



## REPORT Entangled Whales IMMEDIATELY

1-877-SOS-WHALE (1-877-767-9425) or hail the U.S. Coast Guard on Channel 16

- DO Report** Immediate reporting is critical to give the best chance for response teams to remove life-threatening gear from the whale and gather information to understand where, when and how entanglements occur to prevent future ones.
- DO Stand By** If possible please stand by and keep sight of the whale. It is difficult and rare to relocate an entangled whale if a boat does not stay with the whale. Stay at least 100 yards away.
- DO Photograph Entangled Whales** WHALE: flukes (especially if underside is raised); side view of dorsal fin (or hump); head; any part of the body where gear may be present. ENTANGLEMENT: buoy(s); tags; lines on the body; trailing lines (including distance from whale); netting or other gear (if present).
- DO Respond Promptly if Contacted** If you are contacted about a whale entangled in your gear, please respond. You can help prevent future entanglements by providing as much information as possible about your fishing gear and practices.
- DO NOT ATTEMPT to disentangle the whale** Removing the easily accessible lines at the surface will leave the life-threatening lines attached to the whale and may make it impossible for responders to detect and remove these. Entangled whales are very rarely in immediate danger of drowning.