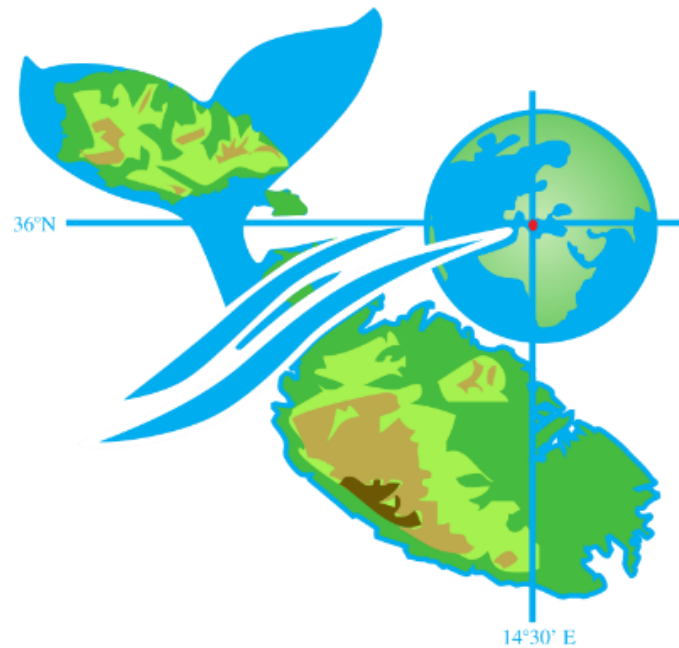


MARINE MAMMAL CONSERVATION FROM LOCAL TO GLOBAL



29TH CONFERENCE OF THE EUROPEAN CETACEAN SOCIETY

20:00 23rd March, 2015
Intercontinental Hotel, St Julian's Bay, MALTA

VIDEO NIGHT PROGRAMME AWARD SPONSORED BY BALEINE LIBRE



UNIVERSITY OF MALTA
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USEFUL INFORMATION

VENUE – INTERCONTINENTAL MALTA HOTEL, ST JULIANS



📍 Conference Hall, Cettina De Cesare (CDC), is in hotel.



VIDEO SUBMISSIONS

Tragic death of a young sperm whale

7 minutes

Renato Rinaldi, Caroline Rinaldi

Association Evasion Tropicale (AET), Guadeloupe, French West Indies

The stranding of sperm whales

8 minutes

Sergio Guccione, V. Olivieri, M. Pennelli, L. Di Renzo, I. Piscione

Centro Studi Cetacei ONLUS (Center for Cetacean Studies NPO), Italy

Summer the striped dolphin

10 minutes

Sergio Guccione, V. Olivieri, M. Pennelli, L. Di Renzo, I. Piscione

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Fin whale project, sperm whales aerial drone survey for blow sampling purposes, and the fate of the dying fin whale

8 minutes

Eduard Degollada Bastos

EDMAKTUB Association, Barcelona, Spain

Azores underwater

8 minutes

Rui Peres dos Santos, Ana Lucas

Lajes do Pico, Azores

“Spy” in the dolphin group

Unravelling the secret lives of Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins through underwater observations

9 minutes

Angela Ziltener (1, 2), Sina Kreicker (1, 2), Tim Windhorn

(1) Dolphin Watch Alliance, Switzerland

(2) Anthropological Institute and Museum, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Those who watch the whales

6 minutes

Oleg Gavrilin, Tatiana Ivkovich, Anton Biatov, Aleksandr Kuzmin

Far East Russia Orca Project, Russia

Chewing the fat: grey seal cannibalism

5 minutes

Amanda M. Bishop (1); Joseph Onoufriou (2), Simon Moss (2), Paddy Pomeroy (2), and Sean Twiss (1)

(1). Durham University, School of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Durham, DH1 3LE, UK

(2). Sea Mammal Research Unit, St. Andrews University, St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland, KY 16 8LB, UK



Tragic death of a young sperm whale

7 minutes

Renato Rinaldi, Caroline Rinaldi

Association Evasion Tropicale (AET), Guadeloupe, French West Indies

The present video reports a sperm whale calf and an adult female entangled together off Guadeloupe, French West Indies, in November 2013. The calf, dead, was entangled by its tail fluke peduncle in a mass of ropes, nets and plastic cans, whose other end was attached to the female's lower jaw. The female was performing dive cycles while trailing the calf carcass attached to her jaw. The rescue team attempted to implement procedures established by experts of the International Whaling Commission large whale disentanglement working group. It was able to disintegrate the calf body reducing drag effect on the female. Since then, the female has been regularly observed, her body condition and activities being apparently normal, but her dive fluking up remains atypical, suggesting the ropes and nets were still attached to the jaw.

