



**Cetaceans of the Mediterranean and Black Seas: State of Knowledge and Conservation Strategies**

SECTION 3

## Cetacean Species Occurring in the Mediterranean and Black Seas

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*To be cited as:* Notarbartolo di Sciarra G. 2002. Cetacean species occurring in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.  
In: G. Notarbartolo di Sciarra (Ed.), Cetaceans of the Mediterranean and Black Seas: state of knowledge and conservation strategies. A report to the ACCOBAMS Secretariat, Monaco, February 2002. Section 3, 17 p.

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A Report to the ACCOBAMS Interim Secretariat  
Monaco, February 2002  
With the financial support of  
Coopération Internationale pour l'Environnement et le Développement, Principauté de Monaco

Twenty one species of cetaceans occur in various degrees of abundance in the Mediterranean Sea and in the Black Sea. This list corresponds to Annex 1 of the Agreement, with the addition of three species known to have occurred in the Mediterranean in subsequent times. The list also roughly corresponds to the species occurring in the Contiguous Atlantic Area, however we must caution that a considerable number of other species, commonly present throughout the Atlantic Ocean, may occur there. Furthermore, we note that the number of species which are known to occur in the Agreement area is likely to grow with time, as the attention of scientists and laypersons towards cetaceans increases, and considering that species hitherto unreported from the region may occur there occasionally. For this reason, in the Agreement's Annex 1 it was stated that: "*The present Agreement shall also apply to any other cetaceans not already listed in this annex, but which may frequent the Agreement area accidentally or occasionally*".

In the Black Sea only three small cetacean species, short-beaked common dolphin, common bottlenose dolphin, and harbour porpoise, are represented by regularly occurring populations. A greater diversity characterises the cetacean fauna in the Mediterranean Sea, considering that eight species are regular in the subregion: fin whale, sperm whale, Cuvier's beaked whale, long-finned pilot whale, Risso's dolphin, common bottlenose dolphin, striped dolphin and

short-beaked common dolphin. All other species occur occasionally, represented by vagrant individuals from North Atlantic and Red Sea populations.

The list of the species occurring, or known to have occurred, in the Agreement area is given in Table 3.1. Table 3.2 lists many common names of such species, in most of the languages of the riparian countries. A capsule description of all the species listed in these tables follows. For a more detailed treatment of the subject, we refer the reader to recent texts and guides dealing specifically with the region's cetaceans (e.g., Bompar 2000, Notarbartolo di Sciara and Demma 1997).

