

# Common Bottlenose Dolphins of O'ahu and Lāna'i



HITt0775 sighted 2007-2023



HITt1095 sighted 2016-2024



HITt1105 sighted 2008-2025



HITt1137 sighted 2008-2022



HITt1439 sighted 2007-2024



HITt1641 sighted 2012-2023



HITt1643 sighted 2014-2022

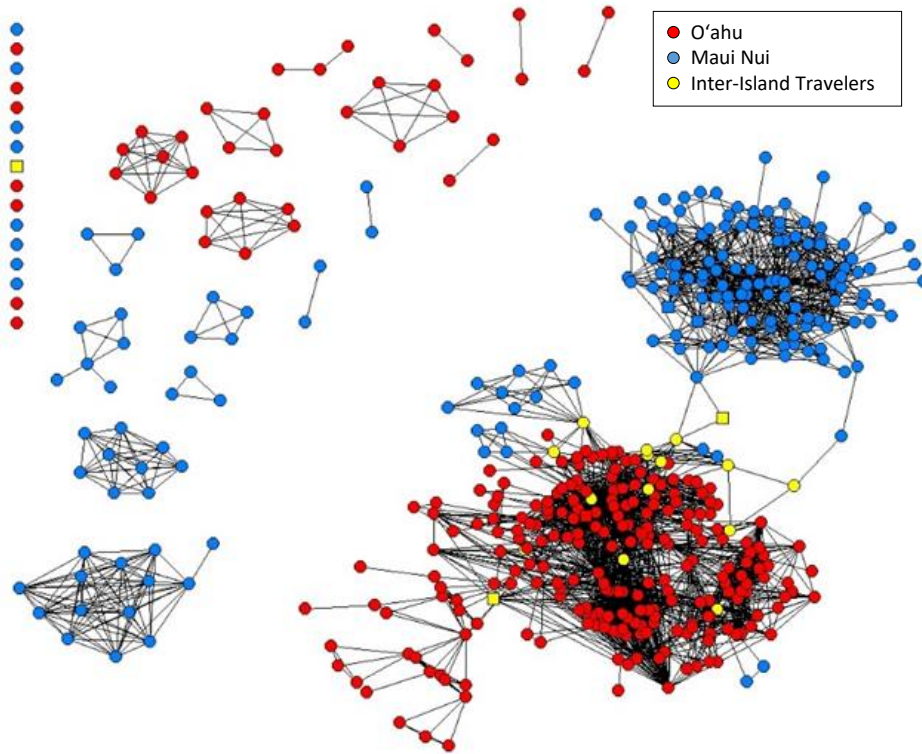


HITt1723 sighted 2018-2024



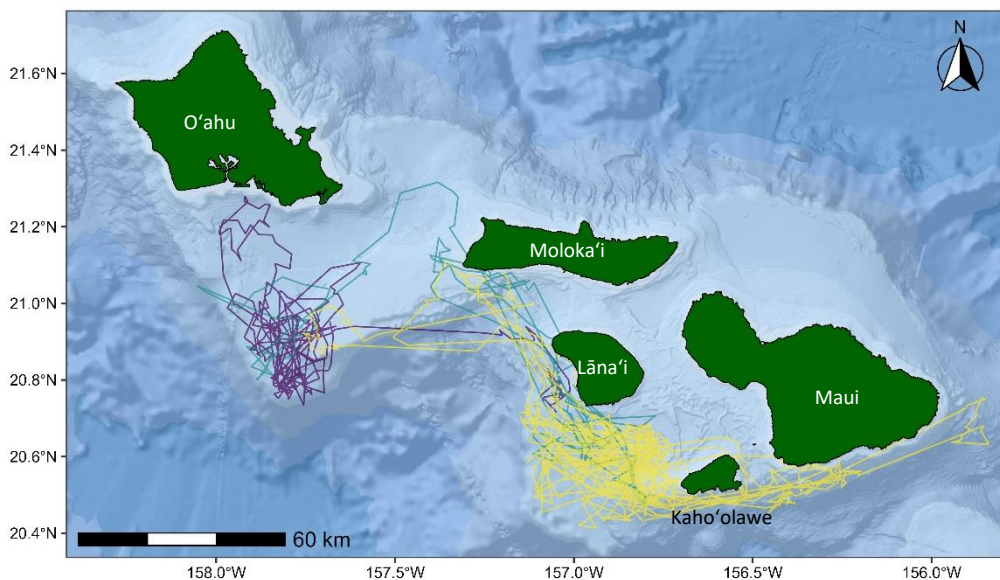
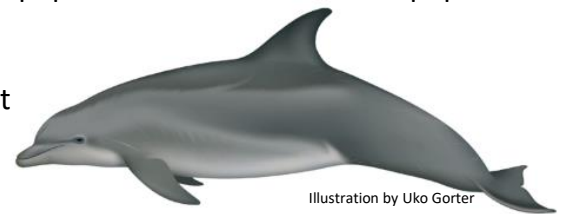
# Common Bottlenose Dolphins of O'ahu and Lāna'i

The Hawaiian Islands are home to five genetically differentiated populations of common bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*), including four island-associated resident populations centered around Kaua'i and Ni'ihau, O'ahu, Maui Nui, and Hawai'i Island, and a rarely seen offshore population that lives in deeper waters. With the exception of the Hawai'i Island population, there is evidence that bottlenose dolphin populations in Hawai'i have declined over the last 25 years.



Through our photo-identification and satellite-tagging work, we've recently discovered that some bottlenose dolphins from O'ahu spend some of their time around the fringes of Maui Nui. Social network analysis based on our photo-identification data has shown that these animals are members of the O'ahu stock of bottlenose dolphins, and they do not appear to share any deep social relationships with the resident Maui Nui bottlenose dolphins. On the left, you can see a social network of bottlenose dolphins from the O'ahu (red) and Maui Nui (blue) populations, with individual animals indicated by colored points, and social relationships between individuals indicated by lines connecting points. Here, you can see that animals that use both islands (yellow) align more closely with the O'ahu population than the Maui Nui population.

Another way we are learning about inter-island area movements is through the use of satellite tags that transmit location data. Below, you can see satellite-tag tracklines for three individuals tagged off Lāna'i, but that have also been documented off O'ahu. These movements cross currently recognized population boundaries, and illustrate that we are continually learning more about these remarkable animals. To support our work, you can contribute your photos of cetaceans to our research using the QR code on the bottom right of this sheet!



To contribute your photos of whales and dolphins to our research, scan the QR code below, or email [Hawaii@cascadiaresearch.org](mailto:Hawaii@cascadiaresearch.org)



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