

Resolutions and Recommendations Sheets

Sheet updated on: 09/11/2022

Resolution 22. Establishment of a mid-frequency active (MFA – 1 to 10 KHz) sonar moratorium for maritime military exercises conducted in Macaronesia



Year	Congress
2020	
Sponsoring entity	Co-sponsoring entities
	Asociación Guyra Paraguay Conservación de Aves, Asociación Herpetológica Española, Centro de Extensión Universitaria e Divulgación Ambiental de Galicia, European Association of Zoos and Aquaria, Fédération des conservatoires d'espaces naturels, Fundación Biodiversidad, Loro Parque Fundación, PROVITA, Sociedad Española para la Defensa del Patrimonio Geológico y Minero, Vice Consejería Sostenibilidad Ambiental, Gobierno Vasco

With the support of:



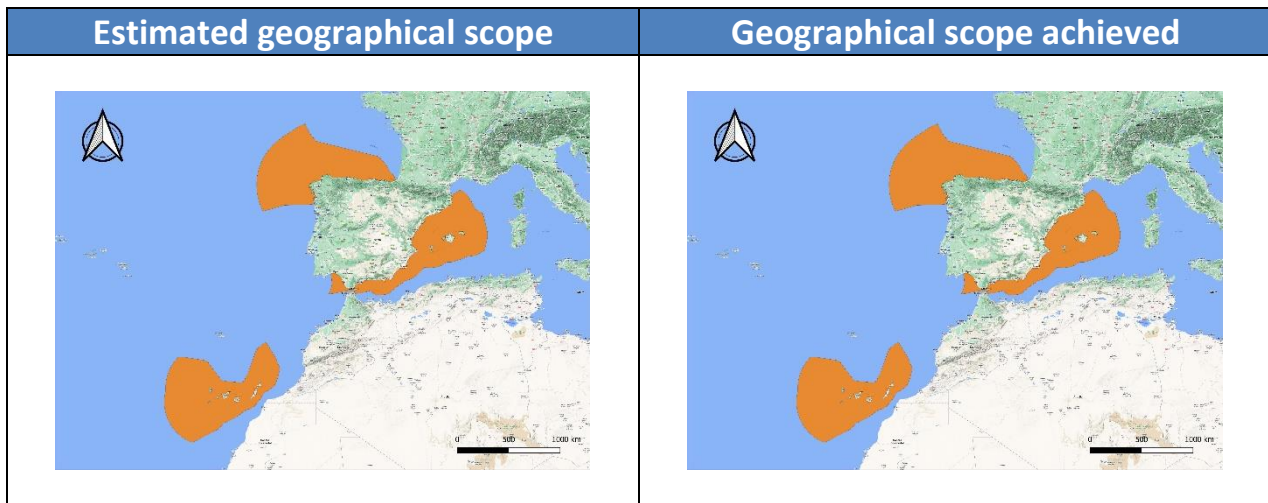
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Petition	
<p>Calls on all states with Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZs) in the Macaronesian region to: support the establishment of an MFA sonar moratorium during maritime military exercises, involving naval ships and military aircra capable of employing MFA sonobuoys or dipping sonars, conducted within their EEZs; and ban the use of this high-energy sonar in maritime military exercises within the limits of their EEZs; Requests the Director General to convey this Resolution to all states with EEZs in the region, as well as to the European Parliament.</p>	
State	Fulfilment in Spain
Active	In process
Summary of actions carried out with effect in Spain	
<p>Maritime Space Management Plans. III. Diagnosis. The maritime sectors: current situation and forecasts of future or potential development A. North Atlantic Marine Demarcation. (2021). The use of active sonar systems is prohibited.</p> <p>Maritime Space Management Plans. III. Diagnosis. The maritime sectors: current situation and forecasts of future or potential development B. South Atlantic Marine Demarcation . (2021). The use of acoustic deterrent devices and the annoyance or harm to cetaceans is prohibited.</p> <p>Maritime Space Management Plans. III. Diagnosis. The maritime sectors: current situation and forecasts of future or potential development C. Marine Demarcation of the Strait and Alborán. (2021). It is prohibited in those ZECs with the presence of cetaceans and sea turtles to use compressed air cannons and low and medium frequency active sonar systems.</p> <p>Maritime Space Management Plans. III. Diagnosis. The maritime sectors: current situation and forecasts of future or potential development D. Levantino-Balearic Marina Demarcation. (2021). Low and medium frequency active sonar systems except in exceptional circumstances, when it is essential to achieve the objectives set out in scientific studies, research or characterization of the seabed and its safety for the wild species present in the protected space is expressly guaranteed. .</p> <p>Maritime Space Management Plans. III. Diagnosis. The maritime sectors: current situation and forecasts of future or potential development E. Canary Islands Marina Demarcation. (2021). The use of acoustic deterrent devices and the annoyance or harm to cetaceans is prohibited.</p> <p>Legislation: Communication from the Commission Guidance document on the rigorous protection of animal species of Community interest under the Habitats Directive. (2021). Some military activities, in particular the use of active sonar in the marine environment, could lead to the death of cetaceans. Military activities are not exempt from the provisions of Article 12, so the navies of various Member States have developed strategic initiatives for the use of military sonar taking into account the need to minimize potential environmental effects.</p>	

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