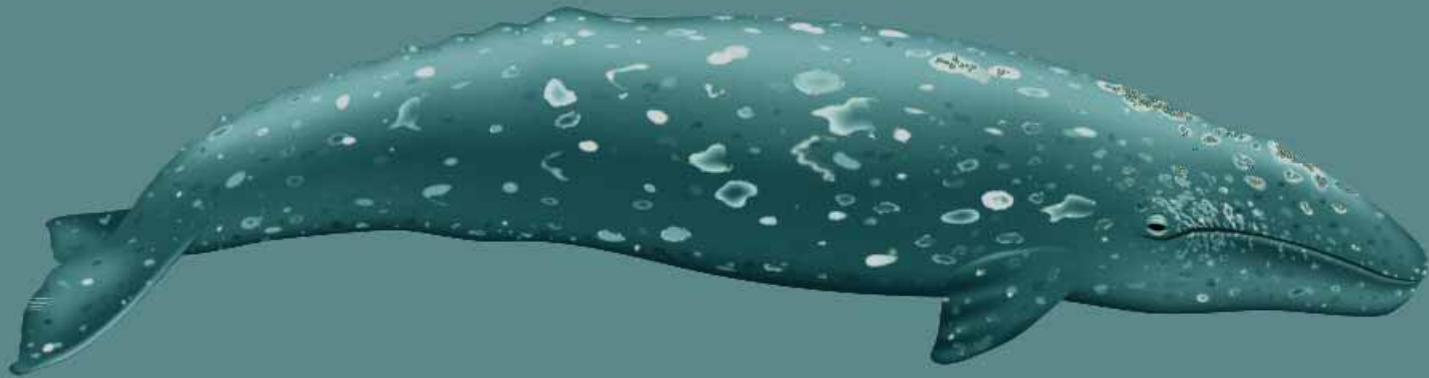


Baja's Friendly Whales



Biology and Conservation

Debra Valov
EcoAmigos de Mulegé

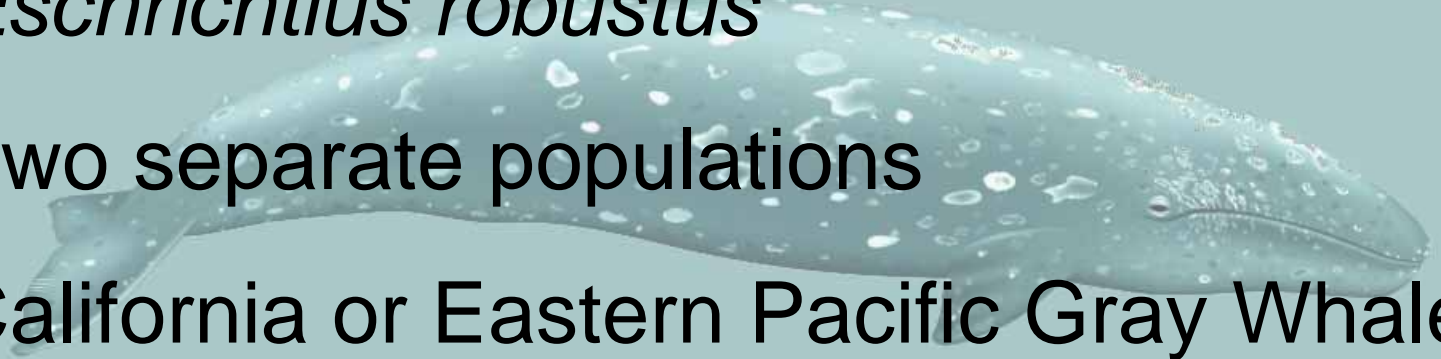
Introduction

- Natural History
- Conservation Issues
- Ecotourism



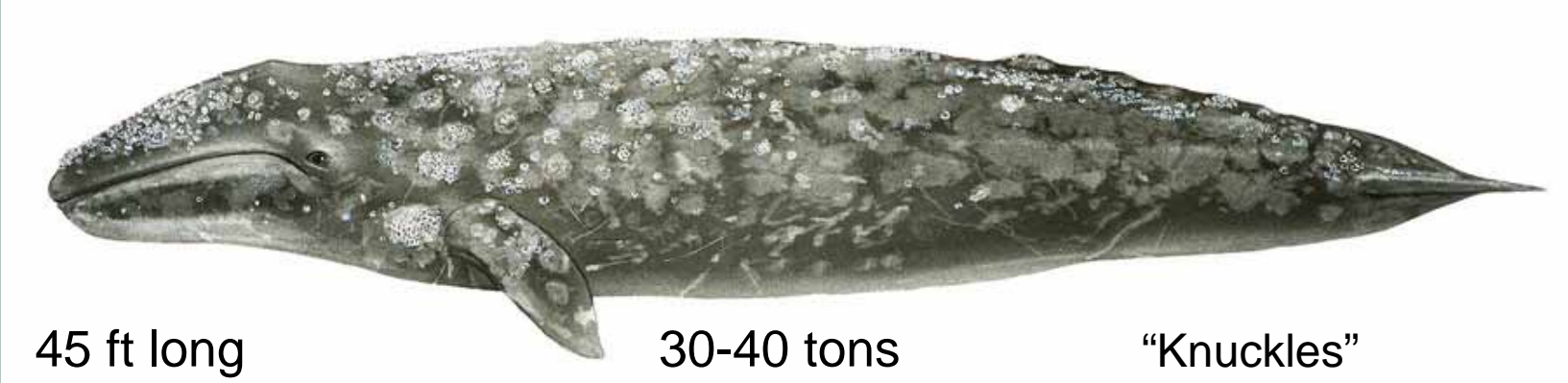


Natural History

- Mammal in Order Cetacea
