

# MARINE MAMMAL/SEABIRD/SEA TURTLE INTERACTION AND SIGHTING FORM



**Trip Number**

**USCG #**

**Species** \_\_\_\_\_  
Common Name

**Haul #**   All Hauls  
(if applicable)  Multiple Hauls  
(List additional hauls in "Notes")

**Latitude** <sup>o</sup>  .  N

**Longitude** 1 <sup>o</sup>  .  W

**Date/Time** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Beaufort Scale**   
(See back of form)

▲ *When using form for multiple individuals from multiple hauls, complete above information for the first individual(s) encountered* ▲  
▼ *ALL information below must apply to ALL individuals/hauls. Separate form(s) required for distinct sightings/interactions and banded individuals* ▼

**Were all Individuals Inside the Tally Sample?**  
(Required for seabird takes only)  Yes (Random Sample)  No (Opportunistic)

**Identification Confidence**  Sure  Likely  Unsure

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

**Sighting Condition**  Excellent  Good  
 Fair  Poor

**Closest Approach**  
 meters

**Number Sighted (Best)**

**Number (Min)**

**Number (Max)**

## Notes & Identifying Characteristics

**Marine Mammals:** Describe Body Features, Markings, Coloration, and associated Organisms.  
**Seabirds:** Describe Plumage Coloration, Size (Body and Beak), Bill and Foot Color.  
**General:** Never include personally/business identifiable information (e.g., vessel name, crew name). Special characters (e.g., #, \*, +) are not allowed.

**Complete table for Banded Birds. If possible, retrieve USFWS bands ID# entered in database w/ other details**

Bird Bands	Leg (R/L)	Material	Color(s)	ID #	

## Interaction Codes

<input type="checkbox"/> Sighting Only <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding on Catch (not yet landed on vessel) <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding on Discarded Catch <input type="checkbox"/> Feeding on Offal Feeding on Bait <input type="checkbox"/> Attached to Hook <input type="checkbox"/> Floating Free <input type="checkbox"/> Boarded Vessel (own volition; not captured)	Species of Interest*
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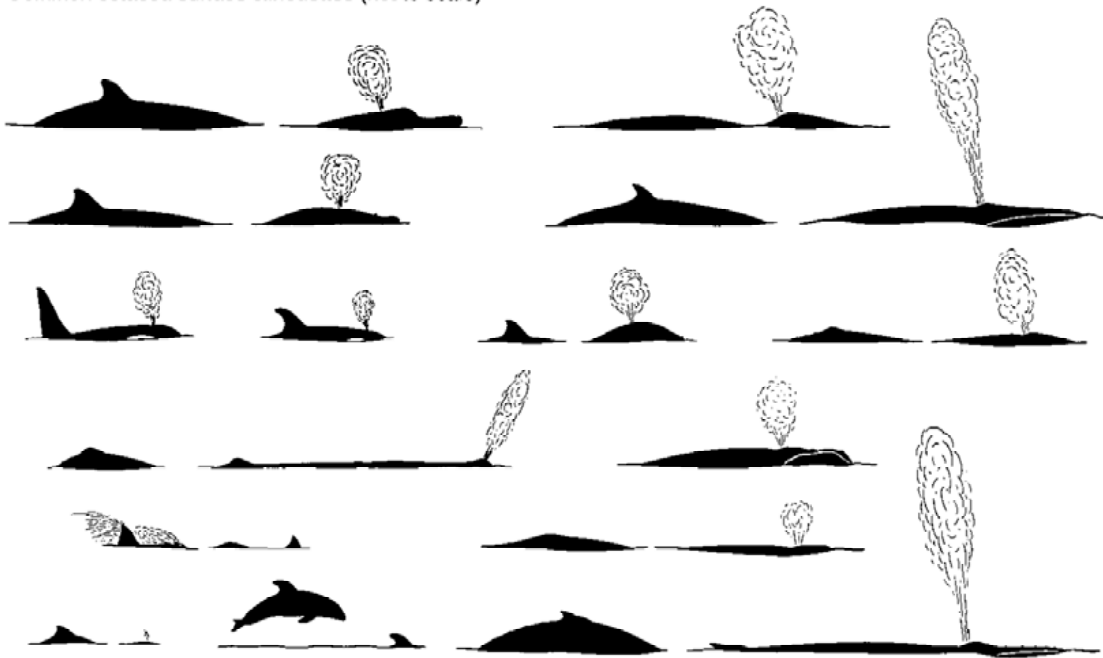
<input type="checkbox"/> Previously Dead Deterrence Used (not incl. "Seabird Avoidance Gear") <input type="checkbox"/> Seal Bomb <input type="checkbox"/> Firearm <input type="checkbox"/> Gaff <input type="checkbox"/> Yelling <input type="checkbox"/> Acoustic device <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe in "Notes" section) <input type="checkbox"/> Vessel Strike <input type="checkbox"/> Entangled in Gear - Not Trailing Gear (non-lethal) <input type="checkbox"/> Entangled in Gear - Trailing Gear (non-lethal) <input type="checkbox"/> Lethal Removal <input type="checkbox"/> Killed by Gear <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe in "Notes" section)	ALL Species
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## Interaction Outcome

