Northern Bottlenose Whale (*Hyperoodon ampullatus*) - Davis Strait – Baffin Bay – Labrador Sea population

Cost-Benefit Analysis

The purpose of this analysis is to examine the incremental costs and benefits to Canadians that result from listing the Northern Bottlenose Whale as Special Concern under the federal *Species at Risk Act*.

If the Northern Bottlenose Whale is added to the List of Wildlife Species at Risk as a species of Special Concern, it will not be subject to automatic prohibitions under the *Species at Risk Act*; however Fisheries and Oceans Canada will be required to develop and implement a management plan for the species in an effort to ensure that it does not become endangered due to human activity. The management plan will be developed in cooperation with affected governments, Aboriginal organizations, industry, and any other appropriate organization and in consultation with any persons affected by or interested in the management plan. It will include conservation measures for the species and set goals and objectives for maintaining sustainable population levels.

As the automatic prohibitions under the *Species at Risk Act* do not apply to species of Special Concern, the benefits and costs of listing are low and result primarily from the development and implementation of a management plan.

A benefit from listing the Northern Bottlenose Whale under the *Species at Risk Act* could include a heightened awareness of the species (due to its listing) and some additional research activities. Costs could include the costs of implementing and monitoring management measures identified in the management plan. The costs of developing a management plan are anticipated to be negligible (under $25K).

The costs and benefits of listing Northern Bottlenose Whale are anticipated to be negligible because of the low cost of developing the management plan and as listing is anticipated to result in little incremental protection for the species.