



Dolphins of the kelp
presents



Photo Identification Catalogues

Falkland Islands Nov-2016 / Apr-2017



Commerson's dolphin

Cephalorhynchus commersonii

Photo-identification is a **non-invasive** technique used worldwide to study animal population including dolphins and whales

Photo ID is based on the fact that each animal within a population has **particular, unique and distinctive** markings that allow to **distinguish** it from other individuals

Once marked individuals have been photographed and identified, they are added to the **catalogue**

Pictures of notches, nicks and/or scars on the dorsal fin and/or upper part of the body are used to **permanently identify** one individual

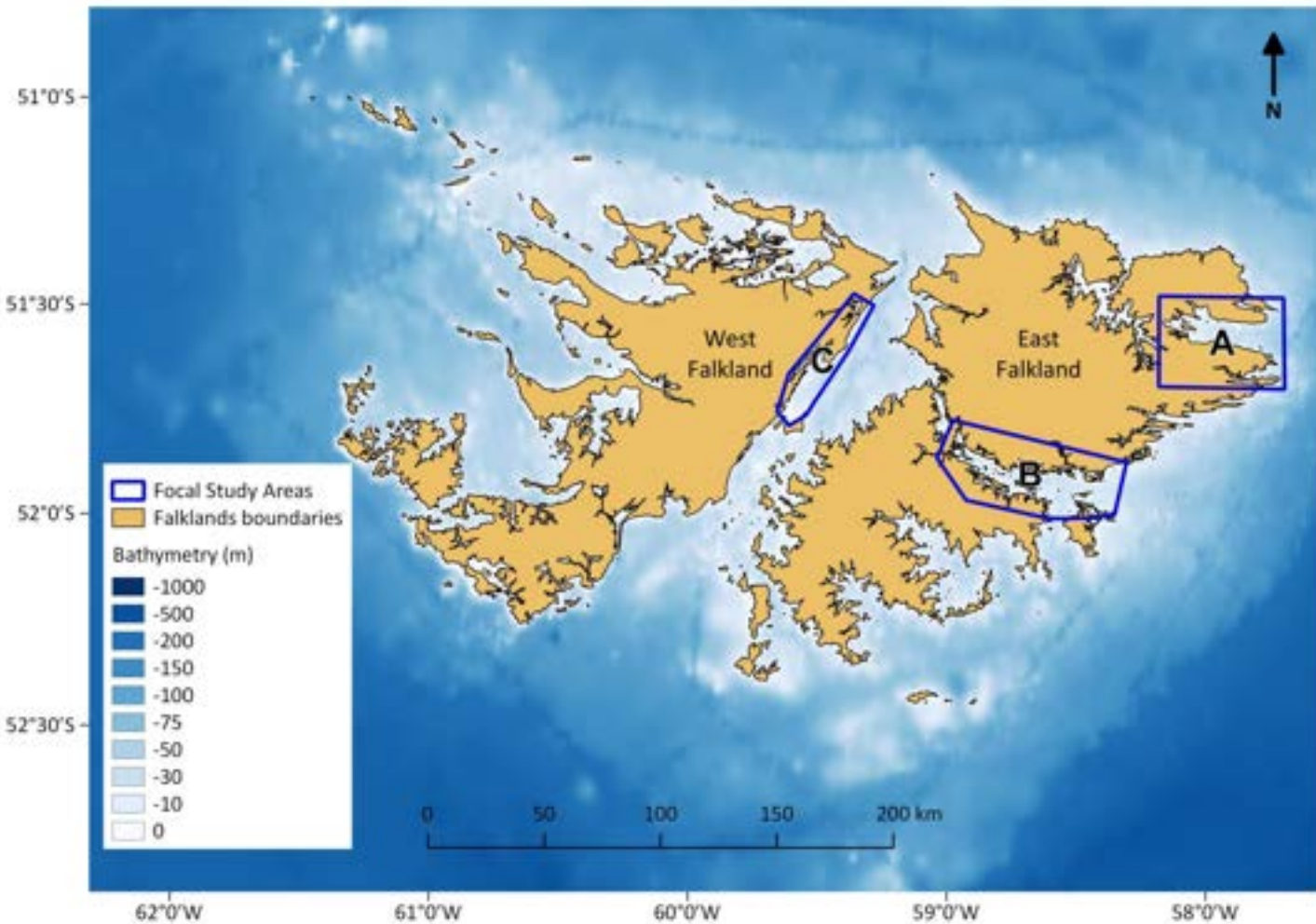
Using this technique, it is possible to estimate the **number of animals** in a population, monitor their **movements** and learn about their **social structure**

