



Ref.No: 13/068

Dear Madame/Sir,

I venture to seek for your support in the wider dissemination of the "[Northern Aegean Dolphins Project](#)", a new volunteer project on dolphin-sightings, designed and implemented by MOM/The Hellenic Society for the Study and Protection of the Monk Seal¹.

This project has been recently launched, is implemented solely in English and will be carried out from June 15th until the end of September 2013, in the wider area of the National Marine Park of Alonnisos, Northern Sporades (Greece), currently the largest marine protected area in Europe (approximately 2.260 km²), hosting various marine mammal species. Attached you will find the project's brochure, along with some photographic material.

Dolphin sightings are common in the National Marine Park of Alonnisos. However, no systematic research efforts to study dolphins (and whales) have been carried out in the area so far. Research focusing on the local dolphin populations, the identification of important dolphin-congregation or passage areas and the compilation of a photo-identification catalogue of individuals/groups, will prove to be an invaluable asset, providing both better understanding of the precious ecosystem dynamics within the park and serving as a baseline to design and measure effective conservation strategies.

This project is an effort to learn more about dolphin populations and it involves daily field surveys at sea, collecting data and working on the side of MOM's researchers, along with evening seminars, which will provide the participants with valuable experience and insight on Greece's precious marine ecosystem.

On behalf of MOM, I kindly ask you to consider promoting this volunteer project via your site, in order for it to gain wide recognition and promote Greece's natural environment and wildlife abroad.

Please do not hesitate to communicate with us for additional information or other promotional material concerning the project.

Thanking you in advance for your time and disposition,

Yours Faithfully,

Androniki Pardalou
Northern Aegean Dolphins Project Coordinator

MOM/The Hellenic Society for the Study and Protection of the Monk Seal
18 Solomou str., 10682 Athens, Greece
Tel. +30 210 5222888, Mob. +30 6948 084725, Fax.: +30 210 5222450
Web-site: www.mom.gr, e-mail: info@mom.gr

¹ MOM/The Hellenic Society for the Study and Protection of the Monk Seal (www.mom.gr) is a not-for-profit, non-governmental environmental organisation, established in 1988. MOM's mission is "the protection of the marine and coastal environment, focusing on the critically endangered Mediterranean monk seal.