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<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i> Lacépède 1804
<b>English common name</b>	minke whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Mysticeti</b> Family: <b>Balaenopteridae</b> Genus: <b><i>Balaenoptera</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	A cosmopolitan species, present at all latitudes in both hemispheres. Most frequent in cold temperate, sub-polar and polar waters.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Individuals from North Atlantic populations occasionally enter the Mediterranean through the Strait of Gibraltar. Sightings and strandings have been reported off France, Italy, Tunisia, Israel. There is one ancient record of a minke whale stranding in the Black Sea (1880).
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Found both in neritic and pelagic habitats, most frequently over the continental shelf.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i> Lesson 1828
<b>English common name</b>	sei whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Mysticeti</b> Family: <b>Balaenopteridae</b> Genus: <b><i>Balaenoptera</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Circumglobal.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Rare sightings and strandings reported from Spain, Gibraltar, France and possibly Tunisia. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Mostly found in pelagic, productive waters having temperatures comprised between 8° and 25°C.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Globicephala melas</i> (Traill 1809)
<b>English common name</b>	long-finned pilot whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Globicephala</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Found in cold and medium-temperate waters of the North Atlantic and in the Southern Hemisphere.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Common in the western portion of the Mediterranean basin (Alboran and Balearic Seas), progressively decreasing in frequency to become quite rare in the Ionian Sea and off western Greece. Its presence in the eastern Mediterranean is doubtful. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	A pelagic species, mostly found offshore of the deepest portion of the continental slope.
<b>population data</b>	No population estimates exist for this species in the Agreement area.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i> (Linnaeus 1758)
<b>English common name</b>	fin whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Mysticeti</b> Family: <b>Balaenopteridae</b> Genus: <b><i>Balaenoptera</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Cosmopolitan, but most frequent in cold temperate and sub-polar waters. Known to migrate extensively between cold productive waters (in summer) and tropical waters (in winter).
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	The commonest large whale species in the Mediterranean Sea, found mostly over deep, offshore waters of the western and central portion of the region, from the waters north and east of the Balearic Islands to the Ionian Sea (included). Less frequent elsewhere, but present throughout the region. Genetic analyses based on both mitochondrial and nuclear DNA indicated differences between the Mediterranean population, thought to be resident, and North Atlantic fin whales. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Although they are found mainly in deep waters (400-2,500 m depth, most commonly at the deepest end of the range), offshore of the continental shelf edge, fin whales in the Mediterranean can also occur in slope and shelf waters, favouring upwelling and frontal zones with high zooplankton concentrations.
<b>population data</b>	No population estimates exist for the entire region. Line-transect surveys in 1991 and 1992 yielded fin whale population sizes, respectively, in excess of 3,500 individuals over a large portion of the western Mediterranean, and of about 900 individuals in the Corsican-Ligurian-Provençal basin. In the Mediterranean, fin whales are regularly encountered throughout the western and central basins, with seasonal summer concentrations in highly productive portions of the Corsican, Ligurian, Tyrrhenian and Ionian Seas, where they apparently feed on a single euphausiid species, <i>Meganyctiphanes norvegica</i> . During winter, fin whales disperse from these areas to a wider range within the Mediterranean, possibly southwards, to yet unknown breeding and calving grounds. They are extremely rare in the Adriatic and Aegean Seas, and in the Levant Basin.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i> (Müller 1776)
<b>English common name</b>	North Atlantic right whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Mysticeti</b> Family: <b>Balaenidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Eubalaena</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Once considered a single species inhabiting both the North Atlantic and North Pacific Oceans, today in the North Atlantic it is recognised as a separate species (see Appendix 1). The main nucleus persists with about 300 individuals along the east coast of the North American continent. The north-eastern Atlantic population is probably extinct.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Two certain occurrences of this species were recorded in the Mediterranean Sea in historical times: a sighting in Algeria towards the end of the XVIII Cent., and a stranding in southern Italy in 1877. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Coastal habits during feeding and breeding seasons. Can cross deep ocean basins when migrating.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i> (Forster, 1770)
<b>English common name</b>	northern bottlenose whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Ziphiidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Hyperoodon</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Temperate and sub-polar waters of the North Atlantic Ocean.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	No confirmed Mediterranean record for the species exists in the published literature. Unpublished sighting reports from the northern Alboran Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Found mostly beyond the continental shelf, in deep slope and pelagic waters, and over submarine canyons.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Delphinus delphis</i> Linnaeus 1758