 - *Eschrichtius robustus*
 - Two separate populations
 - California or Eastern Pacific Gray Whale
- 



WHALE STATS



Barnacles and whale lice



Mottled blackish-grey skin



Baleen

WHALE DIET

- 1.3 tons (2600 lbs) per day
- 198 tons (396,000 lbs) in 5 months

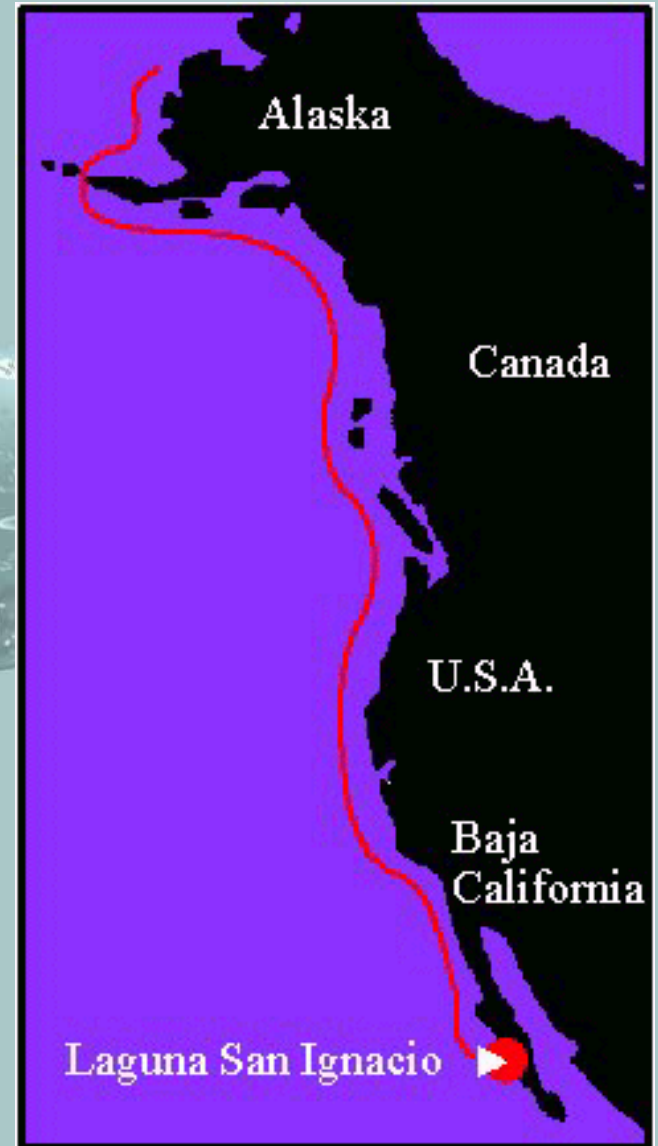


Amphipods (krill)



