

The Ultimate Whale Adoption Program*



When were you last in awe of an animal?

- Choose from eleven named humpback whales
- Each one has an awe-inspiring personality and unbelievable behaviors
- Free DVD introducing your whale included with your adoption
- \$40 Lifetime Adoption with information sheet and adoption certificate
- Online access to new yearly sightings and family trees

Your adopted whale is unique and deserves special protections both in its ocean home and its interactions with humans. There are dangers in its entire migratory range and CSI is a strong force to protect your adopted whale as well as all species of whales worldwide.

Start your relationship with a whale today

www.whaleswithnames.com

Bandit, Colt, Coral, Mars, Nile, Salt, Seal, Sirius, Sockeye, Thorn and Thread

*Your adoption supports the research and conservation programs of CSI

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Bandit

Born - Yr Unknown

The first sighting of Bandit was in 1988 and he was probably a few years old at the time, so his Mother and year of birth are unknown. Bandit is a well-known male with a unique feeding style, so unusual you can identify him simply by observing.



Bandit is named for the mask-like scars on the dorsal side of his fluke. The underside is mostly white.



Bandit is a very popular whale for whale watchers. He is easily identified from a distance while feeding because he traps fish like no other humpback whale. Bandit locates a school of fish, slashes his tail through the school three or four times, dives under the school and blows bubbles. The most exciting thing about this behavior is that Bandit doesn't care how close to a boat he is when he is hungry.

Bandit has been hit by a small boat as he has propeller scars on the left side near his flipper. But he has no fear of boats and has visited boats with lots of other whales. This list of friends include Colt, Thorn and Thread.

If Bandit could tell his story:

I get excited around boats, especially whale watching boats. Sometimes boats hit whales by accident. On July 6, 1989 I hit a boat by accident. They were stopped in the water and I was flipper-slapping and got too close and brushed the boat with my thirteen foot long flipper. In my haste to leave I hit the boat with my tail. No harm done but I bet they are still talking about it today.

I know you will enjoy meeting Bandit and by adopting you will begin a new journey of discovery of the unique personalities and behaviors of humpback whales.



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Bandit is part of the "I AM ONE OF A KIND" campaign.

Colt

Born - 1981

Colt is a very well-known male who was born in 1981 to a whale named Equus. She was first sighted in 1977! Equus brought Colt back to Stellwagen Bank in May or June of 1981 when he was just four or five months old. Imagine how tired he was after swimming 1500 miles.



Colt was named for the black mark at the top part of his left fluke that looks like a Colt handgun.

Equus has six calves that we have seen:

1979: Tusk (Colt's brother)

1981: Colt

1984: Merlin (Colt's sister)

1986: Channel (Colt's sister)

1988: Stump (Colt's brother)

1990: RK (Colt's sister)



If Colt could tell his story:

They call me the friendliest whale. From the time when I was just a calf, I wanted to go over to a boat that was moving slowly. When I got there it would always stop. It seemed like fun to me that I could get really close without touching it and then dive under to see how big it was. Most of the time I would explore both sides. I could hear a lot of sounds in the water when I would dive on one side and come up on the other side. Now that I'm much older, I still love to visit boats.

Most of my visits include one or more of my friends too. Sometimes Bandit, Sirius and Thorn come with me. I show them what to do but I like to get closer than they do. When they get closer I try to squeeze in between them and the boat.

On one whale watch trip, there were four of us near a boat and I started singing. We were also getting very active doing a lot of whale things.

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Coral

Born 1988

Coral is a very well-known male who was born in 1988 to a whale named Silver. Silver was first seen in 1979, her age was unknown. Silver was the first known Grandmother. Her daughter Beltane was born in 1980 and returned with her own calf in 1985.



Coral is named for the black parallel lines that look like Coral fronds.

Silver had five calves until she was found on a beach entangled in fishing nets in 1991:

1980: Beltane

1983: Aster

1985: Peninsula

1988: Coral

1990: Chablis



If Coral could tell his story:

They call me the lucky whale. I like to think it was because I was lucky to have Silver for a mother. But as it turns out, it was because I survived a killer whale attack when I was just a young calf. You can see their teeth marks on the underside of my flukes. They look like short parallel black lines. I am lucky because it was my mother that protected me and kept her body between me and the killer whales.

