

## 2013 Endangered Species Art Contest: Celebrating 40 Years of the Endangered Species Act

Endangered Species Day (May 17<sup>th</sup>) is an annual day of celebration for citizens to learn about endangered and threatened species and what we can all do to help them. Also, this year marks the 40<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Endangered Species Act (ESA), the federal law that protects, conserves, and rebuilds these vulnerable populations to healthy levels. To celebrate, we are inviting students in the Cape Ann area to participate in an art contest to showcase their knowledge and commitment to protecting these animals.

**Subject Matter:** All artwork should highlight one or more ocean-dwelling, endangered or threatened species found in the Northeast Region (see attached pamphlet). Students should portray the animal in its natural habitat and may also demonstrate why it is important to protect these animals and ideas for how people can protect these animals. For more information about each species, check out the Protected Resources Division website, [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res)

**Judging:** Winners will be chosen from four grade categories: K– 2, 3 – 5, 6 – 8, and 9 – 12. Judging will be done by the NOAA Fisheries Service Endangered Species Day team. The art will be judged on the basis of:

- Concept: How well the work relates to the subject matter
- Composition: How well the elements of line and form are worked together
- Color: How color enhances the artwork
- Expression: How imaginatively the work conveys an idea or emotion

### Entry Requirements:

- The physical size of submitted artwork must be 8 1/2" x 11" and less than 1/8" thick.
- Image must be a live portrayal of a native marine endangered or threatened species in the Northeast region of the United States.
- Artistic liberties may be taken as long as the depiction is a recognizable species.
- Chalk and pastel entries should be sprayed with a fixative to safeguard artwork.
- The entry may be multi-color, black and white, or a single color; it may be rendered in ink, paint, pastel, crayon, or pencil.
- Techniques may include scratch-board, airbrush, linoleum printing, paper collage, dry brush, crosshatch, pointillism. No photography, light sketching, or computer-generated art. Computers or other mechanical devices may not be used in creating artwork for this contest.
- **Design entries must be entrant's original, hand-drawn creation and may not be traced or copied from published photographs or other artists' works.** Entrants may rely on photographs or published images as guides. However, especially when references are used for the subject(s), the entry must be the entrant's own creation and idea.
- Entries should **not** include any brand names.

### What is the difference between endangered and threatened species?

**Endangered species** are plant and animal species that are in danger of becoming extinct.

**Threatened species** are species at risk of becoming endangered.

- The entry must have the name of the student, school, grade, and title of the artwork on the back of the submission in pencil.
- **Entries must be postmarked by April 12, 2013**

**Submission:** The deadline for submissions is April 12, 2013. Entries should be sent or hand-delivered to:

Edith Carson  
 NOAA Fisheries Service  
 Northeast Regional Office  
 55 Great Republic Drive  
 Gloucester, MA 01930

**Prizes:** Winners and honorable mentions will be chosen in each of the four grade categories. They will be honored at an award ceremony at the NOAA Fisheries Service Northeast Regional Office (NERO) in Gloucester, MA on May 16<sup>th</sup>, 2013 at 4:00pm. Winners will receive their awards from NERO Leadership. Following the award ceremony, guests are welcome to view the artwork gallery exhibiting some of the submitted entries and our exhibits related to these species. The artwork will be displayed in the NERO lobby throughout May.

In addition, the winning and honorable mention entries will be featured in an online 2014 calendar. Schools of the winners will receive printed posters of their students' artwork.

**Ownership:** Submissions become property of the NOAA Fisheries Service. Through submission of artwork, entrants and their legal guardians grant non-exclusive reproduction and publication rights to the works submitted which will not be returned. Though the NOAA Fisheries Service will attempt to treat all submitted work with the utmost care, the NOAA Fisheries Service is not responsible for any damage or loss that may occur during the sending of entries through the mail.

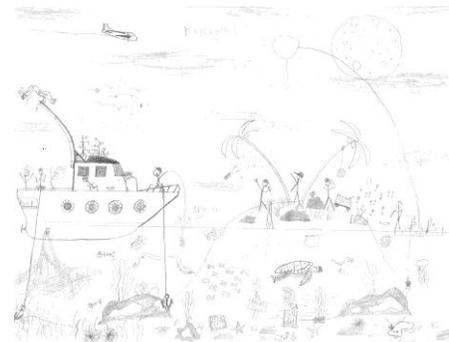
If you have any questions, please contact Edith Carson at [edith.carson@noaa.gov](mailto:edith.carson@noaa.gov) or 978-282-8490.



