

Minke Whale

(*Balaenoptera acutorostrata*)

Description:

Small, dark whale with a falcate dorsal fin and pointed snout. White flipper patch on pectoral flipper. Spout may not be visible.

Status: Protected under the MMPA.

Length: 7 - 10 m (23 - 33 feet)

Weight: 25 - 40 tons



Illustration by Garth Mix

Canadian East Coast Stock Population: >6,000

Life Span: up to 50 years

Prey: sandlance, herring, mackerel, other small schooling fish

Can be Confused With: Single dolphin at a distance

Recognizing Minke Whales



All Photos Courtesy of WDCS.