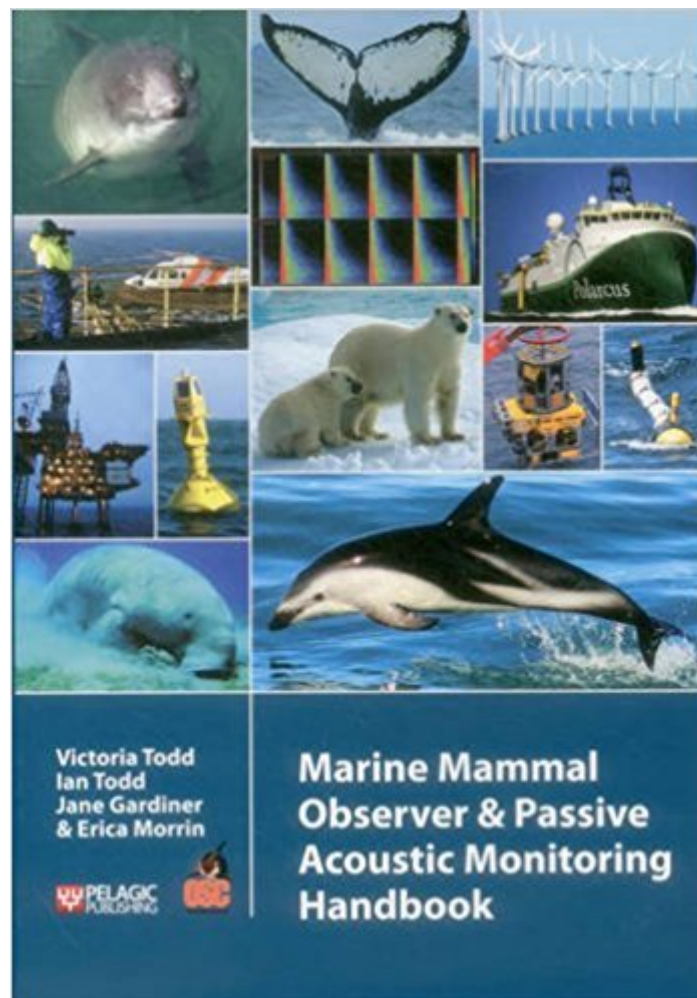




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Marine Mammal Observer And Passive Acoustic Monitoring Handbook (Conservation Handbooks)



Synopsis

Marine Mammal Observer and Passive Acoustic Monitoring Handbook is the ultimate instruction manual for mitigation measures to minimise man-made acoustical and physical disturbances to marine mammals from industrial and defence activities. Based on more than two decades of offshore experience, and a decade of supplying MMO and PAM services (commercial and scientific), the Handbook is a long-overdue reference guide that seeks to improve standards worldwide for marine operations such as seismic and drilling exploration, wind farm piling, civil engineering, dredging, rock-dumping, and hydrographical surveys. By popular request, this manual will also form an accompaniment to MMO and PAM courses. The Handbook consolidates all aspects of this discipline into one easily accessible resource, to educate all stakeholders (e.g. MMOs, PAM operators, suppliers, recruitment agencies, clients, contractors, regulators, NGOs, consultants, scientists, academia and media), regardless of experience. Topics include worldwide legislation, compliance, anthropogenic noise sources and potential effects, training, offshore life, visual and acoustic monitoring (theory and practice), marine mammal distribution, hearing and vocalisations, and report writing. Advice is provided on implementing sensible and practical mitigation techniques, appropriate technologies, data collection, client and regulator liaison, and project kick-off meetings. A foreword is provided by Dr Phillip J. Clapham.

Book Information

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Customer Reviews

“...an indispensable How To guide to the growing and increasingly important occupation of marine mammal monitoring, written with clarity and humor by scientists who have extensive experience in this field.” (Phil Clapham) Most of the information required for MMO and PAM work is distilled into this handbook. It is highly recommended as a training aid for new workers, and as a detailed reference for the experienced. It may also be of interest to offshore crew, environmental consultants, and scientists interested in cetacean acoustics and ocean noise. At present there are no similar handbooks, making this the current “bible” for the industry. (John Gibbens Marine Mammal Science) From PAM theories to best practices and devices, this is no light coverage, but a technical guide that pulls together data and projects from various disciplines and pairs them with charts, graphs, and scientific discussions key to making decisions about modifications. (Diane Donovan California Bookwatch)

Dr Victoria Todd is a founding Managing Director and Marine Science Consultant at Ocean Science Consulting (OSC), and is a Visiting Scientist at Institute of Sound and Vibration Research (ISVR, Southampton University, UK). She undertook a post doc in commercial aquaculture at Scottish Association for Marine Science (SAMS, UK), planning and directing a comprehensive series of acoustic trials on seal scarers. She holds degrees in the ecology and acoustics of bats (PhD, Leeds University, UK), Oceanography (MSc, scholarship-funded by Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution, WHOI, US, and National Oceanography Centre, UK), and Marine Biology (BSc Hons, Liverpool University, UK). Dr Todd is also a Fellow of the Linnean Society of London. She is experienced in Galápagos fish taxonomy, marine mammal acoustics and marine mammal visual and acoustic surveys worldwide for scientific, commercial and defence contracts. Research interests include bioacoustics, the North Sea rigs-to-reefs concept, harbour porpoise foraging ecology around offshore oil and gas installations, and the effects of anthropogenic noise on marine life, all of which are core research topics at OSC. Dr Todd’s current scientific duties include training, survey design and project management, fieldwork, data analysis, reports, literature reviews, advice documents, Marine Mammal Mitigation Plans or Protocols (MMMPs), and publishing. As the Chief Scientist, she also coordinates most research.