SAERI has been using photo ID to study the **Peale's** and **Commerson's** dolphins in the **Falklands** establishing the first catalogue for both species

Individual distinctiveness

| Code | Description | Example |
|---|--|---|
| <p align="center">HM (highly marked)</p> | <p>D1: very distinctive; features evident even in distant or poor quality pictures</p> | <p>Deformed Mutilated Big chunk missing Tip missing 1+ notch 2+ nicks</p> |
| | <p>D2: distinctive; average amount of information content</p> | <p>1 nick and 1+ small nicks 4+ small nicks Peculiar shape</p> |
| <p align="center">LM (low marked)</p> | <p>D3: distinctive, little amount of information</p> | <p>1 nick only 3 small nicks</p> |
| <p align="center">NID (non Identifiable)</p> | <p>D4: very little/no information</p> | <p>1-2 small nicks Clean fin</p> |

Area A/B



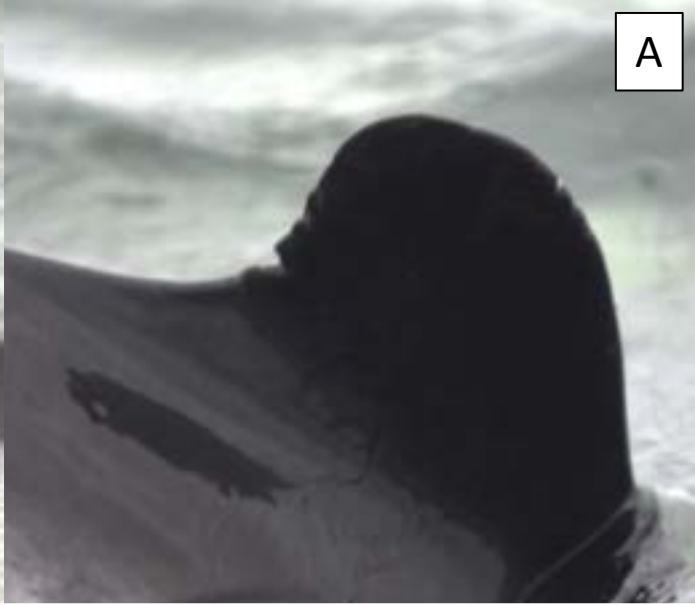
- A. Port Stanley – Port Williams – Berkeley Sound (East Falkland)
- B. Choiseul Sound (East Falkland)
- C. Port Howard – Swan Island – Many Branch (West Falkland)

