Stakeholders,

The Statutory Nature Conservation Bodies (SNCBs) for England and Northern Ireland have invited Stakeholders to respond to a consultation on the underwater noise guidance and the supporting evidence they have developed.

We want to hear your views regarding the guidance approach and the relevance and validity of the evidence used to develop the approach in the guidance to inform our response. In particular we are keen to know whether there is any alternative evidence that has not been considered by the SNCBs. The SNS Regulators Working Group will also consider questions about collective implementation separately.

The guidance and a background note explaining the way evidence was used to develop the guidance are attached to this email*. Responses and comments should be returned to BST@beis.gov.uk by 5pm on Friday 28 February for inclusion in our response to the SNCBs by the 3rd March 2020.

O&GUK, ICAG and IOGP contacts have been asked to disseminate the consultation package to their industry representatives as soon as possible. Any company or individual out with these associations should make their representations direct to OPRED.

*Should you not have received a copy of this email and the attachments, these can be requested from the Business Support Team at bst@bst.gov.uk.