

**SPAIN. PROGRESS REPORT ON CETACEAN RESEARCH, MAY 2000 TO APRIL 2001, WITH  
STATISTICAL DATA FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2000**

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This report summarises information obtained from: Institute of Marine Research (IIM), of the Council of Scientific Research. Institute of Technology, Fisheries and Food of the Basque Country (AZTI). Vice Council of the Environment of the Canary Government (MAC). Marine Animal Rescue Centre (CRAM). Department of Animal Biology of the University of Valencia (UV). Spanish Institute of Oceanography of the Ministry of Science and Technology (IEO).

### 1. Species and stocks studied

Common name	Scientific name	Area/stock(s)	Items referred to
Common dolphin	<i>Delphinus delphis</i>	N.E. Atlantic/Mediterranean Sea	2.1.1, 2.1.2, 4.1, 4.3, 7.1
Striped dolphin	<i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i>	N.E. Atlantic/Mediterranean Sea	2.1.1, 4.3, 5
Atlantic spotted dolphin	<i>Stenella frontalis</i>	Central N. Atlantic	7.1
Bottlenose dolphin	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	N.E. Atlantic/Mediterranean Sea	2.1.1, 2.1.2, 3.1.1, 4.3, 9
Risso's dolphin	<i>Grampus griseus</i>	N.E. Atlantic/Mediterranean Sea	2.1.2, 4.3
Peale's dolphin	<i>Lagenorhynchus australis</i>	S.W. Atlantic	4.2, 7.1
Harbour porpoise	<i>Phocoena phocoena</i>	N.E. Atlantic	2.1.2, 4.3
Unidentified dolphins		N.E. Atlantic	7.1
Short-finned pilot whale	<i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i>	Canary Is.	9
Long-finned pilot whale	<i>Globicephala melas</i>	N.E. Atlantic	2.1.2, 4.3
Killer whale	<i>Orcinus orca</i>	N.E. Atlantic	2.1.2
Sperm whale	<i>Physeter macrocephalus</i>	N.E. Atlantic/Mediterranean Sea	4.3
Cuvier's beaked whale	<i>Ziphius cavirostris</i>	N.E. Atlantic/Mediterranean Sea	4.3
Fin whale	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>	N. E: Atlantic	4.3
Baleen whale		N. E: Atlantic	2.1.2

### 2. Sightings data

#### 2.1 Field work

##### 2.1.1 SYSTEMATIC

Since 2000 aerial sighting surveys to obtain estimates of relative abundance of cetaceans are being carried out along the Spanish Mediterranean coast (Valencia and Murcia) (UV).

A land based cetacean survey was carried out along the Galician coast (NW Spain). A total of 300 hours of observations and 43 sightings were made (IIM).

##### 2.1.2 OPPORTUNISTIC, PLATFORMS OF OPPORTUNITY

Opportunistic observations from the coast and onboard passenger boats operating within the Galician Rías were made by CEMMA volunteers (IIM).

Cetacean sightings were carried out during different fishery surveys (Demersales 2000, CAREVA 0301 and JUREVA 0401) along the north and northwestern Spanish coasts (IEO). Opportunistic observations are also being made in Galician estuaries during routine transects for oceanographic data collection and red tides monitoring (IEO).

### 3. Marking data

#### 3.1 Field work

##### 3.1.1 NATURAL MARKING DATA

Species	Feature	Area/stock	Calendar year/season/ no. photographed	Catalogued (Y/N)	Catalogue total	Contact person/institute
<i>T. truncatus</i>	Fluke	NE. Atlantic	June to September	Y	20	IIM

### 4. Tissue/biological samples collected

#### 4.1 Biopsy samples

None.

#### 4.2 Samples from directed catches or bycatches

Species	Area/stock	Calendar year/ season total	Archived (Y/N)	Tissue type(s)*	Contact person/institute
Peale's dolphin	SW Atlantic	2000/1	Y	Skin, blubber, muscle	Lens (IEO)

