



# Your Choice Matters



## Promoting Responsible Whale Watching

Whale SENSE is a voluntary conservation program for whale watching companies concerned with responsible viewing practices, ocean stewardship, and education. By choosing a SENSE-ible tour, you help promote responsible whale watching practices that keep whales safe. Visit our website for a list of participating companies.

[www.whalesense.org](http://www.whalesense.org)



**NOAA  
FISHERIES**



*Look for Whale SENSE in the Atlantic too!*

# Whale SENSE helps protect these species

## Humpback Whales

*Megaptera novaeangliae*

Length: 45-56 ft. Weight: 25-45 tons



## Killer Whales

*Orcinus orca*

Length: 18-36 ft. Weight: 3-11 tons



## Steller Sea Lions

*Eumetopias jubatus*

Length: 7-11 ft. Weight: 530- 2,500 pounds



## Harbor seals

*Phoca vitulina*

Length: 6 feet. Weight: 240 – 290 pounds



## Laws & Guidelines

Marine mammals are all protected by federal law. In Alaska, approaching humpback whales closer than 100 yards is prohibited by federal law.

Whale SENSE Alaska participants voluntarily adhere to additional responsible whale watching guidelines to ensure the whales are not disturbed by viewing practices.

It is also recommended that vessels not approach harbor seals in glacial fjords closer than 500 yards in order to protect sensitive nursery areas.

