

**IFAW Marine Mammal Stranding Hotline:
(508) 743-9548**

Forwarding Reports:

Live or Dead
Seals, Whales, Dolphins, Porpoises

**Call IFAW Hotline
(508) 743-9548**

Please ask report person & provide to IFAW:

- Keep a safe distance (150 ft away)
- Name and phone # of report person
- Type / number of animal(s)
- Specific location (address/beach name)

On Scene:

- Secure the scene and ensure human and animal safety
- Assess scene and update IFAW Hotline
- Assist IFAW staff as needed and if able
- Untrained, unauthorized individuals should not attempt to rescue stranded animals
- Photos and video are extremely helpful

IFAW is permitted by NOAA Fisheries to respond to stranded marine mammals on Cape Cod and Southeastern, MA.

Live Dolphins, Porpoises, or Whales



- All dolphins, porpoises and whales on land need assistance. IFAW will respond immediately.
- Keep people and pets away (150 ft).
- Those swimming nearshore may also need assistance.
- **Do not allow bystanders to move, pull, or push animals back into the water.**

Live Seals



- Seals on shore may be resting or may be in need of assistance.
- Instruct dog owners to leash their pets and stay back.
- **Do not allow bystanders to touch, feed, pour water on seal or move them back to the water.**

Dead Marine Mammals

- If the carcass is marked with a paint stick or is tagged, please note tag color and number.
- **Please do not have the carcass removed until we are able to respond.**

Additional supportive action under direction from IFAW staff:

Beach responses:

- Create a perimeter for human safety
- Assist with crowd control and with traffic control, if needed
- Keep gulls away from stranded animal(s)
- Assist IFAW staff with gaining access to and transporting animal(s)

On-water responses:

- Keep vessels away from animal(s) and clear of IFAW operating area
- Assist IFAW staff with vessels in gaining access to and transporting animal(s)

Other agencies to contact for other scenarios (not within IFAW's purview):



Stranded Sea Turtles

Massachusetts Audubon Society

1-508- 349-2615



Entangled Sea Turtles and Whales

Center for Coastal Studies

1-800-900-3622

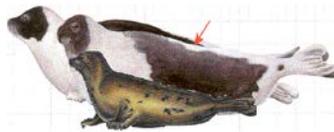
Abbreviated Guide to Cape Cod Marine Mammals

Seals commonly seen on Cape Cod (*juveniles are the most frequently seen age class*):



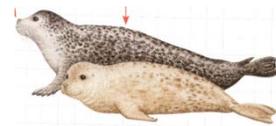
Gray seal

Adult: 5'10" – 8'2"



Harp seal

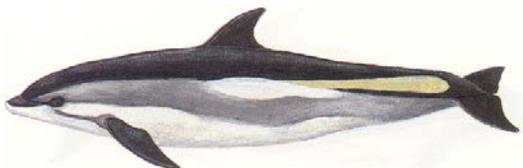
Adult: 5'3" – 6'2"



Harbor seal

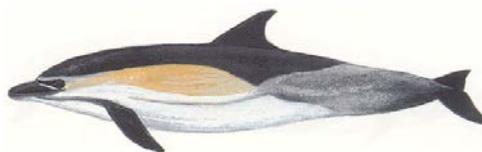
Adult: 4'11" – 6'2"

Dolphins and porpoises commonly seen on Cape Cod:



Atlantic white-sided dolphin

Adult: 7'2" – 8'10"



Common dolphin

Adult: 5'6" – 7'6"



Harbor porpoise

Adult: 4'7" – 5'6"