

Live Captures and Facilities Holding Common Bottlenose Dolphins

Captures:

The goal of the map is to give an idea of the dolphins trade between the different Caribbean states. It deals with animals which are been captured alive in order to be kept in dolphinariums. Common bottlenose dolphin (*Tursiops truncatus*) is the most commonly-held species of cetacean in captivity in this kind of facilities (there are also Amazon river dolphins or Belugas but they are not captured in the Wider Caribbean Region). As a consequence, the map only deals with this species. A number of sources were used to collect and summarize data on live captures of Common Bottlenose Dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*) in the Wider Caribbean Region:

- Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS) – Captivity Programme. September 2010. Report on Captivity in the Caribbean.
- Van Waerebeek et al. 2006. Live-captures of common bottlenose dolphins *Tursiops truncatus* and unassessed bycatch in Cuban waters: evidence of sustainability found wanting. Latin American Journal of Aquatic Mammals 5(1): 39-48.
- World Society for the Protection of Animals (WSPA). 2010. Report on captive dolphins in Mexico and the Dominican Republic.

From these sources, data were summarized per country by the UNEP Caribbean Environment Programme (UNEP CEP) Regional Activity Center for the SPAW Protocol (SPAW- RAC). Given the difference of study period of time, the dolphin live captures numbers change a lot from a source to another. As a consequence, it has been decided to choose as wide the period of time as possible (1995-2009). Only data dealing with common bottlenose dolphins captured in the Cartagena Convention area have been represented. The table 1 summarize the different data of the three sources.

Animal #	Species	Captured in	State of destination
20	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	USA	Bahamas
4	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	USA	BVI
147	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	Mexico
43	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	Jamaica
30	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	BVI
30	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	DR
16	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	Curaçao
9	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	Antigua & Barbuda
6	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	Anguilla
4	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	Cayman Islands
3	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	Colombie
2	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Cuba	Venezuela
17	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Mexico	Jamaica
2	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Mexico	Cayman Islands
8	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Honduras	DR
6	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Honduras	Curaçao
4	<i>Tursiops truncatus</i>	Honduras	Belize

Table 1: Numbers of dolphins captured per Caribbean states

Facilities holding captive dolphins:

Data used is from the September 2010 study “Report on Captivity in the Caribbean” done by the Whale and Dolphin Conservation Society (WDCS) – Captivity Programme. The data represent the best estimate for the date of release of the study.