

The 2005 Galápagos humpback whale expedition: a first attempt to assess and characterise the population in the Archipelago

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ABSTRACT

It has been known for some time that humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) occur in waters of the Galápagos Islands, an oceanic archipelago located 1,000km west of Ecuador, South America (1°S, 91°W), but their presence there has been poorly documented. Although presumed, no linkage has been established between Galápagos and southeast Pacific humpback whales (Breeding Stock G), the nearest breeding stock. An expedition to Galápagos was carried out between 31 August and 10 September 2005 to document the presence of humpback whales, their distribution, and their relationship to other stocks in the Pacific. Surveys covered 722km of the central and southern parts of the archipelago. Only one adult with a newborn calf was found at Santa Fé Island (0°47'S, 90°05.1'W), yielding an encounter rate of 0.27 whales per 100km of survey. A hydrophone with a response frequency range of 0.25–25kHz was dropped 25 times, but no whale sounds were heard. A skin sample was obtained by darting of the adult at Santa Fé, and was used for genetic analysis of the mtDNA control region. The haplotype of the Galápagos specimen has been found in a few individuals sampled previously off Colombia, Ecuador and the Antarctic Peninsula, thus establishing at least some degree of relatedness with Breeding Stock G. The observations, combined with a compilation of historical and recent sighting information in the archipelago, support the idea that Galápagos is a breeding area for the species. Further studies are needed to establish the level of discreteness, size and other basic aspects of the Galápagos humpback whale population.

KEYWORDS: SOUTH AMERICA; GALÁPAGOS ISLANDS; BREEDING GROUNDS; HUMPBACK WHALE; SURVEY-VESSEL; OPPORTUNISTIC SIGHTINGS; GENETICS

INTRODUCTION

The importance of the Galápagos Islands for large cetaceans has been known for a long time, particularly for sperm whales (*Physeter macrocephalus*; Townsend, 1935; Whitehead and Hope, 1991). However, in the past few decades, a number of scientific expeditions have highlighted the importance of the archipelago's waters for several other cetacean species, including both baleen and toothed whales (Alava, 2002; Clarke, 1962; Clarke *et al.*, 2002; Leveque, 1963; Loesch, 1966; Lyrholm *et al.*, 1992; Palacios, 1999; Palacios, 2003; Palacios *et al.*, 2000; Whitehead, 1986). Despite the existence of confirmed observations of humpback whales (*Megaptera novaeangliae*) in Galápagos, mostly made by naturalist guides (Day, 1994; Jackson, 1993; MacFarland, 1977; Merlen, 1995), the low number of records suggests that the species is not common in the waters of the archipelago. This could be due not only to a potentially small population using the archipelago, but to a comparatively low search effort by the above-mentioned expeditions in the nearshore areas where humpback whales are expected to occur.

The nearest humpback whale population to Galápagos is the southeast Pacific stock (also referred to as Breeding Stock G; see IWC, 1998), which is distributed along the coast of western South America. A number of studies based on photo-identification (Acevedo *et al.*, 2007; Flórez-González *et al.*, 1998; Stevick *et al.*, 2004) and genetics (Caballero *et al.*, 2001; Félix *et al.*, 2007; Olavarria *et al.*, 2007), have identified the breeding areas for Breeding

Stock G off northwestern South America, and the corresponding feeding areas off the Antarctic Peninsula and the Magellan Strait. However, so far no link has been established between Galápagos and South American humpback whales.

The 'Galápagos Humpback Whale Expedition' was conducted during the austral winter of 2005. The expedition aimed to establish the identity and status of the humpback whales that occur in Galápagos in order to create a knowledge baseline for management purposes. The study was made in the context of a long-term investigation of the southeast Pacific humpback whale stock that the Ecuadorian Foundation for the Study of Marine Mammals (Fundación Ecuatoriana para el Estudio de Mamíferos Marinos, FEMM) has been conducting along the coast of Ecuador since 1991 (Félix and Haase, 2005; Félix and Haase, 2001). The most relevant findings from this expedition are presented here and a molecular comparison is made with continental whales in a first attempt to establish the identity of Galápagos humpback whales. A compilation of historical and recent humpback whale records in Galápagos are also presented to provide a clearer picture of the distribution and temporal occurrence of the species within the archipelago. This effort is highly relevant to one of the key aspects highlighted in a regional conservation strategy recently designed for the southeast Pacific humpback whale population (Flórez-González *et al.*, 2007), which calls for the generation of basic information from less-studied areas within the breeding grounds that could be considered critical for the species.

