

MARINE MAMMAL SIGHTING



NOAA/NMFS/AFSC/NMML
 Platforms of Opportunity
 7600 Sand Point Way NE
 Seattle, WA 98115

Observer(s) _____ Vessel _____

year:

Y	R		
1	2	3	4

 month:

M	O		
5	6	7	8

 day:

D	A		
9	10	11	12

 local time (24 hr. clock):

		:		
13	14	15	16	17

 +/- GMT:

+/-		
18	19	20

latitude:

		°					
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	28

 N/S:

29	30

 general location of vessel (optional) _____

longitude:

		°					
31	32	33	34	35	36	37	38

 E/W:

39	40

 sighting conditions:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
xint	good	fair	poor	27

 Beaufort:

28	29	30	31

 +/- water temp. _____ °C

species (common and/or scientific name) **Please fill out a form for each species** confidence:

<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
sure	likely	unsure

 sighting cue _____

closest approach:

				meters
41	42	43	44	45

 number sighted (best):

46	47	48	49

 number (minimum):

50	51	52	53

 number (maximum):

54	55	56	57

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observer:

58	59	60	61	62	63	64	65	66	67

 platform:

68	69	70	71

 vis.:

72

 species:

73	74

 count:

75

 sighting cue:

76	77	78

 photos:

79	80	81	82	83	84

 roll:

85	86	87	88

 frames:

89	90	91	92	93	94

 behaviors, cues and interactions:

95	96	97	98	99	100	101	102	103	104

 behaviors, cues and interactions:

105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114

 length multi:

115	116

Narrative

Make identifications only on specific features seen. Mention them here. Include body features, markings and coloration, associated organisms, elaborate on behaviors, etc. The most valuable sightings contain a good amount of detailed information.

Body Length Estimate

- < 3 m (< 10')
- 3-8 m (10-25')
- 8-16 m (25-50')
- 16-26 m (50-80')
- >26 m (>80')

Some common behaviors (circle these or add your own in narrative section)

Small cetaceans

- Bow riding
- Leaping entirely out of water
- Porpoising (swimming fast, body out of the water)
- Rooster-tailing (usually a Dall's porpoise cue)
- Slow rolling

Large cetaceans

- Blow visible from a distance
- Breaching
- Flipper slapping
- Group feeding
- Lob-tailing
- Spy-hopping
- Tail raised on dive
- Side wake riding
- Stern wake riding

Pinnipeds

- Jug handle (flippers in air)
- Porpoising (swimming fast, at least partially out of the water)
- Rafting
- Spooked from haulout
- Vocalizing

Fishing Interactions

- Contact with gear
- Contact with vessel
- Entangled in gear
- Feeding on discards
- Feeding from gear
- Following vessel while fishing
- Swimming near gear

Photos/Video (optional)

- photographs
- video

roll/tape # _____

frame(s) _____

Check here if there was more than one species of marine mammal present at this sighting.

Sketches

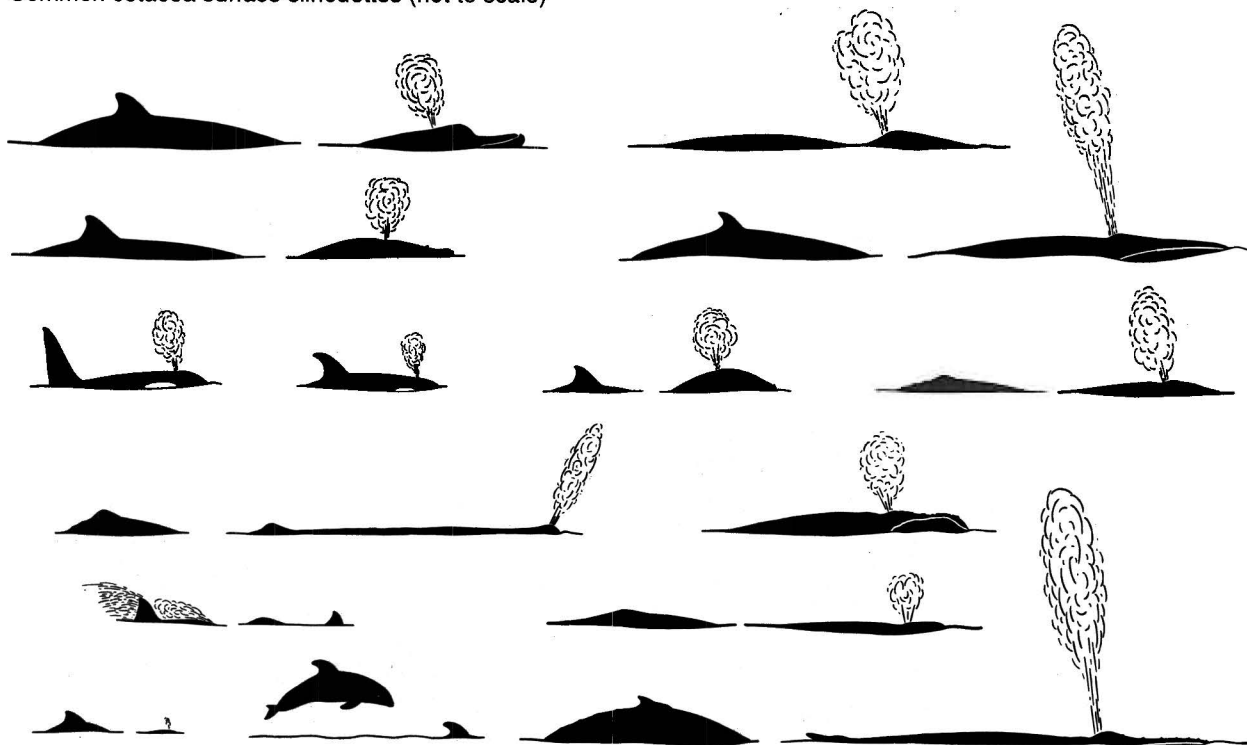
When possible, make a sketch noting pigmentation, anatomical features, scarring, posture, anatomical anomalies, group positioning, etc.

