

ECS Newsletter no. 36

**The
EUROPEAN CETACEAN SOCIETY**



**Edited by
Peter Evans
Autumn 2000**

EDITORIAL

My apologies for the long gap between this and the previous newsletter. I am hoping to produce two further newsletters in the very near future - one will be a special issue reporting the workshop on Protected Areas, and the other will be one detailing other matters of more general interest to ECS members (e.g. a report on the Third meeting of the Parties to ASCOBANS, held in Bristol, England in July). For the latter issue, I would welcome contributions of a marine mammal nature on any aspect of news or research. Please e-mail it to me (as an rtf file) before **Dec 15th** at peter.evans@zoo.ox.ac.uk. Many thanks.

This issue contains a number of important "official" reports/announcements for ECS members. Please read through these carefully.

Details are provided of the conference in Rome next May (for those receiving the newsletter by post, the various forms are also included; otherwise they are obtainable directly from the ECS website). The theme of the conference will be 'Marine protected areas and other approaches for the management of threats to marine mammals'. A number of workshops are planned. Tentatively these include the following topics: Collisions of Vessels with Cetaceans, Developments in Bottlenose Dolphin Research, and Studying Deep-diving Marine Mammals. One particular point to note is that **if you want to make use of the best discount on accommodation, you should book this immediately (and no later than the end of November)**.

There is a short review of this year's annual conference held in Cork, Ireland, in April, together with a summary of the Annual General Meeting, the Annual Report of Society's activities for 1999, and transcripts of letters/resolutions submitted by the Council on behalf of the Society. Simon Ingram, the student representative from 1998-2000, reports on the student workshop on "Planning, Presenting and Publishing Scientific Research".

Our new student representative, Ursula Verfuss, suggests ways in which the student community can be better served. To achieve this, Ursula has prepared a questionnaire which is distributed as a separate sheet. If you are a student, please take a little time to complete this so that the society can better cater for your needs. In this connection, Ursula also proposes a special workshop for students to be held the day before the Rome conference starts.

During September, the Third European Seminar on Marine Mammals was held at the University of Valencia in Spain with almost 150 attendees. Lucia Di Orio, one of the students at the meeting, gives a personal account of her impressions of the course. A textbook on marine mammals, arising from lectures presented at the previous two Seminars, and supplemented with extra invited chapters, has gone to press with Kluwer Academic/Plenum Press. We are hoping this will be available at the ECS Conference in Rome.

Finally, Barbara Mussi, a long standing ECS member had the misfortune of losing her boat and almost all her research equipment and library in a storm last winter. She makes an appeal for help to replace some of these items. Please contact her if there is any way you can help.

Membership of the ECS continues to grow outside Europe as well as within. We would welcome any contributions from further afield for the next issue of the newsletter (... and I'm still looking for someone who would be interested in helping me put together the newsletter in the future!).

Peter Evans

ECS NEWS

15th Annual Conference of the European Cetacean Society, 6-10 May 2001, Rome, Italy

FIRST ANNOUNCEMENT & CALL FOR PAPERS

The Fifteenth Annual Conference of the European Cetacean Society will take place in Rome, Italy on May 6-10th 2001, hosted by the Central Institute for Applied Marine Research (ICRAM). The theme of the conference is:

'Marine protected areas and other approaches for the management of threats to marine mammals'

although, as usual, papers on all aspects of the biology of cetaceans and other marine mammals will be included in the programme.

The main purpose is to stimulate a discussion on the role of both coastal and pelagic MPAs (zoning, time-area closure) for the conservation and the management of marine mammals, and simultaneously to identify other strategies necessary to manage the threats (human disturbance, pollution, habitat degradation, conflict with fisheries, etc.).

The conference will be held at the **Frentani Conference Centre** (Via dei Frentani, 4 - 00185 Rome) which is a five minute walk from the Termini Railway Station, the city's central travel gateway. From Termini you can reach any area in Rome as well as any city in Italy if you like.

Registration will take place on Sunday afternoon May 6th and early on Monday 7th at the Conference Centre. Conference sessions will be held on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, May 7th - 9th.

The morning session each day will open with an invited talk, followed by verbal presentations in a standard 15-minute format. Posters will be on display throughout the meeting and time will be reserved for discussion with authors.

Call For Papers

Communications, in English, are invited as verbal or poster presentations. For both types of presentations, authors should submit an abstract **by e-mail** following the enclosed guidelines to Junio Fabrizio Borsani: (jfaber@tin.it). Submission should arrive **NO LATER THAN THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 1st 2001**. **Failure to follow the guidelines may result in the rejection of the Abstract.** Faxed or posted submissions are not acceptable. The time available for each verbal presentation will be 15 minutes, followed by five minutes for questions and discussion. Dedicated time will be given for posters.

A Scientific Committee chaired by Junio Fabrizio Borsani will review all abstracts in February (see the Abstract guidelines). Authors will be informed by e-mail on the acceptability of their material by the end of February 2001.

In addition to the Abstract, authors of both verbal and poster presentations should provide an Extended Summary (maximum three pages of text plus two pages of graphics), to be included in the Proceedings of the Conference. Guidelines for the preparation of the Summary will be sent to authors after the acceptance of their presentation. To ensure rapid publication of the Proceedings, summaries must be forwarded to the Editor by JUNE 1st. Summaries arriving late may not be included in the Proceedings.

Student Awards

As at previous conferences, there will be awards for the best student presentations: verbal and poster. Students (graduate and undergraduate) are encouraged to submit presentations for the award but, to be eligible, students must be the first author of their paper. Further details will be given with the Abstract submission documentation.

Workshops

Workshops are planned for the ECS meeting on Sunday 6th and Thursday 10th May 2001. Further information will be included with the second announcement in early December. *There will be a nominal charge for workshop attendees.* Workshop topics are still open for proposal. Anyone interested in organising a workshop should submit a detailed proposal to the Conference Organiser by NOVEMBER 15th.

Video Evening

It is intended to have a video session during the conference. All those wishing to show a video should complete the relevant sections of the Abstract submission form. The video evening will be organised by Beatrice Jann who may request videos for evaluation in advance.

Student volunteers

Throughout the conference, help will be needed with organisation and logistics. Applications (to Ursula Verfuss, the Student member of the Council, at ursula.verfuss@uni-tuebingen.de) are invited from students who are willing to spend a few hours helping out at registration, looking after stands, sales, etc. Students who are selected will have their registration fees waived. There will be a second announcement on this matter in early December.

