Camera Equipment Recommendations

The ideal way to log seabird, whale, turtle, and other marine wildlife sightings, as well as debris and marine pollution, is with geo-tagged documentary photographs.

Ideally, your camera setup should include:

- · zoom capability
- vibration reduction
- · automatic geotagged location data

Below are a range of recommendations when camera-outfitting for your voyage:

1) Point-and-Shoot Super Zoom Cameras

These cameras are small all-in-one units, much like a "tourist camera," but with a zoom lens.

Nikon P520: A 42x optical zoom (24mm-1000mm equivalent) with optical stabilization and in-camera GPS. (Retail Price US\$450)

Sony HX200: A 30x optical zoom (29mm-870mm equivalent) with optical stabilization and in-camera GPS. (Retail Price US\$350)

Fuji FinePix F770EXR: A 20x optical zoom (25mm-500mm equivalent) with image stabilization and incamera GPS. Retail Price US\$330.

To reduce cost, another option is to purchase the comparable earlier camera model, such as the Nikon P510, Sony HX100, or Fuji F600EXR.

2) Adapting a DSLR Camera

If you already own a digital single-lens-reflex camera body, you can add a zoom lens and a hot-shoe geotagger.

Sample Zoom Lenses with Vibration Reduction:

Canon 70-300mm EF (Retail Price US\$1,400) Nikon 70-300mm VR (Retail Price US\$600) Tamron 18-270mm PZD (Retail Price \$450)

Be sure to work with a camera shop to insure compatibility with your camera model.

Geotaggers:

Canon GP-E2 GPS (Retail Price US\$390) Nikon GP-1 GPS (Retail Price US\$300) Phottix Geo One GPS (Retail Price US\$160)

Polarizing Filter

Add a polarizing filter to your DSLR lens. This screw-on accessory protects your lens from salt and improves images taken in the glare of sun and water. (Retail Price US\$100-\$200)

Prepared by SeaBC Sea Bird Count (www.birdingaboard.org) with assistance from National Camera Exchange (www.natcam.com)

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