



proteus

# Data Forum on Important Marine Mammal Areas

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SSC/WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Area Task Force

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19/10/2020

# Welcome

## Objectives of the Proteus Data Forum sessions

- A venue for direct communication between data users and technical experts
- Increase familiarity with Proteus resources
- Identifying common challenges & finding solutions

## Logistics

- **Frequency** quarterly
- **Scheduling** AM & PM sessions (cancelled if fewer than 3 participants from 2 companies)
- **Rules** Chatham House rule for discussion, but presentation recorded
- **Topics** your suggestions are welcome!

# Today

## Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs)

- Introduction IMMAs
- Methodology used to identify IMMAs and develop the dataset
- Implications of IMMAs and their intended use, including relevance to private sector
- Dataset availability

## Interactive discussion (poll + Q&A)

- Menti.com - 54 23 78 4



# The Growing Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs)

**Network:** an update on the global process for informing the management practices of marine mammal place-based conservation



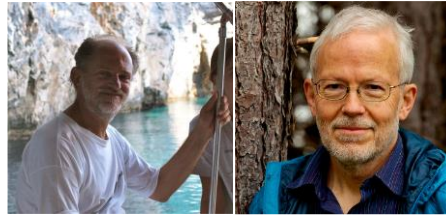
*Michael Tetley, Erich Hoyt, Simone Panigada, Margherita Zanardelli, Caterina Lanfredi, Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara*

**IUCN Joint SSC WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force**



## Objectives:

- **Facilitate** collaboration in our community
- **Create** opportunities for cooperation and communication
- **Assist** in achieving MPA targets and agreements
- **Enhance** capacity with new conservation tools



## IUCN Task Force co-chairs

*Giuseppe Notarbartolo di Sciara*  
*Erich Hoyt*



## Task Force IMMA Secretariat



## Task Force Regional Coordinators



**Task Force  
Members**



Task Force spearheads the new IUCN  
standard for the identification of  
'Important Marine Mammal Areas'  
**IMMA**



Task  
Members



MARINE MAMMAL  
PROTECTED AREAS  
TASK FORCE



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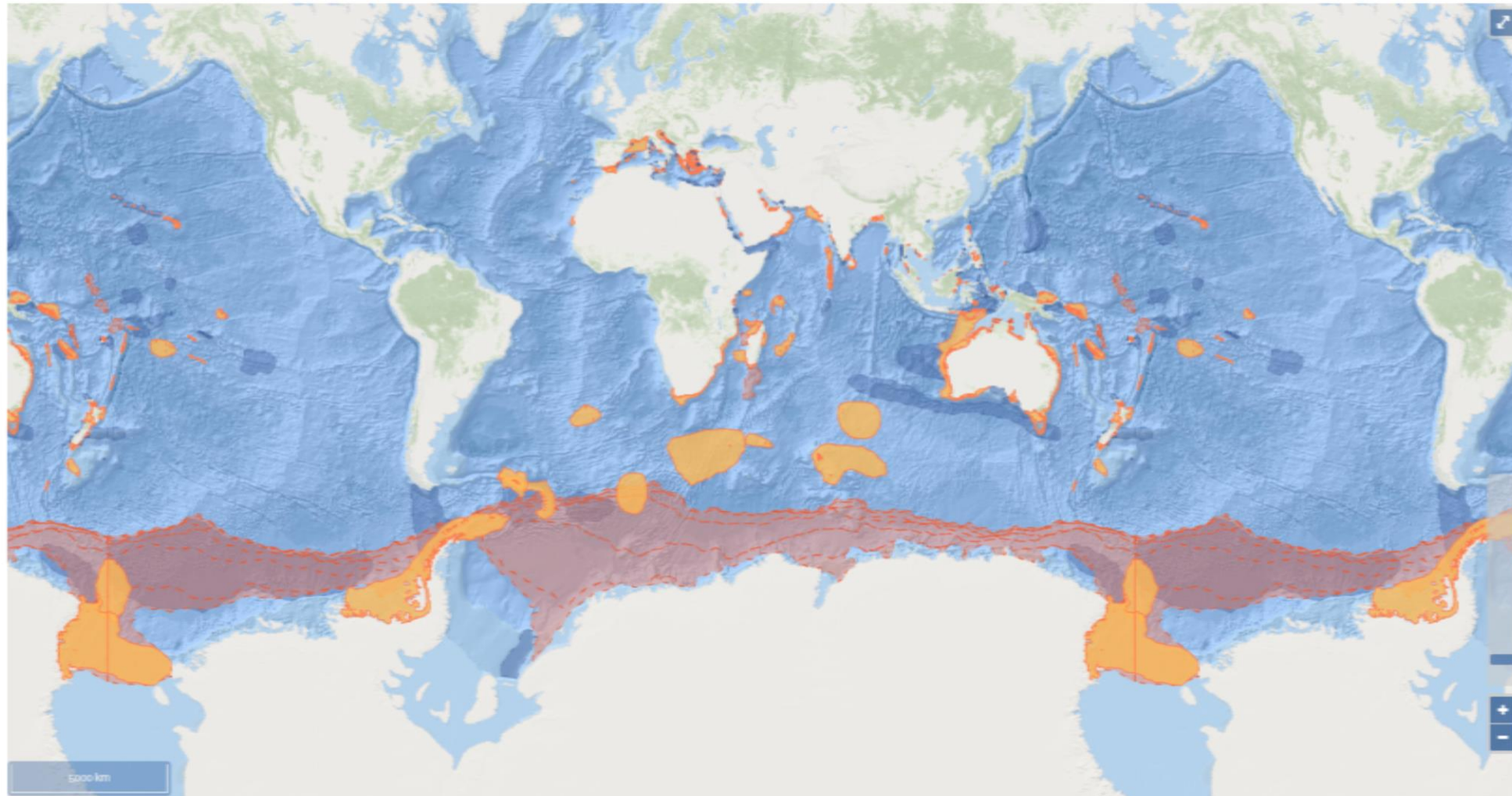
# MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTED AREAS TASK FORCE

*www.marinemammalhabitat.org*

## IUCN MARINE MAMMAL PROTECTED AREAS TASK FORCE

The Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force (MMPATF) has been created by the International Committee on Marine Mammal Protected Areas (ICMMPA), the