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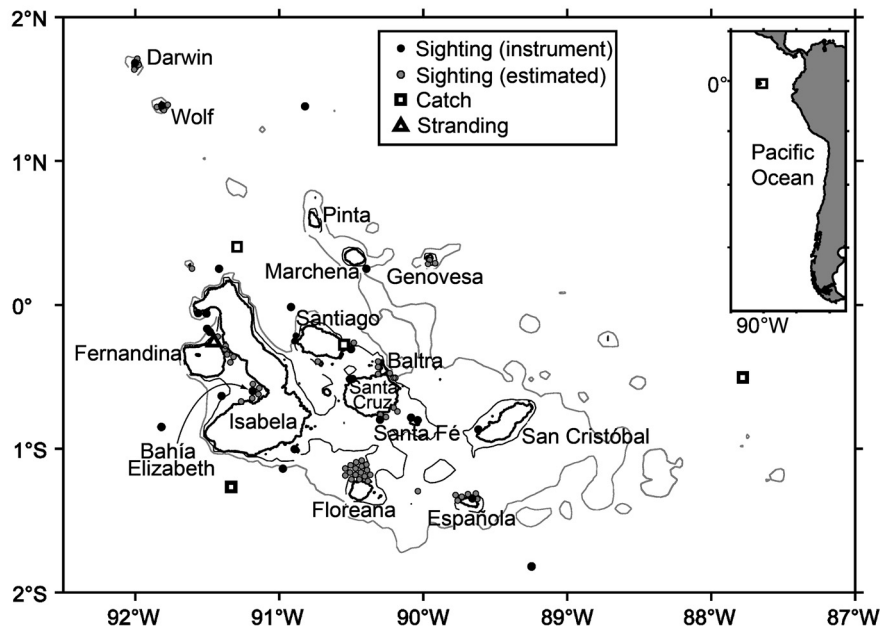


Fig. 1. Distribution of 89 historical and recent humpback whale records in the Galápagos Islands (see Appendix 1 for sources). Bathymetric contours for the 200m (thin black line) and 1,000m (thin grey line) isobaths are shown. Inset shows the location of the study area in relation to western South America.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Study area

The Galápagos archipelago is formed by a group of 13 large islands (>10km²), six smaller islands, and over 100 islets and rocks (Jackson, 1993; Snell *et al.*, 1996). It is located 1,000km west of the coast of Ecuador, South America (1°S, 91°W) (Fig. 1). The islands are surrounded by narrow shelves and abrupt slopes, with some shallow areas in the central part of the archipelago. In the outer areas, depth increases rapidly to 3,000m or more, particularly in the western and southern regions. A marine protected area extending 40 n.miles (74.1km) from the baseline surrounding the entire archipelago and covering an area of about 138,000km², was established in 1998 as the 'Galápagos Marine Resources Reserve' (Heylings *et al.*, 2002). The highly productive waters of the archipelago, especially on the western side (Palacios, 2002; Palacios *et al.*, 2006), create favourable conditions for a high abundance and diversity of marine mammals (Palacios and Salazar, 2002; Palacios, 2003).

Historical and recent records

In preparation for the expedition previous records of humpback whales from three sources were compiled as follows.

- (1) Townsend Whaling Charts (Townsend, 1935). Capture locations within Galápagos waters were extracted from monthly maps containing 2,883 humpback whale catch records from North American ('Yankee') pelagic whale vessel logbooks dating from 1761 to 1920. Each record in the charts corresponds to the location of a whaling ship on a day when one or more whales were taken, and does not necessarily reflect the number of whales caught. These data are available in digital format from the Wildlife Conservation Society (http://www.wcs.org/sw-high_tech_tools/landscapeecology/townsend_charts).
- (2) Sighting locations collected in Galápagos waters by scientific observers aboard tuna fishing vessels (Archer

et al., 2002; Buckland *et al.*, 1992) and research vessels (Hill *et al.*, 1991; Kinzey *et al.*, 1999) under programmes conducted by the Southwest Fisheries Science Center (SWFSC) of the US NOAA/National Marine Fisheries Service. Sightings collected by a team from Dalhousie University, Canada while conducting sperm whale research in Galápagos (Smith and Whitehead, 1999; Whitehead, 1986) were also included.

- (3) Weekly reports by licensed naturalist guides to the Galápagos National Park (GNP) and from a 'Sightings Logbooks Program' created under an inter-institutional agreement between the GNP and the Charles Darwin Foundation (CDF). The objective of this programme is to establish a uniform reporting standard and to improve the quality of information reported by the different users of the Galápagos Marine Resources Reserve. Sightings logbooks are distributed among users, to be completed whenever cetacean sightings are recorded. Four vessels operating in the Reserve must follow established routes to visitor sites and carry aboard naturalist guides trained in marine mammal identification. About 40 vessels currently participate in the programme. The programme was officially implemented in 2001, but it contains records starting from 1995. The reports are quality-controlled for errors and are entered into a database maintained by the CDF (Salazar and Hernandez, 2000). For mapping purposes, the geographic coordinates for records for which only the approximate locality was reported were georeferenced using the GIS software *ArcView* 3.2 with the animal movement extension. Throughout the text, these positions are referred to as 'estimated' to differentiate them from exact positions obtained directly in the field, which are referred to as 'instrument'.

