

We are but a drop of water, but what would the ocean be if there were no drops to form it?

2007 Annual Report



The Marine
Mammal Center



We are but a drop of water, but what would the ocean be if there were no drops to form it?

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Todd Robinson ~ Life Support Systems and Facilities Technician
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Molly Russell ~ Youth Programs Coordinator
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Rachel Snyder ~ Development Assistant
Shelbi Stoudt ~ Stranding Manager
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Elizabeth Wheeler ~ Research Assistant
Martha Whetstone ~ Executive Director
Deb Wickham, RVT ~ Operations Manager
Anthony Williams ~ Life Support Systems and Facilities Technician
Tanja Zabka ~ Research Fellow, Pathologist

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Board of Scientific Advisors

Sarah Allen, Ph.D., National Park Service, Point Reyes National Seashore
James Harvey, Ph.D., Moss Landing Marine Laboratories
Dave Jessup, BS, DVM, MPVM, DiplACZM, Marine Wildlife Veterinary Care and Research Center, California Department of Fish and Game
Linda Lowenstine, DVM, Ph.D., ACVP, Department of Veterinary Pathology, Microbiology & Immunology, University of California, Davis
Hal Markowitz, Ph.D., Department of Biology, San Francisco State University
Jim McBain, DVM, Veterinary Office, Sea World of California
Tom Williams, DVM, Monterey Bay Aquarium

Visiting Researchers and Research Collaborations

Kate Thomas (Moss Landing Marine Laboratories) – Post-release survival of sea lions exposed to domoic acid
Cathy Schaeff, Amber Bifolck (American University) – Use of fluctuating asymmetry to compare skulls from sea lions with and without cancer
Kathleen Colegrove (University of California, Davis) – Role of DNA adducts and contaminants in development of carcinoma in California sea lions
Jerome Barakos (California Pacific Medical Center) – MRI imaging of California sea lions with domoic acid toxicosis
James Lloyd-Smith (Pennsylvania State University) – Cyclical changes in leptospirosis in California sea lions
Collette Williams (University of California, Davis) – Electroencephalograms from California sea lions with domoic acid toxicosis
Laurence Dunn, Inge Sidor (Mystic Marinelife Aquarium) – Brucellosis in marine mammals
James Ryan, Fran Van Dolah, Greg Warr (Hollings Marine Laboratory, Charleston)
Milton Levin, Sylvain De Guise – Effects of domoic acid on immune function of California sea lions
Brian Aldridge, Jocelyn Riggins (Royal Veterinary College, London, UK) – Diagnosis of *Otostromylus* in northern elephant seals
Jocelyn Flannery (Medical University of South Carolina) – Perfluorinated compounds in California sea lions and northern fur seals
Colleen Reichmuth Kastak (University of California, Santa Cruz) – Assessment of behavior of California sea lions with long term effects of domoic acid toxicosis
Karina Acevedo-Whitehouse (Institute of Zoology, London) – Phylogeny and disease susceptibility in California sea lions
Terrie Williams (University of California, Santa Cruz) – Metabolism of Steller sea lions
San Francisco State University, Moss Landing Marine Laboratories, National Park Service, CalTrans, University of California, Davis – Health survey of harbor seals in the San Francisco Bay
US Fish and Wildlife Service, US Geological Survey, California Department of Fish and Game, Tracey Goldstein – Health and disease investigations in northern sea otters
Richard Zuerner (National Animal Disease Center) – Leptospirosis epidemiology

Advisory Panels

Hawaiian monk seal recovery team, Member – Frances Gulland
The Marine Mammal Commission, Scientific Advisor – Frances Gulland
Southern sea otter recovery implementation team, Chair – Frances Gulland
Advisory Board, Oiled Wildlife Care Network, Member – Frances Gulland
Working group on marine mammal unusual mortality events, Emeritus Member – Frances Gulland
Scientific Advisory Committee, Oiled Wildlife Care Network, Member – Tracey Goldstein

Education Department Collaborative Partners

Año Nuevo State Reserve, Pescadero, CA
Aquarium of the Bay, San Francisco, CA
Bay Area Discovery Museum, Sausalito, CA
Bay Model, Sausalito, CA
Blue Waters Kayaking, Marshall, CA
Bodega Marine Lab, Bodega Bay, CA
California Academy of Sciences, Careers in Science Program, San Francisco, CA
Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary, Point Reyes, CA
Environmental Education Council of Marin (EECOM), San Rafael, CA
Coyote Point Museum, San Mateo, CA
Farallones Marine Sanctuary Association, San Francisco, CA
Gulf of the Farallones National Marine Sanctuary, San Francisco, CA
Headlands Institute, Sausalito, CA
National Park Service, Golden Gate National Recreation Area, Sausalito, CA
PIER 39, San Francisco, CA
Point Bonita YMCA, Sausalito, CA
Point Reyes National Seashore Association (Point Reyes Field Seminars), Point Reyes Station, CA
Romberg Tiburon Center for Environmental Studies, Tiburon, CA
Peak Attractions, LLC – Riptide Arcade, San Francisco, CA
San Francisco Zoo, San Francisco, CA
Seamen's Training Center, Sausalito, CA
Seymour Marine Discovery Center, Santa Cruz, CA
TEAM Program at Tamiscal High School, Larkspur, CA

Education Staff Participation on Boards and Committees

Cordell Bank National Marine Sanctuary Advisory Council Education, Chair – Doreen Moser Gurrola
Environmental Education Council of Marin (EECOM), Board Chair – Ann Bauer
School Environmental Education Docents (SEED), Board Treasurer – Ann Bauer

A Year of *2007* Amazing Accomplishments



This is my second year as Chairman of The Marine Mammal Center and I have to say that I am truly amazed at what we have accomplished. The year 2007 saw impressive growth in our scientific knowledge on marine mammal health and our ability to find creative solutions to critical animal rescue and care issues. We learned that, with a little ingenuity, antibiotics can be concentrated and administered by dart to humpback whales in the wild, as was the case with a mother and her calf that swam up the Sacramento River in May. Our scientists published research significant to human health as well as marine mammal conservation, highlighting the indicator species role these animals play. The newest report from our ongoing research on the effects of domoic acid, a toxin produced by harmful algal blooms or “red tides” on sea lions identifies epilepsy in these animals as a result of previous low dose exposure to the toxin. This is important, as similar effects could occur in people if they ate seafood containing these levels of domoic acid. The Center’s research team also began the first year of studies to identify environmental factors that may affect the health of harbor seals along our coast. In 2007, our volunteers and staff admitted over 700 marine mammals to our hospital. In addition, rare and endangered Hawaiian monk seal twins are now back in the ocean, thanks to our ongoing work in a special rehabilitation program. It’s been an amazing year of accomplishments indeed!