# IMMA e-Atlas 2020



## FILTER DATA

By Region <sup>1</sup>

Choose a region

By Species <sup>1</sup>

Type a species or select from table

By Denomination <sup>1</sup>

Type a name or select from table

By Criteria <sup>1</sup>

Choose a criterion

By Aoi <sup>1</sup>

Choose a region

PROJECTION

GLOBAL SEARCH

IMMAs DATABASE

CLEAN VIEW

## Denomination Legend

Important Marine Mammal Area

candidate Important Marine Mammal Area

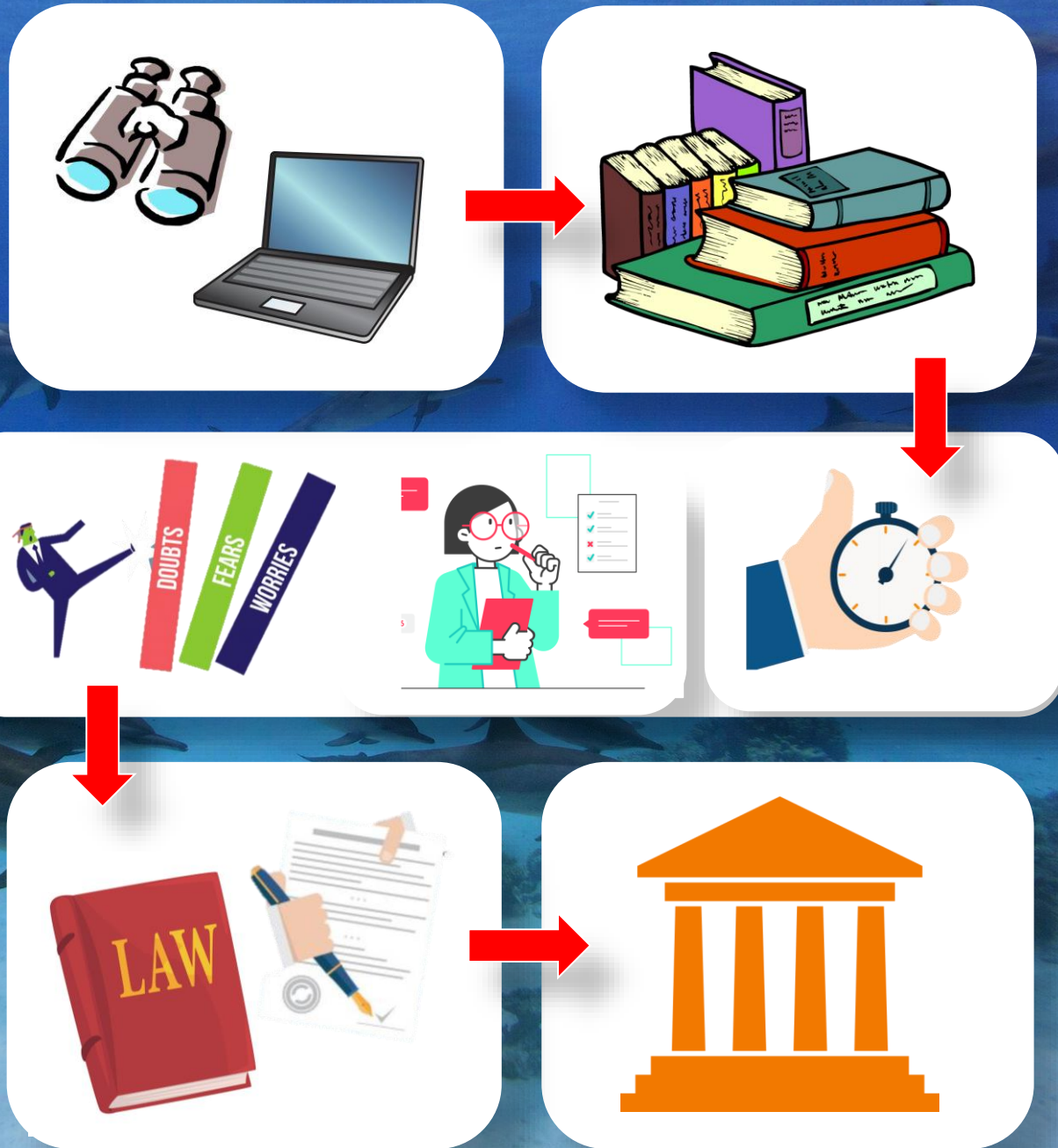
Area of Interest



# Important Marine Mammal Area (IMMA)

*'A discrete portion of habitat, important for one or more marine mammal species, that has the potential to be delineated and managed for conservation'*

Identified using an expert-based bio-centric identification process in open consultation with the wider marine mammal knowledge community





Criterion A - Species or Population Vulnerability

Criterion B – Distribution and Abundance

- *Sub-criterion Bi – Small and Resident Populations*
- *Sub-criterion Bii – Aggregations*

Criterion C – Key Life Cycle Areas

- *Sub-criterion Ci – Reproductive*
- *Sub-criterion Cii – Feeding*
- *Sub-criterion Cii – Migration*

Criterion D – Special Attributes

- *Sub-criterion Di – Distinctiveness*
- *Sub-criterion Dii – Diversity*

## Important Marine Mammal Area (IMMA)

*‘A discrete portion of habitat, important for one or more marine mammal species, that has the potential to be delineated and managed for conservation’*

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**Important Marine Mammal Area (IMMA) Guidance drafted in consultation with over 1000 experts within the marine mammal research and conservation community**

**Public Consultations held between 2013-2016**

Initial guidance on the use of selection criteria for the identification of Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs)

September 2016



# **Important Marine Mammal Area (IMMA)**

***'A discrete portion of habitat, important for one or more marine mammal species, that has the potential to be delineated and managed for conservation'***

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MARINE MAMMAL  
PROTECTED AREAS  
TASK FORCE

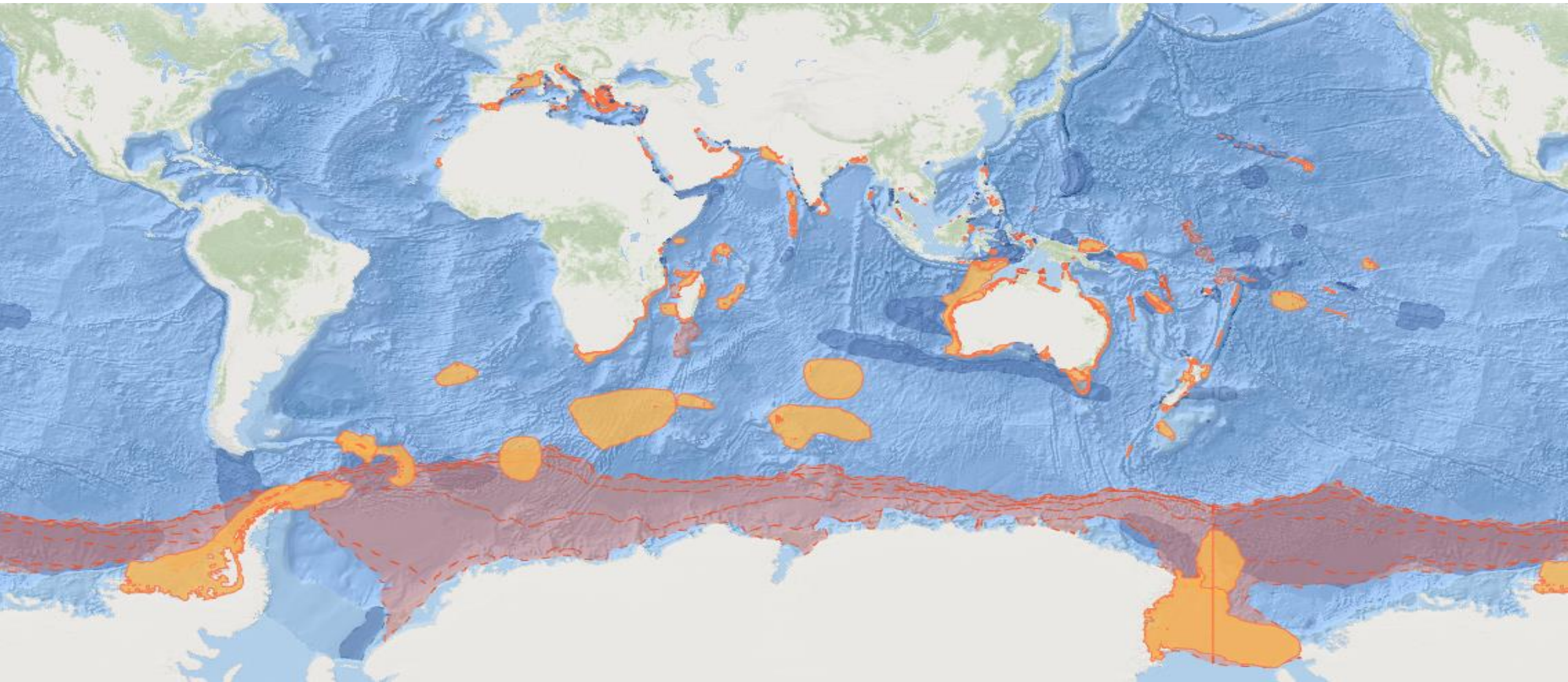


# July 2020 Update !!!

## 158 IMMAs Identified

IMMA e-Atlas

IMMAs cIMMAs AOI





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PROTECTED AREAS  
TASK FORCE

