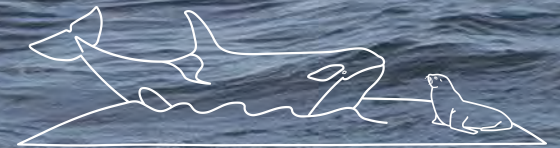


2022 ID GUIDE



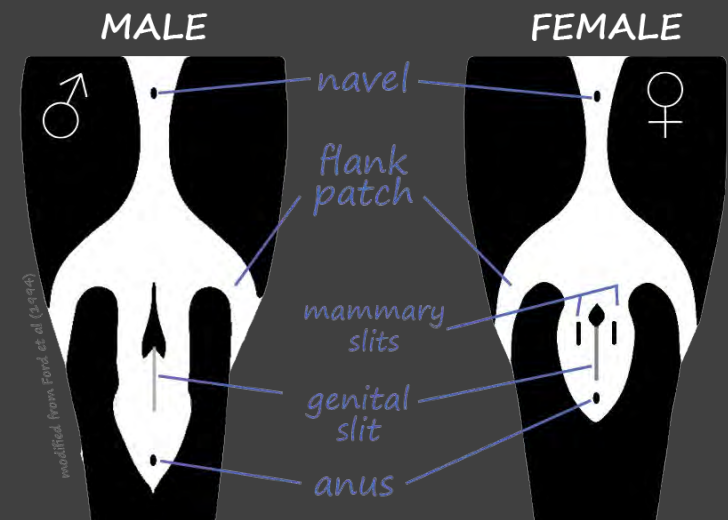
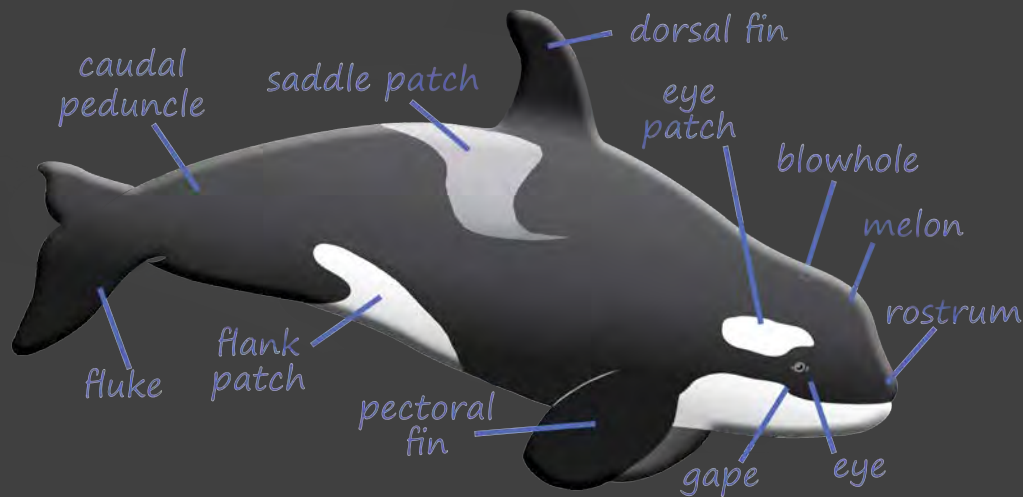
Punta Norte Orca Research
— pn-orca.org —



Orca Identification

This is a guide to the orca (*Orcinus orca* - also known as killer whales) who are known to visit Punta Norte, Argentina.

Orca are the largest of the dolphin family and are long-lived (up to 100 years). Each has distinctive marks which make them individually identifiable. The dorsal fin, saddle patches and eye patches are the most commonly used features for identification. Look for the overall size and shape and then more subtle features such as notches in the fin or scars on the saddle patches.



If you have photos or video of orca from Argentina, please contact us as we would like to be able to help match who you have seen. We are interested in documenting where the orca travel.

Male & Female Orca

Adult Male: 5-9m / 5,600-9,000 kg (16-30ft/6-10 tons).

Dorsal fin up to 2m (6.5ft).

Adult Female: 4.6-8m/3,800-8000 kg (15-26ft/4-9 tons).

Dorsal fin up to 1m (3ft). Can be curved like a dolphin fin.

Newborn: 2-2.5m/up to 180kg (6.5-8 ft/up to 400lbs).



@pn_orca



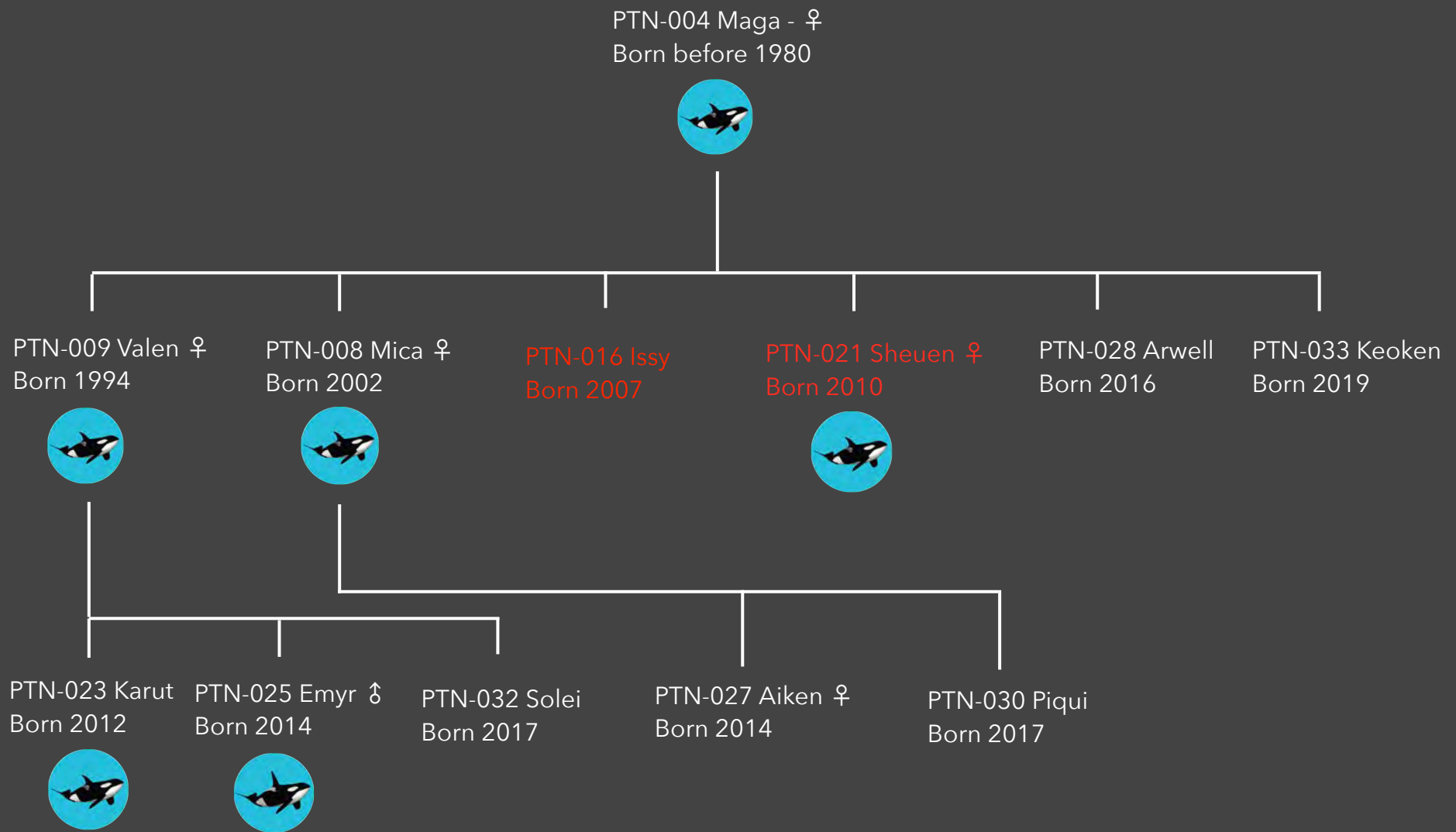
PuntaNorteOrcaResearch



www.pn-orca.org



orca@pn-orca.org



White = Current (Seen in the most recent season)

