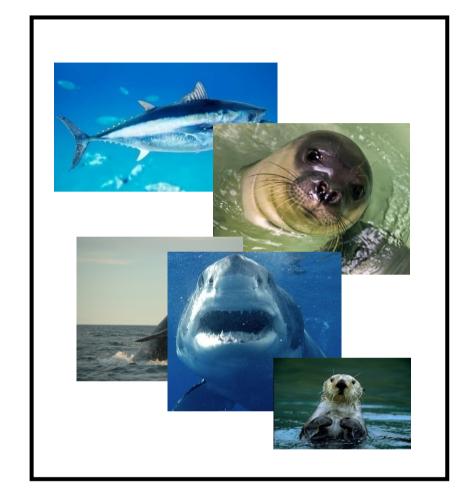


Endangered Ocean Animals

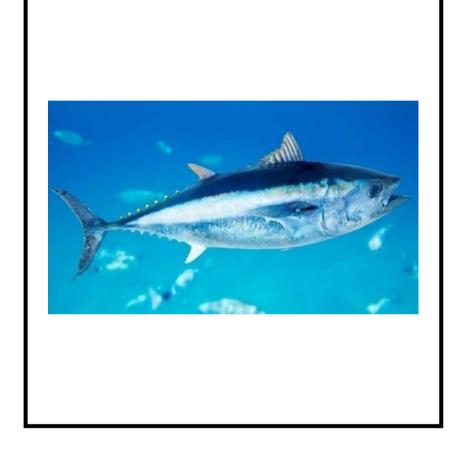


Endangered Ocean Animals









Bluefin Tuna







This fish also known as "Bluefin" is regarded as one of the most highly evolved fish species, and is on the brink of extinction due to overfishing rapidly depleting the population.

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Bluefin Tuna









Mediterranean Monk Seal

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With less than 400 remaining, this Seal is one of the rarest animals on the planet.

A long time ago, they would have resided on open beaches, but due to increasing human populations they have since retreated to rocky sea caves virtually inaccessible by people.

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Mediterranean Monk Seal

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North Pacific Right Whale



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North Pacific Right Whale

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Giant Clam







This crustacean lives in the warm waters of the South Pacific and Indian Ocean.

Over-harvesting of the species for food, shells, and aquariums has left it on the list of threatened marine life.

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Giant Clam











Great White Shark







This Shark is a vulnerable species. While no reliable population estimates can be determined, researchers are in agreement that their numbers are declining.

The biggest threat to the them is humans who have long hunted it for its teeth, jaws, and meat. This Shark is a vulnerable species. While no reliable population estimates can be determined, researchers are in agreement that their numbers are declining.

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Great White Shark

Great White Shark









Sea Otter

Sea Otter





Inhabiting the Pacific coasts of North America and Asia, this Otter was once hunted for its fur.

This led to near extinction in the early 20th century, its numbers dropping below 2,000. Now protected by law, it is still endangered, but has made a recovery with over 100,000 currently alive.

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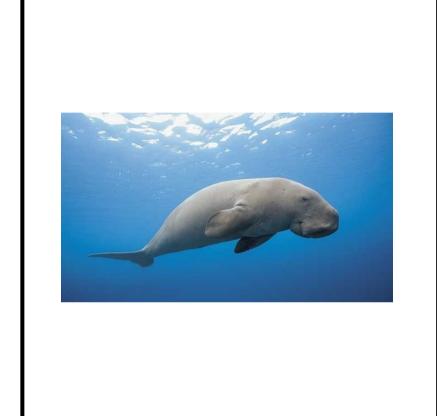
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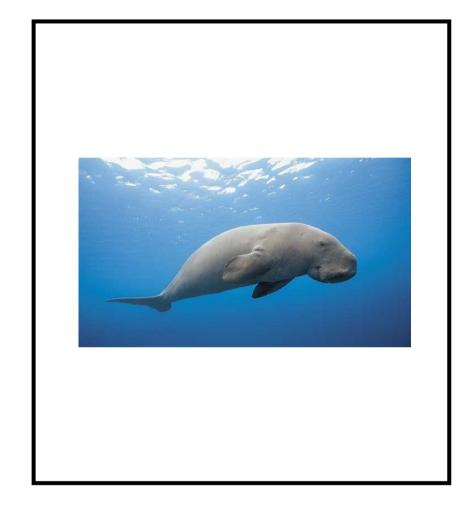
Sea Otter











Dugong

Dugong





Related to the elephant, this fish is a large vegetarian that spans the waters of the Indo-Pacific.

