Overview on the recent National Centre for Marine Sciences' activities for cetaceans' conservation

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Fifth Conference on Cetacean Conservation in South Mediterranean Countries (CSMC5)

Online, 13 - 15 April 2021

- **The National Centre for Marine Sciences (NCMS) was established in 1977.** The decision was taken in 1975 as an answer to the conference of Stockholm in 1972

- **The main mandates of the centre are to:**

  - **Supervise permanently the coastal zone and the sea by creating a national network of observation**

  - **Evaluate the specific diversity by characterizing the migrant communities and their habitats.**

  - **Origin and destiny of continental inputs (anthropogenic and natural) and their impact on coastal and marine ecosystems**


CANA-CANS
LEBANON

- Ministerial decision Nº 1/125 of September 23rd 1999 "Prohibition of fishing and marketing of by-products related to cetaceans and turtles ".

- **Law 571 of adhesion to ACCOBAMS of February 11th 2004**

- Ministerial decision Nº 69/2004 of July 2nd 2004 "Establishment of a permanent inter-ministerial committee to implement the agreement ACCOBAMS ".

- **Decision Nº 524 of the General Secretary of Ministers' Council of May 10th 2005. "Designation of the National Centre for Marine Sciences - CNRS as the focal point of the ACCOBAMS agreement"**

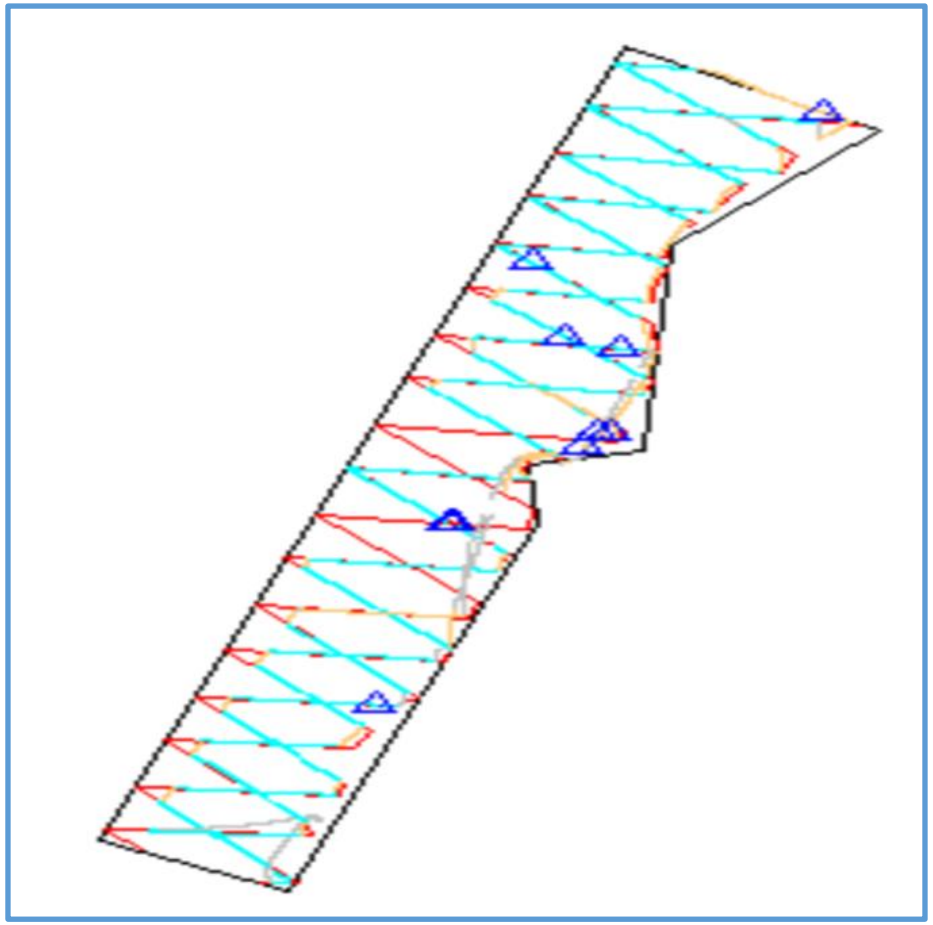
- Ministrial decision Nº 1154, 2013, general conditions for the protection of marin mammals (like Whales, dolphins & monk seals)

ACCOBAMS Initiative Survey

- In summer 2018 (August - Septembre), The NCSM participated in implementation of the ASI regional project led by the ACCOBAMS secretariat and undertaken by the various countries of the Mediterranean basin.