Coral learned that when feeding more is better. Naturalists nick-named him Triple Kicker because he would hit his fluke on the water three times when feeding. Most of the other whales only hit the water once. Bandit and Coral have been seen feeding together. He is another whale you can adopt.

On one whale watch trip, Coral saved the day! The whales were far offshore and nothing was seen during the four hour trip. On the way back to the dock, 150 people were sad. Suddenly a whale breached three times off the bow. It was Coral jumping out of the water!

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Mars

Born - Yr Unknown

Mars was named after the Roman God of War due to the scars and damage to her fluke and dorsal fin. On the left side of her fluke is damage from having a rope wrapped around it for some period of time. Mars is also one of the largest humpbacks in this population.



Mars was named for the many scars and cuts to her fluke and dorsal fin, as though she was in a war.

Mars has a large family tree, several calves are:

- 1982: Felis (M)
- 1984: Seal (M)
- 1985: Excalibur (F)
- 1987: Nile (F)
- 1990: Mesopotamia (F)
- 1993: Putter (M)



If Mars could tell her story:

I'm not bragging but I have some great calves. Nile and Seal are also featured in this adoption program due to their great personalities and entertaining behaviors close to boats. When they were young I made sure they were introduced to boats slowly and safely. We can be struck by boats, entangled in ropes and fishing gear or mistake floating plastic for food.

Nile has started her own large family and Seal has been seen in very dramatic breaching displays. Breaching is jumping out of the water.

Mars frequently swims up to the boats, gets right below people and then lets go with a big blow. Most people don't expect this and make a lot of noise. They think it is great fun and the experience of a lifetime.

Humpback whales usually give birth to calves every two or three years. In 1984 while nursing Seal, her second calf, Mars became pregnant and gave birth to Excalibur in 1985.

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Mars is part of the "I AM ONE OF A KIND" campaign.

Nile

Born 1987

Nile is a very well-known female who was born in 1987 to a whale named Mars. Mars was first seen in 1979, so no one is sure how old she is because she wasn't seen as a calf. By 2017, Mars has had 11 calves—so Nile has 10 brothers and sisters that we know of.



Nile is named for the line on the left side of her tail that looks like the Nile River.

Nile herself has had six calves of her own:

- 1998: Amazon
- 2000: Aswan
- 2007: Playground
- 2009: Teacup
- 2014: Sprinkles
- 2016: (unnamed as of yet)

Mars, Nile, her brother Putter, and her calf Amazon have all survived being entangled in fishing gear—one of the major threats these whales face.

For the past five years, Nile has been sighted often on Stellwagen Bank, spending the spring, summer and fall feeding on herring and sand eels. In 2013, she was the only whale around for six weeks. Thousands of people got to know her very well during that time!

Nile is an active whale and sometimes curious around the boats. Especially as a young whale, Nile would spend time spyhopping (lifting her head straight out of the water (presumably to get a better view) and just looking at passengers on the boats. As you can imagine, this is a favorite of whale watchers. One day we recorded Nile playing with seaweed. She would bring her rostrum underneath it and let it move down her back.

Nile's family members are well known around Stellwagen Bank. Mars and Seal, her brother, can also be adopted through CSI's adoption program.



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Nile is part of the "I AM ONE OF A KIND" campaign.

Salt

Born - Yr Unknown

The first sighting of Salt was in the spring of 1975. She was in the company of another whale and they were named Salt and Pepper. Salt has a very large family including several Great-Grandcalves! Visit whaleswithnames.com to see her current family tree.



Salt was named for the white scars on her dorsal fin.



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Salt is part of the "I AM ONE OF A KIND" campaign.

If Salt could tell her story:

I have been around a long time. I have a very large family tree, more than 30 direct descendants.

One danger we all face is being hit by boats so I make an effort to introduce my new calves to the boats by visiting early and often. I stay close by and let my calf swim around and under the boats. They always show off.