#### 4.3 Samples from stranded animals

Species	Area/stock	Calendar year/	Archived (Y/N)	Tissue type(s)*	Contact person/institute
Common dolphin	NE Atlantic	2000/36	Y	All tissues	IIM/Lens (IEO)
Common dolphin	Mediterranean Sea	2000/5	Y	All tissues	CRAM/Raga (UV)
Striped dolphin	NE Atlantic	2000/2	Y	All tissues	IIM
Striped dolphin	Mediterranean Sea	2000/14	Y	All tissues	CRAM/Raga (UV)
Bottlenose dolphin	NE Atlantic	2000/7	Y	All tissues	IIM
Bottlenose dolphin	Mediterranean	2000/1	Y	All tissues	CRAM
Risso's dolphin	NE Atlantic	2000/5	Y	All tissues	IIM
Risso's dolphin	Mediterranean Sea	2000/3	Y	All tissues	CRAM/Raga (UV)
Long-finned pilot whale	NE Atlantic	2000/4	Y	All tissues	IIM
Long-finned pilot whale	Mediterranean Sea	2000/1	Y	All tissues	Raga (UV)
Harbour porpoise	NE Atlantic	2000/4	Y	All tissues	IIM
Sperm whale	Mediterranean Sea	2000/1	Y	All tissues	Raga (UV)
Cuvier's beaked whale	NE Atlantic	2000/1	Y	Stomach	IIM
Cuvier's beaked whale	Mediterranean Sea	2000/1	N	All tissues	CRAM
Fin whale	NE Atlantic	2000/1	Y	Skin	IIM

### 5. Pollution studies

Pollution and toxicological studies to determine PCB's, furans and dioxins in *Stenella coeruleoalba* are being carried out (CRAM).

### 6. Statistics for large cetaceans

#### 6.1 Direct catches (commercial, aboriginal and scientific permits) for the calendar year 2000.

None

### 7. Statistics for small cetaceans

#### 7.1 For the calendar year 2000.

		Directed catch		Incidental mortality		Live-capture
		Reported	Est. Total	Reported	Est. Total	
Striped dolphin	Mediterranean			1		Longline
Probable pilot whale	Canary Is.			2		Ship strike
Cuvier's	Canary Is.			1		Ship strike
Common dolphin	NE Atlantic			3		Trawl/Gillnet
Peale's dolphin	SW Atlantic			1		Trawl
Atlantic spotted dolphin	Central N Atlantic			1		Longline
Unidentified dolphins	NE Atlantic			12		Pair trawl
Risso's dolphin	Mediterranean			1		Longline
Harbour porpoise	NE Atlantic			2		Net

## 8. Strandings

Different organizations and institutions collect information on strandings along the Spanish coasts. In the Mediterranean: Marine Animals Recuperation Centre of Catalunya (CRAM) and the University of Valencia (UV). In the Atlantic: several institutions and organizations integrated in ATLANCETUS.

## 9. Other studies and analyses

The Autonomous Government of the Canary Islands has issued a new Decree on whalewatching activities in the Canary Islands, with aspects not included in the old regulation in order to make it more efficient (Gobierno de Canarias, 2000).

A LIFE project to study the bottlenose dolphin and the loggerhead turtle in the Canary Islands has been finished in December 2000, and the final report presented to the European Commission. (MAC).

Observer's programs to monitor different fishing fleets of the Basque Country also collected information on incidental catches of cetaceans. The following number of sets by fishery were monitored: different modalities of traditional trawlers in ICES areas VII and VIII a,b and d, 600 hauls; pair trawl in ICES area VIIIc, 52 hauls and in areas VIII a, b and d, 128 hauls. There were also observers on board artisanal gillnet and longline boats (AZTI).

Incidental catches of cetaceans were monitored in different long distance and local Spanish fishing fleets. Observer's schemes were in operation in the trawl fisheries in the SW Atlantic, NAFO and Svalbard areas (1553, 2108, 532 hauls observed respectively), and in the trawler fleet working in ICES areas VIIIc and IXa (615 hauls) and in areas VI and VII (507 hauls). The longline fishery for swordfish was also monitored in the Atlantic and Pacific Oceans (188 and 71 sets respectively). Observers collected information on incidental catches and sightings of cetaceans in experimental fishing surveys carried out in different areas of the Atlantic Ocean (including Hatton Bank and Reikjanes Ridge) (IEO).

A collaborative project to record incidental catches and sightings of different species of marine fauna (including cetaceans) by fishers of the Spanish Federation of Sport Fishing started in 2000 (IEO).

A follow up of a solitary free-ranging bottlenose dolphin, temporarily confined in a small bay within the Ria de Vigo (NW Spain), was made in May-June 2000 (IEO).

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