- For various military, logistical & safety reasons, it was decided to carry out the "Survey" by the CANA boat by following a predesigned transects in agreement with the "ASI Survey" scientific committee.

	Distance parcourue (Mn)	Observation	Espèce	Nombre d'individus	Distance du bateau/m	Coordonnées
7/8/2018	54.4					
8/8/2018	75.78	2	Tursiops truncatus	4	100	33˚ 47.508N 35˚ 22.622E
				1	200	33˚ 47.863N 35˚ 22.015E
9/8/2018	8					
16/8/2018	57.12	3	Tursiops truncatus	1	5	33˚ 57.092N 35˚ 34.622E
				1	1000	33˚ 57.187N 35˚ 33.714E
				1	250	34˚ 06.088N 35˚ 35.411E
29/8/2018	102.6	1	Tursiops truncatus	1	10	33˚28.896N 35˚16.838E
30/8/2018	86					
10/9/2018	96	2	Tursiops truncatus	1	20	33˚ 55.524N 35˚ 32.477E
				1	50	34˚ 07.076N 35˚ 31.310E
11/9/2018	90.55	2	Tursiops truncatus	1	50	34˚15.037N 35˚ 28.414E
				2	200	34˚ 30.583N 35˚ 50.920E
Total	570.45	10	Tursiops truncatus	14		



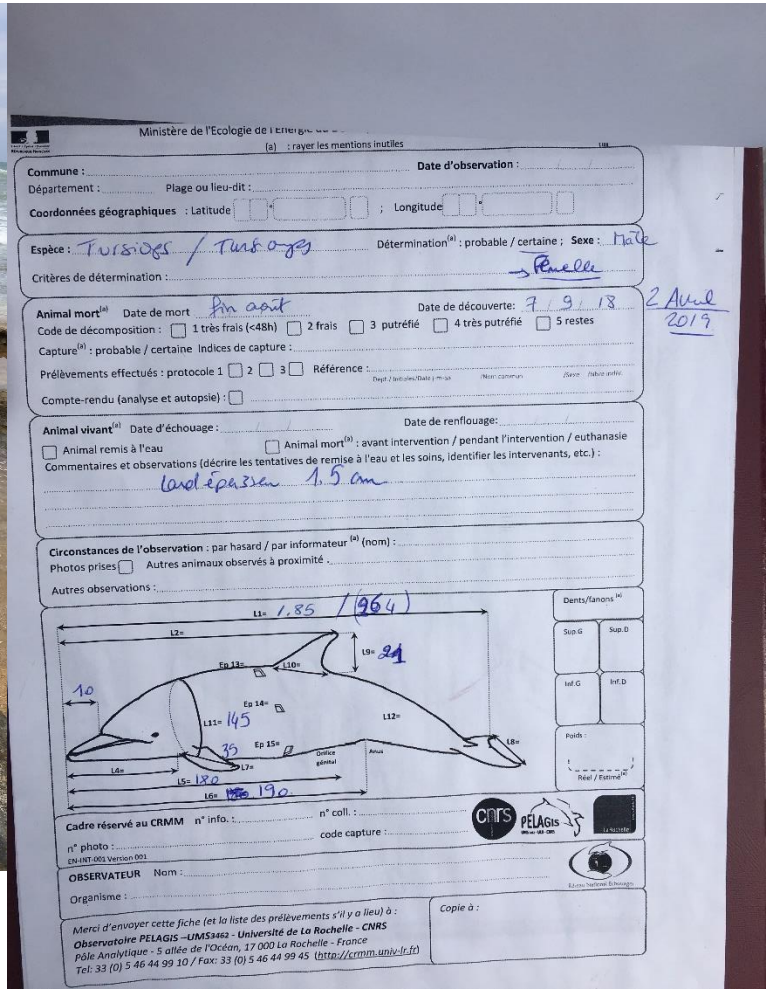
Organization of events related to ACCOBAMS Activities

- The National Centre for Marine Sciences helped in the organization of 2 events related to ACCOBAMS activities:

  - ACCOBAMS TRAINING COURSES **ON PHOTO ID AND DATABASES FOR EXPERTS** in collaboration with SPA/RAC, IUCN Med, MedPAN and Lebanese CNRS Lebanon (1st -5th October 2018)

