

1.5-P43. The Baleakanta project. A database of hydroacoustic signatures of large cetaceans. A few cases of individual animal identification.

The Baleakanta project was initiated in 2013 with the goal of establishing a database of large cetacean calls recorded at the IMS hydrophones. These calls are recorded on a continual basis at the six hydrophone stations of the network, whose main purpose is to serve the mission of detecting nuclear explosions in the oceans. The calls are scientifically valuable as a means of studying the animal's migration patterns. Statistical information about the signal characteristics, frequency, seasonality, density of these calls are some of the expected outcome of the project and we are planning to make the information available to the marine mammal community. We will report in particular on observations which led us to distinguish two distinct blue whale individuals with type 9 acoustic signature and open the possibility to search for time-frequency methods of individual classification.

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