

IGPC Highlights Marine Life

Last April and May the Inter-Governmental Philatelic Corp. orchestrated a multi-nation series featuring Marine Life.

On April 10 Mustique issued this sheetlet featuring the Bottlenose Dolphin.

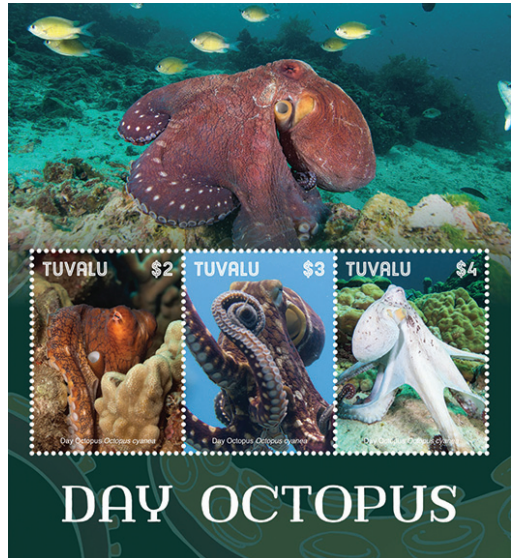
Mustique is a small private island that is one of the Grenadines, a chain of islands in the West Indies, and is part of St. Vincent and the Grenadines. The island is owned by the Mustique Company, a private limited company which is in turn owned by the island's home owners. Its year-round population of about 500 rises to 1,200 in peak season.



The common bottlenose dolphin has a bigger brain than humans. Numerous investigations of bottlenose dolphin intelligence include tests of mimicry, use of artificial language, object categorization, and self-recognition. This intelligence has driven considerable interaction with humans.

Also on April 10 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines itself issued

this sheetlet for the West Indian Manatee. The West Indian manatee, or “sea cow”, also is known as the American manatee. It was placed on the Endangered Species List in the 1970s, when there were only several hundred left. By 2017, the U.S. was able to reclassify the manatee from endangered to threatened as the number of sea cows had increased to over 6,000.



Two additional issues come from Tuvalu. Formerly known as the Ellice Islands, it is a Polynesian island country in the Pacific Ocean, situated in Oceania, about midway between Hawaii and Australia.

One of the issues, released on April 10, features the Striped Dolphin, one of three endangered species in Tuvalu.

The other issue, released on May 1, features the Day Octopus. This species gets its name from the fact that, while most octopuses hunt at night, this species spends its days stalking crabs, clams and fishes. Because it forages during daylight, it has exceptional camouflage skills, and can transform its skin into long, lumpy ridges, mimicking nearby corals, rocks or algae.

For details on these and other topical worldwide issues, please go to the IGPC website, www.igpc.com.