

# INTRODUCING THE RISSO'S DOLPHINS OF THE ISLE OF MAN

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## MATCHES

40% re-sightings

Matches to:

Bardsey Island (10)

Pembrokeshire (1)

Penzance (1)



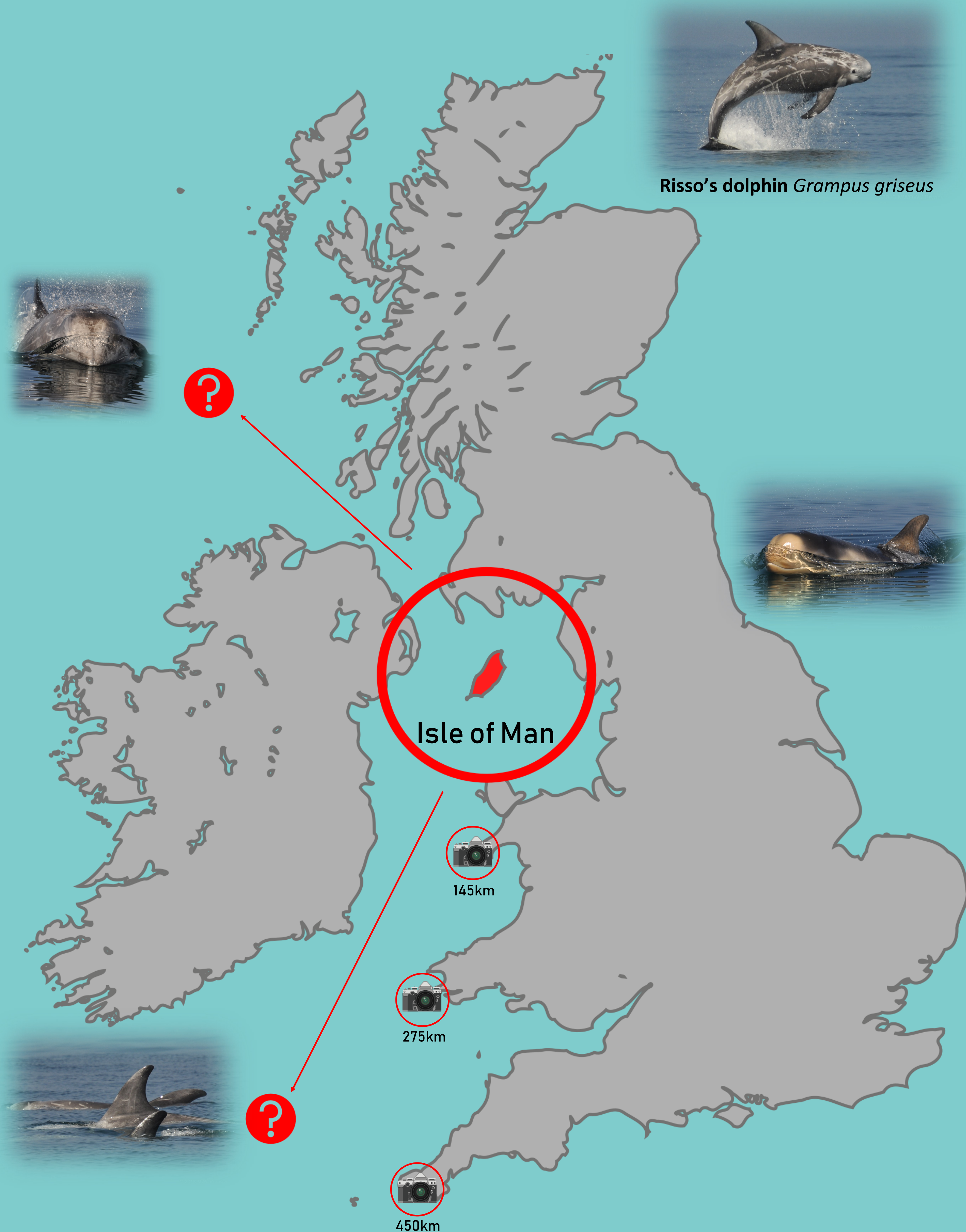
## PHOTO-ID

95 encounters

62 well-marked

64 left

61 right



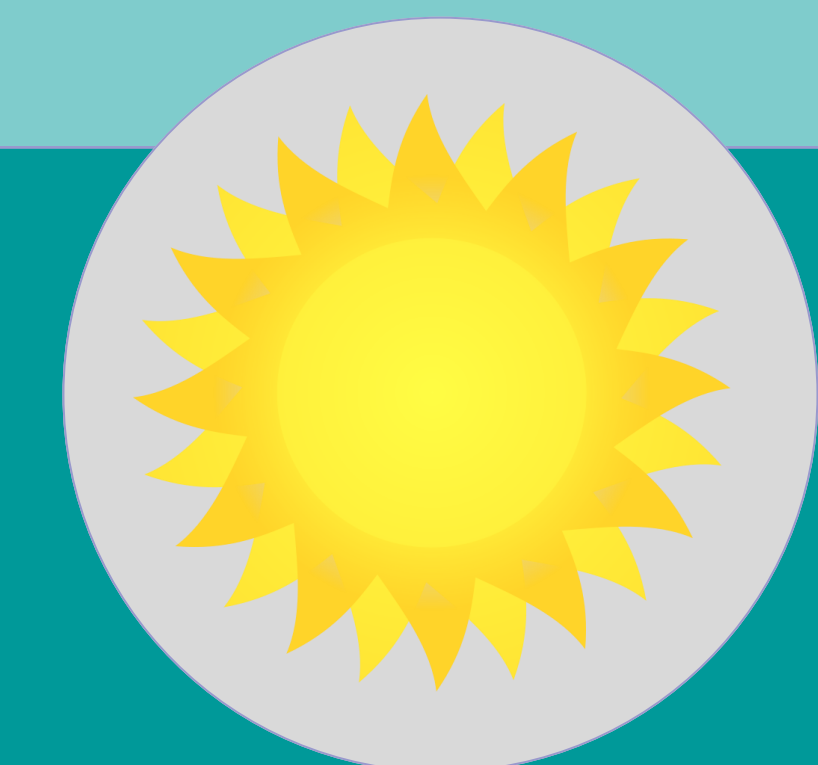
## SIGHTINGS

13 years of data

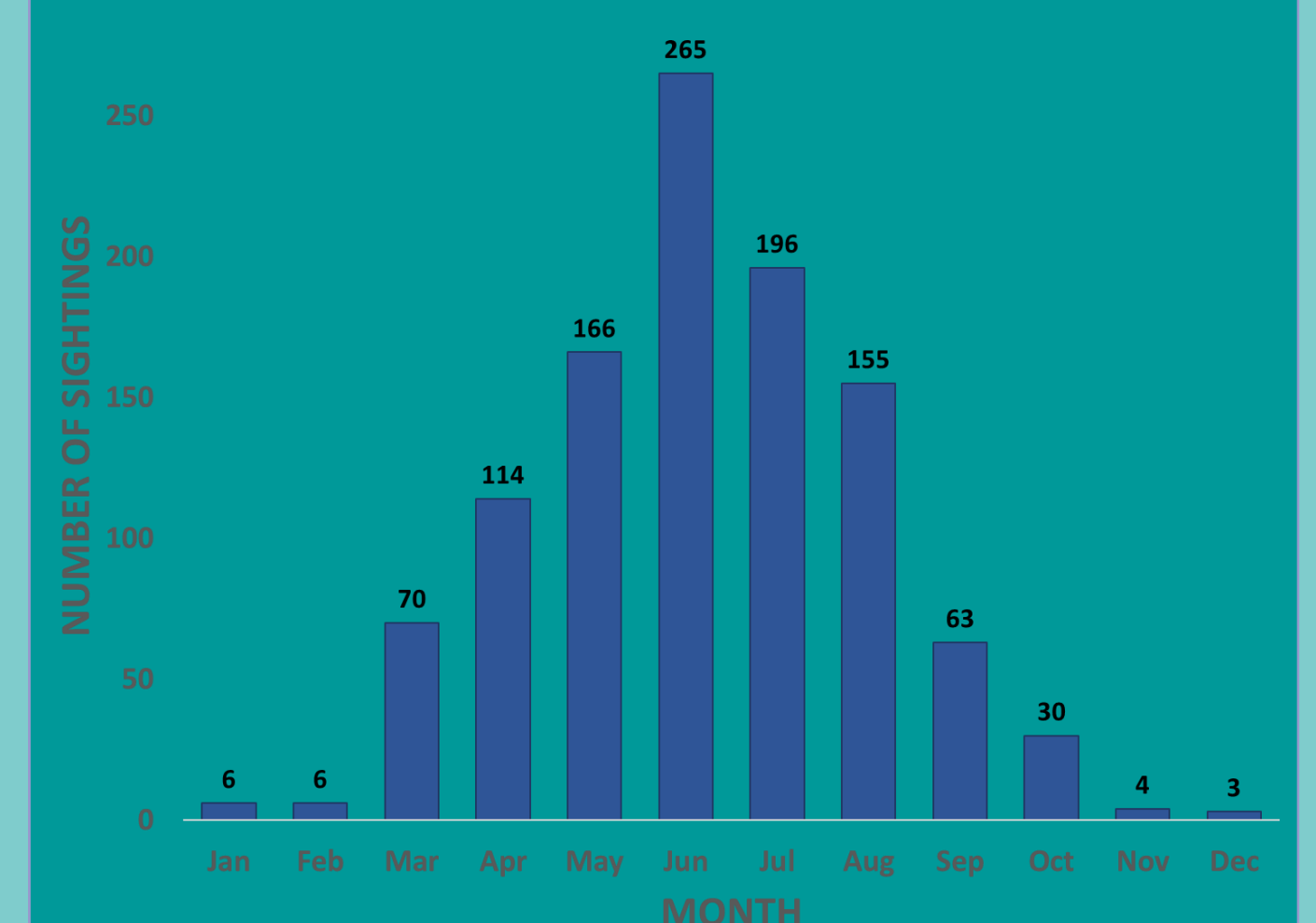
1078 sightings

23% with juv./calf

~5550 individuals



## SEASONALITY



The shallow coastal waters of the Isle of Man appear to be an important Risso's dolphin habitat in this part of the world. These data, from boat-based, land-based, and public sightings highlight an area of consistent