




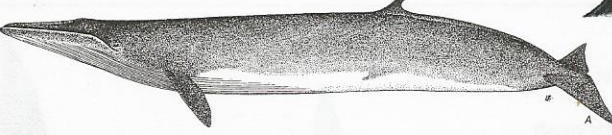





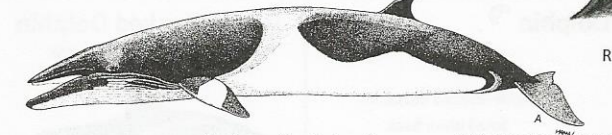


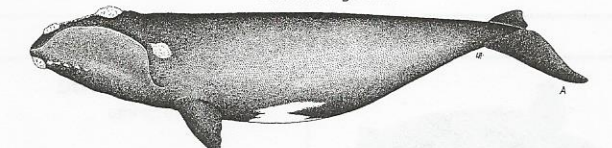


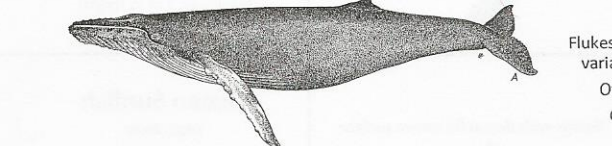






MARINE SPECIES IDENTIFICATION GUIDE
COMMON TO THE BAY OF FUNDY AND SCOTIAN SHELF REGION

LARGE MAMMALS

<p>Usually solitary or in small groups</p>  <p>Up to 10 m high column-shaped blow</p> <p>Flat U-shaped head with large splashguard in front of blowholes</p>	<p>Blue Whale <i>Balaenoptera musculus</i></p>  <p>HUGE Maximum 32 m in length</p>	<p>Small dorsal fin, far back on body</p>   <p>Often raises flukes when diving</p> <p>Mottled blue-grey colouration</p>
<p>Occasionally leaps clear of water</p>  <p>Up to 6 m high column-shaped blow</p>	<p>Finback Whale <i>Balaenoptera physalus</i></p>  <p>Only the right side lower jaw is white</p> <p>Maximum 23 m in length</p>	<p>Blowholes surface briefly before dorsal fin emerges</p>  <p>Rarely raises flukes when diving</p>
<p>Usually solitary or in small groups</p>  <p>Up to 4.5 m high column-shaped blow</p> <p>White oval-shaped scars often visible</p>	<p>Sei Whale <i>Balaenoptera borealis</i></p>  <p>Maximum 19 m in length</p>	<p>Dorsal fin and blowholes appear simultaneously</p>  <p>Rarely arches back or raises flukes when diving</p> <p>May blow several times and then dive for a short period</p>
<p>Usually solitary or in small groups</p>  <p>Up to 2.5 m bushy blow, visible only in cold air</p>	<p>Minke Whale <i>Balaenoptera acutorostrata</i></p>  <p>Sharply pointed snout</p> <p>Maximum 9 m in length</p> <p>White band on pectoral fin</p>	<p>Dorsal fin is tall, very pointed and slightly hooked backward</p>  <p>Rarely raises flukes when diving</p> <p>Rarely breaches</p>
<p>Often at surface resting or socializing</p>  <p>Up to 3-5 m V-shaped blow</p> <p>Mostly black with a white callosities (rough patches) on head</p>	<p>North Atlantic Right Whale <i>Eubalaena glacialis</i></p>  <p>Maximum 17 m in length</p>	<p>Broad back with no dorsal fin</p>  <p>Wide triangular flukes</p> <p>Raises flukes when diving</p>
<p>Often solitary or in small social groups</p>  <p>Up to 3 m high blow, rounded and bushy</p> <p>White tubercles on head and lower jaw</p>	<p>Humpback Whale <i>Megaptera novaengliae</i></p>  <p>Maximum 18 m in length</p> <p>Very long pectoral fins with variable white pattern</p>	<p>Flukes serrated along trailing edge with variable white pattern on underside</p>  <p>Often raises flukes when diving</p> <p>Can be acrobatic: breaching, lob-tailing, spy-hopping</p>
<p>Usually offshore, solitary or in small groups</p> <p>Large square head</p>  <p>Up to 2.4 m blow angled forward and to the left from front of head</p>	<p>Sperm Whale <i>Physeter macrocephalus</i></p>  <p>Maximum 18 m in length</p>	<p>No dorsal fin, instead low hump and knobby ridges on back</p>  <p>Raises flukes before a deep dive that can last 30-60 minutes</p> <p>Flukes commonly serrated along trailing edge</p>