English subtitles only.

Photo provided by entrant.



The stranding of sperm whales

8 minutes

Sergio Guccione, V.Olivieri, M.Pennelli, L.Di Renzo, I. Piscione

Centro Studi Cetacei ONLUS (Center for Cetacean Studies NPO), Italy

The video concerns the 12/09/2014 stranding of seven sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*, Linnaeus 1758) on the beach of Punta Penna, within the marine protected area of Punta Aderci in Vasto (Abruzzo, Italy). The tragic event occurred during the night and it has been reported by a surfer in the morning. The Centro Studi Cetacei has immediately intervened to give scientific contribution and his help in the release operations of the five living specimens together with public veterinary services, coastal guard, associations and above all, citizens. At the end of the day four sperm whales were returned to the sea: a unique and exceptional result due to collaboration

Italian language with English subtitles.

Photo provided by entrant.



Summer the striped dolphin

10 minutes

Sergio Guccione, V.Olivieri, M.Pennelli, L.Di Renzo, I. Piscione

Centro Studi Cetacei ONLUS (Center for Cetacean Studies NPO), Italy

The video concerns the surgery on a striped dolphin (*Stenella coeruleoalba*, Meyen 1833) rescued on 13/08/2014 in Brancaleone Marina (Calabria, Italy). The young male, called Summer, had a deep injury in caudal peduncle. A team of veterinarians and biologists, in the CTS sea turtles rescue center of Brancaleone Marina, tried to operate the animal for the functional recovery of the caudal fin by surgical nails with external fixing by synthetic resin. This experience has been the first chance where, the will to recover the young *Stenella coeruleoalba*, has made possible to specialists of public institutions, associations and universities an unprecedented cooperation.

English subtitles only.

Photo provided by entrant.



Fin whale project, sperm whales aerial drone survey for blow sampling purposes, and the fate of the dying fin whale

8 minutes

Eduard Degollada Bastos

EDMAKTUB Association, Barcelona, Spain

EDMAKTUB's 2014 research is presented in three short videos episodes, all principally concerned with the study of large cetaceans of the Balearic Sea. Two main subjects converged in these studies and are their guiding thread: the fin whale Project and the use of drones as a new research technology. The fin whale project shows the little-known annual visit of these whales to the Catalan coast, south of Barcelona. Throughout the spring, numerous whales forage close to shore in these rich and shallow waters. In addition, Sperm whales inhabit deeper waters in family groups. The use of new aerial technologies, drones, allows us to observe and to obtain revealing images of these animals. Furthermore, the approach by remote control hovering over the breathing animals opens the door to blow sampling for genetics and to capture images for photoID. This innovation in research methods enabled us to record the sad fate of a dying whale.

English subtitles only.

Photo provided by entrant.



Azores underwater

8 minutes

Rui Peres dos Santos, Ana Lucas

Lajes do Pico, Azores

This video shows many of the cetacean species and other associated marine life, which annually present in the waters of the Azores archipelago, namely south of Pico Island.

I want to share underwater footage of the incredible world of species that reside in this area, such as the common dolphins or the Risso's dolphin, those which appear in the migration season, such as Baleen whales, and the species groups which return to the Azores every year, such as females sperm whales; and those which rarely appear, such as Gervais beaked whales or the Bryde's whale.

In Portuguese with English subtitles.

Photo provided by entrant.



“Spy” in the dolphin group

Unravelling the secret lives of Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphins through underwater observations

9 minutes

Angela Ziltener (1, 2), Sina Kreicker (1, 2), Tim Windhorn

(1) Dolphin Watch Alliance, Switzerland

(2) Anthropological Institute and Museum, University of Zurich, Switzerland

Systematic underwater observations of free-living cetaceans are rare. The dolphin watch underwater research project presents unique video footage of the Indo-Pacific bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops aduncus*) recorded at the research site off Hurghada, Egyptian Red Sea. Our research method is unparalleled worldwide. Systematic underwater surveys conducted while scuba diving provide an exceptional opportunity in revealing behaviours that are too challenging to observe otherwise. We show unique recordings of group sleeping, self-rubbing behaviour on various coral types, sand and sponges, as well as play behaviour in bottlenose dolphins with different objects such as seaweed, sea shells and coral pieces.

English subtitles only.

Photo provided by entrant.



