

Balaenoptera brydei Bryde's whale



Decoding
South Africa's
Biodiversity



Phylum: Chordata

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Estimated genome size:

260 Million DNA base pairs (2.6 Gb Giga bases)

Organism size:

12-13 meter TL

Distribution:

The inshore Bryde's whale population displays a restricted distribution to the continental shelf waters of South Africa, mostly focused on the Agulhas Bank. This population does move up the east coast during autumn and winter as they follow their main prey source, sardine.

Importance:

As the only South African resident baleen whale dependent on economically important pelagic fish, the species has high economic and ecological value in the local marine environment. Many aspects of this elusive population remain unknown. A high-quality reference genome is essential from a conservation perspective, as it will serve as a basis for downstream genomic comparisons on both local and global scales, ultimately providing a comprehensive overview of this population's viability.

PromethION Sequencing Report:

Output: 135.04 Gigabases

Approximate N50: 5.67 kilobases

Draft Genome Assembly Statistics:

Genome length: 2364.73 Mb

BUSCO completeness score (single and duplicated genes): 98.1%

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