

# WORKSHOP 1

## MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING

*Monday 14 November, 4:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.*

**COORDINATOR: TUNDI AGARDY**

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

Coming Soon!

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

Coming Soon!



# WORKSHOP 2

## IMMA'S

*Monday 14 November, 4:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.*

**COORDINATOR: MIKE TETLEY  
GIUSEPPE NOTARBARTOLO DI SCIARA AND ERICH HOYT**

### SESSION OVERVIEW:

Efforts to enhance the collation of information and data used to inform environmental protection and spatial planning initiatives have led to the development of many new technologies in mapping data. The IUCN Joint SSC/WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force (IUCN-MMPATF) is in the process of assessing the efficacy of such tools for collating information on marine mammal distribution, densities and habitat. These approaches will become a key part of the process for the identification of IMMAs and the IUCN-MMPATF has been developing a series of tools to help streamline the process for collating expert information for determining areas of interest (Aoi) for assessment against the IMMA selection criteria. This 'hands on' session will serve as a testing ground for the Task Force to further refine the use of tools such as QGIS, Google Earth and SeaSketch in both the data-rich coastal zone and data-spare high seas, against a range of pre-loaded example datasets. There will also be capacity to collate additional data early from participating experts, which may not yet be readily available to the Task Force. Additionally, this session will further test the capacity of these mapping tools used by the IMMA development team for further informing the world-wide use of the IMMA classification, especially for supporting global MPA and marine spatial planning initiatives.

### SESSION OBJECTIVES:

1. Introduce participants to a range of tools and datasets being prepared by the IUCN-MMPATF to support the identification of IMMAs.
2. Provide basic training in the use of the programs such as QGIS, GoogleEarth and SeaSketch to ICMMPA participants.
3. Collect potential Aoi proposals from participants in the planned IMMA workshop regions and gather feedback on the availability of data in these areas.
4. Discuss recommendations on how best the Task Force should approach the issues of data paucity in the High Seas in relation to the IMMA identification process.

# WORKSHOP 3

## MANAGING ENCOUNTERS WITH MARINE MAMMALS

*Monday 14 November, 4:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.*

**COORDINATOR: ERIN ASHE AND LORENZO ROJAS-BRACHO**

### SESSION OVERVIEW:

Whale-watching has been promoted for decades as a non-consumptive use of marine mammals. Emerging science is showing that for some cetacean populations, whale-watching can have significant impacts on behavior, health, and population viability, which is a concern for endangered populations. Marine Protected Areas offer a promising tool for: providing much-needed experimental controls sites to improve studies to estimate consequences of disturbance; offer a refuge to mitigate the impacts of whale-watching and other human activities; and to facilitate studies to monitor the efficacy of mitigation measures. MMPAs could also serve as a focal point for sustainable development of whale-watching activities. This workshop aims to bring scientists and managers together to review and discuss emerging issues, identify how MMPAs can be used effectively to achieve protection, discuss whether there are regions where whale and dolphin watching should not occur, and identify places and opportunities where MMPAs can provide experimental data to help inform management decisions.

### SESSION OBJECTIVES:

1. Provide context the current state of the science with respect to population and behavioral consequences of whale-watching and engage with managers and members of the public attending the workshop to elicit feedback.
2. Identify available tools and how to implement those tools within an MPA to mitigate the potential impacts of whale-watching.
3. The past and future of MMPAs as experimental control sites. List the lessons learned and priorities for future research within MMPAs.
4. Discuss whether there are places where whale and dolphin watching should not occur based on the last two decades of research.
5. Cultivate collaboration among scientists, managers, and other stakeholders.



# WORKSHOP 4

## STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT – SCIENCE AND CONSERVATION

*Tuesday 15 November, 4:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.*

**COORDINATORS: ANGELICA NARVAEZ AND MIGUEL IÑIGUEZ**

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

Science has provided over the years relevant data and strategies that have been used to manage and implement conservation programs for marine mammal protected areas.

However, in most if not all cases, the social awareness and participation of the local communities is key to the success or failure of such programs. This happens because despite having all the scientific elements and relevant public policies required to design a management program, the engagement of stakeholders and the participation of local communities are relevant for its successful implementation.

This workshop is directed to identifying social, political and scientific tools that can be used to strengthen national and international joint programs aimed to protect marine mammals and its protected areas, while ensuring the participation of all parties involved.

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

To identify and learn from worldwide successful experiences on how science can foster the effective participation of stakeholders in practices and decisions beneficial to marine mammals protection and social communities.