<b>English common name</b>	short-beaked common dolphin
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Delphinus</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Widely distributed in warm temperate and tropical waters of the Atlantic, Pacific, and probably Indian oceans.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Once one of the commonest species in most seas, including the Mediterranean Sea (thence its common name). Neritic communities seem to show relatively high levels of site fidelity, while little is known about the movements and range patterns of offshore animals. Recent genetic studies indicate a significant level of divergence between Mediterranean and Atlantic populations; genetic exchange between Atlantic and Mediterranean seems to be limited to the Alborán Sea, possibly due to local oceanographic features. In the Black Sea it is considered by some authors as an endemic sub-species ( <i>D. d. ponticus</i> ), though more taxonomic studies are needed before this view can be confirmed.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Short-beaked common dolphins in the Mediterranean Sea are found both in the pelagic and in the neritic environment, often sharing the former with striped dolphins and the latter with common bottlenose dolphins. Associations between common dolphins and either striped dolphins, Risso's dolphins or bottlenose dolphins have been observed in several places and occasions. Consistent observations conducted in the eastern Ionian Sea are indicative of high levels of site fidelity for a coastal community including less than 100 individuals. In the Black Sea the species is distributed predominantly offshore, but inshore waters are visited when seasonal aggregations of coastal fish prey occur.
<b>population data</b>	There is no overall population estimate for common dolphins anywhere in the Agreement area. According to line-transect surveys conducted in 1991 and 1992 in the western Mediterranean basin, common dolphins were abundant only in the Alborán Sea, while low sighting frequency in other western Mediterranean areas prevented further estimates. Literature data, photographic documentation and osteological collections indicate that common dolphins once represented a frequent encounter in the Mediterranean Sea. The species, however, has faced a dramatic numerical decline during the last decades, and has almost completely disappeared from large portions of its former range (e.g., the northern Adriatic Sea, the Balearic Sea, Provençal Basin, and Ligurian Sea). Apparently isolated communities can still be observed in northern Sardinia, southern Tyrrhenian Sea, Sicily Channel, eastern Ionian Sea, and northern Aegean Sea. In the Black Sea, the species still appears to be the most abundant despite its over-exploitation up to the early 1980s.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Grampus griseus</i> (G. Cuvier 1812)
<b>English common name</b>	Risso's dolphin
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Grampus</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Circumglobal in temperate and tropical seas, roughly between Lat. 60° N and 60° S.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Common in the Mediterranean from Gibraltar to the Aegean Sea. Its presence in the Levant basin is unknown, but likely. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Mostly found in deep pelagic waters and in particular over steep shelf slopes and submarine canyons.
<b>population data</b>	No population estimates exist for this species in the Agreement area.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Kogia sima</i> (Owen 1866)
<b>English common name</b>	dwarf sperm whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Kogiidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Kogia</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Scant data, mostly deriving from the stranding record, indicate a circumglobal distribution, with a clear preference for tropical waters.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	One specimen stranded on the Tyrrhenian coast of Italy in 1988. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	A deep water species, found preferably in correspondence of steep continental slopes.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> (Borowski 1781)
<b>English common name</b>	humpback whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Mysticeti</b> Family: <b>Balaenopteridae</b> Genus: <i>Megaptera</i>
<b>world distribution</b>	A widely distributed, far-ranging migrant mysticete, found with distinct populations in both hemispheres in the major oceans.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Few certain occurrences in the Mediterranean Sea exist: a juvenile caught in 1885 off Toulon (France); a sighting in 1986 of two individuals off the Balearic Islands; the accidental capture of juvenile in the Gulf of Gabès (Tunisia) in 1992 and of another juvenile off Cavalaire (France) in 1993; and the repeated sightings of a single juvenile in the western Aegean Sea in 2001. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	A highly migratory species, known to undertake extensive voyages between high-latitude feeding grounds (summer) and tropical breeding grounds (winter). Both feeding and breeding occur in shallow neritic zones, while migration routes bring these whales across deep oceanic waters.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i> (Sowerby 1804)
<b>English common name</b>	Sowerby's beaked whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Ziphiidae</b> Genus: <i>Mesoplodon</i>
<b>world distribution</b>	A North Atlantic species, known mostly from strandings. Most records come from the north-eastern Atlantic shores.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	The presence of this species in the Mediterranean is still unconfirmed. Older accounts suggesting strandings of <i>M. bidens</i> in the Mediterranean are unconvincing (see Van Bree 1975). Two recent, unpublished strandings may have been <i>M. bidens</i> : one in 1996 in southern France of two live individuals, rescued and released without collecting basic identification data, and one in the early 90s off south-western Peloponnese, Greece. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Probably limited to offshore, deep pelagic waters.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.



