Marine Mammal Threats

Organisation for the Rescue & Research of Cetaceans in Australia
Marine Mammal Threats

Whales, seals, dolphins and dugongs all facing many threats, both onshore and out in the sea and oceans.

Some of these threats include;

- Commercial whaling;
- Ship strike;
- Pollution; ropes, nets, plastics
- Acoustic pollution: Scientists believe that acoustic noise pollution can interfere with marine mammal echo location which, in turn may prevent them from being able to detect ships, fishing nets or headlands. This has to be deleted or find scientific back up
- Climate change: this is bringing about more intense storms over our seas and oceans. Climate change has multiple and complex issues for animals and habitat to face – not just storms

Other factors which could bring a marine mammal to our shores include natural impacts such as shark or orca attacks, loss of mother, old age, young age to name a few.

SIMPLE WAYS YOU CAN HELP

Write to the Federal Environment Minister your local MP

Ask that all shark netting on beaches be removed and that marine parks along our coastlines be better protected from environmental impacts such as silt run off from farming, chemical pollution from pesticides, overfishing, oil spills and climate change.

Be Aware as a Consumer

When shopping, try not to use plastic. Take reusable shopping bags or use boxes to carry your purchases. Ocean rubbish pollution is at extremely high levels and very harmful to marine mammals. This results in many animals consuming unnatural materials while they are feeding, often resulting in their untimely death.

Take Responsibility and Action

Help to reduce the amount of pollution that enters our oceans by recycling your rubbish properly and responsibly. Take your rubbish with you after a day at the beach or at a BBQ, or simply remove any rubbish you might find washed up on your coastline when you are out walking.

Support Marine Parks and Sanctuaries

Marine parks offer a place of refuge for marine mammals. It can help safeguard their marine ecosystems from the various human impacts we inflict on our oceans.