

Marine Mammals Committee

Committee Members: D. Allen, R. L. Brownell, Jr., C. M. Callahan, J. P. Dines, K. M. Dudzinski, H. H. Edwards, M. S. Leslie (Co-Chair), M. R. McGowen (Co-Chair), T. J. McIntyre, D. K. Odell, C. W. Potter, S. Sheffield, E. E. Smith.

Mission:

The Marine Mammals Committee was formed in 1921 and Chaired by E. W. Nelson. It is the longest-standing active Committee of the American Society of Mammalogists. Its mission is to maintain and encourage interest in marine mammals in the ASM, to provide the Society Membership with information about marine mammalogy, including conservation and legislative issues, to spearhead resolutions and legislation involving marine mammals, and to serve as a liaison between ASM and the Society for Marine Mammalogy (SMM). Members of the Marine Mammals Committee are frequently active in both ASM and the Society for Marine Mammals.

Information Items:

- (1) The committee has not been as active for most of the year spanning April 2020-2021, however we did have a virtual meeting in March and discussed many issues included those listed below. We will be having more virtual meetings throughout the year, as this was a very successful format.
- (2) The committee discussed via email and in our virtual March meeting the recent troubles with museums transferring USFWS-regulated marine mammal specimens to museum collections. We will continue to engage in dialogue with the museum stakeholders that are continuing to have this discussion.
- (3) As we did not have our 2021 meeting, the committee members discussed drafting a proposal for a marine mammal themed symposium at the joint IMC-ASM meeting in Anchorage in 2023 and possible symposia in 2022 as well.

Action Items: None.

Respectfully submitted,

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