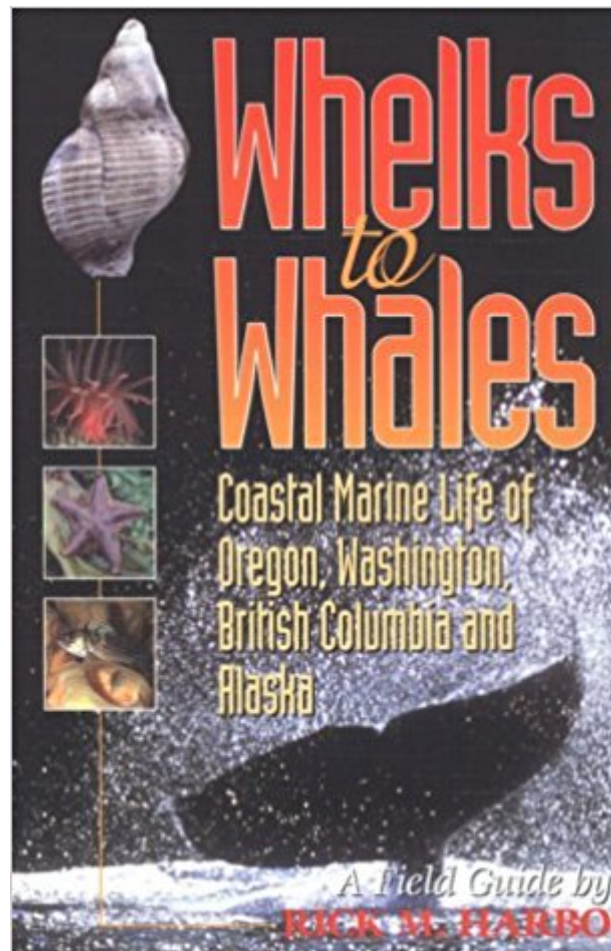




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# Whelks To Whales: Coastal Marine Life Of The Pacific Northwest



## Synopsis

This full-colour field guide to the marine life of coastal British Columbia, Alaska, Washington, Oregon and northern California is perfect for divers, boaters, beachcombers, and snorkellers of every experience level. The concise handbook is a ready reference to the 420 most common species that can be observed along the west coast. The shorelines of Alaska, British Columbia, Washington, Oregon and northern California are so generously populated with marine animals and plants that divers, beachcombers, whale watchers, naturalists and biologists from all over the world come here to enjoy the natural wonders of the coastline. The gentle climate and warm ocean current of this region support thousands of plants and animals, from the microscopic planktonic algae that bloom and colour the water, to the smallest snails on the seashore, to the blue whale, the largest animal on earth. The Pacific Northwest is home to the world's tallest anemone (plumose anemone) and many of the world's largest species, including the giant Pacific octopus, barnacle (giant barnacle) sea slug (orange peel nudibranch), intertidal clam (geoduck) and sea urchin (red sea urchin). *Whelks to Whales* is designed for everyone from the expert biologist to the weekend naturalist and is a ready reference to the 420 most common species, the fascinating local sponges, jellyfish, crabs, shrimp, barnacles, clams, snails, seals, fish, whales, sea algae and hundreds of other living things that can be observed and identified without being disturbed. This accessible full-colour field guide is arranged for quick identification with colour-coded sections, photographs of all species - most pictured in their natural habitat - and comprehensive but concise information on size, range, habitat and facts of interest about each species. With a glossary, checklist, reading list and full index included, *Whelks to Whales* is the only book you will need to identify and learn about the diverse marine life you are likely to encounter while exploring the waters and seashores of the Pacific Northwest.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Rick Harbo, B.Sc., is one of the Pacific Northwest's leading marine writers and photographers. Author of the bestselling Tidepool and Reef, The Edible Seashore, Guide to the Western Seashore, Shells and Shellfish of the Pacific Northwest, and Whelks to Whales, Harbo is a diver, teacher of marine life courses and a senior marine biologist with Fisheries and Oceans Canada in Nanaimo, BC, where he lives with his wife and children.

This book has been very helpful in identifying the many different creatures I have seen while diving in Washington State's Puget Sound as well as around Vancouver Island. It is perfect for any recreational diver because while it does list Phylum and Species, it also gives the common name and even alternate common names if applicable. Each entry also gives the Size, Range, Habitat, Description and a brief comment about the entry. The photos are clear and sometimes include photos of the fishes egg mass. This book covers the most common of the marine life that you are likely to encounter while diving in the Pacific Northwest. I take it with me when I go diving and use it after the dive to show what I saw and for others to identify what they saw. It also helps me at home later when I want to put a name to a photo I took while diving. I whole heartedly recommend this book to anyone slightly curious as to what that thing is called they saw on that last dive.

Great book for identifying the marine life of the Pacific Northwest.

Fast shipping!! came in day before my first day of class!!

Great!

Awesome book for learning about animals in the PNW,

Love the book. Love the photos! Excellent photography and very helpful descriptions of sea life. I recommend it to others.

My kids are studying the ocean right now, so we picked up this book at the library to familiarize ourselves with the various animals we might see when we go to the coast. Of course the first thing they looked for was the great white shark. But it's not in there. No great white in a book about the marine life of coastal Pacific Northwest? So I thought maybe they're just talking about way up North, not here in Northern California, but no their map includes Northern California. And I just finished reading a book about geoduck poaching, but the geoduck entry in this book doesn't mention that there is a serious poaching problem. Other than that, my kids have really enjoyed looking at the pictures and reading the very brief entry about each animal. I appreciate that it covers mammals, bivalves, whelks... all kinds of life, not just one family of critters like so many books do. I guess that's why it's not exhaustive.

This book's easy-to-use key immediately helps visitors to Olympic's coast identify dozens and dozens of marine animals and plants. We bring it on ranger-led tide pool explorations because it complements our journeys so well. Each section provides structural, behavioral, and habitat information about the type of creatures. Then, many individual species are photographed and described, including known life cycles, predator-prey relationships, and other unique aspects. The book is particularly good because it includes several marine mammals, enhancing tide pool exploration with ocean discovery. This is a wonderful aid in introducing visitors to the intertidal zone, the marine sanctuary, and the abundant life thriving within.

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