Little is known about North Pacific right whales due to their small population size. Current estimates place the Western Pacific population in the hundreds, and the Eastern Pacific population around 30 individuals. NPRWs were labeled as a separate, and endangered, species from North Atlantic right whales in 2008, and were assigned two critical habitats in Alaska based on their feeding grounds. No policy has occurred for their protection since. Research efforts to learn more about this species are conducted by only a few dedicated scientists and are primarily based on rare sightings and acoustic data. The latest sighting was off Haida Gwaii, Canada in Spring 2021.

This year, we are introducing Save the North Pacific Right Whale, an organization dedicated to increasing the protections, awareness and support for this endangered whale. We are initially focusing on education through a documentary film, social media, and outreach events. We curate an interactive map of sightings beginning in 1979 and have a website featuring individual whales in the eastern population, the history of NPRWs, and scientific research. We will discuss the current status of NPRWs, recent sightings, our work, and we invite advice and collaboration at this Annual Meeting, as we are hoping to learn from the current conservation efforts for the NARW.