

Harbour porpoise abundance indicator

HELCOM BLUES Project Workshop, task 2.4.1

Discussion 27 April 2021



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Workshop aims

- Collate a summary on data availability
- **Conclude on a viable methodology (longer term as well as what can be achieved by HOLAS III)**
- Propose a harmonised (across the regions) approach to assess trends in harbour porpoise abundance.

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- "Proposed OSPAR threshold to be applied and evaluated for the Belt Sea population"
- 15 days 😊
- For decision support: produce a table where pros and cons are listed for different methods, how important the pros and cons are to fulfil or avoid, and additional aspects => rank the methods in order of preference

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Trend method	Pros	Cons	Importance/ comments	Additional aspects	Preferred rank
Linear regression					
Bayesian					
Regularised/ unregularised					
...					

Beyond HELCOM BLUES

- Explore how the acoustic data can be used:
 - Trends in key sites (already part of proposed indicator)
 - Seasonal/daily fluctuations?
- Development of an approach similar to seals in HELCOM, with different criteria depending on whether the population is above or below Limit Reference Level (LRL) and Precautionary Approach Level (PAL)
- Development of a habitat quality indicator