WINTER 2014

NOTES FROM THE FIELD

WILD DOLPHIN PROJECT

SUMMER 2013 – NEW ENGINES AND A NEW FIELD SITE FOR SOME DOLPHINS!!

This summer marked our 29th field season in the Bahamas studying the Atlantic spotted dolphins. This year we had a bit of a late start since our boat was still in the boat yard getting its new engines installed. As you will see in this newsletter our cleaner and greener engines were a blessing and we thank all of you for your support in this process. And a BIG thank you to our own Captain Peter Roberts, who struggled through a very long winter and jumped right into the field season with our new *R/V Stenella*.

Although it was a windy summer we had another record calving season for the spotted dolphins. And as many of you know there were no hurricanes or even hurricane threats to speak of this year. Adding to a strange weather summer we have had, for the first time in almost 30 years, a major physical move by our resident dolphins, some moving as far as 100 miles away from their normal area. We suspect that climate change is the culprit, or perhaps an unseen effect of the BP oil spill, but a major effect on the food change seems to be in process, including the deep water prey species of the spotted dolphins. We will need to see throughout the year whether the dolphins, and the fish, return to their normal area. We will be trying to monitor this change this winter with occasional trips out to the Bahamas.

This was also our third field season with our successful internship program. We've shared some excerpts from our interns and their experiences for you to read. A big thank you to the Donald Slavik Family Foundation who has stepped up to support and supplement this program since its inception to help in the training of young scientists.

This fall we also welcome Bethany Augliere as our new Research Assistant at the Wild Dolphin Project. Fearless and intrepid in the water, Bethany did her masters with us studying the home range and distribution of the spotted dolphins. Please see the article describing her work in the fall 2012 newsletter. (*http://www.wilddolphinproject.org/research/library*)

This summer we also hosted a couple collegial trips, with Dr. Adam Pack, Dr. Matthias Hoffmann-Kuhnt, and Dr. Fabienne Delfour, all out to help with our new two-way communication project. Aboard with them was part of our team from Georgia Tech in Atlanta including Dr. Thad Starner. We finally had a chance to try our computer system in the water with the dolphins. If you would like to get a sneak peak of what this work is all about, check out my TED talk online (*http://www.ted.com/talks/denise herzing could we speak the language of dolphins.html*). We are still working on the results to share so stand by. We also hosted National Geographic Magazine for a story on dolphin intelligence, scheduled for early 2015.

Remember to check our website for updates for both our internship program and summer field schedule for 2014, also listed in this newsletter.

And as a special thank you to all our new and returning members WDP will now be including a copy of our own book "The Wild Dolphin Project" with each membership. Our way of saying thanks!

We remain committed to following the lives of this incredible community of wild dolphins and telling their story through science and public education.

Dr. Denise Herzing
Founder and Research Director
Wild Dolphin Project

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MANTAS, WHALESHARKS, PANTROPICAL DOLPHINS ... OH MY!!

This year was full of exciting encounters with some rare marine creatures! For the first time in 29 YEARS we saw a whale shark (*Rhincodon typus*) on the bank! Whale sharks are the largest sharks in the ocean, but fortunately for us they are relatively slow-moving and feed on microscopic plankton. As filter feeders they scoop up tiny plants and animals with their giant gaping mouths as they swim along the surface. While whale sharks can reach lengths of up to 46ft, the shark we spotted on the bank was a juvenile between 20-25ft (yet still a large presence in the water). Interestingly, researchers track and identify whale sharks through their spot patterns, using the area behind their gills. As a species listed as vulnerable to extinction, this kind of database is invaluable to researchers. We watched and followed the shark as it slowly cruised in a shallow region of the study area, before it disappeared into deeper water. We also had glimpses of the more intimidating species on the bank, including tiger sharks, lemon and reef sharks, and a great hammerhead.

While crossing the deep water of the Providence Channel on the way to Bimini we came across a large group of pantropical spotted dolphins (*Stenella attenuata*). Similar to the Atlantic spotted dolphins of our study, Pantropical dolphins are members of the *Stenella* genus. They are found in deep waters in tropical and subtropical waters around the world. Pantropical spotted dolphins associate with tuna, and prior to the Marine Mammal Protection Act suffered huge losses due to fishing with purse seine nets. We have seen these dolphins in prior years on occasion while crossing the Gulf Stream. After watching them ride the bow, we entered the water for further observation. Pantropical dolphins are slightly more skittish in the water

compared to spotted dolphins, however we did manage to record both acoustics and behavior.

