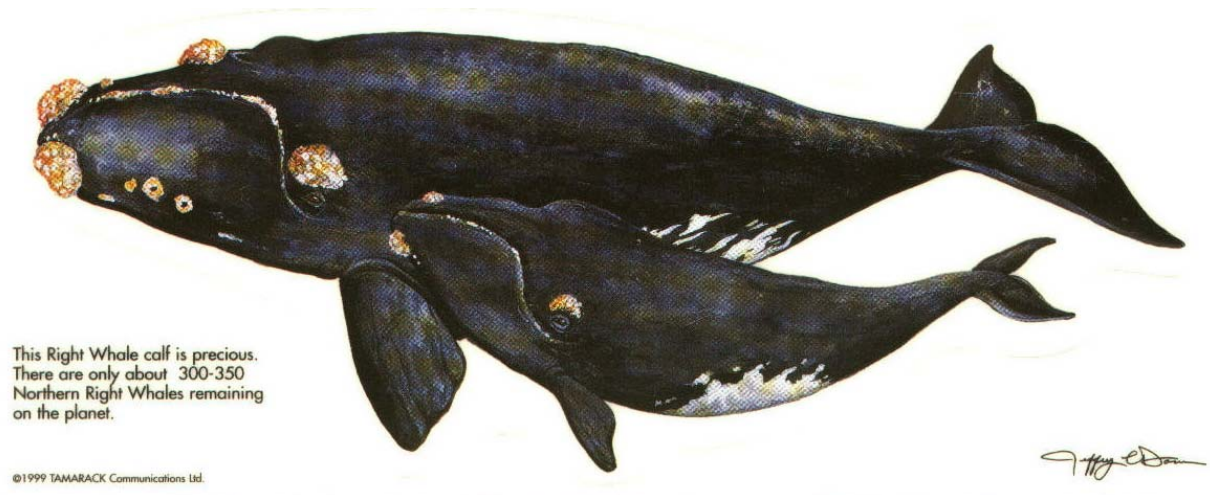


Right Whales are coming!



The North Atlantic right whales were hunted nearly to extinction in the 19th century. Today there are only about 300 of these majestic mammals left. Each winter, pregnant female whales leave the feeding grounds of the North Atlantic Ocean and head south to Florida where they give birth to their calves. Between January and March, these whales can be spotted off the east coast of Florida (from St. Lucie County north). The whales often are only a few hundred yards from shore.

A group of volunteers in NE Florida helps to identify and track these whales each year; the data they collect is used to learn more about the biology of these animals.

Classes for people interested in volunteering are usually held in December and early January. If you are interested in helping spot and/or track the right whales, **please contact the Marine Resources Council** at (321) 725-7775 or email council@mrcirl.org