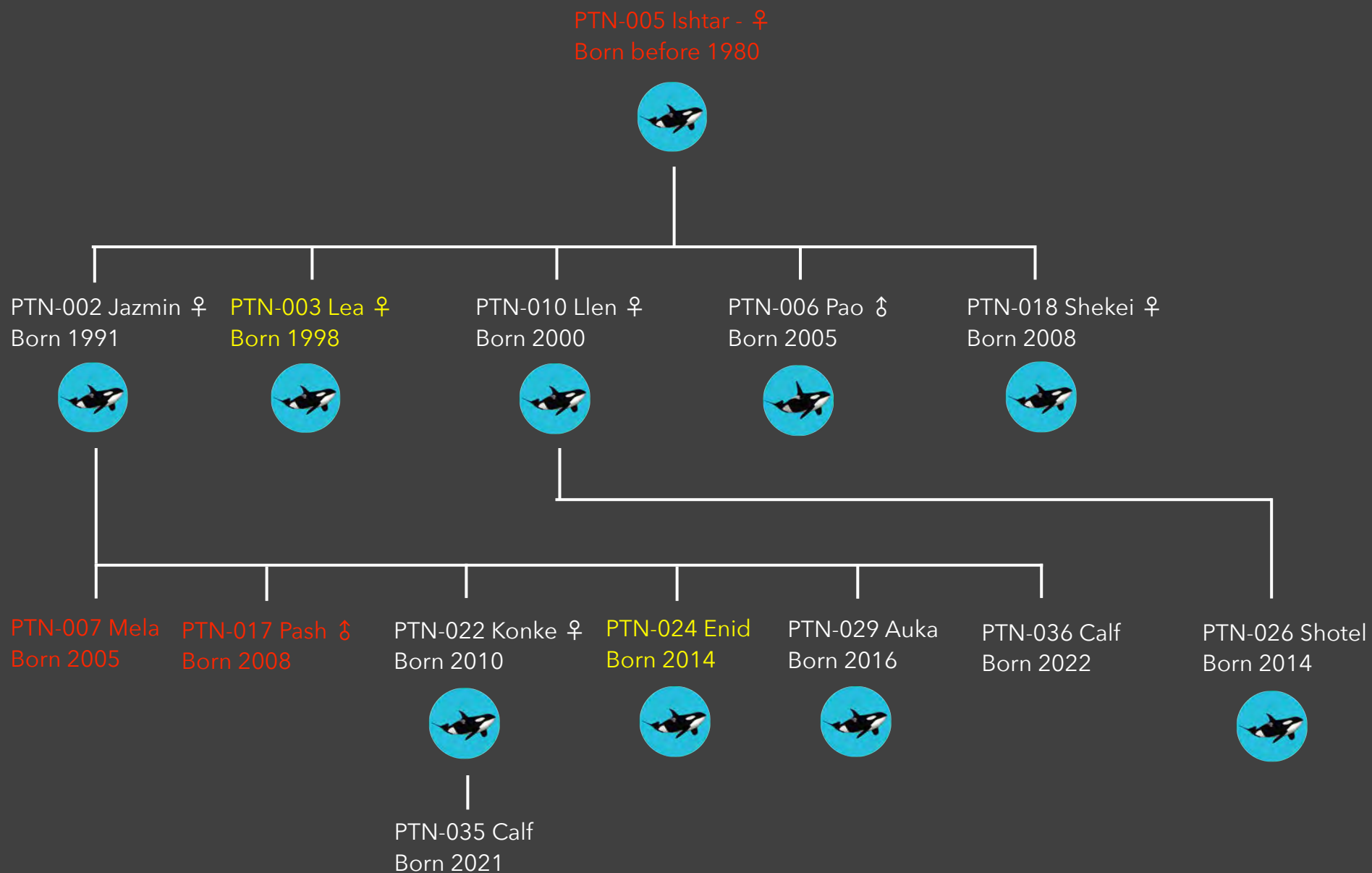
Yellow = Missing (Not seen in recent seasons)

Red = Presumed Dead (Not seen for an extended period, or if a calf, missing for one season)

♀ = female

♂ = male

 = strander



White = Current (Seen in the most recent season)

Yellow = Missing (Not seen in recent seasons)

Red = Presumed Dead (Not seen for an extended period, or if a calf, missing for one season)