Surveys

Between 31 August and 10 September 2005, ten surveys were conducted in the central part of the archipelago aboard four different vessels: three small boats (6–8m in length)

with outboard engines, and the 12m sailboat ‘Bronzewing’, which was used as a live-aboard platform for seven days. Daily trips lasted 5–12h depending on weather conditions and on finding a safe place to overnight. Surveys were carried out over the shelf of several islands in areas where the presence of humpback whales had previously been reported. Trips plans were made and updated on a daily basis, based on the progress made during the day. For this purpose, the navigation Chart IOA 21 (INOCAR, Ecuador) and a GPS Garmin 60™ were used. In the case of the small boats, observations were made from the cabin’s rooftop, about 2–2.5m above the waterline. Boats moved at an average speed of 12kt (22.2km h⁻¹). On the sailboat, which was powered by a small inboard diesel engine, observers were located on the main deck, both at the bow and amidships, at an average height of 1.5m above the waterline. The sailboat’s speed ranged between 5 and 7kt (9.3–13km h⁻¹).

Sea state conditions were fairly constant during the study period, ranging between 2 and 3 on the Beaufort scale. When conditions worsened, sighting effort was stopped (this occurred twice). During the observation periods, information on group size and composition, position, heading, speed and general behaviour was obtained. Photographs were taken with a digital camera equipped with a 70–300mm zoom lens.

A hydrophone model C10 (Cetacean Research Technology) with a response frequency range of 0.25–25kHz and a digital voice recorder *Archos G-Mini* 120 were used for listening and recording whale songs. The hydrophone was used on an irregular basis, in some cases every 60min of survey, especially on the small boats. Aboard the sailboat, the hydrophone was used sporadically at the beginning and end of the daily surveys.

Molecular analysis

A skin sample was obtained from a humpback whale at Santa Fé Island with a Barnett crossbow equipped with a 60cm-long arrow and modified tips (see Lambertsen, 1987). The biopsy was preserved in a solution of dimethylsulfoxide saturated in sodium chloride. Approximately a 520bp fragment of the mitochondrial DNA control region was amplified via the Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) using standard reaction conditions (Palumbi, 1996; Saiki *et al.*, 1988). For the PCR, the primer combination t-Pro-whale (5’-TCACCCAAAGCTGRARTTCTA-3’) and Dlp8 (5’-CCATCGWGATGTCTTATTTAAGRGGAA-3’) was used (Baker *et al.*, 1998; Olavarria *et al.*, 2007). The PCR profile used was as follows: an initial denaturation at 95°C for 2min; 36 cycles of 94°C for 30s, 55°C for 1min, 72°C for 1.30min; and a final extension at 72°C for 5min. Free nucleotides and primers were removed from the PCR products using shrimp alkaline phosphatase and exonuclease I (ExoI, USB) and directly sequenced in both directions using the standard protocols of *Big Dye* terminator sequencing chemistry on an ABI 3100 automated capillary sequencer (Perkin Elmer).

A 480bp fragment was analysed for haplotype determination. The sequence was manually edited and aligned using *Sequencher* 4.1 software (Gene Codes Corporation). The control region haplotype was defined using MacClade (Maddison and Maddison, 2000) and compared with haplotypes previously defined for other humpback whale populations in the South Pacific (Caballero *et al.*, 2001; Félix *et al.*, 2007; Olavarria *et al.*, 2006; Olavarria *et al.*, 2007). Haplotype nomenclature follows Olavarria *et al.* (2007).

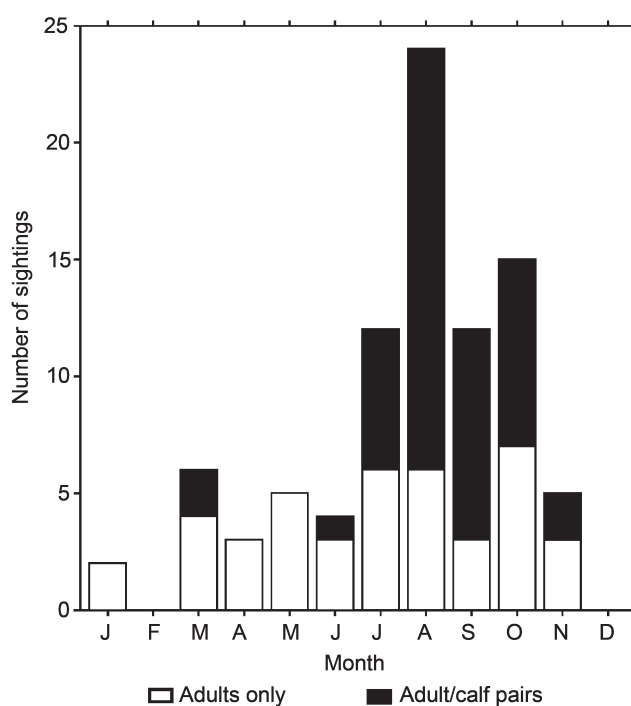


Fig. 2. Frequency distribution per month of historical and recent humpback whale records in the Galapagos Islands for groups containing adults only and adult/calf pairs.

