



Baltic Marine Environment Protection Commission

Ad hoc Seal Expert Group

Gothenburg, Sweden, 4-7 October 2017

SEAL 11-2017

Document title	Updated acoustic metadata format
Code	5-5
Category	DEC
Agenda Item	5 – Work on Baltic Sea harbour porpoise
Submission date	5.10.2017
Submitted by	Germany

Background

SEAL 10-2016 took note of a data format for a meta-database on acoustic monitoring prepared by Germany and invited Contracting Parties to submit possible comments to Germany (Michael.Daehne@meeresmuseum.de) by the end of October 2016.

One comment was received. The attached document explains the amendments made to the data format.

The updated data format is available as an [Excel file](#) in the [Meeting Document Library](#).

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to agree on the updated format.

Acoustic Metadata Format

Comments to data format

Old Format

UTC_RecordingStart (YYYY/MM/DD HH:MM)	When was the logger started?
UTC_RecordingEnd (YYYY/MM/DD HH:MM)	When was the logger stopped?

- Are those questions too much focused on C-PODs?
 - Start and stop are of no interest to most users
 - However, recording start and stop are of high interest, but stop can be caused by a number of reasons: battery failure, memory filled up, positions is towed away
- Proposed changes in the explanation:

New Format

UTC_RecordingStart (YYYY/MM/DD HH:MM)	When does the recording time starts? (Start of dataset)
UTC_RecordingEnd (YYYY/MM/DD HH:MM)	When does the recording time at the specific location end? (End of Dataset)