

(1) Contact surname:	Giménez
(2) Contact e-mail:	<a href="mailto:gimenez_joan@hotmail.com">gimenez_joan@hotmail.com</a>
(3) Authors' names:	Giménez, J. (1), Gauffier, P. (1), Verborgh, P. (1), de Stephanis, R. (1), Esteban, R. (1), Corbella, C. (1), Jaget, Y. (1)
(4) Authors' addresses:	(1) CIRCE (Conservation, Information and Research on Cetaceans), Cabeza de Manzaneda 3, Pelayo, 11390 Algeciras, CADIZ, Spain.
(5) Abstract title:	FIRST PHOTO-IDENTIFICATION CATALOGUE OF SHORT-BEAKED COMMON DOLPHINS ( <i>DELPHINUS DELPHIS</i> ) OF THE STRAIT OF GIBRALTAR AND GULF OF CADIZ
(6) Abstract:	<p>Although short-beaked common dolphins (<i>Delphinus delphis</i>) are widely distributed in tropical to cool temperate waters of the Atlantic and the Pacific oceans, the subpopulation of the Mediterranean Sea has suffered an important decline in the past decades. Several recommendations to use photo-identification have been made due to its inclusion as an endangered subpopulation by the IUCN. Here we present the first catalogue of photo-identified individuals of short-beaked common dolphins inhabiting the Strait of Gibraltar and the Gulf of Cadiz (South Spain), using nicks, notches and the variable size and shape of the white patch in their dorsal fins. The study was made using more than 1000 fin images taken by the CIRCÉ crew from 2004 to 2008 during the summer period (May to September). Data was analysed to investigate: a) abundance b) site fidelity and movements between different areas; and to allow future studies of home range, life history, social structure and to quantify the real decline of this subpopulation. A total of 188 individuals were identified in the Strait of Gibraltar and 109 individuals in the Gulf of Cadiz. The catalogues of common dolphins found in the Gulf of Cadiz and the Strait of Gibraltar were compared but no matches could be found. This suggests that little interchange occurs between the two areas. Also recaptures of common dolphins found in the Bay of Algeciras and the Strait of Gibraltar show that when conservation plans will be done for that specie it should not be restricted solely to the Bay but should be extended to the entire area of the Strait of Gibraltar.</p>
(7) Word count:	263
(8) Presentation type:	Poster preferred
(9) Keyword 1:	Stock identity/distribution
(10) Keyword 2:	Surveys/Abundance
(11) Keyword 3:	Conservation/management
(12) Keyword 4:	
(13) Student award :	Undergraduate
(14) Grant request:	Yes
(15) File name:	gimenez.rtf