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RECORDS OF CETACEANS IN THAILAND

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ABSTRACT

So far, very little research on cetaceans in Thailand has been conducted. Informations on cetaceans has often been incorrect and many records have been misidentified. Therefore, an extensive study on dolphins and whales have been conducted at PMBC since 1993. Interview surveys and examination of stranded animals and by-catch specimens were carried out along the coastline of Thailand. A total of 20 species, belonging to 6 families of Cetacea, were recorded. Two species belonging to the family Balaenopteridae, one to the Physeteridae, two to the Kogiidae, one to the Ziphiidae, 13 to the Delphinidae, and one to the Phocoenidae were identified. Biological studies have been carried out on the stranded and bycatch specimens, and the skeletons of the specimens have been deposited in the PMBC collection for further study.