



Saildrone USVs are being used to study Right Whales in waters of Alaska. Some Saildrones have been fitted with an Acousonde sound recording device. Saildrones have a narrow seven-meter-long hull, a five-meter-tall wing, and a keel with a 2.5-meter draft. Saildrone USVs weigh approximately 750 kilograms and can be launched and recovered from a dock. A Saildrone travels at an average speed of two to three knots and can reach top speeds above eight knots (nine miles per hour). Sailing 100 kilometers per day on average, these USVs can reach most ocean locations within 30 days from the closest shore and cover large survey areas. Recently a Saildrone camera visually recorded what appears to be a Fin Whale in a region where they are rarely observed.

<https://www.saildrone.com/news/saildrone-camera-juvenile-fin-whale>