RESULTS

Historical and recent records

A total of 89 humpback whale records were obtained, including four captures, one stranding and 84 sightings (Fig. 1, Appendix 1). Most of the records were concentrated around the islands of the central (Santiago, Santa Cruz, Floreana) and western (Isabela) side of the archipelago, although whales were also seen over the shelf of all main islands except for Pinta.

The frequency distribution of sightings per month (including sightings involving adult-calf pairs) is shown in Fig. 2. Humpback whales were recorded over ten different months, with a clear peak between July and October, and with fewer records in May, June and November. In addition, 11 sightings (12.5%) were made between January and April, including two female-calf pairs.

Visual and acoustic survey effort

The surveyed areas covered waters around the following islands: west and north of San Cristóbal; east and north of

Table 1

Details of the surveyed areas during the ‘Galapagos Humpback Whale Expedition’, 31 August-10 September 2005.

Date	Survey	Duration (hr)	Distance (km)
31/08/05	West and NW sides of San Cristóbal	7.90	100.50
01/09/05	San Cristóbal-Santa Fé-Santa Cruz	6.16	74.50
03/09/05	Santa Cruz-Santa Fé	5.21	38.60
04/09/05	Santa Fé-Floreana	9.25	72.50
05/09/05	Floreana - southeast of Isabela	11.83	91.39
06/09/05	SE of Isabela-Rábida	11.48	72.28
07/09/05	Rábida-Baltra	10.13	58.61
08/09/05	Baltra - north of Santa Cruz	6.21	37.63
09/09/05	West of Santa Cruz-Puerto Ayora	7.71	93.99
10/09/05	Santa Cruz-San Cristóbal	5.40	82.36
Total		81.33	722.36

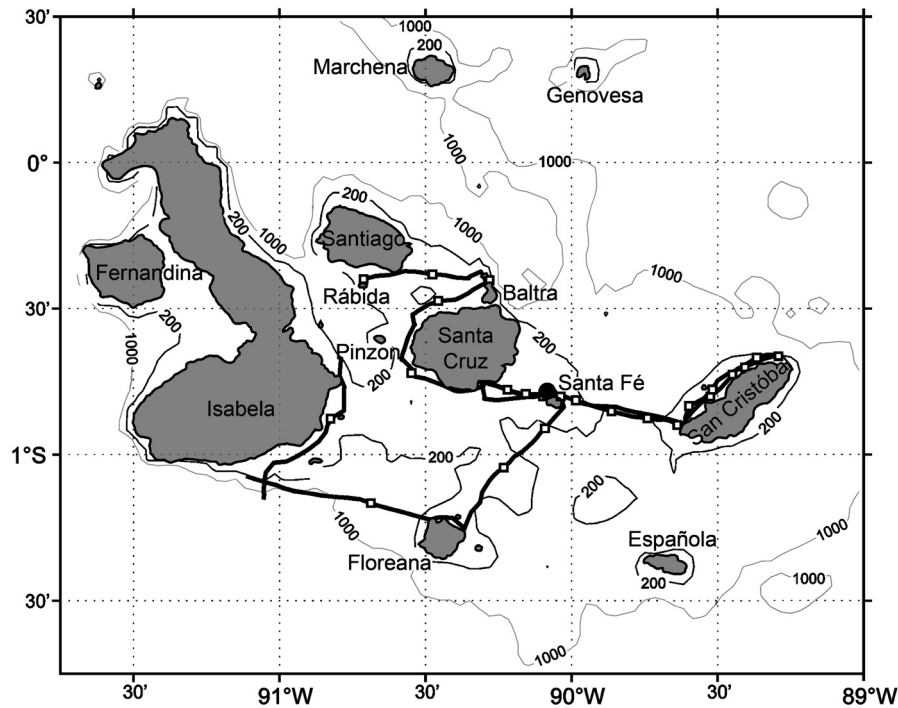


Fig. 3. Survey tracks (bold black line) during the 'Galápagos Humpback Whale Expedition', 31 August–10 September 2005. Hollow squares denote the 25 acoustic stations. The black solid circle near the centre of the map indicates the location of the adult/calf pair sighting. The 200m and 1000m isobaths are shown.

Santa Fé; north of Floreana; southeast of Isabela; north, west and south of Santa Cruz; southeast of Santiago; and the waters between them (Fig. 3). The total distance covered was 722.36km and the total navigation time was 81.33hr (Table 1). The hydrophone was dropped for 5min (± 1 min) at 25 different sites (Fig. 3), but no sounds were heard during the entire expedition.

Encounter rate

The only humpback whale observation made during the expedition was near Santa Fé Island ($0^{\circ}47.6'S$, $90^{\circ}05.1'W$) (Fig. 3). The group was made up of an adult with a small calf, probably a couple of weeks old judging by its very small size and the light grey colour of its skin (Fig. 4). The pair was found over a shallow area of less than 20m in depth, northwest of the island. According to the navigation chart IOA 21, Santa Fé Island has a shelf of 100m in depth extending some 10km on its southeast side, but in the northwest part, where the pair was found, the shelf only extends out to about 3km. However, the sighting was made over a shallow flat area marked on the navigation chart as



Fig. 4. Humpback whale adult-calf pair encountered at Santa Fé Island. Notice the calf's very small size compared to that of the adult and the lighter colour of its skin.