Grants

The Society offers limited financial support to students (and occasionally others), as long as they are the first AND presenting author of an accepted talk or poster, as a contribution towards expenses at the Conference. The amount granted will depend upon the number of students attending and the total funds available. Further details are given with the Abstract submission documentation.

Conference Booking and Fees

Conference bookings and fees are outlined in the accompanying registration form. The closing date for early registration is 1st March 2001. Fees are: Early 200 DM (full member), 90 DM (student member), and 350 DM (non-member); Late (after March 1st but before April 1st) 275 DM (full member), 150 DM (student member), 425 DM (non-member). All registration after April 1st will be payment on-site at a separate rate in lire only. Early registration for the conference is strongly encouraged.

Travel and Accommodation

There are good air and railway links between Rome and most European cities. Further details can be obtained from Alitalia, the Italian Air Company (www.alitalia.it). Transport links to the city centre are available both from the main airport (www.adr.it) Roma Fiumicino "Leonardo da Vinci" (to Rome Termini railway station, 5 mins. walk from the Conference Centre) and from Rome airport (via a bus and then the subway).

Rome is a beautiful and fascinating city rich in cultural events, history and a fun place to be; most of the important information about travel, accommodation, events and fun can be obtained from the following web-sites: www.romeguide.it, www.romapreview.it.

Furthermore, for this ECS Annual Conference, the agency Roma Comunicando will ensure booking in bed & breakfasts and hotels near the Conference Centre (info@romacomunicando.com). Roma Comunicando will offer the following discount (on booking fee and accommodation price):

- 15% for all people booking before 30th Nov 2000
- 10% for all people booking before 15th Jan 2001
- 5% for all people booking before 15th March 2001

Local Visits

Rome is Italy's capital. The city offers its visitors the opportunity to experience the magic of many places of

historical and cultural interest, such as the *Vatican, Castel Sant'Angelo, the Colosseum, the Quirinale, Via Veneto, Piazza di Spagna, the Pincio, and the Botanic Garden*. Other visitor attractions located nearby include the countryside to the north (*Viterbo, the Medieval town*) and south of Rome (*The castelli*). The weather in May is mild (20 degrees C) but with frequent rain showers. Further information can be found on the following web-sites: www.romahomes.com/rome-guide.htm, www.virtualrome.com, www.wromeguide.it, www.romapreview.it

Giancarlo Lauriano & Fabrizio Borsani
Conference organisers

Central Institute for Applied Marine Research - ICRAM,
Via di Casalotti 300, 00166 Rome, Italy
Tel: +39 06 61570409; Fax: +39 06 61550581; web:
www.icram.org; E-mail: lauriano@tin.it

Instructions for Submission of Abstracts for ECS Conference, Rome

- 1. Contact Surname:** Provide the surname for the first author only. Please note that an individual may be the first author on *one abstract only*, irrespective of whether it is a poster, oral or invited talk. *Only* the first author may present the paper.
- 2. Contact e-mail:** Provide an e-mail address for correspondence about the Abstract
- 3. Authors' names:** give the authors' names as follows: Senior author first, surname first. Use upper and lower case. Initials for first and middle names. Number the authors as follows: Leone, S., (1) Morricone, E. (2) and Bronson, C. (3). Do not start a new line for each author.
- 4. Authors' addresses:** give author addresses as follows: (1) Piazza Garibaldi 1, 43100 Parma, Italy (2) Ringstedgade 3, 4000 Roskilde, Denmark (3) The Maltings, University College, Cork, Ireland. NOTE: if more than one author is at the same address, put both numbers in parentheses before the address e.g. (1,3) Piazza Garibaldi 1, 43100 Parma, Italy
- 5. Abstract title:** give the title of the abstract as follows: TITLE, ALL IN CAPITALS
- 6. Abstract:** enter the Abstract as one continuous paragraph. Do not indent the first line of the paragraph. THE TEXT MUST NOT EXCEED 300 WORDS!
- 7. Word count:** type the number of words in the Abstract here (excluding authors' details, addresses and title, i.e. only what is included in box 6)
- 8. Presentation type:** delete all but one option. There is NO hierarchy between posters and verbal presentations. All Abstracts will be subject to anonymous review and selected on merit. The aim of the conference is to provide information in the most appropriate way to the maximum number of people. Some types of research and results are better communicated by a poster presentation and others by a verbal presentation. The form of presentation is not a reflection of the value of the research, merely its nature. If an author indicates either

"POSTER PREFERRED" or "ORAL PREFERRED" and the Committee does not choose it for presentation in that format, it will be considered for presentation in the other format. If the author indicates "EITHER", if it is accepted by the Committee, it will be assigned as either a poster or oral presentation, whichever the Committee considers most appropriate.

If you wish to submit a VIDEO, then the Abstract should briefly describe the content of the video and its running time.

9-12. **Keywords:** please classify the subject matter of your abstract to help the Committee assign it to reviewers and sessions. You may choose up to four categories from the following - please type them (exactly as below) in order of relevance (if four are not required, leave the entry blank but do not delete the row. The categories are: Acoustics, Behaviour, Conservation / Management, Critical habitat, Ecology, Feeding, Genetics / Evolution, Life History (reproduction), Medicine / Disease, Natural History, Physiology / Anatomy, Stock Identity / Distribution, Surveys / Abundance, New Techniques, and Other.

13. **Student award eligibility:** if you are eligible for a student award, please delete the inappropriate category. Applicants *must* send a photocopy of their validated student ID card to Roland Lick along with their membership/registration form(s). If the student is the first author of a multi-authored paper, the other authors or a supervisor must sign a declaration form stating that "we the undersigned, affirm that the work presented in this abstract is primarily that of the first (student) author" and also send this to Roland Lick.

14. **Grant request:** Limited funds are available to provide grants towards travel/subsistence costs for students (and occasionally others). If you wish to be considered please delete as appropriate. If you are earning a salary you are not eligible. The grants are intended for cases of real hardship. Please think carefully before applying for a grant.

15. **File name:** Your abstract MUST be submitted by e-mail as an attached 'rtf' file using the abstract.rtf file. Please choose as a filename for the attachment the surname of the author or the first eight letters of the surname e.g. LEONE.rtf) and type it here. An example of a completed form is given at the end of this file.

PLEASE NOTE: Failure to follow these guidelines carefully or to meet deadlines will have to result in rejection of the abstract. if you have any problems or questions regarding the technicalities of submission contact Fabrizio Borsani well in advance of the deadline at e-mail address: jfaber@tin.it.

