



Welcome to The Whale Trail

Point Robinson

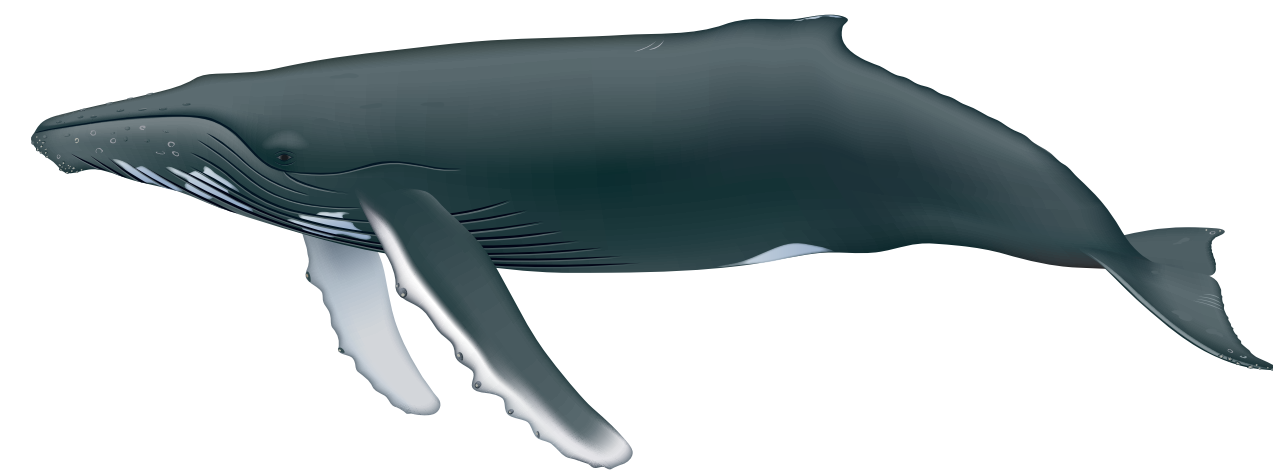


Orca (Killer whale) (*Orcinus orca*)

Length: Adult ♂ 26 ft • ♀ 23 ft • Calf 8 ft



Orcas are the largest member of the dolphin family. Highly intelligent and social, they live in tightly bonded family groups their entire lives. Three pods of fish-eating orcas (J, K and L) are resident to Washington State. These iconic mammals were listed as Endangered in 2005.

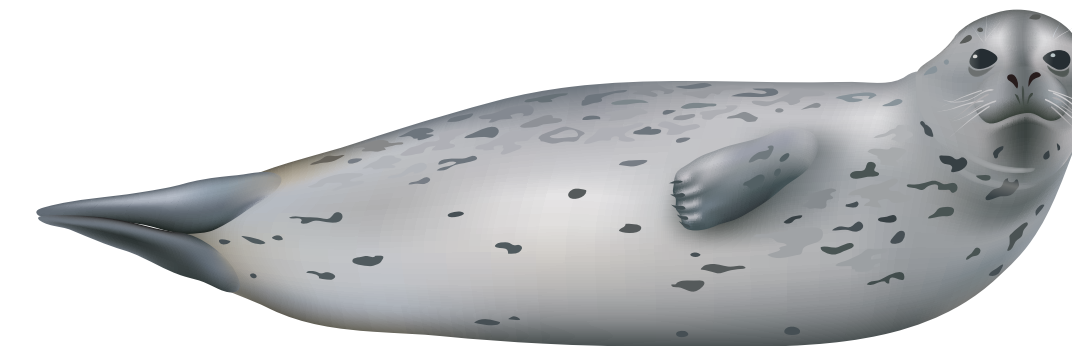


Humpback Whale (*Megaptera Novaeangliae*)

Length: Adult ♂ 49 ft • ♀ 60 ft • Calf 16 ft



Humpback whales are known for their complex songs, and long pectoral fins. Their yearly migration is the longest of any mammal. Listed as endangered in 1973, the population is slowly recovering. Individuals can be identified by the patterns on their tail flukes.

