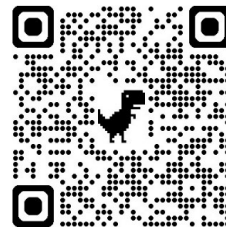


\*Sighting = any report of a manatee in NC waters. Reports were verified via photo/video when available. When photo/vid confirmation was not available, report credibility was determined based on other information provided (e.g. animal description and its behavior, location info, etc.), and the overall confidence in the interaction between network personnel and the reporting party.

\*Stranding = any live or deceased manatee that was reported, verified, and meets the NOAA definition of a stranding as defined in the 2021 MMHSRP Examiner's Guide. All recorded manatee strandings in NC to date have had a final outcome of mortality, so in these data, stranding = mortality.



<https://uncw.edu/research/major-programs/marine-mammal-stranding/manatee-sighting>