-B- POLICY ON REVIEW OF THE ABSTRACT

The decision of the Scientific Committee based on the comments of the anonymous reviewers will be final. They have an unenviable and difficult job and it is inevitable that someone will feel hard done by. Please accept that it is impossible to please everybody. The Committee and the reviewers will have put in an enormous amount of time and will have done the best possible within the finite confines of the time and space available at the conference centre.

There will be a single set of criteria for judging abstracts. Any data or models that add to our knowledge of marine mammals may be submitted. Research presented must be significant, previously unpublished and new to an ECS conference. Updates of a previous paper will receive low priority. Successful abstracts will contain:

- (1) A clear statement of hypotheses being tested or the specific objectives of the study
- (2) A brief description of methods
- (3) A clear statement of main results
- (4) A concise conclusion

Please note that abstracts of the form "will be discussed" will be rejected. In the past, authors have sometimes submitted generic abstracts as "placeholders" whilst completing their research. However, with increased competition for time and space, this is no longer acceptable. Abstracts will be judged solely on their contents. The results of such research may be more appropriate for some of the Workshops. Workshop co-ordinators should be contacted directly.

First priority when reviewing abstracts will be given to those that:

- (1) Test an important theory
- (2) Test a clearly articulated hypothesis
- (3) Use the experimental or comparative method
- (4) Are interdisciplinary
- (5) Report a significant new discovery or model
- (6) Introduce new methodology, or
- (7) Produce data on a poorly-known species.

Lower priority will be accorded to Abstracts that describe a process, range extension, population trend or other result without placing them in some larger context (evolution, the environment, management etc.). Again such papers may be more appropriate for some of the Workshops preceding the conference. Workshop co-ordinators should be contacted directly.

PLEASE NOTE: Do not submit an Abstract that is merely a progress report or information on a long-term programme (for example a strandings network) or a public awareness programme. These will automatically be rejected. However, we recognise the value of such information being made available to the people attending the meeting and a separate notice board will be available. Details of how to apply to place information on that notice board will be given in the second announcement.

EXAMPLE OF A COMPLETED FORM:

1. Contact surname: LAURIANO
2. Contact e-mail: lauriano@tin.it
3. Authors' names: Lauriano, G. (1), Rogan, E. (2)
4. Authors' addresses: (1) ICRAM, Via di Casalotti 300, 00166 Rome, Italy; (2) Dept. of Zoology and Animal Ecology, University College, Cork, Ireland.
5. Abstract title: MARINE PROTECTED AREAS AND OTHER APPROACHES FOR THE MANAGEMENT OF THREATS TO MARINE MAMMALS

6. Abstract: This is merely to illustrate the style to be followed. It includes an extract from the First Announcement. The theme is timely for a number of reasons, including (1) its conservation implications - there are many examples of proposals for protected

areas/sanctuaries etc that require scientific evaluation - determining which approaches are opportune to manage different threats to marine mammals is an essential part of this; (2) it is an area where new research tools can play an important role e.g. TDR telemetry, GIS software, etc; (3) it requires a multi-disciplinary approach; (4) it requires innovative new theory and modelling to integrate a variety of datasets into a practical framework.

7. Word count: 110.

8. Presentation type: ORAL PREFERRED

9. Keyword 1: Marine Protected Areas

10. Keyword 2: Conservation / Management

11. Keyword 3: New Techniques

12. Keyword 4: (left blank)

13. Student Award: NO

14. Grant request: NO

15. File name: LAURIANO.rtf

Fabrizio Borsani

Report on the 14th Annual Conference Cork, Ireland 2-5 April 2000

Just under 400 people from 31 countries braved the cool but clear spring weather of the lovely city of Cork in early April of this year to attend the Fourteenth Annual Conference of the ECS. The theme this year was "Cetaceans in the Ecosystem: Defining Critical Habitat", and speakers invited to give keynote addresses to this theme included: Phil Hammond on "The Foraging Distribution & Behaviour of Grey Seals and Humpback Whales: Practical lessons for determining critical habitat", Bob Kenney on "Defining Critical Habitat in a critically endangered baleen whale species: the right whale to study?", and Mike Fedak on "Using GIS to explore environmental relationships with the tracks of recently weaned southern elephant seal (*Mirounga leonina*) pups from Macquarie Island". In addition to these, there were 36 other talks and 118 posters.

Both preceding and subsequent to the Conference, there were workshops on the following themes: methods for investigating stock structure in cetaceans; studies on beaked whales; the application of new techniques of radio telemetry; the Irish Whale & Dolphin Sanctuary; and a student workshop on planning, presenting and publishing scientific research.

I think most people attending could agree with me that the conference was very enjoyable and a great success with the standard of talks and posters generally very high. This was in so small measure down to the Conference Organiser, Emer Rogan of the University of Cork's Zoology Department, and her trusty team of local helpers, Fidelina Butler, Debbie Chapman, Richard Fitzgerald, Simon Ingram, Mick Mackey and Sinead Murphy, as well as Greg Donovan who with Emer organised the Scientific Programme, and Roland Lick who played an important role in the organising of registration and membership fees. Special thanks also go to the following bodies for their generous sponsorship (in alphabetical order):

Aquaculture Development Centre (UCC), Bord Fáilte (Irish Tourist Board), Bord Iascaigh Mhara, Dúchas (the Heritage Service), Environmental Protection Agency, Fyffes plc, International Whaling Commission, Irish Water Resources Ltd, Marine Institute, Statoil Exploration (Ireland) Ltd, The Heritage Council, University College, Cork, and Vantage Wholesale. So thanks again for a wonderful time topped with a banquet, much drinking of Murphys, and an energetic ceili in the fair port of Kinsale.

Peter Evans

Minutes of the 14th Annual General Meeting Cork, Ireland, 5th April, 17.30 hrs

Welcome from Chair

Adoption of Agenda

Annual Report - see below.

Financial Report and Membership - Presented by Peter Evans in the absence of Roland Lick. The delayed introduction of the new membership fees was announced.

Membership of Council - Greg Donovan, Giancarlo Lauriano and Vincent Ridoux were elected en bloc, unanimously, there being no other candidates. Nick Tregenza will take over the role of Secretary. Natacha Aguilar, Lionel Devoust, and Ursula Verfuss stood as student representative. Ursula Verfuss was elected by a clear majority of the students present.

Student matters - Simon Ingram presented details of the workshop and reminded students of the ECS-all mailing list, and that student web pages, hopefully in the near future, would be of great potential value.

Future conference venues - Fabrizio Borsani presented information on the proposed site for a conference in Rome next year. For 2002, Dorete Bloch presented the Faeroes as a possible venue, described access via Denmark or Scotland, and showed a video. Michel André made an offer to host the conference in the Canary Islands in 2003.