13m depth and with an area of about 3–4km². Photographs of the dorsal fins were taken since none of the animals showed their flukes. The encounter rate for humpback whales during this expedition was of 0.276 whales per 100km of survey.

Control region haplotype

The Galápagos haplotype was identified as SP61, which has previously been found in one individual from mainland Ecuador (Félix *et al.*, 2007), one from Colombia (Olavarria *et al.*, 2007) and two from the Antarctic Peninsula (Olavarria *et al.*, 2006).

DISCUSSION

Relative abundance and habitat use

While the GNP-CDF database was useful in establishing that humpback whales may be found in nearshore waters throughout the archipelago, further interpretation is complicated due to three sources of bias in this data set: (1) recording does not follow a systematic effort, making it impossible to obtain estimates of relative abundance; (2) the same animal(s) could be reported by more than one observer at sites visited by multiple vessels in a short time period; and (3) the reports came from lots of observers with different levels of experience in identifying whale species, increasing the possibility of misidentification.

The 2005 'Galápagos Humpback Whale Expedition' was the first attempt to quantify the presence of this species in the archipelago. Nevertheless, during the study period, it was not possible to survey all the sites where humpback whales have been reported previously (Fig. 1), particularly the highly productive areas between Isabela and Fernandina Islands. The survey was limited to the central, southern and southeastern parts of the archipelago, over the shelf of several islands and the deep-water zone between them. Since

extensive areas of the archipelago remained unsurveyed, the findings should not be considered representative of the entire archipelago.

There was a large difference in whale density in the surveyed areas in Galápagos compared to the breeding areas off mainland Ecuador, where the encounter rate was 59 times higher during the same season (Felix *et al.*, 2004). It should be recognised, however, that survey conditions were not the same between these two areas, since sea state conditions are slightly better and faster boats are used at the mainland sites. Despite these differences, the data presented herein support the notion that Galápagos contains a low density of humpback whales, as previous reports have suggested (Day, 1994; Merlen, 1995). It is possible that humpback whales were never abundant in Galápagos, considering that 19th century American whalers concentrated their effort on humpback whales in the continental waters of Panamá, Colombia and Ecuador, while the Galápagos Islands were considered a major whaling area for sperm whales (Townsend, 1935).

A low humpback whale density seems to be characteristic of oceanic archipelagos in the South Pacific. For instance, Gannier (2004) reported encounter rates between 0.35 and 1.54 whales per 100km of survey in French Polynesia, which is between 1.3 and 5.7 times higher than for the Galápagos Islands. Although Gannier primarily used a similar 12m sailboat, both studies also used data obtained from other types of vessels. Therefore, caution should be exercised with this interpretation, as the data are probably not fully comparable. It is also known that humpback whales show a clustered distribution around archipelagos, with sites of high concentration of animals and extended zones of low densities. In Hawai'i, for example, there is high density in a shallow area known as the Penguin Bank and also in the Four Island area off Maui (Herman and Antinaja, 1977; Salden, 1988). In the Caribbean, 85% of the entire North Atlantic population concentrates for breeding at Silver and Navidad Banks off the northern Dominican Republic (Winn *et al.*, 1975), although whales can be found as far south as the Lesser Antilles (Swartz *et al.*, 2003). While it is not implausible that such a type of distribution may occur in Galápagos, it seems unlikely that local high whale concentrations have passed unnoticed in an area with such a high level of tourism activities.

A determining factor for the low encounter rate may have been the low observation height onboard the vessels. However, the lack of song detection is supportive of a low whale density at the time of the survey. An alternative explanation to the low encounter rate and to the lack of singers could be that reports of humpback whales in Galápagos correspond to transient animals and/or unusual visitors from other sites in the southeast Pacific. However, the sighting, together with previous records of adult-calf pairs in Galápagos (MacFarland, 1977; Merlen, 1995; see also Appendix 1) provide strong support to the idea that the archipelago's waters are used for more than merely transiting and are probably a calving area for humpback whales.

The predominantly coastal distribution of humpback whales in Galápagos (Fig. 1) is consistent with the habitat preferences reported for the species at the breeding grounds along mainland Ecuador (Felix and Haase, 2005), as well as at other calving areas worldwide (Ersts and Rosenbaum, 2003; Johnston *et al.*, 2007; Smultea, 1994; Vang, 2002). This distribution pattern has local conservation implications because adult-calf pairs could be particularly sensitive to the intense maritime traffic generated by tourism (see Salden, 1988), the main economic activity in Galápagos. Therefore,

the overlap between vessel routes and areas of humpback whale presence and the impact of maritime traffic on whale behaviour are aspects that need to be assessed.

