



Porpoises vs. Dolphins – do you know the difference?



PORPOISES

EXAMPLE: HARBOR PORPOISE

FAMILY: PHOCOENIDAE, 6 SPECIES

DORSAL FIN: TRIANGULAR, LESS CURVED



ROSTRUM: ROUND, BLUNT SHAPED MOUTH



©Florian Graner

TEETH: SPADE-SHAPED



SURFACE BEHAVIOR: SHY, SLEEK SURFACING, RARELY ACROBATIC



DOLPHINS

EXAMPLE: PACIFIC WHITE-SIDED

FAMILY: DELPHINIDAE, 32 SPECIES

DORSAL FIN: FALCATE – HOOKED OR CURVED



www.animalspot.net

ROSTRUM: ELONGATED 'BEAK'



www.NOAA.gov

TEETH: CONE-SHAPED



SURFACE BEHAVIOR: GREGARIOUS, ACROBATIC, BOW AND WAKE RIDING



NOAA NMFIS SWFSC PRO