Proceedings - Peter Evans described the format changes which would help ensure that the Proceedings do not become too large. A brief discussion drew attention to the fact that the status of the proceedings was such that editors of other journals might view the substance of any paper of more than 1 or 2 sides as having been 'published' and might consequently not consider it. Peter Evans pointed out that this was for the discretion of the journal editor, and following discussion with various editors, the conclusion was that it would usually be acceptable so long as the contributions did not substantially duplicate one another. Where this presented a serious problem, authors can restrict the content of their work in the proceedings to an abstract.

ECS representation on other bodies - Peter Evans and Christina Lockyer have attended ASCOBANS meetings. Christina described the concern that exists over the recent lack of progress by ASCOBANS and its lack of prioritised tasks, and proposed that she write, as Chairman of ECS to express concern over this together with a brief report of matters directly relevant presented

at the Cork conference (see below). This was accepted by the meeting. It was also mentioned that ECS might also inform ACCOBAMS about relevant conference research in due course when this agreement becomes ratified.

Valencia Course - 11-15th September 2000. A brief presentation was made by Peter Evans of the 3rd European Seminar on Marine Mammal Biology and Conservation to be held at UIMP, Valencia.

Statements for consideration by the AGM

Midwater trawling - cetacean bycatch - The statement detailed below was discussed. Target recipients for the statement were suggested:- Governments of all countries with these fisheries; the European Parliament and Commission. The IWC was not included because it does not make recommendations on small cetacean management. The statement was approved by a vote (sufficient members being present to comprise a quorum) with two abstentions and all others in favour. Thijs Kuiken spoke in favour, but asked that more time be made available to discuss resolutions in future.

Fast ferries in the Canary Islands - collisions with whales. This statement provoked more controversy in several areas - it perhaps should have been either global or local; it referred to impacts on a wider range of species without substantiating this; it referred to increasing global concern without giving evidence; it should cite the precautionary principle and ASCOBANS recognition of possible problems from fast ferries; more research was needed to identify zones requiring action; it would be politically controversial, and it might jeopardise the prospects of scientists seeking funding for the development of mitigation methods. A proposal from the Chair was accepted that the resolution be withdrawn for review by the Council with a view to sending a letter later to the Canarian government (see below).

Any other business - The need was raised for a longer meeting in which more discussion of matters of policy and of the membership fee would be possible. It was pointed out that the increase in subscription rate was discussed at the previous AGM, and reported in the Autumn 1999 newsletter.

Student awards

With acknowledgement of the contribution from The Heritage Council of Ireland and the International Whaling Commission.

1. Junita Karlsen. Vocalisations of white whales (*Delphinapterus leucas*) summering around Svalbard, Norway.
2. Mariano Corscarella. Behaviour of Commerson's dolphin and preliminary information of the effect of boats in watching activities.
3. Giovanna Barbieri. Behaviour of a solitary, sociable bottlenose dolphin in southern Italy.

Best student poster presentation:

1. Junita Karlsen. Vocalisations of white whales

(*Delphinapterus leucas*) summering around Svalbard, Norway.

2. Krishna Das. Carbon and nitrogen stable isotopes and heavy metals in marine mammals stranded on Belgian and Dutch coasts: a ten year study.

3. Jose Antonio Fayos. A comparative approach of the movement patterns and orientation of common dolphins (*Delphinus delphis*) and bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) in the North-eastern Alboran sea.

Best student talk:

1. Kim Parsons. Defining the population structure and dispersal patterns of bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) in British and Irish waters.

2. Ursula Verfuss. Fish catch and echolocation behaviour of the harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*).

3. Jacques-Yves Georges. Effects of the lunar cycle on the foraging ecology of subantarctic fur seals.

Nick Tregenza
Secretary

Fourteenth Annual Report of the ECS presented to the AGM in Cork, Apr 2000

Membership

Paid-up members of the European Cetacean Society numbered 391, including 13 institutional members, with members from 24 European and 16 non-European countries.

The highest representation came from Spain 88, with Germany at 51, Italy 47, United Kingdom 42, France 34, Portugal 32, Switzerland 12, The Netherlands 11, and Greece 11.

Countries with ten or less members include USA, Belgium, Denmark, Ireland, Australia, Norway, Sweden, Croatia, Hungary.

Countries with one member only are Algeria, Austria, Brazil, Canada, Chile, China, Finland, Iceland, India, Israel, Japan, Malaysia, Maldives, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Poland, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, Turkey, and Ukraine.

The Membership list of the Society continues to be run from the German Museum for Marine Research and Fishery in Stralsund, which also takes care of the mailing of material including Proceedings. The Society is very grateful to its director Harald Benke, and to Ines Westphal who is responsible for these tasks.

Conference

The 13th European Cetacean Society Annual Conference was held in the Palacio de Musica, Valencia between 5th and 8th April 1999. The theme was 'Marine Mammal Conservation for the New Millennium' with key lectures by Greg Donovan, Aleta Hohn and Bernd Würsig. It was attended by 325 people from 29 countries. The conference was organised by Toni Raga and team.

A conference scientific committee was chaired by Juan Antonio Balbuena and all abstracts were peer-reviewed and published in European Research on Cetaceans - 13,

edited by Peter Evans, Joana Cruz and Juan Antonio Raga.

Workshops were held on 'Protected Areas', 'Research on Small Versus Large Seal Populations in European Waters, Opposite or Complementary Approaches?', and 'Cetacean Pathology: Dissection Technique and Tissue Sampling in Large Cetaceans'.

Jacques-Yves Georges won the verbal presentation award, with Krishna Das as runner-up. Stephanie Plön won the poster prize.

Council

The ECS Council has met twice during the conference, and once in Cork in October.

Two newsletters were produced during the year, and a third special newsletter reporting the results of the protected areas workshop is due to be published shortly.

Jan Willem Broekema continues to manage the ever-expanding web site, and email mailing lists.

Finally, the European Cetacean Society has continued to provide information or advice to government departments and non-governmental organisations in European countries, with representation at both ASCOBANS and ACCOBAMS.

Nick Tregenza
Secretary

Resolution concerning the progress of ASCOBANS submitted by the ECS Council on behalf of its membership

To the ASCOBANS Secretariat:

I am writing on behalf of the European Cetacean Society (ECS) to express the Society's corporate view of the current status of ASCOBANS. As you know, ECS recently held its 14th annual conference in Cork, Ireland, 2-5 April this year. This conference was a particularly interesting one as the theme for this conference was "Cetaceans in the ecosystem: defining critical habitat", and many talks and workshops addressed topics of immediate concern to ASCOBANS.