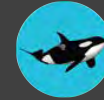
♀ = female

♂ = male

 = strander

Current Orca With No Known Family Association to Ishtar or Maga

PTN 012 Antu ♀
Born Approx 1940-50



PTN 013 Tyson ♂
Born Before 2000

PTN 019 Jaluel ♂
Born Approximately 1998




PTN 031 Yenu ♀
Born Approximately 2000-05



♀ = female

♂ = male

 = strander

FIELD GUIDE



Llen strands but fails to capture a sea lion pup

Right Saddle Patch



20220319-JMC

Maga



20220315-JMC

Valen



20220412-GXG

Mica



20220302-MCE

Karut

Right Saddle Patch



20220315-MCE

Emyr



20220428-JMC

Aiken



20220311-JMC

Arwell



20220315-JMC

Solei



20220315-GXG

Piqui



20220319-JMC

Keoken

Right Saddle Patch



20210418-JXC

Jazmin



20220501-JMC

Konke



20220420-JXC

Konke's Calf



20220501-JMC

Auka



20220420-JMC

Jazmin's Calf

Right Saddle Patch



2020315-JMC

Llen



20210405-JMC

Pao



20220315-MCE

Shekei



20220315-MCE

Shotel

Right Saddle Patch



20200325-MCE

Jaluel



20180429-JMC

Yenu



20220420-JMC

Tyson



20220501-JMC

Antu

Left Saddle Patch



20210308-JMC

Maga



20220315-JMC

Valen



20210308-JMC

Mica



20220311-JMC

Karut

Left Saddle Patch



20220315-MCE

Emyr



20200329-JMC

Aiken



20220315-GXG

Arwell



20220315-MCE

Solei



20220428-JMC

Piqui



20210410-JMC

Keoken

Left Saddle Patch



20210418-JMC

Jazmin



20220501-JMC

Konke



20220501-JMC

Konke's Calf



20210307-JMC

Auka



Jazmin's Calf

Left Saddle Patch



20190322-JMC

Llen



20220315-JMC

Pao



20220315-MCE

Shekei



20220315-JMC

Shotel

Left Saddle Patch



20220420-JMC

Jaluel



20180429-JMC

Yenu



20210308-JMC

Tyson



20150227-JMC

Antu

Right Eye Patch



20220315-MCE

Maga



20220315-JMC

Valen



20220412-GXG

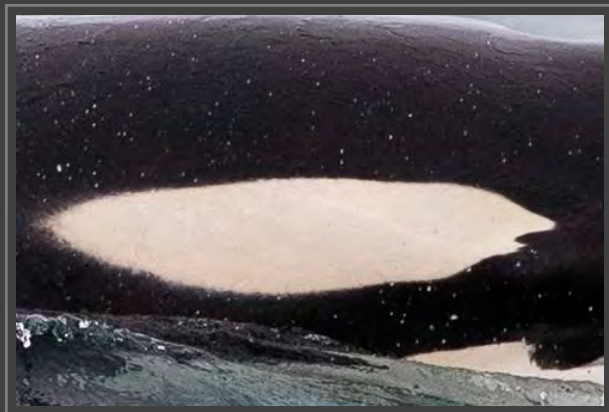
Mica



20220302-JMC

Karut

Right Eye Patch



20220409-JMC

Emyr



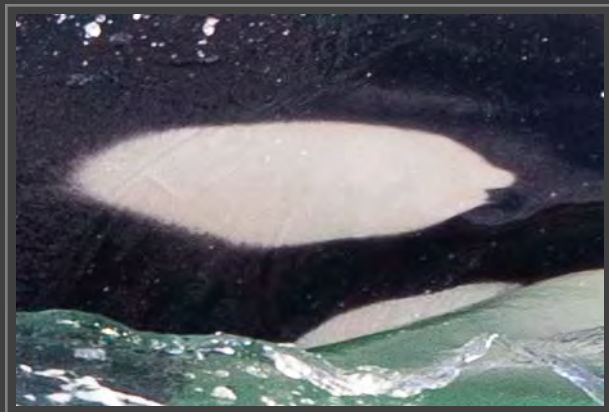
20210313-JMC

Aiken



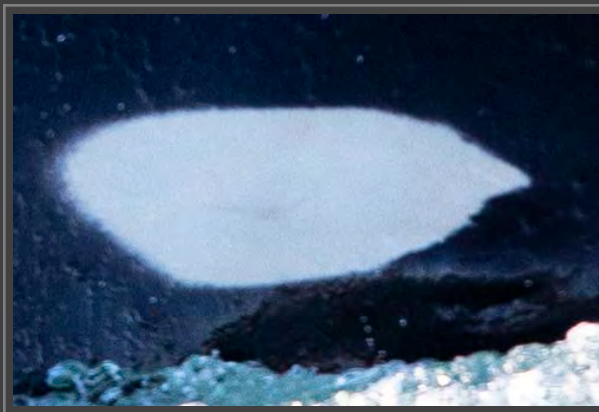
20200317-JMC

Arwell



20210312-JMC

Solei



20210308-JMC

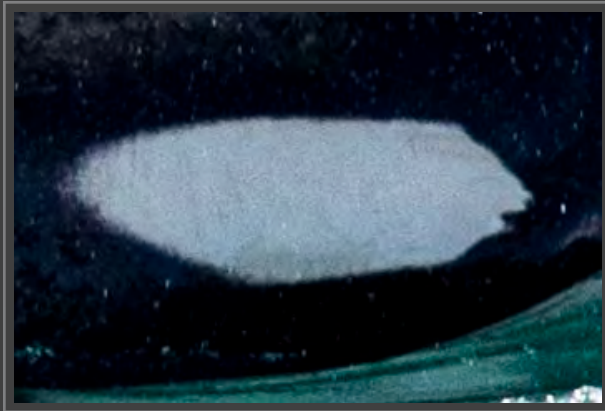
Piqui



20220420-JMC

Keoken

Right Eye Patch



20220501-JMC

Jazmin



20210413-JXC

Konke



20220420-JXC

Konke's Calf



20220501-JMC

Auka



20210308-JMC

Jazmin's Calf

Right Eye Patch



20200423-JMC

Llen



20220401-MCE

Pao



20220315-MCE

Shekei



20220315-MCE

Shotel

Right Eye Patch



20190502-JMC

Jaluel



20180429-JMC

Yenu



20220420-JMC

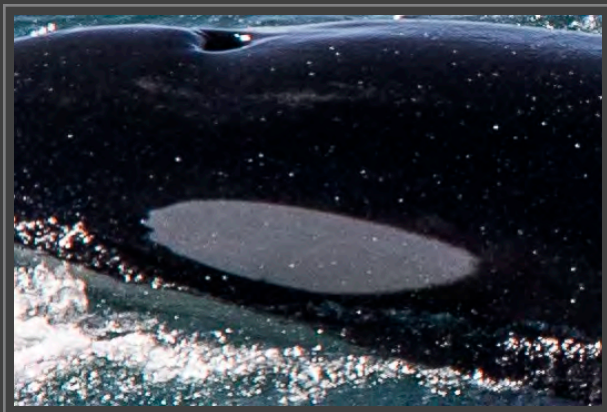
Tyson



20130418-JMC

Antu

Left Eye Patch



20200329-JMC

Maga



20220409-MCE

Valen



20210308-JMC

Mica



20220311-JMC

Karut

Left Eye Patch



20220409-JMC

Emyr



20220410-JMC

Aiken



20220420-JMC

Arwell



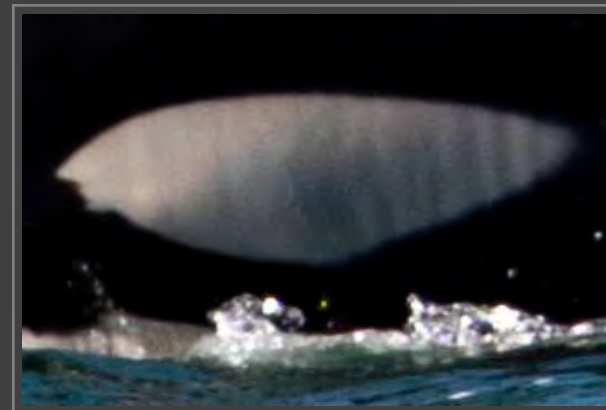
20220315-JMC

Solei



