

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION

I. TAXONOMIC DECISIONS

In this work we followed Wilson and Reeder (2005) and Reeves, Stewart, and Clapham's (2002) taxonomy. In the last 20 years several new species have been described such as *Mesoplodon perrini* (Dalebout 2002), *Orcaella heinsohni* (Beasley 2005), and the recognition of several species have been proposed for orcas (Perrin 1982, Pitman *et al.* 2007), Bryde's whales (Kanda *et al.* 2007), Blue whales (Garrigue *et al.* 2003, Ichihara 1996), Tucuxi dolphin (Cunha *et al.* 2005, Caballero *et al.* 2008), and other marine mammals. Since we used the conservation status of all species following IUCN (2011), this work is based on species recognized by this IUCN to keep a standardized baseline.

II. SPECIES LIST

List of the species included in this paper, indicating their conservation status according to IUCN (2010.4) and its range area.

Order	Family	Species	IUCN 2010	Freshwater	Range area km ²
Carnivora	Mustelidae	<i>Enhydra lutris</i>	EN A2abe		1,084,750,000,000
		<i>Lontra felina</i>	EN A3cd		996,197,000,000
	Odobenidae	<i>Odobenus rosmarus</i>	DD		5,367,060,000,000
	Otariidae	<i>Arctocephalus australis</i>	LC		1,674,290,000,000
		<i>Arctocephalus forsteri</i>	LC		1,823,240,000,000
		<i>Arctocephalus galapagoensis</i>	EN A2a		167,512,000,000
		<i>Arctocephalus gazella</i>	LC		39,155,300,000,000
		<i>Arctocephalus philippii</i>	NT		163,932,000,000
		<i>Arctocephalus pusillus</i>	LC		1,705,430,000,000
		<i>Arctocephalus townsendi</i>	NT		1,045,950,000,000
		<i>Arctocephalus tropicalis</i>	LC		39,249,100,000,000
		<i>Callorhinus ursinus</i>	VU A2b		12,935,900,000,000
		<i>Eumetopias jubatus</i>	EN A2a		3,051,310,000,000
		<i>Neophoca cinerea</i>	EN A2bd+3d		1,347,900,000,000
		<i>Otaria flavescens</i>	LC		2,371,930,000,000
		<i>Phocartos hookeri</i>	VU A3b		171,500,000,000
		<i>Zalophus californianus</i>	LC		966,957,000,000
		<i>Zalophus wollebaeki</i>	EN A2a		175,487,000,000
		Phocidae	<i>Cystophora cristata</i>	VU A2b	
	<i>Erignathus barbatus</i>		LC		12,550,800,000,000

