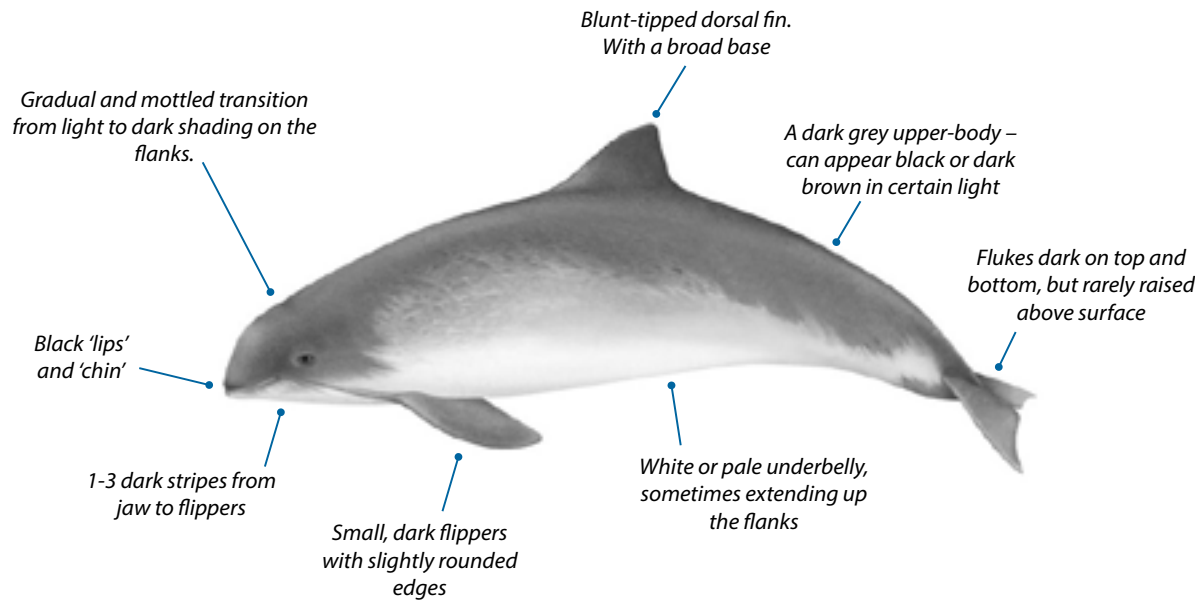


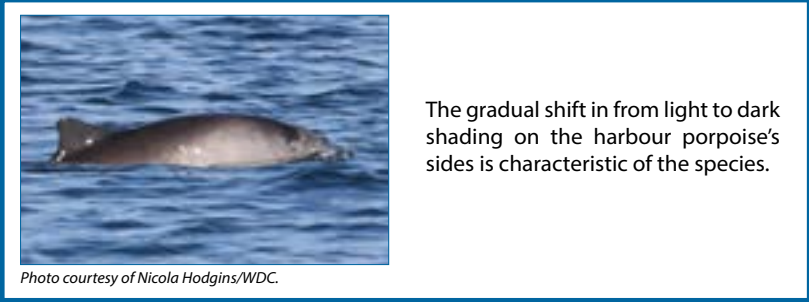
Harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*)

Distribution: Temperate and subpolar waters of the Pacific and Atlantic (see map below and full list of countries in the detailed species account online at: <https://www.handbook.iwc.int/en/species/harbour-porpoise>).