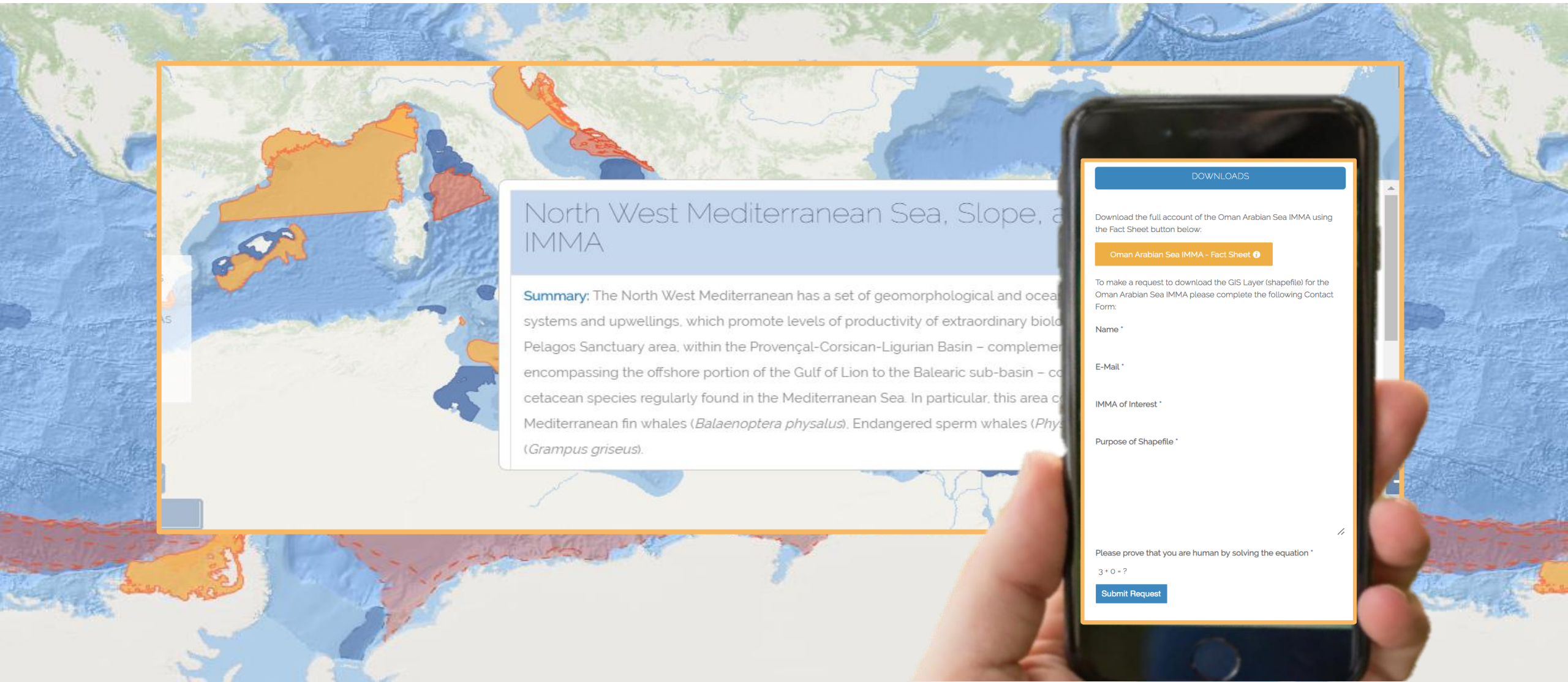


# July 2020 Update !!!

## 158 IMMAs Identified

IMMA e-Atlas

 IMMAs  cIMMAs  AOI



### North West Mediterranean Sea, Slope, and Pelagos Sanctuary area, within the Provençal-Corsican-Ligurian Basin – complementary area encompassing the offshore portion of the Gulf of Lion to the Balearic sub-basin – complementary area

#### IMMA

**Summary:** The North West Mediterranean has a set of geomorphological and oceanographic systems and upwellings, which promote levels of productivity of extraordinary biological systems. This area includes the Pelagos Sanctuary area, within the Provençal-Corsican-Ligurian Basin – complementary area encompassing the offshore portion of the Gulf of Lion to the Balearic sub-basin – complementary area. This area is home to cetacean species regularly found in the Mediterranean Sea. In particular, this area of interest includes Mediterranean fin whales (*Balaenoptera physalus*), Endangered sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*), and sperm whales (*Grampus griseus*).

#### DOWNLOADS

Download the full account of the Oman Arabian Sea IMMA using the Fact Sheet button below:

[Oman Arabian Sea IMMA - Fact Sheet](#)

To make a request to download the GIS Layer (shapefile) for the Oman Arabian Sea IMMA please complete the following Contact Form:

Name \*

E-Mail \*

IMMA of Interest \*

Purpose of Shapefile \*

Please prove that you are human by solving the equation \*

$3 + 0 = ?$

[Submit Request](#)



MARINE MAMMAL  
PROTECTED AREAS  
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# July 2020 Update !!!

