

Project Update: June 2013

Between May 24th and June 26th 2013 we completed 10 boat trips in waters of Tribugá's Gulf. A total of eight groups and 23 whales have been observed. On two separate occasions, whales have been sighted in association with either bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) or rough tooth dolphins (*Steno bredanensis*). Whale group composition includes: two instances of single juveniles displaying surface active behaviors, a mother and calf pair, a competitive group, and three adult groups. No singer has been observed, but partial song was recorded at distance, and social sounds were documented in the competitive group. The ongoing environmental education activities include: identification of marine mammal species, responsible whale watching, English, computers, agro-ecology and proposal writing. Target audiences for those activities include school children, touristic guides, community leaders and fishermen from Coquí. A recent agreement with BIODER, a local NGO will facilitate replication of these activities in two other localities of Tribugá's Gulf.