



Status of Existing and Proposed Marine Protected Areas (MPAs) for Whales and Dolphins in the Mediterranean and Black Seas by ACCOBAMS *(Agreement on the Conservation of Cetaceans of the Black Sea, Mediterranean Sea and contiguous Atlantic Area)*

On 25th October 2007, at the Third Meeting of the Parties of ACCOBAMS, held in Dubrovnik, the Parties adopted Resolution 3.22 supporting in principle the creation of the MPAs shown above, as well as others to be defined, and welcoming the criteria and guidelines for setting up additional MPAs in the region which include management plans to address threats to cetaceans. The Parties have agreed to begin the process to work with local communities to designate these and other areas as set out in the criteria and guidelines.

- PELAGOS Sanctuary for Mediterranean Marine Mammals, designated 1999 in the waters of Italy, France, Monaco and adjacent high seas, declared a SPAMI (Specially Protected Area of Mediterranean Importance) in 2001, with final agreement of countries in 2002
- Cres-Lošinj Special Marine Reserve, in process of final designation
- Regno di Nettuno (Ischia) MPA, a zoned MPA established December 2007

Please note: Boundaries for proposed areas are approximate as suggested by current research and will need to be drawn more precisely on a case-by-case basis as additional research is obtained.

- Four pilot MPAs adopted by the Parties in 2002 as international priorities under the proposal of the Scientific Committee
- Six important cetacean areas in the Black and Mediterranean seas and contiguous Atlantic area proposed by the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee in November 2006 and agreed in principle by the ACCOBAMS Parties in October 2007
- Three cetacean areas proposed for protection by the Black Sea Commission's Round Table on Conservation of Black Sea Cetaceans, Istanbul, May 2006
- Eight proposed MPAs recommended by the ACCOBAMS Scientific Committee as part of the Mediterranean Common Dolphin Conservation Plan