Ian Todd is a founding Managing Director and Marine Science Consultant at OSC, and is undertaking part-time postgraduate research in harbour porpoise (and other marine mammal) interactions with offshore installations and the environment at ISVR (PhD, Southampton University, UK). He holds degrees in Marine Resource, Development & Protection (NERC-funded MSc scholarship, Heriot-Watt University, UK) and Business & Economics (BCom with Honours, Edinburgh University, UK), various diplomas including Marine Engineering

(HND, Glasgow College of Nautical Studies, UK), and a Marine Engineering Officer Certificate of Dual Competency (Class IV Steam and Motor Plants, Maritime & Coastguard Agency, UK). As a former Third Engineer Officer (including Health and Safety Officer) in the Merchant Navy, Mr Todd served deep-sea and worldwide with P&O Nedlloyd, then the world's largest container-shipping company. He organises and supervises visual and acoustic surveys of marine mammals worldwide for scientific, commercial and defence contracts. Mr Todd's research interests are as per OSC's core research topics, but include distance sampling, and his current scientific duties are similar to Dr Victoria Todd, but include recruitment, procurement, logistics, finance, brand development, environmental risk assessments, and Health & Safety (H&S). Erica Morrin is a Marine Science Consultant at OSC. She holds degrees in Marine Mammal Science (MRes, University of St Andrews, UK) and Biology (BSc with Honours, Queen's University, Canada). Ms Morrin is involved with commercial consultancy, and has served Lead (field position) for visual and acoustic surveys of marine mammals worldwide for scientific and commercial contracts. Ms Morrin's research interests are as per OSC's core research topics and her current scientific duties are similar to Ms Gardiner, but include data analysis, and personnel supervision. Jane Gardiner is a Research Assistant at OSC. She holds degrees in Applied Marine Science (MSc) and Marine Biology (BSc with Honours), both from University of Plymouth. Ms Gardiner is involved with peer-reviewed research publications, and has served Lead (field position) for visual and acoustic surveys of marine mammals worldwide for scientific and commercial contracts. Ms Gardiner's research interests are as per OSC's core research topics and her current scientific duties include fieldwork, literature reviews, social media, and H&S.

Exactly what I was looking for!

Once the province of academics and conservation agencies, the field of marine mammal data collection by professional visual and acoustic monitoring has exploded in the last 15-20 years to include literally hundreds of opportunities. Both mandatory and opportunistic monitoring activities now occur aboard military vessels, offshore oil and gas activities, offshore renewable energy activities, commercial shipping and more. A flood of organizations have emerged in response to this growing need, offering observer training or observer services. As might be expected, the quality of training and the quality of visual and acoustic observing services can vary. The Marine Mammal Observer & Passive Acoustic Monitoring Handbook (MMOPAM Handbook) appears at a time when quality and consistency are desperately needed and it fills that need very well. The power of

observer data, both visual and acoustic, depends on confidence in the quality of the data and of the people and technology employed to obtain those data. Both newcomers to this field and seasoned professionals can benefit from the depth and breadth of expert advice offered in this handbook. The authors have done their community and the marine ecosystem a great service in launching us all on a path toward ever higher professional standards and metrics of quality for marine mammal visual and acoustic observers.

Marine Mammal Observer & Passive Acoustic Monitoring Handbook represents an instruction manual of mitigation measures to minimize acoustical and physical disturbances to marine mammals from industrial and military activities, and is based on some two decades of offshore experience and a decade of supplying commercial and scientific services. Until now, there's been little written in the way of world standards for various marine operations that impact mammals; but as drilling, dredging, pumping and more take place increasingly on and under the world's waters, the need for this book becomes much more acute. Suppliers, recruitment agencies, businesses, contractors, regulators and more will find the Marine Mammal Observer & Passive Acoustic Monitoring Handbook pairs scientific research with advice and tested solutions to common problems, educating readers about the increased need for monitoring operations and routine adjustments to reduce noise and disturbance. From PAM theories to best practices and devices, this is no light coverage, but a technical guide that pulls together data and projects from various disciplines and pairs them with charts, graphs, and scientific discussions key to making decisions about modifications. No marine operator or marine science collection should be without this detailed, in-depth technical reference.

The Marine Mammal Observer and Passive Acoustic Handbook provides the reader with a comprehensive yet concise guide to all aspects of the discipline within a single easily accessible and reasonably priced resource. The handbook has been invaluable in my own career development and I would highly recommend it to not only those wishing to pursue a career in marine mammal mitigation, but also to representatives of offshore industry, consultancies, regulatory bodies, scientists, academia and recruitment agencies to inform, educate and advise those with influence to strive for the attainment of highest possible standards moving forward. Edward Lavallin
Marine Mammal Observer (MMO) and Passive Acoustic Monitoring (PAM)
Operator

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