



Terms of Use Participation Agreement & Waiver

The organisers of this event wish to remind you that you are responsible for your own safety while taking part in the NSW Dolphin Census and East Coast Dolphin Watch program activities.

Personal limits

- Participants should only perform activities that are within their experience and ability, and disclose any medical conditions that may be adversely affected undertaking the activity.
- Participants are encouraged to prioritise personal safety over data collection.
- Participants must abide by NSW wildlife watching laws, regulations and safety guidelines.

Before survey

- If weather conditions are unfavourable, postpone or relocate your observation.
- Have appropriate weather protection (hat, sunscreen, appropriate shoes) and dress to environmental conditions (heat, cold).
- Stay hydrated – bring water.
- Drive safely – observe rules and avoid being distracted, park where appropriate.
- If going to remote places, let someone know.
- Carry a charged phone or communication device.

During survey

Choose a safe location

- Ensure that you are able to access the site you are registering to observe from and that the site is safe. Keep in mind, you may have to walk on uneven ground or across soft sand. Please be aware of trip hazards on land-based platforms.
- Avoid unstable rock platforms, slippery rocks, nearby exposed surf or strong currents.
- Keep a safe distance from high areas such as cliffs, rock walls along river estuaries, and the water edge.
- Stay behind safety barriers.

Be aware of surroundings

- Watch for any changing conditions, including waves, tides.
- Be aware of other people and water users.
- Conduct surveys ethically and without disturbing wildlife
- Respect cultural and environmental sensitives

Follow platform specific safety requirements

- Boats/kayaks/SUPs & other watercraft: Participants choosing to conduct observations from a boat, kayak, stand-up paddleboard or other on-water vessel do so entirely at their own risk. Dolphin Research Australia | Ocean Education & Conservation, and project partners accept no responsibility or liability for any injury, loss, damage, incident, accident or public liability arising from on-water participation.
Participants must follow all local maritime and boating regulations and ensure they launch and return from a safe, designated area. It is the participant's responsibility to ensure their vessel is seaworthy and appropriate for the conditions. Always check weather and sea conditions prior to departure, carry the required safety equipment including personal flotation devices, and inform someone of your intended plans and expected return time.
- Drones: follow Civil Aviation Safety Authority (CASA) and wildlife protection regulations, maintain safe distances, and avoid wildlife disturbance. Drones must be flown responsibly, maintaining safe distances from people, vessels, and wildlife. Drone operators are solely responsible for the safe operation of their aircraft and for complying with all applicable aviation and environmental regulations. Dolphin Research Australia | Ocean Education & Conservation, and project partners accept no responsibility or liability for any injury, damage, loss, incident, or public liability arising from the use of drones during participation in this event.

After survey

- Leave the place as you found - make sure you didn't leave any belongings or rubbish
- Be safe leaving the site and driving/riding

Best practice behaviour at all times

- Participants are required to demonstrate courteous and respectful behaviour at all times, avoid any language or action that could be interpreted as intimidating, abusive or offensive and refrain from heated arguments. Refer all conflict or discipline matters immediately to the program coordinators.
- Do not participate if under the influence of alcohol or other substances.
- Represent the program positively and professionally.
- Never attempt to approach, feed, or interact with dolphins and whales.
- Maintain required minimum distances as per NSW regulations.
- If dolphins or whales approach you, remain passive and allow them to move away.

In consideration of being allowed to register for, and participate in, an event, activity, or experience, I hereby waive, release from liability, assume all risks, and covenant not to sue Dolphin Research Australia, or their respective members, employees, board members, agents, volunteers (the organisation Parties and/or any project partners) for any expense, loss, damage, personal injury (including loss of life, disability, or serious harm), property damage or theft, negligence, or actions (each, a "Loss") resulting from or arising in connection with my travel to, attendance at, or participation in the Event [NSW Dolphin Census and East Coast Dolphin Watch Citizen Science program events] and any related activities unless said Loss is caused by the sole, gross negligence of the organisation. I agree that this waiver and release shall bind me and my personal representatives, shall be enforceable to the fullest and broadest extent of the law, and, if any portion is held invalid, the remainder should continue in full legal force and effect. I am an adult of sound mind and capable

of entering into this waiver. I have read its terms and fully understand and agree to the provisions herein. I understand and am aware that my participation in the Event involves risk, including, but not limited to, travel, physical activity, locales where public health and safety may be at risk, or activities that involve risk that I create for others or others may create for me. These risks may lead to a Loss, and I nonetheless choose to participate in the Event. I am also aware that there are risks that I may not have considered, yet I waive my right to any claims that may occur from these unconsidered risks and I choose to participate in the Event.

I understand that I choose to participate at entirely my own risk. I hereby assume all of the risks of participating and/or volunteering in this activity or event. By registering for this Event, I acknowledge and certify that I have read these terms and conditions and I fully understand its content. I am aware that this is a release of liability. By registering for this event, I understand it is a considered a signature of release of liability for participating in this event.

Terms of Use

These Terms of Use outline the conditions under which participants may access and use the East Coast Dolphin Watch Citizen Science Program and/or NSW Dolphin Census training materials, survey protocols, and associated resources.

All content provided through the East Coast Dolphin Watch Citizen Science Program — including training modules, survey methods, protocols, data sheets, images, videos, text, graphics, species ID resources, and program branding — is the intellectual property of Dolphin Research Australia Inc.

You acknowledge that:

- These materials are provided solely for your personal training and participation in the East Coast Dolphin Watch Citizen Science Program/NSW Dolphin Census.
- Copying, reproducing, distributing, or adapting these materials for independent projects, consultancy, commercial use, teaching, or program development is strictly prohibited without prior written permission.
- The program name, branding, and materials must not be used to create or promote new or separate wildlife monitoring initiatives.

Permitted Use

You may:

- Participate in East Coast Dolphin Watch citizen science/NSW Dolphin Census program activities
- Use the protocols and training solely for program-related surveys
- Submit sightings, photographs, and data through approved channels
- Share general learnings (not proprietary content) with attribution

You may **not**:

- Launch your own dolphin or marine wildlife monitoring program based on East Coast Dolphin Watch Citizen Science/NSW Dolphin Census program materials

- Train others using modified or copied East Coast Dolphin Watch Citizen Science/NSW Dolphin Census program protocols
- Use materials for business, consultancy, commercial, or organisational purposes
- Present, publish, or distribute program methods without acknowledgment or permission

For collaborations or partnership enquiries, please contact us directly
info@dolphinresearchaustralia.org.

Agreement & Acceptance

By registering in the NSW Dolphin Census/East Coast Dolphin Watch Citizen Science training course or participating in program activities, you acknowledge that you have read, understood, and agree to abide by these Terms of Use.