20220302-JMC

Piqui



20220410-JMC

Keoken

Left Eye Patch



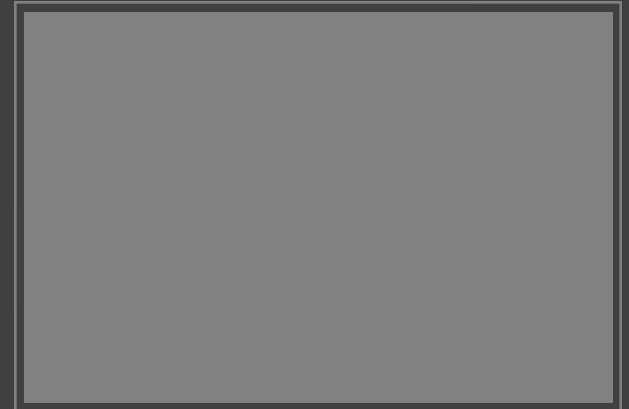
20210413-JXC

Jazmin



20200328-JMC

Konke

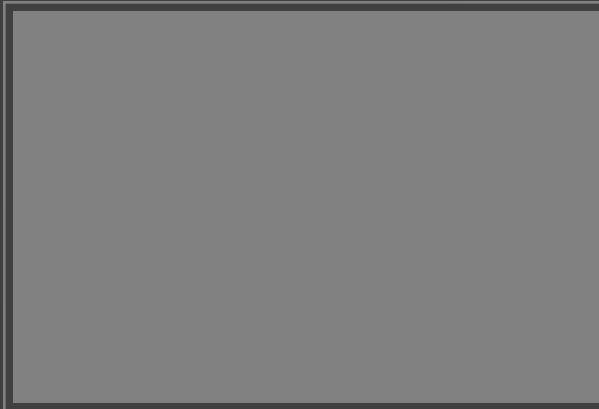


Konke's Calf



20190407-JMC

Auka



Jazmin's Calf

Left Eye Patch



20190322-MCE

Llen



20220401-MCE

Pao



20220315-MCE

Shekei



20210401-JMC

Shotel

Left Eye Patch



20200325-JMC

Jaluel



20180429-JMC

Yenu



20220420-JMC

Tyson



20120324-JMC

Antu

Flukes



20140404-MCE

Maga



20200328-JJK

Valen



20200418-JMC

Mica



20220429-JXC

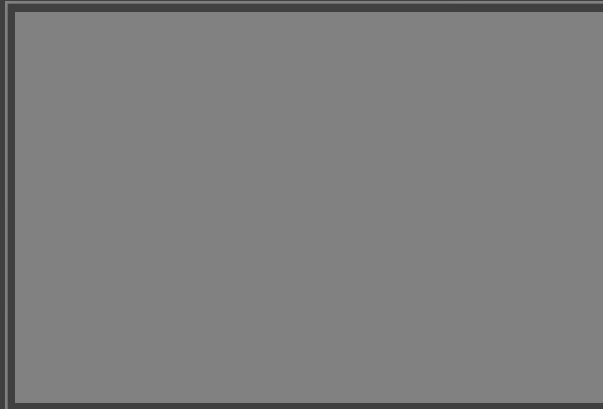
Karut

Flukes



20200325-MCE

Emyr



Aiken



20200412-JMC

Arwell



20220315-JMC

Solei



20180412-JMC

Piqui



20210308-JMC

Keoken

Flukes



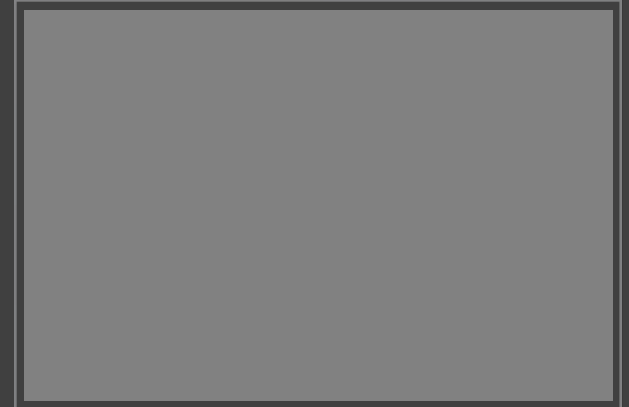
20210418-JXC

Jazmin



20220501-JMC

Konke

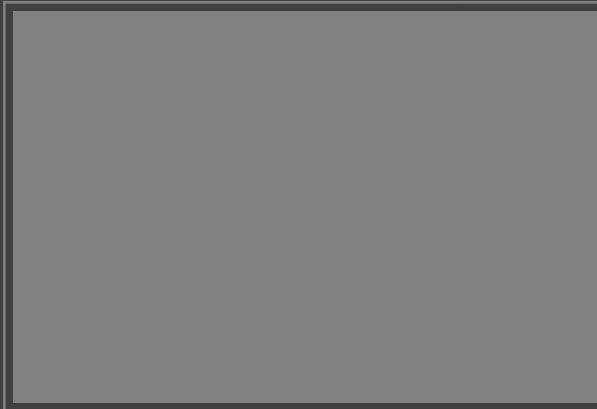


Konke's calf



20220501-JMC

Auka



Jazmin's Calf

Flukes



20180429-JMC

Llen



20220315-MCE

Pao



20220409-JMC

Shekei



20190322-JMC

Shotel

Flukes



20190428-JMC

Jaluel



20180429-JMC

Yenu



20050412-JMC

Tyson



20220501-JMC

Antu

PROFILES

Mica closes in on a sea lion pup

Maga's Group - Seen in 2022

PTN	Name	Gender	Date of Birth	Last Seen	Strander
PTN 004	Maga	Female	Before 1980	2022	Yes
PTN 028	Arwell	Unknown	2016	2022	No
PTN 033	Keoken	Unknown	2019	2022	No
PTN 009	Valen	Female	1994	2022	Yes
PTN 023	Karut	Unknown	2012	2022	Yes
PTN 025	Emyr	Male	2014	2022	Yes
PTN 032	Solei	Unknown	2017	2022	No
PTN 008	Mica	Female	Approx 2002	2022	Yes
PTN 027	Aiken	Female	2014	2022	No
PTN 030	Piqui	Unknown	2017	2022	No

PTN-004 Maga ♀ - Age 40+



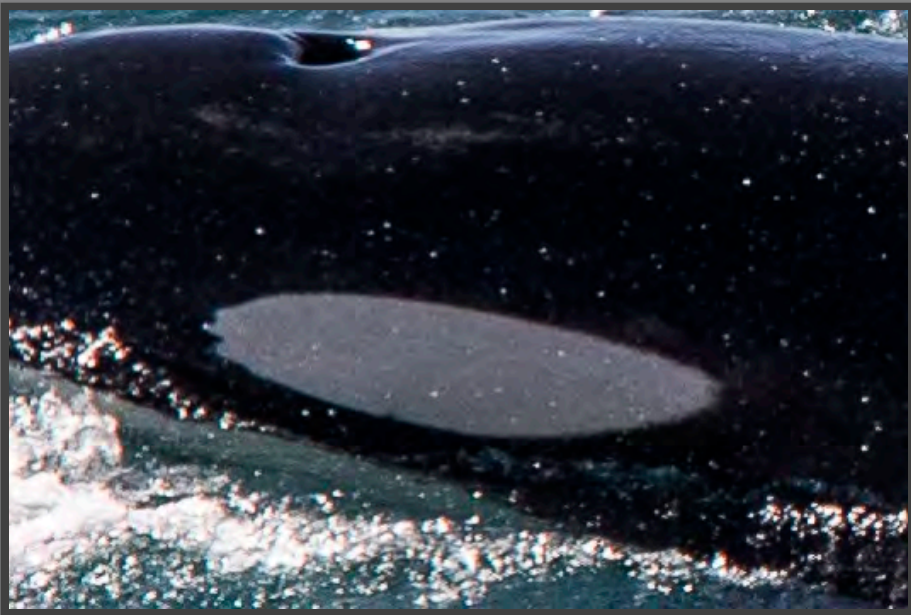
Maga is the matriarch of the largest orca family group at Punta Norte. She is a patient and decisive hunter. As matriarch, she also teaches the younger orca in her family to hunt. She has had 6 calves and 4 have survived.



20220315-MCE



20220319-JMC



20200329-JMC



20210308-JMC

PTN-028 Arwell - Age 6

One of Maga's young offspring. Although not yet a strander, Arwell does get close to shore with more experienced members of the family group.



20200317-JMC



20220311-JMC



20220420-JMC



20220315-GXG

PTN-033 Keoken - Age 3

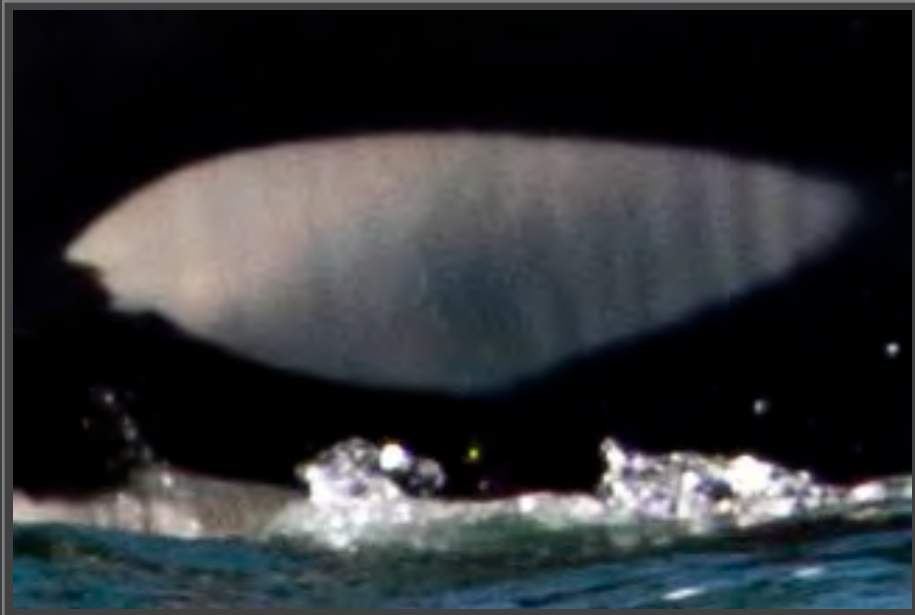
Unfortunately, this young animal has lost part of its tail fluke and has deep scars from an incident with a boat. This is an easy orca to identify.



20220420-JMC



20220319-JMC



20220410-JMC

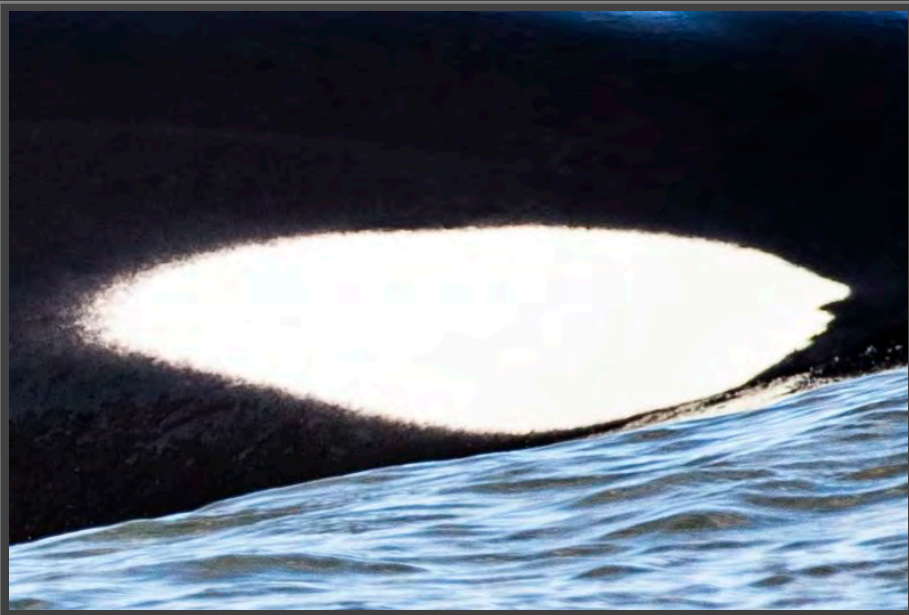


20220410-JMC

PTN-009 Valen ♀ - Age 28



Valen is estimated to be born in 1994. This talented hunter likes to lift her head up when stranding on the beach. She may have lost her first calf as we didn't document her with any offspring until she was relatively old.