  - The Centre helped the Secretariat of ACCOBAMS and SPA-RAC in the organization of the joint workshop on the subject of **"Data Analysis and Estimating Abundance of Marine Mammals' Population and Life History Parameters",** within the framework of the ACCOBAMS Survey Initiative (ASI) and EcAp-MEDII project between 24th-27th June 2019

Stranding Network



Ministère de l'Ecologie de l'Energie

(a) : rayer les mentions inutiles

Commune : **Date d'observation :**

Département : Plage ou lieu-dit :

Coordonnées géographiques : Latitude ° ; Longitude °

Espèce : Tursiops / Tursiops **Détermination**(a) : probable / certaine ; **Sexe :** Mâle

Critères de détermination : → Femelle

Animal mort(a) Date de mort fin août Date de découverte: 7 / 9 / 18 2 Août 2019

Code de décomposition : ☐ 1 très frais (<48h) ☐ 2 frais ☐ 3 putréfié ☐ 4 très putréfié ☐ 5 restes

Capture(a) : probable / certaine Indices de capture :

Prélèvements effectués : protocole 1 ☐ 2 ☐ 3 ☐ Référence :

Compte-rendu (analyse et autopsie) : ☐

Animal vivant(a) Date d'échouage : Date de renflouage :

☐ Animal remis à l'eau ☐ Animal mort(a) : avant intervention / pendant l'intervention / euthanasie

Commentaires et observations (décrire les tentatives de remise à l'eau et les soins, identifier les intervenants, etc.) :

Corps épars sur 1,5 m

Circonstances de l'observation : par hasard / par informateur (a) (nom) :

Photos prises ☐ Autres animaux observés à proximité :

Autres observations :

L1= 1,85 (1964)

L2=

L9= 21

Ep 13=

L10=

10

Ep 14=

L11= 145

L12=

35

Ep 15=

Orifice génital

Anus

L8=

L7=

L6= 190

L5= 180

L4=

Dents/lanons (a)

Sup.G Sup.D

Inf.G Inf.D

Poids :

Réel / Estimé (a)

Cadre réservé au CRMM n° info. : n° coll. :

n° photo : code capture :

EN-INT-001 Version 001

OBSERVATEUR Nom :

Organisme :

Merci d'envoyer cette fiche (et la liste des prélèvements s'il y a lieu) à :
Observatoire PELAGIS -UMS3462 - Université de La Rochelle - CNRS
Pôle Analytique - 5 allée de l'Océan, 17 000 La Rochelle - France
Tel: 33 (0) 5 46 44 99 10 / Fax: 33 (0) 5 46 44 99 45 (http://crmm.univ-lr.fr)

Copie à :

April 3, 2019
Aadloun Beach
Tursiops truncatus: Female.
L= 264 cm
Dissected

August 9, 2019
Stenella coeruleoalba: Female
Aadloun Beach
L=185 cm
Dissected

September 8, 2019
Tyre Rocky Beach
Tursiops truncatus: Female.
L= 294 cm
Dissected

February 10, 2020
Sarafand Beach
Orcinus orca: Female.
L= 500 cm
Dissected

Identification of a Male Orcinus orca

February 20, 2020
Orcinus orca: Male
Beirut Marine Area
L= 7 m
Identification: identification in cooperation with “Orca Guardians” in Iceland (SN113, or “Riptide”).
SN113 was documented moving at slow speed, vocalizing into the air, and blowing bubbles close to a stationary boat. On the 20th of February, breathing rates were taken, with the orca surfacing every 30 to 60 seconds for a duration of approx. 15 seconds on three consecutive shallow dives (no arched back observed). After the third surface, SN113 stayed under water for about 5 minutes, before the breathing cycle was repeated.

Perspectives

After the Blast of Beirut Port

- A campaign is scheduled to study the impact of Beirut blast on the abundance and distribution of cetaceans in the affected marine area of Beirut

NAP upgrade

- IUCN will support the process of upgrading of the NAP for cetacean conservation

Courses on Cetaceans

- Teaching the ACCOBAMS module (Cetology) in the universities of Lebanon

Publish a paper

- The researchers will be working on writing the paper with the results obtained during ASI campaign to be in the peer-reviewed series of publication based on the ASI results in a special issues on Frontiers in Marine Sciences.

Thank you شكرا

Merci