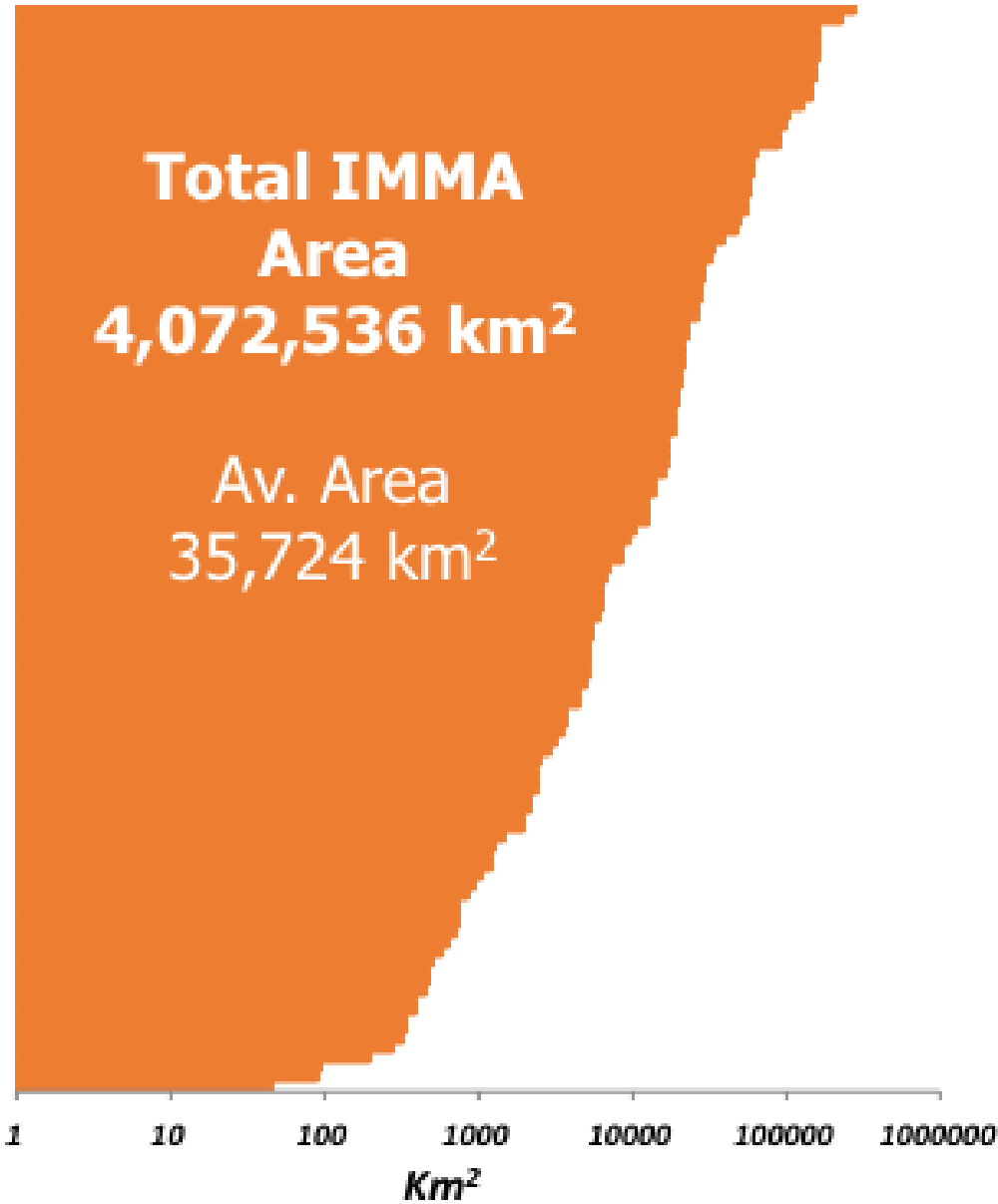
## 158 IMMAs Identified

# IMMA e-Atlas

IMMAs cIMMAs AOI



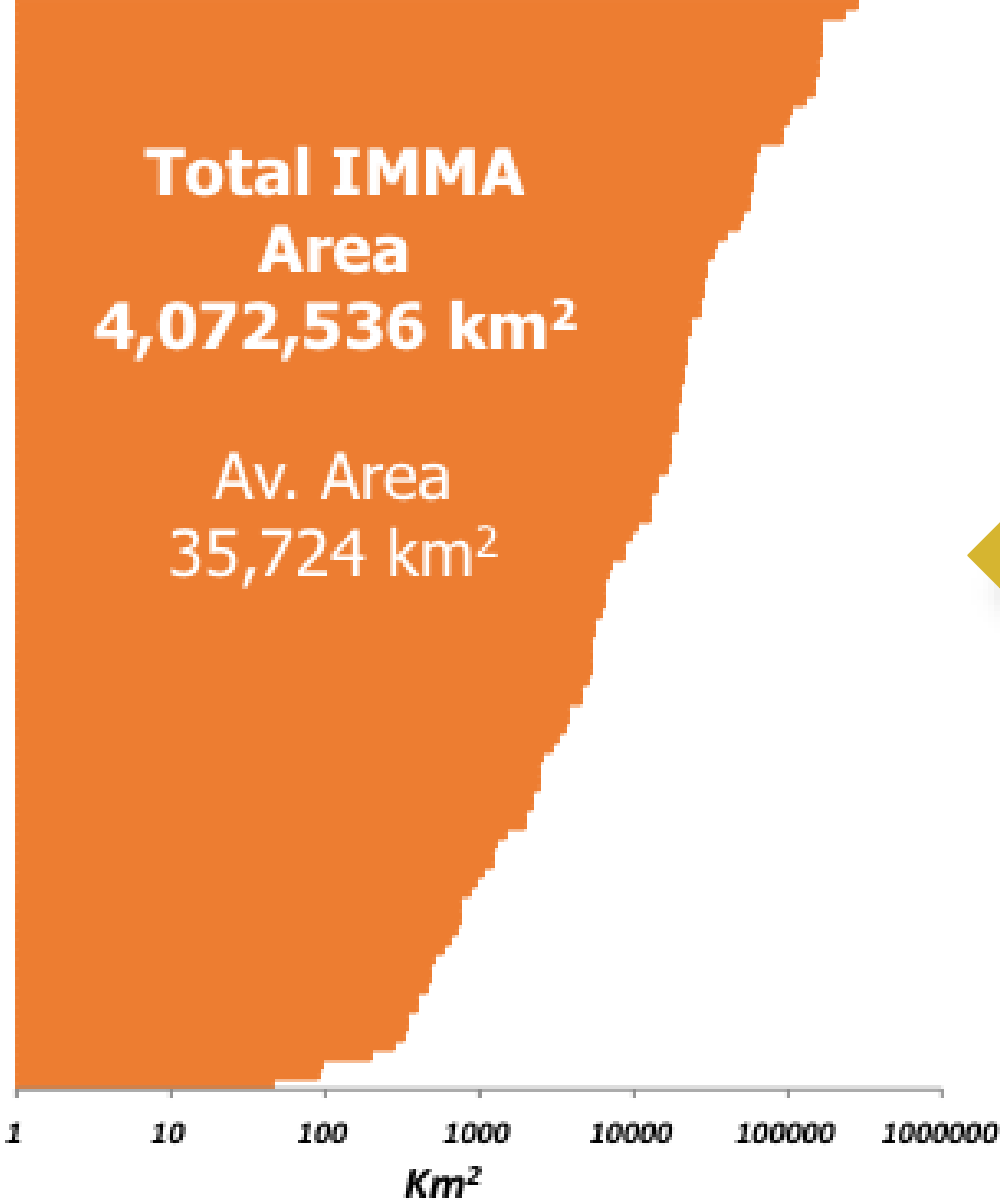
# IMMA Statistics – 2019 – Area Size



## Cook Islands Southern Group IMMA 431,498 $\text{km}^2$



# IMMA Statistics – 2019 – Area Size



## Northern Adriatic IMMA

**33,473 km<sup>2</sup>**

**Northern Adriatic IMMA**

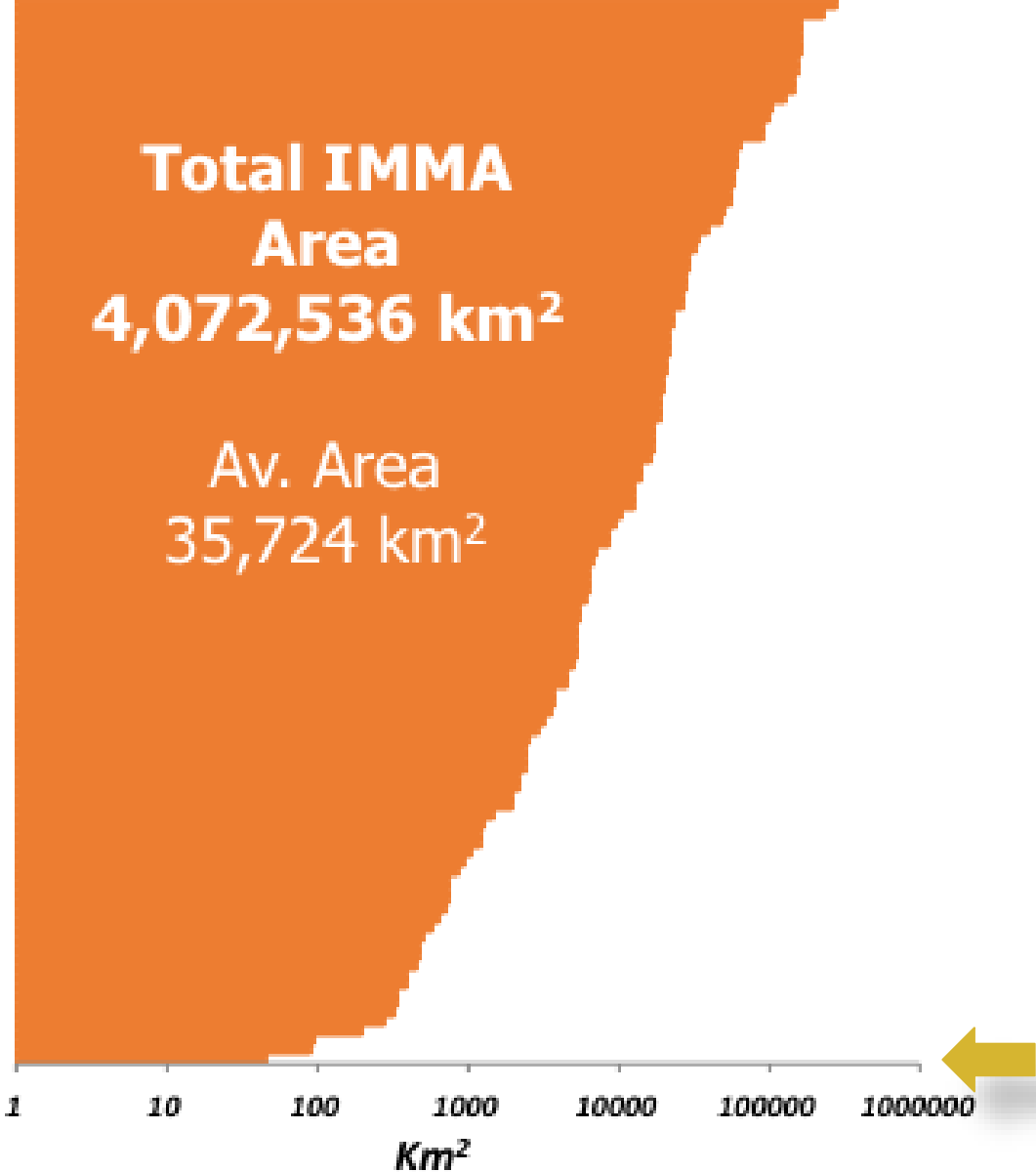
- Area meeting the IMMA Selection Criteria
- Advised buffer for use in the development of appropriate place-based conservation measures

The information on this map was derived from the work of regionally assembled experts for the region. Care was taken in the creation of this map and it utilizes