20220315-JMC



20220315-JMC



20220409-MCE



20220315-JMC

PTN-023 Karut - Age 10



Karut is a great strander and enjoys putting on a show or simply scaring the sea lions. A very curious orca, Karut has sometimes stranded to check out the PNOR team sitting on top of a low cliff.



20220302-JMC



20220302-MCE



20220311-JMC



20220311-JMC

PTN-025 Emyr ♂ - Age 8



This young male favours patrolling close to the coast. The older orca in his group appear to be mentoring him during his attempts to learn how to intentionally strand.



20220409-JMC



20220315-MCE



20220409-JMC



20220315-MCE

PTN-032 Solei - Age 5

The third of Valen's dynasty. Solei is usually seen with the younger orca of the group, approaching the beach and playing with captured prey. A notch which was acquired in 2021 is still visible.



20210312-JMC



20220315-JMC



20220315-JMC

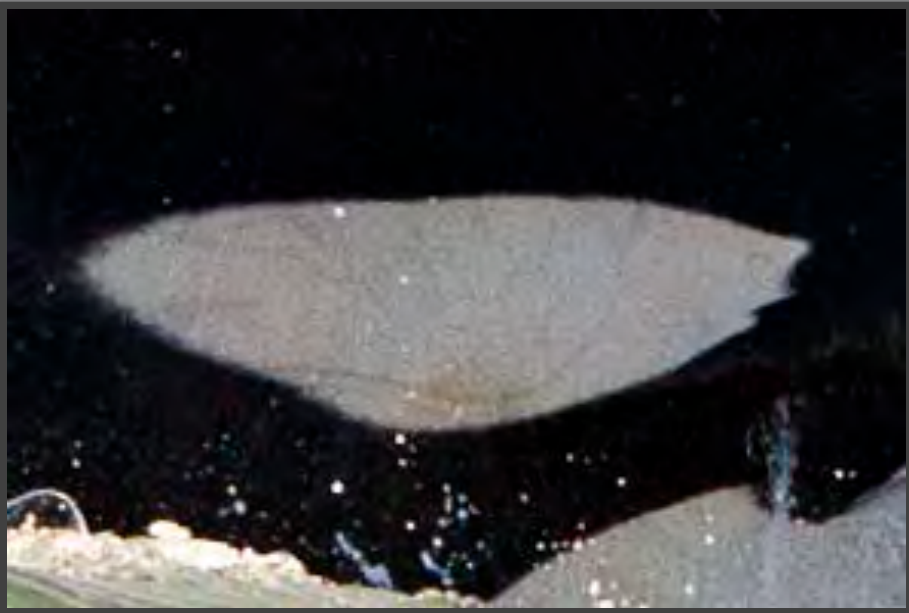


20220315-MCE

PTN-008 Mica ♀ - Age 20



One of Maga's older daughters. Mica wasn't documented intentionally stranding until she was relatively old, when she was 11, but she quickly became a very talented hunter.



20220412-GXG



20220412-GXG



20210308-JMC



20210308-JMC

PTN-027 Aiken ♀ - Age 8

Mica's daughter is often seen swimming ahead of her cousins Karut, Emyr and Solei as the whole family approaches the sea lion colonies.



20210313-JMC



20220428-JMC



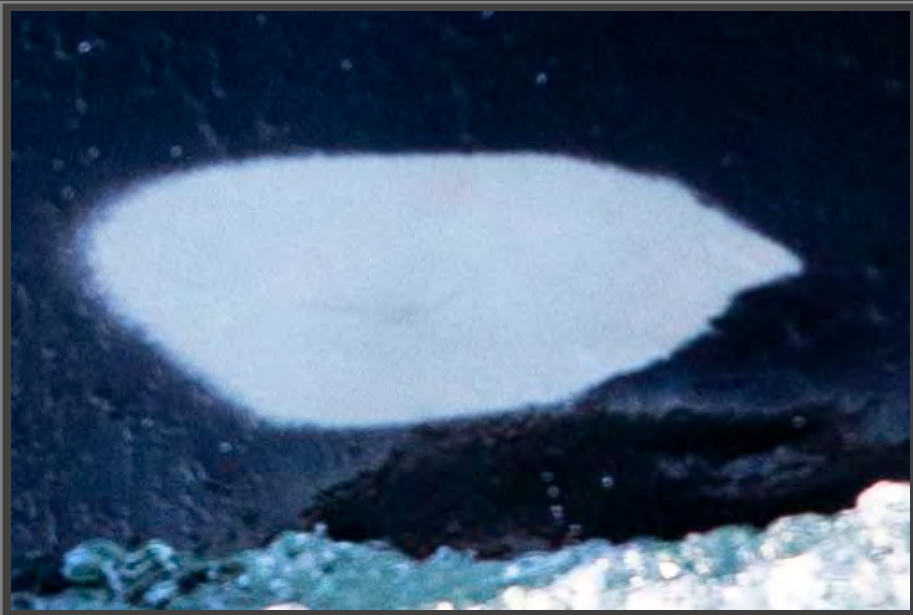
20220410-JMC



20200329-JMC

PTN-030 Piqui - Age 5

Mica's youngest. Although not yet documented as a strander, Piqui enthusiastically follows the older orca towards the beach and will likely start hunting sea lion pups in the near future.



20210308-JMC



20220315-GXG



20220302-JMC



20220428-JMC

Jazmin's Group - Seen in 2022

PTN	Name	Gender	Date of Birth	Last Seen	Strander
PTN 002	Jazmin	Female	1991	2022	Yes
PTN 022	Konke	Female	2010	2022	Yes
PTN 035	Konke's Calf	Unknown	2021	2022	No
PTN 029	Auka	Unknown	2016	2022	Yes
PTN 036	Jazmin's Calf	Unknown	2022	2022	No

