

Humpback Whale Facts

Scientific Name: *Megaptera novaeangliae*

Hawaiian Name: Koholā

Type of Whale: Baleen Whale

Birth weight & size: About 1.5 tons & 10-16

Sexual maturity weight & size:

Female: About 45 tons & 45 feet

Male: About 43 tons & 42 feet

Sexual maturity age: 5-9 years

Life Span: About 40-50 years

Gestation: 10-12 months

Calving interval: 1-3 years

Life Cycle: Breed, calve and nurse in Hawai'i in the winter (November-May), then migrate to the Gulf of Alaska and other areas in the North Pacific to feed in the summer (May-November)

Diet: Krill, plankton, and other small fish. Scientists believe that humpbacks fast while in Hawai'i

Migration Distance: About 2,500 miles between Hawai'i and Northern feeding grounds.

Average migration speed: Continuously travel at approximately 3-7 miles per hour with very few stops

Humpback Whales are the fifth largest whale of the great whales!



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Hawaiian Islands Humpback Whale National Marine Sanctuary

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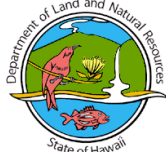
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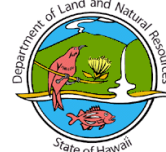
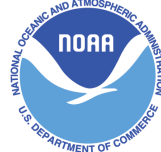
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