, and to track change (e.g. Martay *et al.* 2016). Multi-species indicators, which use modelling to attribute average population change across a taxonomic group to climate, are also commonly used. Modelling can be very challenging, making multi-species indicators likely to be less specific to climate change than community-level metrics. However, with both types of indicator, efforts should be made to understand the impact of other environmental factors on these indicators (Bowler & Böhning-Gaese 2017), to ensure specificity to climate change.

Community metrics of change can be difficult to interpret. Whilst indicators based on overall changes in the abundance of particular species groups (e.g. Eglington & Pearce-Higgins 2012; Martay et al. 2017), are most likely to indicate positive or negative responses in overall species abundance, other measures of change such as the community temperature index may be caused either by increases in the abundance of one group of species, or declines in another (e.g. Oliver et al. 2017). The production of indicators generally requires large-scale and long-term monitoring of all species within a taxonomic group. This has traditionally restricted use to well-monitored groups such as birds and butterflies, and to regions with long-term monitoring schemes (Devictor et al. 2008), with a range of challenges elsewhere (e.g. Stephenson et al. 2017). As approaches to monitoring develop and extend, for example through the expansion of citizen science approaches globally (e.g. Sullivan et al. 2014), or through the use of new technologies, then our ability to track the impacts of climate change and summarise those impacts through indicators, will also expand. For example, the technological advances and reduction in costs of passive acoustic bat monitoring, makes community-level indicators of climate change impacts on bats much more accessible (Tuneu-Corral et al. 2020). This technology may become useful for monitoring bird and insect populations in the near future (Newson et al. 2017; Pérez-Granados & Traba 2021).

5.5.3 Indicators of climate change adaptation

There is an increasing need for climate change adaptation measures, either to reduce the negative impacts of climate change on species and ecosystems, or to facilitate desirable climate-driven change (Morecroft *et al.* 2019; Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2022). Currently, monitoring of climate change adaptation is very limited. Indicators can be process-based measures, for example monitoring the resources available for adaptation projects, or monitoring the area of land managed for adaptation; or they can be results-based measures, for example, the persistence of climate-sensitive species within protected areas (Pearce-Higgins *et al.* 2022).

6. Conclusions and future recommendations

This review has identified a range of examples of recent indicators of climate change impacts and adaptation, and discussed the benefits and limitations of these indicators. To determine what indicators would be most appropriate for monitoring the climate change impacts on CMS species, further work is required to determine the following:

- The aims and policy relevance for CMS climate change indicators should be clearly defined. Key audiences and where to publish the indicators should be identified.
- The breadth of these indicators should be considered. Should they be regional or global? What suite of indicators would be required to indicate climate change impacts broadly across all CMS species, or would indicators be taxon specific?
- How can effective climate change adaptation be indicated given uncertainty over the goals of adaptation and the variable timescales of climate change impacts, all of which will vary with context, including across migratory cycles?

- What modelling would be appropriate to test the specificity, sensitivity and responsiveness of these indicators? What data would be best to enable that modelling?
- What data are available to create these indicators? Is this data available globally? What methods of data collection could be used where there isn't appropriate data currently? What funding and support could be provided to fill gaps in data collection?

A workshop to bring together policy experts and scientists would aid these discussions and allow clear and specific recommendations to be developed.

For the review of conservation interventions of migratory species, the relatively small number of articles found in the literature was, to some extent, surprising, given the increasing volume of climate change research in recent decades (Part 1). Indeed, the library was substantially larger when only one or two of the three selection criteria were applied (e.g. 'intervention and climate change' or 'intervention'). We also found a potential mismatch between the response traits considered in studies (e.g. reproductive output or sex determination), and the most commonly reported responses of migratory species to climate change. For example, a key impact of climate change is the altered *timing* of migration, and mismatches in trophic interactions that come about, when interacting species within an ecosystem adapt at different rates (Bradshaw & Holzapfel, 2006; Thackeray et al. 2016). We found only four studies that addressed the altered timing of migrations, however, on freshwater fish (Garcia-Vega et al. 2018; Steel et al. 2019; van Leeuwen et al. 2016) and Saiga Antelope (Khanyari et al. 2022), although this could reflect a relatively weak evidence base in support of mismatch driving population declines in migratory species (Samplonius et al. 2021). Further searches, with relaxed filtering rules and a broader set of search terms, would expand the database and provide greater insight.