We continued our task of fundraising for the capital campaign to rebuild our facility into a world-class veterinary and research hospital dedicated to the study and advancement of marine mammal health and awareness. As can be seen by the list of donors at the end of this report, we have attracted donations from a prestigious list of foundations and individuals, many of whom are new to us. One of our prime objectives is to introduce the Center to more people both within and outside of the Bay Area. These and so many other grants and donations send a strong message of how relevant The Marine Mammal Center is to the study of marine mammal health and of the respect and admiration we have earned with so many organizations and individuals.

While we were busy raising funds for the capital campaign and rescuing animals, we kept the other side of our house in order as well by maintaining a healthy revenue stream and cash flow balances to fuel our operations. Our revenue for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2007 was \$9.4 million. The net surplus of \$3.8 million was from the capital campaign and is restricted for the Sausalito construction.

The phrase “the best things are well worth the wait” is one that I am confident will hold true for all who visit us when we open the doors of the brand new Marine Mammal Center to the public in spring of 2009. I hope you will join me in celebrating this incredible achievement and I look forward to your ever continuing support

Merrill L. Magowan
Chairman of the Board

Understanding the Importance of Research



This page, left: The Center's Veterinary Intern Delphine Sarran and Staff Veterinarian Felicia Nutter examine a northern fur seal. In 2007, the Center release more than 20 fur seals after rehabilitation – a record in its history. Right: Dr. Frances Gulland, Dir. of Veterinary Science at the Center conducts a necropsy on a blue whale carcass that washed ashore in southern California. The Center is often called upon for its expertise in investigating causes of death and health issues in marine mammals. Opposite page: Dr. Nutter and Dr. Gulland examine patient x-rays prior to surgery.

Marine mammals are indicator species of ocean health, as understanding factors impacting their health and diseases gives insight into ocean conditions. In 2007, The Marine Mammal Center continued to make significant contributions to the body of medical knowledge about marine mammal health and its significance to human health.

Epilepsy in sea lions – possible human connections

Inquiry continues into the effects of domoic acid, a byproduct of harmful algal blooms or “red tides”, on sea lions. In 2007, the Center’s researchers published a paper in the Proceedings of the Royal Society identifying epilepsy in sea lions as a result of previous low dose exposure to the toxin. This is important, as similar effects could occur in people if they ate seafood containing these levels of domoic acid. Researchers plan on studying behavioral patterns of sea lion pups exhibiting epilepsy as a result of domoic acid exposure during development.

Rare discovery of kidney stones

During a routine necropsy of two patients (an elephant seal and California sea lion) that had died, the Center’s veterinarians discovered something highly unusual – kidney stones. This was the first time these formations were documented in pinnipeds. It’s not known what disease caused the stones, but researchers hypothesized that unknown metabolic derangements may have played a role. Routine examination of all stranded animals allows detection of novel disease conditions and provides a better understanding of factors that negatively affect marine mammals.

PCBs and developed risk assessment models

Polychlorinated biphenyls (PCBs) are mixtures of manmade chemicals such as oily liquids, solids or sometimes odorless vapors. They are no longer produced in the U.S. but are still found in the environment. When PCBs enter the water, fish ingest them and in turn, sea lions and other marine mammals and humans eat the fish. California sea lions are exposed to some of the highest levels of contaminants worldwide because of their geographical range. The Center analyzed blubber samples from female sea lions and their pups, and learned that the contaminants crossed the placenta, thus exposing fetuses during critical months of their development. This study helps set the parameters for developing risk assessment models for marine mammals.

Earth's largest leviathans wash up

In 2007, four blue whales wash up dead along the Santa Barbara coast as a direct result of ship strikes. The Center was called upon to necropsy three of the whales to learn if there were neurological issues. The endangered whales' deaths fuel major concerns about cargo shipping industry practices and prompt a petition filing with the federal government by Center for Biological Diversity requiring ships to lower speed limit to 10 knots. ■



Additional 2007 Scientific Highlights

- ▶ Identifying link between increasing mass mortality events among marine mammal populations and increasing frequency of harmful algal blooms
- ▶ Sexual transmission may be an important factor in the spread of herpesvirus associated with cancer in adult sea lions
- ▶ Discovery of a new liver fluke (Trematoda: Brachycladiidae) in a beaked whale
- ▶ Began first year studying Harbor Seal Health program to look for environmental factors that affect the health of Pacific harbor seals
- ▶ The Center's Veterinary Intern, Delphine Sarran, wins best student presentation at the International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine Annual Conference for her presentation about sea lion eye fluid and its potential use in detection of kidney disease in dead animals in place of serum

Special Thanks

- ▶ Financial support for PCB study: Arthur and Elena Court Nature Conservancy, National Marine Fisheries Program, John H. Prescott Marine Mammal Rescue Assistance Program, Marine Mammal Unusual Mortality Event Emergency Program
- ▶ Domoic acid study: Oceans and Human Health Initiative
- ▶ Harbor Seal Health program: Valentine Foundation

Conference Proceedings

Colegrove, K. M., Lowenstine, L.J., **Sarran, D.**, **Wheeler, E.**, and Moore, P.F. 2007. Intestinal T-cell lymphoma in a stranded California sea lion. 2nd Annual Marine Animal Histopathology Workshop in conjunction with the Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of The International Association of Aquatic Animal Medicine, May 5-9, Orlando, Florida, U.S.A.