After getting out of the water with the pantropical dolphins, Captain Pete noticed a dark shape in the water behind us. Slowly, the shape of a manta ray (*Manta birostris*) was revealed as the wing tips extended beyond the surface of the water. Manta rays are members of the Eagle Ray family, along with the more commonly seen spotted eagle ray. Sightings of whale sharks and manta rays are certainly not common, making this summer on the *R/V Stenella* a very special one!

Bethany Augliere, *M.Sc. Research Assistant*

TWO BOOKS AVAILABLE BY DR. HERZING

Purchase both for $40

Books can be signed by Dr. Herzing upon request. Please visit the Ship Store on our website, or contact our office by phone or email.

NEW WDP LONG SLEEVE T-SHIRTS AVAILABLE!

Our NEW long sleeve t-shirts make the perfect holiday gift for friends and family! Visit our Ship Store on our website to purchase them.

WDP NOW ACCEPTS AMERICAN EXPRESS!

You can now purchase WDP merchandise using your American Express! Visit our Square website at www.squareup.com/market/wild-dolphin-project-inc to purchase any of our merchandise! Check it out!

2013 INTERNSHIPS: ANOTHER AWESOME SUMMER!

This year marked our 3rd year of the Wild Dolphin Project's internship program to study the Atlantic spotted dolphins in the Bahamas. We had interns from Tennessee, Ohio, California, Switzerland, and France this year and they were all excited to set sail and be aboard *R/V Stenella* for 10 days. Our interns spent their time during the day looking for and observing the dolphins. Each intern participated in daily dolphin watches from our 62-foot research vessel. Interns spent the evening hours going over any footage that was captured that day, learning how to document each encounter and how to identify each dolphin. They also listened to lectures on dolphin identification, biology, behavior, and acoustics either in the evenings or during the day depending on the weather.

Here are some comments from our interns this year:

Tess Deegan from Tennessee said, "I was really nervous for my time as an intern on *Stenella*. Ten days on a boat with people I didn't know, who probably knew more about dolphins and research in general than I did as a high school student. The reality of my trip was that every single person on that boat was welcoming and completely unintimidating and really wanted to help. Although we were not able to spend the whole ten days in the Bahamas, the whole team at The Wild Dolphin Project worked extremely hard to make our time on land in Florida enjoyable and productive. We were able to help organize old identification sheets, which really helped us learn a few of the dolphins before we got out in the water with them which I thought was a huge advantage, as well as look at power points with Dr. Herzing, ensuring that there was never a dull moment. When we finally made it to the Bahamas, we had some trouble finding spotted dolphins at first, but in the end it was worth the wait. On the last day as we headed back to go through customs, three mothers and their calves swam by and stuck around to let us say hello. I can honestly say that it was a life changing experience, and I cannot wait to get back out there next year!"

Jessica Villiger from Switzerland said, "My 10 days as an intern on Stenella went by too fast. I wished I could have stayed a couple of more days with the crew and the dolphins. On our trip we saw so many

dolphins with their newborns, which was amazing. I learned a lot about dolphin behavior, which made the encounters even more fun. On some encounters there were so many spotted dolphins I didn't know where to look. To swim with the dolphins in the most beautiful water, which I have never seen, was definitely one of the best experiences I have ever had. We occasionally saw sharks at places where we anchored for the night. It was the first time in my life that I had ever been so close to a shark. My roommate expected me to freak out, but I just enjoyed the moment. Another highlight of my trip were the dinners under a sky full of bright stars and shooting stars ... and the self-caught fish tasted amazing!"

We hope that all of our interns this year took away a sense of what it takes to live at sea, to perform field-work, and the details of science needed to successfully study dolphins in the wild. We look forward to the 2014 season, our 30th year in the field!

TENTATIVE SUMMER 2014 FIELD SCHEDULE: May through September

This is the tentative schedule for the 2014 Summer Field Season. Please check our website at www.wilddolphinproject.org under "Field Work" for updates and more details on internship and participant spots.

TRIP 1	MAY 13 - 22
TRIP 2	MAY 27 - JUNE 5
TRIP 3	JUNE 10 - 19
TRIP 4	JUNE 24 - JULY 3
TRIP 5	JULY 8 - 17
TRIP 6	JULY 22 - 31
TRIP 7	AUGUST 5 - 14
TRIP 8	AUGUST 19 - 28
TRIP 9	SEPTEMBER 2 - 11

R/V STENELLA BOAT REPOWER ... WE DID IT!