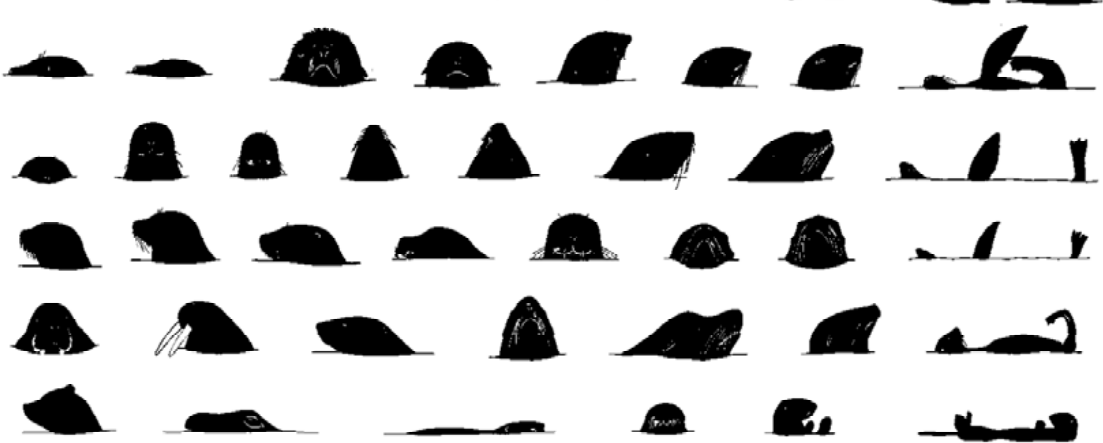
<input type="checkbox"/> Alive - No visible signs of injury <input type="checkbox"/> Alive - Visible signs of injury <input type="checkbox"/> Dead/Unresponsive Carcass <input type="checkbox"/> Not Applicable ("Sighting only" or "Previously Dead") <input type="checkbox"/> Unknown
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*(Behaviors listed on back)*

Common cetacea surface silhouettes (not to scale)



Common other marine mammal surface silhouettes (not to scale)



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.

## Behaviors

### Large Cetaceans

- Blow visible for a distance
- Breaching
- Flipper Slapping
- Group Feeding
- Lob-tailing
- Spy-hopping
- Tail raised on dive
- Side wake riding
- Stern wake riding

### Small Cetaceans

- Bow riding
- Leaping entirely out of water
- Porpoising
- Rooster-tailing
- Slow rolling

### Pinnipeds

- Jug handle
- Porpoising
- Rafting
- Spooked from haulout
- Vocalizing

### Sea Turtles

- Swimming
- Diving
- Floating/Basking
- Foraging
- Breathing

## Photos/Videos

- Photo(s) taken
- Video(s) taken

Media files/folders should be named as follows:

- Barcoded Specimen taken: BC + Barcode#  
(Ex: BC100334767)
- Tagged by Observer: TAG + Tag#  
(Ex: TAG887)
- All Others: Sector + Trip# + Haul# (if applicable)  
(Ex: CS65667H5, EFP45167H1)

**NEVER email photos of protected species!**

### \*Species of Interest:

**Marine Mammals:** ALL spp., except for CA sea lions

**Sea Turtles:** ALL spp.

**Seabirds:** ESA-listed spp. (*Short-tailed Albatross*, *Marbled Murrelet*, *CA Least Tern*), Pink-footed Shearwater, and any other rare species or species outside of normal range.

Beaufort	Sea Condition	Wave Height (in)	Wind (knots)	
0	glassy, calm	0	<1	calm
1	light ripples	1/4	1 - 3	light air
2	small wavelets	1/2	4 - 6	light breeze
3	scattered whitecaps	2	7 - 10	gentle wind
4	small waves, frequent whitecaps	4	11 - 16	moderate wind
5	moderate waves, many whitecaps	6	17 - 21	fresh wind
6	all whitecaps, some spray	10	22 - 27	strong wind
7	breaking waves, spindrift	14	28 - 33	near gale
8	medium waves, foamy streaks	18	34 - 40	gale
9	high waves, dense foamy streaks	22	41 - 47	strong gale
10	storm		time to go home	