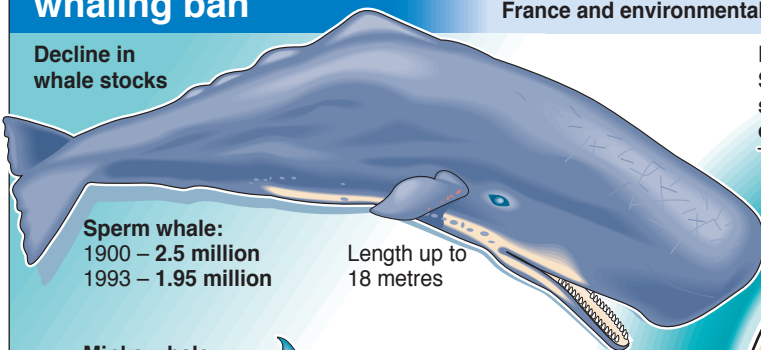


WHALE HUNTING War of words over whaling ban

The International Whaling Commission is meeting in Japan to decide whether to extend the moratorium on whale hunting. Norway, Japan and Iceland argue that a limited harvest will not harm stocks but the U.S., UK, France and environmental groups are determined to prolong the ban

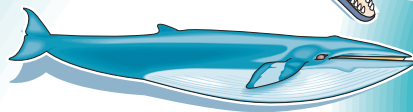
Decline in whale stocks



Sperm whale:
1900 – 2.5 million
1993 – 1.95 million

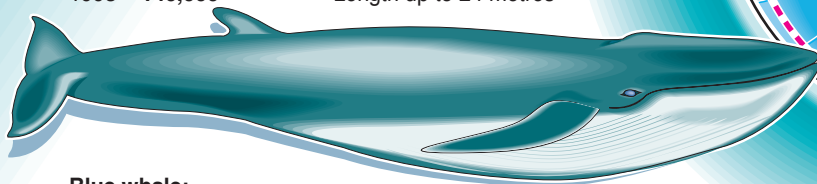
Length up to
18 metres

Minke whale:
1900 – no data
1993 – 700,000



Length up to 9 metres

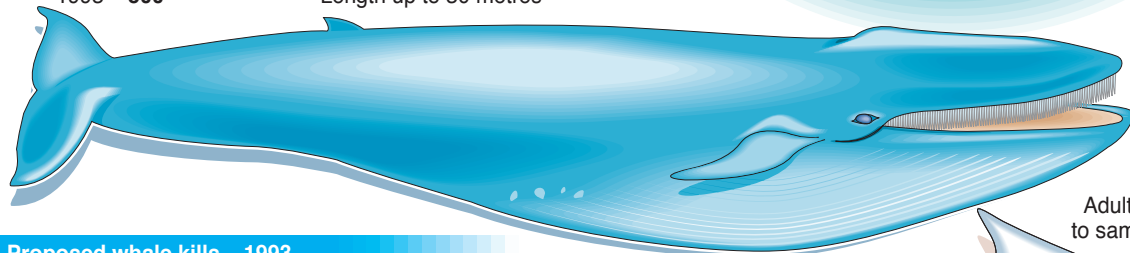
Fin whale:
1900 – 500,000
1993 – 140,000



Length up to 24 metres

Blue whale:
1900 – 250,000
1993 – 500

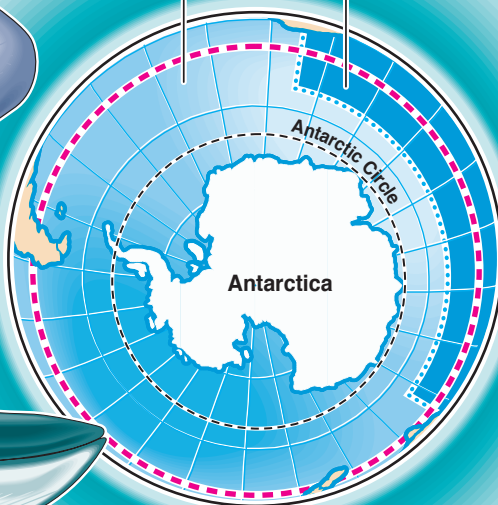
Length up to 30 metres



Adult human
to same scale

**Proposed
Southern Ocean
sanctuary south
of 40th parallel**

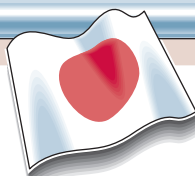
**Proposed
Indian Ocean
sanctuary**



Proposed whale kills – 1993



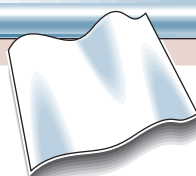
Norway – 936
300-800 Minkes for
commercial purposes,
136 for 'scientific purposes'



Japan – 330
330 Minkes for
'scientific purposes'



Russia – 112
Originally proposed
to kill 112 but has
decided against it



Other nations – 349
Alaskan Inuit people 41,
Greenland 136, Siberian Aleuts 169,
St Vincent and Grenadines 3