<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i> (Blainville 1817)
<b>English common name</b>	Blainville's beaked whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Ziphiidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Mesoplodon</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Circumglobal. Probably the <i>Mesoplodon</i> species having the widest distribution.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	The only confirmed occurrence of this species in the Mediterranean refers to a stranding in Catalonia in 1980. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Perhaps one of the most pelagic of the Ziphiid species, considering that strandings seem to be most frequently occurring on remote oceanic islands.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Orcinus orca</i> (Linnaeus 1758)
<b>English common name</b>	killer whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Orcinus</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Circumglobal, with a preference for colder waters.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Present only sporadically in the Mediterranean, with a higher incidence in the western part of the basin (Gibraltar, Morocco, Spain, France, Italy, Malta). Only one (uncertain) report from the eastern basin (Israel). Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Although this is one of the mammal species having the widest distribution, from polar to tropical waters, and from inshore bays to the open ocean, it is found preferably in colder waters and over the continental shelf.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i> (Linnaeus 1758)
<b>English common name</b>	harbour porpoise
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Phocoenidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Phocoena</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Widely distributed over the continental shelf in cold temperate waters of both the Northern Atlantic and Pacific Oceans, including connected semi-enclosed seas, bays and estuaries.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Today, harbour porpoises appear to be absent from the Mediterranean, with the exception of a limited area in the Northern Aegean Sea, where a small nucleus, of likely pontic origin, seems to be existing. The question of the historical presence of harbour porpoises in the Mediterranean is still controversial. By contrast, harbour porpoises are well known in the Black Sea and connected waters, including the Azov and Marmara Seas. In this subregion a subspecies, <i>P. p. relicta</i> , is recognised by some authors, recently supported by genetic evidence.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Found in the shallowest portion of the continental shelf, often venturing in bays, inlets, brackish lagoons, estuaries and even rivers.
<b>population data</b>	No reliable abundance estimate is available yet for the Black Sea population.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i> (= <i>P. catodon</i> ) Linnaeus 1758
<b>English common name</b>	sperm whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Physeteridae</b> Genus: <b><i>Physeter</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Circumglobal and migratory. Most sperm whales shift towards higher latitudes in spring and summer, returning to temperate and tropical waters in autumn. Adult males range farther towards polar waters than females and young.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Widely distributed in the Mediterranean from the Alboran Sea to the Levant basin, mostly over steep slope and deep offshore waters. Not infrequent in parts of the Algerian-Ligurian Basin, Tyrrhenian and Ionian Sea, off southern Crete and possibly all along the Aegean Arc; predictably present in the North Aegean Sea during fall; rare in the Sicilian Channel; vagrant in the Adriatic Sea. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Preferred sperm whale habitat in the Mediterranean includes slope and deep offshore waters, preferably over the continental slope where mesopelagic squid are most abundant. Groups of females with juveniles and mature males can be found together year round in some areas of the Mediterranean.
<b>population data</b>	No information is available on Mediterranean sperm whale population size, nor on the relationship between Mediterranean and Atlantic populations. However, several observations suggest a high degree of isolation.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i> (Owen 1846)
<b>English common name</b>	false killer whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Pseudorca</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Widely distributed in warm temperate and tropical waters globally.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	A rare species in the Mediterranean, where individuals and pods may stray from the warmer waters of the Atlantic Ocean and perhaps from the Red Sea through the Suez Canal as Lessepsian immigrants. The species has reportedly occurred off Spain, Morocco, Algeria, France, Italy, Greece, Turkey and Egypt. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	A typical inhabitant of the pelagic domain, but often also found over steep slope areas and continental shelf waters.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Sousa plumbea</i> (G. Cuvier 1829)
<b>English common name</b>	Indian humpback dolphin
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Sousa</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Tropical Indian Ocean, Red Sea, and Indo-Pacific region up to the eastern coast of Australia and Taiwan.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Individuals are occasionally reported to stray into the Mediterranean (Egypt, Israel) from the Red Sea through the Suez Canal as Lessepsian immigrants. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	A typically neritic species, found over the continental shelf, bays and estuaries and mouths of large rivers.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i> (Meyen 1833)
<b>English common name</b>	striped dolphin
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Stenella</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Tropical and warm-temperate waters around the world.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	The commonest pelagic cetacean in the Mediterranean, found in offshore waters from Gibraltar to the Aegean Sea and the Levant basin. Morphometric studies and genetic analyses indicate differences between north-eastern Atlantic and Mediterranean populations. However, movements reportedly occur across the Gibraltar Strait. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Typically pelagic, inhabiting preferentially the deep waters off the continental shelf where it feeds on mesopelagic fish, cephalopods and planktonic crustaceans.
<b>population data</b>	There is no overall population estimate for the Mediterranean. Line-transect surveys in 1991 and 1992 yielded population sizes, respectively, of 117,880 individuals over a large portion of the western Mediterranean, and of about 25,600 individuals in the Ligurian-Corsican-Provençal (LCP) basin. Key areas of distribution include the deep offshore waters of the central and western Mediterranean Sea, particularly the LCP basin. Striped dolphins are also frequent in the Ionian Sea and open waters of southern Adriatic Sea. Their abundance appears to be decreasing towards the eastern portion of the Mediterranean basin.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Steno bredanensis</i> (G. Cuvier in Lesson 1828)
<b>English common name</b>	rough-toothed dolphin
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Steno</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Circumglobal in tropical and warm-temperate waters, preferably where surface temperature exceeds 25°C.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Rare sightings and strandings reported from France, Italy and Israel. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	Usually found in pelagic waters, beyond the continental slope.
<b>population data</b>	No viable populations are known to live in the Mediterranean and Black Seas.