Many conservation actions applied to resident species could also be applied to migrants, and the inclusion of these studies would further expand our results, again, providing additional insight. For example, we found at least two articles documenting successful conservation strategies on closely related non-migrant species (subspecies or congenerics) to those on the CMS list, including food provisioning and predator control of San-Clementine Loggerhead shrikes (Lanius Iudovicianus mearnsi, Heath et al. 2008), and the translocation of Hawaiian monk seals (Neomonachus schauinslandi, Baker et al. 2011). Further, ecologists on the Chatham Islands have successfully restored dune habitat by replacing invasive plants with native species, providing nest sites for the resident Chatham Island Oystercatcher (Haematopus chathamensis). To complement this habitat modification, volunteers routinely moved nests from the shoreline up into the dunes, to avoid flooding from storm surges. These relatively simple interventions led to a doubling of the population's size within six years (Moore et al. 2004; 2005), and could equally be applied to migratory shorebirds on the CMS list. Given strong evidence that targeted interventions for particular species have a strong likelihood of success in helping species adapt to climate change (Bowgen et al. 2022), understanding the impacts of climate change on migratory species as a precursor to devising effective interventions will be a high priority for those seeking to conserve the most threatened species. Wider measures to restore ecosystems and protected habitats, for example through large-scale protected area networks, are likely to benefit relatively large-numbers of species reliant on those systems, habitats and networks (Bowgen et al. 2022).

Despite these principles, we could still identify some knowledge gaps that could be addressed with further research, and would align with recommendations of the IPCC (2022) on the need to monitor and evaluate adaptation interventions as they are put in place. For example, whilst there are many studies documenting the impacts of climate change on Polar Bears (Part 1, Peacock 2011), no articles describing an actual management intervention were found. Tangible conservation interventions on fish, bats and long distance terrestrial

migrants on the CMS list also appear to be missing, given the number of recent review articles documenting the impacts of climate change on these taxa (primates: Bernard & Marshall 2020; ungulates: Berger *et al.* 2004; fish: Tamario *et al.* 2019, Waldman & Quinn 2022; bats: Frick *et al.* 2022). The broader review on climate change adaptation interventions identified that birds are relatively well-studied, but had a terrestrial and freshwater focus and failed to identify studies on fish and other marine species (Bowgen *et al.* 2022). These mismatches indicate that, although the need for climate-related interventions is recognised, barriers remain when it comes to putting conservation plans into action.

7. References

NB: * = paper identified in the main review process of conservation review (section 2). ** = paper identified from literature reviews of conservation review (section 2). *** = papers identified in the indicator review (section 5)

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8. Supplementary Materials

8.1 Summary of review articles

A summary of review articles cited within Part 2, with focal taxonomic group or habitat, and the broad topic (along with the review title) are listed. Thirteen articles were found from eight reviews, these are also listed.

| Review | Taxa or habitat | Торіс | Title | References extracted for literature search |
|----------------------------------|--|--|---|---|
| Bezanson and McNamara (2019) | Primates | Conservation and management of species | The what and where of primate field research may be failing primate conservation | |
| Berger (2004) | Terrestrial mammals | Conservation and management of species | The last mile: How to sustain long-distance migration in mammals | |
| Bernard and Marshall (2020) | Primates | Climate change | Assessing the state of knowledge of contemporary climate change and primates | Thorne <i>et al.</i> (2013) |
| Bower <i>et al.</i> (2015) | Freshwater fish | Protected areas | Is there a role for freshwater protected areas in the conservation of migratory fish? | |
| Bowgen <i>et al.</i> (2022) | Terrestrial, coastal and aquatic systems | Conservation and climate change | Conservation interventions benefit species impacted by climate change | |
| diSciara <i>et al.</i> (2016) | Marine mammals | Conservation approaches to marine ecosystems | Marine migrants | |
| Foden <i>et al.</i> 2019 | | Vulnerability to climate change | Assessing vulnerability of species to climate change | Forrest <i>et al.</i> (2012) |
| Frick <i>et al</i> . (2020) | Bats | Conservation and management | Major threats to global bat conservation | Flaquer <i>et al</i> . (2006) |
| Groves <i>et al.</i> (2012) | All species | Conservation and climate change | Incorporating climate change into systematic conservation | Grantham <i>et al.</i> (2010) |

