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Species Profile

Fin Whale Atlantic population

Scientific Name:	<i>Balaenoptera physalus</i>
Taxonomy Group:	Mammals
Range:	Atlantic Ocean
Last COSEWIC Assessment:	May 2005
Last COSEWIC Designation:	Special Concern
SARA Status:	Schedule 1, Special Concern

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Related Species

Species	COSEWIC Status	SARA Status
Fin Whale	Non-active	Special Concern

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Protection

Federal Protection

The Fin Whale, Atlantic population, is protected under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (SARA). More information about SARA, including how it protects individual species, is available in the [Species at Risk Act: A Guide](#).

Provincial and Territorial Protection

[To know if this species is protected by provincial or territorial laws, consult the provinces and territories websites.](#)

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Documents

[COSEWIC Status Reports](#) (1 record(s) found.)
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COSEWIC Status Reports

[COSEWIC Status Report - Fin Whale \(2005\)](#)

Southern and northern hemisphere fin whales are considered subspecies based on slight morphological differences and suspected reproductive isolation: *B. p. physalus* in the northern hemisphere and *B. p. quoyi* in the southern hemisphere. Common English...

COSEWIC Assessments

[COSEWIC Assessment - Fin Whale \(2005\)](#)

Fin Whale (Pacific population) This species was considered a single unit and designated Special Concern in April 1987. Split into two populations (Atlantic and Pacific) in May 2005. The Pacific population was designated Threatened in May 2005. La...

Response Statements

[Response Statements - Fin Whale \(2005\)](#)

The size of this population was reduced by whaling during much of the 20th Century. However, sightings remain relatively common off Atlantic Canada and they have not been hunted since 1971. The current abundance and level of depletion compared with p...

Orders

[Order Acknowledging Receipt of the Assessment Done Pursuant to Subsection 23\(1\) of the Act \(2005\)](#)

Her Excellency the Governor General in Council, on the recommendation of the Minister of the Environment, hereby acknowledges receipt of the assessments done pursuant to subsection 23(1) of the Species at Risk Act (see footnote a) by the Committee on...

[Order Amending Schedules 1 to 3 to the Species at Risk Act \(2006\)](#)

The Minister of the Environment proposes recommending, pursuant to section 27 of the *Species at Risk Act* (SARA), that 42 species be added to Schedule 1, the List of Wildlife Species at Risk of SARA. This recommendation is based on scientific...

COSEWIC Annual Reports

[COSEWIC Annual Report - 2005 \(2005\)](#)

2005 Annual Report to the Canadian Endangered Species Conservation Council (CESCC) from the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada....

Consultation Documents

[Consultation on Amending the List of Species Under the Species At Risk Act: November 2005 \(2005\)](#)

The Government of Canada proclaimed the Species at Risk Act (SARA) on June 5, 2003 as part of its strategy for the protection of wildlife species at risk. Attached to the Act is Schedule 1, the list of the species that receive protection under SARA, ...

[Species at Risk Act - Legal Listing Consultation Workbook, Fin whale \(Atlantic Population\) \(2005\)](#)

Your opinion is being sought to assist the government of Canada in making an informed decision on whether to add the fin whale to the Schedule 1 (the List of Wildlife Species at Risk) of the *Species at Risk Act* (

Date Modified: 01/11/2010


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