PAME II-2013
Annotation to agenda item 4.6(b)
AMSA Recommendation II(G)
AOR Final Report Recommendations 11 & 12
NOAA's Cetacean (CetMap) and Sound Mapping Effort (CetSound) as a Template to Support Multilateral Cetacean Risk Assessments in the Arctic[1]

Recommendations for the attention of the PAME II-2013 Meeting

As CetSound as a whole or in specific elements may be used as a model to strengthen data resources for ship strike and noise exposure risk assessments for cetaceans across the Arctic, the USA recommends that:

- PAME encourage member governments, building in particular upon AOR Final Report Recommendation 12, to create and/or share marine mammal density and distribution maps as well as sounds maps for the Arctic region. To this end, the USA recommends that PAME encourage member governments to view CetSounds's cetacean distribution and density and sound field mapping products as a potential model data portal to collect, model or access density, distribution, and sound information. This could include current or future sound fields produced by shipping or other development activities, cetacean density (number of individuals expected to be found in a given area), distribution, and biologically important areas (known areas of specific importance for cetaceans, such as reproductive areas, feeding areas, migratory corridors and areas in which small or resident populations are concentrated). These products can be used by mariners when conducting voyage or other development planning and to support integration of data products amongst Arctic nations.
- PAME encourage member governments, in partnership with CetSound, to develop a robust data inventory of cetacean density and distribution information across Arctic States to provide managers and mariners with information of where cetaceans are when making management and voyage planning decisions. A comprehensive inventory across waters subject to the jurisdiction of Arctic States will illustrate the

[1] CetSound is led by: Leila Hatch, NOAA/NOS Stellwagen Bank National Marine Sanctuary, Leila.Hatch@noaa.gov; Jolie Harrison, NOAA, Jolie.Harrison@noaa.gov; Jason Gedamke, NOAA, Jason.Gedamke@noaa.gov; Sofie Van Parijs, NOAA, Sofie.VanParijs@noaa.gov; and Megan Ferguson, NOAA, Megan.Ferguson@noaa.gov.

quality of current data and identify key data gaps. Arctic regional cetacean as well as sound field mapping products might be used to inform Arctic States' consideration, either individually or collectively, of the merits of possible IMO routing and reporting measure proposals for this region.

- PAME encourage member governments to build upon the existing dialogue among nations regarding salient features of underwater acoustic conditions, current modeling techniques, and methods for web or portal presentation of data holdings. For example, the International Whaling Commission's Scientific Committee recently recommended a jointly sponsored workshop with the International Quiet Ocean Experiment to discuss methods applied in SoundMap and the expansion of similar mapping efforts to other locations worldwide. The United States recommends that PAME member governments actively participate in the workshop.