Gaffney, P.M., **Colegrove, K.M.**, Higgins, R.J., Lowenstine, L.J., **Zabka, T.**, Procter, D., and Thompson, R. 2007. Oligodendroglioma in a California sea lion. 2nd Annual Marine Animal Histopathology Workshop in conjunction with the Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of The International Association of Aquatic Animal Medicine, May 5-9, Orlando, Florida, U.S.A.

Goldstein, T., **Zabka, T.**, DeLong, R., **Wheeler, E.**, Dunn, J.L., King, D., Reid, S., Ylitalo, G., Bargu, S., Leighfield, T., Van Dolah, F., and **Gulland, F.M.D.** 2007. Premature parturition in California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*) on San Miguel Island: the role of the biotoxin domoic acid. Proceedings of the Wildlife Disease Association International Conference, August 12-17, Estes Park, Colorado, U.S.A.

Greig, D.J., Sedlak, M., Hall, A.J., and **Gulland, F.M.D.** 2007. Disease, contaminants, and harbor seal health in San Francisco Bay. 8th Biennial State of the San Francisco Estuary Conference, October 16-18, Oakland, California, U.S.A.

Gulland, F.M.D. 2007. Health and disease in marine mammals off the California coast of the United States. 7o Convegno Nazionale sui Cetacei e Sulle Tartarughe, December 5-6, Rome, Italy.

Gulland, F.M.D. 2007. Health issues for marine mammals of the West Coast. 9th Annual Conference of the Animal Grantmakers Association, November 13, Napa, California, U.S.A.

Gulland, F. M. D. 2007. Health issues for marine mammals of the West Coast. Annual Meeting of the Marine Mammal Commission, August 28-30, Vancouver, Oregon, U.S.A.

Gulland, F.M.D. 2007. Marine mammals as sentinels of ocean change. 17th Annual Meeting of the Society of Environmental Journalists, September 7-9, Stanford, California, U.S.A.

Gulland, F.M.D. 2007. Marine mammals as sentinels: lessons learned and future directions. Oceans and Human Health Initiative, Principal Investigators Meeting, October 22-24, Muskegon, Michigan, U.S.A.

Gulland, F.M.D. 2007. The role of infectious disease in marine mammal demography. Workshop on Infectious and Non-infectious Diseases Report of the 59th Annual Meeting of the International Whaling Commission, May 5-6, Anchorage, Alaska, U.S.A.

Gulland, F.M.D., Silver, M., and Langlois, G. 2007. Sub-lethal effects of domoic acid on California sea lions, sentinels of ocean change that affect human health. Oceans and Human Health Initiative, Principal Investigators Meeting, October 22-24, Muskegon, Michigan, U.S.A.

Luff, J.A., **Colegrove, K.M.**, **Gulland, F.M.D.**, and Lowenstine, L.J. 2007. Gastric trichomonads in stranded California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*). Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of The International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine, May 5-9, Orlando, Florida, U.S.A.

Norris, T.A., Braun, R.C., Littnan, C.L., Antonelis, G.A., and **Gulland, F.M.D.** 2007. Captive care and post-release monitoring of seven female juvenile Hawaiian monk seals. 17th Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals, November 28-December 3, Cape Town, South Africa.

Nutter, F.B., **Goldstein, T.**, and **Gulland, F.M.D.** 2007. Update on northern fur seal (*Callorhinus ursinus*) strandings along the central California coast since 1975. Proceedings of the Wildlife Disease

Association International Conference, August 12-17, Estes Park, Colorado, U.S.A.

Sarran, D., **Greig, D.J.**, **Rios, C.A.**, **Zabka, T.J.**, and **Gulland, F.M.D.** 2007. Evaluation of aqueous humor as a surrogate for serum biochemistry in California seal lions, *Zalophus californianus*. Proceedings of the 38th Annual Conference of The International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine, May 5-9, Orlando, Florida, U.S.A.

Scientific Contributions

Aguirre, A.A., Keefe, T.J., Reif, J.S., Kashinsky, L., Yochem, P.K., Saliki, J.T., Stott, J.L., **Goldstein, T.**, Dubey, J.P., Braun, R., and Antonelis, G. 2007. Infectious disease monitoring of the endangered Hawaiian monk seal. *Journal of Wildlife Diseases* 43(2): 229-241.

Bejarano, A.C., Van Dolah, F.M., **Gulland, F.M.D.**, and Schwacke, L. 2007. Exposure assessment of the biotoxin domoic acid in California sea lions: application of a bioenergetic model. *Marine Ecology Progress Series* 345: 293-304.

Buckles, E.L., Lowenstine, L.J., DeLong, R.L., Melin, S.R., Vittore, R.K., Wong, H.-N., Ross, G.L., St Leger, J.A., **Greig, D.J.**, Duerr, R.S., **Gulland, F.M.D.**, and Stott, J.L. 2007. Age-prevalence of otarine herpesvirus-1, a tumor-associated virus, and possibility of its sexual transmission in California sea lions. *Veterinary Microbiology* 120: 1-8.

Dailey, M.D. 2007. A new species of Digenea (Trematoda: Brachycladiidae) from the Gervais' beaked whale, *Mesoplodon europaeus*, with comments on other cetacean liver flukes. *Comparative Parasitology* 74(2): 229-232.

Dennison, S., **Gulland, F.M.D.**, **Haulena, M.**, De Morais, H., and Colegrove, K. 2007. Urate nephrolithiasis in a northern elephant seal (*Mirounga angustirostris*) and a California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus*). *Journal of Zoo and Wildlife Medicine* 38(1): 114-120.

Greig, D.J., Mashburn, K.L., Rutishauser, M., **Gulland, F.M.D.**, Williams, T.M., and Atkinson, S. 2007. Seasonal changes in circulating progesterone and estrogen concentrations in the California sea lion (*Zalophus californianus*). *Journal of Mammalogy* 88(1): 67-72.

