

SIGHTING RECORDS OF FRASER'S DOLPHIN IN THE MEXICAN PACIFIC WATERS

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Lagenodelphis hosei Fraser, 1956 is distributed in the tropical and temperate waters of the Pacific, Atlantic and Indian Oceans (Perrin, Best, Dawbin, Balcomb, Gambell and Ross, 1973; Tobayama, Nishiwaki and Yang, 1973; Miyazaki and Wada, 1978; Leatherwood, Reeves, Perrin and Evans, 1982; Caldwell, Caldwell and Walker, 1976; Hersh and Odell, 1983).

We report here two additional sighting records of this species in the waters of the Archipelago of Revillagigedo, Mexico (Fig. 1).

The first was a group of 20 animals sighted by one of us (AAL), on July 3, 1981, at 19°47'N, 110°42'W, 54 km off the nearest coast. The robust body, short snout, semifalcate dorsal fin, small flippers and lateral stripe were

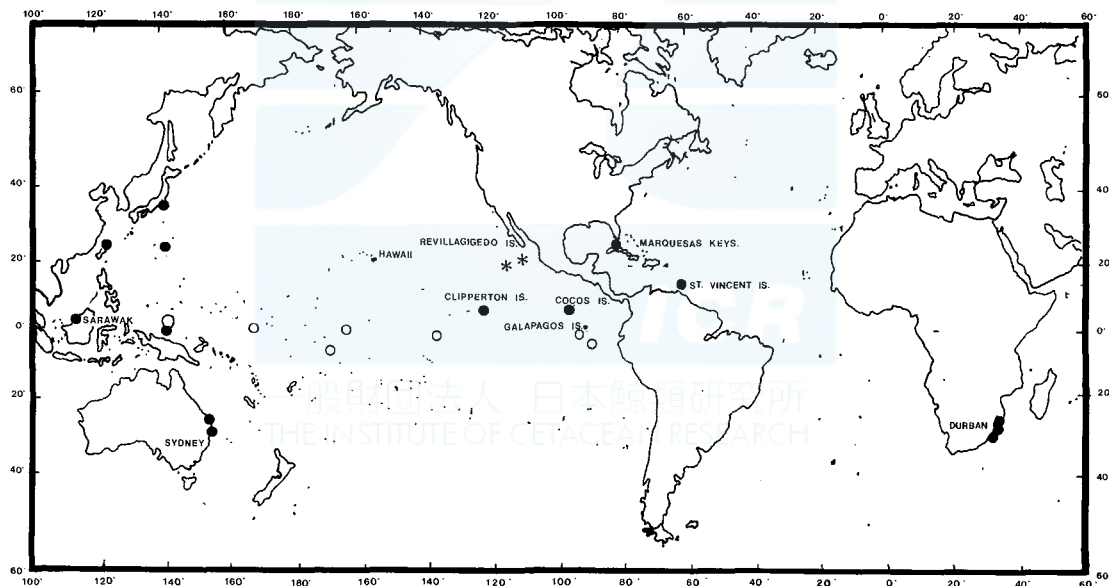


Fig. 1. Records of occurrence of *Lagenodelphis hosei*. Black circles are strandings or captures and white circles are sightings in the published records. Asterisks represent present records.

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observed. The surface water temperature was 26°C, and the water depth was over 1,000 m.

The second was a group of 3 animals sighted by us on January 18, 1985, at 18°24'N, 114°23'W, 27 km off the nearest coast. The species was identified based on the same characteristics as of the first sighting. The surface water temperature was 25°C, and the water depth there was 3,100 meters.

These sightings represent the most boreal records of this species in the eastern Tropical Pacific.

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