

Gray Whale 'Visited Before'

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ANCHORAGE, Alaska — Marine researchers say a rare whale tracked across the Pacific this year to North American waters has been there before.

Photo analysis confirmed the highly endangered western Pacific gray whale — one of only 130 remaining — was photographed in April 2008 off Vancouver Island.

U.S and Russian researchers on Oct. 4 attached a satellite tag to the then-13-year-old, male western Pacific gray whale off Sakhalin Island as part of research into where the whales spend winters.

The whale left Kamchatka Peninsula on Jan. 3.

(AP)

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