Greig, D.J., Ylitalo, G.M., Hall, A.J., **Fauquier, D.A.**, and **Gulland, F.M.D.** 2007. Transplacental transfer of organochlorines in California sea lions (*Zalophus californianus*). *Environmental Toxicology and Chemistry* 26(1): 37-44.

Gulland, F.M.D. and Hall, A. J. 2007. Is marine mammal health deteriorating? Trends in the global reporting of marine mammal disease. *EcoHealth* 4: 135-150.

Lloyd-Smith, J.O., **Greig, D.J.**, Hietala, S., Ghneim, G.S., Palmer, L., St. Leger, J., Grenfell, B.T., and **Gulland, F.M.D.** 2007. Cyclical changes in seroprevalence of leptospirosis in California sea lions: endemic and epidemic disease in one host species? *BMC Infectious Disease* 7: 125.

Moore, M., Early, G., Touhey, K., Barco, S., **Gulland, F.M.D.**, and Wells, R. 2007. Rehabilitation and release of marine mammals in the United States: risks and benefits. *Marine Mammal Science* 23(4): 731-750.

Stoddard, R.A., Miller, W.G., Foley, J.E., **Lawrence, J.**, **Gulland, F.M.D.**, Conrad, P.A., and Byrne, B.A. 2007. *Campylobacter insulaenigrae* isolates from northern elephant seals (*Mirounga angustirostris*) in California. *Applied and Environmental Microbiology* 73(6): 1729-1735.

Humpback Whales in Sacramento



The Story of Delta & Dawn

Delta & Dawn Rescue Collaborators

National Ocean Atmospheric Administration, National
Marine Fisheries Service
Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi
Office of Emergency Services
U.S. Coast Guard
California Department of Fish and Game
California Highway Patrol
Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
Cascadia Research Collective
Alaska Whale Foundation
Bayer
Pfizer
Bob Wills of Grandpa's Compounding Pharmacy
Vallejo Fire Department
Acoustic experts Jason Mulsow and Colleen
Reichmuth of the University of California Santa
Cruz
Staff and volunteers – The Marine Mammal Center

During the month of May 2007, the nation wondered if a pair of injured humpback whales, an adult female and her female calf, that swam 75 miles up the murky, fresh water of the Sacramento Delta on May 9 would make it back to the ocean alive. The pair, nicknamed Delta and the calf Dawn, were part of the Eastern North Pacific Stock - an endangered population of less than 1500. Their journey is thought to be the longest ever taken by this species inland in fresh water. Not even the 1985 travels of Humphrey, another humpback whale, compared to the journey these two leviathans faced. A week after the whales swam to the shallow, narrow channel of the Port of Sacramento, Lieutenant Governor John Garamendi and the Office of Emergency Services appointed Dr. Frances Gulland, Director of Veterinary Science at The Marine Mammal Center, as animal rescue leader for the Unified Command made up of local, state and federal agencies.

On location, Dr. Gulland saw that the whales had sharp trauma wounds on their backs likely caused by at least one vessel strike. The rescue team tried persuading the whales to sea to no avail. By the whales' 11th day in the fresh water, their situation was looking grim. Their skin condition was deteriorating rapidly and their wounds had become infected. The longer they stayed in fresh water, the greater their risk of dying became. If they stayed in fresh water any longer, they would surely die. Dr. Gulland along with the Center's staff veterinarian, Dr. Felicia Nutter, assembled a team of experts to try something never done on whales in the wild – they administered carefully measured doses of an antibiotic called Ceftiofur into each whale using a specially designed dart gun. The next day, the whales appeared to show signs of healing and they began making their journey back to the ocean. On May 29, after having swam under three bridges, Delta and Dawn made their way back to the open sea. ■

Why We Rescue Marine Mammals



Need New!! Clockwise: Northern fur seals play follow-the-leader. The Center cared for 22 of this species at once in 2006 – a record in its 32-year history. Astro, a Steller sea lion, was rescued as a pup from Año Nuevo Island and brought to The Center to be raised. Steller sea lions are a threatened species. Endangered Hawaiian monk seals enjoying a meal of fish as part of the Captive Care Program. A Pacific harbor seal is anesthetized by veterinarians so they can assess its health.



The Marine Mammal Center provides a humanitarian response to sick and injured pinnipeds and cetaceans that would otherwise endure prolonged suffering and exposure to dogs and people as they ailed on beaches.

Sandy Goose

Sandy Goose, a young northern fur seal, was found on a beach in Benicia on November 27, 2006. She was emaciated and had a wound on her right front flipper that required a piece of infected bone to be removed surgically. Four months after recovering from her surgery at the Center, she was released at the Farallon Islands. Sandy Goose was one of 28 northern fur seals released in 2007, the largest number to date for The Marine Mammal Center.

Melissa and Nigel

The harbor seal habitat of Bay Area coastal waters is influenced by several human-produced factors, including sewage, agricultural and surface runoff, chemical pollution, and watercraft. Not only is it important to protect the seal population from toxic exposure that could threaten its survival, but the seals also serve as good gauges for the safety of the marine environment in relation to human beings. In 2007, the Center began a study looking at the prevalence and health effects of marine contaminants in the San Francisco Bay Area. Two harbor seal pup patients, Melissa and Nigel, were rescued by the Center because they were abandoned by their mothers. They were treated for umbilical infections and fed by staff and volunteers at The Marine Mammal Center until they were big enough to fend for themselves in the wild. During rehabilitation, the Center tested the seals for exposure to various pathogens and contaminants. Once healthy the two seals were released wearing specially designed orange hat tags making it easier for scientists to chart their progress in the wild.

Rescuing wild animals in times of crisis

On November 7, 2007 an outbound container ship struck the Bay Bridge in San Francisco, spilling approximately 58,000 gallons of bunker fuel into the bay. This was the largest oil spill in the San Francisco Bay since 1996. As a member of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network, The Marine Mammal Center assisted where needed and helped collect oiled birds from beaches in Marin County. For three weeks after the spill, local resting areas for sea lions and harbor seals were monitored extensively as part of the oil spill response. During this time, the Center rescued a Northern fur seal that was malnourished with a small amount of oil on its fur. The role that exposure to the oil played in causing this and other marine mammals to beach themselves is still being investigated. ■

The Year in Numbers

Percentages are approximate due to rounding procedures.