Gavin H.  
 Grade K-2



Jude B.  
 Grade 3-5



Nathaniel D.  
 Grade 6-8

2012 Endangered Species Day Art Contest Winners

**Thank you for your participation in Endangered Species Day!**



## SPECIES LISTED UNDER THE ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT UNDER THE JURISDICTION OF NMFS' NORTHEAST REGION (MAINE - VIRGINIA)

For a list of Candidate Species in the Northeast Region (NER), please visit [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/CandidateSpeciesProgram/cs.htm](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/CandidateSpeciesProgram/cs.htm)

For a list of Species of Concern in the NER, please visit [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/CandidateSpeciesProgram/soc.htm](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/CandidateSpeciesProgram/soc.htm)

### FISH

#### Atlantic Salmon (*Salmo salar*) (Gulf of Maine DPS)

**Year listed:** 2000; New listing for the Gulf of Maine Atlantic salmon as a Distinct Population Segment (DPS) encompassing a wider range in the state of Maine in 2009; Atlantic salmon are listed jointly with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

**Status:** Endangered

**General distribution:** The distribution of endangered Atlantic salmon extends from the Androscoggin River in South Western Maine to the Dennys River in Eastern Maine.

**Critical habitat in NER:** Critical habitat for Atlantic salmon was designated in 2009. Forty-five specific areas containing over 19,000 kilometers of rivers and streams and 799 square kilometers of lakes and ponds were identified as having the physical and biological features essential to the conservation of the species, which may require special management or protections. For more information, please visit the map book at [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/altsalmon/](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/altsalmon/)

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/altsalmon/](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/altsalmon/)

#### Shortnose Sturgeon (*Acipenser brevirostrum*)

**Year listed:** 1967

**Status:** Endangered

**General distribution:** Shortnose sturgeon occur in most major river systems from the Saint John River in New Brunswick, Canada, to the St. Johns River, Florida. In the northern U.S. portion of their range, shortnose sturgeon are found in the Chesapeake Bay system, Delaware River, Hudson River (below Troy Dam), Connecticut River (below Turners Falls), the lower Merrimack River (below Essex Dam in Lawrence), Piscataqua River, Kennebec River (below Lockwood Dam in Kennebec and Brunswick Dam in Androscoggin) system (including the Androscoggin and Sheepscot Rivers), and Penobscot River (below Venzie Dam). They have also been documented occasionally in some of the other rivers along the Maine coastline including the Saco, St. George, Damariscotta, Medomak, and Passagasawakeag Rivers, which may be a result of increased coastal movements between the larger rivers in Maine and Massachusetts.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/sturgeon/](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/sturgeon/)

#### Atlantic Sturgeon (*Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus*)

**Year listed:** 2012 (Effective April 6, 2012)

**Status:** Five Distinct Population Segments (DPSs) designated along the U.S. East Coast. The Gulf of Maine population is listed as threatened while the New York Bight, Chesapeake Bay, Carolina, and South Atlantic populations are listed as endangered.

**General distribution:** Atlantic sturgeon belonging to each of the five DPSs occur in marine and estuarine habitat, including freshwater reaches of large rivers with access to the sea, from Hamilton Inlet, Labrador, Canada to Cape Canaveral, Florida, U.S. The range of all five DPSs overlap.

**Critical habitat in the NER:** None

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/atlsturgeon/](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/atlsturgeon/) and <http://sero.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/sturgeon.htm>

### MARINE MAMMALS

#### Blue Whale (*Balaenoptera musculus musculus*)

**Year listed:** 1970

**Status:** Endangered

**General distribution:** The distribution of the blue whale in the western North Atlantic generally extends from the Arctic to at least mid-latitude waters. The blue whale is best considered as an occasional visitor in U.S. Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) waters, which may represent the current southern limit of its feeding range (CETAP 1982; Wenzel et al. 1988). The actual southern limit of the species' range is unknown.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/bluewhale.htm> and <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2010whbl-wn.pdf>

#### Fin Whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*)

**Year listed:** 1970

**Status:** Endangered

**General distribution:** Fin whales are common in waters of the U. S. Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ), principally from Cape Hatteras northward. Fin whales are migratory, moving seasonally into and out of high-latitude feeding areas, but the overall migration pattern is complex, and specific routes have not been documented. However, acoustic recordings from passive-listening hydrophone arrays indicate that a southward "flow pattern" occurs in the fall from the Labrador-Newfoundland region, past Bermuda, and into the West Indies (Clark 1995).

