

Predicting risks from acoustic deterrents to marine mammals

Charlotte Rose Findlay

Zoophysiology, Aarhus University

Acoustic deterrent devices (ADDs) are used by the aquaculture industry globally to lessen human-wildlife conflicts with seals. ADDs produce loud, mid- to high-frequency noise into the marine environment to deter seals from predating on caged finfish. However, the widespread and long-term use of these devices in coastal environments, such as the west coast of Scotland, could pose considerable risks for target (seals) and non-target (e.g., whales, dolphins, and porpoises) species which also inhabit areas adjacent to aquaculture. This talk highlights new knowledge with regards to our understanding of the risks posed to marine mammals, specifically harbour porpoises and harbour seals, at individual and population-levels from exposure to ADD noise. Illustrating that the continued and future use of these devices by the aquaculture industry globally requires careful consideration and greater overall management.





Friday, November 12th at 13.00 Seminar room at Zoophysiology (1131-127)