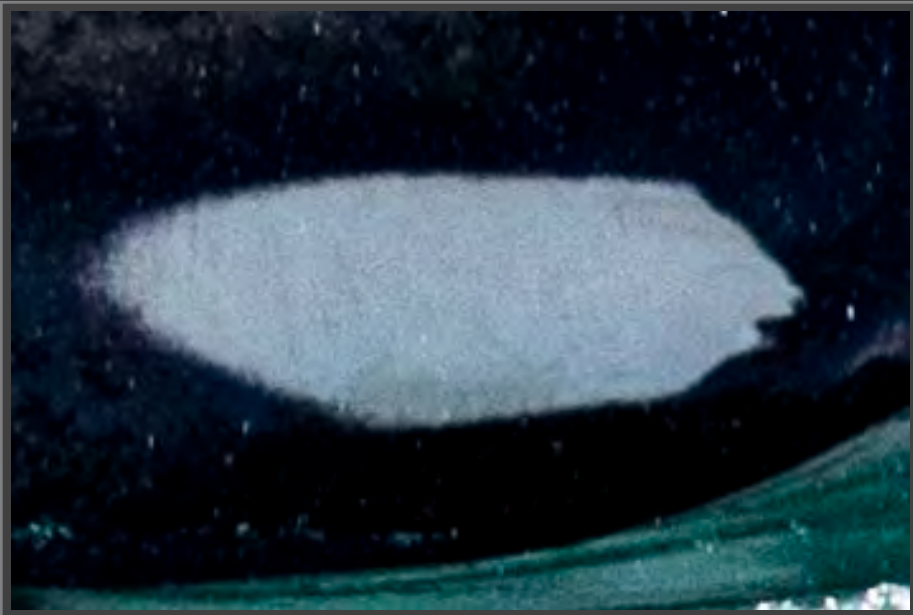


Konke and Jazmin hunting

PTN-002 Jazmin ♀ - Age 31



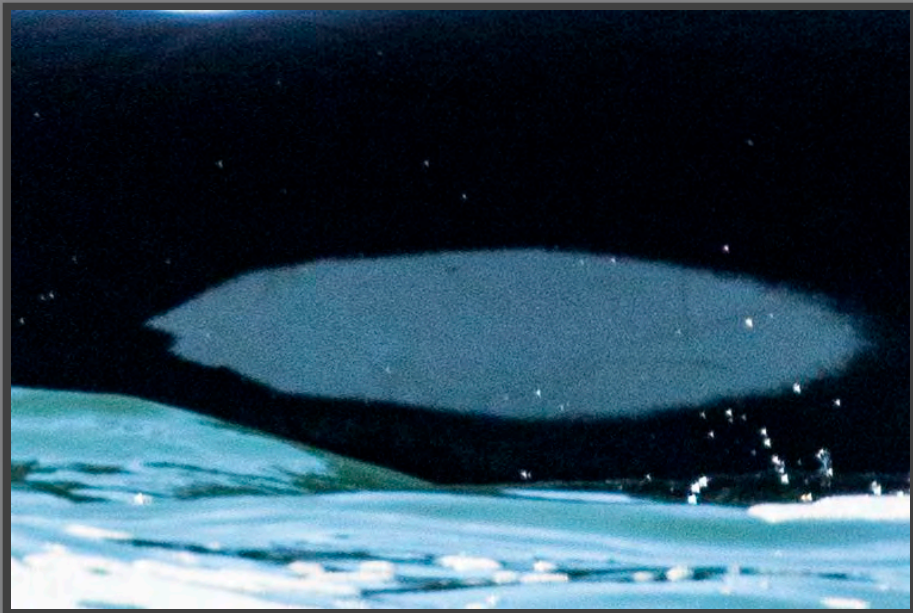
One of the key matriarchs who often visit Punta Norte with their families. Her group may stay for only a brief visit and then suddenly depart, even when hunting conditions are ideal.



20220501-JMC



20210418-JXC



20210413-JXC



20210418-JMC

PTN-022 Konke ♀ - Age 12



Jazmin's oldest surviving calf. Konke was first observed stranding in 2018. During that event Konke's hunting was spectacular and we have seen these skills continue to grow.



20210413-JXC



20220501-JMC



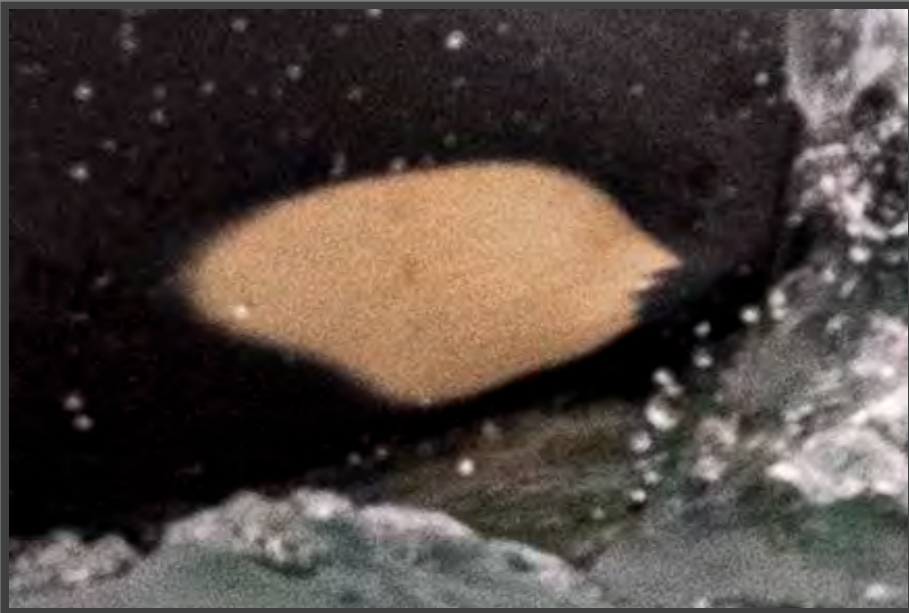
20200328-JMC



20220501-JMC

PTN-035 Konke's Calf - Age 1

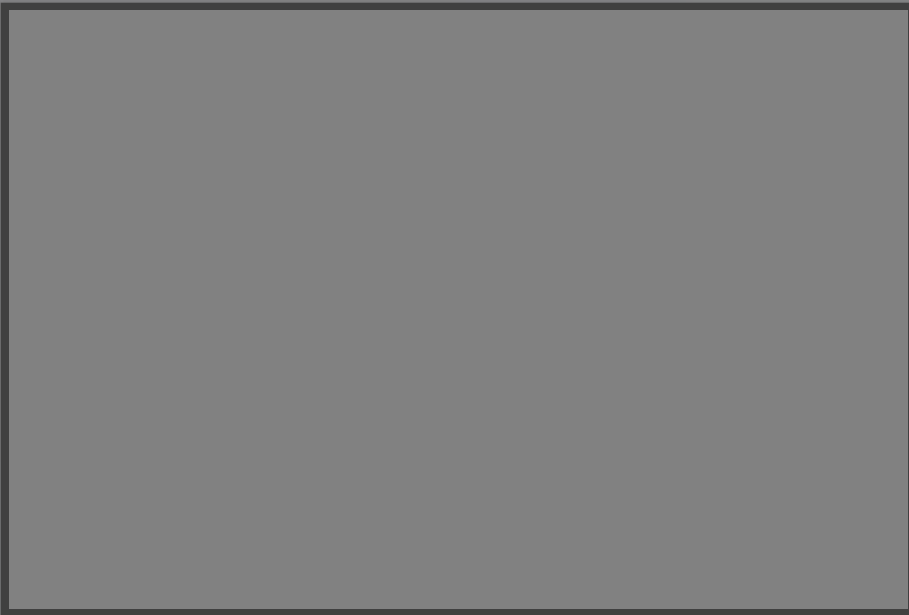
Konke's calf. Born in 2021.



20220420-JXC



20220420-JXC

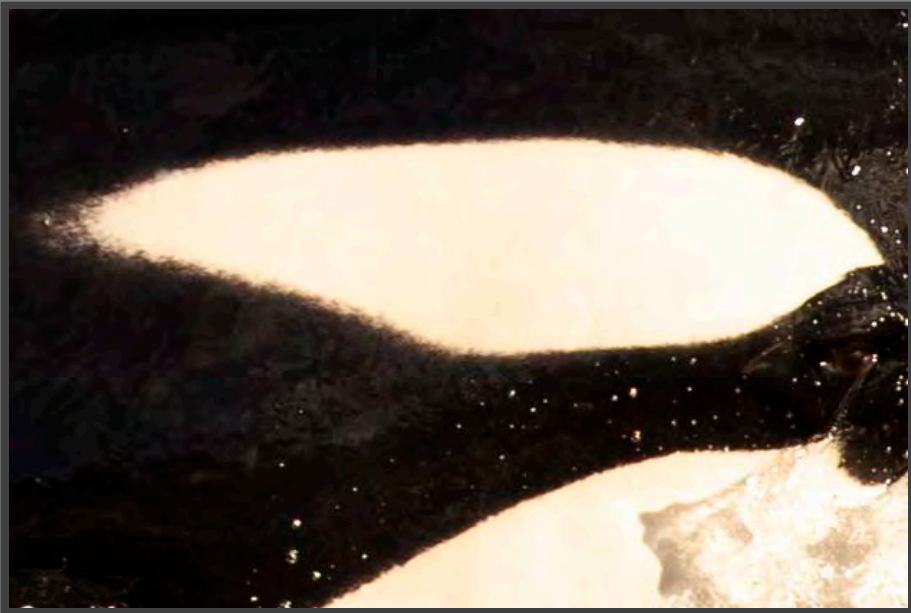


20220501-JMC

PTN-029 Auka - Age 6



Jazmin's calf, born in 2016. Auka became a strander in 2022 and carries on the tradition of her mother, who is a successful hunter. At this young age, Auka hunts in close proximity to Jazmin or an older relative.