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/finwhale.htm> and [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2011\\_atlantic\\_draft.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2011_atlantic_draft.pdf)

#### Humpback Whale (*Megaptera novaeangliae*)

**Year listed:** 1970

**Status:** Endangered

**General distribution:** In the western North Atlantic, humpback whales feed during spring, summer, and fall over a geographic range encompassing the eastern coast of the United States (including the Gulf of Maine), the Gulf of St. Lawrence, Newfoundland/Labrador, and western Greenland. During winter, whales from most North Atlantic feeding areas (including the Gulf of Maine) mate and calve in the West Indies. Not all whales migrate to the West Indies every winter, and significant numbers of animals are found in the mid- and high-latitudes during this time.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/humpbackwhale.htm> and [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2011\\_atlantic\\_draft.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2011_atlantic_draft.pdf)

#### North Atlantic Right Whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*)

**Year listed:** 1970; Listed as two separate, endangered species in 2008 - the North Pacific right whale (*Eubalaena japonica*) and North Atlantic right whale (*Eubalaena glacialis*)

**Status:** Endangered

**General distribution:** Population ranges primarily from calving grounds in coastal waters of the southeastern United States to feeding grounds in New England waters and the Canadian Bay of Fundy, Scotian Shelf, and Gulf of St. Lawrence.

**Critical habitat in NER:** Great South Channel, east of Cape Cod and Cape Cod and Massachusetts Bays; For a map of North Atlantic right whale critical habitat, please visit

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/rightwhale\\_northatlantic.htm](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/rightwhale_northatlantic.htm)

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit

[http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/rightwhale\\_northatlantic.htm](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/rightwhale_northatlantic.htm) and [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2011\\_atlantic\\_draft.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2011_atlantic_draft.pdf)

### Sei Whale (*Balaenoptera borealis*)

**Year listed:** 1970

**Status:** Endangered

**General distribution:** The range of the Nova Scotia stock includes the continental shelf waters of the northeastern U.S., and extends northeastward to south of Newfoundland. Indications are that, at least during the feeding season, a major portion of the Nova Scotia sei whale stock is centered in northerly waters, perhaps on the Scotian Shelf (Mitchell and Chapman 1977). The southern portion of the species' range during spring and summer includes the northern portions of the U.S. Atlantic Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) — the Gulf of Maine and Georges Bank. Spring is the period of greatest abundance in U.S. waters, with sightings concentrated along the eastern margin of Georges Bank and into the Northeast Channel area, and along the southwestern edge of Georges Bank in the area of Hydrographer Canyon (CETAP 1982).

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/seiwhale.htm> and [http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2011\\_atlantic\\_draft.pdf](http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2011_atlantic_draft.pdf)

### Sperm Whale (*Physeter macrocephalus*)

**Year listed:** 1970

**Status:** Endangered

**General distribution:** Sperm whales feed on larger organisms that inhabit the deeper ocean regions (Whitehead 2002). Calving for the species occurs in low latitude waters. The distribution of the sperm whale in the U.S. Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) occurs primarily on the continental shelf edge, over the continental slope, and into mid-ocean regions.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit

<http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/species/mammals/cetaceans/spermwhale.htm> and <http://www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/pdfs/sars/ao2007whsp-n.pdf>

## SEA TURTLES

While sea turtles occur year-round off the southeastern United States, they are generally present in marine and estuarine waters of the NER from May through November. As water temperatures warm in the spring, sea turtles begin to migrate to nearshore waters and up the U.S. Atlantic coast, occurring in Virginia as early as April/May and in the Gulf of Maine in June. The trend is reversed in the fall with some animals remaining in the NER until late fall. Nesting is extremely limited in the NER. Typically, juveniles and, to a lesser extent, adults are present in the NER. Sea turtles are listed jointly with U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. For additional distribution information, select references, and other relevant information, please visit

[http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/seaturtles/](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/seaturtles/) and [http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot\\_res/seaturtles/literature.html](http://www.nero.noaa.gov/prot_res/seaturtles/literature.html)

### Green Sea Turtle (*Chelonia mydas*)

**Year listed:** 1978

**Status:** Breeding populations of green sea turtles in Florida and on the Pacific coast of Mexico are listed as endangered; all other populations are listed as threatened.

