



THE WATCH guide

A marine animal emergency could be an animal in distress, an injured animal or a dead animal. If you come across what you think could be a marine animal emergency, follow these five steps to report the incident and start a response.



#CMARA

1



CALL

your regional authority
as soon as possible

DFO's Observe,
Record, and Report
hotline (Canada)
1-800-465-4336

Fisheries and
Oceans Canada
(DFO) hotline (B.C.)
1-800-465-4336

Baleines en Direct
(QC)
1-877-722-5346

Marine Animal Response
Society (N.S., N.B., P.E.I.)
1-866-567-6277

Whale Release and
Strandings (NL)
1-709-895-3003 or
1-888-895-3003

Marine Mammal
Stranding and
Entanglement
Hotline (U.S.A.)
1-888-256-9840



2

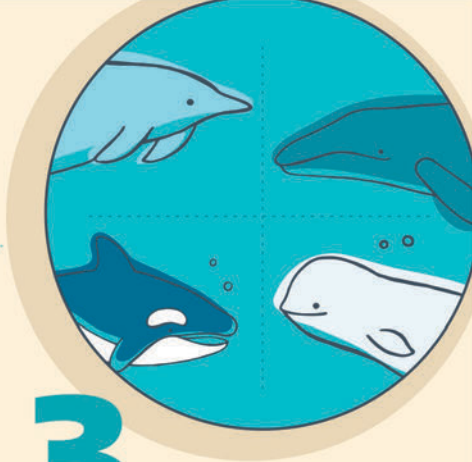
DETERMINE

if the animal is alive

Is the animal moving?

Is its blowhole opening and closing?

Are its nostrils moving or can you feel breath coming from them?



3

IDENTIFY

the species

What kind of marine animal is it?

Consult the ID guide if necessary.



4

RECORD observations

What is your location (GPS coordinates)?

What is the date and time of the incident?

How many animals are involved?

Describe the condition of the animal (whether it is alive or dead, its behavior, if it has any injuries, etc.).

Take photographs from multiple angles (full body shot, head, dorsal fin, tail, injuries or human interactions).

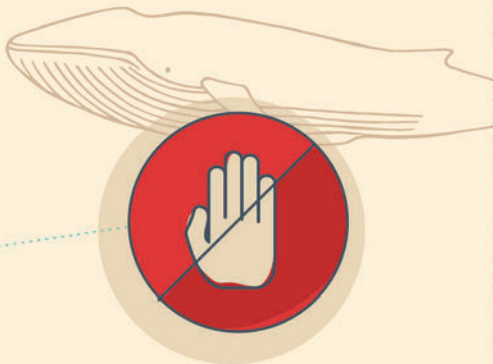


WAIT

5

for further direction from
the response network

You may be asked to stay with the animal until the response team arrives, or record more information or perform other tasks.



REMEMBER

Do not touch the marine animal and maintain your distance. This is for your safety and the safety of the animal. Wild animals in distress are more unpredictable, and incorrectly executed responses can cause further injury and distress an animal.

marineanimalresponse.ca

Founding Partners



CANADIAN WILDLIFE
FEDERATION
FÉDÉRATION
CANADIENNE DE LA FAUNE



British Columbia
Marine Mammal
Response Network



Whale Release & Strandings

NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR



RÉSEAU QUÉBÉCOIS D'URGENCES
POUR LES MAMMIFÈRES MARINS

Canada 

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