| | | | planning | |
|--|--|------------------------------------|--|---|
| Hvenegaard (2011) | Migratory species (primarily birds in North America) | Wildlife festivals | Potential benefits of wildlife festivals | |
| Maxwell <i>et al</i> . (2020) | | Dynamic conservation | Mobile protected areas for biodiversity on the high seas | |
| Patricio <i>et al</i> . (2021) | Marine Turtles | Conservation and climate change | Climate change and marine turtles: Recent advances and future directions | Katsedelis <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> (2014); Hill <i>et al.</i> (2015); Jourdan and Fuentes (2015); Patrinio- Marinez <i>et al.</i> (2014); Wood <i>et al.</i> (2014) |
| Peacock <i>et al.</i> (2011) | Polar Bears | Conservation and management | Conservation and management of Canada's polar bears (<i>Ursus</i> <i>maritimus</i>) in a changing Arctic | |
| Pearce-Higgins <i>et</i> <i>al</i> . (2022) | All species | Climate change and indicators | A framework for climate change adaptation indicators for the natural environment | |
| Ranius <i>et al.</i> (2023) | | Climate change and protected areas | Protected area designation and management in a world of climate change: a review of recommendations | |
| Robinson <i>et al.</i> (2009) | | Climate change and migration | Travelling through a warming world: climate change and migratory species | Thirgood (2004) |
| Runge <i>et al.</i> (2015) | Migratory species | Dynamic conservation | Conserving mobile species | |
| Tamario <i>et al.</i> (2019) | | Management and climate change | Ecological and Evolutionary Consequences of Environmental Change and Management Actions for Migrating Fish | van Leeuwen <i>et al</i> . (2016) |

| Waldman and Quinn (2022) | Freshwater fish | Management and climate change | North American diadromous fishes: Drivers of decline and potential recovery in the Anthropocene | |
|--|--|----------------------------------|---|---|
| Watchorn <i>et al.</i> (2022) | Various (including insects, birds, bats, coral,reptiles) | Artificial habitat structures | Artificial habitat structures for animal conservation: design and implementation, risks and opportunities | Esteban <i>et al.</i> (2018); Catry <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> (2011) |
| Wilkes <i>et al.</i> (2019) | Freshwater fish | Management and climate change | Not just a migration problem: Meta-populations, habitat shifts, and gene flow are alco important for fishway science and management | |
| Wikramayake <i>et</i> <i>al.</i> (2020) | Coastal habitat | Management and climate change | A climate adaptation strategy for Mai Po Inner Deep Bay Ramsar site: Steppingstone to climate proofing the East Asian-Australasian Flyway | |

7.2 Species names

List of species considered in articles within the literature review. Species marked with * are migratory, but not CMS-listed. Where species are included in the CMS appendices (App's) I or II (or both), and the instruments for conservation are also provided. Note that, where studies considered more than 25 species, or grouped species into assemblages, individual species are not listed (Nagy *et al.* 2022; Breiner *et al.* 2022; Gaget et al. 2022; Pavón-Jordán *et al.* 2020).