We wanted to give you a brief update from this summer and our new engines. As you know we repowered *R/V Stenella* with new cleaner and greener engines this winter. Although we were waylaid in the boat yard longer than expected, we completed our repower at the end of May. After being in the field all summer, we can tell you that it has made an amazing difference. The engines are quiet (it sounds like Denise's Prius ... you hardly hear them warming up), there is hardly any exhaust and pollution (good for people, dolphins, and the environment), and our fuel efficiency is much improved. We are still tweaking the propellers for the best design and fit, but all in all it's been a great change.

Our boat captain had a few words to say in regard to the engine repower process:

The repower of R/V Stenella involved removing the old Detroit diesel engines, cutting out the old engine beds, the new beds were designed and installed, and the new engines are 2,000 lbs lighter, four stroke, slightly less horse power, and are combined with a new wet exhaust system. They are much quieter when operating. The transmissions are equipped with trolling gears for operating at very slow speeds continuously, such as encounters with slow moving dolphins and maneuvering with people and dolphins in the water. Our fuel burn is averaging 10 gallons an hour at 8 knots, which is our cruising speed. Our top speed is 13 knots, burning 28 gallons an hour, which is averaging better than the old Detroit engines.

As part of the repower, the generators were replaced after 15 years and over 15,000 hours. Stenella is now good for another 20 years.

I would like to take the time to thank Mark & Dale at Cummings Marine for all of their help in selecting and installing the main engines, Tommy Tubbs for his hard work installing the engines and generators, Captain Mark Rose and Johnny Bates for their insight and suggestions on dealing with old aluminum boats, all of the staff at Seminole Marine for all of their help, Mario at Lawrence Marine Services for all of his top notch welding and moving things along, and Jonathan Rose for his help in the boat yard and throughout the field season. I would also like to thank everyone that donated towards the capital campaign in order for this to happen and everyone that worked hard on the boat in order to get it out of the boat yard in time for the field season.

R/V Stenella is a great boat and thanks again to everyone that keeps her floating!"

- Captain Pete

WDP WISH LIST

BELOW IS A LIST OF PRODUCTS NEEDED TO HELP MAINTAIN AND UPDATE OUR RESEARCH VESSEL STENELLA & THE OFFICE:

OFFICE EQUIPMENT

- Mac Computers - 4 @2500 each
- Video Storage System - 6 G-RAID 8TB system - @$720 each
- 40" flat screen television - $600
- Unused Airline Miles for student/researcher conference travel

FIELD EQUIPMENT - RESEARCH

- Go Pros - 3 @ $300
- Mobile Storage Devices for Boat - 3 - 2 TB GDrives @$250 each
- New Surface Camera and Lens - $2500
- New Underwater Video Camera - $1600
- New Underwater Housing for Video - $2500

RESEARCH VESSEL STENELLA EQUIPMENT

- Dingy paddles - $100
- Anchor & chain (new or used) - $200
- 600 ft spool/J inch nylon anchor line - $500
- Carpet for the boat - $500
- Autopilot - $1500
- G.P.S. unit with weather by Sirius/XM Radio Service - $1600
- Cosmetic work on boat - Labor $2000

If you have a product that you would like to donate, please contact our field office at 561-575-5660 or by email at info@wilddolphinproject.org.

WDP FEATURED ON THE EXTRAORDINARY CHARITIES WEBSITE & DIRECTORY

The Wild Dolphin Project is proud to be a new organization profiled in the 2014 directory of Extraordinary Charities, *http://www.extraordinarycharities.org/wild-dolphin*. Extraordinary Charities is an organization dedicated to highlighting small non-profits in the Palm Beach area to increase philanthropic giving.

2013 WDP ART EXHIBITION HOSTED BY BLUE WATER EDITIONS

In March 2013, Blue Water Editions hosted a three-week art exhibition featuring Atlantic spotted dolphin photos and artwork printed on various substrates such as glass, wood, and metal. The artwork was donated from well-known photographers Ruth Petzold, Chris Traughber, Lisa Keeney, Mike Bacon, Tanya Burnett, and glass artist Patricia Weyer. Don Mader & Blue Water Editions graciously donated the printing of the artwork for the Art Exhibition. Proceeds from the purchase of artwork was donated to the Wild Dolphin Project to help us continue our research on the Atlantic spotted dolphins in the Bahamas. The entire exhibition was a huge success and it raised funds and created awareness about the Wild Dolphin Project and Blue Water Editions.

We want to send a HUGE thank you to Don Mader and his staff (Malia Schramm, Jason Leonard, Heather Meyers, and Kevin Noley) at Blue Water Editions for donating their time, printing of the artwork, and hosting the opening night event. If you want to learn more information about Blue Water Editions, visit their website at *www.bluewatereditions.com*.

