

# VOYAGE IN PRINCIPITO

## PART-3a Isla Socorro Mexico to Puntarenas Costa Rica

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### ISLA SOCORRO to PUNTARENAS COSTA RICA

The next day, under power [sic] we left. We were no more than a quarter mile out when a small, about 30+ foot Humpback whale, shot out of the water and landed with a flop about 200 yards off our starboard bow. I was raising the genoa at the time. He or she dove and did it again. I could imagine what disastrous consequences would occur if the whale brushed up against our hull. The whale was about the same size as our hull, maybe a little longer. Humpbacks can weigh as much as 30-50 tons no contest for our 9 tons.

We tried, however in vain, to catch and land some fish. We always provision the boat without counting on catching anything. Then it's always a bonus when we do. We trailed the hand line first day out and caught a Northern Blue Footed Booby, had to pull it in and cut the hook and pull it out of their long snapping beaks and sharp little teeth. After that we pulled in the line and stowed it. A proper lure would have traveled deeper below the surface and possibly avoided snagging birds. I can't wait to get somewhere I can pick up an ocean rig with a large reel, an adjustable brake and a [gaff hook](#) to retrieve the bigger fish.

I haven't seen small fish anytime offshore. We had birds following us for days now. We're trending South East to not

sail further away from the coast which trends East at this latitude.

This leg of our voyage would be the longest so far, 1,630 miles. With steady winds we can expect to be two and half weeks or so (18-19 days) at sea to reach Puntarenas.

Meanwhile family and friends are engaged in their daily lives and most of us find a lot of comfort in having a routine. I know I do. Going to the same restaurant, pub or cafe etc... surrounded by people we know and an environment we are familiar with. I don't think a lot of us realize how important that is until you come up against the anti-routine aspect of sailing about.

There is no bone crunching schedule now. Just a general plan. Get to Cabo by May. Stay 2 days or 20 depending on what's there of interest to you and also depending on what needs to be changed or repaired at that moment. The more distance you get from your "life of necessity" [LON] I'll call it – the more out of sync you become with those things that made you comfortable in it.