Salt's birth year is unknown but it is believed she is approaching 50 years of age. She is still bringing new calves to the Gulf of Maine every 2 or 3 years. She is one of the most important whales, perhaps the most sighted and most loved whale in the world.

Humpbacks do not form long term relationships, but Salt has been sighted traveling and feeding with Cardhu for months at a time in different years.

Salt shows a great preference for Stellwagen Bank as her northern feeding and calving ground. She holds the title of "The Grande Dame of Stellwagen Bank".

I know you will enjoy meeting Salt and by adopting you will begin a new journey of discovery of the unique personalities and behaviors of humpback whales.

Seal

Born - 1984

Seal is a very well-known male who was born in 1984 to a whale named Mars. She was first sighted in 1979. Mars brought Seal back to Stellwagen Bank in May or June of 1984 when he was just four or five months old. Imagine how tired he was after swimming 1500 miles!



Seal is part of a large family, several Brothers and Sisters:

1982: Felis (M) Seal's Brother

1985: Excalibur (F) Seal's Sister

1987: Nile (F) Seal's Sister

1990: Mesopotamia (F) Seal's Sister

1993: Putter (M) Seal's Brother



If Seal could tell his story:

It may seem funny to be named for another species of marine mammal, but we are named for marks and scars (called field marks) that resemble other objects or things. I have a large white pattern on the left side of my fluke that looks a little like a seal pup laying on the beach. I also have some scars on the right side bottom that resembles the head, eyes and nose of a harp seal.

They call me the playful whale. From the time when I was just a calf, I always enjoyed breaching, lobtailing and flipper slapping. I still do those things today because they help me knock off unwanted barnacles.

Seal has a droopy dorsal fin. It most likely was damaged while in a rowdy group of other male humpback whales on the breeding grounds of Samana Bay in the Dominica Republic. Rowdy groups have up to 10 or 15 male humpback whales competing to attract the notice of a female humpback whale.

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Seal is part of the "I AM ONE OF A KIND" campaign.

Sirius

Born - 1982

Sirius is a very well-known male who was born in 1982 to a whale named Fringe. She was first sighted in 1979. Fringe brought Sirius back to Stellwagen Bank in May or June of 1982 when he was just four or five months old. Imagine this small calf swimming 1500 miles!



Sirius was named for the small bright white mark in the center of his fluke. Sirius is the brightest star in the sky.

Sirius is part of a very large family, several Brothers and Sisters:

- 1979: Tassel (M) Sirius' Brother
- 1984: Thread (M) Sirius' Brother
- 1986: Paris (M) Sirius' Brother
- 1988: Tornado (F) Sirius' Sister
- 1990 Brittle Star
- 1997: Fiber
- 1999: Freestyle



If Sirius could tell his story:

I like to eat fish, in fact I eat a lot of fish, up to 2000 pounds every day from April through December. I easily find large schools of fish off the New England coast but when I don't, I head north to the waters off Nova Scotia. When I migrate to the Caribbean I don't eat, my blubber layer is my food storage system.

I was hit by a boat one day years ago. The boat propeller cut a notch in my tail stock that is visible today. Improperly handled boats are a problem for many creatures that live in the seas. Lots of large whales are killed by ships.

You can easily tell its me out in the ocean because the pigment of my flippers is unusual for east coast humpback whales. When I am flipper-slapping or breaching you might notice that the top side of my flippers are all black. The other humpbacks have mostly white flippers. When I come up to boats, this color variation is really quite noticeable.

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Sockeye

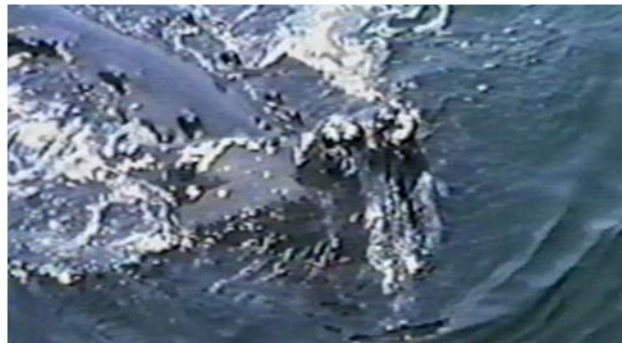
Born - Yr Unknown

The first sighting of Sockeye was in 1984 off the coast of Cape Cod. Sockeye has several marks and scars that help identify him. There is a large white scar behind his blowholes. But the most interesting feature is his deformed jaw that does not fit together properly and some of his baleen is broken and missing.