MAGNIFY THE BENEFIT FROM YOUR CHARITABLE GIVING! CONSIDER MAKING A STOCK CONTRIBUTION FOR 2013

Article By: Axel Stepan, Community Advisory Board, WDP

With the recent stock market performance, many investors are holding on to significant unrealized investment gains that will be taxed at 20% upon the sale of those investments. If you are planning to make a contribution to The Wild Dolphin Project, consider donating appreciated stock from your investment portfolio instead of cash. The use of this tax planning strategy, which will magnify the benefit to you as well as the beneficiaries of your generosity, can be utilized for any amount, large or small. Feel free to contact us for more details.

How it Works:

The general rule that applies is that the donor of an asset is allowed to take a tax deduction for a charitable donation equal to the fair market value of the donated asset, provided he has owned the asset for at least one year. If the donated asset has appreciated in value since the purchase, the donor does not have to recognize the gain on the donated asset, effectively allowing the donor to avoid the taxes they would otherwise be required to pay on the gain upon the sale of the asset.

What this means for you is that you will be able to "double-dip" on the tax benefits of your donation through: (i) a regular charitable deduction on the full value of the donated asset and (ii) avoiding the capital gains tax on the appreciation of the donated property.

This is probably best illustrated through the following example:

Several years ago, Mr. Cash and Mr. Stock each bought $5,000 worth of ABC Corp shares. Over the years, ABC Corp's stock price has risen dramatically and their investments in the company are now worth $20,000 giving each investor a $15,000 gain.

Both Mr. Cash and Mr. Stock decide to donate the proceeds from their investments to their favorite charitable causes. While Mr. Cash chooses an organization that can only accept cash donations, Mr. Stock has chosen to donate to The Wild Dolphin Project, which has made arrangements with their financial institution to allow for the direct transfer of marketable securities such as ABC Corp stock.

In order to make the donation, Mr. Cash sells his investment and donates the cash proceeds while Mr. Stock assigns his shares to The Wild Dolphin Project. Here's a look at the numbers:

	Mr. Cash		Mr. Stock	
Initial Investment in ABC Corp.	$5,000		$5,000	
Current Value of ABC Stock	$20,000		$20,000	
Proceeds from Sale of ABC Stock	$20,000			
Taxable Gain on Sale	$15,000			
Tax on Gain (20% Tax Rate)	$3,000			
Cash Remaining after Tax	$17,000			
Value of Donation	$17,000	Cash	$20,000	Stock
Tax Benefits to Donor:				
From Donation (28% of Donation)	$4,760		$5,600	
No Sale = No Capital Gains Tax	$0		$3,000	
Total Tax Savings	$4,760		$8,600	

Who benefits from a stock donation vs. a cash donation?

Everybody except for Uncle Sam! The charitable organization gets an additional $3,000 in value while Mr. Stock gets an additional $3,840 in tax benefits, assuming a 28% tax bracket. This widely used tax planning strategy helps lower your taxes in 2013 while providing greater benefit to the organizations you support.

Note: The above example is meant for illustrative purposes only. Each investor's scenario may vary materially. Please consult your tax advisor to evaluate your tax situation and how a stock donation may fit within your estate and tax plan.

How Do I Donate Stock?

You just need to request the donation from your brokerage firm and ask them to deliver the stock via DTC. Call Wild Dolphin Project at 561-575-5660 for the Morgan Stanley DTC number and our account number.

If your shares are being moved within the Morgan Stanley group, email the Wild Dolphin Project at info@wilddolphinproject.org and we will email a PDF form and then you can authorize a one-time internal securities journal. You can also visit our website under the "More Ways To Give" tab to download the form.

Our staff at the research office can give you the correct account number for a stock donation to support the Wild Dolphin Project (561)575-5660, info@wilddolphinproject.org. All donations are tax-deductible as allowed by law.

THE WILD DOLPHIN PROJECT

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MORE WAYS TO HELP WDP

STOCK DONATIONS

Stocks donations are a great end of the year gift!! Remember you can donate stock to WDP at any time. Check with your tax advisor to see if you can benefit from this tax deductible donation. Visit our website under "More Ways To Donate" for more information.

WORKPLACE GIVING

Thank you to everyone that has supported the Wild Dolphin Project through workplace giving like Earthshare from 2012-2013!

ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP

Please see the back page of this Newsletter for information about suggested Individual and Corporate Membership levels.