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i> (Montagu 1821)
<b>English common name</b>	common bottlenose dolphin
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Delphinidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Tursiops</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	A circumglobal, widely distributed dolphin species, including a coastal and a pelagic form, with different morphological and ecological characteristics. Recently its separation from <i>T. aduncus</i> , the Indian Ocean bottlenose dolphin, has been recommended (Rice 1998). Found in tropical and temperate waters of all oceans, as well as in semi-enclosed seas such as the Gulf of Mexico, the Gulf of California, and the Mediterranean, Black and Red Seas.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	The commonest cetacean over the Mediterranean Sea continental shelf, where its distribution appears to be scattered and fragmented into small units. Key areas of distribution include the Alboràn, Balearic, and Adriatic Seas, the Tunisian and Malta Plateaus, the Aegean Sea, the Turkish straits system and other areas of the continental shelf, including Algerian coastal waters and possibly Middle-East Mediterranean waters. It is widely distributed along the Black Sea continental shelf as well, where, according to some authors, it is represented by the sub-species <i>T. t. ponticus</i>
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	In the Agreement area only the coastal form of <i>T. truncatus</i> is known. Here it can be found in very shallow waters, sometimes including coastal lagoons and estuaries, as well as in the deepest portion of the continental shelf. Likely depending on food availability, individuals can range offshore, and deep-water sightings have been reported from various areas.
<b>population data</b>	No population estimates exist anywhere in the Agreement area, except for a portion of the eastern Adriatic Sea (Fortuna et al. 2000).

