



European
Association for
Aquatic Mammals

SYMPOSIUM FULL PROGRAM

24-27th March 2026



54th Annual Symposium

Hosted by



PROGRAM

WEDNESDAY 25TH MARCH 2026

08.00 - 08.45

REGISTRATION

08.30 - 09.00

OPENING OF SYMPOSIUM

09.00 - 10.00

KEYNOTE SPEAKER | GABBY HARRIS (SAAMBR)
*SCIENCE, WELFARE, AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:
ADVANCING MARINE MAMMAL CONSERVATION IN AFRICA*

10.00 - 10.45

Session 1
Miscellaneous

CARMEN ARIJA

*EFFECTS OF SOUTHERN RIGHT WHALE MATING GROUPS ON
MARINE MAMMAL HABITAT USE IN WALKER BAY (SOUTH AFRICA)*

CRISTOPHER SCALA

*PRESUMPTIVE PHOTOPERIODIC REGULATION OF FOOD INTAKE
AND BODY MASS IN KILLER WHALES*

CAROLYN MCKINNIE

*HOW WATER QUALITY INFLUENCES MARINE MAMMAL HEALTH
AND WELFARE*

10.45 - 11.15

COFFEE BREAK

11.15 - 12.45

Session 2
Husbandry

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AND WELFARE*

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Session 2
Husbandry

CRISTINA UBERO RAMIREZ

BEHAVIORAL MANAGEMENT AND HUSBANDRY STRATEGIES IN A JUVENILE BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN (TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS) WITH DIGESTIVE ISSUES

CYNTHIA RICARDO RUIZ

ROUTINE AND VOLUNTARY HYDRATION IN HUMBOLDT PENGUINS (SPHENISCUS HUMBOLDTI) UNDER HUMAN CARE AT FAKIEH AQUARIUM, JEDDAH, SAUDI ARABIA

MIGUEL RODRIGUEZ

EARLY STIMULATION IN A NEONATAL KILLER WHALE: ONE YEAR OF BEHAVIORAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUSBANDRY STRATEGIES

CARMEN ARIJA

BEHAVIOURAL EFFECTS OF FLEXIBLE GROUP COMPOSITION IN THE DOLPHIN POPULATION AT ACQUARIO DI GENOVA (ITALY)

CARMEN ARIJA

AGONISTIC COMMUNICATION IN A GROUP OF MALE BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS: ENVIRONMENTAL AND SOCIAL DRIVERS

ANGEL MANUEL GALICIA NAVARRO

INTRODUCING A NOVEL COGNITIVE CONCEPT IN PATAGONIAN SEA LIONS

13.00 - 14.30

LUNCH

14.30 - 15.30

Session 3
Reproduction

ANNALISA ZACCARONI

WHAT'S GOING ON WITH REPRODUCTION? MONITORING OF STEROID HORMONES IN STRANDED DOLPHIN FROM SPAIN

GUILLERMO SÁNCHEZ CONTRERAS

VAGINAL PH AND SALINITY DETERMINE SPERM FERTILIZATION POTENTIAL IN BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS

GUILLERMO SÁNCHEZ CONTRERAS

BIOINSPIRED ARTIFICIAL VAGINAS ENHANCE SOME BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN SPERM MOTILITY PARAMETERS

LETIZIA FIORUCCI

EFFECT OF LONG-TERM CONTRACEPTION WITH ALTRENOGEST IN DOLPHINS (TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS)

15.30 - 16.00

COFFEE BREAK

16.00 - 17.30
Round Table
Reproduction

UPDATE ON MARINE MAMMALS'
REPRODUCTION, CONTRACEPTION AND
MANAGEMENT OF SOCIAL GROUPS

*BARBARA BIANCANI, ANA SALBANY, GÉRALDINE LACAVE, KERSTIN
TERNES, LETIZIA FIORUCCI, PIETRO SAVIANO, & KATRIN
BAUMGARTNER*

16.00 - 17.30

LE PAL VISIT

17.30 - 19.00

POSTERS & FREE TIME

19.00 - 20.30

DINNER

20.30 - 23.00

CONVERSATION NIGHT BY FOUNDATION PARK
LE PAL



PROGRAM

THURSDAY 26TH MARCH 2026

08.45 - 09.00

OPENING

09.00 - 10.00

KEYNOTE SPEAKER | LEANDRO STANZANI
BACK TO THE FUTURE – WHERE IT ALL BEGAN

10.00 - 11.00

Session 1
Social Studies

PATRICE REGNIER

BEING A CETACEAN KEEPER: HOW IT WORKS AND HOW IT IS PERCEIVED BY NON-PROFESSIONALS

JOÃO NEVES

THE 15% WHO'D RATHER WAIT FOR WILD WHALES: THE VISITOR INSIGHTS WE'RE MISSING WITHOUT SOCIAL SCIENCE

STEFAN HARZEN

DOLPHINS IN HUMAN CARE: HOW THE DEFICIT MODEL TRAP SHAPES THE CONVERSATION

STEFAN HARZEN

BRIDLE MARKS SYSTEMS IN BOTTLENOSE DOLPHINS (TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS): A UNIQUE METHOD FOR INDIVIDUAL IDENTIFICATION OF SMALL CETACEANS

11.00 - 11.30

COFFEE BREAK

11.30 - 13.00

Session 2
Welfare

BEATRIZ LEANDRO

PROMOTING WELFARE IN REHABILITATION CONTEXTS: APPLICATION OF OPERANT CONDITIONING AND ENVIRONMENTAL ENRICHMENT STRATEGIES.

