

# DEBORAH A. GLOCKNER-FERRARI

Deborah Glockner-Ferrari is co-founder of Center for Whale Studies, a non-profit organization dedicated to the study, protection, and conservation of endangered species and their habitat.

As President and Research Director, Debbie has focused her efforts on a long-term study of the humpback whale, which she began in 1975.

Studying whales in their natural environment through the use of benign, non-invasive techniques, Debbie has made numerous scientific discoveries, including the:

- Development of a method for identifying individual humpback whales through lip groove patterns and other morphological characteristics
- Development of an "in situ" technique to determine the sex of a whale
- Determination that "escort whales", "singers", and "challengers" are all males
- Determination that females are capable of a 1-year reproductive cycle and a minimal 20-year reproductive span
- Compilation of long-term life histories of hundreds of known individuals
- Collection and determination of estrogen secretions of females
- Collection and use of sloughed skin samples for genetic analysis
- Documentation of behaviors never previously observed underwater.

Debbie holds a National Marine Fisheries Service Permit to conduct scientific research under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and The Endangered Species Act of 1973 and a State of Hawaii Department of Land and Natural Resources Scientific Collecting Permit. Debbie is also a member of the National Marine Fisheries Service Humpback Whale National Recovery Team to protect the endangered humpback whale.

## EXPERIENCE AND SPECIAL QUALIFICATIONS

- President and Director of Research, Center for Whale Studies, a 501 (c)(3) non-profit organization, 1986–Present
- Principal Investigator and Underwater Photographer, Humpback Whale Research, Conservation, and Education Project, Maui, Hawaii, 1975–Present
- National Marine Fisheries Service Permit Holder to conduct scientific research under the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, 1978–Present
- National Marine Fisheries Service Humpback Whale National Recovery Team, 1987–Present
- Research Fellow, Wildlife Conservation International, a Division of the New York Zoological Society, 1983–1990
- Humpback Whale Research Director, California Marine Mammal Center, 1981–1996
- Dolphin Research Assistant, University of Hawaii Kewalo Basin Dolphin Laboratory, 1974–1975
- Dolphin Trainer, Marine Life, Gulfport, Mississippi, Summer 1974

## EDUCATION

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge, Louisiana; Bachelor of Science, Biochemistry, 1972

University of Hawaii, Honolulu, Hawaii, Summer 1971

## HONORS AND AWARDS

- Maui Whalewatch Captains' Environmental Award, 1990
- The Foundation for Ocean Research 1987 John Stoneman Marine Environment Award
- The Whale Center Special Conservation Award, "Humphrey Rescue" Project, 1986
- Grand Marshall, Rio Vista Bass Derby "Humphrey Day" Parade, 1986
- California Marine Mammal Center Certificate of Appreciation, 1985

- Maharishi Community Service Award, 1983
- Society for Marine Mammalogy Award for outstanding research and best presentation at the Fourth Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, San Francisco, 1981
- Harvard Museum of Comparative Zoology First Place Underwater Photography Award, 1980
- National Honor Society of Phi Kappa Phi, Alpha Lambda Delta Honor Society for Women, Phi Lambda Upsilon Chemistry Honor Society, Iota Sigma Pi Chemistry Honor Society, 1969–1972
- Louisiana State Literary Rally Award, Centennial Honor Award, and President's Scholarship, 1968–1972