<b>scientific name</b>	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i> G. Cuvier 1823
<b>English common name</b>	Cuvier's beaked whale
<b>taxonomy</b>	Class: <b>Mammalia</b> Order: <b>Cetacea</b> Sub-order: <b>Odontoceti</b> Family: <b>Ziphiidae</b> Genus: <b><i>Ziphius</i></b>
<b>world distribution</b>	Circumglobal; probably the widest-ranging Ziphiid, absent only from polar waters. Like the other Ziphiid species, its distribution is known mostly through the stranding record.
<b>distribution in the Mediterranean and Black Seas</b>	Well-known cetacean species throughout the Mediterranean subregion, where it is frequently found stranded; however, observations at sea are rare. There is no appreciable difference in its occurrence between the western and eastern basins. Absent from the Black Sea.
<b>habitat and ecology</b>	A typical cetacean of the pelagic and deep slope habitat, with a marked preference for waters overlaying submarine canyons.
<b>population data</b>	No population estimates exist anywhere in the Agreement area.

Table 3.1– Cetacean species occurring, or known to have occurred, in the Agreement area. The shaded rows indicate species that are represented in the Mediterranean or Black Seas by resident populations.

Scientific name	English name	Sub-region	Notes
<i>Balaenoptera acutoros-trata</i>	minke whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Occurs occasionally in the Mediterranean Sea. One specimen known to have stranded in the Black Sea.
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	sei whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Very rare occurrences in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	fin whale	Mediterranean Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area	
<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	short-beaked common dolphin	Black Sea Mediterranean Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area	
<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	North Atlantic right whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Very rare occurrences in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Globicephala melas</i>	long-finned pilot whale	Mediterranean Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area	
<i>Grampus griseus</i>	Risso's dolphin	Mediterranean Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area	
<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	northern bottlenose whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	A few sightings reported in the Alboran Sea
<i>Kogia sima</i>	dwarf sperm whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	One individual found stranded in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	humpback whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Very rare occurrences in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	Sowerby's beaked whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Very rare occurrences in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	Blainville's beaked whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Possible rare occurrences in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Orcinus orca</i>	killer whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Occurs occasionally in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	harbour porpoise	Black Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area Mediterranean Sea	Occurrences in the Northern Aegean Sea reported. Uncertain historical presence elsewhere in the Mediterranean Sea.
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	sperm whale	Mediterranean Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area	
<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	false killer whale	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Occurs occasionally in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Sousa plumbea</i>	Indian humpback dolphin		Known to stray occasionally into the Mediterranean from the Red Sea
<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	striped dolphin	Mediterranean Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area	
<i>Steno bredanensis</i>	rough-toothed dolphin	Contiguous Atlantic Area	Occurs occasionally in the Mediterranean Sea
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	common bottlenose dolphin	Black Sea Mediterranean Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area	
<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	Cuvier's beaked whale	Mediterranean Sea Contiguous Atlantic Area	

Tab. 3.2 – Common names of cetacean species found in the Agreement area.

Scientific name	Albanian	Arabic	Bulgarian	Croatian	English
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>		هركول صغير (harcul saghir)		kljunasti kit	minke whale
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>		هركول رودلفي (harcul Rudolphi)		sjeverni kit	sei whale
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	balene ko-kemahde	هركول شائع (harcul chaii)		veliki kit	fin whale
<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	delfin i zakonshem	دلفين شائع (delfin chaii)	karakash	obični dupin, mali dupin	short-beaked common dolphin
<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>		حوت بيسكاي (hout bisciai)		ledni kit	North Atlantic right whale
<i>Globicephala melas</i>		كروي الرأس الشائع (kouraoui arras achaii)		bjelogri dupin	long-finned pilot whale
<i>Grampus griseus</i>		غرامبوس (ghrambous)		glavati dupin	Risso's dolphin
<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>					northern bottle-nose whale
<i>Kogia sima</i>		عنبر قزم (ambar kism)		patuljasta ulješura	dwarf sperm whale
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>		حوت أحذب (hout ahadb)		grbavi kit	humpback whale
<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>				Sowerbyov kit	Sowerby's beaked whale
<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>		حوت بلانفيل ذات المنقار (hout Blainville that alminkar)		Blainvilleov kit	Blainville's beaked whale
<i>Orcinus orca</i>		أرقة (arqa)		orka, kit ubojica	killer whale
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>		خنزير البحر الشائع (khinzir albahar achaii)	mutcur	obalni dupin	harbour porpoise
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	kashalot	عنبر (anbar)		ulješura	sperm whale
<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>		أرقة مزيفة (arqa mouzaïfa)		crni dupin	false killer whale
<i>Sousa plumbea</i>					Indian humpback dolphin
<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>		دلفين أزرق وأبيض (delfin azraq wa abyad)		prugasti dupin	striped dolphin
<i>Steno bredanensis</i>		ستينو (steno)		grubozubi dupin	rough-toothed dolphin
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	delfin i madh	دلفين كبير (delfin kabir)	puchtun	dobri dupin	common bottle-nose dolphin
<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	balene me sqep	زيفيوس (zifius)		Cuvierov kit	Cuvier's beaked whale

**Explanatory notes:**

1. English names are derived from the list given in the Journal of Cetacean Research and Management (Appendix 3 in 2001 issues; see also Appendix 1 in this Report).
2. The support of the following colleagues for the updating of this table is gratefully acknowledged: A.E. Baldacchino (Maltese), P.-C. Beaubrun (French), A. Birkun, Jr. (Russian and Ukrainian), A. Dede (Turkish), S. El Asmi (Arabic), A. Frantzis (Greek), O. Goffman (Hebrew), Z. Gurielize (Georgian), G. Radu (Romanian), T. Stanev (Bulgarian).

