



A team of our experts headed to Madrid for the 25th Conference of Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (CoP 25) which was held at IFEMA, Feria de Madrid. Many of our science teams are involved with projects in the UK and around the world that have an element of analysing and responding to data concerning climate change. The UK and Chile Pavilions at CoP 25 hosted events that were supported by JNCC, including:

- How can the world's most detailed climate projection help us to prepare for the future?
- A Pole-to-Pole narrative on Earth Observation and how it underpins our response to climate change
- Nature and environment – nature-based solutions, from ambition to action
- Marine protected areas as tools for adaptive marine resource management in the face of climate change
- Marine protected areas and climate action: Science and decision making

Read more about our work to understand the impacts of climate change at <https://jncc.gov.uk/evaluating/climate-change/>



JNCC's ground-breaking work on citizen science seabird surveys has been a key part of CalMac Ferries Marine Awareness Program, which was shortlisted for a prestigious *Nature of Scotland* award.

Mark Lewis and Tim Dunn (pictured) attended the event hosted by the Royal Society for the Protection of Birds (RSPB) and Scottish Natural Heritage (SNH) and were delighted to come a close second in their category, receiving a 'highly commended' award.

The project aims to use citizen science data collected from ferries to monitor trends in seabird abundance, distribution and phenology in UK waters.

<https://www.calmac.co.uk/article/5977/Marine-Bird-Surveys>

For more than 25 years JNCC has provided robust evidence and trusted advice on nature conservation to enable UK governments to achieve their policy objectives. As a public body we also work in partnership with business and society. Our people are dedicated to providing high-quality evidence and advice on the natural environment for the benefit of current and future generations. Our vision is to be a world-leading provider of innovative solutions, placing nature at the heart of sustainable wealth and wellbeing.

Joint Cetacean Data Programme



JNCC held a Joint Cetacean Data Programme (JCDP) workshop with the aim of working towards an expanded and collated set of cetacean survey data to inform conservation research and policy. The JCDP follows on from the historic Joint Cetacean Protocol work, and its subsequent analysis which demonstrated the value of collating these types of data for use across a broader range of marine mammal work.

Initially a one-year project, this stage of the JCDP has been funded by Defra to work with stakeholders to develop a data standard, consider access to data and also explore the best option for hosting the database and related information. The workshop brought together a range of stakeholders and good progress was made on the project's objectives. <https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/joint-cetacean-data-programme/>

Potential deep-sea mining in the Mid-Atlantic



Exploration contracts are in place for potential deep-sea mining of metal-rich mineral deposits formed by hydrothermal vents, known as polymetallic sulphides, for the Mid-Atlantic Ridge region. JNCC's Laura Robson attended a workshop, on behalf of ICES, for the development of a Regional Environmental Management Plan (REMP) for this region. The plan aims to provide a proactive management tool which balances resource development with conservation.

The workshop reviewed best available scientific evidence on the effects of deep-sea mining on active and inactive vents, sediments and the water column, and considered area-based management tools and adaptive management strategies that could be used to develop a REMP. Outputs will be discussed at a second workshop in June 2020.

Montserrat coral reef monitoring



JNCC's Jane Hawkridge, Abbie Dosell and Dan Edwards were in Montserrat meeting with stakeholders from across the island to discuss their interests and ambitions for coral reef monitoring, as identified in their draft Coral Reef Action Plan. Funding from the UK Government provided through the Conflict, Stability and Security Fund-Official Development Assistance programme is helping Montserrat to implement priority actions.

Meetings and workshops were well attended, with attendees from a wide range of industries including fishers and their associations, non-governmental organisations, divers and dive operators. Officials from across all sectors of Government from water and power utilities, port authority, environment, agriculture and fisheries, to waste management and planning also attended.

Seabirds Monitoring meeting

JNCC coordinated the annual Seabird Monitoring Programme (SMP) Steering Group meeting - an ongoing annual monitoring programme of 25 species of seabird that regularly breed in Britain and Ireland <https://jncc.gov.uk/our-work/seabird-monitoring-programme/>. Representatives from the SMP partner organisations discussed current seabird matters, including a preview of the latest annual breeding seabird trends, which will be published on the JNCC website in spring 2020, and progress with the SMP Review.



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