

Project Update: July 2013

Between June 27th and July 30th 2013 we completed 13 boat trips totalling 97 hours and 850 km in Tribugá's Gulf. We observed 50 groups and 103 whales. Adults formed 80% of groups, while juveniles were sighted only in 10% of groups. Five pairs of mother and calf have been registered, escorted by another whale on two occasions. Maximum group size was 11 when two groups joined to form a competitive group, but the average group size is two whales. We have recorded song on 18 occasions totalling 5hr 30min. We have assisted the local community with two strandings, one of a bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) and one of a striped dolphin (*Stenella coeruleoalba*).

Environmental education activities are still ongoing in Coquí, and English and cetacean education classes started in Joví and Termales with the help of BIOREDD. For the past 3 weeks we have begun training the eco-guides from Coquí in cetacean research and responsible whale watching.