# WORKSHOP 5

## TOOLS FOR MANAGERS

*Tuesday 15 November, 4:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.*

**COORDINATOR: DAVID WILEY**

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

Coming Soon!

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

Coming Soon!



# WORKSHOP 6

## NEW CHALLENGES FOR SPECIES CONSERVATION AND MANAGEMENT FOR REBOUNDED POPULATIONS

Tuesday 15 November, 4:15 p.m. - 6:15 p.m.

**COORDINATOR: BRAD BARR**

### SESSION OVERVIEW:

The good news is that we are being successful in recovering some marine mammal populations from their previously precarious status of “endangered”, “threatened” or otherwise requiring some enhanced level of protection. The bad news is that a considerable number of marine mammal protected areas (MMPAs) have been established without fully considering the role of the MMPA will be if conservation efforts are successful. This raises some fundamental questions. How should these MMPAs evolve and persist when the flagship species they were protecting are not as threatened as they once were and the conservation priorities need to be re-evaluated? One recent example of this emerging challenge is the Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (HIHWNMS) in the U.S., where de-listing or downgrading the status of Humpback whale populations in these waters is in progress. The HIHWNMS worked to evolve its mission by re-focusing the management goals and strategies towards other protected marine mammals and non-marine mammal resources at that site. It was an effort that was ultimately unsuccessful but may provide critical insight into how current MMPAs navigate this type of challenge or how future MMPAs may be designed with “conservation success” in mind from their conception. This workshop will present the more encompassing issue of challenges to effectively addressing rebounding “flagship” and other important marine mammal populations in MMPAs. This will be done by considering the HIHWNMS as a case study for one potential response to this situation engaging the session participants in identifying creative solutions and strategies in light of the lessons learned in Hawaii, and drawing from other MMPA experiences elsewhere in confronting what would otherwise be a cause for celebration that the primary conservation mission has been fully successfully achieved. Perhaps it is a bit of an overstatement to suggest “be careful what you wish for, because you might just get it”, but success undoubtedly can be a “two-edged sword.” This is an emerging challenge for MMPA managers when despite all the obstacles and limited available resources, they achieve their management goals. Applying the considerable expertise and experience of the MMPA community is essential to finding “creative and effective responses to success” without risking the diminishment or loss of the public support and enthusiasm for MMPA conservation and management at that site which has been cultivated and fostered over many years.

### SESSION OBJECTIVES:

1. To present the emerging challenge of “rebounding populations” of marine mammals, particularly when these are MMPA “flagship species”, and the implications of this conservation success on the future stewardship of that MMPA.
2. To present and discuss a case study, from the US Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary, which is actively confronting such a challenge.
3. To engage the workshop participants in discussion of both the case study and the larger question of “what to do next” when key populations of marine mammals at that site recover and are no longer considered “threatened.”
4. To identify and capture the creative ideas and solutions arrived at by the workshop participants to help inform and guide others in the MMPA community who may be confronted with this challenge in the future.

# WORKSHOP 7

## VISUALIZING MARINE MAMMAL CONSERVATION

Wednesday 16 November, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

**COORDINATORS: NAOMI MCINTOSH AND ERICH HOYT**

### SESSION OVERVIEW:

Visual media play an important contribution in engaging wide audiences. Posters, info graphics, paintings, films, videos, interactive animations, murals can be presented within a museum or whale/ MPA visitor center context, or in various media displayed in public places. This workshop will engage a wide variety of people and cultures to present examples of communicating about marine mammals and protected areas to enhance education, enforcement, and appreciation leading to better conservation.

### SESSION OBJECTIVES:

1. Show a wide variety of visual media related to creating identity, enhancing education, and forging partnerships with MMPA community.
2. Discuss what works and what doesn't and how it helps to get the MMPA community including the public involved.



# WORKSHOP 8

## THE CHALLENGES OF PROTECTING MARINE MAMMALS IN A MULTI-SPECIES OR MULTI-MANAGEMENT MPAS

**COORDINATORS: CHARLES LITTNAN**

*Wednesday 16 November, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

Marine protected areas continue to proliferate around the globe. Many of these areas are important tools in the management and protection for a variety of marine mammal species. How effective management and protection are varies considerably between MPAs and many MPAs/species present their own unique set of challenges. In areas with multiple management agencies and jurisdictions, effective conservation measures may be reduced due to competing mandates or lack of cooperation. Multi-use areas may result in conflict between the use (i.e. tourism) and the management of the natural resource. How best to balance these two priorities? The spectrum of challenges is broad and solutions can be hard to identify. In this session we look at several case studies that highlight the challenges of working in MPAs that are managed by multiple agencies/groups, include multiple uses within the area, or involve the conservation of multiple species. Most importantly we will attempt to identify concepts and solutions that will help avoid or mitigate similar conflicts from developing in the future.

