



Afternoon seminar and annual general meeting

Electromagnetic sensing and disturbance in harbor porpoises

Monday d. 20. april 2026 17.00-19.30

Place: Tænketanken Hav, Læderstræde 20, 1201 København K



You are warmly invited to an afternoon seminar on **20. April**, featuring Assistant Professor Adam Smith from the University of Southern Denmark.

In this seminar, Adam will present recent findings from studies exploring the ability of Danish harbour porpoises to sense electromagnetic fields. Experimental evidence indicates that some cetaceans possess passive electroreception, raising important questions about the potential impact of electromagnetic (EM) fields from subsea power cables—an underexplored source of anthropogenic disturbance.

Drawing on data from both wild and trained porpoises at the Fjord and Belt Centre, this research examines their capacity to detect electrical fields and their behavioral responses in the vicinity of subsea power cables in Danish waters. The results suggest that porpoises are indeed capable of sensing such fields and may exhibit varying behavioral patterns in response.

We hope you can join us for this engaging and thought-provoking seminar for roughly 60 minutes which will be followed by the society's annual general meeting from 18-19:30 where sandwiches will be served.

All are welcome. The first seminar is for free, but for the next we suggest you become a member!