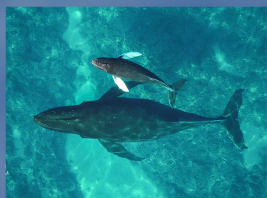


## About MMRP:

The Marine Mammal Research Program at the University of Hawai'i at Manoa began in 1995, with a focus on marine mammal acoustics, hearing and echolocation. Since then, our work has expanded to include the ecology and conservation of these species.

## Current Research:

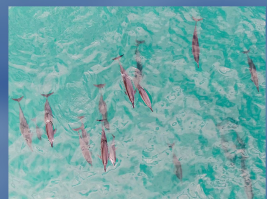
The MMRP has a number of exciting research projects in addition to our work with Hawaiian spinner dolphins. These include whale health assessments, monk seal acoustics, drone-based body measurements, and the effects of man-made noise on toothed whales.



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## Our Mission Statement:

The mission of the MMRP is the conservation of marine mammals. Our pathway to success is through empirical and applied research that supports science-based management, innovation, collaborations and knowledge transfer.

*To learn more about our research,  
visit our website:*

*[www.mmrphawaii.org](http://www.mmrphawaii.org)*

*Or send us an email:*

*[mmrp.naia@gmail.com](mailto:mmrp.naia@gmail.com)*

*Keep up with us on social media!*

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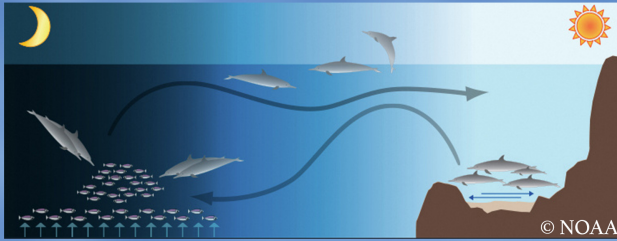
*Research on Hawaiian  
Spinner Dolphins*





## Hawaiian Spinner Dolphins:

Spinner dolphins are found worldwide in tropical waters, yet those in Hawai'i have long been considered a separate population to those of the wider Eastern Tropical Pacific. In Hawai'i, spinner dolphins feed on fish and squid in deep, offshore water at night, and rest in bays or along shallow coastlines during daylight hours.



The species received its name from its unique aerial behavior, in which the dolphin leaps and spins out of the water, completing as many as seven rotations before splashing back into the ocean. They are a joy to observe in the wild, and the dolphin watching industry is a valuable contributor to the Hawaiian economy, earning an estimated \$102 million annually (in 2013).



## Estimating Abundance:

The MMRP has two exciting new projects, funded by NOAA, to find out more about the Hawaiian spinner dolphins. One project is focused on assessing the distribution and abundance of spinner dolphins around the main Hawaiian Islands, ultimately working towards getting an accurate and up-to-date assessment of population size for these inshore animals.



The second project is focused on the dolphins of O'ahu's Wai'anae Coast, and will use techniques such as photo-identification to collect more detailed population and life history data, as well as a specific population estimate. Both projects are conducted under a NMFS permit. If you see us out on the water, give us a wave !



## How You Can Help:

Marine mammal research is expensive and we humbly accept donations for research initiatives as well as student scholarships. If you would like to donate specifically to spinner dolphin research, please note this when you make your donation. All donations can be made through our website, [www.mmrphawaii.org](http://www.mmrphawaii.org).