ECS has a membership of about 450 members which includes the great majority of researchers in the cetacean/marine mammal field throughout Europe, and the Society provides a forum where scientific issues, especially new findings, can be presented and discussed without political prejudice and pressure (see Annex 12 of the Report of the 7th Annual Meeting of the Advisory Committee, Bruges, 13-16 March 2000). The Society was disappointed that ASCOBANS was unable to make a representation directly at this conference, because we regularly have Secretarial representation (and participation) by IWC and more recently NAMMCO. The Society would like to encourage future attendance by ASCOBANS and would welcome institutional membership, that would facilitate and foster exchange of scientific ideas and possibly help move urgent issues forward.

The main reason for expressing this view is that there was considerable discussion about ASCOBANS and its role

at the Cork conference, both in the main presentation forum and in the workshops.† I am sorry to say that whilst the Society fully supports ASCOBANS and its goals, frustration was expressed over the lack of progress being made by the Parties in certain areas of their work, particularly those addressing bycatch mitigation and that of agreeing a recovery plan for the Baltic. In these particular areas most Parties appear not to be acting fast enough nor with full commitment. THIS WAS THE UNANIMOUS VIEW OF SCIENTISTS WORKING ACTIVELY IN EUROPEAN MARINE MAMMAL RESEARCH AT THE SOCIETY'S ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING.

One of the talks presented at the conference posed the question of whether ASCOBANS was meeting its conservation objectives and the answer offered was negative (see abstract appended). It was said that Parties would not meet objectives until they took action to address some of the critical problems in commercial fisheries. A workshop addressing "Linking stock structure assessment to management objectives" also focused on the question of the Baltic harbour porpoise, and new compelling information was presented that is of direct relevance to the ASCOBANS recovery plan for the Baltic.

ECS acknowledges the importance of ASCOBANS and its role as the most appropriate forum for progressing and achieving small cetacean conservation in the Agreement area. ECS members are aware of some of the commitments made at the Second Meeting of Parties and are obviously supportive of these being met. However, they are also aware that many of the objectives have not been achieved by Parties and in the approach to the Third Meeting of Parties they urge Parties to rapidly prioritise the work required to meet these commitments.

A wealth of expertise exists within the membership of ECS and a closer liaison between ASCOBANS and ECS would be a good initiative (see pp.20-21 of the Report of the 7th Annual Meeting of the Advisory Committee, Bruges, 13-16 March 2000). As a first initiative, could I suggest that the executive summary of ASCOBANS Advisory Committee meetings be posted to the ECS-all electronic mailing list (ECS-all@mailbase.ac.uk) as this could generate some interest from people working in the relevant fields.

ECS would appreciate this letter of concern being distributed to all Parties as soon as possible before the Third Meeting of Parties in July this year.

Christina Lockyer

on behalf of Council of
EUROPEAN CETACEAN SOCIETY

**ECS Statement on dolphin bycatches in the eastern
North Atlantic
April 2000, Cork, Ireland**

The European Cetacean Society notes that in the first three months of this year, over 400 dolphins have stranded on the west coast of France and about 70 on the southern coasts of Britain. These were mainly common and striped dolphins. This is part of a recurring pattern. On two occasions since 1987, over 600 dolphins have stranded at the same time of year on the coast of France. Scientific post-mortem studies have reported that at least

60% show clear evidence of having died in fishing gear including mid-water trawls.

Other studies have shown that in the last decade annual dolphin deaths in these fisheries may number 1000 or more.

In the absence of adequate knowledge of population size and abundance of these species in these waters, these figures give cause for serious concern.

In such circumstances, and following the precautionary principle enshrined in much European Union policy, the ECS believes that action should be taken as a matter of urgency. The fisheries involved include those of France, Ireland, The Netherlands, Spain and the United Kingdom.

This action should include measures to:

- a) reduce the level of bycatch; and
- b) concurrently initiate a substantial research programme to clarify the status of the affected dolphins in these waters.

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**Statement to the Spanish authorities
from the ECS Council on High Speed Ferries in the
Canary Islands**

High speed ferries are a relatively recent introduction but already in several areas of the world (e.g. Japan, Hong

Kong, Strait of Gibraltar), they have led to reports of ship collisions. These are known to be a significant cause of mortality for the endangered northern right whale in the North-west Atlantic (Russell and Knowlton, 2000; Knowlton and Kraus, in press). Concerns for the possible impact of high speed ferries have been expressed elsewhere, for example at the Third Meeting of the Parties to ASCOBANS in July, 2000.

The European Cetacean Society, at its Annual Conference held in Cork, Ireland in April 2000 received three papers relating to the problem of collisions between fast ferries and whales in the Canary Islands. Evidence was presented suggesting an increase in collisions between boats and cetaceans since the introduction of the fast ferry services (see Table 1).

Preliminary data on the severity of boat strikes on large whales indicated that increasing speeds result in higher levels of serious injury and mortality. It has also been shown that many ship strikes involving large vessels over 60m may go unrecognised by vessel crew (Russell and Knowlton, 2000; Knowlton, 1999; Aguilar *et al.*, 2000), and this prevents the actual number of strikes from being accurately ascertained. The success of vessels in taking avoiding action in response to a whale sighting decreases approximately linearly with an increase in average ship speed. (Leaper & Clyne, *pers. comm.*).

A very high density of short-finned pilot whales (*Globicephala macrorhynchus*) is resident in the archipelago and is particularly concentrated in a relatively small area in the Tenerife-La Gomera channel. This species is included in the National Catalogue of Protected Species for Spain and few populations with such a high local density are known anywhere else in the world.

A fast ferry route in the Tenerife-La Gomera Channel crosses an area designated under the European Union Habitats Directive as a Special Area for Conservation. The channel also has a population of bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*), a species protected under Appendix II of the European Habitats Directive.

The Channel between Tenerife and La Gomera is considered a high risk area, since it has high populations of whales and dolphins and represents a calving and/or feeding ground for two species, bottlenose dolphin, *Tursiops truncatus* and short-finned pilot whale. Under the International Maritime Organization (IMO), a "Particularly Sensitive Area" can have specific local shipping regulations based on the request of the coastal state, in this case the Spanish Government and the Canarian Government for competence on interinsular transport.

The Channel between Gran Canaria and Tenerife presents an overall lower density of cetaceans, but has a high abundance of large whales, mainly sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*), which are present in the area all year round.