		<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>	LC		2,443,290,000,000
		<i>Histiophoca fasciata</i>	DD		3,625,450,000,000
		<i>Hydrurga leptonyx</i>	LC		9,900,130,000,000
		<i>Leptonychotes weddellii</i>	LC		7,146,790,000,000
		<i>Lobodon carcinophaga</i>	LC		18,961,100,000,000
		<i>Mirounga angustirostris</i>	LC		2,054,680,000,000
		<i>Mirounga leonina</i>	LC		8,976,400,000,000
		<i>Monachus monachus</i>	CR A2abc; C2a(i); E		2,730,360,000,000
		<i>Monachus schauinslandi</i>	CR A3ce+4ce		503,740,000,000
		<i>Ommatophoca rossii</i>	LC		12,649,700,000,000
		<i>Pagophilus groenlandicus</i>	LC		8,352,950,000,000
		<i>Phoca largha</i>	DD		5,173,220,000,000
		<i>Phoca vitulina</i>	LC		4,233,030,000,000
		<i>Pusa caspica</i>	EN A2abd+3bd+4abd		-
		<i>Pusa hispida</i>	LC		14,792,000,000,000
		<i>Pusa sibirica</i>	LC	FW	-
	Ursidae	<i>Ursus maritimus</i>	VU A3c		10,273,300,000,000
Cetacea	Balaenidae	<i>Balaena mysticetus</i>	LC		8,735,490,000,000
		<i>Eubalaena australis</i>	LC		66,669,400,000,000
		<i>Eubalaena glacialis</i>	EN D		-
		<i>Eubalaena japonica</i>	EN D		5,995,590,000,000
	Balaenopteridae	<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i>	LC		138,899,000,000,000
		<i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata subsp.</i>	LC		-
		<i>Balaenoptera bonaerensis</i>	DD		235,109,000,000,000
		<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	EN A1ad		325,876,000,000,000
		<i>Balaenoptera edeni</i>	DD		225,248,000,000,000
		<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	EN A1abd		349,620,000,000,000
		<i>Balaenoptera omurai</i>	DD		-
		<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	EN A1d		348,861,000,000,000
	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	LC		349,580,000,000,000	
	Delphinidae	<i>Cephalorhynchus commersonii</i>	DD		1,780,950,000,000
		<i>Cephalorhynchus eutropia</i>	NT		493,046,000,000
		<i>Cephalorhynchus heavisidii</i>	DD		802,273,000,000
		<i>Cephalorhynchus hectori</i>	EN A4d		42,555,300,000
		<i>Delphinus capensis</i>	DD		9,313,700,000,000
		<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	LC		31,026,900,000,000
		<i>Feresa attenuata</i>	DD		198,729,000,000,000
<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>		DD		238,501,000,000,000	
<i>Globicephala melas</i>		DD		104,690,000,000,000	
<i>Grampus griseus</i>		LC		265,158,000,000,000	

	<i>Lagenodelphis hosei</i>	LC		165,128,000,000,000
	<i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i>	LC		8,519,550,000,000
	<i>Lagenorhynchus albirostris</i>	LC		10,168,600,000,000
	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>	DD		590,641,000,000
	<i>Lagenorhynchus cruciger</i>	LC		61,848,200,000,000
	<i>Lagenorhynchus obliquidens</i>	LC		20,853,700,000,000
	<i>Lagenorhynchus obscurus</i>	DD		6,186,320,000,000
	<i>Lissodelphis borealis</i>	LC		12,737,400,000,000
	<i>Lissodelphis peronii</i>	DD		78,075,800,000,000
	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	DD		159,671,000,000,000
	<i>Orcaella brevirostris</i>	VU A4cd		4,252,570,000,000
	<i>Orcaella heinsohni</i>	NT		1,264,170,000,000
	<i>Peponocephala electra</i>	LC		167,492,000,000,000
	<i>Pseudorca crassidens</i>	DD		115,652,000,000,000
	<i>Sotalia fluviatilis</i>	DD		2,115,420,000,000
	<i>Sotalia guianensis</i>	DD		-
	<i>Sousa chinensis</i>	NT		15,839,700,000,000
	<i>Sousa teuszii</i>	VU C2a(i)		1,554,490,000,000
	<i>Stenella attenuata</i>	LC		185,346,000,000,000
	<i>Stenella clymene</i>	DD		40,843,500,000,000
	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	LC		247,740,000,000,000
	<i>Stenella frontalis</i>	DD		45,684,100,000,000
	<i>Stenella longirostris</i>	DD		197,320,000,000,000
	<i>Steno bredanensis</i>	LC		220,032,000,000,000
	<i>Tursiops aduncus</i>	DD		26,634,700,000,000
	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	LC		232,786,000,000,000
Eschrichtiidae	<i>Eschrichtius robustus</i>	LC		5,640,160,000,000
Iniidae	<i>Inia geoffrensis</i>	DD	FW	-
Kogiaidae	<i>Kogia breviceps</i>	DD		251,271,000,000,000
	<i>Kogia sima</i>	DD		235,194,000,000,000
Lipotidae	<i>Lipotes vexillifer</i>	CR C2a(ii), D	FW	-
Monodontidae	<i>Delphinapterus leucas</i>	NT		10,167,800,000,000
	<i>Monodon monoceros</i>	NT		6,370,340,000,000
Neobalaenidae	<i>Caperea marginata</i>	DD		49,073,400,000,000
Phocoenidae	<i>Neophocaena phocaenoides</i>	VU A2cde		4,086,040,000,000
	<i>Phocoena dioptrica</i>	DD		2,431,640,000,000
	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	LC		9,201,080,000,000
	<i>Phocoena sinus</i>	CR A4d; C2a(ii)		18,195,900,000
	<i>Phocoena spinipinnis</i>	DD		1,274,860,000,000
	<i>Phocoenoides dalli</i>	LC		19,888,000,000,000