Population identity

Historical and recent records of humpback whales in Galápagos indicated that the species occurred primarily during the austral winter months (Fig. 2, Appendix 1), as is expected for a Southern Hemisphere population during its breeding period in the tropics. The few records from May, June and November could reflect normal variations in the timing of migration, as has been recorded along mainland Ecuador (Félix and Haase, 2001).

However, 12.5% of the sightings occurred between January and April, leading to the possibility that at least some of the whales sighted in the early part of the year may belong to a Northern Hemisphere stock. It has been demonstrated that the breeding areas for Northeast Pacific and southeast Pacific humpback whales overlap in waters off Panamá and Costa Rica (Acevedo-Gutiérrez and Smultea, 1995; Rasmussen *et al.*, 2007), and possibly as far south as southern Colombia, where two haplotypes from a North Hemisphere stock have been found (Caballero *et al.*, 2001). Another possibility is that these whales did not migrate and remained during the entire year around Galápagos. The high local productivity, especially in the western part of the archipelago (Palacios, 2002; Palacios *et al.*, 2006), could provide food for non-migrating animals, as has been proposed in other tropical areas with intense upwelling (Papastavrou and Van Waerebeek, 1997). One of these areas is the coast of Perú, a few hundred kilometers southeast of Galápagos, where humpback whales have been reported throughout the entire year (Ramírez, 1988).

The molecular biology study showed a relationship between Galápagos humpback whales and Breeding Stock G, since the same haplotype has been found in Colombia, Ecuador and the Antarctic Peninsula. However, the Galápagos haplotype was not among the most common ones found in Breeding Stock G, as it has only been found four times in about 400 samples from the southeast Pacific and the Antarctic Peninsula (Félix *et al.*, 2007; Olavarria *et al.*, 2007). Genetic (Félix *et al.*, 2007; Olavarria *et al.*, 2006), and photo-identification (Acevedo *et al.*, 2007) studies indicated that Breeding Stock G shows some degree of heterogeneity in its distribution, with at least two well-defined subunits.

The possibility that Galápagos humpback whales could be part of a discrete subunit with a low degree of exchange with the continental population cannot be excluded. Genetic differentiation between continental and insular populations has been found in Northeast Pacific humpback whales breeding at the Revillagigedo Archipelago, relative to whales breeding along central mainland Mexico, only 700km apart (Urban *et al.*, 2000). Further sampling and analysis are needed to establish the degree of discreteness, genetic variability and the main lineages in Galápagos, among other key population parameters.

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Expedition, Flamingo I, Garúa, Guantanamera, Isabela II, Islander, Jesus del Gran Poder, Lammer Law, Lobo de Mar, Nemo, Mistral II, Polaris, Pulsar, Reina Silvia, Rembrandt, Sagitta, Samba, San Jose, Santa Cruz, Santa Fe II, Sea Cloud, Sky Dancer, Sullivan and Bravo Bravo. Conservation vessels operated by the GNP or CDF that have participated in the program include: *Guadalupe River, Sirenian, Beagle and Spondylus.* The naturalist guides and other observers who have diligently collected the humpback whale sightings in the GNP-CDF database include the following. Byron Aguirre, Juan Carlos Avila, Luis Cadena, Monica Calvopiña, Jaime Carrillo, Rodolfo Castañeda, Pablo Castañeda, Alfredo Cevallos, Mafer Davila, Philippe Deger, Luis Die, Bitinia Espinoza, Klaus Fielsch, Marcel Filudo, Lynn Fowler, Peter Freire, Margoth Freire, Antonio Gallardo, Jason Gallardo, Gilda Gonzales, Jonathan Green, Franklin Guaranda, Bernardo Gutiérrez, Tanya Helmig, Carlos Inga, Macarena Iturralde, Jacinto Jaramillo, Julian Jaya, Harry Jimenez, Carlos King, Grace Loza, Cindy Manning, Celso Montalvo, Roberto Naranjo, Jaime Nicolaide, Juan Ojeda, Washington Paredes, Renato Pérez, Rafael Pesantes, Cornelio Rodriguez, Luis Rodriguez, Giovana Romero, Jhonny Romero, Rafael Rubro, Edilberto Rugel, José Sabando, Gino Salazar, Sandie Salazar, Bolivar Sanchez, Paula Tagle, Walter Torres, Dora Ulloa, Silvia Vargas, Luis Verdesoto and Dolores Villacreses.

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Appendix 1

Table with 89 historical and recent records of humpback whales in the Galápagos Islands, including date, geographic coordinates, group composition, nearest island, specific locality and sources. Position denotes whether the geographic coordinates were obtained in the field with an instrument or estimated subsequently using GIS software based on the nearest locality reported (i.e. georeferenced). Note that the records from the Townsend Whaling Charts correspond to the location of a whaling ship on a day when one or more whales were taken, and that they only reported the month but not the year.