Scientific name	French	Georgian	Greek	Hebrew
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	petit rorqual, rorqual à museau pointu		βόρεια ρυγχοφάλαινα (voreia rynchofálaina)	לִיטָן גוּץ (livyatan gutz)
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	rorqual de Rudolphi		βορειοφάλαινα (voreiofálaina)	לִיטָן צֶפּוֹנִי (livyatan tzefoni)
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	rorqual commun		περοφάλαινα (perofálaina)	לִיטָן מַצוּי (livyatan matzui)
<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	dauphin commun	tetrgverda delphini	κοινό δελφίνι (koinò délfini)	דולפין מובהק א' דולפין מצו □ (dolphin muvhaq, dolphin matzui)
<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	baleine franche		σωστή φάλαινα (sostí fálaina)	בלנה שחורה (balena shechora)
<i>Globicephala melas</i>	glocéphale noir		μαυροδέλφίνο (mavrodélfino)	נתב שחור (natav shachor)
<i>Grampus griseus</i>	dauphin de Risso		σταχτοδέλφίνο (stachtodélfino)	גרמפוס (grampus)
<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	hyperoodon boréal		βόρειος υπερωόδοντας (vóreios yperoóontas)	
<i>Kogia sima</i>	cachalot nain		νάνος φυσητήρας (nános fysitíras)	
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	mégaptère		μεγάπτερη φάλαινα (megápteri fálaina)	לִיטָן-גדול-סנפיר (livyatan gadol snapir)
<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	mesoplodon de Sowerby		δίδοντας μεσοπλόδοντας (dídontos mesoplódon-tas)	
<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	mesoplodon de Blainville		πυκνόρυγχος μεσοπλόδοντας (pyknórynchos mesoplódon-tas)	
<i>Orcinus orca</i>	orque, épaulard		όρκα (orka)	קטלן (katlan)
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	marsouin	zgvis gori	φώκαινα (fókaina)	פוקנה (pokena)
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	cachalot		φυσητήρας (fysitíras)	ראשתן (roshtan)
<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	faux-orque		ψευδόρκα (pseudórka)	עבשן קטלני (av-shen katlan)
<i>Sousa plumbea</i>	dauphin à bosse indien		υβοδέλφίνο του Ειρηνικού (yvodélfino tou Eir- inikou)	סוסא (soosa)
<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	dauphin bleu et blanc		ζωνοδέλφίνο (zonodélfino)	סטנלה מפוספסת (stenella mefuspeset)
<i>Steno bredanensis</i>	steno, dauphin à bec étroit		στενόρυγχο δελφίνι (stenóryncho delfini)	דולפין תלום-שינים (dolphin tlum-shinaim)
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	grand dauphin, dauphin souffleur	aphalina	ρινοδέλφίνο (rinodélfino)	דולפינן ים-התיכון (dolphinan yam hatichon)
<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	baleine de Cuvier, ziphius		ζιפיוς (zifíós)	זיפיוס חלול-חרטום (zifyus chalul chartom)



<b>Scientific name</b>	<b>Italian</b>	<b>Maltese</b>	<b>Portuguese</b>	<b>Romanian</b>
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	balenottera minore	baliena ta' ged-dumha ppuntat	baleia-anã	
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	balenottera boreale	baliena tan-nofsinhar	baleia-sardinheira	
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	balenottera comune	baliena mbaðða	baleia-comum	
<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	delfino comune	delfin komuni	golfinho-comum	delfin comun
<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	balena franca boreale		baleia-franca	
<i>Globicephala melas</i>	globicefalo	baliena sewda	baleia-piloto, boca-de-panela	
<i>Grampus griseus</i>	grampo	delfin griú	grampo	
<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	iperodonte boreale			
<i>Kogia sima</i>	cogia di Owen	baliena mmnieóra ðatt	cachalote-anão	
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	megattera	baliena tal-iwienah kbar	megaptera, baleia-corcunda	
<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	mesoplodonte di Sowerby	baliena ta' Sowerby	baleia de bico de Sowerby	
<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	mesoplodonte di Blainville	baliena ta' Blainville	baleia de bico de Blainville	
<i>Orcinus orca</i>	orca	orka	orca	
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	focena comune	denfil iswed	bôto	porc de mare, marsuin, focena
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	capodoglio	gabdoll	cachalote	
<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	pseudorca		falsa-orca	
<i>Sousa plumbea</i>	susa indica			
<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	stenella striata	stenella	golfinho riscado	
<i>Steno bredanensis</i>	steno	delfin tat-tikki	caldeirão	
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	tursiope	delfin geddumu qasir	roaz-corvineiro	afalin, delfin mare
<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	zifio	baliena ta' Kuvjer	zifio	