Adult length: 1.4-1.9m
 Adult weight: 45-70kg
 Newborn: 70-80cm / 5kg

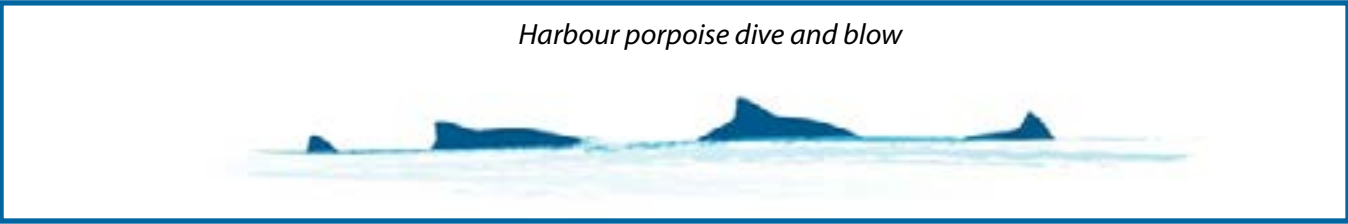
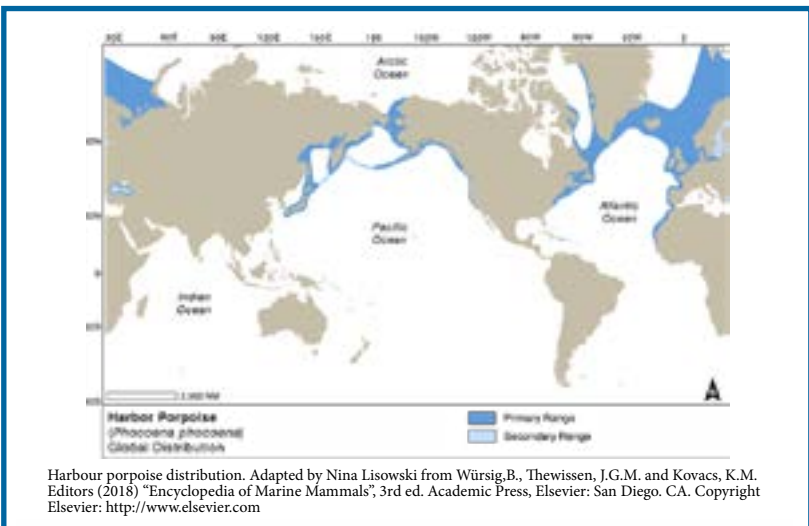
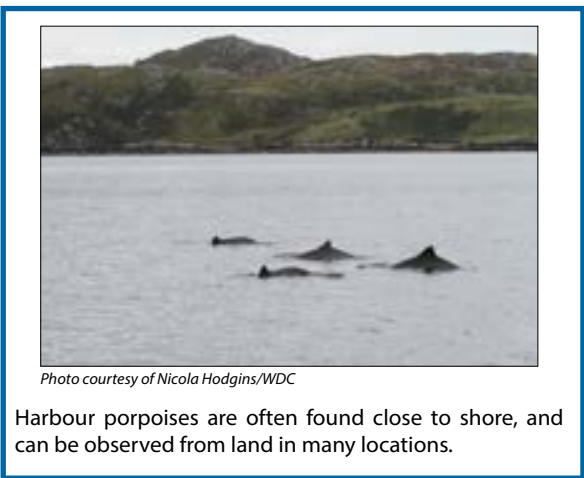


Threats: bycatch, pollutants, coastal development, habitat degradation
Habitat: estuarine, coastal/nearshore
Diet: fish
IUCN Conservation status: Least Concern - with the exception of those in the Baltic and Black Seas, which are critically endangered and endangered respectively.



Fun Facts

- In parts of the British Isles, the harbour porpoise used to be known as the 'puffing pig' because of the sound it made when surfacing.
- In Dutch the harbour porpoise is known as the 'brownfish', while in German it is the 'pigwhale'.
- Harbour porpoises are preyed on by killer whales and sharks, but also attacked and killed by bottlenose dolphins and gray seals.



There are currently three formally recognised subspecies of harbour porpoises: The Pacific harbour porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena vomerina*), the Atlantic harbor porpoise, (*P. p. phocoena*), and the Black Sea Harbor Porpoise (*P. p. relicta*). A fourth subspecies has been proposed for harbour porpoises found around the Iberian Peninsula and north Africa (*P. p. meridionalis*). Throughout its range the species is found in cool temperate or subpolar waters, usually coastal areas and depths of less than 100m.

