



# Some threats to whales and dolphins

**CLIMATE CHANGE** causes the oceans to warm which can result in shifts and changes in food resources for whales and dolphins.

**ENTANGLEMENT** in fishing gear leads to immediate death from asphyxiation or long-term injuries and inability to feed or reproduce.

**POLLUTION** and harmful contaminants build up in the food chain reaching high levels in top predators like dolphins and killer whales.

**MARINE DEBRIS** such as plastic is often found in stomachs of stranded cetaceans.

**UNDER WATER NOISE** can damage hearing, mask communication and echolocation, and cause stress, driving cetaceans away from feeding or resting habitats.

**SHIP STRIKES** kill or injure large whales and sometimes smaller whales or dolphins.