cruise number & permit number

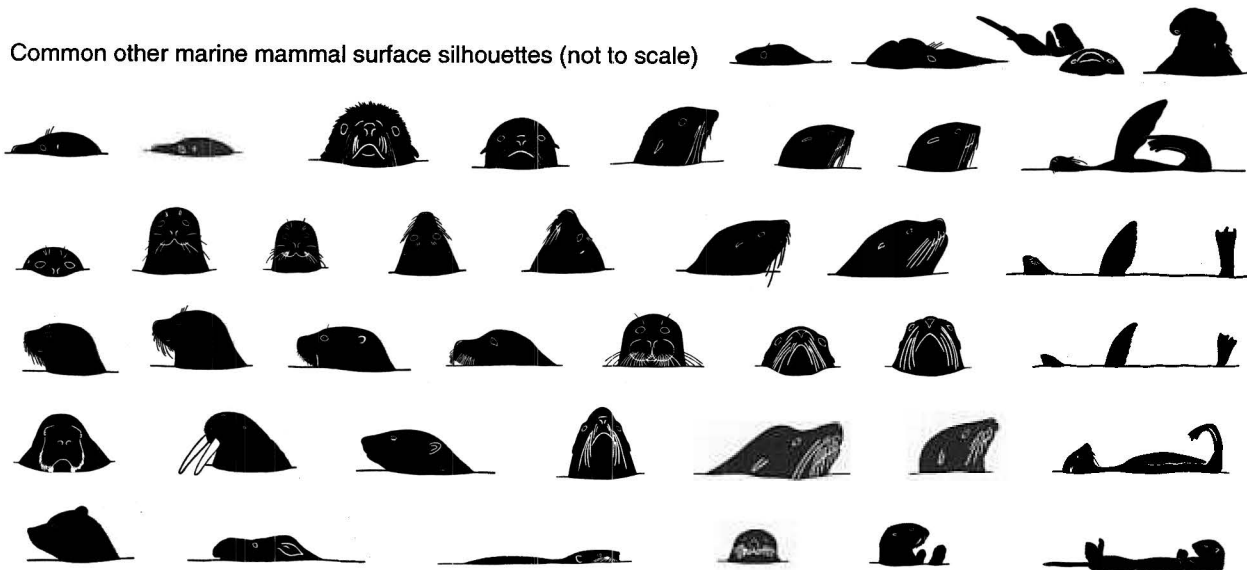
102	103	104	105	106	107	108	109	110	111	112	113	114	115	116	117	118	119	120	121

These are silhouettes of most genera of marine mammals known to occur in and around North America. Subtleties exist between closely related genera. Care should be taken in identifying species. Assessing one's level of confidence with copious notes and observations is more valuable than a brief misidentification. **Please circle appropriate silhouette(s).**

Common cetacea surface silhouettes (not to scale)



Common other marine mammal surface silhouettes (not to scale)



BEAUFORT SCALE (Sea Condition)		wind	wave height
0	glassy, calm	0 , 1 kts	calm
1	light ripple	1 < 4 kts	light air 1/4'
2	small wavelets	4 < 7 kts	light breeze 1/2'
3	scattered whitecaps	7 < 11 kts	gentle breeze 2'
4	small waves, frequent whitecaps	11 < 17 kts	moderate breeze 4'
5	moderate waves, many whitecap	17 < 22 kts	fresh breeze 6'
6	all whitecaps, some spray	22 < 28 kts	strong breeze 10'
7	breaking waves, spindrift	28 < 34 kts	near gale 14'
8	medium high waves, foamy streaks	34 < 41 kts	gale 18'
9	high waves, dense foamy streaks	41 < 48 kts	strong gale 22'
10-12	not meaningful (time to go home)		