Number of animals admitted by species

	NUMBER	PERCENT
California sea lions	459	64%
Northern elephant seals	106	15%
Pacific harbor seals	77	11%
Steller sea lions	2	0%
Northern fur seals	20	3%
Guadalupe fur seals	1	0%
Cetaceans – various species	29	4%
Southern sea otters	22	3%
TOTAL	716	100%

Disposition

	NUMBER	PERCENT
Total Animals Accessioned in 2007*	716	100%
Entered rehabilitation	637	89%
Relocated/Transfer	50	7%
Carcass/Dead on arrival	62	9%
Released to wild**	317	50%
Euthanized/Died in Treatment**	319	50%
Admitted in 2006/Disposition in 2007***	33	4%
Still on-site as of January 1, 2008**	1	0%

* Every animal receives an accession number, but not all animals enter rehabilitation.

** Percentage based on animals that entered rehabilitation, not total animals accessioned.

*** 4% of disposition animals for 2007, were admitted in 2006

Rescues due to human interaction

	NUMBER	PERCENT†
Unauthorized pickup	10	1%
Harassed	29	4%
Gunshot	9	1%
Netting	8	1%
Fishing Line	3	1%
Fish hooks/lures	7	1%
Other marine debris	1	0%
Boat strike	5	1%
Oil/Tar	6	1%
TOTAL	78	11%

† Percent is of total animals accessioned

Success in Rehabilitation

A component of The Marine Mammal Center's mission is to provide humane medical treatment to ill, injured or orphaned marine mammals and to return patients that become healthy back to the ocean. Our work with endangered species directly uses rehabilitation for conservation.

Hawaiian monk seals – surviving against the odds

The Hawaiian monk seal is the most endangered pinniped in the U.S. with numbers estimated at around 1100 and decreasing at 4 % per year. Low survival rate of juvenile monk seals due to predation and malnutrition is the main factor causing the decrease in the population. As part of a joint conservation effort, The Marine Mammal Center embarked on a captive care project at Midway Atoll to provide nutritional supplementation to female juvenile monk seals in hopes of improving their chances of surviving in the wild to reproduce. This project was started in May 2006 by the birth of twin female pups at Midway Atoll. These two pups are the fourth known occurrence of twins in Hawaiian monk seals and the first pair that has been successfully weaned in recorded history. Both twins were undersized at weaning but were otherwise healthy. Because these were rare undersized female twins and given the history of poor juvenile survival, it was imperative to include the twins in the project. Five other female juveniles were included, and together with the twins were held in beach pens and fed a high-fat diet to make them gain as much weight as possible prior to release. More advanced medical care was provided when the seals exhibited signs of ill health. The twins, as well as four of the females, were released back into the wild at Midway Atoll at the end of March 2007.

Photo captions: Ozeki's large size posed a problem for veterinarians who needed to perform life-saving surgery on his flipper.

The surgery was a success and the California sea lion was released back to the ocean.

Kellan, a Pacific harbor seal, rests comfortably in her pool. She will be able to survive in the wild with just one eye. Volunteers teach young harbor seals.



Tamar – the luckiest elephant seal

Tamar, Hebrew for “little fig”, was a young black coat elephant seal (meaning she was less than 28 days old and still had her birth coat) that the Center rescued in Santa Cruz County in February 2007. She had several tar patches stuck to her coat and her mother was nowhere to be seen. Veterinarians at the Center did have some clues about the little seal’s history. Tamar was sporting a pink flipper tag indicating that researchers from Point Reyes Bird Observatory Conservation Science had been studying her in the wild and knew that she was born on January 20. Records were examined and the Center learned that Tamar’s mother had adopted another pup a day before giving birth to her. She nursed both Tamar and the adopted pup for four weeks and then left the island. With her mother gone, Tamar ventured out on her own and swam an estimated 70 miles from the Farallon Islands to Santa Cruz in eight days. This is very unusual as black coats tend to do very little swimming - certainly not great distances like this. Under the watchful care by veterinarians and volunteers, Tamar became healthy and five months later was released at Point Reyes National Seashore in an area abundant with food and other elephant seals like Tamar.

Barbosa – sea lion gunshot victim

A concerned beachgoer called the Center regarding this yearling California sea lion that was rescued in May 2007 and named Barbosa. Veterinarians at the Center immediately noticed that he had a protruding eye – a sign of trauma or infection. X-rays revealed the presence of gunshot shrapnel in his skull. Barbosa was lucky to survive, and for the gunshot to have miss his brain. However, his eye was permanently damaged and causing him pain, so veterinarians decided to remove it surgically. The Marine Mammal Center’s Veterinary Intern, Dr. Delphine Sarran, performed the surgery, and Barbosa’s right eye was removed. Sea lions do well in the wild, even with one eye, and once his sutures were removed, Barbosa was released back to his natural habitat. ■

2007 Rehabilitation Highlights

- ▶ For the second time in The Center’s history, rescuers successfully reunite a young sea otter with its mother in Morro Bay.
- ▶ Year two of the Center’s elephant seal watch program proves successful as nearly 30 potential seal rescue candidates are carefully monitored on beaches by the Center. Keeping wild animals wild is a critical component to the seals’ survival.
- ▶ The Center collaborates with U.C. Davis in using antibiotic beads to treat a bone infection in a California sea lion patient.

Special Thanks

- ▶ U.C. Davis School of Veterinary Medicine for providing services



Our Volunteers

The Marine Mammal Center could not accomplish its mission if it were not for the back-breaking work and support of its nearly 800 volunteers. The Center thanks all volunteers for their dedication, commitment and special talents that they provide each and every day.