20220501-JMC



20220501-JMC



20190407-JMC



20210307-JMC

PTN-036 Jazmin's Calf - Age 1

Jazmin's calf. Born in 2022.



20220501-GXG



20220420-JMC

Llen's Group - Seen in 2022

PTN	Name	Gender	Date of Birth	Last Seen	Strander
PTN 010	Llen	Female	2000	2022	Yes
PTN 026	Shotel	Unknown	2014	2022	Yes
PTN 006	Pao	Male	2005	2022	Yes
PTN 018	Shekei	Female	2008	2022	Yes

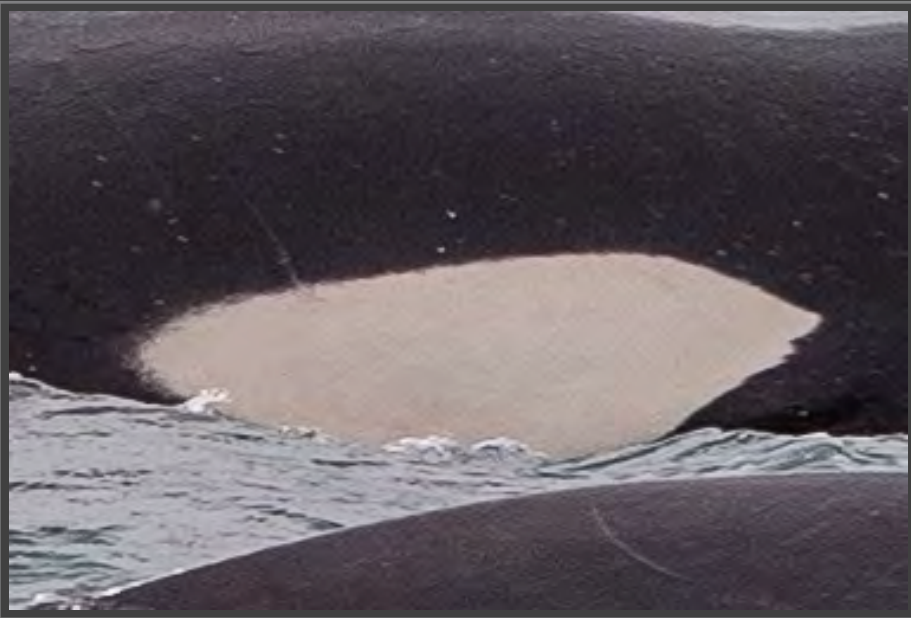


Llen strands at Medina Bay

PTN-010 Llen ♀ - Age 22



Younger sister of Jazmin and leader of her own group. Has a distinctive scar on the left saddle patch shaped like double LL. An amazing strander, she appeared to teach herself after Ishtar's mysterious disappearance.



20200423-JMC



20220315-JMC



20190322-MCE



20190322-JMC

PTN-026 Shotel - Age 8



When only four years old, Shotel was documented stranding to hunt; the youngest known age for an orca to intentionally strand. Shotel is still learning so does not typically hunt alone. Small notch visible in fin.



20220315-MCE



20220315-MCE



20210401-JMC



20220315-JMC

PTN-006 Pao ♂ - Age 17



Brother to Jazmin and Llen, this sub-adult male may not be the best hunter in the group, but his attempts are spectacular to watch, as he often propels himself almost completely out of the water.



20220401-MCE



20210405-JMC



20220401-MCE



20220315-JMC

PTN-018 Shekei ♀ - Age 14



The last of Ishtar's offspring, Shekei carries on her mothers legacy as this young female is a spectacular strander. She is patient and clever. Shekei is an expert at hiding from her prey until she launches her lethal attacks.



20220315-MCE



20220315-MCE



20220315-MCE



20220315-MCE

No Known Family Association with Maga or Ishtar - Seen in 2022

PTN	Name	Gender	Date of Birth	Last Seen	Strander
PTN 012	Antu	Female	Approx 1940-50	2022	Yes
PTN 013	Tyson	Male	Before 1980	2022	No
PTN 019	Jaluel	Male	Approx 1998	2022	Yes
PTN 031	Yenu	Female	Approx 2000-05	2022	Yes

PTN-012 Antu ♀ - Age 70-80



Antu is a very proficient hunter who often caught pups for JC. It is possible that JC is Antu's son, and he may also be her last calf as she was not observed with a calf since PNOR began studying the orca in 2004. She was absent between 2018 and 2022 but returned, stranding again in 2022.



20130418-JMC



20220501-JMC



20120324-JMC



20150227-JMC

PTN-013 Tyson ♂ - Age 42+

This adult male is part of the larger population of orca that live around Peninsula Valdés. He is not known to strand and is typically seen in the Austral spring when the orca are not usually hunting sea lion pups. He is currently the oldest male regularly sighted at Punta Norte.



202220420-JMC



20220420-JMC



20220420-JMC



20210308-JMC

PTN-019 Jaluel ♂ - Age ~ 24



First observed in 2010 when he was already a sub-adult male. Travels with Llen's or Maga's groups but he may be seen alone. He is the adult male seen most often at Punta Norte.



20190502-JMC



20200325-MCE



20200325-JMC



20220420-JMC

PTN-031 Yenu ♀ - Age 17+



This sub-adult female first arrived in Punta Norte in April 2018, with Llen's group. After a few practice strandings with the group, she began successfully capturing sea lion pups from the beach.



20180429-JMC



20180429-JMC



20180429-JMC



20180429-JMC

MISSING ORCA



Mel accelerates towards a sea lion pup

Missing Orca

Deceased, not seen in recent seasons, or presumed dead

PTN	Name	Gender	Date of Birth	Last Seen	Strander
PTN 001	Mel	Male	Approx 1960	2011	Yes
PTN 003	Lea	Female	Approx 1998	2017	Yes
PTN 005	Ishtar	Female	Before 1980	2010	Yes
PTN 007	Mela	Unknown	2005	2010	No
PTN 011	JC	Male	1989	2013	No
PTN 014	Sol	Female	Unknown	2013	No
PTN 015	Lola	Female	Unknown	2008	Yes
PTN 016	Issy	Unknown	2007	2010	No
PTN 017	Pash	Male	2008	2009	No
PTN 021	Sheuen	Female	2010	2022	Yes
PTN 024	Enid	Unknown	2013	2020	No
PTN 034	Jazmin's calf	Unknown	2020	2020	No

Mel approaches an adult sea lion

PTN-001 Mel ♂ - Born ~ 1960

Last Seen 2011



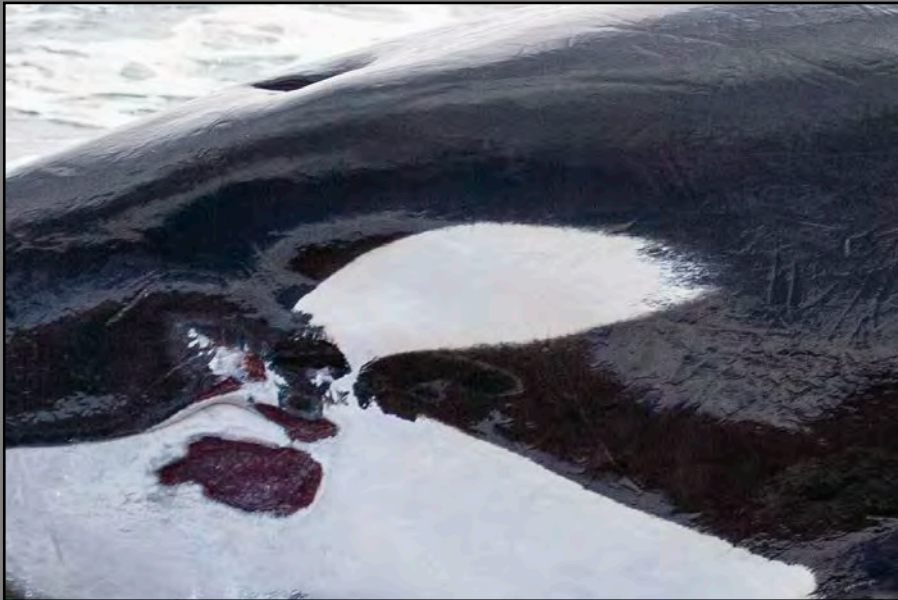
Mel was a hunter with legendary talents. He was first observed at Punta Norte in 1975 when he was a young adult male. Mel was observed with open wounds on his jaws and distinctive white scarring when the wounds healed. Mel was usually found with Sol, who has not been seen since 2013.



