



‘priority population’ for the purpose of the CMP development process. In addition to ship strikes, anthropogenic noise and bycatch, Mediterranean sperm whales are particularly vulnerable to marine litter. Range States include Albania, Algeria, Cyprus, Egypt, France, Greece, Italy, Libya, Malta, Monaco, Morocco, Spain, Tunisia, and Türkiye;

b. Mediterranean Cuvier’s beaked whales

Mediterranean Cuvier’s beaked whales are listed as ‘Vulnerable’ in the IUCN Red List. Threats to such species include anthropogenic noise, habitat degradation, chemical pollution, bycatch and ingestion of marine litter. Range States include Albania, Algeria, Croatia, Cyprus, France, Greece, Israel, Italy, Monaco, Montenegro, Morocco, Spain, and Türkiye;

c. Black Sea cetaceans

Harbour porpoises and bottlenose dolphins of the Black Sea are listed as ‘Endangered’ in the IUCN Red List. Common dolphins of the Black Sea are listed as ‘Vulnerable’. The Black Sea Commission (Sub-Regional Coordination Unit) recommended in 2021 to develop the updated Conservation Plan for Black Sea Cetaceans, as separate conservation plans for each of the three species. Threats to such species include bycatch (particularly for the harbour porpoise), habitat degradation (including prey depletion), illegal takes of bottlenose dolphins from the wild, and consequences of bio-invasions by alien species. Range States include Bulgaria, Georgia, Romania, Russia, Türkiye, and Ukraine;

5. *Encourages* Range States to participate in the drafting process of relevant CMPs.