Application for Consent to conduct Marine Scientific Research

Date: ___06/06/16_____

1. General Information

1.1 Cruise name and/or number:
SCANS –III

1.2 Sponsoring Institution(s):	
Name:	Sea Mammal Research Unit, University of St Andrews
Address:	St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9AJ
Name of Director:	Dr Ailsa Hall

1.3 Scientist in charge of the Project:	
Name:	Prof. Philip Hammond
Country:	UK
Affiliation:	University of St Andrews
Address:	Scottish Oceans Institute, Bute Buildling Westburn Lane St Andrews KY16 9TS
Telephone:	01334 463222
Fax:	
Email:	Psh2@st-andrews.ac.uk
Website (for CV and photo):	http://biology.st-andrews.ac.uk/contact/staffProfile.aspx?sunID=psh2

1.4 Entity(ies)/Participant(s) from coastal State involved in the planning of the project:	
Name:	Prof. Philip Hammond
Affiliation:	University of St Andrews
Address:	Scottish Oceans Institute, Bute Buildling Westburn Lane St Andrews KY16 9TS
Telephone:	01334 463222
Fax:	
Email:	Psh2@st-andrews.ac.uk
Website (for CV and photo):	http://biology.st-andrews.ac.uk/contact/staffProfile.aspx?sunID=psh2

2. Description of Project

2.1 Nature and objectives of the project:
The European Atlantic is changing rapidly and it is essential that EU Member States have access to up-to-date robust information on the status of key species so that future monitoring can be directed effectively and efficiently to achieve and maintain favourable conservation status of species and good environmental status of European Atlantic waters. Consequently, the objective of SCANS-III is to estimate the abundance of all cetacean species in shelf and oceanic waters of the European Atlantic in summer 2016. This is aimed to be achieved through a large-scale multinational aerial and shipboard survey of all European Atlantic waters in July 2016. This will ensure that results are comparable with those from previous surveys conducted in 1994, 2005 and 2007. Survey transects will be sailed by the survey vessel, with observers recording sightings of marine mammals which are seen. No physical samples will be taken, no fishing or seismic undertaken and the vessel will not break track to follow marine mammals. In addition to visual observations, underwater acoustic data will be recorded using an underwater microphone towed behind the vessel. This does not emit any signal – it is just a passive recording device.

2.2 If designated as part of a larger scale project, then provide the name of the project and the Organisation responsible for coordinating the project:
The section carried out in UK waters is part of a multi-national collaborative project to survey marine mammals in European waters. This is being coordinated by the University of St Andrews – please see contact details above.

2.3 Relevant previous or future research projects:
This is the fourth in a series of large scale surveys for cetaceans in European Atlantic waters which was initiated in 1994 (SCANS; Hammond et al. 2002) continued in 2005 (SCANS-II; Hammond et al. 2013) and 2007 (CODA 2009) to provide estimates of abundance needed to put bycatch in a population context and to allow EU member States to discharge their responsibilities under the Habitats Directive. The frequency of these surveys was intended to be approximately decadal. The papers cited are attached to the email containing this application.

2.4 Previous publications relating to the project:
CODA (2009). *Cetacean Offshore Distribution and Abundance in the European Atlantic (CODA).* Final Report. University of St Andrews, UK. **Hammond, PS** *et al.* (2002). Abundance of harbour porpoise and other cetaceans in the North Sea and adjacent waters. *Journal of Applied Ecology* 39: 361–376. **Hammond, PS** *et al.* (2013). Cetacean abundance and distribution in European Atlantic shelf waters to inform conservation and management. *Biological Conservation* 164: 107–122.

3. Geographical Areas

3.1 Indicate geographical areas in which the project is to be conducted (with reference in Latitude and longitude in degrees, including coordinates of cruise/track/way points/sampling stations). Please provide coordinates in a table format using a separate excel spreadsheet.
The exact survey lines have yet to be finalised, but will be provided as soon as possible. The coordinates provided in the attached are for the survey blocks within which the survey lines will sit.

3.2 Attach chart(s) at an appropriate scale (1 page, high-resolution) showing the geographical Areas of the intended work and, as far as practicable, the location and depth of sampling Stations, the tracks of survey lines, and the locations of installations and equipment.
Please see attached chart. There will be no stationary sampling, and no equipment installed, we will simply be sailing survey lines within this block.

4. Methods and means to be used

4.1 Particulars of vessel:	
Name:	Skoven
Type/Class:	Survey / utility / Guard vessel
Nationality (Flag State):	Danish
Identification Number (IMO/Lloyds No.):	8621408
Owner:	Skoven Survey ApS
Operator:	Foga ApS
Overall length (meters):	41.86m

Maximum draught:	4m
Displacement/Gross Tonnage:	344
Propulsion:	Pitch propeller single Wichmann Diesel 600 BhP 6ACA Aquamaster UL601 3500/Caterpillar 650 BhP Stern Thruster Schottel 225 BhP
Cruising & maximum speed:	Cruising speed – 10kts Max speed – 12 kts
Call sign:	OWOY2
INMARSAT number and method and capability of communication (including emergency frequencies):	The M/S Skoven has following communications: Capt. Cell phone: +45 26 11 28 61 only on shore. IP. Tel.: +45 82 13 06 23 main communication mean. Sat. Tel.: +88 164 140 915 e-mail: skovensurvey@outlook.com e-mail office: fish.info@foga.dk All mails with this address in copy. Tel. office: +45 75 45 11 44 Foga ApS
Name of Master:	Preben Skoven
Number of Crew:	4 vessel crew
Number of Scientists on board:	8 cetacean observers, potentially 2 additional bird observers

4.2 Particulars of Aircraft:	
Name:	
Make/Model:	

Nationality (flag State):	
Website for diagram & Specifications:	
Owner:	
Operator:	
Overall Length (meters):	
Propulsion:	
Cruising & Maximum speed:	
Registration No.:	
Call Sign:	
Method and capability of communication (including emergency frequencies):	
Name of Pilot:	
Number of crew:	
Number of scientists on board:	
Details of sensor packages:	
Other relevant information:	

4.3 Particulars of Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV):	
Name:	N/A
Manufacturer and make/model:	
Nationality (Flag State):	
Website for diagram & Specifications:	
Owner:	
Operator:	
Overall length (meters):	
Displacement/Gross tonnage:	
Cruising & Maximum speed:	

Range/Endurance:	
Method and capability of communication (including emergency frequencies):	
Details of sensor packages:	
Other relevant information:	

4.4 other craft in the project, including its use:
N/A

4.5 Particulars of methods, full description of scientific instruments to be used(for fishing gear specify type and dimension and for geophysical survey the type of equipment, source levels, frequency and duty cycle to be used) and location			
Types of samples and Measurements:	Methods to be used:	Instruments to be used:	To be carried out within 12nm (yes or no):
N/A			

4.6 Indicate nature and quantity of any substances to be released into the marine environment:
None

4.7 Indicate whether drilling will be carried out. If yes, please specify:
No

4.8 Indicate whether explosives will be used. If yes, please specify type and trade name,

Chemical content, depth of trade class and stowage, size, depth of detonation, frequency of Detonation, and position in latitude and longitude:
None

5. Installations and Equipment

Details of installations and equipment (including dates of laying, servicing, method and Anticipated timeframe for recover, as far as possible exact locations and depth, and Measurements):
None

6. Dates

6.1 Expected dates of first entry into and final departure from the research area by the research vessel and/or other platforms:
The survey will be conducted between 27th June and 7th August 2016. The vessel will leave from Aberdeen, and will come back into harbour in the South Coast of the UK – exact location to be determined.
6.2 Indicate if multiple entries are expected:
Yes

7. Port Calls

7.1 Dates and Names of intended ports of call:

No interim port calls are anticipated for the vessel in the UK.

7.2 Any special logistical requirements at ports of call:
N/A

7.3 Name/Address/Telephone of shipping agent (if available):
N/A

8. Participation of the representative of the coastal State

8.1 Modalities of the participation of the representative of the coastal State in the research Project:
This project has been coordinated by a UK university (St Andrews), has considerable UK funding (from Defra and JNCC) and will have UK crew members on board already – including Mark Tasker from JNCC. JNCC are also putting two ornithologists on the survey vessel.

8.2 Proposed dates and ports for embarkation/disembarkation:
The vessel will leave Aberdeen on 27th June, and arrive back in to the South coast of the UK on 6th August. Port to be determined.

9. Access to Data, Samples and Research Results

9.1 Expected dates of submission to coastal State of preliminary report, which should include

The expected dates of submission of the data and research results:
Cruise reports will be available within once month of the date of completion of the survey. Full results will be made available to all participating countries once completed.

9.2 Anticipated dates of submission to the coastal State of the final report:
December 2018.

9.3 Proposed means for access by coastal State to data (including format) and samples:
Reports will be submitted electronically as PDF files. Copies of raw data can be provided as shapeiles or excel sheets – whichever is preferable.

9.4 Proposed means to provide coastal State with assessment of data, samples and Research results:
Electronically. There will be no physical samples.

9.5 Proposed means to provide assistance in assessment or interpretation of data, samples And research results:
Data will be interpreted in attached reports

9.6 Proposed means of making results internationally available:
This is an internationally collaborative project. All partner nations will receive copies of the data and results as part of the project. Data will be made publically available via OBIS Seamap following completion of the analysis. Peer reviewed publications will also be submitted.

10. Other permits Submitted

10.1 Indicate other types of coastal state permits anticipated for this research (received or Pending): Ireland, France.

11. List of Supporting Documentation

11.1 List of attachments, such as additional forms required by the coastal State, etc.:

Signature: 

Contact information of the focal point:

Name: Claire Lacey

Country: UK

Affiliation: University of St Andrews

Address: Scottish Oceans Institute, B9, Bute Buildling, Westburn Lane, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9TS

Telephone: 01334 463612

Fax: N/A

Email: cl20@st-andrews.ac.uk