Highly vulnerable species as the northern right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*) have also been sighted in both channels. This species is the most endangered large whale in the world and its distribution in the North-east Atlantic is largely unknown, making these sightings of particular importance.

The United Nations Conference on the Environment and Development (UNCED) recommended a precautionary approach (Rio Declaration, 1992) to potential threats which the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) provides several mechanisms for coastal states to protect their marine resources. On that basis, we, the Council of the European Cetacean Society, recommend that action be taken urgently to mitigate the threat of collisions. Any research that is undertaken should be independent and scientifically rigorous. Research on the effectiveness of various mitigation measures is currently underway, and we invite you to liaise with our society for updates on recent developments.

Table 1. Probable instances of lethal collisions with whales in the Canary Islands, 1985 – 2000

<u>Date</u>	<u>Species</u>	<u>Place found</u>	<u>Island</u>
<i>Before introduction of fast ferries:</i>			
1985	Sperm whale		GC
7/7/91	Sperm whale	P. del Socorro	TF
26/2/92	Pilot whale	Adeje	TF
30/5/92	Cuvier's beaked whale	Las Galletas	TF
12/7/95	Sperm whale	Los Gigantes	TF
9/4/96	Sperm whale	5nm N of Gran Canaria	GC
9/4/96	Sperm whale	5nm N of Gran Canaria	GC
<i>After introduction of fast ferries:</i>			
3/5/99	Rorqual sp.	3nm W of Agaete	GC
10/7/99	Medium sized cetacean	1nm W of Los Cristianos	TF
10/7/99	Medium sized cetacean	1nm W of Los Cristianos	TF
4/8/99	Sperm whale	Guimar	TF
6/8/99	Sperm whale	Candelaria	TF
15/8/99	Sperm whale	Pta. Del Hidalgo	TF
10/9/99	Bryde's whale	P. Santiago	G
9/6/00	Cuvier's beaked whale	Las Eras	TF
12/6/00	Sperm whale	Los Gigantes	TF

Natacha Aguilar from the Canary Islands brought this regional matter to our attention, and the ECS Council considered it in the light of the scientific references below:

Aguilar, N., Carrillo, M., Delgado, I., Diaz, F., and Brito, A. 2000. Fast ferries impact on cetacean in the Canary Islands: collisions and displacement. *European Research on Cetaceans* - 14.

Aguilar, N. and Brito, A. 1999. The Canary Islands Cetacean Sighting Net, II. *European Research On Cetaceans* - 13: 149-152.

Andre, M., Degollada, E.W., Fernandez, A. 2000. Fast ferries and cetacean collisions: evidence and solutions. *European Research on Cetaceans* - 14.

Knowlton, A.R. and Kraus, S. In press. Mortality and serious injury of northern right whales (*Eubalaena*

glacialis) in the western North Atlantic Ocean. *Journal of Cetacean Research and Management*.

Russell, B. and Knowlton, A. 2000. *Right whales and ship management options*. Ship strike committee. National Marine Services Office, US.

Tregenza, N., Aguilar, A., Carrillo, M., Delgado, I., Diaz, F. and Brito, A. In press. Potential impact of fast ferries on whale populations. A simple model with examples from the Canary Islands. *European Research on Cetaceans* - 14.

Christina Lockyer

on behalf of Council of
EUROPEAN CETACEAN SOCIETY

Third European Seminar on Marine Mammals: Biology and Conservation

The Third European Seminar on Marine Mammals was hosted by the *Universidad Internacional Menéndez Pelayo (UIMP)* in Valencia (Spain) from the 11th to the 15th of September, 2000.

The course was in many respects a very positive experience (for me as a student). This, and my wish to encourage other students to profit from these kind of events, are the reasons why I accepted to write this report. Before expressing my opinion on the seminar, I would briefly like to outline its structure.

The course, under the direction of Juan Antonio Raga and Peter Evans, consisted of 12 lectures that could be subdivided into three linked parts.

The first one dealt mainly with the biology of marine mammals and the current research in this field; the second one focused on risk factors affecting this animal group; and in the third part, effects of management and strategies for species preservation were discussed.

It's not my intention to deal with the single presentations in detail, but with the underlying central theme of the course, namely, the influence of environmental factors on distribution and abundance of marine mammals. In this context, I will mainly concentrate on the various negative impacts that these animals face and their implication in conservation and management.

Marine mammals, like terrestrial ones, are exposed to a multitude of factors ranging from small molecules to micro- or macro-organisms, human activity or climate changes. They all have consequences on animal behaviour and population dynamics.

Changes in quality and availability of preferred habitats may for example lead to shifts in distribution of populations. For instance, **variations of oceanographic features** (e.g., thermoclines, fronts) can result in changes in distribution of pelagic inhabitants (often due to shifts of their main prey) within a preferred habitat, without altering the population size. Effects of changes in food availability are experienced to a greater extent in species with strong site fidelity (e.g., haul-out sites) and might have demographic consequences.

Degradation, often induced by human activity, is one of the major causes for reduced habitat quality and may even lead to habitat loss.

In this context, *chemical pollutants* such as organochlorines (DDT, PCBs, etc.), heavy metals or polyaromatic hydrocarbons (PAHs), which concentrate in the food web, affect marine mammal populations either by removing important prey or by causing health deficiencies. High levels of potentially damaging pollutants have been detected in marine mammals, showing intra- and inter-specific differences in tissue levels due to differences in diet, body size and composition (fat-rich tissues!), nutritive condition, age and sex, diseases and reproductive biology. Nevertheless, demographic changes related to pollution are quite impossible to demonstrate, even if there are apparent links between contamination and health status. In Baltic grey seals for example, lesions of the reproductive system attributed to high PCB and DDT levels were observed, resulting in decreased reproductive rates. Higher prevalence of tumours in belugas appeared to be related to high levels of carcinogenic compounds (such as PAHs) in the St. Lawrence estuary.

Changes in behaviour and displacement from preferred habitats have also been observed in relation to *acoustic pollution* (e.g., active sonar, seismic exploration, explosions, speedcrafts, etc.). *Global warming* also influences habitats indirectly (e.g., changes in sea level) or directly (melting of sea ice).

Physical damage of the environment, caused for example by alteration of rivers (e.g., dams), dredging of seabeds, draining of wetlands, etc., is an additional habitat pressure upon marine mammals. *Competition with fisheries* and exploitation through *hunting* are finally among the most discussed issues in marine mammal conservation and management.

