

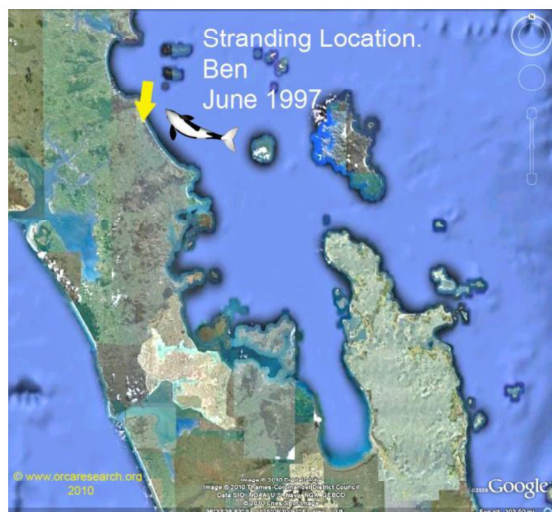
BEN



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STRANDING DATE: June 1997

STRANDING LOCATION: Mangawhai Beach, Northland, New Zealand



DURATION ON THE BEACH: Approximately 21 hours

RESIGHTED: Yes. More than 10 times

MOST RECENT RESIGHTING: Bay of Islands (North Island)



BEN & Dr INGRID VISSER.
photo: Terry Hardie /
Orca Research Trust

OTHER COMMENTS: A year after Ben was rescued he was run over by a boat. He survived, but his dorsal fin has collapsed and it now hangs down into the water. This damage now affects the hydrodynamics (streamlining effect) of Ben as he swims through the water. This results in a strong drag on the fin, which is beginning to open again at the base. We are concerned about what will happen to Ben in the future.

Check out the scientific article about the rescue of Ben at www.orcaresearch.org/research

Visser, I. N. & Fertl, D. C. (2000) Stranding, resighting and boat strike of a killer whale (*Orcinus orca*) off New Zealand. *Aquatic Mammals* 26(3): 232-240.



DIGGING OUT BEN'S PECTORAL FINS.



BEN IN RESCUE SLING.



BEN'S CUT DORSAL FIN.

photos: Ingrid Visser / Orca Research Trust