the Global Self-consistent Hierarchical High-resolution Geography, GSHHG Version 2.3.6, August 19, 2016, which is distributed under the Lesser GNU Public License by the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's National Centers for Environmental Information (NCEI). The authors cannot accept any responsibility for errors, omissions, or positional accuracy. Not to be used for purposes of navigation.

Tilen Genov



# IMMA Statistics – 2019 – Area Size



## Akrotiri IMMA

45 km<sup>2</sup>

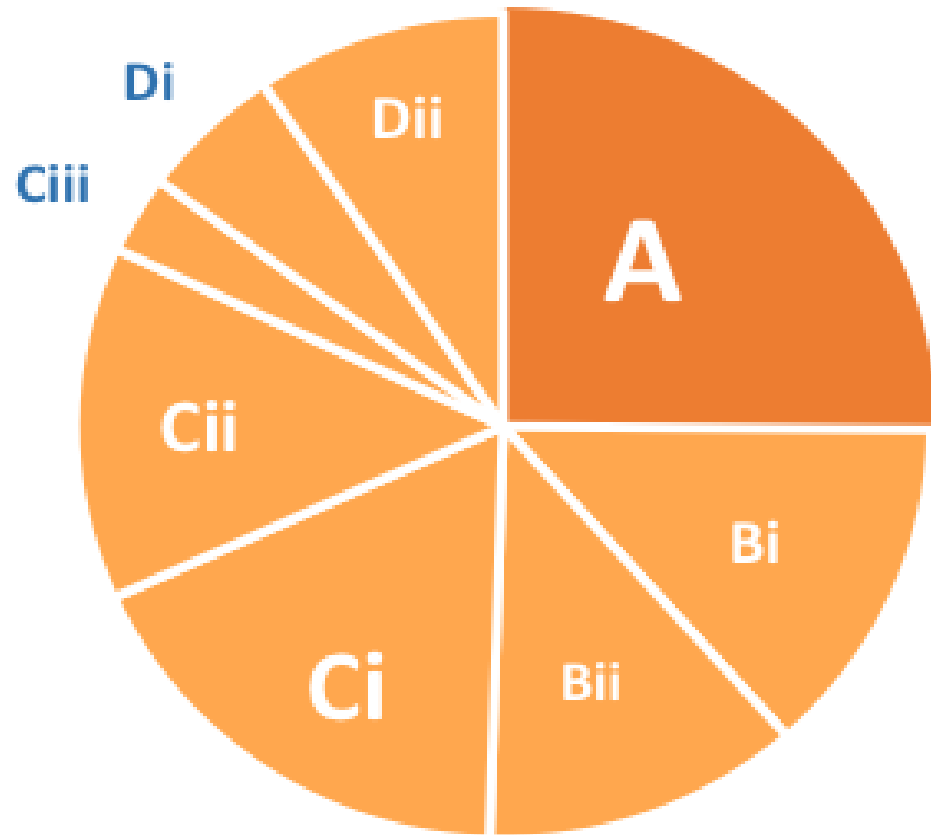
**Akrotiri IMMA**

- Area meeting the IMMA Selection Criteria
- Advised buffer for use in the development of appropriate place-based conservation measures

