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CETACEANS STRANDED ON THE GALICIAN COAST (NORTHWEST SPAIN) IN 1990

by

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Résumé

On rapporte ici les cétacés échoués dans la côte de Galice après une partielle couverture de la même autant temporel comme géographique. 48 individus ont été signalés pendant 1990. Les espèces observées sont les suivantes: *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*, *Ziphius cavirostris*, *Physeter macrocephalus*, *Phocoena phocoena*, *Delphinus delphis*, *Stenella coeruleoalba*, *Tursiops truncatus*, *Globicephala* sp.

Summary

A report on the stranded marine mammals on the Galician coast is given here based on a partial geographical and temporal coverage. 48 individuals were recorded throughout 1990. The species involved were *Balaenoptera acutorostrata*, *Ziphius cavirostris*, *Physeter macrocephalus*, *Phocoena phocoena*, *Delphinus delphis*, *Stenella coeruleoalba*, *Tursiops truncatus*, *Globicephala* sp.

Introduction

The Galician coast with an extension of 1.720 Km. and situated in the Northwest atlantic coast of the Iberian Peninsula is probably an important area for cetacean strandings.

Although there is no organised stranding network, a considerable amount of coast watching is carried out by individuals and naturalist organizations in Galicia. 47 strandings with 48 animals are reported here for the year 1990.

The irregular geographical distribution of the strandings shown in fig. 1 is due to a partial survey of the groups recording animal strandings along the different parts of the coast.

List of observations

MYSTICETI

Balaenoptera acutorostrata

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
01.12.90	5 m	?	Cedeira	Net entanglement. Stranded.

ODONTOCETI

Ziphius cavirostris

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
09.02.90	5.1 m	♂	O Grove	
12.10.90	?	?	Camariñas	

Physeter macrocephalus

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
02.08.90	11 m	♂	Laxe	Incomplete measurement. Head absent.

Phocoena phocoena

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
04.02.90	1.45m	?	Cangas	
19.02.90	?	?	Sanxenxo	
27.02.90	?	?	Ezaro	
04.03.90	1.4 m	♀	Poio	
26.03.90	?	?	O Grove	
01.04.90	?	?	I. Ons	
13.04.90	?	?	I. Cíes	
25.06.90	1.4 m	?	Riveira	
01.07.90	?	?	Fisterra	
08.08.90	1.60m	?	Pto. do Son	

Delphinus delphis

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
28.01.90	1.15m	?	Baiona	
03.02.90	?	♂	Oia	
11.03.90	2.05m	?	Sanxenxo	Incomplete measurement. Caudal fin absent.
25.03.90	?	?	Muros	
31.03.90	1.05m	?	O Grove	
14.09.90	?	?	I. Arousa	
12.10.90	1.8 m	?	Camariñas	Approximate measurement.
24.11.90	2.2 m	♂	Laxe	
23.12.90	1.35m	♂	O Grove	

Stenella coeruleoalba

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
28.01.90	?	?	Nigrán	Caudal fin absent.
02.06.90	1.60m	?	Riveira	
02.06.90	2.15m	♀	Vigo	
18.06.90	1.60m	♂	O Grove	Live stranding.
29.12.90	1.65m	♀	Redondela	Live stranding.

Tursiops truncatus

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
12.02.90	?	?	O Grove	
15.02.90	?	?	Cangas	Caudal fin absent.
12.04.90	1.75m	?	Riveira	
01.05.90	?	?	Pto. do Son	Live stranding.
05.06.90	2.9 m	?	Bueu	
25.08.90	2 m	?	Fisterra	Incomplete measurement. Head absent.
01.09.90	?	?	Pto. do Son	
04.11.90	2.60m	?	Pto. do Son	
30.12.90	?	?	Camariñas	Caudal fin absent.
31.12.90	?	?	Muros	

Globicephala sp.

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
10.06.90	?	?	I. Sálvora	

Unidentified

Date	Length	Sex	Place	Observations
12.02.90	?	?	O Grove	2 animals.
12.02.90	?	?	O Grove	
11.03.90	?	?	Riveira	
13.03.90	1.8 m	?	Sanxenxo	Incomplete measurement. Caudal fin and part of the head absent.
13.03.90	?	♂	I. Cíes	
15.04.90	?	?	Oia	
01.09.90	?	?	Mañon	
04.10.90	4 m	?	Moaña	Live stranding. Rescued.

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Fig. 1. Localization of the strandings.



☆ *B. acutorostrata*

○ *Z. cavirostris*

★ *Ph. macrocephalus*

■ *Ph. phocoena*

▲ *D. delphis*

△ *St. coeruleoalba*

● *T. truncatus*

* *Globicephala* sp.

□ Unidentified