

ANALYSIS OF THE POPULATION STRUCTURE OF THE ROUGH-TOOTHED DOLPHIN (*Steno bredanensis*) IN THE CANARY ARCHIPELAGO

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The rough-toothed dolphin (*Steno bredanensis*) is distributed in warm and tropical oceanic Waters. Its distribution being associated in some points with oceanic islands, such as the Canary Islands. we have little information about relevant aspects of its biology and ecology. The species is listed as Least Concern (LC) by the IUCN. The first case of massive acute mortality in this species due to brevetoxins in Europe was recorded in the archipelago.



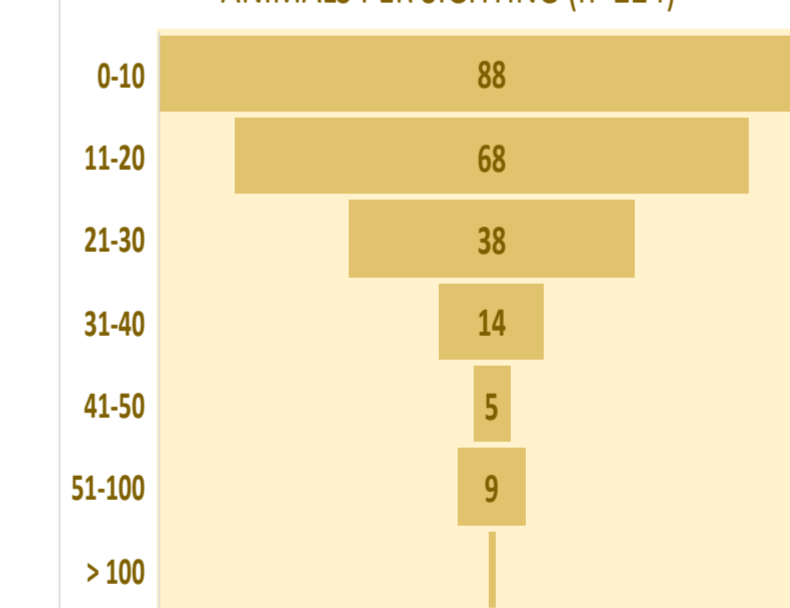
Objective

To analyze the population structure of the species in the Canary Islands through spatial analysis and photo-identification

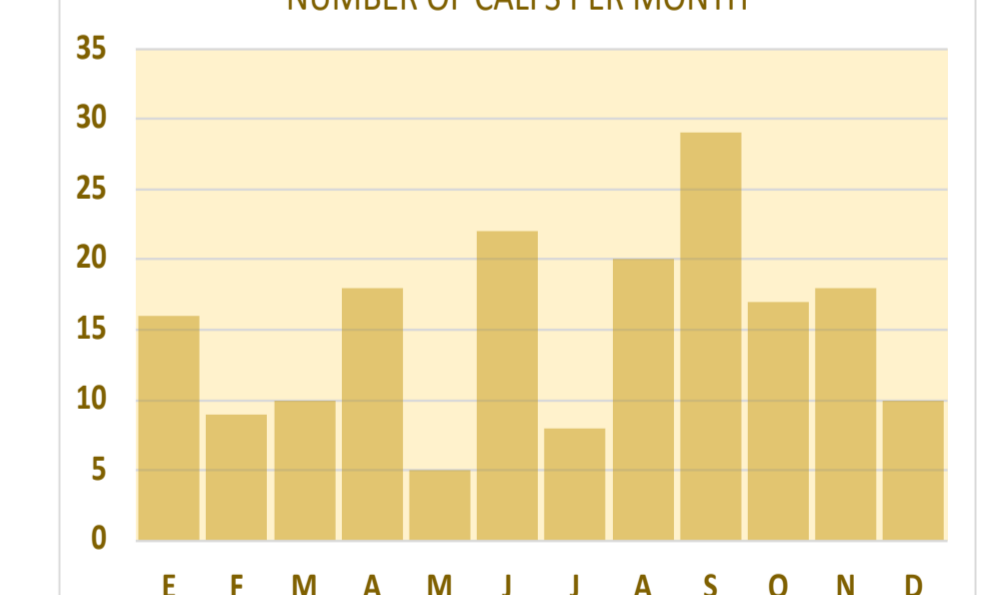
SIGHTINGS BY MONTH (n=227)



ANIMALS PER SIGHTING (n=224)



NUMBER OF CALFS PER MONTH



Conclusions

- 366 sightings made between 1995 and 2019 on all islands.
- The species can be seen regularly throughout the year, but with greater frequency between the months of March and August.
- Group size ranged from 1 to 150 individuals with a mean of 19.2 (n=332, range:1-85) for groups of less than 100 individuals.
- Calf and neonates were present in most of the groups observed between June and October..
- 725 individuals were identified on the right side and 726 on the left side
- This study revealed a prolonged residence (up to 8 years) in the region, variable fidelity to the area depending on the groups and islands, and the movement of individuals between islands.