	Physeteridae	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	VU A1d		239,682,000,000,000
	Platanistidae	<i>Platanista gangetica</i>	EN A2abcde	FW	-
		<i>Platanista minor</i>	-	FW	-
	Pontoporidae	<i>Pontoporia blainvillei</i>	VU A3d		480,376,000,000
	Ziphiidae	<i>Berardius arnuxii</i>	DD		101,075,000,000,000
		<i>Berardius bairdii</i>	DD		23,620,500,000,000
		<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	DD		12,598,000,000,000
		<i>Hyperoodon planifrons</i>	LC		86,815,900,000,000
		<i>Indopacetus pacificus</i>	DD		106,594,000,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon bidens</i>	DD		13,884,300,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon bowdoini</i>	DD		4,419,570,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon carlhubbsi</i>	DD		1,096,570,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon densirostris</i>	DD		257,754,000,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon europaeus</i>	DD		12,338,600,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon ginkgodens</i>	DD		3,486,050,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon grayi</i>	DD		66,140,000,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon hectori</i>	DD		5,066,070,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon layardii</i>	DD		83,734,500,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon mirus</i>	DD		6,300,090,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon perrini</i>	DD		8,015,760,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon peruvianus</i>	DD		12,321,700,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon stejnegeri</i>	DD		6,809,010,000,000
		<i>Mesoplodon traversii</i>	DD		-
		<i>Tasmacetus shepherdi</i>	DD		4,419,310,000,000
	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	LC		280,013,000,000,000	
Sirenia	Dugongidae	<i>Dugong dugon</i>	VU A2bcd		6,586,460,000,000
	Trichechidae	<i>Trichechus inunguis</i>	VU A3cd	FW	-
		<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	VU C1		2,189,720,000,000
		<i>Trichechus senegalensis</i>	VU A3cd, C1		-

III. AREA CALCULATIONS (Goodes Homolosine Projection)

The Goode homolosine projection (or interrupted Goode homolosine projection) is an interrupted, pseudocylindrical, equal-area, composite map projection used for world maps. Its equal-area property makes it useful for raster data representation. The projection is composed of twelve regions that form six interrupted lobes. The lobes are the top sections of a Mollweide projection, and are carefully grafted on to six interior regions along the equator that are subject to a sinusoidal projection. Because the Mollweide is sometimes referred to as the "homolographic projection," the

two names "homolographic" and "sinusoidal" are fused in the name "homolosine," which Goode applied to this projection. If one looks carefully along the edges of the lobes, one can see a subtle discontinuity at approximately the 41st parallels. The equal-area nature of the Goode follows from the fact that its source projections are themselves both equal-area.

The projection was developed in 1923 by John Paul Goode to provide an effective alternative to portraying global areal relationships on the Mercator map.

This projection was quite common in the 1960's, when it gained the nickname "the orange-peel map" from its resemblance to a flattened, hand-peeled rind of that fruit. Since then the Peters projection, which distorts the shapes of the continents, has gained usage. (ESRI 2010).

IV. SPECIES IN KEY CONSERVATION SITES AND IRREPLACEABLE SITES

Global priority key conservation area indicating their species richness, endemism, endangerment, ecoregion where they are located, and ecoregion's threat³⁷. Irreplaceable areas (i.e. containing species found nowhere else) are indicated with an asterisk; such areas usually have only one species.