Jon and Rose Kerr

For the past six years, Rose Kerr (shown here) and husband Jon have been volunteering for The Marine Mammal Center's Monterey Bay operations. Since childhood, Rose had rescued injured animals, and she had always been interested in marine mammals. The two have covered the many difficult tasks it takes the Monterey Bay team to operate, from rescues to answering phones, facilities maintenance, and educational outreach. Rose is on the Med Team, which is medically trained to treat the animals, with Jon often assisting. The two have been involved with several of the Center's sea otter rescues, which are unique to the Monterey Bay operations. As seasoned volunteers, the two often mentor new volunteers, training them how to deal with the chaotic pace of working at the rescue facility. "I like to mentor new people and try to instill some of the love and respect that I feel for these animals into their training," says Rose.

Val Guarin

Val Guarin's love of scuba diving led to over 10 years of volunteering for The Marine Mammal Center's animal care team at its Sausalito operations. In addition, Val spent several years on the Center's Water Rescue Team, and still assists the Stranding Department with rescues in the area. "Little did I know how dirty, stinky, tired, and worn-out I would be, while at the same time being happy, satisfied, amazed, and enlightened. Every single day at the Center brings new experiences," says Val. "From the tiniest fur seals and black-coat elephant seals to harbor porpoises, and even a pygmy sperm whale – the opportunity to help further our knowledge, and the satisfaction in knowing that so many of 'our' animals are returned to the ocean where they belong – is what keeps me coming back."

The Padilla Family

Ken and June Padilla and daughter Jennifer (not shown) make volunteering at The Marine Mammal Center a family affair. In 2002, Jennifer, a marine biology student, joined the Center's San Luis Obispo operations. Interested in their daughter's work, June and Ken soon became engaged with the Center's work and joined the crew as well. The trio has responded to a variety of unusual situations as volunteers. June recalls being on call with only two other women one night when calls came in for the rescue of three very large sea lions. "Each of the sea lions weighed approximately 100 to 150 lbs., and each was suffering from the disastrous effects of domoic acid poisoning" said June. It's not only the excitement, but the satisfaction of rescuing distressed animals that keeps this family volunteering. In Jennifer's words, "There's nothing better than rescuing a sick or injured animal on the beach and following their progress from recovery to release." And the perks of doing it as a family? "You get to carpool." ■

Thank you

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Betty Aldrich
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Adrienne Allen
Jayme Allen
Rebecca Allen
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Natasha Yankoffski
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.....

Partnering with Community



Chevron & San Francisco Giants Marine Mammal Day

On July 27, Baseball fans as well as fans of the ocean and its inhabitants celebrated Marine Mammal Day. By partnering with Chevron and the Giants, the Center is able to extend its message of the need to provide humanitarian responses to marine mammals in need and the importance of ocean health as it relates to all inhabitants – human or pinniped.



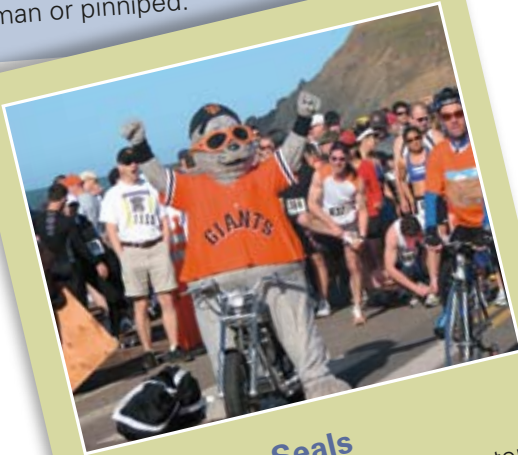
Marin County Fair - Aquatic Adventures

Engaging community is key in raising public awareness about the important work of the Center. In 2007, the Center participated alongside local and state agencies in the Marin County Fair. Hosting an interactive booth, display and activities, the Center's Education and volunteer teams were able to capture the imaginations of fairgoers and encourage ocean stewardship.



San Francisco Zoo

For a third year, the Center collaborated with the San Francisco Zoo in the rehabilitation of young elephant seal patients. Seals that were near ready to be released back to the ocean, but need to strengthen muscles and gain more weight before going back to the ocean, finished off the rehabilitation process at the zoo. This collaboration allows key pen and pool space to be freed for critical care patients at The Marine Mammal Center hospital.



Run for the Seals

This is the Marine Mammal Center's signature community event which celebrated its 24th anniversary in 2007. More than 700 supporters of all ages from around the Bay Area participated in the benefit raising over \$29K for the Center.



Coastal Cleanup Day

In September, a record turn out of more than 157 community volunteers joined The Marine Mammal Center in picking up trash at Rodeo Beach in the Marin Headlands as part of the state effort known as California Coastal Cleanup Day. In all, the combined efforts resulted in 267 pounds of garbage collected and removed from the beach.

Education and Communications

In 2007, The National Marine Sanctuary's Bay-Watershed Education and Training (B-WET) Grant, Irma Penniman Kahn Conservation Education Foundation and the Sato Foundation funded a full year of our Marine Science Discovery Program. This allowed for four low-income high schools to participate in the program.

The Headlands Institute's Coastal Camps were widely popular and featured four programs taught by the Center's Education Department. A waiting list for the Center's classes existed even after the 4-week long programs were completed.

The Center's programs, events and fairs reached more than 30,000 students and 10,000 adults during 2007. The Marin County Fair allowed the Center to reach a wide audience with its message.



The goal of The Marine Mammal Center's Education and Communications programs is to increase visibility, awareness about the Center's work and scientific achievements as well as to foster an appreciation for marine mammals and the marine environment.

Marine Science Discovery Program

Over the past 8 years, The Marine Mammal Center's Marine Science Discovery Program (MSDP) has become an integral part of many low-income high schools in the Bay Area. MSDP allows urban high school students an opportunity to learn about a variety of marine science careers available to them through hands-on labs and fieldwork. In 2007, four schools participated in the program and for the first time, students were paired with Cordell Bank Sanctuary scientists on board their research vessel C. Magister to learn about this offshore environment. Three students received a paid internship to volunteer on animal care crews, and to shadow the Center's staff and learn via hands-on-experience how to treat patients, perform laboratory functions and prepare specimens for study.

