Government of Canada Gouvernement du Canada

# Report a marine mammal or sea turtle incident or sighting

# I want to report something that happened or something I saw

## Marine mammal or sea turtle in trouble?

I want to report something happening right now.

▼ I see someone abusing or harassing a marine mammal or a sea turtle

If you see abuse or harassment (fisheries violation), contact the following 24-hours/day toll-free numbers:

- Marine VHF radio channel 16
- Report a fisheries violation (PDF, 63 KB)

▼ I see an injured, stranded, entangled or dead marine mammal or sea turtle

If you see an injured, stranded, entangled or dead animal, contact the emails or 24-hours/day toll-free numbers below.

Be prepared to note:

- Date, time, and location (lat./long.) of animal
- Type of animal
- Behaviours of the animal observed
- Entangling gear
- Visible injuries

Keep your distance and follow the *Marine Mammal Regulations*.

Do **not** touch or move an animal yourself because:

you may accidentally harm it or yourself
it may carry diseases that could transfer to you

| **Region** | **Contact Information** |
|---|---|
| Pacific | • **BC Marine Mammal Response Network (Observe, Record, Report)**<br>1-800-465-4336<br>DFO.ORR-ONS.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca<br>• VHF Channel 16 |
| Central & Arctic | • **Northwest Territories - Inuvik**: 1-867-777-7500<br>• **Northwest Territories - Yellowknife**: 1-867-669-4900<br>• **Nunavut - Iqaluit**: 1-867-979-8000 |
| Quebec | • **Quebec Marine Mammal Emergency Response Network (QMMERN)**:<br>1-877-722-5346<br>reseau@gremm.org |

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|---|---|
| New Brunswick, Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island | • **Marine Animal Response Society**: 1-866-567-6277 mars@marineanimals.ca VHF Channel 16<br>• **Canadian Sea Turtle Network** 1-888-729-4667 (toll-free) info@seaturtle.ca Canadian Sea Turtle Network |
| Newfoundland & Labrador | • **Whale Release and Strandings Newfoundland and Labrador (Tangly Whales Inc.)**: 1-888-895-3003 or 1-709-895-3003 |

## I saw a live marine mammal or sea turtle

Help us track these aquatic animals to better understand these species and to help keep them safe.

▼ Report a sighting of a live marine mammal or sea turtle

If you see a marine mammal or a sea turtle, take a photograph and make sure you note important details and characteristics that might help to identify or locate it including:

- Date, time, and location (lat./long.) of animal
- Type of animal (species if possible)
- Sighting distance
- Description of key body parts, including color, any tags or unique markings
- Estimated length of the animal
- Behaviours of the animal observed (and your degree of

confidence in the identification)
Number of individuals
If possible, photographs and video of the animal, especially of the tail, flukes, and flippers. Please ensure you are complying with the requirements of the *Marine Mammal Regulations* (minimum approach distances) and taking photos from a safe location using your camera's zoom function.

| **Region** | **Contact Information** |
|---|---|
| Pacific | Report healthy and live marine mammal or sea turtle sightings for research purposes. Is the animal injured, stranded or dead?<br>• Phone: 1-866-I SAW ONE (472-9663)<br>• Ocean Wise Sightings Network<br>• Download the WhaleReport app |
| Central & Arctic | • Northwest Territories – Inuvik: 1-867-777-7500<br>• Northwest Territories – Yellowknife: 1-867-669-4900<br>• Nunavut – Iqaluit: 1-867-979-8000 |
| Quebec, New Brunswick, Nova Scotia & Prince Edward Island | • **Maritimes Region Whale Sightings Database**<br>XMARWhaleSightings@dfo-mpo.gc.ca<br>• **Canadian Sea Turtle Network**<br>1-888-729-4667 (toll-free)<br>info@seaturtle.ca<br>Canadian Sea Turtle Network |
| Newfoundland & | • Marine mammal: |

| | |
|---|---|
| Labrador | dfo.nlscmammalandturtlesightings-observmamifettortuessctnl.mpo@dfo-mpo.gc.ca |

▼ Report a sighting of a live North Atlantic right whale

If you see a free-swimming North Atlantic right whale (NARW), report it as soon as possible (ideally the same day or shortly after) to: DFO.GLFWhales-BaleinesGLF.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca. If you see an injured, stranded, entangled or dead marine mammal or sea turtle, please refer to the specified contact information.

For a free-swimming NARW, include the following details in your report:

- GPS location (latitude and longitude)
- Date and time of the sighting
- Number of whales observed
  Behaviour (for example: feeding, travelling, diving)
  Description of animal, highlighting unique markings or features
  If possible, photographs and video of the animal, especially of the tail, flukes, and flippers. Please ensure you are complying with the requirements of the *Marine Mammal Regulations* (minimum approach distances) and taking photos from a safe location using your camera's zoom function.

# I made accidental contact with a marine mammal

▼ Reporting accidental contact with a marine mammal is required within my conditions of licences

## I am a Fish Harvester

Fish Harvester Form (PDF, 1.2 MB)

Do **not** touch or move an animal yourself because:

- you may accidentally harm it or yourself
- it may carry diseases that could transfer to you

## I am an At-Sea Observer

At-Sea Observer Form (PDF, 1.1 MB)

Do **not** touch or move an animal yourself because:

- you may accidentally harm it or yourself
- it may carry diseases that could transfer to you

▼ I am a member of the public and I want to report accidental contact with a marine mammal

This form is for the general public, such as recreational fish harvesters, recreational boaters or recreational whale watchers, as well as commercial whale watching organizations.

## I am a member of the public

Member of the public form (PDF, 1.2 MB)

Do **not** touch or move an animal yourself because:

- you may accidentally harm it or yourself

it may carry diseases that could transfer to you