

International meetings

Participation of scientists of the Institute of Cetacean Research in International Meetings in 2018

Annual meeting of the International Whaling Commission Scientific Committee (IWC SC)

The International Whaling Commission (IWC) is an international body set up by the terms of the International Convention for the Regulation of Whaling (ICRW), which was signed in Washington, D.C., United States, on 2 December, 1946 to 'provide for the proper conservation of whale stocks and thus make possible the orderly development of the whaling industry.' One of the important components of the IWC is the Scientific Committee (SC), which meets annually.

The 2018 meeting of the IWC SC was held at the Rikli Balance Hotel, Bled, Slovenia, from 21 April to 6 May. A total of ten scientists from the Institute of Cetacean Research (ICR) participated in the meeting (Fujise, Kato, Pastene, Tamura, Matsuoka, Goto, Yasunaga, Konishi, Taguchi and Inoue). They presented seven documents at plenary sessions, nine documents at the *Ad hoc* Working Group on Abundance Estimates, Stock Status and International Cruises, one document at the Working Group on Ecosystem Modelling, two documents at the Working Group on Stock Definition and DNA Testing, one document at the Sub-Committee on Northern Hemisphere Whale Stocks, and one document at the Sub-Committee on Other Southern Hemisphere Whale Stocks.



Rikli Balance Hotel, Bled, Slovenia.

In 2018, ICR scientists also participated in several inter-essional meetings of the IWC SC: a) Workshop on Western North Pacific common minke whale stock structure in preparation for the start of the *Implementation Review*, held at the Fisheries Agency of Japan (FAJ)'s Crew House, Tokyo, Japan, from 12-13 February (Pastene, Goto, Taguchi and Inoue); b) Second *Implementation Review* Workshop on western North

Pacific Bryde's whales, held at the FAJ's Crew House, Tokyo, Japan from 14-16 February (Pastene, Hakamada and Inoue); c) Fourth workshop on large whale entanglement issues, held at the Center for Coastal Studies, Provincetown, USA from 5-7 June (Kato and Matsuoka); d) TAG and Planning Meetings for the 2019 IWC-POWER Cruises in the North Pacific, held at the FAJ's Crew House, Tokyo, Japan from 12-16 October (Kato, Matsuoka, Hakamada and Takahashi).

Marine Ecosystem Assessment for the Southern Ocean 2018 (MEASO18)—Assessing Status and Trends of Habitats, Key Species and Ecosystems in the Southern Ocean

The MEASO18 was held at the C3 Convention Center, Hobart, Australia from 9-13 April. One scientist from ICR participated in the meeting (Pastene). He presented a document titled 'Site-fidelity, movement ranges and abundance of southern right whales in the Antarctic Indo region inferred from genetic tagging.' The presentation was made under Theme 1 of MEASO18, 'Assessment.'



C3 Convention Center, Hobart, Australia.

Annual meeting of the Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources —Working Group on Ecosystem Monitoring and Management (CCAMLR-EMM)

The Convention on the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources (CCAMLR) is part of the Antarctic Treaty System. The Convention was opened for signature on 1 August 1980 and entered into force on 7 April 1982 thereby establishing the Commission for the Conservation of Antarctic Marine Living Resources. The goal is to preserve marine life and environmental integrity in and near

Antarctica. It was established in large part in response to concerns that an increase in krill catches in the Southern Ocean could have a serious impact on populations of other marine life which are dependent upon krill for food. The CCAMLR has a Scientific Committee and several Working Groups including the Working Group on Ecosystem Monitoring and Management (EMM), which meet annually.

The 2018 meeting of the CCAMLR-EMM was held at the British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, UK from 9-13 July. One scientist from ICR participated in the meeting (Pastene). He presented a document titled 'Population identity, site-fidelity, movement ranges and preliminary estimates of abundance of southern right whales in the Antarctic Indian sector inferred from genetic marker.' The presentation was made under the agenda item 'Ecosystem monitoring and observations.'



British Antarctic Survey, Cambridge, UK.

Annual meeting of the North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES)

The North Pacific Marine Science Organization (PICES) is an intergovernmental organization that promotes and coordinates marine scientific research in the North Pacific Ocean and provides a mechanism for information and data exchange among scientists in its member countries.

The 2018 meeting of the PICES was held at the Workpia Yokohama Convention Facility, Yokohama, Japan from 25 October-4 November. One scientist from ICR participated in the meeting (Tamura). He presented the study titled 'Estimation of prey consumption by marine mammals in the PICES regions-Update to Hunt *et al.* (2000)' as an oral presentation at the session 'Diets, consumption, and abundance of marine birds and mammals in the North Pacific.' He was also co-author of another study titled 'Spatial estimation of prey consumption by Bryde's whales in the western North Pacific during the summers of 2008-2009: Density surface model approach,' that was also presented to the meeting.



Workpia Yokohama Convention Facility, Yokohama, Japan.

Annual meeting of the North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) Scientific Committee (SC)

The North Atlantic Marine Mammal Commission (NAMMCO) is an international body for cooperation on the conservation, management and study of marine mammals in the North Atlantic. The NAMMCO Agreement was signed in Nuuk, Greenland on 9 April 1992 by Norway, Iceland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands, and entered into force 90 days later on 8 July 1992. The agreement focuses on modern approaches to the study of the marine ecosystem as a whole, and to better understanding the role of marine mammals in the ecosystem. NAMMCO has a Scientific Committee (SC) which meets annually.

The 2018 NAMMCO SC meeting was held on board the MS Polarlys, between Bergen and Tromsø, Norway from 13-16 November. Three scientists from ICR participated in the meeting (Pastene, Konishi and Takahashi) as observers from Japan. They presented the 2016-2018 Japan progress report on cetacean research as well a presentation on the whale's satellite tracking work by the ICR.



MS Polarlys, Norway.