



**EASTERN CARIBBEAN CETACEAN NETWORK
(ECCN)
WHALE AND DOLPHIN SIGHTING FORM**

Your NAME _____
Address _____
Telephone or Email _____

Please send form or photographs to:

**ECCN/ N.Ward
Box 5, Bequia
St. Vincent and the Grenadines, W.I.
Email: nath51@verizon.net
Fax: 508-548-3317**

VESSEL AND OCEANOGRAPHIC DATA

Date _____ Time _____ (am/pm)
Name of Vessel _____
Location _____
Coordinates _____ N _____ W
Observed from (circle): shore - boat - with binoculars
Speed of Vessel _____ Heading _____
General Weather _____
Wind Direction _____ Wind Speed _____ Cloud Cover _____ Water Depth _____
Visibility (Circle one) < 1 mile 1-2 miles 3-5 miles 5-10 miles unlimited
Sea Condition (Circle one) glass cat's paw 1-3 feet 3-5 feet 5+ feet
State of water (Circle): clear muddy cloudy debris greenish blue brown red

WHALE AND DOLPHIN INFORMATION

SPECIES _____ How many sighted _____
Accuracy of Sighting (Circle one) Certain Possible Uncertain
Duration of sighting _____
Distance from you _____ Direction swimming _____
Associations (birds, fish, boats) _____
Color: Upper body _____ Lower body _____
Flukes _____ Flippers _____ Dorsal fin shape _____
Note scars, scratch marks, wounds, other markings, gear entanglement _____

BEHAVIOR

Describe. Was the whale (s) traveling, resting, flipping, breaching (jumping), feeding? Did it ignore or accompany your boat? Did it show its entire head? What was the dive duration? Note specifics such as positioning of mother/calf pair in relation to boat; sudden changes in behavior or direction of travel.

Sketch animal's path near the boat.

All sighting records are extremely important. Since little is known about whales and dolphins in the Eastern Caribbean, your data can give clues to identify unknown species and provide necessary information for conservation measures. Please fill out as much of the form as you can. Be as accurate as possible. Use a separate form for each sighting and species.

Photographs provide valuable information to identify individuals and species. This data can help determine residency, habitat use, reproductive rates and other useful information. If possible, photograph any unusual scarring or markings. Photographs of the underside of a humpback whale's or sperm whale's tail flukes and, the right and left side of a killer whale's dorsal fin are particularly useful. All photographs will be credited.

