

Beached beaked whale a first for the area

According to *News24*, a rare beaked whale has washed up on an Eastern Cape beach. The whale was found on a beach in Chintsa East last week. Kevin Cole, of East London Museum, was quoted as saying little was known of these whales and that there had been no authenticated sightings at sea in the region.

Cole thanked members of the public for "reporting these valuable scientific finds," adding: "This could possibly be logged as a first for our area."

Beaked whales can weigh up to 1.5 tons and be up to 5.5m long. "The whale has a well defined beak, a small triangular dorsal fin set well back from the snout and small flippers," Cole said. It was not clear what caused the whale to beach, *News24* reports.

Read the [full article](http://www.news24.com) on www.news24.com

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