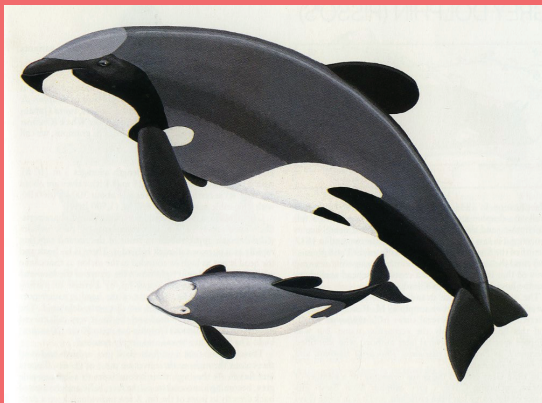


Hector's and Maui's Dolphins

Hector's Dolphin is one of the smallest dolphins, and it is also one of the rarest. They are about 50 cm long at birth and can grow to a maximum of 1.8 metres. They live exclusively around New Zealand and the best place to look for them is in shallow water close to the shore. It is most abundant between Cook Strait and Foveaux Strait. They enter estuaries and they have been known to swim up rivers. They eat fish, squid and crustaceans.

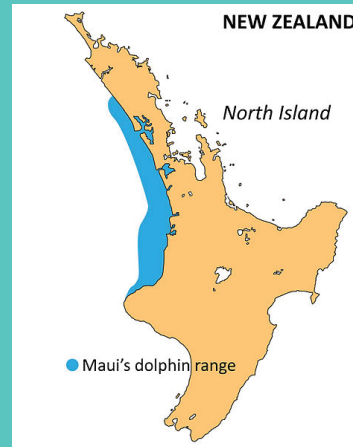
In 2002 Maui's dolphins were classified as a sub-species of Hector's dolphin.

They are found exclusively on the West coast of the North Island, New Zealand. As of 2012, it is estimated that 55 Maui's dolphins exist in the world. They are very rare and endangered.



Maui's and Hector's are the only dolphins with a well-rounded black dorsal fin.

They have distinctive grey, white and black markings and a short snout



Maui's dolphins are found in isolated pockets along the North West coast of the North Island, between Dargaville and New Plymouth.

They live in small pods of 1 to 5 dolphins within 5 nautical miles of the coast.



There are four genetically distinct populations of Hector's dolphin: off the west coast of North Island, and the west, east and south coasts of South Island.

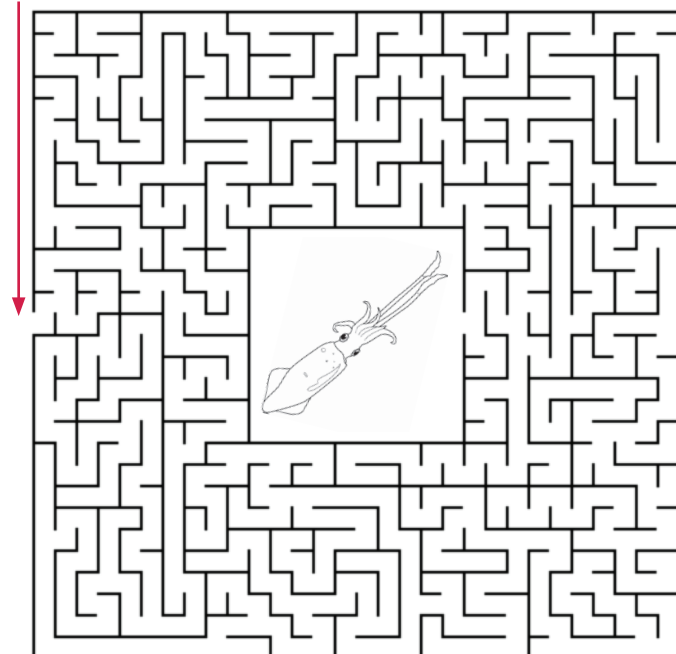
A current estimate puts the population at around 7,400 individuals.

Maze



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