**HIGHLY
MARKED**

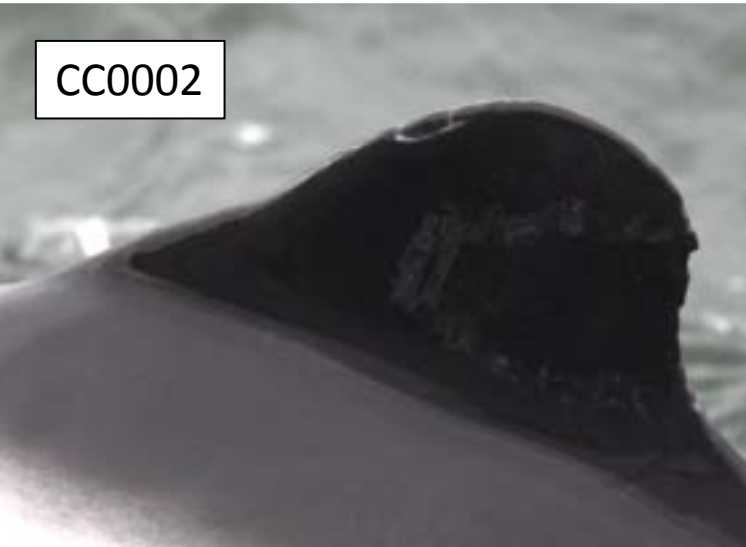
CC0001



A



CC0002



A



CC0003



A

CC0007



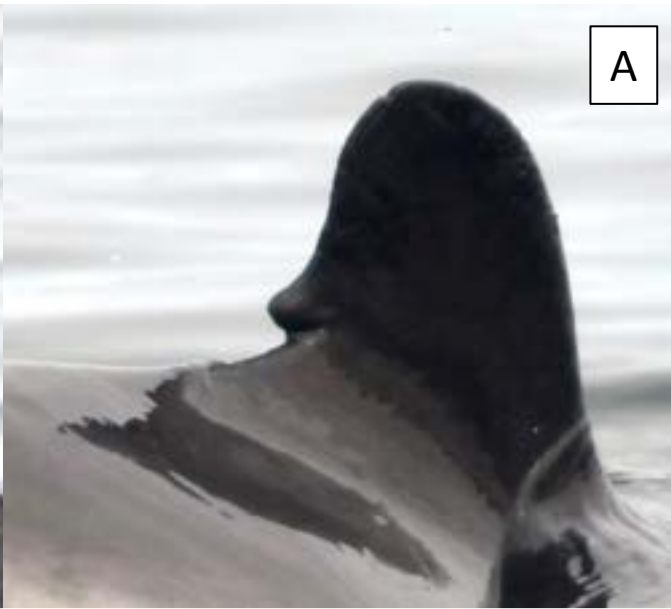
A



CC0008



A



CC0009



A

CC0013



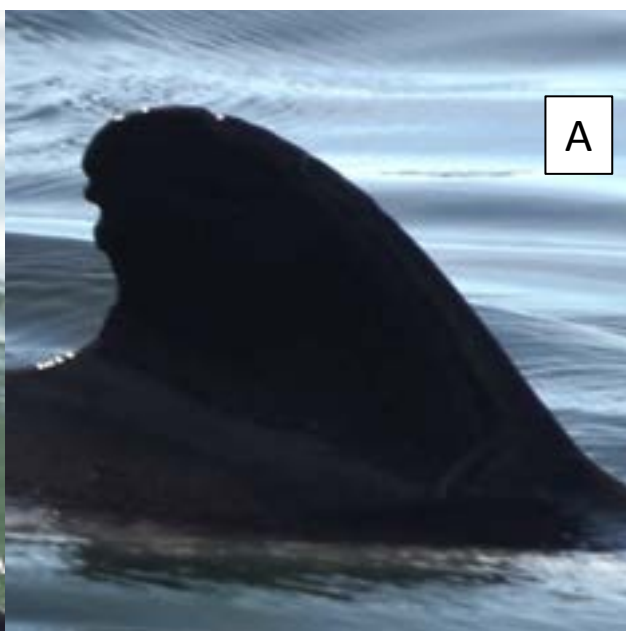
A



CC0014



A



CC0015



A



CC0017



A



CC0078



A



CC0019



A



CC0022



A



CC0023



A



CC0025



A



CC0026



A



CC0034



A



CC0031



A



CC0035



B



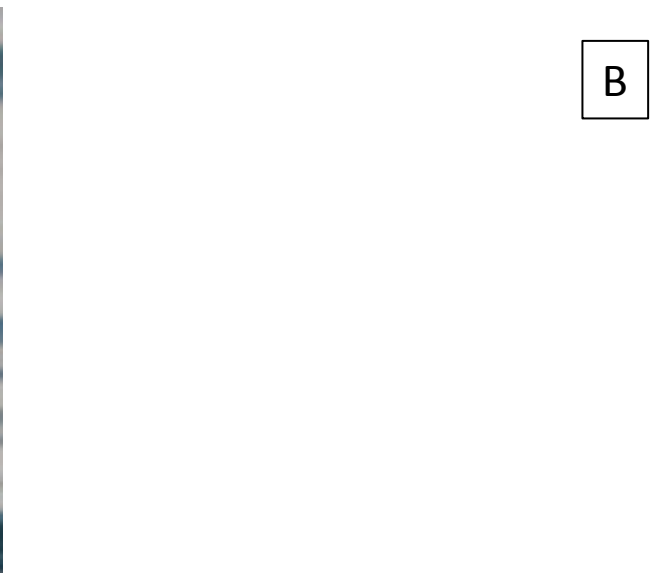
CC0040



B



CC0041



B





CC0050



B



CC0053