| Common Name | Scientific Name | Appendices | Instruments |
|---------------------|------------------------|------------|--|
| Insects | | | |
| Monarch | Danaus plexippus | | CMS |
| Fish | | | |
| Brown Trout* | Salmo trutta | | |
| European Grayling* | Thymalluys thymallus | | |
| Green Sturgeon | Acipenser medirostris | | CMS |
| Reptiles | | | |
| Hawksbill Turtle | Eretmochelys imbricata | 1&11 | CMS, IOSEA Marine Turtles, Atlantic Turtles |
| Green Turtle | Chelonia mydas | 1 | CMS, IOSEA Marine Turtles, Atlantic Turtles |
| Leatherback Turtle | Dermochelys coriacea | 1&11 | CMS, IOSEA Marine Turtles, Atlantic Turtles |
| Loggerhead Turtle | Caretta caretta | | CMS, IOSEA Marine Turtles, Atlantic Turtles |
| Olive Ridley Turtle | Lepidochelys olivacea | | CMS, IOSEA Marine Turtles, Atlantic Turtles |
| | | | |

| Aves: Waterbirds | | | |
|--------------------------------|--------------------|------|-----------|
| Bald Ibis | | | |
| (Waldrapp, Hermit Ibis) | Geronticus eremita | 1&11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Barnacle Goose | Branta leucopsis | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Bewick's Swan | Cygnus columbianus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Black-tailed Godwit | Limosa limosa | | CMS, AEWA |
| Black-throated Diver | Gavia arctica | | CMS, AEWA |
| Brent Goose | Branta bernicla | | CMS, AEWA |
| Common Coot | Fulica atra atra | | CMS, AEWA |
| Common Goldeneye | Bucephala clangula | | CMS, AEWA |
| Common Pochard | Aythya ferina | | CMS, AEWA |
| Common Teal | Anas crecca | | CMS, AEWA |
| Common Scoter | Melanitta nigra | | CMS, AEWA |
| Dunlin | Calidris alpina | | CMS, AEWA |
| Eurasian Wigeon | Anas penelope | | CMS, AEWA |
| Gadwall | Anas strepera | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Goosander | Mergus merganser | | CMS, AEWA |
| Greater White-Fronted Goose | Anser albifrons | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Greylag Goose | Anser anser | | CMS, AEWA |
| Mallard | Anas platyrhynchos | | CMS, AEWA |
| Mute Swan | Cygnus olor | | CMS, AEWA |
| Northern Lapwing | Vanellus vanellus | | CMS, AEWA |
| Northern Pintail | Anas acuta | | CMS, AEWA |
| Northern Shoveler | Anas clypeata | 11 | CMS, AEWA |

| Piping Plover* | Charadrius melodus | | |
|------------------------|-------------------------|------|---------------------------------|
| Red-Breasted Merganser | Mergus serrator | | CMS, AEWA |
| Red-Crested Pochard | Netta rufina | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Red-crowned Crane | Grus japonensis | l | CMS |
| Red-throated Diver | Gavia stellata | | |
| Slavonian Grebe | Podiceps auritus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Snowy/Kentish Plover | Charadrius alexandrinus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Smew | Mergellus albellus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Stone curlew | Burhinus oedicnemus | | CMS |
| Tufted Duck | Aythya fuligula | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Whooper Swan | Cygnus cygnus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Redshank | Tringa totanus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Aves: Seabirds | | | |
| Black-footed Albatross | Phoebastria nigripes | | CMS, ACAP |
| Common Tern | Sterna hirundo hirundo | | CMS, AEWA |
| Laysan Albatross | Phoebastria immutabilis | | CMS, ACAP |
| Least Tern* | Sternula antillarum | | |
| Magellanic Penguin | Spheniscus magellanicus | | |
| Aves: Raptors | | | |
| Lesser Kestrel | Falco naumanni | 1&11 | Birds of Prey (Raptors), CMS |
| Hen Harrier | Circus cyaneus | 1 | CMS, Birds of Prey (Raptors) |