	Key conservation sites	Number Species	Endemic/ Small-Range	Risk Category for each ecoregion*	Number and Name of the ecoregion*	Estimated conservation status of the ecoregion*
Highest Richness	South African	16	4	VU, EN	209: Benguela Current 211: Agulhas Current	V RS
	Argentinean	15	4	VU, EN	205: Patagonian Southwest Atlantic	V
	Australian	14	4	VU, EN	206: Southern Australian 222: Great Barrier	RS RS
	Baja Californian	25	7	VU, EN, CR	214: Gulf of California	CE
	Peruvian	19	5	VU, EN	210: Humboldt Current	V
	Japanese	25	7	VU, EN, LR	217: Nansei Shoto	CE
	New Zealand	13	2	VU, EN, LR	207: New Zealand	V
	Northwestern African	25	7	VU, EN, LR	216: Canary Current	CE
Irreplaceable	Northeastern American	25	7	VU, EN, LR	202: Chesapeake Bay	V
	Hawaiian Islands	1 ¹	1	EN	227: Hawaiian Marine	V
	Galapagos Islands	1 ²	1	VU	215: Galapagos Marine	V
	San Félix and Juan Fernández Islands	1 ³	1	VU	210: Humboldt Current	V
	Amazon River	2 ⁴	1	VU	147: Amazon River And Flooded Forests	RS
Mediterranean	1 ⁵	1	CR	199: Mediterranean Sea	CE	

	Sea					
	Indus River	1 ⁶	1	Not Listed	Not Listed	Not Listed
	Ganges River	1 ⁷	1	EN	Not Listed	Not Listed
	Yang-tse River	1 ⁸	1	EX	149: Yang-Tse River And Lakes	CE
	Baikal Lake	1 ⁹	1	LR	184: Lake Baikal	V
	Caspian Sea	1 ¹⁰	1	VU	Not Listed	Not Listed
	Kerguelen Islands	1 ¹¹	1	Not Listed	Not Listed	Not Listed

¹*Monachus schauinslandi*, ²*Arctocephalus galapagoensis*, ³*A. philippii*, ⁴*Inia geoffrensis*, *Trichechus inunguis* (both freshwater), and *Sotalia fluviatilis*, ⁵*Monachus monachus*, ⁶*Platanista minor* (freshwater), ⁷*Platanista gangetica* (freshwater), ⁸*Lipotes vexillifer* (freshwater), ⁹*Pusa sibirica* (freshwater), ¹⁰*Pusa caspica*, ¹¹*Cephalorhynchus commersonii* and *A gazella*.
* VU=Vulnerable, EN= Endangered, CR= Critically Endangered, LR= Lesser Risk, EX= Extinct, CE: Critically Endangered, V: Vulnerable, RS: Relatively Stable or Intact. Data from Olson and Dinerstein (2002).

V. ESTABLISHED PROTECTED AREAS AND THREAT IN THE KEY CONSERVATION AREAS DEIFINED IN THIS PAPER

In the following table the proposed or established marine protected area (MPA) or sanctuary (SAC) in each Key Conservation Site are mentioned as an indication of their protection and management to reduce impacts of human activities. The species present are also recorded for each site, as well as threats such as overfishing and pollution (Data modified from Hoyt, 2005).

