



Fisheries and Oceans  
Canada

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

April 13, 2021

**MEDIA ADVISORY: NOAA Fisheries, Fisheries and Oceans Canada, and Vancouver Aquarium to provide update on status of gray whale off the coast of Vancouver Island, British Columbia**

As part of an international collaboration and coordinated response, marine mammal biologists and veterinarians from the U.S. and Canada are sharing information and expertise to promote the effective treatment of a gray whale that appears to have developed an infection several months after being satellite tagged. When last observed the animal was behaving normally and was generally healthy.

Please join us as we share the latest information about what is being done to monitor, assess and respond to this whale. Background information will be available today on this webpage <https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/alaska/marine-mammal-protection/international-collaboration-monitor-and-respond-tagged-gray-whale> Please note the link will be made live just before the start of the media availability.

**WHAT:** Media Availability (via conference call)

**WHO:** Dr. Sharon Melin - Program Manager California Current Ecosystem Program, NOAA Fisheries  
Dr. Paul Cottrell - Marine Mammal Coordinator, Fisheries and Oceans Canada  
Dr. Alex Zerbini - NOAA Fisheries affiliate, University of Washington/Cooperative Institute for Climate and Ocean Studies  
Dr. Martin Haulena – Veterinarian, Vancouver Aquarium and Marine Mammal Rescue  
Dr. Frances Gulland – Veterinarian, University of California, Davis  
Dr. Stephen Raverty - Veterinary Pathologist, the Animal Health Center, British Columbia Ministry of Agriculture and University of British Columbia.

**WHEN:** Tuesday, April 13, 2021  
12:00 – 12:45 pm PT

**Conference call information:**

**Password:** 1090813  
**Call in number:** CANADA 866-845-8494  
USA 877-951-7311