summer seasonal use by Risso's dolphins with good sighting numbers. Photo-ID catalogue sizes and re-sighting rates are comparable to, or better than, other published British Isles 'hotspots' such as in Wales [1] and Scotland [2]. Re-sighting rates lower than the Azores [3] may suggest larger home ranges and wider use of the region as a whole. As a central point in this region the Isle of Man may serve as an important 'mixing' location for Risso's dolphins from the north and south which will only be evidenced by a greater focus on consistent photo-identification data and a strong collaboration between parties studying this fascinating species.

References: [1] de Boer, M.N., Clark, J., Leopold, M.F., Simmonds, M.P., Reijnders, P.J.H., 2013. Photo-identification methods reveal seasonal and long-term site-fidelity of Risso's dolphins (*Grampus griseus*) in shallow waters (Cardigan Bay, Wales). *OJMS* 3:66-75 [18.6% re-sightings, 90-151 catalogued]

[2] Weir, C.R., Hodgins, N.K., Dolman, S.J., Walters, A.E.M., 2019. Risso's dolphins (*Grampus griseus*) in a proposed Marine Protected Area off east Lewis (Scotland, UK), 2010-2017. *JMBA*, 1-12 [19.8% re-sightings, 131 catalogued]

[3] Hartman, K.L., Visser, F., Hendricks, A., 2008. Social structure of Risso's dolphins at the Azores: a stratified community based on highly associated social units. *Can. J. Zool.* 86(4):294-306 [63% re-sightings, 1028 catalogued]