

DO THEY MIND US WATCHING?

Investigating the impact of tourism on Hector's dolphins at Akaroa Harbour

William Carome, MSc Candidate - Marine Science



Has an exponential increase in tourism over the last thirty years changed how these dolphins use the critical habitat of Akaroa Harbour?



There are up to 18 swim-with-dolphin and 14 dolphin-watching trips each day in Akaroa Harbour between November and March.



'Mouthy' (right):
The only dolphin in the world that breathes through its mouth.



Did You Know?

Individual Hector's dolphins can be identified by nicks and cuts on their rounded dorsal fin.



Data on distribution and abundance of Hector's dolphins in Akaroa Harbour has been collected using the same photo-based survey methods since 1984 and continues today.

Hector's dolphins are the *rarest* and *smallest* marine dolphin in the world found only in coastal waters around New Zealand.

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**IUCN Listing:
Endangered**

