

ADDENDUM 1
In-Session version

SCIENTIFIC COUNCIL COMMENTS
(arising from ScC-SC6)

RECREATIONAL IN-WATER INTERACTIONS

UNEP/CMS/COP14/Doc.27.3.1

(ScC-SC6 Agenda Item 9.3.1)

RECOMMENDATIONS TO COP14

ScC-SC6 recommended the Resolution, including the *Guidelines for Recreational In-water Interaction with Marine Wildlife*, and the Decisions for adoption.

GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE DOCUMENT

- It was noted that these guidelines were very important and timely.
- IWC noted they were happy to have been involved in the consultation process, and gave an update that IWC Joint Scientific Committee & Conservation Committee meeting (May 2023) recommended that the CMS RIWI Guidelines be included in the joint CMS/IWC Whale Watching Handbook.
- The COP-appointed Councillor for Marine Fish noted that these guidelines were important given the growing RIWI activity for sharks and rays, and that codes of conduct needed to be different for different species, based on how these interactions were happening and where.
- It was noted that the codes of conduct referenced in Decision 13.68 were not presented separately, but could be extracted from the existing text in the Guidelines if Parties so wished.

COMMENTS ON SPECIFIC SECTIONS / INCLUDING POSSIBLE PROPOSALS FOR TEXT REVISION

Resolution

- Page 5, amend the 3rd preambular para:

Conscious that a large number of aquatic ~~mammal~~ species are sensitive to the disturbances caused by in-water interactions, and that in addition they carry a risk of [disease transmission](#), [and](#) direct physical impacts, that can lead to injuries and even death,