| Pipistrellus pygmaeus | 11 | CMS, EUROBATS |
|------------------------------|---|--|
| Rhinolophus ferrumequinum | 11 | CMS, EUROBATS |
| | | |
| Stenella frontalis | | Western African Aquatic Mammals |
| Mesoplodon densirostris | | ASCOBANS (1994), ACCOBAMS (2001), Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| | | ASCOBANS, Western African |
| Tursiops truncatus | 1&11 | Aquatic Mammals, CMS, ACCOBAMS |
| Balaenoptera edeni | 11 | CMS, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Zalophus californianus | | |
| Delphinus delphis | 1&11 | CMS, ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Ziphius cavirostris | | ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans, CMS |
| | Rhinolophus ferrumequinum Stenella frontalis Stenella frontalis Mesoplodon densirostris Mesoplodon densirostris Balaenoptera edeni Zalophus californianus Delphinus delphis | Rhinolophus ferrumequinum II Stenella frontalis II Stenella frontalis III Mesoplodon densirostris III Tursiops truncatus IIII Balaenoptera edeni II Zalophus californianus III Delphinus delphis I&II |

| Dwarf Sperm Whale | Kogia sima | | ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
|----------------------------|------------------------|------|---|
| False Killer Whale | Pseudorca crassidens | | ACCOBAMS, ASCOBANS, Pacific Islands Cetaceans, Western African Aquatic Mammals |
| | | | ACCOBAMS, CMS, Pacific |
| Fin Whale | Balaenoptera physalus | 1&11 | Islands Cetaceans |
| Gervais' Beaked Whale | Mesoplodon europaeus | | ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic Mammals |
| | | | CMS, ACCOBAMS, Pacific |
| Humpback Whale | Megaptera novaeangliae | I | Islands Cetaceans |
| | | | CMS, ACCOBAMS, ASCOBANS, Western African |
| | | | Aquatic Mammals, |
| Killer Whale | Orcinus orca | П | Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| North Atlantic Right Whale | Eubalaena glacialis | 1 | CMS, ACCOBAMS |
| Polar Bear | Ursus maritimus | 11 | CMS |
| Risso's Dolphin | Grampus griseus | 11 | CMS, ACCOBAMS, ASCOBANS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| | | | ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic |
| Rough-Toothed Dolphin | Steno bredanensis | | Mammals, Pacific |

| | | | Islands Cetaceans |
|--------------------------|-------------------------------|------|---|
| Sei Whale | Balaenoptera borealis | 1&11 | CMS, ACCOBAMS, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Short-Finned Pilot Whale | Globicephala macrorhynchus | | ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| | | | CMS, ACCOBAMS, Pacific |
| Sperm Whale | Physeter macrocephalus | 1&11 | Islands Cetaceans |
| Striped Dolphin | Stenella coeruleoalba | 11 | CMS, ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Terrestrial Mammals | | | |
| Asian Elephant | Elephas maximus | | CMS |
| Caribou* | Rangifer tarandus | | |
| Chimpanzee | Pan troglodytes | 1&11 | CMS |
| Eastern Gorilla | Gorilla beringei | 1 | CMS, Gorilla Agreement |
| Elk (Wyoming, USA)* | Cervus canadensis | | |
| | Ursus arctos | | |
| Gobi Bear | gobiensis/isabellinus | I | CMS |
| | | | CMS, Central Asian |
| Goitered Gazelle | Gazella subgutturosa | 11 | Mammals Initiative |
| Kiang | Equus kiang | 11 | CMS, Central Asian Mammals Initiative |

| Saiga Antelope | Saiga tatarica | 11 | Central Asian Mammals Initiative, Saiga Antelope |
|----------------------|-----------------------|------|--|
| Scimitar-Horned Oryx | Oryx dammah | 1&11 | CMS, Sahelo-Saharan Megafauna |
| Snow Leopard | Uncia uncia | I | CMS, Central Asian Mammals Initiative |
| Tibetan Gazelle | Pantholops hodgsonii | | Central Asian Mammals Initiative |
| Wildebeest* | Connochaetes taurinus | | |