LIFE CYCLE

- Artic to Baja California: longest migration of a mammal
- Echolocation

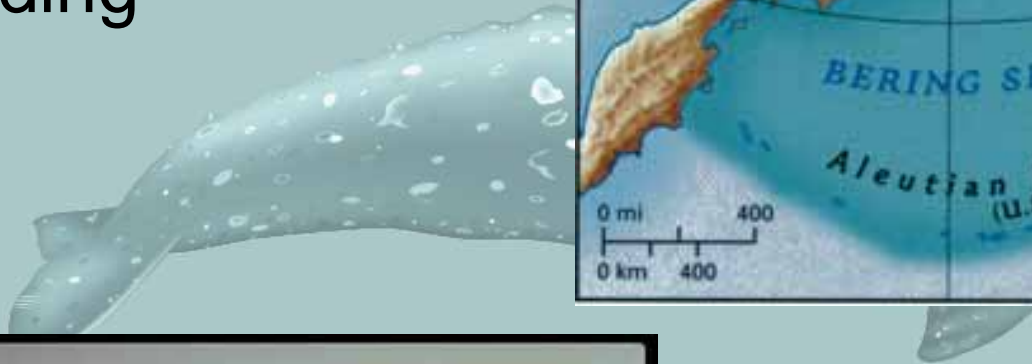




SUMMER

Jun-Sept (Oct)

- feeding



© Peggy Stap



FALL & SPRING

Oct-Nov & Apr-May

- migration
- 55-60 days



No. California Coast



Baja California Peninsula



WINTER

Dec-Mar

- Mate
- Give birth
- Watch tourists



Laguna Ojo de Liebre



Laguna San Ignacio



Breaching



Breaching

Life in the Baja Lagoons



Spyhop



Fluking/Diving

More than Whales



PREDATORS: KILLER WHALES




© Peggy Stap



© Nancy Black




PREDATORS: HUMANS

- 19th Century whaling
 - 1947 IWC Moratorium
 - Current eastern population: “recovered”??
 - Western population “extinct”
- 



Conservation Issues

- Whale nurseries declared (Mexico, 1973)
 - Biosphere Reserve (1988)
 - World Heritage Site (1993)
 - 1999 & 2005: salt works proposals
- 