Those who watch the whales

6 minutes

Oleg Gavrilin, Tatiana Ivkovich, Anton Biatov, Aleksandr Kuzmin

Far East Russia Orca Project (FEROP), Russia

This amateur film tells about Russian students who study orcas in Kamchatka as part of the Far East Russia Orca Project (FEROP). The producer of the film, Oleg Gavrilin, visited the FEROP field camp on his travels to Kamchatka and was inspired by the young scientists and their work. This led him to create this video.

The FEROP team acknowledges Rufford Small Grants Foundation, Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC), the Humane Society International and Animal Welfare Institute for fieldwork support.

In Russian with English subtitles.

Photo provided by entrant.



Chewing the fat: grey seal cannibalism

5 minutes

Amanda M. Bishop (1); Joseph Onoufriou (2), Simon Moss (2), Paddy Pomeroy (2), and Sean Twiss (1)

(1) Durham University, School of Biological and Biomedical Sciences, Durham, DH1 3LE, UK

(2) Sea Mammal Research Unit, St. Andrews University, St. Andrews, Fife, Scotland, KY 16 8LB, UK

In December 2014 we observed multiple cases of cannibalism, performed by an adult male grey seal, *Halichoerus grypus*, holding a position among breeding females on the Isle of May colony, Scotland. The behaviours of the male on each occasion observed were similar. In this edited example, the male is shown selecting, capturing, transporting, drowning and eating from the carcass of a weaned pup. This is one of at least 12 pup carcasses attributed to cannibalism at this colony in 2014.

English sub-titles only.

Photo provided by entrant.



Pygmy sperm whale (*Kogia Breviceps*) necropsy in Wales, UK

10 minutes

Charles Lindenbaum (1); Rob Deaville (2); Ceri Morris (1); Rod Penrose (3); Matthew Perkins (2); Thomas Stringell (1)

(1) Natural Resources Wales, Maes y Ffynnon, Penrhos Road, Bangor, Gwynedd LL57 2DN, UK

(2) Institute of Zoology, Zoological Society of London, Regent's Park, London, NW1 4RY, UK

(3) Marine Environmental Monitoring, Penwalk, Llechryd, Cardigan, West Wales, SA43 2PS, UK

We present a film showing time-lapse images of a post-mortem examination of a pygmy sperm whale (*Kogia Breviceps*) carried out by the Cetacean Strandings Investigation Programme in the UK.

The pygmy sperm whale originally live stranded in November 2014, in North Wales and was rescued by volunteers. A week later, the animal was found dead on a nearby beach, and a field necropsy was carried out. The film shows the entire post-mortem examination, including close up images of various parts of the whale's anatomy, together with subtitled commentary and a description of the preliminary findings. Due to the nature of the subject, the film does contain graphic images which some viewers may find disturbing.

English subtitles only.

Photo provided by entrant.



Grey seals in the south eastern North Sea

25 minutes

Lonneke L. IJsseldijk (1); Mardik F. Leopold (2); Jan Haelters (3); Abbo van Neer (4); De Kennis van nu TV

(1) Department of Pathobiology, Faculty of Veterinary Medicine, Utrecht University, Yalelaan 1, 3584 CL, Utrecht, The Netherlands

(2) Department of Ecosystems, Wageningen IMARES, PO Box 167, 1790 AD, Den Burg, Texel, The Netherlands

(3) Royal Belgian Institute of Natural Sciences (RBINS), Operational Directorate Natural Environment (OD Nature), 3de en 23ste Linierregimentsplein, B-8400 Oostende, Belgium

(4) Abbo van Neer, Institute for Terrestrial and Aquatic Wildlife Research, University of Veterinary Medicine Hannover, Foundation, Werftstraße 6, 25761 Büsum, Germany

The grey seal is often appreciated as a nice, cuddly, friendly, fish eating animal, but recently discovered evidence is suggesting otherwise. Large numbers of mutilated harbour porpoises wash up along the south eastern North Sea, causing controversy among scientists, the fishing industry and conservationists whose views about the likely cause differed. Recently, grey seal DNA was detected in bite wounds present on such carcasses, identifying the grey seal as the perpetrator. Bite mark characteristics were assessed in a retrospective analysis of thousands of photographs of stranded porpoises on the Dutch coastline, revealing similar lesions present on 25% of the carcasses. Direct observations of grey seals clamping their paws and jaws on porpoises are also surfacing, and the story does not end there. In German waters recent sightings reveal that grey seals kill and predate on other seal species too. Is the grey seal the new top predator of the North Sea, and would human bathers and surfers also be at risk?

Dutch, English and English subtitles.

Photo by Dan Kitwood/Getty Images.





Photo: Adriana Vella

Video Night programme sponsored by:

