

OSPAR Recommendation 2021/01 on the Management of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area, as amended by OSPAR Recommendation 2023/01

(Consolidated text)¹

Source: OSPAR 21/13/01, Annex 24
OSPAR 23/17/01, Annex 13 + JL(2) 23/05/01, Annex 3

Preamble

RECALLING Article 2(1) of the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic (“the OSPAR Convention”),

RECALLING Annex V to the OSPAR Convention on the protection and conservation of the ecosystems and biological diversity of the maritime area, and in particular its Article 3(1) (b) (ii), which makes it a duty of the OSPAR Commission to develop means, consistent with international law, for instituting protective, conservation, restorative or precautionary measures related to specific areas or sites or related to specific species or habitats,

RECALLING that Article 4.1 of Annex V provides that, in accordance with the penultimate recital of the OSPAR Convention, no programme or measure concerning a question relating to the management of fisheries shall be adopted under that Annex, while recognizing that where the OSPAR Commission considers that action is desirable in relation to such a question, it shall draw that question to the attention of the authority or international body competent for that question,

RECALLING the adoption of OSPAR Recommendation 2003/03 at the joint OSPAR/HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2003 in Bremen, which calls upon Contracting Parties to establish the OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas and to ensure that by 2010 it is an ecologically coherent network of well-managed marine protected areas,

RECALLING the 2021 Ministerial Meeting in Cascais at which OSPAR further committed to expand the OSPAR network of effectively managed, well connected and representative Marine Protected Areas and other effective conservation measures across OSPAR Regions to cover at least 30% of the OSPAR Maritime Area by 2030, as articulated in the North-East Atlantic Environment Strategy 2030,

RECALLING that the OSPAR Commission endorsed in 2020 conservation objectives for the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin as set out in the Background Document OSPAR publication 2020/771,

¹ The consolidated text integrates the original OSPAR measure with subsequent amendments adopted by OSPAR in a single, non-official document to facilitate documentation. Only the original OSPAR measure and the subsequent measures adopted by OSPAR to amend the basic measure are official documents.

RECALLING the adoption by the OSPAR Ministerial Meeting 2021 of OSPAR Decision 2021/1 designating the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area with the goal of protecting and conserving seabirds and the ecosystems of the waters superjacent to the seabed including their biodiversity and processes that support those populations in accordance with the conservation objectives set out in OSPAR Recommendation 2021/1 on the Management of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area,

RECALLING the adoption by the OSPAR Ministerial Meeting 2021 of an OSPAR agreement on a Roadmap for further development of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area (OSPAR Agreement 2021-08) setting out an evidence review process to consider the further development of protection for the deep-sea ecosystem at the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA, and the intention by the OSPAR Commission to enhance the protection by including additional OSPAR listed features and the seabed, ocean floor and subsoil thereof in the scope of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area,

RECALLING the adoption in December 2022 of the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework, specifically Target 3 to ‘ensure and enable that by 2030 at least 30 per cent of terrestrial, inland water, and of coastal and marine areas, especially areas of particular importance for biodiversity and ecosystem functions and services, are effectively conserved and managed through ecologically representative, well-connected and equitably governed systems of protected areas and other effective area-based conservation measures, recognizing indigenous and traditional territories, where applicable, and integrated into wider landscapes, seascapes and the ocean, while ensuring that any sustainable use, where appropriate in such areas, is fully consistent with conservation outcomes, recognizing and respecting the rights of indigenous peoples and local communities including over their traditional territories’,

RECALLING the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) resolution *A/RES/75/239 of December 2020* reaffirming the need for States to continue and intensify their efforts, directly and through competent international organizations, to develop and facilitate the use of diverse approaches and tools for conserving and managing vulnerable marine ecosystems, including the possible establishment of marine protected areas, consistent with international law, as reflected in the Convention (UNCLOS), and based on the best scientific information available and encouraging States to further progress towards the establishment of marine protected areas, including representative networks²,

RECALLING UNCLOS, which establishes the general legal framework on the sovereign rights and obligations of coastal States to areas under national jurisdiction, and in particular article 76 on the definition of the continental shelf, which includes the right of the coastal State to delineate outer limits of its continental shelf, article 77 on the rights of the coastal State over the continental shelf and article 78 on the legal status of the superjacent waters and air space and the rights and freedoms of other States,

WELCOMING the adoption of the Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea on the Conservation and Sustainable Use of Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction, in particular the objective under Part III of the Agreement to conserve and sustainably use areas requiring protection, including through the establishment of a comprehensive system of area-based management tools, with ecologically representative and well-connected networks of Marine Protected Areas,

ACKNOWLEDGING that on 1 August 2017 the Portuguese Republic has presented to the Commission on the Limits of the Continental Shelf (CLCS), an addendum to its submission regarding the establishment of the

²UNGA Resolution A/RES/75/239 Oceans and the law of the sea adopted on 31 December 2020, Paras 265 and 267.

outer limits of the Portuguese continental shelf beyond 200 nautical miles from the baselines from which the breadth of the territorial sea is measured, in accordance with Article 76 of, and Annex II to, UNCLOS and that this submission by Portugal encompasses part of the seabed subjacent to the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area,

NOTING and WELCOMING that the Portuguese Republic has reported to the OSPAR Commission the commitment to designate the seabed subjacent to the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area, as a component of the OSPAR network of Marine Protected Areas and will establish the programmes, measures and agreements pertaining to the seabed which are necessary for the achievement of the conservation vision and conservation objectives of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area,

RECOGNISING that a range of human activities occurring, or potentially occurring, at the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area are regulated in the respective frameworks of other competent authorities. These include, in particular, fishing (North-East Atlantic Fisheries Commission (NEAFC), International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tunas (ICCAT), North Atlantic Salmon Conservation Organization (NASCO), International Whaling Commission (IWC)), shipping (International Maritime Organization (IMO)), and exploration and exploitation of deep-seabed mineral resources (International Seabed Authority (ISA)),

NOTING the Memorandum of Understanding between the OSPAR Commission and NEAFC, that has complementary competences and responsibilities for environmental protection and fisheries management, in order to promote mutual cooperation towards the conservation and sustainable use of marine biological diversity, including protection of marine ecosystems in the North-East Atlantic,

The Contracting Parties to the Convention for the Protection of the Marine Environment of the North-East Atlantic RECOMMEND:

1. Definitions

1.1 For the purpose of this Recommendation:

“Marine Protected Area (MPA)” means an area within the maritime area for which protective, conservation, restorative or precautionary measures, consistent with international law, have been instituted for the purpose of protecting and conserving species, habitats, ecosystems or ecological processes of the marine environment.

“OSPAR Network of Marine Protected Areas” means those areas which have been, and remain, reported by Contracting Parties, together with any other area in the maritime area beyond the national jurisdiction of the Contracting Parties which has been included as a component of the network by the OSPAR Commission.

“North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin” refers to an area beyond national jurisdiction in OSPAR Region V (Wider Atlantic). The North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin area is bounded to the north by the Charlie-Gibbs Fracture Zone, to the west by the Flemish Cap and the Grand Banks of Newfoundland, in the east by the Mid-Atlantic Ridge and in the south by the Azores.

“North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area” refers to an area in the high seas, of 595 196 km² bounded by the coordinates in Table 1 of paragraph 3.1 of OSPAR Decision 2023/01 amending OSPAR Decision 2021/01, and, in the Area, an area of seafloor of 546 511 km²

bounded by the coordinates in Table 2 of OSPAR Decision 2023/01 amending OSPAR Decision 2021/01.

“*UNCLOS*” means the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, 1982.

The “high seas” means all parts of the sea that are not included in the exclusive economic zone, in the territorial sea or in the internal waters of a State, or in the archipelagic waters of an archipelagic State (in accordance with Article 86 UNCLOS).

The “Area” means the seabed and ocean floor and subsoil thereof, beyond the limits of national jurisdiction (Article 1(1)(1) UNCLOS).

“*Environmental Impact Assessment*” (EIA) means a procedure to ensure that environmental consequences of a new project are identified and assessed before authorisation is given. The public can give its opinion and all results of the assessment are taken into account in the authorisation procedure of the project with a view to avoiding and/or mitigating direct and significant environmental consequences of the project. After the adoption of the project, information about the decision and the decision-making process is made publicly available.

“*Strategic Environmental Assessment*” (SEA) means a procedure to ensure that environmental consequences of relevant new plans and programmes are identified and assessed during their preparation and before their adoption. The public and environmental authorities can give their opinion and all results of the assessment are integrated and taken into account in the course of the planning procedure with a view to avoiding and/or mitigating direct and significant environmental consequences of the new plans and programmes. After the adoption of the plans or programmes, information about the decision and the decision-making process is made publicly available.

2. Purpose and Scope

2.1 The purpose of this Recommendation is to guide OSPAR Contracting Parties in their actions and in the adoption of measures to protect, conserve, maintain, and restore seabird populations, marine biodiversity, habitats, and the integrity of ecosystems of the seabed, ocean floor and subsoil thereof and the superjacent waters of the site, with a view to achieving the general and specific conservation objectives in Annex 1 that have been endorsed for this area by the OSPAR Commission. In the part of the high seas of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area that is superjacent to the Extended Continental Shelf of the Portuguese Republic this will be accomplished in coordination with, and complementary to, the protective measures taken by the Portuguese Republic for the seabed, and in accordance with the joint conservation objectives as in Annex 1.

2.2 This Recommendation should apply without prejudice to the rights and obligations of coastal States, other States and international organisations in accordance with UNCLOS.

2.3 This Recommendation does not restrict in any way the exercise of a coastal State of its sovereign rights over the continental shelf in accordance with UNCLOS.

3. Programmes and Measures

3.1 The management of human activities in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA should be guided by the general obligations in Article 2 of the OSPAR Convention, the Ecosystem Approach³, and the conservation vision and objectives in Annex 1.

3.2 The management framework⁴ for the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA should be implemented. Such implementation implies the commitment by each Contracting Party of an appropriate level of resources in order to achieve the conservation objectives of the MPA in Annex 1.

3.3 Achieving the conservation objectives and vision for the Site requires collaborative management, building upon and encompassing all relevant actors and competent authorities with a mandate in the North Atlantic region, in particular NEAFC and ICCAT (fishing activities), IMO (shipping activities) and ISA (exploration and exploitation of deep-seabed mineral resources).

3.4 With regard to the species and habitats listed by OSPAR as threatened and/or declining within the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA, management measures should include actions as outlined in the respective OSPAR Recommendations set out in Annex 2

3.5 To achieve the conservation objectives of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA, each Contracting Party should consider:

3.5.1 Awareness Raising

- a. promoting awareness at national level of the establishment of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA and the objectives the OSPAR Commission has set for its conservation. This could be achieved through actions such as notification of relevant stakeholders through competent national authorities and the inclusion of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA in sea charts and other maps, as appropriate; and
- b. encouraging vessels flying their flags, through any awareness raising and/or through voluntary agreements, to comply with the management framework and meet the conservation objectives for the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.

3.5.2 Information Building

- a. nationally engaging with relevant stakeholders in building and sharing information and knowledge of, the seabirds, marine biodiversity, habitats, and ecosystems, and the impacts of human activities taking place in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA; and
- b. reporting to the OSPAR Commission: any scientific and technical information and knowledge gained at a national level on seabirds, marine biodiversity, habitats, and ecosystems, and on the impacts of human activities taking place in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA; and

³ As defined by the Statement on the Ecosystem Approach to the Management of Human Activities "Towards an Ecosystem Approach to the Management of Human Activities" adopted in 2003 by the Joint Ministerial Meeting of the Helsinki and OSPAR Commissions.

⁴ The management framework consists of Decision 2021/1, this Recommendation on associated management actions, and measures taken by the OSPAR Commission for achieving the conservation objectives of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA. Such future measures should clearly stipulate that they are to be considered as part of the management framework.

- c. reporting to the OSPAR Commission any scientific and technical information and knowledge from outside the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA that may be of relevance to achieving the conservation objectives of the site.

3.5.3 Marine Science

- a. encouraging and, where appropriate, supporting and initiating national and international scientific research projects and programmes to enhance the knowledge base of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA, of the impacts resulting from human activities, and of the solutions to achieve the conservation objectives;
- b. encouraging inclusion of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA as a reference area of a marine area of near natural state in scientific research programmes on climate change and the oceans;
- c. identifying suitable mechanisms for monitoring the achievement of the conservation objectives for the site; and
- d. identifying activities and mitigating actions that promote the achievement of the conservation objectives for the site.

3.5.4 New Human Activity Developments, including new activities and/or change in extent or intensity

- a. making publicly available and bringing to the attention of the OSPAR Commission any plans for human activities subject to authorisation in a Contracting Party in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA,
- b. making publicly available and bringing to the attention of the OSPAR Commission those human activities and/or measures outside the Site subject to authorisation in a Contracting Party that may conflict with the conservation objectives and likely to cause a significant impact to the seabirds, marine biodiversity, habitats, and ecosystems of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA;
- c. subjecting, where appropriate, any human activity under their jurisdiction or control that may conflict, alone or in combination with other human activities, with the conservation objectives of the site to an EIA⁵ or SEA,
- d. ensuring that appropriate measures are taken to avoid and/or mitigate the effects of any activities that conflict with the conservation objectives for the site, taking into account the EIA mentioned above;
- e. ensuring the involvement of relevant stakeholders in the process of planning new activities and assessing their potential impacts on the NACES MPA. Engaging stakeholders should be guided by the “OSPAR Guidance for good practice for communication with stakeholders on the establishment and management of marine protected areas” (OSPAR Agreement 2008-2); and
- f. using best available scientific advice when planning new human activities and assessing their potential impacts on the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.

3.6 To achieve the conservation objectives of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA, acting collectively within the framework of the OSPAR Commission, Contracting Parties should consider:

⁵ Taking into account relevant OSPAR and other international standards and guidelines for the specific activity under consideration

- a. promoting the application of the “OSPAR Code of Conduct for responsible Marine Research in the deep seas and high seas of the OSPAR area” (OSPAR Agreement 2008-1) by national research vessels or national research institutions involved in international research programmes in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA;
- b. engaging with third parties and relevant international organisations, as appropriate, with a view to promoting the delivery of the conservation objectives that the OSPAR Commission has set for the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA;
- c. identifying suitable mechanisms for monitoring the achievement of the conservation objectives for the site;
- d. identifying activities and mitigating actions that promote the achievement of the conservation objectives for the site; and
- e. promoting the involvement of relevant stakeholders in the process outlined in section 3.5 above taking account of “OSPAR Guidance for good practice for communication with stakeholders on the establishment and management of marine protected areas” (OSPAR Agreement 2008-2).

4. Entry into Force

4.1 This Recommendation has effect from the day of entry into force of OSPAR Decision 2021/01 on the Establishment of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA on 19 April 2022.

5. Implementation reports

5.1 Contracting Parties should report annually, starting in 2024 by 1 October to the OSPAR Commission on any specific actions and/or measures that have been undertaken in that year nationally and/or internationally to implement the management measures in section 3.

5.2 Reports on the implementation of this Recommendation should be submitted to the appropriate OSPAR subsidiary body in accordance with the OSPAR Commission’s Standard Implementation and Assessment Procedure. When reporting on implementation, the format as set out in Annex 3 should be used to the extent possible.

**Conservation vision and objectives for the
North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA⁶**
**Extract from the Revised North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA Nomination
Proforma [Publication 2023/989]**

Aim of MPA (conservation objective)**Conservation vision⁷:**

Maintenance and, where appropriate, restoration of seabird populations, marine biodiversity and the integrity of the various ecosystems and their functions and processes within the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA (NACES MPA).

Method to achieve the vision:

Cooperation between competent authorities, stakeholder participation, scientific progress and public learning are essential prerequisites to realize the vision and to establish a Marine Protected Area at this site subject to adequate regulations, good governance, and sustainable utilisation. Long-term research and monitoring provide a detailed understanding of the biodiversity, ecosystem processes and oceanography and any threats to seabirds and to the marine ecosystems of the site. Best available scientific knowledge and the precautionary principle form the basis for conservation.

General conservation objectives^{8,9}:

1. To **protect** and **conserve** the seabirds, marine biodiversity, habitats, ecosystems, and their processes and functions within the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.
2. To **prevent loss** of biodiversity, and promote its recovery where practicable, so as to **maintain** the natural richness and resilience of the ecosystems and habitats to enable populations of seabirds and other species to maintain or recover natural population densities.
3. To **prevent** degradation of, and damage to, habitats and ecological processes including the benthopelagic coupling, nutrient fluxes, and connectivity, in order to maintain the structure and functions of marine ecosystems in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.
4. To **provide** a refuge for seabirds, to **maintain** migration corridors and freedom of movement for highly migratory and wide-ranging species, and to **protect** seafloor habitats including seamounts and abyssal plains from human activities that would have negative impacts on biodiversity and ecosystems.

⁶ The nomination proforma was developed for the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Seamount Marine Protected Area. Please refer to the summary record of the meeting of OSPAR 2021 (OSPAR 21/13/1) for an explanation of the change of name.

⁷ The conservation vision describes a desired long-term conservation condition and function for the ecosystems in the entire MPA. The vision aims to encourage relevant stakeholders to collaborate and contribute to reach objectives set for the area

⁸ Conservation objectives are meant to realize the vision. Conservation objectives are related to the entire MPA or, if it is decided to subdivide, for a zone or subdivision of the area, respectively.

⁹ It is recognised that climate change may have effects in the area, and that the MPA may serve as a reference site to study these effects

5. To **increase** ecological understanding of the ecosystem and inform the effective management of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.

Specific conservation objectives¹⁰:

Pelagic wide-ranging and/or migratory species

- a. To maintain or restore populations of pelagic seabirds and other pelagic wide-ranging and/or migratory species, including cetaceans, marine reptiles, cephalopods and fish, particularly globally and/or regionally threatened species, using the site, by preventing, minimising or mitigating (see **Table 1**):
 - i. *direct* current and emerging pressures and human activities negatively affecting the seabirds and the other species, including from fisheries (incidental by-catch), disturbance from shipping and extractive activities, and pollution, occurring in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA;
 - ii. *indirect* current and emerging pressures and human activities negatively affecting the seabirds and other species, including fisheries (prey removal), disturbance from shipping and extractive activities, and pollution, occurring in the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA.
- b. To conserve (and restore where appropriate) the pelagic ecosystems, including their functions, biodiversity, processes, and trophic linkages, in order to support the resident, visiting and migratory species using the site see **Table 1**.
- c. To prevent deterioration of the environmental quality of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA from levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems, and where degradation from these levels occur, if applicable, to recover environmental quality to levels characteristic of the ambient ecosystems.

Benthic habitats and species

- a. To conserve the seafloor features occurring at the site that are essential to support integrity of functions of the marine ecosystems, namely, abyssal plains, abyssal hills, basins, fracture zones, pillow lava, knolls, and seamounts.
- b. To protect, maintain, and restore where appropriate:
 - i. the benthic organisms and biogenic habitats, including threatened and/or declining species and habitats such as deep-sea sponge aggregations, and coral gardens;
 - ii. the habitats listed in **Table 1**, including abyssal plain, seamounts and deep-sea elasmobranch spawning grounds.

The list of pelagic and benthic species and habitats considered under the specific conservation objectives is presented in **Table 1** below.

It is recognised that table 1 includes species that are subject to management by relevant international organisations and bodies. Where the OSPAR Commission considers that action is desirable in relation to such

¹⁰ Specific Conservation Objectives shall relate to a particular feature and define the conditions required to satisfy the general conservation objectives. Each of these specific conservation objectives will have to be supported by more management orientated, achievable, measurable and time bound targets

a question, it shall draw that question to the attention of the authority or international body competent for that question. The inclusion of such species in this list must be read in this context.

Table 1¹¹. List of habitats and resident, visiting and migratory species of ecological significance in NACES MPA. Note that species and habitats that are also included in the OSPAR List of threatened and/or declining species are indicated with an X in the right-hand column. Table ordered alphabetically by the scientific name within taxonomic groups.

Common Name	Scientific name	Species/habitat listed as threatened and/or declining by OSPAR
Seabirds		
Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	
Little Auk	<i>Alle alle</i>	
Bulwer's Petrel	<i>Bulweria bulwerii</i>	
Cory's Shearwater	<i>Calonectris borealis</i>	
Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	
Northern Fulmar	<i>Fulmarus glacialis</i>	
Leach's Storm Petrel	<i>Hydrobates leucorhous</i> ¹²	
Bermuda Petrel	<i>Pterodroma cahow</i>	
Desertas Petrel	<i>Pterodroma deserta</i>	
Zino's Petrel	<i>Pterodroma madeira</i>	
Great Shearwater	<i>Ardena gravis</i> ¹³	
Sooty Shearwater	<i>Puffinus griseus</i>	
Macaronesian Shearwater	<i>Puffinus baroli</i>	x ¹⁴
Manx Shearwater	<i>Puffinus puffinus</i>	
Black-legged Kittiwake	<i>Rissa tridactyla</i>	x
Long-tailed Jaeger	<i>Stercorarius longicaudus</i>	
Parasitic Jaeger ¹⁵	<i>Stercorarius parasiticus</i>	
South Polar Skua	<i>Catharacta maccormicki</i> ¹⁶	
Arctic tern	<i>Sterna paradisaea</i>	
Great Skua	<i>Catharacta skua</i> ¹⁷	
Common Murre	<i>Uria aalge</i>	
Thick-billed Murre	<i>Uria lomvia</i>	x

¹¹ This table includes species that are subject to management by relevant international organisations and bodies. Where the OSPAR Commission considers that action is desirable in relation to such a question, it shall draw that question to the attention of the authority or international body competent for that question. The inclusion of such species in this list must be read in this context.

¹² Synonymised as *Oceanodroma leucorhoa* (WoRMS, 2023)

¹³ Synonymised as *Puffinus gravis* (WoRMS, 2023)

¹⁴ OSPAR listed Little shearwater, *Puffinus assimilis baroli*, in 2003, the taxonomic grouping of the species has recently been reviewed and was referred to also as Audobons's shearwater, *Puffinus iherminieri baroli*. In 2021 the OSPAR List (Agreement 2008-6) was updated to change the name to Macaronesian shearwater (*Puffinus baroli*) which is used in this nomination proforma. The previously used names may feature in results presented in the nomination forma that precede 2021.

¹⁵ Added to list March 2023 based on Harrison et al. (2021) tracking data

¹⁶ Synonymised as *Stercorarius maccormicki* (WoRMS, 2023)

¹⁷ Synonymised as *Stercorarius skua* (WoRMS, 2023)

Common Name	Scientific name	Species/habitat listed as threatened and/or declining by OSPAR
Sabine's gull	<i>Xema sabini</i>	
Cetaceans		
Sei whale	<i>Balaenoptera borealis</i>	
Blue whale	<i>Balaenoptera musculus</i>	x
Fin whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	
Short-beaked dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	
Pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	
Risso's dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	
Northern Bottlenose Whale	<i>Hyperoodon ampullatus</i>	
White-sided dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus acutus</i>	
Humpback whale	<i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i>	
Sperm whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	
Harbour porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	x ¹⁸
Striped dolphin	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	
Marine reptiles		
Loggerhead turtle	<i>Caretta caretta</i>	x
Green sea turtle	<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	
Leatherback turtle	<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	x
Hawksbill turtle	<i>Eretmochelys imbricata</i>	
Kemp's Ridley	<i>Lepidochelys kempii</i>	
Fish		
Thorny Skate	<i>Amblyraja radiata</i>	
European eel	<i>Anguilla anguilla</i>	x ¹⁹
American Eel	<i>Anguilla rostrata</i>	
Basking shark	<i>Cetorhinus maximus</i>	x
Grenadiers	<i>Coryphaenoides</i> spp.	
Atlantic Cod ⁸	<i>Gadus morhua</i>	
Shortfin mako shark	<i>Isurus oxyrinchus</i>	
Mesopelagic fish (>100 species)	Full list of species of mesopelagic fish available in Annex 10	
Ocean Sunfish	<i>Mola mola</i>	
Blue shark	<i>Prionace glauca</i>	
Scalloped Hammerhead	<i>Sphyrna lewini</i>	
Bigeye Tuna	<i>Thunnus obesus</i>	
Bluefin tuna	<i>Thunnus thynnus</i>	x
Cephalopods		
Paralarval cephalopods (>25 species)	Full list of cephalopod species available in Annex 9	
Dumbo octopus	<i>Grimpoteuthis</i> sp.	
Atlantic gonate squid	<i>Gonatus steenstrupi</i>	

¹⁸ Harbour porpoise listed threatened and/or declining by OSPAR in 2003 in Regions II, III, and listed as occurring in All OSPAR Regions.

¹⁹ European Eel listed threatened and/or declining by OSPAR in 2008 in Regions I, II, III, IV. European eel is listed as present in regions I, II, III, and IV, however, OBIS occurrence data shows presence of the species within the Site, it is therefore included in this nomination proforma.

Common Name	Scientific name	Species/habitat listed as threatened and/or declining by OSPAR
Atlantic cranch squid	<i>Teuthowenia megalops</i>	
Habitats		
Abyssal plains		
Abyssal hills		
Basins		
Coral gardens		x
Deep-sea elasmobranch spawning grounds		
Deep-sea sponge aggregations		x
Escarments		
Fracture zones		
Knolls		
Northwest Atlantic Mid-Ocean Channel		
Pillow lava		
Ridges		
Seamounts		x

OSPAR Recommendations for species and habitats within the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin Marine Protected Area that are listed by OSPAR as threatened and/or declining

Seabirds

OSPAR Recommendation 2011/3 on furthering the protection and conservation of the Little shearwater’,

‘OSPAR Recommendation 2011/5 on furthering the protection and conservation of the Black-legged kittiwake, as amended by OSPAR Recommendation 2020/1’,

‘OSPAR Recommendation 2011/7 on furthering the protection and conservation of the Thick-billed murre’

Marine mammals

OSPAR Recommendation 2013/9 on furthering the protection and conservation of the North Atlantic blue whale (*Balaenoptera musculus*) in the OSPAR maritime area

Marine turtles

OSPAR Recommendation 2013/6 on furthering the protection and conservation of the leatherback turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*) in the OSPAR maritime area

OSPAR Recommendation 2013/7 on furthering the protection and conservation of the loggerhead turtle (*Caretta caretta*) in Regions IV and V of the OSPAR maritime area

Fish

OSPAR Recommendation 2010/6 on furthering the protection and restoration of the common skate species complex, the white skate, the angel shark and the basking shark in the OSPAR maritime area^[1]

Benthic Habitats

OSPAR Recommendation 2010/9 on furthering the protection and restoration of coral gardens in the OSPAR Maritime Area^[2]

OSPAR Recommendation 2010/10 on furthering the protection and restoration of deep-sea sponge aggregations in the OSPAR Maritime Area^[3]

OSPAR Recommendation 2014/9 on furthering the protection and conservation of *seamounts* in Regions I, IV and V of the OSPAR maritime area

^[1] Reservation by Denmark on behalf of Greenland and the Faroe Islands.

^[2] Reservation by Denmark on behalf of Greenland and the Faroe Islands.

^[3] Reservation by Denmark on behalf of Greenland and the Faroe Islands.

Format for Reporting on Implementation of OSPAR Recommendation 2023/01 on the Management of the North Atlantic Current and Evlanov Sea basin MPA

Contracting Party

Recommendation applicable in your country?

If not applicable, please state reasoning (e.g. no interference with activities in the area)

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Please provide information on:

- a. specific measures, including their respective means of implementation, taken to give effect to this Recommendation;
- b. the effectiveness of the measures taken to give effect to this Recommendation;
- c. any specific difficulties encountered, such as practical or legal problems, in the implementation of this Recommendation;
- d. the reasons for not having fully implemented this Recommendation and plans for full implementation.

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