

Vaquita

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Vaquita Latest News

A report by the North American Environmental Commission has criticized Mexico for failing to protect the endangered vaquita porpoise, with only 10 remaining.

About Vaquita

- It is a shy member and the smallest of the **porpoise family**.
- Vaquitas are the **most endangered** of the world's marine mammals.

Distribution of Vaquita

- It is the smallest range of any whale, dolphin, or porpoise.
- It lives in the **northern part of the Gulf of California**, an area that is rich in fish and shrimp.
- It is most commonly sighted in shallow **waters up to 50 metres deep**.

Features of Vaquita

- Vaquitas are the smallest cetaceans—the group that includes dolphins, porpoises,
- Although they do visually resemble dolphins, their closest relatives, vaquitas, have chunkier bodies and **rounded heads with no snouts.**
- Their **dorsal fins are unique** in that they are taller and wider than most other porpoises.
- Known for their elusive nature, vaquitas **tend to shy away from boats** and human activity.
- Vaquitas **communicate using echolocation** (or sonar) by emitting high-frequency clicks.
- **Conservation Status: Critically Endangered (IUCN)**
- **Threats:** The decrease in the vaquita population is also related to the totoaba, a large fish that also only lives in the Gulf of California.

Source: DTE

Source: <https://vajiramandravi.com/current-affairs/what-is-vaquita/>

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