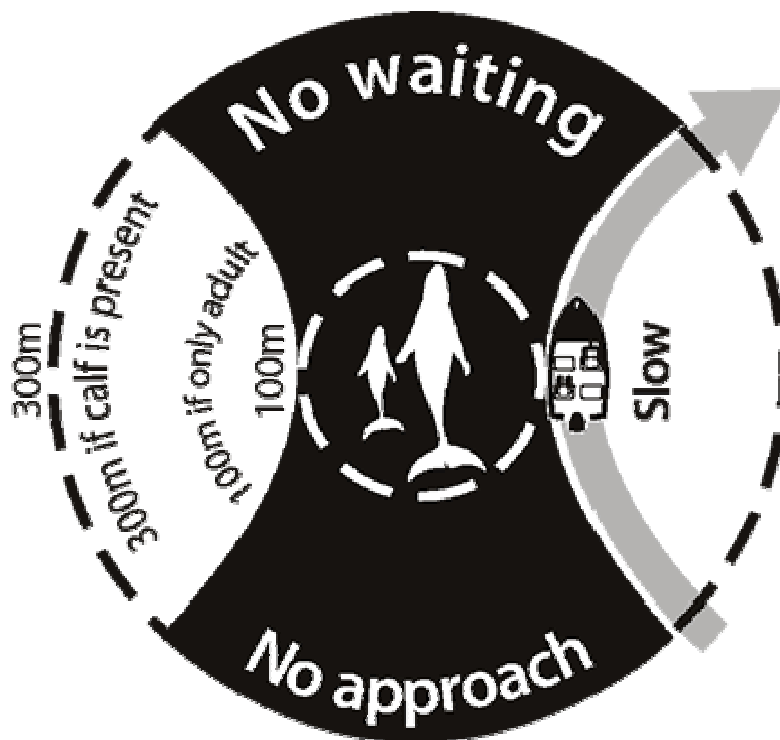


Points for volunteers

It is very important that one does not disturb the animal/s in question unnecessarily;

- Reduce speed of vessel to less than 5 knots when within 400 m of the animal. Avoid abrupt changes in speed and/or course, unless strictly necessary;
- Keep clear of the cetaceans' path. If cetaceans are approaching, cautiously move out of the way; No cetacean should be separated from a group;
- Contact with cetaceans should be abandoned at any stage if they show signs of becoming disturbed or alarmed;
- Do not approach cetaceans from the front or behind. Always approach and depart from the side, moving in a direction parallel to the direction of the animal;
- Do not approach or position the vessel closer than 100 metres. If the vessel is closer place engine in neutral and allow animal to pass; NEVER put engine from neutral into gear in the vicinity of the animals.
- Limit your time around the animals to a maximum of 30 minutes;
- Do not touch or feed such marine creatures.



Note the following (and write the information):

1. Animal type & approximate size; group/pod size if applicable;
2. *For whales note characteristic of the blow; for dolphins note features on the sides & for turtles note shape of carapace (shell)- see inside for further information;*
3. Dive characteristics: if animal disappears between consecutive blows & if exposing tail (fluke) on diving;
4. Behaviour shown (e.g. jumping out of the water/ breaching/ fluking) and if seen feeding;
5. Direction the animal is/was heading when first sighted (ideally not when it rides the boat waves , but before – Also note heading after they leave the boat);
6. GPS position or if not available - distance from a land mark and preferentially a triangular point mark;
7. Date, approximate time and approximate position of sun (going down etc...);
8. Any other feature e.g. following a trawler and any other surrounding species in area e.g. sea-birds;
9. Any other sea-conditions and/or climate conditions which may prove important;
10. Any photographs can be extremely useful, especially if geo-referenced.