



# Welcome to The Whale Trail

## Point No Point Lighthouse Park

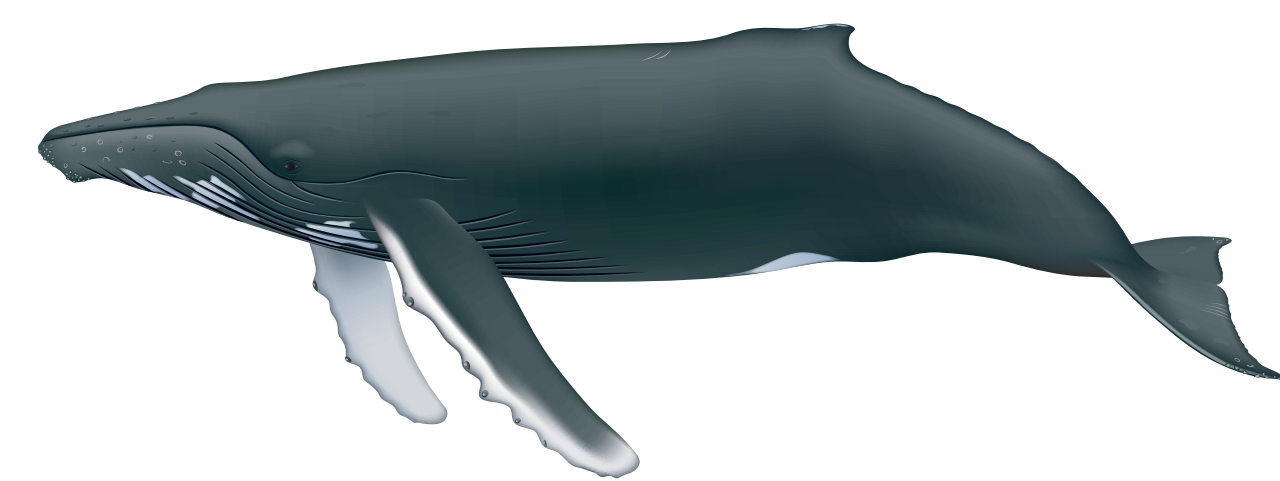


### Orca (Killer whale) (*Orcinus orca*)

**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.

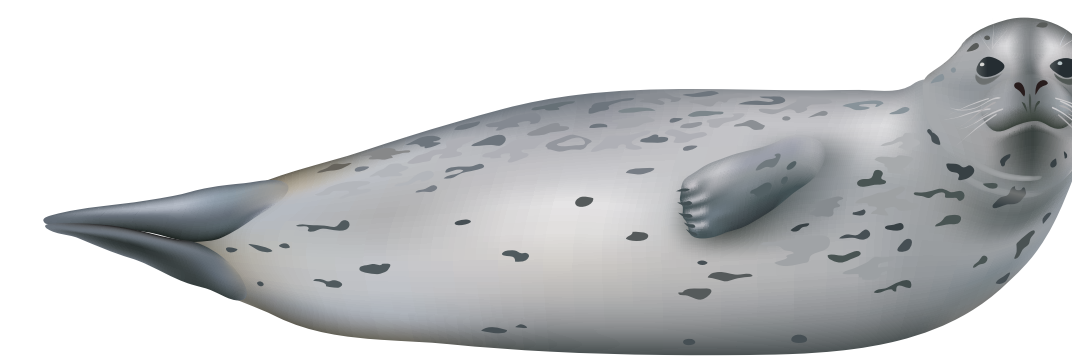


### Humpback Whale (*Megaptera Novaeangliae*)

**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.

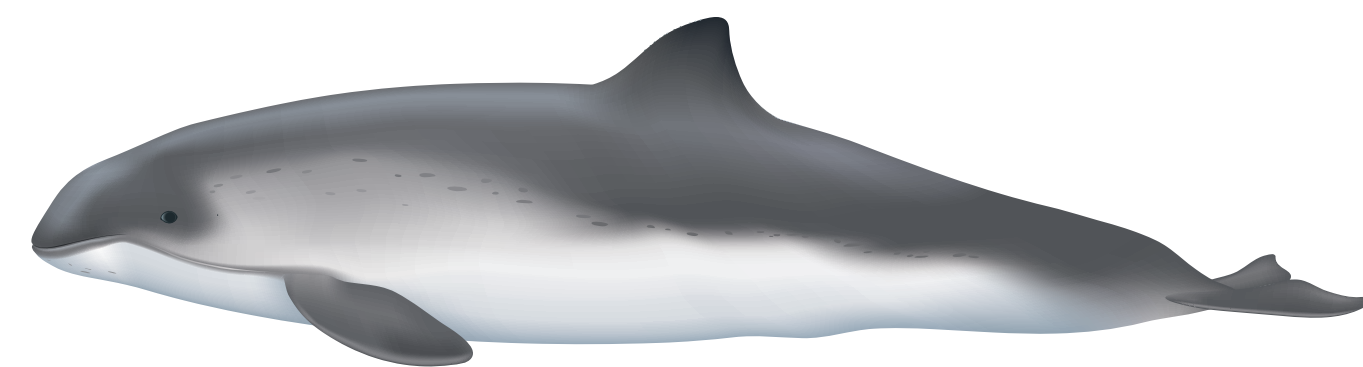


### Harbor Seal (*Phoca vitulina*)

**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



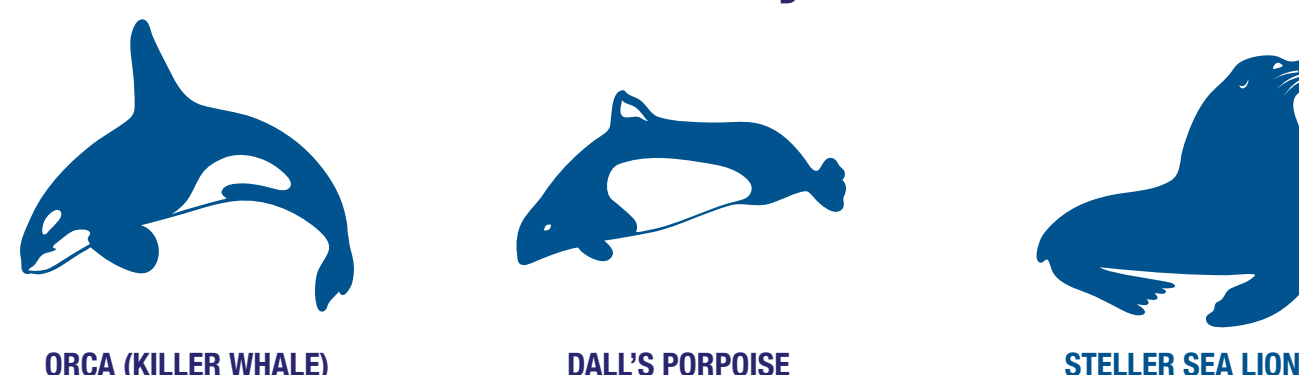
River otters are a common sight along shorelines, especially at dawn and dusk. Unlike sea otters, they swim on their bellies and are found in fresh and salt water throughout the Pacific Northwest.

#### Mammals you can expect to see in this marine environment

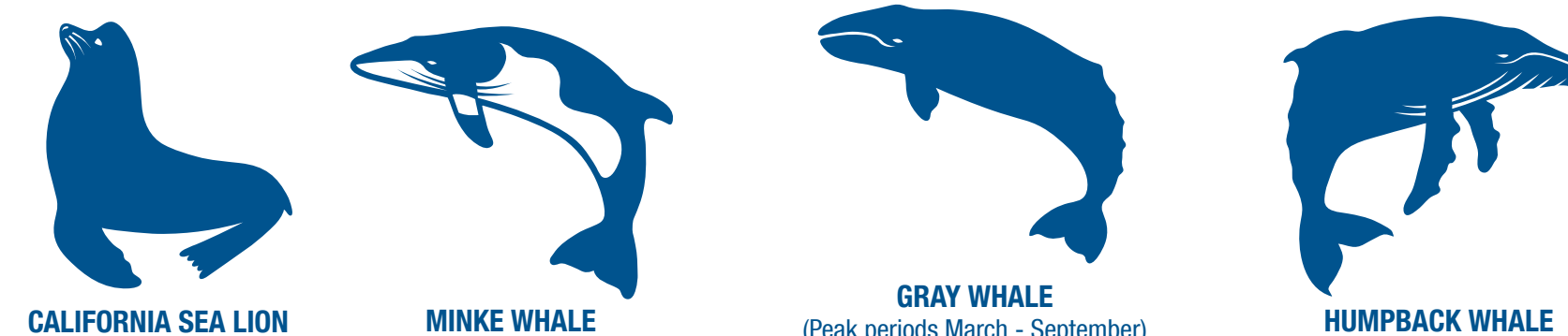
##### Often seen



##### 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 No Point Lighthouse Park

Point No Point Lighthouse Park is a great place to watch whales from shore. Look for resident orcas in the fall and winter, as they follow salmon into Puget Sound. Humpback whales and transient orcas are also known to visit the area.

Strong currents flow around the point—the junction of Admiralty Inlet and Puget Sound—creating a deep, natural channel and tidal eddies, stirring up nutrients and attracting schools of bait fish, which in turn draw salmon and marine mammals close to shore.

A freshwater marsh in the middle of the park adds to the biological richness of the site, making it a perfect resting place for birds as they negotiate the open waters of the Straits and the Pacific Flyway.

Weather permitting, enjoy views of Whidbey Island to the east, Mount Baker to the north, and the Seattle skyline and Mount Rainier to the south.

Please leave in place the shells, rocks, driftwood, and marine life, so this habitat can flourish.

The Whale Trail is a series of sites along the west coast where you may view orcas or other marine mammals from shore.

#### Mission:

Our mission is to inspire appreciation and stewardship of whales and our marine environment by establishing a network of viewing sites along the whales' trails through the Salish Sea and Pacific Coast.



The Whale Trail is a nonprofit organization in partnership with



Learn More! Visit [www.thewhaletrail.org](http://www.thewhaletrail.org)