

Marine Mammals of the US North Pacific & Arctic



Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA)

In 1972, Congress enacted the MMPA, establishing a national policy to help prevent the extinction or depletion of marine mammal populations from human activities.

NOAA Fisheries and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service are the lead federal agencies for enforcing this law to protect marine mammals. The MMPA protects all whales, dolphins, seals, sea lions, porpoises, manatees, polar bears, otters, and walrus from human-induced harm. In the United States, NOAA Fisheries works with scientists, industry, and conservation groups to develop measures that help to protect marine mammals from entanglement, ship strike, and other activities that might cause these animals harm.

Design and illustrations: Uko Gorter (www.ukogorter.com)

NOAA Fisheries
Alaska Region
907-586-7221
Alaska Fisheries Science Center
206-526-4000



NOAA
FISHERIES



TO REPORT STRANDED, ENTANGLED, INJURED, OR DEAD MARINE MAMMALS, CALL: NOAA FISHERIES 1-877-925-7773; ALASKA SEALIFE CENTER 1-888-774-7325 (SEAL); U.S. FISH AND WILDLIFE 1-800-362-5148

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You can help protect marine animals!

Admire from a distance

- Adhere to local guidelines or regulations for boating, fishing, and whale watching.
- Keep your distance! Remain at least 100 yards from marine mammals in the water and on land.
- Support companies that commit to using best practices and protecting the oceans.
- Marine mammals are wild animals - don't feed or touch them.
- National Wildlife Viewing Guidelines
www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/education/viewing.htm
- Whale SENSE program: www.whalesense.org

Report a crime

- It is illegal to harm, harass, or capture a marine mammal, to collect marine mammal parts, or to attempt to do any of these things - with limited exceptions.
- Report suspected violations to the NOAA Enforcement Hotline at 1-800-853-1964

Report strandings, entanglements, and ship strikes

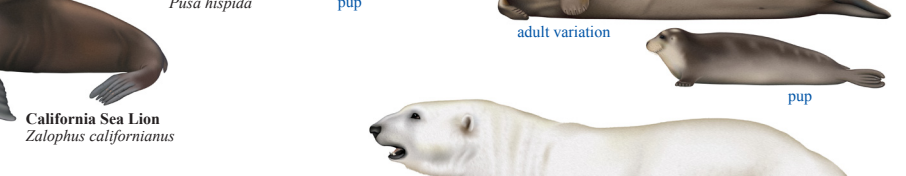
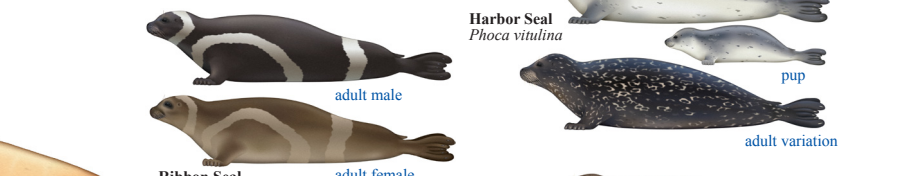
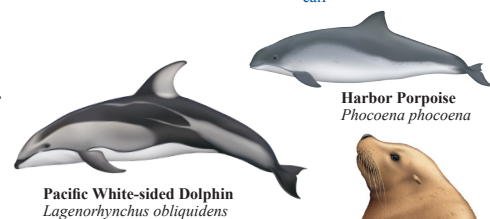
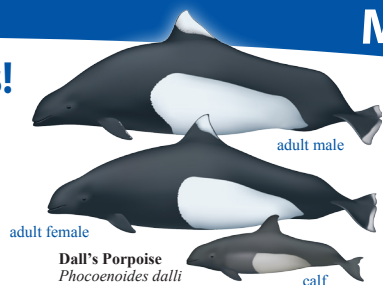
- Keep your distance and never attempt to touch or interact with animals on the beach.
- Report sick or injured animals by calling a stranding hotline so trained staff can respond to the situation:
 - NOAA Fisheries 1-877-925-7773
 - Alaska SeaLife Center 1-888-774-7325 (SEAL)
 - U.S. Fish and Wildlife 1-800-362-5148

Be an ocean steward

- Recycle, reuse, dispose of garbage properly, and don't release balloons into the air. This will help prevent marine debris and keep the oceans clean and healthy.
- Cut all packing bands and netting that could entangle marine life.
- Report derelict fishing gear.
- Tell your families and friends what they can do to help protect marine mammals!

Learn more

www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov
www.afsc.noaa.gov
www.alaskafisheries.noaa.gov/protectedresources/
www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/laws/mmpa
www.fws.gov/alaska/fisheries/mmm/strandings.htm



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