GÉRALDINE LACAVE

IMMERSION ULTRASONOGRAPHY TO IDENTIFY AND FOLLOW-UP EYE LESIONS IN MARINE MAMMALS

11.30 - 13.00

Session 2
Welfare

MARJORIE EGEA

USE OF ANIMAL MEDIATION TO ENHANCE WELL BEING IN PINNIPEDS AND HUMANS

ANA PASCAUD

FROM PAPER TO DIGITAL: OPERATIONAL IMPACT OF PROGRESSIVE DIGITALISATION OF WELFARE MONITORING IN A MARINE MAMMAL FACILITY

13.00 - 14.30

LUNCH

14.30 - 15.30

PINNIPED PRESENTATION

15.30 - 17.00

Round Table
Training

LET SCIENCE SHAPE BEHAVIORS

ANGELO HENRIQUES, NICOLAS ISSENJOU, GUNTHER VAN NIEUWENHUYZE & ISABELLE BRASSEUR

GUEST SPEAKER

BARBARA HEIDENREICH, ANNETTE PEDERSEN, & JIM MACKIE

15.30 - 17.00

LE PAL VISIT

17.00 - 19.00

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING (MEMBERS ONLY!)

20.30 - 02.00

GALA DINNER



PROGRAM

FRIDAY 27TH MARCH 2026

08.45 - 09.00

OPENING

09.00 - 09.30

INVITED SPEAKER | THIERRY JAUNIAUX
THE ROLE OF MARINE MAMMAL PATHOLOGY AS A TOOL FOR CONSERVATION

09.30 - 10.00

MARTIN BÖYE
UPDATE ON SCIENTIFIC CONSERVATION CHALLENGES AND POSSIBLE CONTRIBUTIONS OF EX SITU ANIMALS

10.00 - 11.00

Session 1
Veterinary
Medicine

ANA RUBIO GARCIA
HOW FAR DOES ANTIMICROBIAL TREATMENT AFFECT HARBOUR SEALS (PHOCA VITULINA) IN REHABILITATION?

ARLETE SOGORB
ANTIMICROBIAL USE IN TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS: A MULTI-INSTITUTIONAL SNAPSHOT USING SPECIES 360 ZIMS

FRANCESCO GRANDE
ORAL VORICONAZOLE ADMINISTRATION IN FIVE BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN (TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS): DOSING, SERUM CONCENTRATIONS, DRUG PERSISTENCE, AND ADVERSE EFFECTS

GÉRALDINE LACAVE
CONTROL OF SEVERE WEIGHT LOSS IN A JUVENILE BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN (TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS) FOLLOWING GASTROPARESIS OF UNKNOWN ORIGIN: DIAGNOSTIC CHALLENGES AND MULTIMODAL ASSESSMENT IN AN ONGOING CASE

11.00 - 11.30

COFFEE BREAK

11.30 - 13.00

Session 2
Veterinary
Medicine &
Miscellaneous

MIGUEL NARANJO DE TORRES

SUCCESSFUL MANAGEMENT OF A CHRONIC NON-HEALING NAIL LESION IN A GERIATRIC SOUTH AMERICAN SEA LION (OTARIA FLAVESCENS) USING A NOVEL NUTRACEUTICAL SUPPLEMENTATION PROTOCOL

MIGUEL NARANJO DE TORRES

THE PIRATE DOLPHIN: MULTIDISCIPLINARY MANAGEMENT OF CHRONIC DEEP CORNEAL ULCER IN A JUVENILE BOTTLENOSE DOLPHIN (TURSIOPS TRUNCATUS)

ANNALISA ZACCARONI

NON-INVASIVE MONITORING OF WELLBEING IN A GROUP OF HUMBOLDT PENGUINS UNDER HUMAN CARE

CARMEN ARIJA

BEHAVIOURAL SYNCHRONY AND INDIVIDUAL VARIABILITY IN TWO MALE WEST INDIAN MANATEES (TRICHECHUS MANATUS) AT ACQUARIO DI GENOVA (ITALY)

13.00 - 14.30

LUNCH

14.30 - 16.00

COFFEE BREAK

16.00

END OF THE SYMPOSIUM

BUS SHUTTLE

FROM & TO SAINT-EXUPÉRY AIRPORT

Monday
23rd March 2026
18.15 (6.15 PM)

SAINT-EXPURÉRY AIRPORT → LE PAL
(APPROX. 2 HOURS, 30 MINUTES)

Tuesday
24th March 2026
15.00 (3 PM)

SAINT-EXPURÉRY AIRPORT → LE PAL
(APPROX. 2 HOURS, 30 MINUTES)

Friday
27th March 2026
13.00 (1 PM)

LE PAL → SAINT-EXPURÉRY AIRPORT
(APPROX. 2 HOURS, 30 MINUTES)

*NO LUNCH AT THE PARK: IN CASE YOU WOULD LIKE TO
HAVE A LUNCH PACKAGE, SIGN UP AT RECEPTION*

Saturday
28th March 2026
08.00 (8 AM)

LE PAL → SAINT-EXPURÉRY AIRPORT
(APPROX. 2 HOURS, 30 MINUTES)