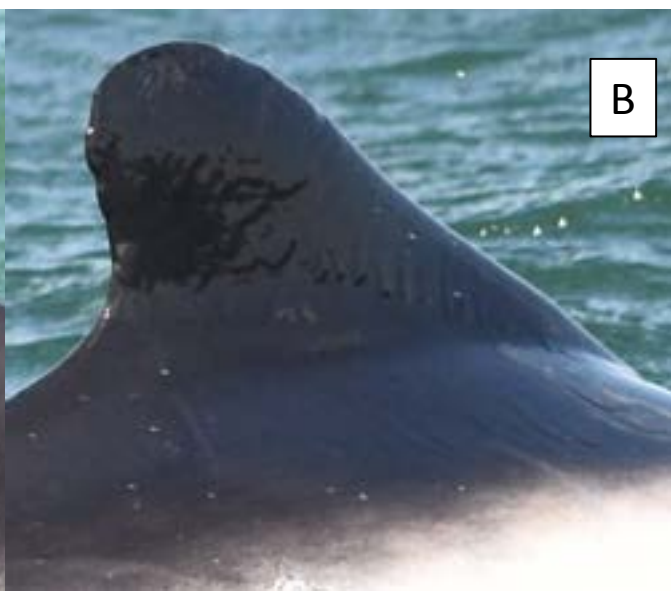
B



CC0056



B



CC0075



B



CC0076



B



CC0077



B



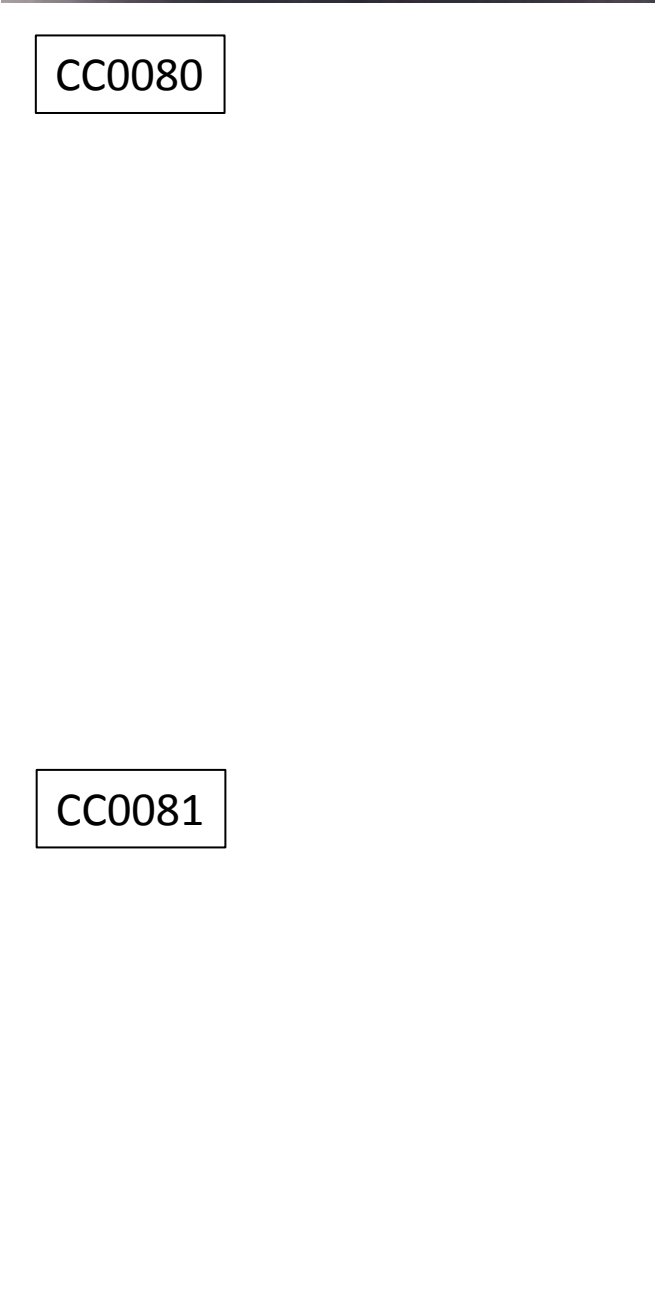
CC0079



B



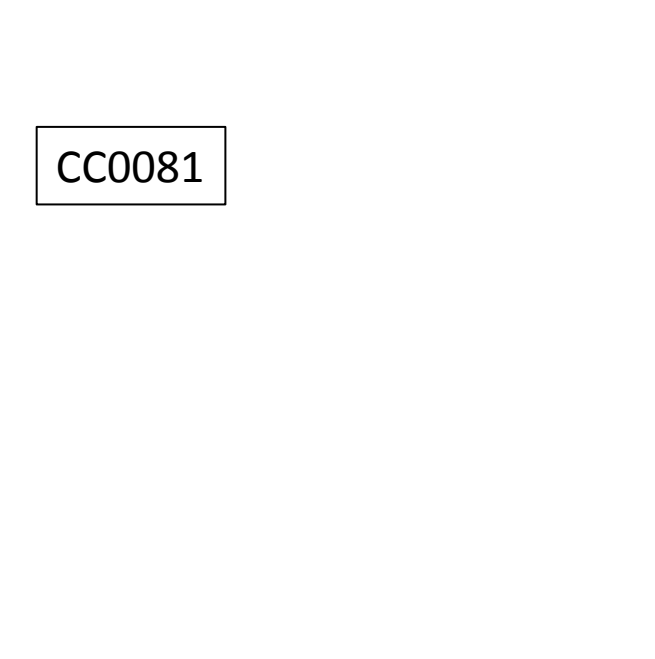
CC0080



B



CC0081



B



**LOW
MARKED**

CC0032



A



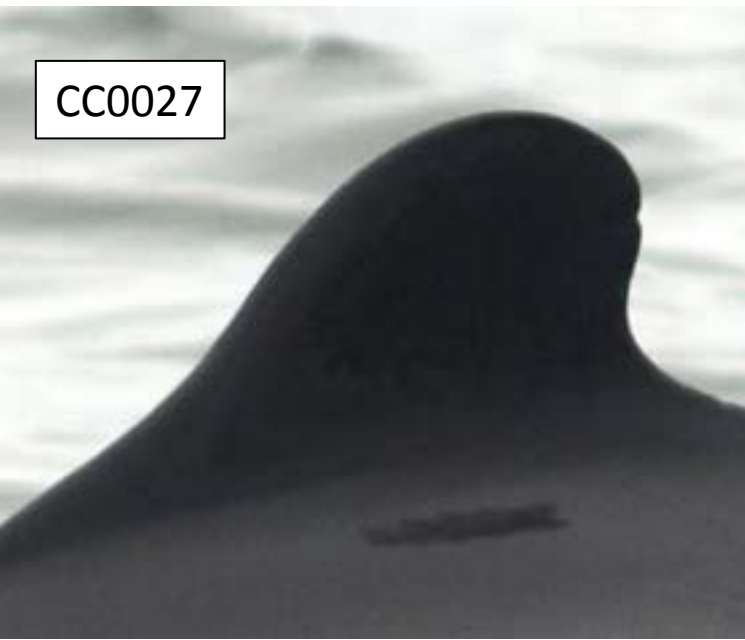
CC0018



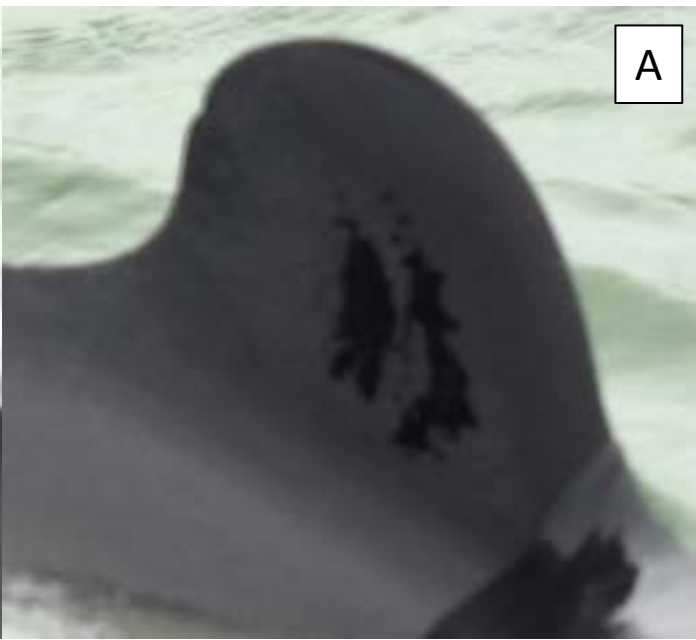
A



CC0027



A



CC0033



A



CC0037



B



CC0038



B



CC0039

B



CC0045

B



CC0042

B



CC0046



B



CC0047



B

CC0055



B



CC0066