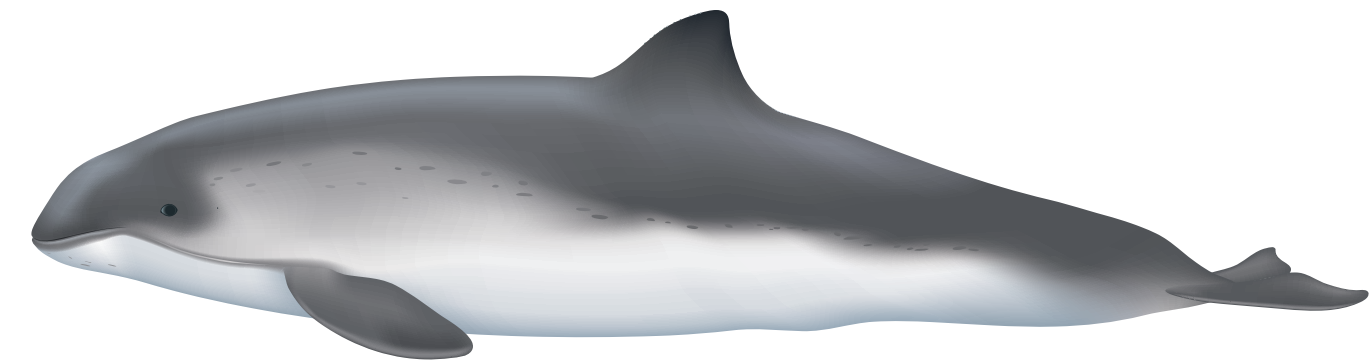


Harbor Seal (*Phoca vitulina*)

Length: Adult 6 ft • Pup 3 ft



Harbor seals are the most common marine mammal in the Pacific Northwest. Pups are left on the beach while their mother feeds for extended periods; please stay at least 100 yards away.



Harbor Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*)

Length: Adult 5 ft • Calf 30 in



Harbor porpoise travel in small groups of up to ten animals. They are often seen hunting baitfish such as smelt and herring.



River Otter

(*Lontra canadensis*)

Length: Adult (with tail) 4-5 ft Pup 4.5 in



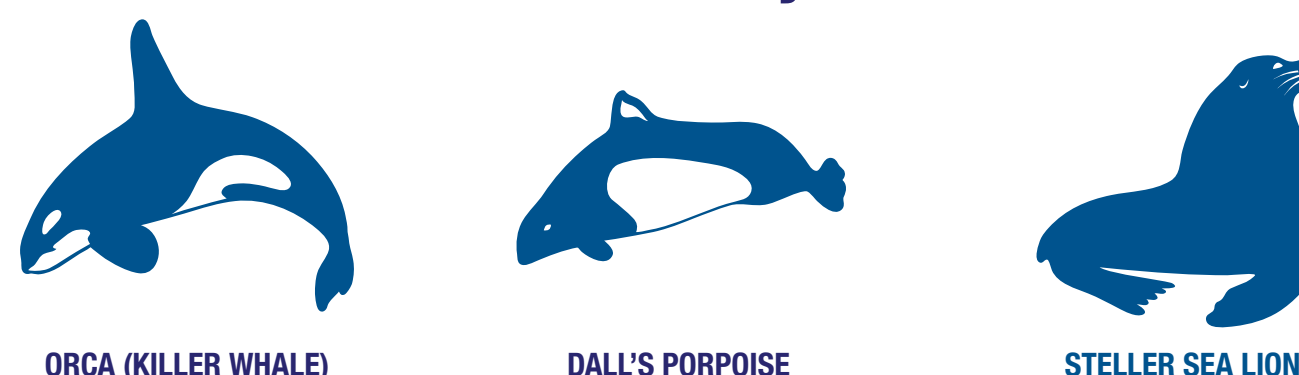
River otters are a common sight along shorelines, especially at dawn and dusk. Unlike sea otters, they swim on their bellies and are found in fresh and salt water throughout the Pacific Northwest.

