

Whales and Dolphins BC

There are a number of whales, dolphins, and porpoises that live in the waters off of the coast of British Columbia. They are all classified as *Cetaceans*, the scientific name given to the whole group. For information about each species, go to https://whalesanddolphinsbc.com/.

Purpose: To determine the frequency of sightings of certain Cetacean species over a period of time.

Instructions if you want to use **Past Data**:

- 1. Go to the Sightings Archive Explorer. https://wildoceanwhale.org/SightingApps/SightingsMap.html?mode=archive
 A link to the Sightings Archive Explorer is also found in our regularly published Cetaceans sightings report at https://whalesanddolphinsbc.com under the "Sightings" section.
- 2. On the right side, there are three blue icons. Select the middle icon which looks like a funnel. This is the "Filter" function.
- 3. Select an "Issue No" from the drop down menu and a time period will be indicated. For example, if you select Issue Number 2016-031, then start date will indicate September 6th, 2016 and the finish date will show September 9th, 2016.
- 4. Look at the Legend on the bottom left of the screen and record the number of sightings for each species, indicated to the right of each species name.
- 5. Go back to the Issue No, and "Remove this Filter". Then, select the next successive Issue No (e.g. 2016-032) to get the data for the next successive time period. Repeat as needed to get the data you need.
- 6. Look for patterns in frequency. You could look for and identify areas with higher and lower frequencies of sightings.

Instructions if you want to use **Present/New Data**:

- 1. Go to the sightings report at https://whalesanddolphinsbc.com/latest_sightings/ and subscribe to email notifications.
- 2. Using the latest sightings report, record the date range. Then, determine the number of sightings of each species by doing **one** of the following: (a) Click on the "Issue Sighting Map" and look at the frequency indicated in the Legend on the bottom left.
 - (b) Scroll through the report (don't forget to read it too!) and count the number of sightings per species.
- 3. Wait for the notification by email of the release of the **next** Cetaceans Sighting Report, and come to the report to get the data. Repeat as needed to get the data you need.
- 4. Look for patterns in frequency. You could look for and identify areas with higher and lower frequencies of sightings.



Whales and Dolphins BC

<u>Species</u>	Date Range:	Date Range:	Date Range:	Date Range:
Harbour Porpoise				
Dall's Porpoise				
Pacific White-Sided Dolphins				
Minke Whale				
Gray Whale				
Humpback Whale				
Orca – Northern Resident				
Orca – Southern Resident				
Orca – Transient (Biggs)				
Orca - Unidentified				



Whales and Dolphins BC

Purpose: To d	letermine the freq	uency of daily si	ghtings of one sp	ecific Cetacean s	pecies over a per	iod of time (e.g. 2	2 weeks).
Day #	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Date							
Daily Sightings Count							
Location(s) with Highest Frequency							
Day #	8	9	10	11	12	13	14
Date					12		1.
Daily Sightings Count							
Location(s) with Highest Frequency							