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Melina Marcou

## IMMA Statistics - 2019 – Qualifying Criteria



**#1 Criteria A – 98 IMMAs (25%)**

**#2 Criteria Ci – 69 IMMAs (18%)**

**#3 Criteria Cii – 54 IMMAs (14%)**

**#4 Criteria Bi – 52 IMMAs (13%)**

**#5 Criteria Bii – 46 IMMAs (12%)**

**#6 Criteria Dii – 37 IMMAs (10%)**

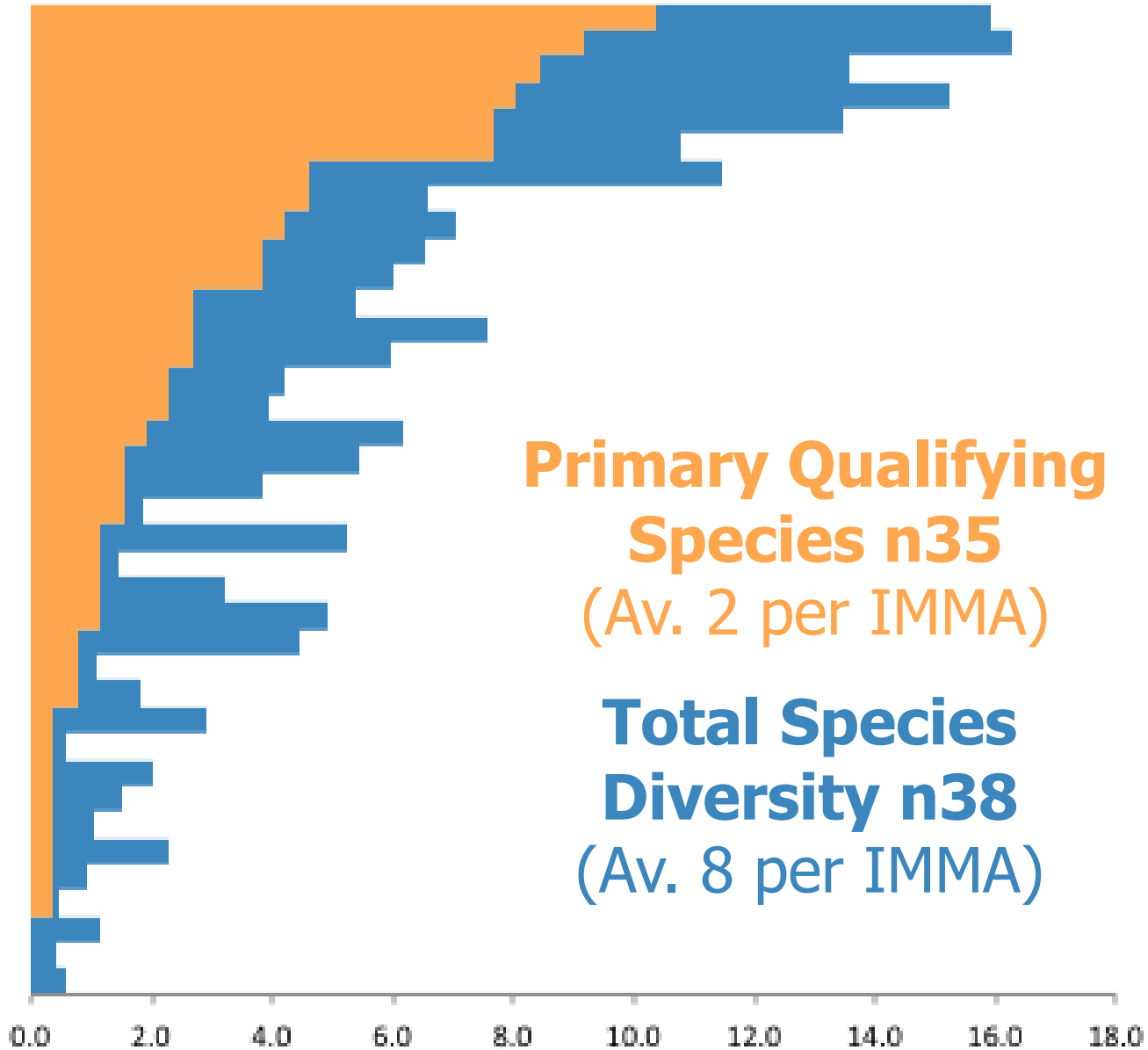
**#7 Criteria Di – 21 IMMAs (5%)**

**#8 Criteria Ciii – 12 IMMAs (3%)**

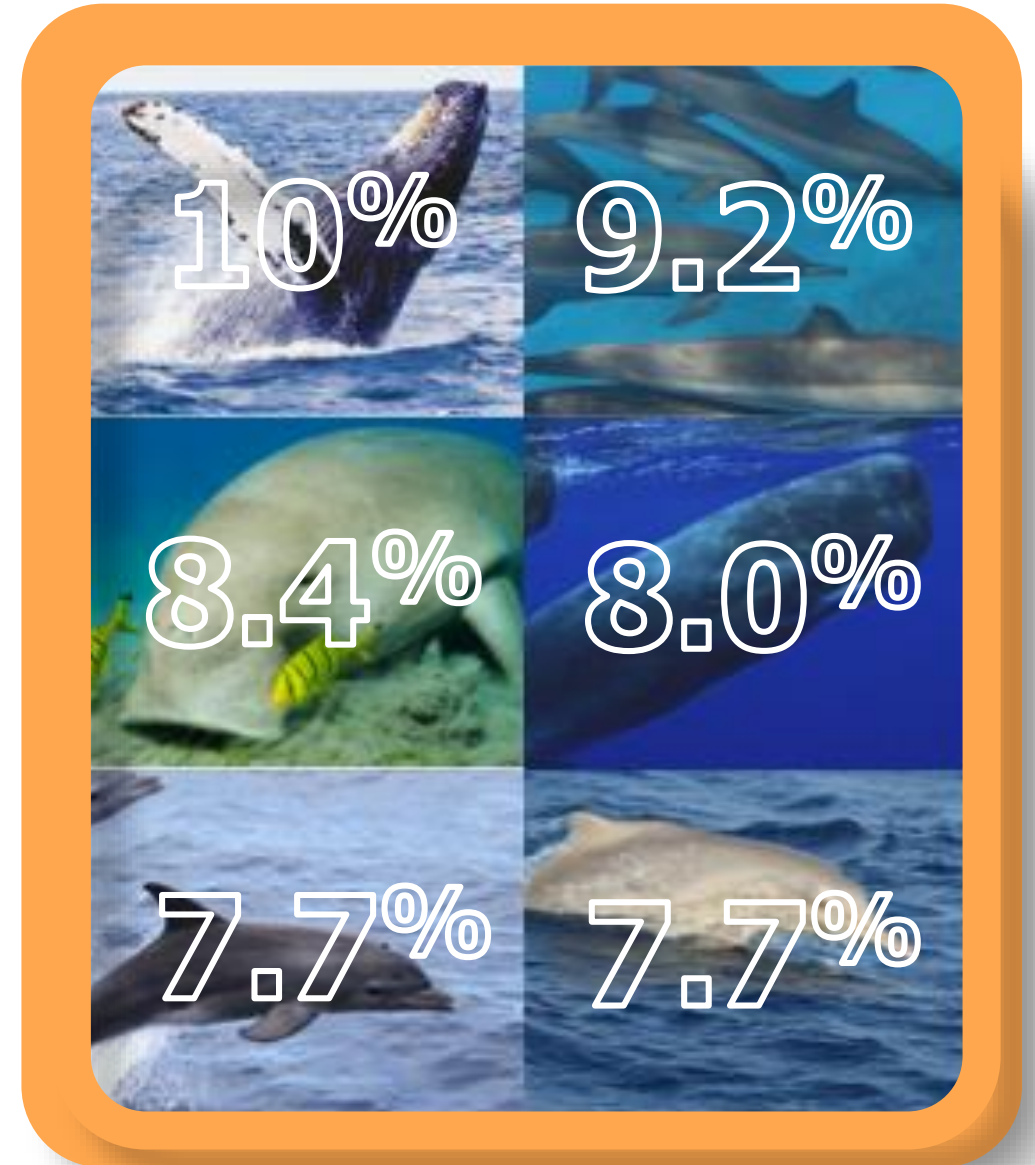
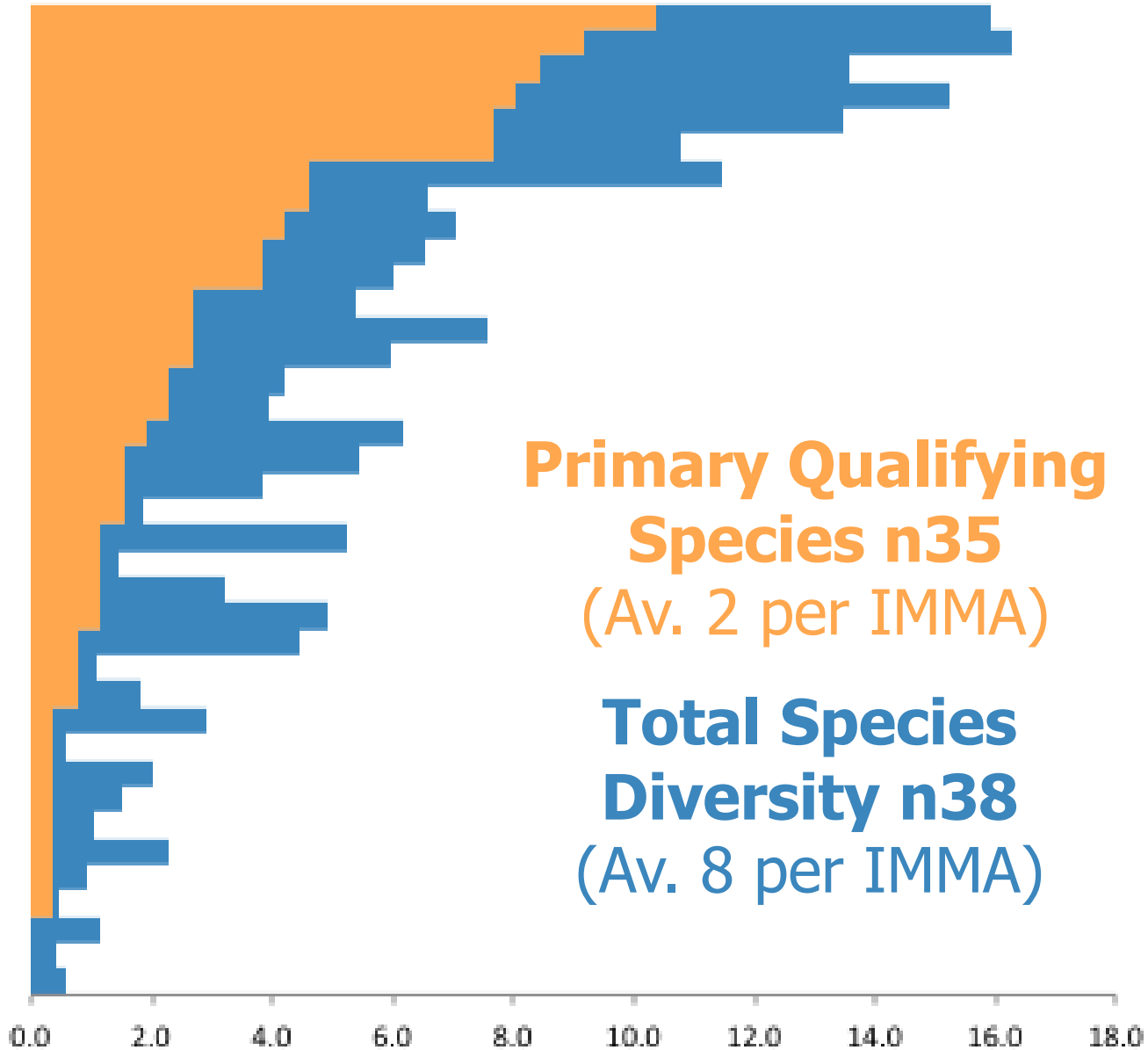
**158 IMMAs -> Av. 2 Criteria met per IMMA (23%)**