Usually found offshore in small groups

Northern Bottlenose Whale
Hyperoodon ampullatus

Distinct beak

Low bushy blow

Females have bulbous forehead
Males have a white, flattened forehead



Maximum 9 m in length

Sickle-shaped dorsal fin

Flukes high in air on deep dive
Flukes dark, large, rarely notched

Light yellowish-brown to grey in colour

Often seen in groups of 20-50

Long-Finned Pilot Whale
Globicephala melas

Strong blast up to 1.5 m high but difficult to see

Bulbous head

Pectoral fins long and sickle-shaped

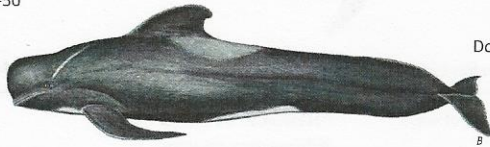
Maximum 6 m in length

Dorsal fin strongly curved, far forward on body

Often spy-hop

Young are playful at surface

Dark brown to black in colour



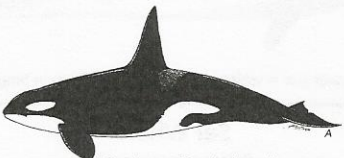
Seen in groups of 4-10 with groups tending to surface together

Sometimes spy-hop, lob-tail, and breach

Striking black and white pattern

Paddle-shaped flippers

Killer Whale
Orcinus orca



Maximum 9 m in length

Males have very tall, triangular dorsal fin

Females have a tall, curved dorsal fin

Harbour Porpoise
Phocoena phocoena


Triangular dorsal fin in centre of body

Dark grey back, lighter sides and belly

Small chunky body

Commonly seen inshore as single animal or in small groups

Only brief glimpses possible, dives for 3-6 minutes



Maximum 1.5 m in length

Common Dolphin
Delphinus delphis


Dark, sickle-shaped dorsal fin with light area in centre

Dark 'saddle' below dorsal fin

Distinct dark beak

Often seen breaching or bow-riding

More common offshore, in large groups



Maximum 2.7 m in length


Atlantic White-Sided Dolphin
Lagenorhynchus acutus

Sickle-shaped dorsal fin

Small black beak

Solid white patch on sides, tan streak extending almost to flukes

Groups of 20-50 inshore and offshore during summer



Maximum 2.7 m in length

White-Beaked Dolphin
Lagenorhynchus albirostris


Tall, sickle-shaped dorsal fin

Dark with diffuse light patches on sides

Distinctive white beak

Groups of 5-25 animals inshore during summer

Splashy, noisy swimmer



Maximum 3.1 m in length

OTHER LARGE SPECIES


Leatherback Turtle
Dermochelys coriacea

Pinkish patch on top of head

Leathery carapace

Prominent ridging on back

Maximum 2.5 m in length




Loggerhead Turtle
Caretta caretta

Large head

Thick, heart-shaped carapace

Reddish-brown in colour

Maximum 1 m in length



Basking Shark
Cetorhinus maximus

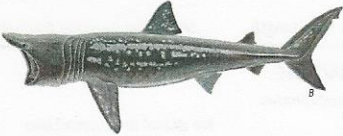
Swims with dorsal fin above surface

Breaches

Large gill slits

Very large shark

Maximum 10 m in length



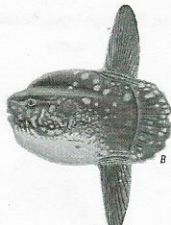
Ocean Sunfish
Mola mola

Often basks at surface on its side

Disk-like shape with no apparent tail

Brownish-grey in colour with white belly

Maximum 3 m in length



PLEASE REPORT SIGHTINGS INFORMATION: date, location coordinates, species and numbers, identification features and certainty, and photographs to :

email: XMARwhalesightings@dfp-mpo.gc.ca AND/OR Phone: 1-844-800-8568

^A Illustration Source: Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations, 2012, FAO ORIGINAL ILLUSTRATION ARCHIVE

^B Illustration Source: Paul Vecsei