

INFORMATION/SAMPLES REQUESTED FROM STRANDED ODONTOCETES IN HAWAI'I

July 14, 2006

Photographs (of dead or live stranded animals, or live animals returned to wild)

- dorsal fin and back (both left and right) photos from all species for comparison with individual photo-identification catalogs, to document inter-island movements.
- head/body photographs of beaked whales for comparison with individual photo-identification catalogs.
- photos around mouth, caudal peduncle, and any disfigurements for assessment of fishery interactions.

Skin samples (2 cm x 4 cm, frozen) for stable isotope analyses in conjunction with University of Hawai'i Hilo.

Muscle samples (from mid back below dorsal fin, 2 cm x 4 cm, full thickness, frozen) for myoglobin analyses.

Stomach contents (frozen) for examination of diet.

Blubber thickness measurements from beaked whales, pilot whales and false killer whales immediately in front of and beside dorsal fin (dorsally and laterally, photograph site) for tag design considerations (in conjunction with NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center).

Dorsal fins (frozen whole) of beaked whales, pilot whales, false killer whale and melon-headed whales, for tag design considerations (in conjunction with NMFS Northwest Fisheries Science Center).

Remoras (frozen whole) from any species (including humpback whales) for study of remora identification.

Contact Robin Baird (rwbaird@cascadiaresearch.org or 425-879-0360) for shipping account (FedEx) details. For more information on this research see www.cascadiaresearch.org/robin/hawaii.htm