Scientific name	Russian	Spanish	Turkish	Ukrainian
<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>		rorcual aliblanco	mink balinası	
<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>		rorqual boreal	kuzey balinası	
<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>		rorqual común	uzun balina	
<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	белобочка, дельфин-белобочка, обыкновенный дельфин <sup>i</sup> (belobochka, del'fin-belobochka, obyknovennyi del'fin <sup>i</sup> )	delfin común	tirtak	білобочка, дельфін-білобочка, звичайний дельфін (bilobochka, del'fin-bilobochka, zvychainyi del'fin)
<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>		ballena franca	gerçek kukei balinası	
<i>Globicephala melas</i>		calderón común	siyah yunus	
<i>Grampus griseus</i>		calderón gris	grampus	
<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>				
<i>Kogia sima</i>		cachalote enano	cüce kaşalot	
<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>		yubarta	kambur balina	
<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>		balenato de Sowerby	Sowerby balinası	
<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>		balenato de Blainville	gagali balina	
<i>Orcinus orca</i>		orca	katil balina	
<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	обыкновенная морская свинья <sup>ii</sup> , морская свинья, азовка <sup>iii</sup> (obyknovennaya morskaya svin'ya <sup>ii</sup> , morskaya svin'ya, azovka <sup>iii</sup> )	marsopa común	mutur	звичайна морська свиня, азовка, пихтун (zvychaina mors'ka svynya, azovka, pykhtoun)
<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>		cachalote	İspermeçet balinası, kaşalot	
<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>		falsa orca	yalanci katil balina	
<i>Sousa plumbea</i>		delfin de joroba indopacifico	kambur yunus	
<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>		delfin listado	çizgili yunus	
<i>Steno bredanensis</i>		delfin de dientes rugosos	kaba dişli yunus	
<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	афалина, бутылконосый дельфин <sup>iv</sup> (afalina, butylkonosyi del'fin <sup>iv</sup> )	delfin mular	afalina	афаліна (afalina)
<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>		ballenato de Cuvier	Kuvier balinası	

<sup>i</sup> All three synonyms are similarly used at present; the last name means 'common dolphin'. There are also archaic names which have currently very limited (mainly historical) use: дельфин-ворвон (del'fin-vorvon), остромордый дельфин (ostromordyi del'fin; = 'sharp-beaked dolphin'), тыртак (tyrtak), and белобочка морская свинья (belobokaya morskaya svin'ya; = 'white-sided porpoise').

<sup>ii</sup> Literally 'common marine porpoise'.

<sup>iii</sup> "Azovka" is the most widespread common name for harbour porpoises both in the Azov and Black Seas, but this name cannot be used for this species in other regions of the world. There are also many archaic and local names with limited use: азовский дельфин (azovskii del'fin; = 'Azov's dolphin'), тупомордый дельфин (tupomordyi del'fin; = 'blunt-beaked dolphin'), пыхтун (pykhtoun), пехтун (pekhtoun), чушка (choushka), сапун (saroun), шутник (shoutnik), свинка (svinka), буртук (burtouk), мутор (moutor), хамсятник (khamsyatnik).

<sup>iv</sup> The last name - butylkonosyi del'fin – a literal translation from 'bottlenose dolphin' – was introduced into Russian in the 1970s-1980s and is now quite popular. Archaic names: незарнак (nezarnak), чёрная морская свинья (chornaya morskaya svin'ya; = 'black porpoise'), офалина (ofalina), афалин (afalin), афелин (afelin).