

IUCN WCPA/SSC Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force

2016-2017 Report



Erich Hoyt



Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra

Co-Chairs

Erich Hoyt ⁽¹⁾
Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciarra ⁽²⁾

Location/Affiliation

⁽¹⁾ Whale and Dolphin Conservation,
Park House, Allington Park, Bridport,
Dorset DT6 5DD, UK

⁽²⁾ Tethys Research Institute, Via Benedetto
Marcello 43, 20124 Milano, Italy

Number of members

39

Social networks

Facebook:

<https://www.facebook.com/IUCNMMPATF/>

Twitter:

@mmpatf

Web site:

<https://www.marinemammalhabitat.org>



Mission statement

The goal of the Marine Mammal Protected Areas (MMPA) Task Force is to facilitate mechanisms to encourage collaboration, sharing information and experience to access and disseminate knowledge and tools for establishing, monitoring, and managing MMPAs and promoting effective spatial solutions and best practices for marine mammal conservation.

Main activities by Key Priority Area (2016 & 2017)

Bolster work at national scales

■ Policy advice

i. In November 2017, Task Force Co-Chairs organised a small team to travel to Palau to work with local GOs and NGOs to facilitate the implementation of conservation and management measures to protect the local subpopulation of dugongs (VU on Red List but locally considered CR). (KSR #26)

Conservation action

■ Policy advice

i. Identified Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) are available online on the IMMA e-Atlas. (KSR #26)

Acknowledgements

We thank the following donors and organisations that supported the Task Force activities related to the implementation of the IMMA process: the German Federal Ministry for the Environment, Nature Conservation, Building and Nuclear Safety; the Eulabor Institute; the French Agency for Biodiversity; the MAVA Foundation; and the Global Ocean Biodiversity Initiative.

Targets for the quadrennium 2017-2020

Conservation action

Policy advice: to complete IMMA identification, continuing our series of expert workshops, in the tropical and temperate Indian and South Pacific oceans.

Synergy: to improve streamlining between the IMMA and the KBA process.

Projected impact for the quadrennium 2017-2020

By bringing to the attention of managers, decision makers and the general public the presence and whereabouts of important marine mammal areas, or IMMAs, we are enabling the consideration of marine mammal habitats in decisions concerning marine spatial planning and the planning of human activities at sea that have or can have a negative impact on marine mammal and associated biodiversity status. IMMAs have also been brought to the attention of policy makers, having been the subject of CMS Resolution 12.13, and are being considered as a robust contribution to the CBD EBSA process. Most of this work, however, is still in the early stages given the recent date in which IMMAs have been made public.



Summary of activities (2016-2017)

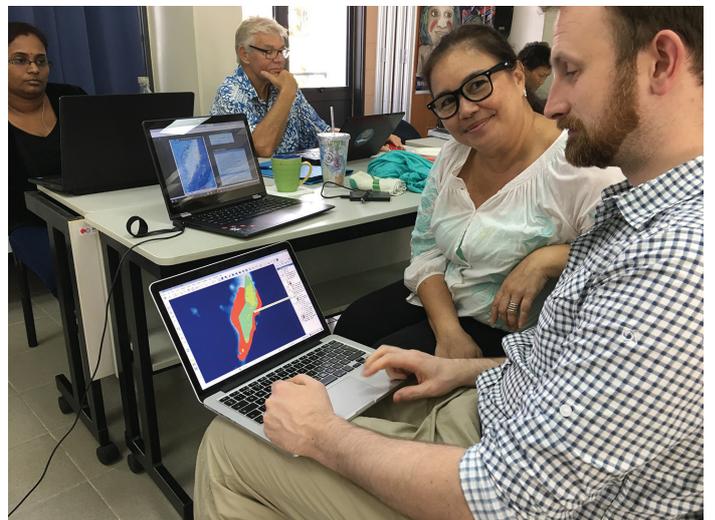
Key Priority Area ratio: 2/7

Key Priority Areas addressed:

- Bolster work at national scales (1 activity)
- Conservation action (1 activity)

Main KSRs addressed: 26

KSR: Key Species Result



2nd IMMA workshop covering the Pacific Islands,
held in Apia, Samoa, March 2017
Photo: Erich Hoyt