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3 Appendix 1 Species names

| | | Appendices | Instruments |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|------------|-------------|
| Seabirds | | | |
| Adélie Penguin | Pygoscelis adeliae | | |
| African Penguin | Spheniscus demersus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Atlantic Puffin | Fratercula arctica | | |
| Yellow-nosed Albatross | Thalassarche chlororhynchos | 11 | CMS, ACAP |
| Balearic shearwater | Puffinus mauretanicus | I | CMS |
| Blue-footed Booby | Sula nebouxii | | |
| Brünnich's Guillemot | Uria lomvia | | |
| Bulwer's Petrel | Bulweria bulwerii | | |
| Common Tern | Sterna hirundo | II | CMS, AEWA |
| Cory's Shearwater | Calonectris borealis | | |
| Crested Auklet | Aethia cristatella | | |
| Emperor Penguin | Aptenodytes forsteri | | |
| Galápagos Penguin | Spheniscus mendiculus | | |
| Gentoo Penguin | Pygoscelis papua | | |
| Glaucous Gull | Larus hyperboreus | | |
| Great Shearwater | Puffinus gravis | | |
| Herring Gulls | Larus argentatus | | |

| Light-mantled Sooty Albatross | Phoebetria palpebrata | II | CMS, ACAP |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------|------|-----------|
| Little Penguin | Eudyptula minor | | |
| Magellanic Penguin | Spheniscus magellanicus | | |
| Manx Shearwater | Puffinus puffinus | | |
| Pacific Loon | Gavia pacifica | | |
| Parakeet Auklet | Aethia psittacula | | |
| Ringed-billed Gull | Larus delawarensis | | |
| Roseate Tern | Sterna dougallii | II | CMS, AEWA |
| Shag | Gulosus aristotelis | | |
| Snow Petrel | Pagodroma nivea | | |
| Sooty Shearwater | Puffinus griseus | | |
| Southern Fulmar | Fulmarus glacialoides | | |
| Southern Rockhopper Penguin | Eudyptes chrysocome | | |
| | | | |
| Waterbirds | | | |
| American White Pelican | Pelecanus erythrorhynchos | | |
| Barnacle Geese | Branta leucopsis | II | CMS, AEWA |
| Black-Necked Crane | Grus nigricollis | I | CMS |
| Black-tailed Godwit | Limosa limosa | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Dalmatian Pelican | Pelecanus crispus | 1&11 | CMS, AEWA |

| Great Bittern | Botaurus stellaris | II | CMS, AEWA |
|-------------------------|------------------------------------|------|----------------------------|
| Great White Pelican | Pelecanus onocrotalus | 1&11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Greater Flamingo | Phoenicopterus roseus | | |
| Lesser Snow Goose | Anser caerulescens caerulescens | | |
| Northern Lapwing | Vanellus vanellus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Pink-footed Goose | Anser brachyrhynchus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Purple Heron | Ardea purpurea | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Red-crowned Crane | Grus japonensis | I | CMS |
| Redshank | Tringa totanus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Semipalmated Sandpiper | Calidris pusilla | 1 | CMS |
| Slavonian Grebes | Podiceps auritus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Whimbrel | Numenius phaeopus | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| White-headed Duck | Oxyura leucocephala | 1 | CMS, AEWA |
| White Stork | Ciconia ciconia | 11 | CMS, AEWA |
| Whooping Crane | Grus americana | | |
| Raptors | | | |
| Aplomado Falcon | Falco femoralis | | |
| Arctic Peregrine Falcon | Falco peregrinus tundrius | | |
| Eurasian Scops Owl | Otus scops | | Birds of Prey (Raptors) |