**Min = 1 Criteria (4%) / Max = 7 Criteria (0.8%)**

# IMMA Statistics – 2019 – Primary Species and Diversity



# IMMA Statistics – 2019 – Primary Species and Diversity





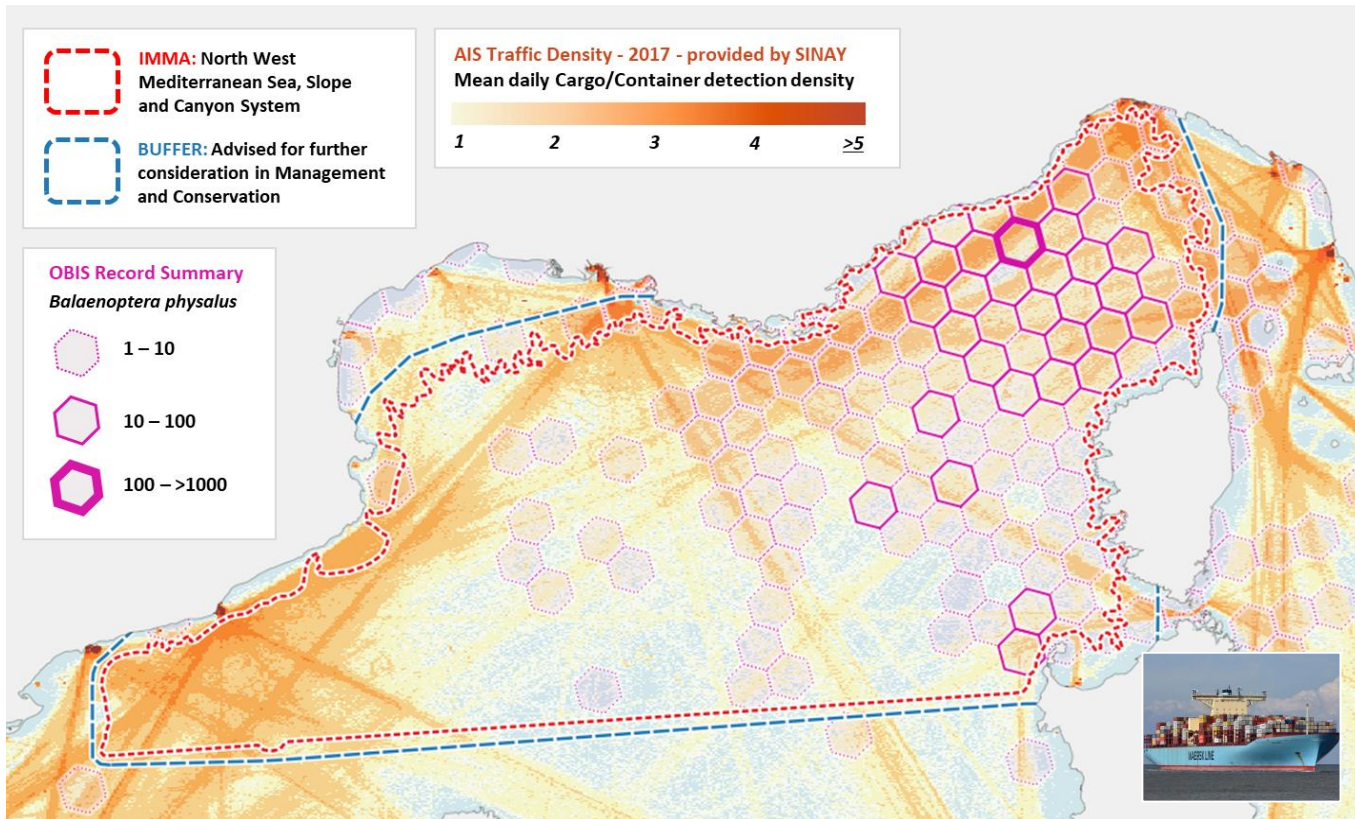
**Strait of Sicily  
2017**

**Palau 2017**

**Bazaruto and  
Inhambane  
2019**

**Andaman  
Islands 2018**

# Global Implementation Studies and Workshops



## Can Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs) be used to assist in identifying areas of “high risk” for ship strikes mitigation?

