

**NMFS Observation Summary  
Shrewsbury/Navesink Dolphins  
Oct 16-19, 2008**

**16 October 2008**

Sighting 1 – Oceanic Bridge

Depth: 15 ft

Water temp: 18.3

Salinity: 25.2

Winds 5-10 knots

Air Temp: High ~68

8 Animals Photographed: 01, 05, 07, 08, 09, 11, 12, and 15\*

Summary: Animals were sighted near the Oceanic Bridge as soon as we left the boat ramp. After photographing the animals on both the WEST and EAST sides of the bridge we decided to show Trevor and Jackie the two river area. From the Oceanic Bridge we traveled east to the Shrewsbury River. We then turned south and went to the Sea Bright Bridge (just south of McLoone's restaurant where the animals were in late June). We then traveled north on the Shrewsbury river and under the Highlands bridge (the one under construction). We continued north and out into Sandy Hook Bay to get a look at the area. We then turned back and headed for the boat ramp. When we went past the Oceanic bridge the second time, the animals were still there.

\*NJ15 is a clean fin, but we are fairly confident it is the same animal.

**17 October 2008**

Sighting 1 – Oceanic Bridge

Depth: 14-18 ft

Water temp: 17.7 @ 9:22, 18.0 @ 13:42

Salinity: 24.4

Wind: 10-15 knots

Air Temp: high ~60

10 Animals Photographed: 01, 02, 03, 05, 07, 08, 09, 11, 12, and 15

Summary: 8 animals were sighted just WEST of the Oceanic Bridge. After taking photographs, we decided to do a thorough survey of the area in search of the other 5 animals. We traveled west up the Navesink to Red Bank along the northern bank of the river. At Red Bank we turned around and headed west surveying along the southern bank of the river back to the Oceanic Bridge. We then continued west under the Oceanic Bridge towards the Shrewsbury River. We turned south at the Shrewsbury river and headed to the Sea Bright Bridge. We continued south and surveyed the entire southern terminus of the river. We followed the river bank along ALL the bays and rivers entrances to that area. We then headed north in the Shrewsbury to return to the Navesink. Once back at the Oceanic Bridge the animals were resighted. There appeared to be more

animals present. We photographed 10 animals at this encounter. During this encounter the animals were spread about 800m from each other on the west side of the Oceanic Bridge.

### **18 October 2008**

Sighting 1 – Oceanic Bridge

Depth: 14ft

Water Temp: 16.3

Salinity: 24.7

Wind: 20 knots

Air Temp: high ~55

5 Animals Photographed: 01, 05, 08, 11, and 15

Sighting 2 – Shrewsbury River

Depth: 25 ft

Water Temp: 16.5

Salinity: 25.5

Wind: 20 knots

Air Temp: high ~55

7 Animals Photographed: 02, 03, 04, 06, 07, 09, and 12

Summary: Animals sighted west of the Oceanic Bridge. Once all animals were photographed, we headed east to the Shrewsbury River to look for the rest of the animals. We headed south towards the Sea Bright Bridge (McLoone's restaurant) where the other 7 animals were found and photographed. The animals were tightly grouped and exhibiting the same behavior as in June (staying in the same place in the river). Note that animals 02, 03, 07, 09, and 12 were seen the day before west of the Oceanic Bridge.

### **19 October 2008**

Sighting 1 – Oceanic Bridge

Depth: 22ft

Water Temp: 14.5

Salinity: 24.8

Wind: 25 knots with higher gusts

Air Temp: high ~50

7 Animals Photographed: 01, 05, 06, 07, 08, 11, and 15

Sighting 2 – Shrewsbury River

Depth: 33ft

Water Temp: 15.2

Salinity: 26.0

Wind: 25 knots with higher gusts

Air Temp: high ~50

5 Animals Photographed: 02, 03, 04, 09, and 12

Summary: Animals were sighted in the same location west of the Oceanic Bridge except 17. 17 was on the east side of the bridge, but was very close to the bridge and near the other animals. Once all these animals were photographed we headed to the Shrewsbury to find the other animals. The other animals were in the same location and exhibiting the same behavior as on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Note that 06 and 17 moved to the Oceanic Bridge since being sighted in the Shrewsbury north of the Sea Bright Bridge (McLoone's) on the 18th.