

Whales of Potosi Research Project  
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Press Release

**Whales of Potosi Receives Fiscal Sponsorship of the Oceanic Society, the Oldest Marine Conservation and Education Society in the World**

Portland, Oregon., September 2, 2013 – Katherina Audley, Project Director of the Whales of Potosi Research Project, met with Oceanic Society CEO, Rod Mast on August 31, 2013. Based on their organizations' shared goals of marine conservation and encouraging people to explore and protect the natural world, the Oceanic Society agreed to collaborate on the Whales of Potosi Research Project on supporting their long-term goals of bringing ecotourists to the area to participate in scientific research expeditions and offered to share their expertise in the baseline study of the migratory humpback whales in the region.

The Oceanic Society also offered to become the Whales of Potosi Research Project's fiscal sponsor, allowing all donations to pass through their organization without additional fees. This development will allow donors to the project who have pledged to make tax-deductible contributions at any level and receive tax benefits to the fullest extent allowable by law.

Project Director, Katherina Audley said of the new partnership, "I am delighted and honored to have the support of the Oceanic Society for our project. I saw my first whale onboard an Oceanic Society trip to the Farallon Islands 20 years ago, and so this collaboration has a beautiful symmetry to it. This partnership will give us a boost in terms of reaching our fundraising goals by October 1, 2013 and I look forward to meeting with other members of the organization to begin discussions about bringing ecotourists to the area through the Oceanic Society as early as 2015."

**About The Whales of Potosi Research Project**

The Whales of Potosi Research Project aims to survey a group of endangered humpback whales in a little explored area of Mexico, provide impoverished fishermen with a means to survive without further depleting natural resources and promote a unique region as worth visiting and protecting.

For information on how to support the project and get involved, please contact Katherina Audley at 415-847-7295 or via e-mail at [k@kpetunia.com](mailto:k@kpetunia.com).