

PREFACE

NAMMCO—North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission is pleased to present Volume 14 of the NAMMCO Scientific Publications series: *Anthropogenic Impacts on Marine Mammals*. With the support of subject-specific guest editors Geneviève Desportes (Secretariat), Heidi Ahonen (Norwegian Polar Institute), Kimberly Murray (NOAA), and Outi Tervo (Greenland Institute of Natural Resources), this volume brings together a collection of scientific papers addressing critical issues related to human disturbances of marine mammals in the North Atlantic.

As an intergovernmental organisation, NAMMCO is mandated to provide sound research and management advice on cetaceans and pinnipeds in the North Atlantic, to ensure their sustainable and responsible use. Volume 14 embodies this mission by presenting a wide range of studies addressing the impacts of human activities on marine mammals and exploring strategies to ensure their conservation and sustainable management.

The geographic scope of this journal is much broader than the waters of the NAMMCO Parties—the Faroe Islands, Greenland, Iceland, and Norway—but the pressures facing marine mammals are similar across the North Atlantic. From by-catch to vessel noise, we can all stand to learn from each other on how to measure, manage, and mitigate human impacts on marine life. This volume features a follow-up study on the deterrent effect of pingers on harbour porpoises in Norwegian gillnet fisheries, a comprehensive 25-year overview of pinniped strandings in New York, an analysis of minke whale by-catch in Norwegian waters, a review of seal hunting as a management measure in Sweden to protect fisheries, and an investigation into the effects of shipping noise on harbour seals in France.

The diversity of topics and species represented underscores the growing and complex cumulative pressures on marine mammals, highlighting the urgent need for informed and adaptive management approaches.

We would like to thank all the reviewers and contributing authors for making this volume possible. Further information about NAMMCO is available at www.nammco.org. All the volumes in the NAMMCO Scientific Publications series are available in electronic form at https://septentrio.uit.no/index.php/NAMMCO_SP. Older volumes may also be made available in hard copy from the NAMMCO Secretariat.

Maria Garagouni and Naima El bani Altuna,
Deputy Secretaries of NAMMCO & Series
Editors of NAMMCO Scientific Publications

*North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission,
Forskningsparken, P.O. Box 6400, 9294 Tromsø,
Norway.*

<https://www.nammco.org>