**General Distribution:** The green sea turtle is globally distributed. In the U.S. Atlantic, green turtles are occasionally found as far north as New England, but are more commonly seen from New York south. They occur seasonally in NER waters, including but not limited to the Chesapeake Bay and Long Island Sound, which serve as foraging and developmental habitats.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** See links to additional sea turtle information above.

### Hawksbill Turtle (*Eretmochelys imbricata*)

**Year listed:** 1970

**Status:** Endangered

**General Distribution:** Hawksbill turtles are circumtropical. In the U.S. Atlantic, they are found primarily in Florida and Texas, though they have been recorded along the east coast as far north as Massachusetts. Hawksbills are rare visitors to the waters of the NER.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** See links to additional sea turtle information above.

### Kemp's Ridley Turtle (*Lepidochelys kempii*)

**Year listed:** 1970

**Status:** Endangered

**General Distribution:** Kemp's ridleys typically occur only in the Gulf of Mexico and the northwestern Atlantic. In the U.S. Atlantic, they are found as far north as New England seasonally. Foraging areas in the NER include, but are not limited to, Chesapeake Bay, Delaware Bay, Cape Cod Bay, and Long Island Sound.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** See links to additional sea turtle information above.

### Leatherback Turtle (*Dermochelys coriacea*)

**Year listed:** 1970

**Status:** Endangered

**General Distribution:** Leatherback sea turtles are globally distributed. They range farther than any other sea turtle species. Although frequently thought of as an oceanic species, they are also known to use coastal waters of the U.S. continental shelf. Juveniles and adults are present in the NER seasonally and are distributed as far north as Canada.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** See links to additional sea turtle information above.

### Loggerhead Turtle (*Caretta caretta*)

**Year listed:** 1978; Nine Distinct Population Segments designated in 2011

**Status:** The Northwest and South Atlantic Ocean, Southeast Indo-Pacific Ocean, and Southwest Indian Ocean populations are listed as threatened. The Northeast Atlantic, Mediterranean Sea, North Indian Ocean, and North and South Pacific Ocean populations are listed as endangered. Only the NWA DPS is present in the NER.

**General Distribution:** Loggerheads, the most abundant species of sea turtle in U.S. waters, have a temperate and subtropical distribution, including offshore waters, continental shelves, bays, estuaries, and lagoons. In the U.S. Atlantic, their range extends north to southern Canada. They most commonly occur throughout the inner continental shelf from Florida to Cape Cod, MA. As with other sea turtle species, their presence in the NER varies seasonally.

**Critical habitat in NER:** None

**Additional Information:** See links to additional sea turtle information above.

## REFERENCES CITED

- CETAP 1982. A characterization of marine mammals and turtles in the mid- and North Atlantic areas of the U.S. outer continental shelf, final report, Cetacean and Turtle Assessment Program, University of Rhode Island. Bureau of Land Management, Washington, DC. #AA551-CT8-48 576 pp.
- Clark, C.W. 1995. Application of U.S. Navy underwater hydrophone arrays for scientific research on whales. Rep. Int. Whal. Comm. 45: 210-212.
- Mitchell, E. and D.G. Chapman 1977. Preliminary assessment of stocks of northwest Atlantic sei whales (*Balaenoptera borealis*). Rep. Int. Whal. Comm. (Special Issue) 1: 117-120.
- Wenzel, F., D. K. Mattila and P. J. Clapham 1988. *Balaenoptera musculus* in the Gulf of Maine. Mar. Mamm. Sci. 4(2): 172-175.
- Whitehead, H. 2002. Estimates of the current global population size and historical trajectory for sperm whales. Mar. Ecol. Prog. Ser. 242: 295-304.