

# Right whale calf, mother spotted in Atlantic off Florida

December 29 2018

---

Florida conservationists are reporting a right whale calf sighting off the state's Atlantic coast.

In a Facebook post , the Florida Fish and Wildlife Conservation Commission's Fish and Wildlife Research Institute said it's the first calf sighting of the critically endangered whale's winter calving season.

Wildlife officials said the calf and its mother were spotted Friday offshore near the mouth of the St. Johns River. The commission said the mother had been spotted five days ago off the Georgia coast.

Right whales typically migrate from the North Atlantic to give birth off the coasts of Georgia and Florida from December through March.

Scientists estimate only about 450 North Atlantic [right whales](#) remain. No newborns were reported during the last calving season, and just five calves were counted during the [previous year](#).

© 2018 The Associated Press. All rights reserved.

Citation: Right whale calf, mother spotted in Atlantic off Florida (2018, December 29) retrieved 24 April 2024 from <https://phys.org/news/2018-12-whale-calf-mother-atlantic-florida.html>

<p>This document is subject to copyright. Apart from any fair dealing for the purpose of private study or research, no part may be reproduced without the written permission. The content is provided for information purposes only.</p>
--