Laguna Ojo de Liebre
w/ ESSA Salt works



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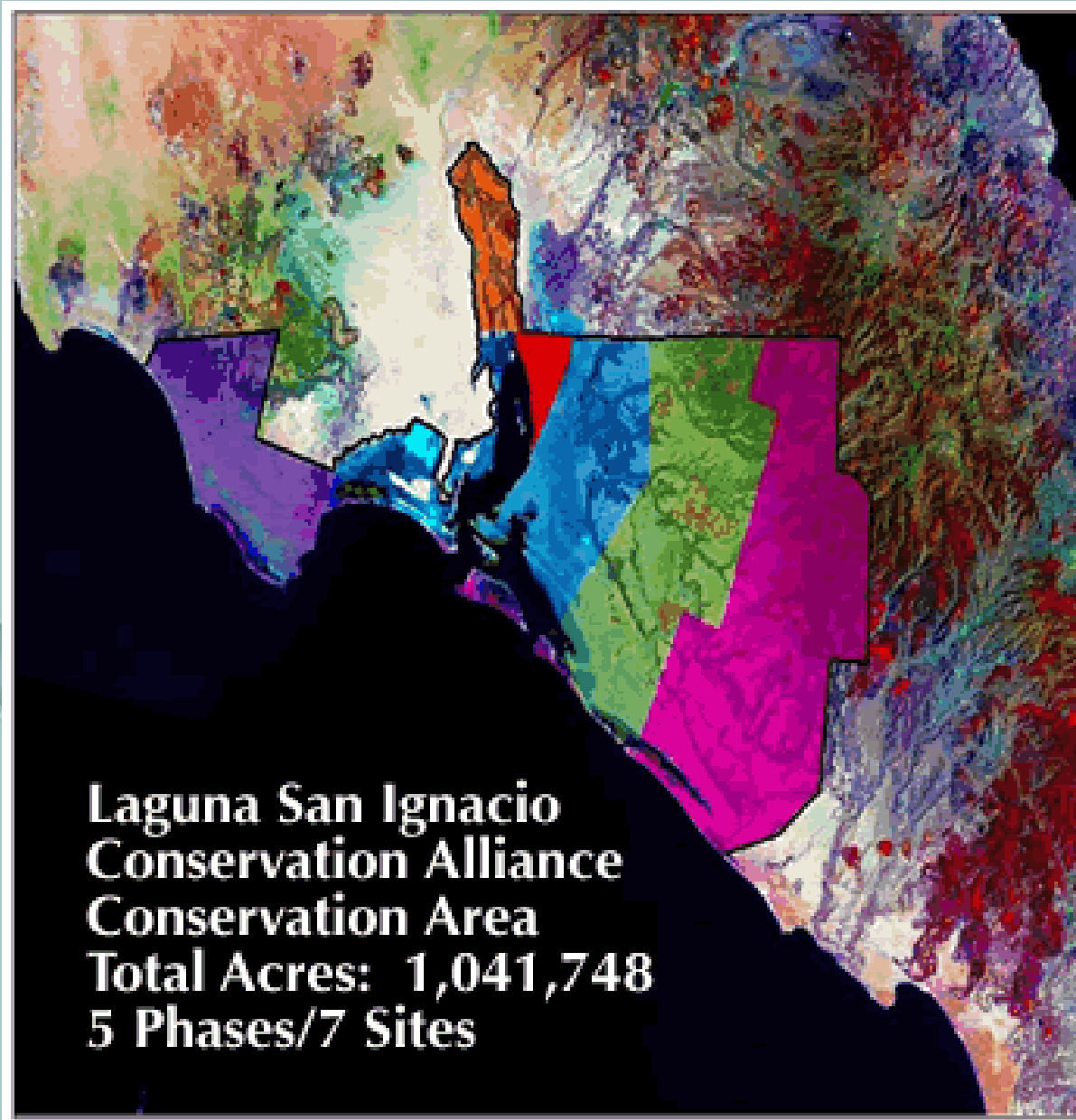
Laguna San Ignacio



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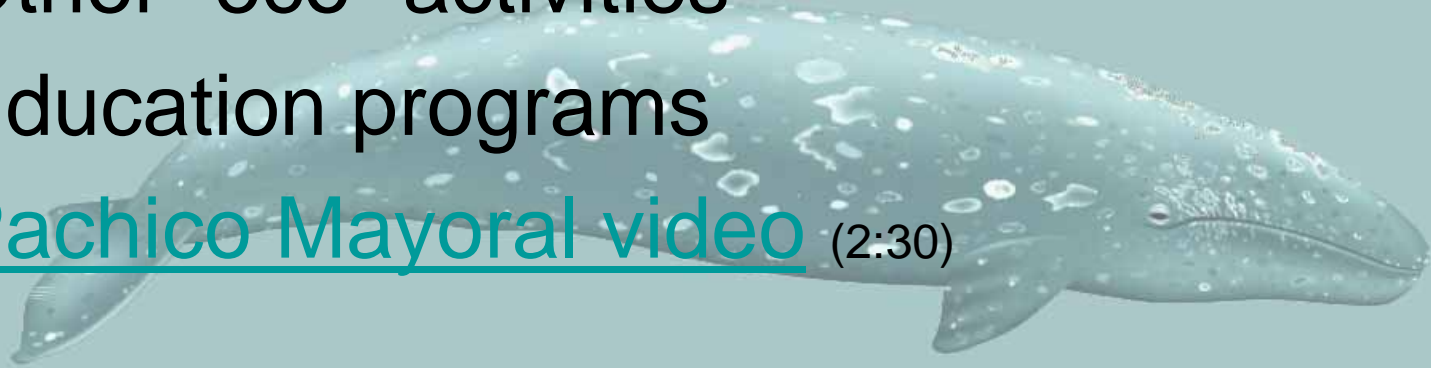


LSI Conservation Alliance



Ecotourism

- Whale watching tours
- Other “eco” activities
- Education programs
- [Pachico Mayoral video](#) (2:30)





↑ SAN FCO. SIERRA

↑ SAN IGNACIO

OJO DE LIEBRE →





Corona
CON MEDIDA WYO 74 6ZL

WHALES







Whale Watching Tours



Whale Video



¡Gracias!
¡Los veo en Baja!



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