WHALE AND DOLPHIN PHOTOS WANTED

To assist with on-going studies to examine movements of resident populations of toothed whales and dolphins in Hawaiian waters, we are looking for photos of a number of different species to compare to existing photo-identification catalogs being managed by Cascadia Research Collective, a non-profit research organization.

We are interested in obtaining photographs of 12 species: Cuvier’s beaked whales, Blainville’s beaked whales, Longman’s beaked whales, killer whales, short-finned pilot whales, pygmy killer whales, false killer whales, melon-headed whales, bottlenose dolphins, rough-toothed dolphins, sperm whales and dwarf sperm whales. Photographs are typically needed of the dorsal fin and area surrounding the fin, although for beaked whales photos of the scarring on the body can be used to match individuals, and for sperm whales fluke photographs are used to identify individuals.

For more information on this research see www.cascadiaresearch.org/hawaii/hawaii.htm

To submit photos or for additional information contact Robin Baird at Cascadia Research - e-mail rwbaird@cascadiaresearch.org

No photos of humpback whales, spotted dolphins or spinner dolphins are needed. NMFS regulations require permits for deliberately approaching marine mammals for research purposes, thus we are only looking for photographs taken opportunistically.