20090317-INV



20090318-INV



20090330-JMC



20100415-JMC

PTN-003 Lea ♀ - Born ~ 1998
Last Seen 2016



Although a strander, Lea appeared to be less enthusiastic than other members of her family. This may help to explain why she has not been seen at Punta Norte since 2016.



20100410-JMC



20160427-JMC



20070319-JMC



20160414-JMC

PTN-005 Ishtar ♀ - Born Before 1980
Last Seen 2010



In 1990 Ishtar was stranded on the reef in front of the Punta Norte reserve for five hours. She was kept wet and comforted by the Guardafauna. After this harrowing experience, she was interested and friendly with people. She was a proficient hunter before disappearing in 2010.



20100410-JMC



20100410-JMC



20090216-JMC



20080404-JMC

PTN-011 JC ♂ - Born 1989

Last Seen 2013

This adult male (estimated to be born in 1989), was not a strander. He was typically seen in association with Antu, who would often capture sea lion pups and take them to JC. He was named after Juan-Carlos Lopez, a researcher who studied the orca at Punta Norte in the 1970-1980's.



20130315-JMC



20130315-JMC



20100315-JMC



20130315-JMC

PTN-007 Mela - Born 2005
Last Seen 2010

Mela was born in the Austral winter of 2005. Mela was Jazmin's first known calf. This young orca disappeared in 2010 before its gender was known and before learning to strand.



20080310-JMC



20080405-JMC



20070317-INV



20071021-JMC

PTN-014 Sol ♀ - Age Unknown

Last Seen 2013

Sol was first seen at Punta Norte in March 2006. Between 2006 and 2011 she was observed traveling with Mel who hunted and brought her food to share. Mel was observed trying to teach Sol the stranding technique, but she was never seen stranding.



20090320-JMC



20120411-JMC



20080326-JMC



20100304-JMC

PTN-015 Lola ♀ - Age Unknown
Last Seen 2008



Lola was first observed at Punta Norte March 2006. She was a proficient hunter and would often begin a series of attacks followed by other orca. She has not been observed since 2008.



20060401-INV



20060401-INV



20060401-INV



20060401-INV

PTN-016 Issy - Born 2007
Last Seen 2010

Issy is Maga's third known calf. Issy was occasionally seen coming to the beach during hunting with Maga but was not seen intentionally stranding to hunt. This young orca disappeared in 2010 and is presumed dead.



20080225-JMC



20080226-JMC



20100315-JMC



20100315-JMC

PTN-017 Pash ♂ - Born 2008

Last Seen 2009

Pash was a male calf of Jazmin. Like Jazmin's first known calf Mela, Pash disappeared at a young age and is presumed to have died.



20080310-JMC



20080403-JMC



20080403-JMC



20080403-JMC

PTN-021 Sheuen ♀ - Age 12
Died on 21 August 2022



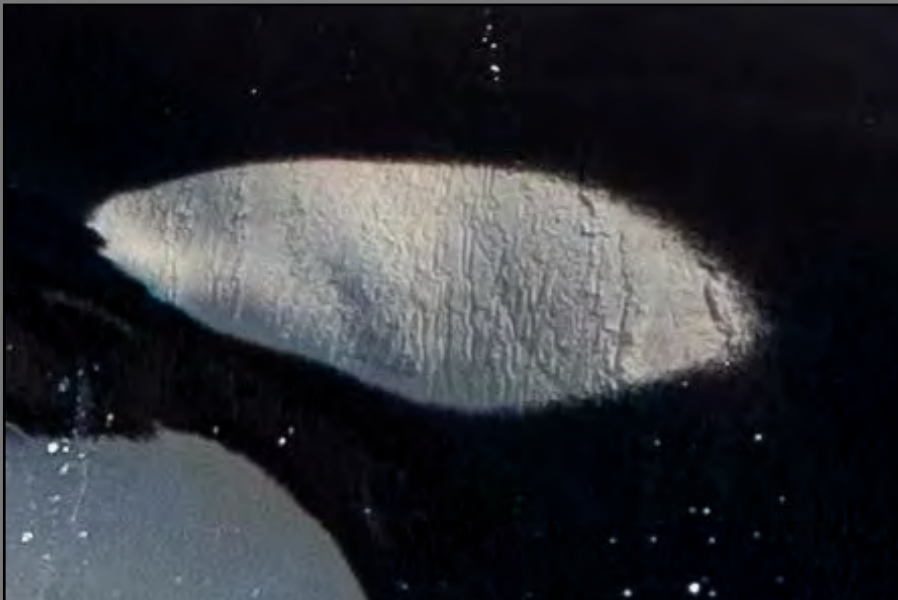
Sheuen was a proficient strander, however on 21 August 2022 she died when she became stuck on a beach at Cabo Raso, Chubut, approximately 300 km to the south of Punta Norte. She was pregnant with her first calf.



20200402-JMC



20210308-JMC



20210308-JMC



20210308-JMC

PTN-024 Enid - Born 2014
Last Seen 2020



Jazmin's calf. Had recently begun stranding when last seen. In that formative stage, he practiced even when there were no sea lion pups. We don't know if Enid was a male or a female.



20190407-JMC



20190407-JMC



20190407-JMC



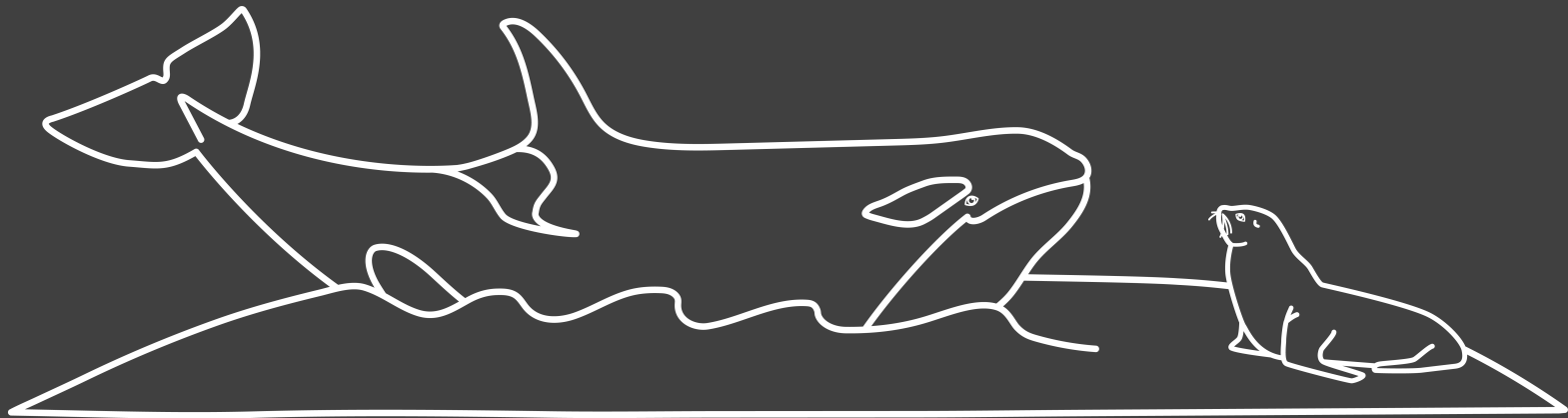
20190407-MCE

PTN-034 Jazmin's Calf - Born 2020

Spotted alongside Jazmin as a tiny new born, in April 2020.



20200413-JMC



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