Use your everyday web browsing to support your favorite charity! Go to GoodSearch.com and download the GoodSearch toolbar. Click "Who Do You GoodSearch For?" and designate The Wild Dolphin Project (Jupiter, Florida). As you shop, you will see what percentage of your potential purchase may be a donation to WDP.

IN-KIND GIFTS

Don Mader and Blue Water Editions/Southeastern Printing for production of the newsletter, printing of artwork for art exhibition, and additional printing and promotional needs for WDP

Shaklee Corporation for supplying WDP with their environmentally friendly products for our use aboard R/V Stenella and in the research office

Ruth Petzold for event supplies for our Art Exhibition

Selina Naturally for supplying WDP with Celtic Sea Salt products for use aboard R/V Stenella and in the research office

KPA Promotions, Inc. for supplying 150 Waterproof Valuables Pouches for giving away at events and during the 2013 Field Season

2013 MEMBERSHIPS – Nov. 2012 through Nov. 2013
Thanks to all our new and continuing members!

NEONATE: Andrea Adib, Anne Boomer, Catherine Brister, Anna Elledge, Geoffrey & Marie Etherington, Anne Harrington, Anne Jensen, Karen Isaman, Dan LaRock, William Lippisch, J.P. Maney, Ingrid Mouchoux, William Savino, Tracy Siani, Carol Sikorski, Cynthia Simms

TWO-TONED: Ronald Brensinger, Marsha Coates, Bryan Crafts, Judy Dvorak, LuAnne Ekiert, Richard Hanna, Elaine Harrison, Shari Hirh, Robert Koons, Patricia Koontz, Robin Makowski, Elaine Moss, Jay Nelson, Mae Piszczek, Barrett Rock, Howard Seitz, Peter Sugarman, Patricia & Michael Turnbull, Naomi Zowader

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CORPORATE BENEFACTOR: UBS Matching Gift Program

CORPORATE TOP SPONSOR: Southeastern Printing and Blue Water Editions

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN DONATIONS – NOV 2012 - NOV 2013: Thank you from all of us at the Wild Dolphin Project for donating to our Boat Re-power!

Thanks to: Anonymous Foundation, Linda Castell, Dolphin Dream, Pacific Life Foundation, Elizabeth Peyton Lee, Greg Meinzer, William O'Donnell, BG Sykes

Our new engines are installed and working great! Thank you!

FOUNDATION SUPPORT

Anonymous Foundation, Frances V. R. Seebe Charitable Trust
Fruehauf Family Foundation, MAH Foundation
Marisla Foundation, Offield Family Foundation
Pacific Life Foundation, Pegasus Foundation, Rorer Foundation
The Donald Slavik Family Foundation, The Henry Foundation, Inc.
United Way of St. Lucie County

WDP would like to apologize for any misprints, mistakes or omissions. Please notify us with any changes and we will be sure to correct them in the next issue of Notes from the Field. Thank you.

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Research, Education, Conservation & Non-Profit Organization

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- ❒ $75 Two-toned Membership
- ❒ $250 Speckled Membership
- ❒ $500 Mottled Membership
- ❒ $1,000 Fused Membership
- ❒ $2,500 Steward Membership
- ❒ $5,000 Ambassador Membership
- ❒ $10,000+ Generation Membership
- ❒ Other $_____
- ❒ Yes, please send me my membership gifts

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❒ Please check here if you wish to receive future newsletters by email only

For Credit Card payments, please call our office or visit our website. All memberships are for a calendar year. All contributions apply cumulatively to your annual membership.

2014 Corporate Membership

Does your company want to participate in the move to "Go Green"? By supporting WDP, your company can help protect the animals and oceans.

- ❒ $100 Corporate Supporter
- ❒ $250 Corporate Sponsor
- ❒ $500 Corporate Patron
- ❒ $1,000 Corporate Benefactor
- ❒ $5,000+ Corporate Top Sponsor

As a WDP corporate partner you will:
- Be recognized in the newsletter
- Be recognized on WDP's website (company logo and website link included for top sponsor only)

We apologize in advance for any unintentional misprints or omissions. Please contact us so we can update our files. Thank you for your support.

Donors (names only) will be published in our newsletters, annual reports, etc. If you would like your donation to remain anonymous, please check here: ❒

You can also become a member online! Visit www.wilddolphinproject.org and click on "Support WDP/Donate to WDP" to sign up as a new/renewing member.

Please make checks payable to The Wild Dolphin Project and send with this form to P.O. Box 8436, Jupiter, Florida 33468. All donations are tax deductible as allowed by law.

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