Date	Lat/Long	Adults	Calves	Total	Island	Locality	Position	Source
June	0°24.3'N; 91°17.6'W					Offshore capture N of Isabela	Estimated	Townsend (1935)
July	0°30.3'S; 87°46.9'W					Offshore capture ENF of San Cristóbal	Estimated	Townsend (1935)
July	1°15.6'S; 91°20.4'W				Isabela	Capture S of Isabela	Estimated	Townsend (1935)
August	0°16.6'S; 90°33.0'W				Bartolomé	Capture	Estimated	Townsend (1935)
16/07/1979	0°38.0'S; 91°24.0'W	1		1	Isabela	Bahia Elizabeth	Instrument	SWFSC tuna vessel
23/09/1990	1°49.1'S; 89°14.8'W	1		1	Marchena	Offshore sighting SE of Floreana	Instrument	SWFSC research vessel
24/04/1995	0°15.1'N; 90°23.6'W	1		1	Española	Punta Suárez	Instrument	Dalhousie University
1998	1°21.6'S; 89°45.6'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Tortuga Is.	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
07/11/1998	1°00.2'S; 90°53.6'W	1	1	2	Santiago	Puerto Egas	Instrument	SWFSC research vessel
24/05/1999	0°12.9'S; 90°53.0'W	2		2	Rábida		Estimated	GNP-CDF database
24/05/1999	0°23.7'S; 90°43.9'W	1		1	Floreana	Bahia Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
07/1999	1°12.8'S; 90°26.6'W	2	1	3	Floreana	Bahia Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
07/1999	1°09.9'S; 90°26.0'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Bahia Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
08/1999	1°11.5'S; 90°24.3'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Bahia Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
02/08/1999	1°08.9'S; 90°23.4'W	2		2	Floreana	Bahia Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
03/10/1999	1°10.9'S; 90°28.3'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Bahia Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
21/10/1999	0°17.4'N; 89°55.0'W	2		2	Genovesa	Back side of cliff	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
11/11/1999	1°07.3'S; 90°25.6'W	2		2	Floreana	Bahia Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
02/04/2000	0°15.5'S; 91°27.2'W	1		1	Fernandina	Stranding at Punta Espinoza	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
06/08/2000	0°42.9'S; 90°12.3'W	1	1	2	Santa Cruz	Garrapeatero	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
13/10/2000	0°24.0'S; 91°20.4'W	1		1	Isabela	Canal Bolívar	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
22/07/2001	0°48.0'S; 90°18.0'W	1	1	2	Santa Cruz	Outside Bahía Academia	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
26/07/2001	0°28.9'S; 90°18.8'W	1		1	Balra	Canal de Itabaca	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
28/07/2001	1°22.5'N; 91°51.0'W	1	1	2	Wolf		Estimated	GNP-CDF database
08/2001	1°40.1'N; 91°58.5'W	1	1	2	Darwin		Estimated	GNP-CDF database
04/08/2001	1°21.2'N; 91°48.0'W	1	1	2	Wolf	Bahía de Anciate	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
04/08/2001	0°30.5'S; 90°11.6'W	1		1	Santa Cruz	Balra-Rocas Gordon	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
07/08/2001	0°31.0'S; 90°30.5'W	1	1	2	Santa Cruz	In front of Cerro Dragón	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
11/08/2001	1°23.5'N; 91°46.4'W	1	1	2	Wolf		Estimated	GNP-CDF database
12/08/2001	1°22.8'N; 90°49.2'W	1		1		Offshore sighting N of Pinta	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
16/08/2001	0°17.1'S; 91°22.3'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Caleta Tagus	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
31/08/2001	0°48.2'S; 90°02.3'W	1	1	2	Santa Fé	Bahía Santa Fé	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
09/2001	0°28.5'S; 90°13.9'W	1		1	Santa Cruz	Canal Itabaca-Islas Plazas	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
15/09/2001	0°15.1'N; 91°36.3'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Roca Redonda	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
18/09/2001	0°52.0'S; 89°37.0'W	1	1	2	San Cristóbal	Outside Puerto Baquerizo Moreno	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
22/09/2001	0°15.5'S; 90°31.8'W	1		1	Bartolomé		Estimated	GNP-CDF database
10/10/2001	1°13.5'S; 90°23.0'W	1	1	2	Floreana		Estimated	GNP-CDF database
01/10/2001	1°42.7'N; 91°59.1'W	1		1	Darwin	Arco de Darwin	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
02/10/2001	0°11.3'S; 91°28.8'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Bahía Banks	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
12/10/2001	1°38.1'N; 92°00.4'W	1		1	Darwin	Arco de Darwin	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
22/10/2001	1°08.3'S; 90°28.3'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Punta Cormorant	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
22/10/2001	0°45.8'S; 90°17.8'W	1	1	2	Santa Cruz	Bahía Academia	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
30/10/2001	1°12.8'S; 90°29.9'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Corona del Diablo	Estimated	GNP-CDF database

Cont.