Parasitism is a further factor that in some cases can affect the dynamics of marine mammal populations. Mass mortalities in dolphins, porpoises and seals resulted from infection of a morbillivirus. Parasitism by a certain hookworm has been suggested to constitute the most important mortality factor of juveniles in a population of northern fur seals. This factor also appears to be linked to the population density, thus implying a regulatory effect of the parasite on the population size. In large balaenopterid whales, a nematode affecting the genito-urinary system appears to be one of the main causes of natural mortality in these animals. Mass strandings of odontocetes have also been associated with parasite infections responsible for brain lesions.

These examples show how numerous and disparate can be the factors influencing marine mammal populations. The study of their effects combined with investigations on the biology of marine mammals and better knowledge on how they respond to changes in their environment (e.g., evolution of life history strategies, genetic diversity and structure, etc.) are of fundamental importance for conservation and subsequent management of this group of animals.

Two round table discussions were arranged during the course, offering the possibility to ask questions and discuss important issues. The first one focused on the evolutionary process of marine mammals. Again, one of the central themes discussed was adaptation to the

environment. Already during early evolution, adaptations occurred - primarily as morphological and/or physiological changes - leading to the development of different species (phylogeny). Evolutionary consequences of interactions between organisms and their environment can also be studied from a genetic point of view. Characteristics of the habitat and behaviour of marine mammals also affect population genetic diversity and structure. Life history parameters influence genetic diversity (e.g., polygynous mating decreases genetic diversity) as well as geographic barriers or habitat specialisation. This can be observed in various species composed of geographically isolated populations (e.g., a number of dolphin species inhabiting coastal and offshore environments).

The second round table discussion dealt with science and management of marine mammals. The role of the International Whaling Commission in the development of strategies for species preservation was one focus of interest. Especially the difficulties to match management procedures to limited scientific knowledge (scientific uncertainty) were discussed.

In my opinion, what clearly emerged is that many distinct, highly linked factors can influence marine mammal populations, thus rendering scientific investigations particularly complex. In this context, a number of methods and techniques to study this group of animals were presented, taking into account the difficulties and problems of their application. Clearly, each research subject must be seen from different points of view and using independent experimental approaches.

The seminar was packed with information that was transmitted to the audience by 12 of the most important and representative exponents in the field of marine mammal science. The excellent talks and the opportunity to deepen the subjects at the end of each presentation and during the two round table discussions made the course interesting for both students (the vast majority) and experts. In addition, the atmosphere was very informal. This was certainly due to the warm nature of the Spanish, but also to the open and cheerful way with which the speakers communicated with the audience. In general, not too many questions were asked (which was actually a pity!), such that speakers occasionally asked questions to themselves!

Only very few criticisms can be made concerning the organisation of the course. One of these is the absence of an English translation of Spanish texts in the course documentation. Since it was an international seminar, even if the majority of the participants were Spanish, all articles should have been written in English. The other thing is the poor "publicity" that was provided to inform students of the different countries of the occurrence of this event.

The seminar officially ended on the afternoon of the 15th of September in the assembly hall, but in reality continued the same night at the "Johnny Maracas", dancing with salsa rhythms and drinking exotic cocktails! Extra-auditorium events of this kind had actually been experienced several times in the preceding nights. Nearly all of the speakers and a high number of students participated with enthusiasm to these special occasions that also represented an opportunity to communicate in a different context. As one student said: "Also little seals were allowed to swim near big whales..."

The seminar was primarily attended by students and could host only a limited number of participants. This fact facilitated social interactions between students, but also between students and experts, especially when compared with bigger conferences (e.g., ECS, SMM, ACS). Such smaller events give the great and rare opportunity to discuss problems and questions with experts and to meet other students from all over Europe.

All these points contribute to my conviction that attending courses like this one in Valencia is a very positive and fruitful experience. It is therefore important to promote this kind of events. I will surely participate again!

Lucia Di Orio

Format of ECS Newsletter

In the last issue, it was announced that we would try also distributing the newsletter electronically. This was received very positively and almost one hundred members elected to receive it only in this manner. We are therefore doing the same again, and would be grateful if those persons currently receiving a paper copy who would be happy to have this solely in electronic form, would contact Roland Lick or Harald Benke who manage the membership list, to this effect. This will help the society save on postage costs, and enable the member to receive the newsletter more promptly. Current arrangements are:

- All paid-up members who have not requested otherwise will receive this issue of the newsletter by post.
- The newsletter will also be distributed electronically as an attachment using Portable Document Format.

In order to read the PDF file, it is necessary that members should have Adobe Acrobat Reader. The Reader is free, available for all major operating systems (Windows, Macintosh, Unix), and retains its original layout so that a print-out should be exactly the same as a hard copy.

Adobe Acrobat (version 4) can be downloaded for free from the Adobe Web Site:

<http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/main.html>

or for those at a university, from their university server.

REMEMBER, YOU WILL ONLY RECEIVE AN ELECTRONIC VERSION IF YOU ARE A PAID-UP MEMBER OF THE ECS. FOR DETAILS OF HOW TO JOIN OR RENEW, SEE BELOW.

Peter Evans

Renewing ECS Membership

Remember, if you have not paid your ECS membership fee for 2000, you will not receive the Proceedings from the Cork Conference or any other Society publications.

To renew for the year 2001, please note the new subscription rates: for European members of 45 DM for

students, 75 DM for full members, and 150 DM for institutions (Institutions can send up to two persons of their choice to the conference at member rates). For members living outside Europe, an additional DM 30 is charged to cover extra costs of postage of the Proceedings, etc.

Please send your membership fees in German Marks or Euro by Eurocheque or any other cheque drawn to a German bank, payable to the European Cetacean Society. Do not send cash. Membership fees can also be paid by credit card or transferred directly to the following ECS-account: Dr. Roland Lick, ECS, Postbank Hamburg (BRD), Account-No. 789584-205, Bank Code 200 100 20 (state your Name and calendar year for membership fee)

There is a membership form which we would be grateful for you to complete. It records address details as well as telephone, fax and e-mail, research interests, etc. Please contact me for a copy or print one from the ECS web site: <http://web.inter.NL.net/users/J.W.Broekema/ecs>

Roland Lick
(e-mail: rllick2059@aol.com)

Student Matters

Dear ECS-student members,

I enjoyed the last ECS conference in Cork, which a lot of you also attended, very much! One issue in the Cork student meeting was the wish to improve the student WebPages and the communication among students. Another issue was the replacement of Simon Ingram as student representative, as he had been "on board" for two years now doing a great job – especially with the student workshop in Cork!