World Commission on Protected Areas (WCPA) - IUCN Region	SACs and MPAs with location and size* included in the Key Conservation Site (*only water)	Marine mammals present, including endangered species	Threats detected	Endangered marine mammals included
Northeast Pacific (15)	Baja Californian Key Conservation Site			
	El Vizcaino Biosphere Reserve (5 km, includes lagoons of Ojo de Liebre, San Ignacio and Guerrero Negro)	Shared habitat for large whales and dolphins, frequented by migrating cetaceans, serves as mating and breeding grounds, and for some species feeding ground. Spot or annual gray whale migration. Laguna San Ignacio is the only primary gray whale breeding/calving area in Mexico that remains unaltered by industrial development. Sei, Minke, Blue, Bryde, Fin and Sperm whales	Ecosystemic damage by saltworks, dump and noise pollution	
	Revillagigedo Archipelago Biosphere Reserve (6,193 km ²)	One of the key humpback whale breeding grounds in the North Pacific. Management plan under review	Illegal fishing	
	Islas Marias Biosphere Reserve (4,052 km ²)	Humpback whale breeding ground, management plan under review	Illegal fishing	
	Loreto Bay National Park (1,820 km ²)	May not include extensive cetacean critical habitat <i>per se</i> , but the park does benefit feeding grounds		
	Upper Gulf of California and Colorado River Delta Biosphere Reserve (9,600 km ²)	Protects the endangered Vaquita and the Colorado River Delta wetlands. Vaquita	Bycatch	Vaquita

	Bahía Magdalena National Gray Whale Refuge	Proposed MPA to protect gray whale breeding and calving habitat		
	Monterrey Bay National Marine Sanctuary (13,802 km ²)	Abundant cetaceans and other marine mammals. Sea otter, Steller Sea Lion	Oil and gas exploration, waste dumping and other discharges, fisheries	
	Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary (3251 km ²)			
	Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary (1,363 km ²)	Critical habitat for marine mammals and seabirds	Frequent naval operations	
	Channel Islands National Marine Sanctuary (4,295 km ²)	Protects key habitats for marine mammals including cetaceans, extensive pinniped rookeries and seabirds	Oil and gas exploration, waste dumping and other discharges, fisheries	
Southeast Pacific (17)	Peruvian Key Conservation Site			
	Paracas National Reserve (2,177 km ²)	Little research into cetaceans in the MPS except for the resident bottlenosed dolphins and small cetacean-fisheries interactions. Marine otter, South American sea lion and fur seal		Marine otter, South American sea lion and fur seal
	Galapagos Islands Key Conservation Site			
	Galapagos Marine Resources Reserve and Whale Sanctuary (158,000 km ²)	Endemic Galapagos fur seal and sea lion; cetacean mating and breeding area and frequented by migrating cetaceans	Shipping, comercial fishing and tourism	
	San Félix & Juan Fernández Islands Key Conservation Site			
	Caldera MPA	Proposed and in process. Contains 43% of the cetacean diversity recorded for Chile. Sei, Antarctic Minke, Blue, Bryde and Fin whales	Comercial fishing, ilegal dolphin hunt, poor management	

	Humboldt Penguin National Reserve (8.6 km ²)	Proposed for expansion at Los Choros MPA. Sperm whale	Uncontrolled dolphin watching activities, dolphin killing	
Northwest Atlantic (4)	Northeastern American Key Conservation Site			
	Monitor National Marine Sanctuary (3.4 km ²)	The sanctuary itself is too small to afford real protection without considerable expansion of its size and effective mandate. North Atlantic Right, Sei, Minke, Blue, Bryde and Fin whales; Sperm whale; Manatee	Whale watching industry, toxic waste dumping, vessel collisions with cetaceans	North Atlantic Right Whale
South Atlantic (9)	Argentinean Key Conservation Site			
	South Atlantic Sanctuary	Proposed MPA	Commercial whaling	
	Bahia Anegada Nature Reserve (73.86 km ²)	Breeding areas for South American sea lion and important research site of Franciscana; no management plan. Franciscana.		Franciscana
	Golfo San José Provincial Marine Park	Critical breeding area for Southern Right Whales	Whale watching industry	
	Punta Loma Faunal Reserve (17.1 km ²)	Sei, Antarctic Minke, Blue, Bryde and Fin whales	Water contamination, shipping traffic and increasing fishing activity in the area	
	Punta Norte Provincial Faunal Reserve (0.06 km ²)	Sperm Whale	Fisheries	
	Punta Pirámide Nature Reserve (1.32 km ²)			
	Península Valdés Nature Reserve (3,600 km ² mostly including land)			
West Africa (8)	Northwestern African Key Conservation Site			
	South Atlantic Sanctuary	Proposed MPA	Comercial whaling	