Date	Lat/Long	Adults	Calves	Total	Island	Locality	Position	Source
17/03/2002	1°10.9'S; 90°22.1'W	1		1	Floreana	4.8 mi from Floreana	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
20/03/2002	0°20.7'S; 91°21.7'W	1		1	Fernandina	Canal Bolívar	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
20/04/2002	0°46.8'S; 90°15.6'W	1		1	Santa Cruz	Bahia Academy	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
22/04/2002	0°03.5'S; 91°33.8'W	1		1	Isabela	Bahia Banks	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
25/05/2002	0°01.0'S; 90°55.1'W	1		1	Santiago	NW of Santiago	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
18/06/2002	0°51.0'S; 91°49.0'W	1		1	Isabela	Offshore sighting	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
12/08/2002	1°40.9'N; 92°00.1'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Canal Bolívar	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
08/09/2002	1°09.9'S; 90°30.5'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Bahia Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
11/09/2002	1°07.0'S; 90°30.2'W	1	1	2	Floreana	La Loberia	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
30/09/2002	0°10.0'S; 91°30.0'W	1	1	2	Floreana		Instrument	GNP-CDF database
08/10/2002	0°18.5'S; 90°30.1'W	2		2	Bartolomé		Instrument	GNP-CDF database
25/10/2002	0°18.7'N; 89°57.3'W	1	1	2	Genovesa	Inside Bahía Darwin	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
03/11/2002	1°23.1'N; 91°48.8'W	1		1	Fernandina		Instrument	GNP-CDF database
13/03/2003	0°13.2'S; 91°25.6'W	1	1	2	Fernandina		Estimated	GNP-CDF database
07/05/2003	0°36.0'S; 91°11.0'W	1		1	Isabela	Punta Espinosa	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
21/06/2003	0°44.5'S; 90°10.7'W	1		1	Santa Cruz	Bahía Elizabeth-Bahía Urbina	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
24/06/2003	0°03.7'S; 91°30.3'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Garrapatero	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
26/07/2003	0°30.9'S; 90°29.4'W	1	1	2	Santa Cruz	Bahia Banks	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
26/07/2003	1°08.3'S; 90°58.5'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Tortuga Bay	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
29/07/2003	0°23.7'S; 90°18.8'W	1	1	2	Seymour N.	Cuatro Hermanos	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
12/08/2003	0°15.1'N; 91°25.1'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Punta Vicente Roca	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
18/08/2003	0°40.3'S; 91°15.8'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Caleta Derek	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
24/08/2003	1°20.0'S; 89°44.0'W	1	1	2	Española	Punta Suárez	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
03/09/2003	1°05.7'S; 90°27.9'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Corona del Diablo	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
03/11/2003	1°11.2'S; 90°32.5'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Bahía Post Office	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
19/05/2004	0°34.7'S; 91°08.3'W	2		2	Isabela	Bahía Elizabeth, N of Marietas Is.	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
30/07/2004	1°19.0'S; 89°41.4'W	1		1	Española	Manzanillo	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
01/08/2004	0°37.3'S; 91°08.6'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Bahía Elizabeth	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
01/08/2004	0°25.9'S; 90°18.8'W	1	1	2	Baltra	In front of Baltra	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
14/08/2004	1°19.3'S; 89°46.6'W	1	1	2	Española	Punta Suárez	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
25/08/2004	0°21.7'S; 91°19.1'W	2		2	Isabela	Canal Bolívar	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
28/08/2004	1°21.0'S; 89°34.7'W	1	1	2	Española	Bahía Gardner	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
31/08/2004	1°08.3'S; 90°32.5'W	1		1	Floreana	Punta Cormorant	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
10/10/2004	0°39.0'S; 91°11.2'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Bahía Elizabeth	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
24/10/2004	0°33.1'S; 91°10.9'W	1	1	2	Isabela	Bahía Elizabeth	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
13/08/2005	1°20.8'S; 89°39.5'W	1	1	2	Española	Bahía Gardner	Instrument	GNP-CDF database
19/08/2005	1°18.7'S; 89°38.1'W	1	1	2	Española	Bahía Gardner	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
01/09/2005	0°47.0'S; 90°05.0'W	1	1	2	Santa Fé NW	Bahía Gardner	Instrument	This study
03/09/2005	1°06.6'S; 90°23.7'W	1	1	2	Santiago	N side	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
26/09/2005	0°15.2'S; 90°53.7'W	2	1	3	Floreana	Puerto Egas	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
10/10/2005	1°05.0'S; 90°25.6'W	1	1	2	Floreana	Corona del Diablo	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
14/11/2005	0°15.8'S; 90°28.9'W	2		2	Bartolomé	Corona del Diablo	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
12/01/2006	1°17.7'S; 90°02.2'W	4		4	Española	Punta Suárez-Puerto Velasco Ibarra	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
17/01/2006	0°18.4'S; 91°22.6'W	1		1	Isabela	Canal Bolívar	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
05/03/2007	0°30.5'S; 90°12.3'W	1		1	Santa Cruz	Punta Carrión-Plazas	Estimated	GNP-CDF database
10/03/2007	0°17.0'N; 89°58.0'W	1	1	2	Genovesa	Off the bay	Estimated	GNP-CDF database