Being elected as your new student representative (thanks a lot for your faith), I would like to introduce myself and give a short overview on my future plans to improve the ECS-student community. Therefore please read the following sections (especially the last three ones). I would very much welcome from you any action on and response to these topics. At the same time, this would help you make more ready contact with other ECS-student members than previously, for communication & information exchange.

Thank you very much! I hope to see you all in Rome!

And now for a description of your student representative:

Student Representative

My name is Ursula Verfuss, and I am enrolled in the University of Tübingen in southern Germany. I am working on my Ph.D entitled "Understanding the echolocation behaviour of harbour porpoises (*Phocoena phocoena*) in order to reduce by-catch". This project is in co-operation with the Fjord & Belt Centre, Kerteminde, DK and the Odense University, DK. A few months ago I started living in Stralsund, north-eastern Germany, to analyse all my data & to write up the thesis.

My aims for the time being as your student representative are to improve the student WebPages and to increase the

communication amongst students. My role as a student rep. is also to represent the interests of students on the ECS Council. Therefore I am very happy for anybody to contact me to give ideas & information of interest to other students / the ECS Council. Please contact me any time!

My email is: ursula.verfuss@uni-tuebingen.de.

& address: Ossenreier Str. 24, 18439 Stralsund, Germany.

Student WebPages

Thanks to Jan Willem Broekema, who is in charge of the ECS WebPages, a web page for student matters has been set up. You can find it under:

<http://web.inter.nl.net/users/J.W.Broekema/ecs/ecs-student.htm>

There is no information on it yet, but I am working on this. You will be informed through the ECS-news mailing list (see below) about every update of the WebPages. The student WebPages will include information about Funding & Travel grants, the student representative, former and coming student workshops, the student members, volunteer jobs, and a grey literature list with Masters & Ph.D. theses. These are ideas mentioned during the student meeting or which have come into my mind, but if you have any other ideas & suggestions, please tell me! For setting up the information about the ECS-student members, I'd like you to fill out the questionnaire enclosed with this newsletter and to send it back to me. If you have not seen the questionnaire, I'll be happy to send it to you via email.

Student Mailing List

I'd like to encourage you to subscribe to the student mailing list "ECS-news"! This will enable me to reach as many ECS-student members as possible for distributing information regarding forthcoming conferences (e.g. cheap accommodation), volunteer jobs, and other news. You can use the mailing list to ask for help or request information from other students regarding any marine mammal related topic, or to organise car / room sharing for the conferences, etc...

Subscribe to the ECS-news list right now, by sending an email

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Subject: joining ECS-news

Text: join ecs-news Ursula Katharina Verfuss
stop

Thanks!

Student Workshop in Rome, 2001

We have the opportunity for a student workshop at the ECS Conference in Rome, in May 2001. At the last workshop in Cork we talked about planning projects and publications. In 2001, I would like to take the chance to let students get to know each other, and to find out what happens in their country or field of interest. My idea is to have working groups - either country specific or topic specific, with a few senior scientists leading the discussion and being open for questions. The students should introduce themselves and their projects (if present), and could take the opportunity to open a discussion on specific problems. I DO NEED your feedback as to whether you would be interested in such a workshop, and if it should be organised on a country specific or topic specific basis [if topic specific, please let me know your field of interest (using keywords)]. If you have any other ideas or wish to have another specific theme for the workshop instead of what I've suggested above, please tell me!

PLEASE, give me your opinion about the workshop (country versus topic specific, other theme?) AS SOON AS POSSIBLE via email – even if you are not sure yet that you'll attend the workshop. I'll need it urgently for planning the workshop!

Thanks a lot! See you soon in Rome!

Ursula Verfuss
(Student Representative)

Report on the ECS Student Workshop, Cork 2000: "PLANNING, PRESENTING AND PUBLISHING SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH"

The Workshop was held on the Thursday after the main conference and was attended by 44 students from 13 countries! The aim of the workshop was to address problems of initiating research projects and securing funding for postgraduate study. The workshop also dealt with improving communication of research findings by providing help on preparing the results of research work for publication and presentation at conferences.

Ursula Verfuss began the workshop by presenting the results of a questionnaire showing the experience of mostly students working on a project and senior scientists. Then Paul Thompson gave a talk on how to approach postgraduate research projects and how to secure funding and supervision.

Peter Evans gave a talk on how to improve presentation of talks or posters at conferences such as the ECS. Finally Greg Donovan gave a talk on how to get the results of your research work published.

The workshop was also assisted by the presence of experienced researchers namely, Ailsa Hall, Giovanni Bearzi, Christophe Guinet and Phil Hammond.

I would like to thank all those of you who attended and especially those who gave presentations. A detailed report of the workshop will be made available soon via the student webpage.

Simon Ingram

REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE

We are two members of the ECS conducting a study on the behavior and bioacoustics of the cetaceans living in the Mediterranean Sea. Specifically our interest study area is located in the Pontino-Campano archipelago, in the Southern part of the Tyrrhenian sea. We live on a sailboat, named "Barbarian", which has been not only our research lab, but also our home for 16 years.

Last Christmas a devastating storm destroyed our boat - our home, our research lab, our life. With it, years of research and data collection has been lost forever. Down in the sea are all electronic instruments, all marine audio recordings (from 1995-1999), numerous books and priceless research material.

We have raised the funds to buy a new sailboat and are confident that soon we will be able to continue our research.

We would appreciate your support in helping us re-create our scientific library and our on-board equipment.

The following is a list of equipment and books that has been lost with Barbarian. We hope that some of you may have materials not in use that would like to donate to us.

We thank you for your time reading this message and hope to be back "sailing" with our research soon.

Barbara Mussi

to see our work <http://www.mare.it/studiomare>

Equipment

1. Hydrophones and submarine audio system
2. Mixer 6 channels 220v
3. DAT recorder Hitachi 88EX
4. Sub Video Camera Panasonic CCD Camera WV-KS152
5. VTR Betacam SP Sony
6. Colour Monitor
7. Video Camera Sony HI8 CCD-TR780E
8. Camera Nikon with 70-200 mm/f:1-2.8 zoom
9. Portable PC Compaq Armada 1572 pentium
10. Tower PC pentium 2
11. Tower PC 486 dx
12. Epson printer 460 Deskjet
13. N°1 Power stabilizer and backup system 1000 VA
14. Scanner for dias and photo EPSON 200
15. Video digitizers: (VideoMachine, Studio DC10)
16. CD-data writer Mitsumi

17. CD player
18. Satellite Plotter GPS Navionics
19. Echosounder Simrad
20. 3 solar panels
21. Generatore eolico 62 Am/h
22. Inverter 12v/220v

Our Library

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