Sockeye's fluke is covered with lines of parallel scars indicating that he was chased and bitten by orcas or killer whales during his life.

Sockeye enjoys the company of other humpbacks and this may affect his behavior. Three humpbacks were seen flipper slapping together and Sockeye was in the group. On another day, Sockeye and two others approached a small boat and were spyhopping almost touching the boat.



Sockeye's mouth does not fit together very well. It looks like he has an overbite.

If Sockeye could tell his story:

While I am a little different from the other whales, mostly we are all the same. I blow bubble nets to trap fish, flipper slap, breach and I sing humpback songs.

My baleen grows out to the side a little so while feeding I can create a wonderful waterfall effect with my mouth that is unique to me.

The most exciting time with Sockeye was on one trip where he was flipper slapping along the side of the boat and raised his flipper above the heads of the people at the railing!

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Thorn

Born - 1983

The first sighting of Thorn was in the spring of 1983 when he was with his mother Ebony as a calf. Ebony is not often seen but we know that she is one of the few Great-Grandmothers in the Gulf of Maine. Thorn is not very well-known but he should be due to his talent for creating very large and perfect bubble rings.



Thorn was named for the long thorn-shaped line on the left side of his fluke and he perfected bubble ring blowing.



Thorn is often seen alone and this is not unusual for humpback whales. His longest relationship was with his mother and that lasted only 10-11 months. He has no fear of boats and has visited boats with lots of other whales. This list of friends include Bandit, Colt and Thread.

If Thorn could tell his story:

I get excited around boats, especially whale watching boats. For years I have been blowing bubble rings in the water. I think I have them as perfect as can be. No other humpbacks can top my bubble rings. I dive down near a boat, blow the rings and then watch them as they break the surface of the water. On one of my bubble blowing adventures, I watched the ring rising and decided to follow it up to the surface and spyhopped right in the middle of it!

One other day, Colt and I were beside a boat that was backing away from us and we decided to visit the other nearby boat. Maybe we stayed there too long.

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Thorn is part of the "I AM ONE OF A KIND" campaign.

Thread

Born - 1984

Thread is a very well-known male who was born in 1984 to a whale named Fringe. She was first sighted in 1979. Fringe brought Thread to Stellwagen Bank in May or June of 1984 when he was just four or five months old.



Thread was named for the small black thread-like lines found around the outline of his fluke.

Thread is part of a very large family, several Brothers and Sisters:

1979: Tassel (M) Thread's Brother

1982: Sirius (M) Thread's Brother

1986: Paris (M) Thread's Brother

1988: Tornado (F) Thread's Sister

1990 Brittle Star

1997: Fiber

1999: Freestyle



If Thread could tell his story:

They call me the "crazy acrobat". When I approach a boat, I like to throw my tail out of the water or to slash it from side to side just beneath the surface of the water. The closer to the boat, the more the dramatic effect. I find that this is quite stimulating.

I spend my days eating fish and traveling around the Gulf of Maine. One day Bandit, Coral and I were trapping fish with bubble nets very close to a boat. Bandit did a lot of work to trap the fish under the bow of the boat and I swam in and ate them. I don't think Bandit was happy.

Like too many whales, I have been entangled in fishing nets. If you look at my fluke you see a cut in the top left side. Luckily for me the net came off over time. Some whales aren't that lucky. Sometimes the net will wrap around their head and they can't eat. Teams of people exist around the world to remove the nets.

I know you will enjoy meeting Thread and by adopting you will begin a new journey of discovery of the unique personalities and behaviors of humpback whales.

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