Marine Vertebrate Animal Classification

Kingdom Animalia

* Phylum Chordata
	+ Subphylum Vertebrata – vertebrates
		- Jawless Animals – jawless fish (hagfish and lampreys)
		- Jawed Vertebrates
			* Class Chondrichthyes – cartilaginous fish
				+ Chimeras and ratfish
				+ Elasmobranchs – sharks, skates and rays
			* Class Osteichthyes – bony fish
				+ Lobe-finned fish
				+ Ray-finned fish
			* Class Amphibia (not really in marine environment)
			* Class Reptilia (remember they are now combining class Reptilia and Aves)
				+ Sea snakes, iguanas, sea turtles, saltwater crocs
			* Class Aves
				+ Family Haematopodidae – oystercatchers
				+ Family Charadriidae – plovers and turnstones
				+ Family Scolopacidae – sandpipers and curlews
				+ Family Recurvirostridae- avocets and stilts
				+ Family Ardeidae – Herons
				+ Family Laridae – gulls and terns
				+ Family Pelecaniformes – pelicans, boobies and commorants
				+ Family Diomedeidae – albatrosses
				+ Family Sphenisciformes – penguins
			* Class Mammalia
				+ Order Carnivora

Sea otters, polar bears

Suborder Pinnepedia

Family Otariidea – eared seals

Family Phocidae – true seals

Family Odobenidae – walruses

* + - * + Order Sirenia – dugongs and manateed
				+ Order Cetacea

Suborder Mysticeti – baleen whales

Family Balaenidae – right and bowhead whales

Family Balenopteridae – rorquals (blue, gray, humpback)

Suborder Odontoceti – toothed whales

Family Monodontidae – white (beluga and narwhal)

Family Phocaenidae – porpoises

Family Delphinidae - dolphins