

Whale at Risk of Dying After Being Stranded in Russia's Far East

August 10, 2017



Sergey Dolya / Facebook

A 13-meter-long whale is at risk of dying after becoming stranded on an island in the Sea of Okhotsk in Russia's Far East.

The whale appeared to have swum up a river estuary on the Bolshoi Shantar island at high tide and become stuck as the water retreated, a local environmental agency [said](#) on its website.

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The agency warned the whale's life may be in danger. "It is unclear how to get it back to sea," it said.

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Photos published on social media on Thursday showed the whale bleeding heavily after injuring its tail trying to wrench itself free, the agency's deputy director Viktor Surkov [told](#) the RBC news agency.

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National Park rangers on the island “risked their lives” to approach the whale in a small boat to keep it wet and alive until the tide rises, blogger Sergei Dolya [wrote](#) in a post on Facebook.

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