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## *How can underwater noise be effectively reduced?*

26 June 2018 - 17.00 to 19.00

European Parliament Brussels - ASP5G1

Anthropogenic underwater noise has marked negative impacts on marine species, including crustaceans, fish and mammals. Exposure has both temporary and long-term damaging impacts including marine mammal habitat displacement, hampering long-range navigation and communication in addition to other physiological stress responses. It has also been shown to affect human activities including reported lower catches.

Ocean noise pollution has greatly increased in recent decades, primarily stemming from commercial shipping, seismic exploration surveys, and construction pile driving. This pollutant is chiefly a by-product, serving no function, and when avoided noise pollution ceases immediately.

The Marine Strategy Framework Directive includes two indicators (D11C1 and D11C2) on introduced energy, including underwater noise, whereby Member States are to establish threshold values of noise levels that do not adversely affect the marine environment.

SEARICA, in conjunction with the International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), is hosting a roundtable event to address how underwater noise can be effectively reduced. Our speakers will provide multi-sectoral insights further enabling the development of D11 implementation measures

**17:00 - Introduction** by MEP Ricardo SERRÃO SANTOS, Vice Chair of the Intergroup in charge of Marine and Maritime Research

**17:05 - Screening of Sonic Sea**

**17:30 - 18:10 Panel Discussion**

17:30 - Mr. Russell LEAPER, International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW). [Scientific perspective]

17:40 - Mr Nicolas ENTRUP, Shifting Values. [Civil Society perspective]

17:50 - Mr Vedran NIKOLIC, European Commission, DG Environment, Unit D3 - Nature protection [Legislative perspective]

18:00 - Captain Wolfram GUNTERMANN, Hapag - Lloyd [Industry perspective]

**18:10 - Roundtable and Questions**, Moderator MEP Marco AFFRONTI, Member of the Intergroup

**18:25 - Conclusion remarks** by MEP Gesine MEISSNER, Chair of the Intergroup

**18.30 - Cocktail** offered by the organisers