



We need your help finding whales

The Southern Ocean Research Partnership (SORP) is an international consortium of scientists working closely with the International Whaling Commission to investigate the status of Southern Ocean whale populations using non-lethal techniques such as photo-identification, genetics and satellite tagging.

We are seeking images of all Southern Ocean and Antarctic whales to add to international research catalogues. In particular:

- blue whale flanks and dorsal fins
- killer whale dorsal fins and markings
- humpback whale flukes
- southern right whale callosities* and scars

These photographs will allow the identification of individual whales which can then be used to determine the movements and abundance of these iconic species.

Further information about these catalogues and photo identification techniques is available at:
www.marinemammals.gov.au/sorp/sightings

** Callosities are the white/grey patches of rough skin that form unique patterns on the heads of southern right whales*

Examples of photos suitable for individual identification



To report a whale sighting

Upload your digital photos using our online
whale sighting report form at:

www.marinemammals.gov.au/sorp/sightings

Or download a whale sighting report form [PDF] and record your sighting for upload at a later stage.

In submitting your data (i.e. your data record and your contact details as provided in your data entry form) and your images to the Australian Marine Mammal Centre (AMMC) of the Australian Antarctic Division you are agreeing to the terms and conditions outlined at www.marinemammals.gov.au/sorp/sightings