Mammals you can expect to see in this marine environment

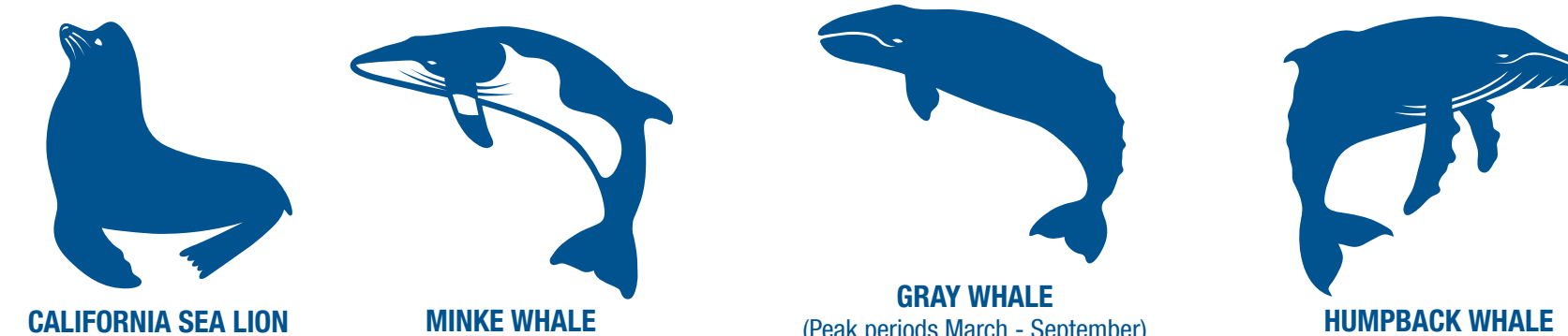
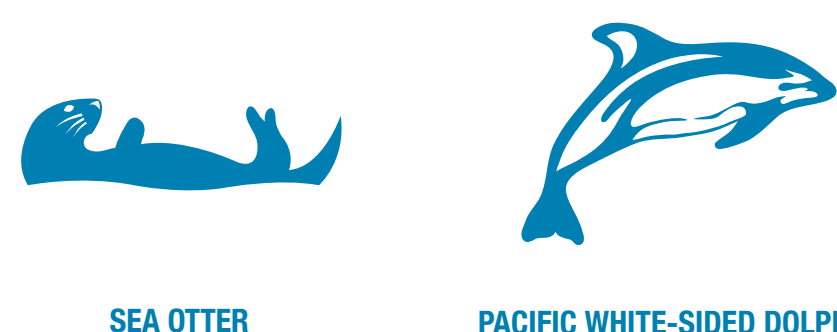
Often seen



Occasionally seen



Rarely seen



Ecosystems in trouble

Orcas and salmon are icons of the Pacific Northwest. But they face an uncertain future due to pollution, loss of habitat, and the threat of oil spills. Fishing, shellfishing, recreation and human health all depend on healthy ecosystems.

You can help

Everyone has a role to play in protecting our marine environment. Commit to treading lightly on the earth. Volunteer on projects to restore and preserve our salmon runs and watersheds, educate yourself and your community, and ask public decision makers to support strong shoreline protections.

Keep your distance

Enjoy watching marine wildlife without causing them harm or placing your personal safety at risk. View animals from a distance where they won't be disturbed. Don't touch, feed or chase wildlife. Keep pets leashed and away from marine animals.

Point Robinson

Point Robinson is an ideal place to watch marine mammals. Strong currents create a deep natural channel that stirs up nutrients and attracts schools of baitfish. The baitfish, in turn, attract salmon and marine mammals close to shore. Sometimes orcas are just yards from the beach!

Fall and winter are the best times of year to see resident orcas—usually J and K pods—as they follow salmon into the Sound. Transient orcas hunt marine mammals, and might be seen any time of year. Orcas can be identified by their saddle-patches, their dorsal fins, and their calls.

Humpback whales are making a comeback on the Pacific Coast, and are increasingly seen in south Puget Sound. Playful harbor seals and foraging river otters can be seen almost any time of year.

Please leave this treasure as you find it. Shells, rocks, and driftwood should be left in place so this habitat can continue to flourish.

The Whale Trail is a nonprofit organization in partnership with



For a complete list of
Whale Trail sites go to
www.thewhaletrail.org