Young Data Collectors Help in Oil Spill Assessment

In 2007, as part of the Marin Headlands Exploration and Monitoring day, students surveyed crabs on Rodeo Beach. This data became a baseline for National Marine Sanctuaries Program officials investigating the environmental damage caused by the oil spill disaster in October of 2007. That's when a ship that crashed into the Bay Bridge, leaked 58,000 gallons of bunker fuel into the bay, killing thousands of birds and impacting wildlife.

Communications

An effective tool in engaging and influencing a mass audience of potential ocean stewards is through effective and consistent communications. Through publications such as the Release newsletter, its website and other communications tools, the media relations program educated volunteers, members, donors and the world about the Center's work. In 2007, Philippe Cousteau, the famed environmental advocate and grandson of Captain Jacques-Yves Cousteau, filmed a segment featuring the Center that was seen around the nation on Animal Planet television. In addition, work was completed on setting up the framework of the organizations branding and identity process, which includes an updated strategic media relations plan, updating collateral materials and unveiling a new logo (featured in this report) which beautifully represents how the shared ocean environment is essential to the health of all life. This planning and continued media relations program will help the Center be optimally positioned upon re-opening to the public in spring 2009. ■



THE YEAR IN NUMBERS

Number of Education Programs/ Lectures/Fairs/Events

Call to the Rescue*#	107
Programs in our Marine Science Classroom*#	17
Research Discovery Day	14
California Sea Lion Programs at PIER 39#	27
Whale Bus Outreach at schools*	297
Guided Beach Walks at Rodeo Beach#	36
Marine Science Discovery Programs classes	63
Fairs throughout our rescue range	35
Special Programs/Events#	15
Lectures for docents/public/teachers	10
Donor/member Events	10
Speakers Bureau Programs by Field Offices	37
TOTAL	668

150 programs/events/fairs were taught by volunteers

** Carson McLean Scholarship Fund paid the program fees for 5 classes serving low-income students*

Marine Science Scholarship Fund paid the program fees and transportation for 21 classes that serve low-income students (funds came from the DMARLOU Foundation)

? *Seven high school classes (from 4 schools) that serve low-income students. This program was fully funded thanks to the Sato Foundation and NOAA-BWET grant.*

Number of Participants in Programs/ Lectures/Fairs/Events

	STUDENTS	ADULTS
Programs in our Marine Science Classroom*	448	83
Call to the Rescue*	2,075	599
Beach Walks at Rodeo Beach*	790	132
Sea Lions in the City at PIER 39*	572	129
Whale Bus Outreach at Schools*	7,832	604
Marine Science Discovery Program for High School	182	14
Research Discovery Day for High School/ Junior College	256	27
Special Programs/Lectures	561	494
Donor/Member Events	56	1,058
Speakers Bureau Programs by Field Office Volunteers		
MBO	328	106
SLO	165	421
Participants in programs/lectures/events	13,265	3,667
Participants visiting our booth at 35 fairs	19,940	
TOTAL PARTICIPANTS	36,918	

** These programs served students in PreK to 7th grades*

Adults includes chaperones plus participants in Adult programs

Capital Campaign and Construction Project



Project Update will come in the form of captions for the chosen photos

UPDATE

In September 2007, the Center's capital campaign was bolstered by a special \$1 million challenge grant from the David and Lucile Packard Foundation. In order to receive this \$1 million grant, the Center needed to raise \$6.5 million by January 31, 2008. As of press time of this report, the Center was less than \$1 million away from the goal and confident that it would be achieved by the deadline.

It was an honor to have the capital campaign bolstered by the generosity and support of the Packard Foundation, one of the largest foundations in the country. Previously, the Packard Foundation had made a previous grant of \$1 million to the capital campaign in 2005, and we are both excited and humbled by its new commitment to us.

Some notable gifts we received in support of the Packard challenge included the following:

- ▶ \$1.3 million from the Richard and Rhoda Goldman Fund
- ▶ \$1 million from our board member and Treasurer Sandor Straus
- ▶ An additional \$100,000 from our Chairman Merrill Magowan
- ▶ \$100,000 from Mr. Charles Schwab

The Center is grateful for the support and generosity of all of its friends toward the capital campaign, and looks forward to sharing its new facility with you in 2009! ■

The Marine Mammal Center gratefully recognizes and thanks donors that made gifts and pledges from the beginning of the capital campaign through December 31, 2007. These gifts are helping the Center get closer to building a world-class facility that will improve animal care, create an effective work environment for staff and volunteers, and provide new opportunities for education and collaborative research.

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James Schollard
Susan Shapiro
Linda and Joe Stockhus
Eric Strand
Patricia and Scott Teaford
Kate and Richard Vance
Linda Vetter
Shirley and Herman Victor
Bobbie Wallace
Lee and Bill Webber
Donald West
Jan Widdowson
Stephanie and Kim Wigton
Jane Williamson
Robert Wilson
Barbara Woodhill

BEQUESTS

Robert A. Anderson
Cynthia Jane Baird
Lorraine Cantor
Constance E. Christensen
Ruth A. Davis
Diane Evans
Margaret B. Galvin
Edwin Hoss
Webster H. Kimball
Gertrude M. Komodoski
Norma Mathews
Cynthia M. Mikkelsen
William Mullen
Lylah M. Schieck
Elizabeth Simonetti
Myra Sloanaker
Diana Whiteman

TRIBUTE GIFTS

We respectfully recognize these special gifts received in memory of these family members and friends:

Margo Adams
Gary Allums
Dr. Susanna Atwell
Peter Barney
Earnest Vincent Berry
Virgina Choiniere
Jan D'Alquen
Fritz H. Grau
Leslie Ann Grella
E. V. Hughes
Laura Ann Kemmel
Janet Elizabeth Little
William D. Myers, M.D.