B



CC0068



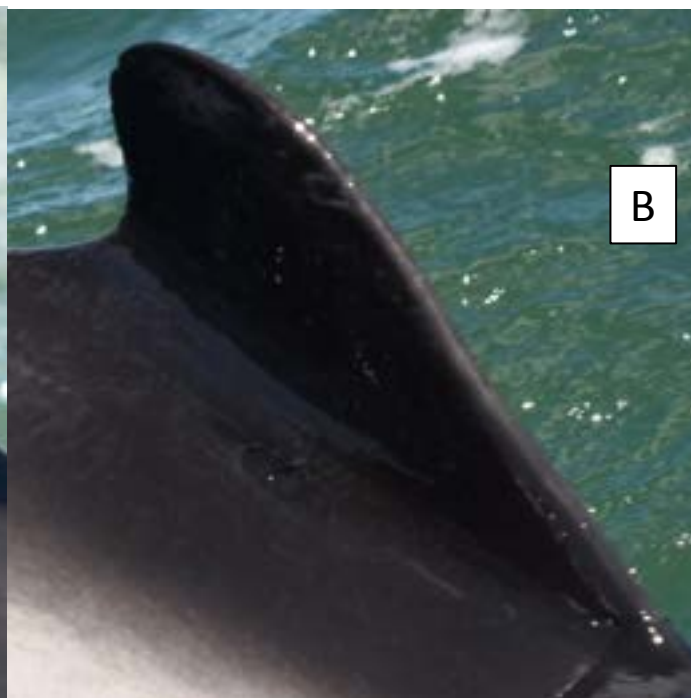
B



CC0071



B



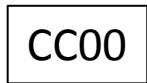
CC0073



B



CC00



B

CC00



B

You can help

We are interested in obtaining pictures of dolphins which might be suitable for photo-identification.

If you have a reasonable SLR camera and lens you could contribute to the research in the Falklands Islands, by sending your images to:

mcosta@env.institute.ac.fk

Or bringing them to the SAERI office (Ross Road west).

Useful Photo ID tips

- 1) Try to **focus** on the dorsal fin
- 2) Picture of the dorsal fin should be **parallel** to the photographer
- 3) Try to photograph **both** the **left** and **right** sides of the dorsal fin
- 4) Try to photograph **all individuals** in the group
- 5) Note down **date, time, location** and group **size** of the encounter



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Co-funders organizations



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for some of the pictures used in the catalogue

Thank you!