	Canary Islands Cetacean Marine Sanctuary	Proposed MPA containing at least 26 cetacean species. Sei, Minke, Blue, Bryde and Fin whales; Atlantic Humpback dolphin	Noise pollution and frequent naval operations, fisheries, pollution, oil, gas, and human development	
	Chinijo Archipelago Natural Park (91 km ²)	Sperm Whale		
	Natural Marine Park of the Whales and Franja Marina Teno Rasca SAC (695 km ²)			
	Franja Marina Santiago - Valle Gran Rey SAC (131.4 km ²)			
	Sebadales de La Graciosa SAC (11.9 km ²)			
	Mar de las Calmas SAC (99 km ²)			
	Sebadales de Corralejo SAC (19.4 km ²)			
	South African Key Conservation Site			
	Dwesa-Cwebe MPA (176 km ²)	No management or zoning plan	Fisheries, bycatch, pollution and human development, illegal dolphin hunt	
	Mkambati MPA (130 km ²)	No management or zoning plan		
	Hluleka MPA	No management or zoning plan		
	Trafalgar MPA (2.5 km ²)	Very limited management		
	Japanese Key Conservation Site			
Northwest Pacific (16)	Finless Porpoise Gathering Area National Monument (1.5 km)	Sperm whale, Finless porpoise	Fisheries, bycatch, pollution and human development, illegal dolphin hunt, shipping traffic, poaching, gold mine excavations	
	Seto-naikai National Park (628 km ²)	North Pacific Right, Sei, Minke Blue, Bryde and Fin whales		
	Kurilskiy Nature Reserve (2 km)			
	Poronayskiy Nature Reserve (567 km ² including many land areas)			
Australia - New	Australian Key Conservation Site			

Zealand (18)	Solitary Islands Marine Reserve and Marine Park (710 km ²)	Management plan has key habitat provisions for cetaceans	Recreational and commercial boating traffic, entanglement, noise, and depletion of prey	
	Cape Byron Marine Park (227 km ²)	11 cetacean species. Important long-term monitoring of migrating humpback whales, as well as a refuge area for humpback mothers and calves on migration. Sei, Antarctic Minke, Blue, Bryde and Fin whales; Irrawaddy dolphin; Dugong	Fishing, entanglement, jet-skis and commercial shipping	
	Jervis Bay Marine Park (220 km ²)	Sperm whale	Whale watching industry	
	Port Stephens Marine Park (140 km ² approx.)	May be proposed	Dolphin watching	
	New Zealand Key Conservation Site			
	Banks Peninsula Marine Mammal Sanctuary and <i>proposed</i> extension (1,140 km ²)	Sei, Antarctic Minke, Blue, Bryde and Fin whales	Dolphin entanglement, fisheries	
	Akaroa Harbour Marine Reserve	Proposed		Hector's Dolphin
	Doubtful Sound Marine Sanctuary	Proposed	Dolphin watching	
South Pacific (14)	Hawaiian Islands Key Conservation Site			
	Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary (3,368 km ²)	Key Humpback whale winter breeding, singing, calving, and nursing habitat. Hawaiian Monk Seal, Sei, Minke, Blue, Bryde and Fin whales; Sperm whale	Fisheries, fishing, military activities.	Hawaiian Monk Seal
Mediterranean	Mediterranean Sea Key Conservation Site			

(3)	59 MPA or SCA contained (at least 91,568 km ²)	14 species with applicable appendices of international conventions, directives and agreements; declining population of common dolphins (>100). Mediterranean Monk Seal	High contaminant levels and fishing	Mediterranean Monk Seal
Antarctic (1)	Kerguelen Islands Key Conservation Site			
	Heard & McDonald Islands (65,000 km ²)	Not designed specifically around cetacean habitat, but because of its size it almost certainly contains some significant cetacean habitat. Sei, Minke, Blue, Bryde and Fin whales; Sperm whale		

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