DSTA CIBRA UNIVERSITÀ DI PAVIA

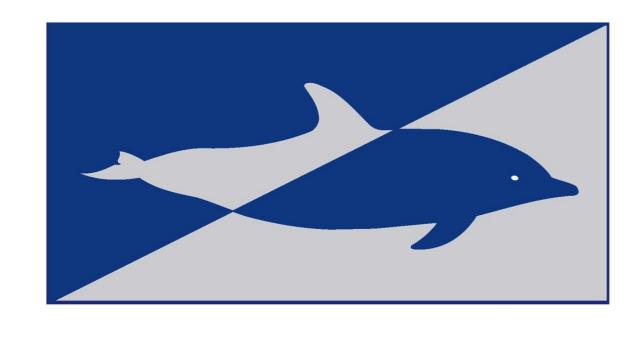
30 years of activity of the Italian stranding data bank

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The monitoring and the scientific study of marine mammal strandings is a key activity for the management of the marine environment within the framework of the EU Marine Strategy Directive. The Italian Stranding Network was created in 1986; 20 years later, in 2006, the National Stranding Data Bank (BDS - Banca Dati Spiaggiamenti) was created and made available online by the University of Pavia and the Natural History Museum of Milan on behalf of the Italian Ministry of the Environment. The online data bank collects and validates stranding data to be made available online to Governmental and Research Institutions as well as to the general public. The Data Bank, online at the address http://mammiferimarini.unipv.it, holds the data published by the Centro Studi Cetacei in years 1986 - 2006 and, since 2005, it is updated in real-time with data sent by the Italian Stranding Network. In the period 1986 to 2017, 5157 stranding events have been recorded, totaling 5275 stranded animals, belonging to 15 species. The real-time monitoring of the collected data allows to alert authorities and scientists any time anomalous events are evidenced.

within the activities recommended by ACCOBAMS and by the European Marine Strategy to monitor cetacean populations, the impacts of human activities and the quality of the marine environment. The BDS is managed by the University of Pavia (CIBRA / Department of Earth and Environment Sciences) and by the Museum of Natural History of Milan (MSNM) in close coordination with the Mediterranean (BTMM Bank Marine Mammals Tissue http://www.marinemammals.eu) Cetacean and the stranding Emergency Response Team (CERT) of the University of Padua, also established with a mandate by the Ministry of Environment.

The BDS, available online, is entirely based on open source software. Each record in the database provides information about: date of the event, its location, data on the specimen etc. Records also hold information about toxicological and parasitological investigations, description of samples collected and the Institute where the samples are stored, as well as the ID number referred to the Tissue Bank and bibliographic references to support the tracking of each sample and the related results.

Summary reports and maps of the stranding distribution can be easily obtained by performing specific search at different levels. Two types of free access are allowed: public access available to everyone to get general data and controlled access for registered users to get all recorded details and to have access to advanced queries. Registered users are notified every time new strandings are recorded. The BDS is available both in English and in Italian.

Forms to be compiled for sending data can be downloaded from the home page.

Compiled forms can be sent to the BDS by email to spiaggiamenti@unipv.it then they are evaluated and validated by BDS personnel.

Most of the data is sent by the Italian Coast Guard, by regional IZS laboratories (Istituto Zooprofilattico Sperimentale), by regional environmental protection agencies (ARPA), and by health agencies (ASL), however valuable contributes are also provided by local NGOs, independent researchers, Universities, Museums, and other institutions.

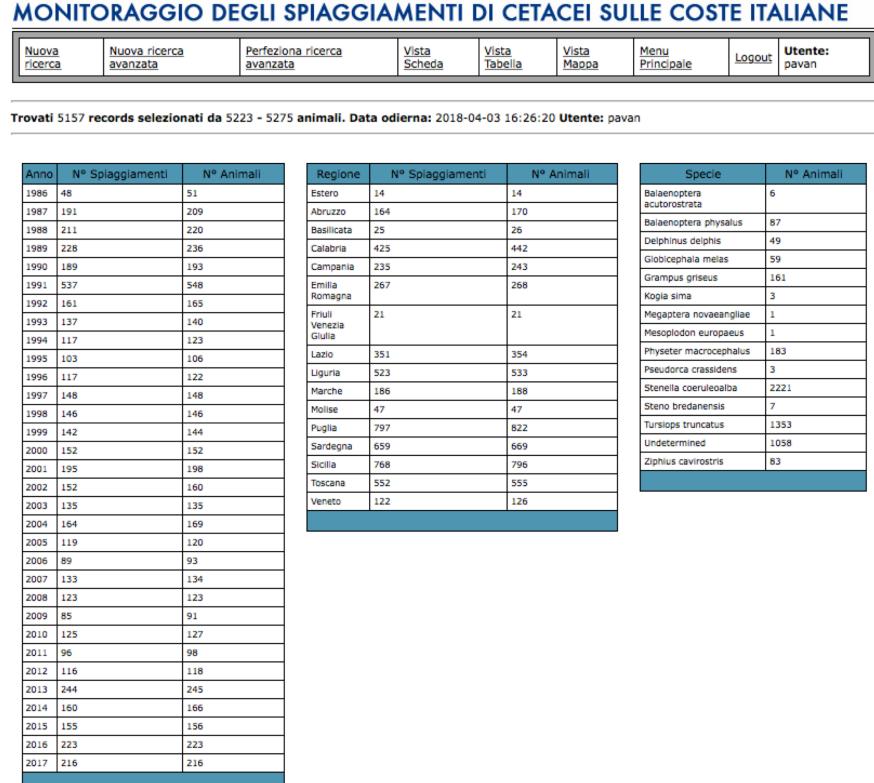
The Italian Coast Guard (Capitanerie di Porto) is responsible for collecting any signalation of stranding. The free number to call for signaling a stranding is 1530





ACCOBAMS





Results of the queries can be browsed record by record, listed in tabular format, shown on a map, or summarized in tables by year, species and region.

