Appendix S3.

Further details on false killer whale tagging protocols and data filtering

In a given sighting the group size was estimated, individuals were photographed for individual identification, and skin biopsy samples obtained for genetic analyses. All individuals considered in this analysis were confirmed to be from the pelagic population of false killer whales using established photo-identification and genetic databases and protocols (Baird et al. 2008, Martien et al. 2014). Individual whales in each group were tagged with SPOT5 Wildlife Computer satellite tags in the Low Impact Minimally Percutaneous External-electronics Transmitter configuration (Andrews et al. 2008) under relevant permits from the NMFS. Tags were deployed from a pneumatic projector and secured to the dorsal fin or base of the dorsal fin with two titanium darts. Tags were programmed to transmit daily position data through the Argos system for the first 60 days of deployment and then were duty-cycled to transmit every other or every several days. As we were interested in fine-scale, daily and sub-daily movement patterns, we focused our analyses on the first 59 days (or the maximum number of full days of transmission if tag-transmission ended prematurely). Estimates of animal locations were obtained through Service Argos using the Least Squares algorithm and processed through the Douglas Argos-Filter (Douglas et al. 2012) using the settings described by Baird et al. (2010) and Baird et al. (2013).