



## **Safeguarding Last Rights**

True ice whales,  
Colossal crowns,  
Perfect strainers,  
Seventeen grand metres  
Sixty-four big tonnes,  
Your Highnesses!

## The North Atlantic right whale

Once numbered in the hundreds of thousands, slow-moving right whales -- migrating along coastlines -- were both easy and preferred prey for whalers well into the 20th century



*Eubalaena glacialis*

**Status: Endangered**

**Population estimate: 360**

Max length:  
17 m

Mostly found along the Atlantic coast of North America close to the continental shelf. Possibly extinct on the European side of the Atlantic

Collisions with vessels are one of two leading causes of injury and death for North Atlantic right whales, according to research  
Entanglement in the fishing gear used to catch crab and fish is the other leading cause of death

Source: IUCN/WWF/NOAA/Royal Society Open Science



One day tonne  
Food snackers,  
Plump blubbers!  
Slow swimmers,  
Easy targets:  
New England whalers  
Ship strikes  
Lethal fishing line  
Cannonading seismic surveys,  
Monstrous marine heatwaves.



Three hundred or so  
Remaining Ice Majesties,  
Biden administration  
New rules,  
Undoing Trump's  
Economic noose,  
Mother looters  
Agonising Age,  
Mercy me!  
Get outta Oceans.

**©2023 Reese Halter**

**Agitate. Disrupt. Defend.**