

North Atlantic Right Whale

V-shaped blow



Callosities

Baleen plates

No dorsal fin

Y-shape tail fluke

No throat grooves

Skin black with occasional white patches

Paddle shaped flippers

One of the most endangered whale species in the world!

- Listed as Endangered under the *Species at Risk Act*.
- Population estimated at about 336 individuals left in the world in October 2021.



Where North Atlantic Right Whales can commonly be found in North America

QUICK FACTS

- Callosity patterns are unique and allow scientists to identify individuals. They appear yellow or cream color due to the infestation of whale lice.
- Blubber can be as thick as 20 cm, which is about the length of an adult man's hand.
- Adults weigh about 60,000–70,000 kg.
- Adults can reach up to 17 meters in length.



(That's about as long as one and a half school buses!)

DIET

They feed on copepods, a small crustacean approximately the size of a grain of rice.



WHAT IS BEING DONE?

- **PROTECTION:** The Government of Canada has established management measures to protect North Atlantic Right Whales.
- **DETECTION:** Aircraft and ships are used for visual observations and underwater acoustic technology is used to identify whale calls.
- **RESEARCH:** Scientists use photographs to identify individual North Atlantic Right Whales to study their health and migration patterns.
- **RESCUE:** The Government of Canada and other teams work together to rescue North Atlantic Right Whales if one is in distress in Canadian waters.

THREATS

- Vessel strikes
- Fishing gear entanglements

HOW YOU CAN HELP

Report whales you see by email:
XMARWhaleSightings@dfo-mpo.gc.ca



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