



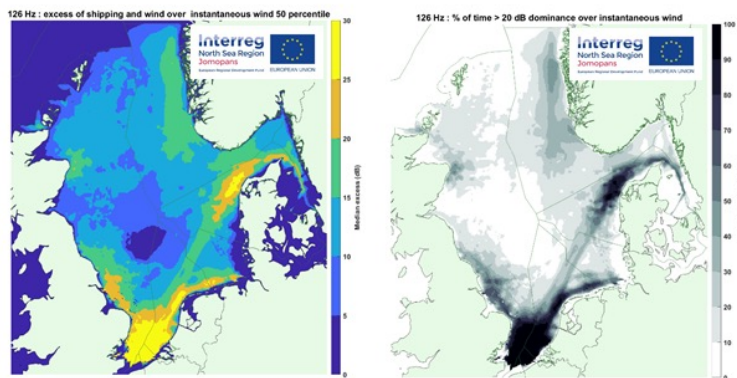
How much underwater noise is too much?

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In popular culture, the ocean is often portrayed as the silent world. Nothing could be more wrong, as marine animals depend heavily on sound and hearing for their existence. For the last 100+ years, however, increasing human activities in and on the oceans have added a plethora of other sources of sound, some of which are very loud and known to affect marine life negatively. This includes continuous sources such as ships and impulsive sounds from underwater explosions, military sonars, seismic oil exploration and pile driving of foundations for offshore wind farms.

It is today generally accepted that noise pollution must be assessed and noisy activities regulated. However, we have only started to answer the fundamental question of how much noise is too much. I will present results from my work on quantifying effects of underwater noise on marine mammals, ocean basin-scale assessment of noise pollution and the scientific foundation behind national and international regulatory frameworks.



Friday November 5th at 13.00

Seminar room at Zoophysiology (1131-127)