| Golden Eagle | Aquila chrysaetos | 11 | CMS, Birds of Prey (Raptors) |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|----|---------------------------------|
| Little Owl | Athene noctua | | |
| Montagu's Harrier | Circus pygargus | 11 | CMS, Birds of Prey (Raptors) |
| Oriental Honey Buzzard | Pernis ptilorhynchus | II | CMS, Birds of Prey (Raptors) |
| Red Kite | Milvus milvus | 11 | CMS, Birds of Prey (Raptors) |
| Snowy Owl | Bubo scandiacus | | Birds of Prey (Raptors) |
| Wedge-tailed Eagle | Aquila audax | | |
| | | | |
| Afro-Palearctic Passerines | | | |
| Alpine Swift | Tachymarptis melba | | |
| Barn Swallow | Hirundo rustica | | |
| Black-throated Blue Warbler | Setophaga caerulescens | | |
| Great Reed Warbler | Acrocephalus arundinaceus | | |
| Reed Warbler | Acrocephalus scirpaceus | | |
| Sand Martin | Riparia riparia | | |
| Sedge Warbler | Acrocephalus schoenobaenus | | |
| Tree swallow | Tachycineta bicolor | | |

| Grassland Passerines | | | |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------------------|------|---|
| Budgerigar | Melopsittacus undulatus | | |
| Carnaby's Black Cockatoo | Zanda latirostris | | |
| Little Bustard | Tetrax tetrax | 1&11 | CMS |
| Red-billed Quelea | Quelea quelea | | |
| Zebra Finch | Taeniopygia castanotis | | |
| | | | |
| Terrestrial Mammals | | | |
| African Elephant | Loxodonta africana | 11 | CMS, 1979: West African Elephants |
| Asian Elephant | Elephas maximus | I | CMS |
| Chimpanzee | Pan troglodytes | 1&11 | CMS |
| Giraffe | Giraffa camelopardalis | 11 | CMS |
| Gobi Bear | Ursus arctos gobiensis/isabellinus | I | CMS |
| Goitered Gazelle | Gazella subgutturosa | 11 | CMS, Central Asian Mammals Initiative |
| Eastern Gorilla | Gorilla beringei | I | CMS, Gorilla Agreement |
| Western Gorilla | Gorilla gorilla | I | CMS, Gorilla Agreement |
| Grevy's Zebra | Equus grevyi | I | CMS |

| Leopard | Panthera pardus | II | CMS, African Carnivores Initiative, Central Asian Mammals Initiative |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------|------|--|
| Lion | Panthera leo | 11 | CMS, African Carnivores Initiative |
| Przewalski's Horse | Equus ferus przewalskii | I | Central Asian Mammals Initiative, CMS |
| Saiga Antelope | Saiga tatarica | 11 | Central Asian Mammals Initiative, Saiga Antelope |
| Wild Dog | Lycaon pictus | 11 | CMS, African Carnivores Initiative |
| | | | |
| Marine Mammals | | | |
| Antarctic Fur Seals | Arctocephalus gazella | | |
| Atlantic White-sided Dolphin | Lagenorhynchus acutus | 11 | CMS, ASCOBANS |
| Beluga | Delphinapterus leucas | II | CMS |
| Blue Whale | Balaenoptera musculus | I | CMS, ACCOBAMS, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Bottlenose Dolphin | Tursiops truncatus | 1&11 | ASCOBANS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, CMS, ACCOBAMS |
| Bowhead Whale | Balaena mysticetus | I | CMS |

| Caspian Seal | Pusa caspica | 1&11 | CMS |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------------|------|---|
| Common Dolphin | Delphinus delphis | 1&11 | CMS, ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Dall's Porpoise | Phocoenoides dalli | II | CMS |
| Dugong | Dugong dugon | II | CMS, Dugong |
| Fin Whale | Balaenoptera physalus | 1&11 | ACCOBAMS, CMS, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Ganges River Dolphin | Platanista gangetica | 1&11 | CMS |
| Grey Seal | Halichoerus grypus | 11 | CMS, Wadden Sea Seals |
| Harbour Porpoise | Phocoena phocoena | 11 | CMS, ASCOBANS, ACCOBAMS, Western African Aquatic Mammals |
| Humpback Whale | Megaptera novaeangliae | 1 | CMS, ACCOBAMS, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Killer Whale | Orcinus orca | II | CMS, ACCOBAMS, ASCOBANS, Western African Aquatic Mammals, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Minke Whale | Balaenoptera acutorostrata | | |
| North Atlantic Right Whale | Eubalaena glacialis | 1 | CMS, ACCOBAMS |

