

**Table 3.2-1 Marine Mammals Sighted During 1993-1998 Hawaii Statewide Aerial Surveys (Mobley et al., 1999b)**

| SPECIES  | NUMBER OF SIGHTINGS | NUMBER OF ANIMALS | NUMBER OF ANIMALS PER NM <sup>1</sup> | COMMENTS |
|--|---------------------|-------------------|---------------------------------------|----------|
| <b>MYSTICETES</b>  |                     |                   |                                       |          |
| Humpback whale ( <i>Megaptera novaeangliae</i> )   | 1678                | 2773              | 0.1028                                | Note 2   |
| Blue whale ( <i>Balaenoptera musculus</i> )  | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     |          |
| Fin whale ( <i>B. physalus</i> )   | 1                   | 3                 | 0.0001                                | Note 3   |
| Right whale ( <i>Eubalaena glacialis</i> )   | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     |          |
| Bryde's whale ( <i>B. borealis</i> )   | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     | Note 4   |
| Minke whale ( <i>B. acutorostrata</i> )  | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     | Note 4   |
| <b>ODONTOCETES</b>   |                     |                   |                                       |          |
| Sperm whale ( <i>Physeter macrocephalus</i> )  | 21                  | 100               | 0.0037                                |          |
| Pygmy or dwarf sperm whale ( <i>Kogia</i> spp.)  | 2                   | 5                 | 0.0002                                |          |
| Spinner/spotted dolphin ( <i>Stenella</i> spp.)  | 73                  | 2445              | 0.0907                                |          |
| Bottlenose dolphin ( <i>Tursiops truncatus/gilli</i> )   | 49                  | 338               | 0.0125                                |          |
| Rough-toothed dolphin ( <i>Steno bredanensis</i> )   | 8                   | 136               | 0.0050                                |          |
| Striped dolphin ( <i>Stenella coeruleoalba</i> )   | 2                   | 76                | 0.0028                                |          |
| Killer whale ( <i>Orcinus orca</i> )   | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     | Note 5   |
| False killer whale ( <i>Pseudorca crassidens</i> )   | 21                  | 324               | 0.0120                                |          |
| Pygmy killer whale ( <i>Feresa attenuate</i> )   | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     | Note 6   |
| Short-finned pilot whale ( <i>Globicephala macrorhynchus</i> )                                 | 73                  | 774               | 0.0287                                |          |
| Beaked whales ( <i>Ziphius cavirostris</i> , <i>Berardius bairdi</i> , <i>Mesoplodon</i> spp.) | 14                  | 29                | 0.0011                                |          |
| Melon-headed whale ( <i>Peponocephala electra</i> )  | 3                   | 127               | 0.0047                                | Note 7   |
| Risso's dolphin ( <i>Grampus griseus</i> )   | 2                   | 13                | 0.0005                                |          |
| <b>PINNIPEDS</b>   |                     |                   |                                       |          |
| Monk seal ( <i>Monachus schauinslandi</i> )  | 1                   | 1                 | 0.0000                                | Note 8   |
| <b>SEA TURTLES</b>   |                     |                   |                                       |          |
| Loggerhead ( <i>Caretta caretta</i> )  | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     | Note 9   |
| Green ( <i>Chelonia mydas</i> )  | 19                  | 23                | 0.0009                                | Note 10  |
| Olive ridley ( <i>Lepidochelys olivacea</i> )  | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     | Note 11  |
| Leatherback ( <i>Dermochelys</i> )   | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     | Note 12  |
| Hawksbill ( <i>Eretmochelys impricata</i> )  | 0                   | 0                 | 0                                     | Note 13  |

Notes (following page) in many cases indicate best estimate of stock when few or no animals were sighted during 1993 and 1994 aerial surveys.

- Note 1: Estimates determined by dividing the number of animals by total effort (26,966 nm) (Mobley et al., 1999b).
- Note 2: 64% of humpbacks sighted during 1993-1998 surveys were in water shallower than 183 m (600 ft) (Mobley et al., 1999b).
- Note 3: Single fin whale sighting 2/26/94, 37 km off the northwest shore of Kauai (Mobley et al., 1994).
- Note 4: Bryde's and minke whales may be occasionally present in the area of Midway Atoll but are not usually found off Kauai.
- Note 5: Although reported from tropical and offshore waters, killer whales are more commonly found in colder waters, typically within 800 km of major continents (Leatherwood and Reeves, 1983).
- Note 6: Widely distributed in the tropical Pacific, however, not described as abundant in any area (Leatherwood and Reeves, 1983).
- Note 7: Distributed worldwide in tropical and subtropical waters, however, only abundant in the Philippine Sea; everywhere else appears to be rare (Leatherwood and Reeves, 1983).
- Note 8: No monk seals sighted during aerial surveys. Single opportunistic sighting within the 200 m depth contour occurred during 1994 shore observation period (1/30-4/15/94) (Smultea et al., 1994).
- Note 9: Among the only central Pacific sightings of loggerheads are from Hawaii; four records from 1979-1992 (NMFS and USFWS, 1998d).
- Note 10: Listed as unidentified sea turtles from aerial surveys; however, assumed green turtles based on size and location close to shore (all in <100 m (328 ft) depth). 1994 shore observations yielded 78 sightings of (presumed) green turtles, all inside the 200-m (656-ft) depth contour. Because green sea turtle habitat is primarily in nearshore benthic areas, calculating density based on total area surveyed is not applicable.
- Note 11: Olive ridley sea turtles are rare throughout the islands of Oceania. In the central Pacific, a single nesting was reported in 1985 on Maui (Balazs and Hau, 1986).
- Note 12: Nesting apparently does not occur in Hawaii. Leatherback turtles are regularly sighted in offshore waters (> 1000 m (3281 ft) deep) at the southeastern end of the Hawaiian Archipelago (NMFS and USFWS, 1998c).
- Note 13: In the Hawaiian Islands, the hawksbill is presently a rare species that is thought to be in immediate danger of local extinction; only known to occur in southern portion of Hawaiian Island chain, mainly in coastal areas of Hawaii, Molokai, and Oahu (19 deg N – 22 deg N). More northerly regions of the chain (22 deg N – 29 deg N) appear to be unsuitable habitats for hawksbill residency and reproduction (NMFS and USFWS, 1998b).