It was a longtime easy target for coastal hunters who desired its meat, oil, skin, bones, and teeth. Its numbers are still critical though, as its food sources are threatened by pollution and shallow eating habits make it an easy victim of water vessel collisions.

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Dugong











Stellar Sea Lion







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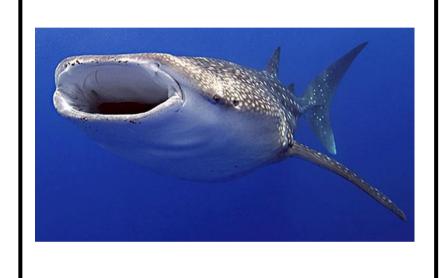
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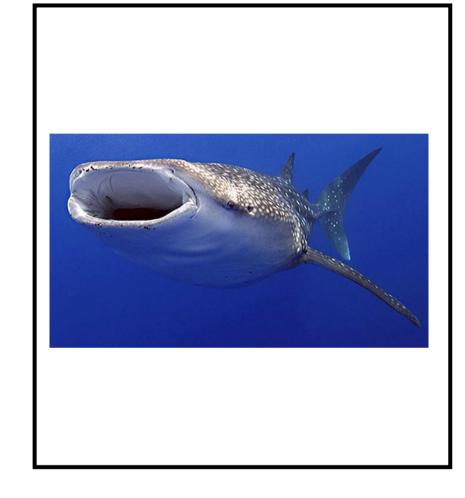
Stellar Sea Lion

Stellar Sea Lion









Whale Shark







This is the largest fish in the ocean, and a docile one at that.

While its population is unknown, it's considered a vulnerable species, as it's still targeted by many commercial fisheries.

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Whale Shark

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Loggerhead Sea Turtle

Loggerhead Sea Turtle





This is the largest of the hardshelled turtles. Despite being the most abundant marine turtle in U.S. waters, it has been endangered for some time.

The biggest threat to the it's life is entanglement in fishing gear, but pollution and habitat destruction have had a large role in their decline, as well.

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Loggerhead Sea Turtle

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Hawksbill Turtle







This animal's long life, slow growth, and low reproduction rates make it poorly suited to contend with new challenges like the encroachment of competing species and accidental and intentional killings by humans. The increasing degradation of coral reefs worldwide and incidental capture by fishermen further threaten the critically endangered species.

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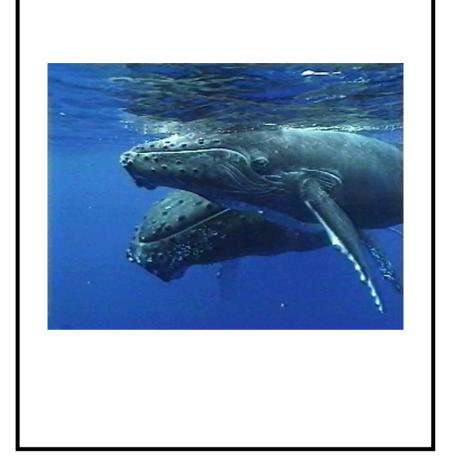
Hawksbill Turtle

Hawksbill Turtle









Blue Whale







The largest animal ever known to have lived, this Whale's once abundant population was demolished by whale hunters, killing around 360,000 between 1900 and 1966, when it was finally given protection by the International Whaling Commission.

There are now only 10,000 to 25,000 of this magnificent animal remaining.

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