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(1) Tethys Research Institute, c/o Acquario Civico, Viale G.B. Gadio 2, 20121 Milano, Italy - marghez133@gmail.com; disciara@gmail.com; caterina.lanfredi@polimi.it; panigada69@gmail.com

(2) IUCN Joint SSC/WCPA Marine Mammal Protected Areas Task Force (MMPATF) - immacoordinator@gmail.com

(3) Whale and Dolphin Conservation (WDC), 38 St Paul Street, Chippenham, Wiltshire, SN15 1LJ, United Kingdom - erich.hoyt@mac.com

(4) International Whaling Commission, The Red House, 135 Station Road, Impington, Cambridge CB24 9NP, United Kingdom - david.mattila@iwc.int

**ID#  
664**



## Convention on Migratory Species

### **CMS Resolution 12.13 (2017)**

*"... acknowledges the IMMA criteria and process, requests Parties and invites Range States to identify specific areas where the identification of IMMAs could be beneficial."*



## Convention on Biological Diversity

### **CBD Decision 14.8 (2018)**

*"... approaches for accelerating progress towards Aichi Biodiversity Target 11 in marine and coastal areas include various types of information, with free, prior and informed consent such as... Important Marine Mammal Areas (IMMAs)."*



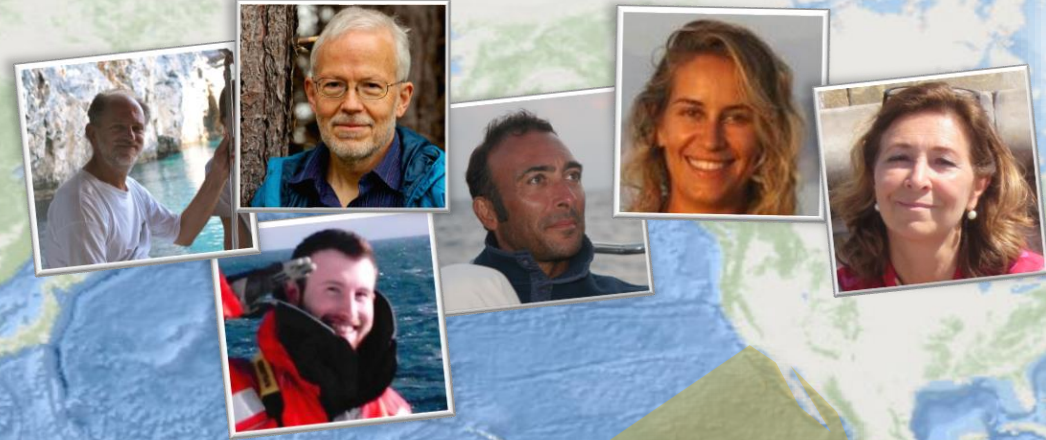




INTERNATIONAL  
CLIMATE INITIATIVE (IKI)



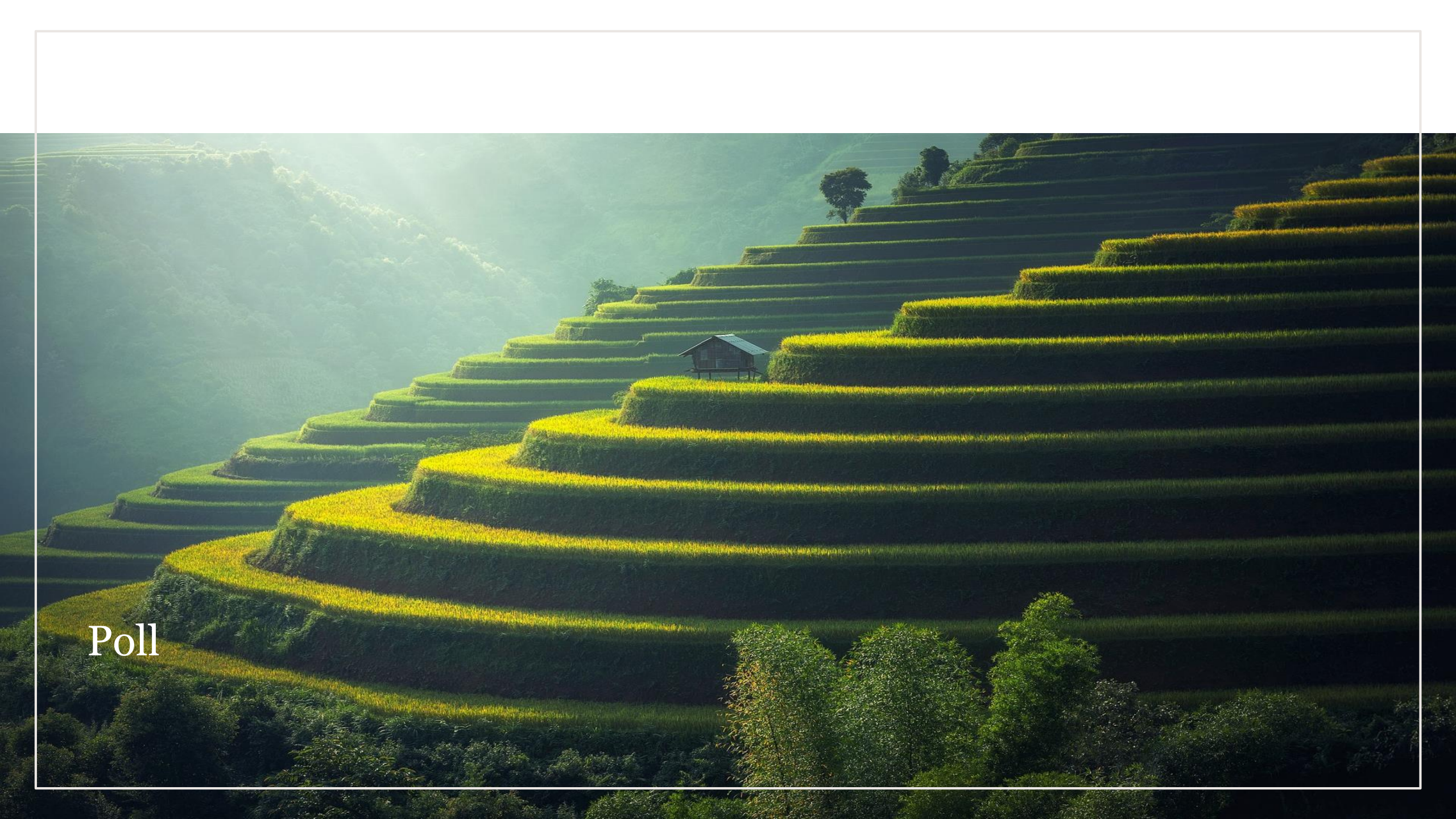
Bundesministerium  
für Umwelt, Naturschutz  
und nukleare Sicherheit



**Thank you  
for your time**

**[marinemammalhabitat.org](http://marinemammalhabitat.org)**

**April  
2021**



Poll



# Discussion

**UN**   
**environment  
programme**

**WCMC**

# Contact

For password details for your company, and any other questions related to the Proteus Partnership please contact:

[sebastian.bekker@unep-wcmc.org](mailto:sebastian.bekker@unep-wcmc.org)