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

1. Identify challenges to managing marine mammal populations in marine protected areas.
2. Discuss and highlight factors that lead to or mitigated these management issues.
3. Facilitate discussion to identify effective strategies to enhance the conservation of marine mammals in multi-species/multi-management MPAs.
4. Provide session summary and recommendations and consideration of manuscript based on case studies.

# WORKSHOP 9

## MMPA MANAGEMENT AND INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS: BUILDING BRIDGES FOR COOPERATION?

**COORDINATORS: JOSE TRUDA PALAZZO**

*Wednesday 16 November, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

Marine Protected Area Managers are usually overwhelmed with their own local issues, and rarely if ever have the opportunity to think of their work in the global context, much less in the universe of international treaties. Nevertheless, decisions taken (or not taken!) at international policymaking fora can have a direct impact on MPAs. Also, some international agreements might provide platforms for cooperation, information exchange and even funding of initiatives with a potential to improve on-site management of both marine mammals and MPAs. This session intends to briefly present some of these treaties/platforms and discuss ways in which MMPA managers could get more involved, make their voices heard and reap benefits from interacting with it.

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

Our main objective will be to find ways of empowering MMPA Managers with the information to seek their direct participation in formulating national policies for relevant international treaties taking their needs and views into account, enhancing the opportunities for international exchange and partnerships through these fora.



# WORKSHOP 10

## STRATEGIES TO SUPPORT SUSTAINABLE FINANCING FOR MPAS

*Tuesday 17 November, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.*

**COORDINATORS: NAOMI MCINTOSH AND TUNDI AGARDY**

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

Coming Soon!

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

Coming Soon!

# WORKSHOP 11

## NOISE ISSUES – STRATEGIES FOR QUIETER MMPAS (CANADA TO COSTA RICA)

*Tuesday 17 November, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.*

**COORDINATOR: ROB WILLIAMS**

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

Coming Soon!

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

Coming Soon!



# WORKSHOP 12

## ENTANGLEMENT RESPONSE INTERNATIONAL NETWORKING IN NORTH AMERICA

*Tuesday 17 November, 9:30 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.*

**COORDINATOR: DAVID MATTILA**

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

Coming Soon!

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

Coming Soon!

# DISCUSSION SESSIONS:

*Wednesday 16 November, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.*

**#1 - MARINE SPATIAL PLANNING (FOLLOWUP  
DISCUSSION FROM MSP WORKSHOP)**

**#2 - TRANSLOCATION ISSUES OF MARINE MAMMALS**



# INFORMAL SESSION

## ASK MANAGERS “WHAT CAN ICMMPA DO FOR YOU”

*Wednesday 16 November, 4:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m.*

### **COORDINATOR: BRAD BARR**

### **SESSION OVERVIEW:**

The International Committee on Marine Mammal Protected Areas was established not only to organize and convene these conferences, but to support the MMPA “community of practice”, involving the managers of these sites, the people who are responsible for identification and establishment of MMPAs worldwide, and scientists who conduct research focused on issues of importance to MMPAs and their effective management and conservation. While the members serving on this Steering Committee are part of this “community”, and therefore the mission and goals of the Committee are aligned and consistent with what they feel are the important issues being addressed in MMPAs, the ICMMPA4 provides a rare opportunity to bring together other interested members to provide their perspectives on what the Committee should be doing, both at future conferences and outside the conference series, that will best and most effectively support the work of this important “community of practice.” To this end, a session will be convened, during the Conference, to offer the opportunity to discuss the current initiatives of the Committee and offer ideas for other topics and issues that should be addressed by the Committee in the future. Additionally, topics for future conference sessions will be discussed to inform and guide planning for ICMMPA5. While there are limited resources available to the Committee to take on new initiatives, knowing what is most important to the members of the community is critical to allocating available resources, as well as identifying new initiatives for which funding may be sought.

### **SESSION OBJECTIVES:**

1. More effectively engage the ICMMPA community in identifying future priorities for the Committee to address.
2. Discuss the composition of the Committee to insure that it appropriately and equitably represents the full scope of MMPA “community of practice”
3. Identify priorities for future Conference sessions, panels and workshops
4. Identify other topics and initiatives that the Committee should consider pursuing outside of and between Conferences. Initiatives that are identified as addressing universal challenges requiring more concerted effort and funding over a longer time and being confronted at MMPAs globally which are not currently being addressed through other organizations or institutions will be sought.

