

# *Xenobalanus globicipitis*: Occurrence patterns and use for stock identification in New Jersey bottlenose dolphins (*Tursiops truncatus*)

Apryle Panyi<sup>1</sup>, Jacalyn Toth<sup>1</sup>, Jeff Stewart<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>Marine Science Program, Stockton University, Galloway, NJ

<sup>2</sup>Cape May Whale Watcher, Cape May, NJ



---

On the US Atlantic coast, bottlenose dolphins are managed according to stock membership (Waring *et al.*, 2013).

Photo-identification, satellite tagging, and genetic data help determine temporal/spatial stock differentiation.

A 'stock' is a population of dolphins with distinct movement/behavioral/morphological patterns.

Multiple studies have shown that the pseudo-stalked barnacle, *Xenobalanus globicipitis*, may be a useful indicator of stock membership. *X. globicipitis* has a commensal non-pathogenic relationship with bottlenose