| Northern Fur Seal | Callorhinus ursinus | | |
|-----------------------------|-------------------------------|------|---|
| Polar Bear | Ursus maritimus | 11 | |
| South American Sea Lion | Otaria flavescens | II | CMS |
| Southern Right Whale | Eubalaena australis | 1 | CMS, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Sperm Whale | Physeter macrocephalus | 1&11 | CMS, ACCOBAMS, Pacific Islands Cetaceans |
| Subantarctic Fur Seal | Arctocephalus tropicalis | | |
| White-beaked Dolphin | Lagenorhynchus albirostris | 11 | CMS, ASCOBANS |
| | | | |
| Bats | | | |
| Bechstein's Bat | Myotis bechsteinii | II | CMS, EUROBATS |
| Daubenton's Bat | Myotis daubentonii | II | CMS, EUROBATS |
| Greater Horseshoe Bat | Rhinolophus ferrumequinum | 11 | CMS, EUROBATS |
| Greater Long-nosed Bat | Leptonycteris nivalis | | |
| Indian Flying Fox | Pteropus giganteus | | |
| Kuhl's Pipistrelle Bat | Pipistrellus kuhlii | 11 | CMS, EUROBATS |
| Lesser Horseshoe Bat | Rhinolophus hipposideros | 11 | CMS, EUROBATS |
| Natal Long-fingered Bat | Miniopterus natalensis | 11 | CMS |
| Nathusius's Pipistrelle Bat | Pipistrellus nathusii | II | CMS, EUROBATS |

| Natterer's Bat | Myotis nattereri | II | CMS, EUROBATS |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|------|---|
| Soprano Pipistrelle | Pipistrellus pygmaeus | 11 | CMS, EUROBATS |
| Savi's Pipistrelle Bat | Hypsugo savii | | CMS, EUROBATS |
| Mexican Free-Tailed Bat | Tadarida brasiliensis | 1 | CMS |
| Noctule Bat | Nyctalus noctule | II | CMS, EUROBATS |
| | | | |
| Reptiles | | | |
| Arrau Turtle | Podocnemis expansa | 1&11 | CMS |
| Green Turtle | Chelonia mydas | 1 | CMS, IOSEA Marine Turtles, Atlantic Turtles |
| Loggerhead Turtle | Caretta caretta | 1 | CMS, IOSEA Marine Turtles, Atlantic Turtles |
| Salt-water Crocodile | Crocodylus porosus | II | CMS |
| Migratory Fish | | | |
| Adriatic Sturgeon | Acipenser naccarii | | CMS |
| Beluga Sturgeon | Huso huso | | CMS |
| Chinese Sturgeon | Acipenser sinensis | | CMS |
| European Sturgeon | Acipenser sturio | 1&11 | CMS |
| Green Sturgeon | Acipenser medirostris | | CMS |
| Lake Sturgeon | Acipenser fulvescens | | CMS |

| Russian Sturgeon | Acipenser gueldenstaedtii | II | CMS |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------|------|-------------|
| Siberian Sturgeon | Acipenser baerii | II | CMS |
| | | | |
| Sharks | | | |
| Basking Shark | Cetorhinus maximus | 1&11 | CMS, Sharks |
| Blue Shark | Prionace glauca | II | CMS |
| Dusky Shark | Carcharhinus obscurus | II | CMS, Sharks |
| Manta Ray | Mobula/Manta birostris | 1&11 | CMS, Sharks |
| Scalloped Hammerhead Shark | Sphyrna lewini | 11 | CMS, Sharks |
| Silky Shark | Carcharhinus falciformis | II | CMS, Sharks |
| Smalltooth Sawfish | Pristis pectinata | 1&11 | CMS, Sharks |
| Tope Shark | Galeorhinus galeus | | CMS |
| Whale Shark | Rhincodon typus | 1&11 | CMS, Sharks |
| White Shark | Carcharodon carcharias | 1&11 | CMS, Sharks |