





3. *Recommends* Parties to implement, as a matter of urgency, mitigation measures in the following high-risk areas in the ACCOBAMS Area, where ship strikes with the following species are frequent:
  - Strait of Gibraltar - fin and sperm whales;
  - Balearic Islands - fin and sperm whales; Balearic Basin and Catalan Coast – fin and sperm whales;
  - Eastern Alborán Sea - fin and sperm whales;
  - Pelagos Sanctuary - fin and sperm whales;
  - Hellenic Trench, Greece - sperm whales;
4. *Encourages* researchers, scientific institutions and partner organizations engaged in the development of real time cetacean localization projects, which are designed to be used as complementary tools in avoiding ship strikes, to share and report their findings;
5. *Strongly encourages* Parties to submit data to the IWC Global Ship Strikes Database, which will both: (i) facilitate a proper evaluation, prioritisation and monitoring of ship strikes as a threat posed to various populations and regions; and (ii) assist in the development of mitigation measures;
6. *Recommends* Parties to support the designation process by IMO of a Particularly Sensitive Sea Area (PSSA) in the North West Mediterranean Sea so to mitigate the risk of collision between cetaceans and ships. This area includes ‘North West Mediterranean Sea Slope and Canyon System’ IMMA, the Pelagos Sanctuary, the Spanish Migration Cetacean Corridor Marine Protected Area, and the area between it and the coast;
7. *Asks* the Scientific Committee to assist Spain, France, Italy and Monaco in developing prospective protection measures in the PSSA once adopted;
8. *Recommends* that the Parties and the Secretariat pursue their cooperation efforts with IMO, as well as other intergovernmental organizations, national authorities, shipping industry, port authorities and the whale watching industry in order to implement effective mitigation measures, in particular through the Cetacean Critical Habitat (CCH) identification process launched by ACCOBAMS, which provides an overview resulting from overlapping information on known existing human threats and IMMAs.