Beatrice Elaine Olson
Laura Marlene Rothman
Robert Upright

We gratefully recognize these special gifts received in honor of these family members and friends:

John and Marcy Aschoff
Jeanne Bobbitt
Haydn Fischer
Lynn Fuller
Isabella Johnson
Tatiana Kreuzer
Merrill Magowan
Joe Vafi

IN-KIND GIFTS

The Angel Island-Tiburon Ferry
Autodesk, Inc.
Harris Barton
Marjorie Boor
Caswell-Massey
Cavallo Point, Fort Baker
Crystal Geyser
Linda K. Curtis
Fashion Streaks
Deborah R. Gabris
Gallo Family Vineyards
Jerry Gibbons
Susan Gray
The Grocery Outlet
Audrey Gulland
Rena Gundy
Doreen Gurrola
HalfWitWines.com
Betty Hasler
Heitz Wine Cellars
William M. Jardine
Karen Johnson-McKewan
Margrit Keyes
Kibble 'N' Gifts
Michael J. Kleeman
Lindblad Expeditions
Merrill L. Magowan
Marin French Cheese Company
Tom McKewan
Dan Meiling
Mondrian Hotel, Los Angeles
Orrick, Herrington & Sutcliffe LLP
Patagonia, San Francisco
Personal Telephone Answering Services
PIER 39 Limited Partnership
Rita Rae Prelvitz
Phil Reilly
Doug Ross
San Francisco Giants
San Francisco Walking & Running
Say Hey Foundation
Scientific Art Studio
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The Producers of "Ugly Betty"
Wells Fargo

Danya Winterman
Tony Zinge

VEHICLE DONATION PARTNER

Donate for Charity, Inc.

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Macy's West United Way Campaign
Microsoft Giving Campaign Program
PG&E Campaign for the Community
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eScrip
Deborah Gabris
Run100s

ONLINE PHILANTHROPY PORTAL PARTNER

Justgive.org
.....

Financial Statements

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION

September 30, 2007

ASSETS

Cash and cash equivalents (1)	7,572,164
Contributions receivable (1)	2,131,865
Investments at market	1,439,057
Inventories	118,311
Equipment and structures	15,615,195
Deposits and prepaid expenses	197,874
TOTAL ASSETS	27,074,466

LIABILITIES

Accounts payable	2,107,840
Deferred liability	153,045
Accrued liabilities	220,399
TOTAL LIABILITIES	2,481,284

NET ASSETS

Unrestricted	18,689,853
Temporarily restricted (1)	5,403,329
Permanently restricted	500,000
TOTAL NET ASSETS	24,593,182
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND NET ASSETS	27,074,466

STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

September 30, 2007

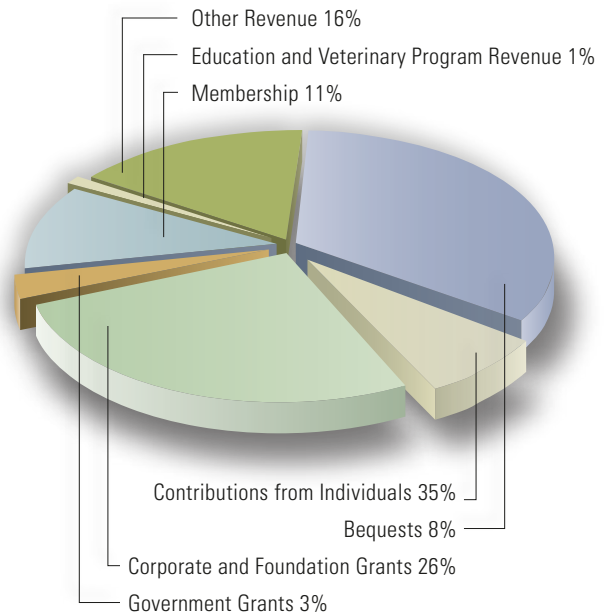
SUPPORT AND REVENUE

Membership dues	997,292
Contributions	6,025,331
Bequests	732,548
Endowment funds	81,753
Contributed services and equipment (2)	294,444
Educational programs	70,872
Veterinary contract fees	48,290
Store sales	407,363
Interest income	451,910
Other revenue	106,526
Special event revenue, net of expense	119,537
Realized and unrealized gains on investments	145,323
TOTAL SUPPORT AND REVENUE	9,445,752

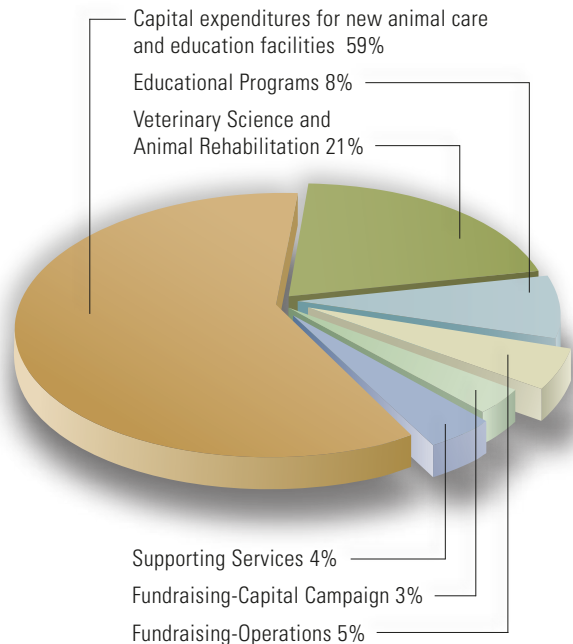
EXPENDITURES

Program services	
Veterinary science and animal rehabilitation	2,626,521
Educational programs	1,210,697
Fundraising	
Operations	737,545
Capital Campaign	507,193
Supporting Services	525,368
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	5,607,324
CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	3,838,428

SUPPORT AND REVENUE



EXPENDITURES*



* Includes estimated value of volunteer services

Audited financial statements for the year ended September 30, 2007, prepared by Louie & Wong, are available at The Marine Mammal Center's administrative offices, Chief Financial and Operations Officer, 415-289-7325.

(1) Funds that are temporarily restricted for capital projects total \$5,344,000, including \$3,238,000 in cash and cash equivalents and \$2,106,000 in contributions receivable.

(2) Not included are 81,058 hours of volunteer services, valued at \$608,000 based on California minimum wage, that were received during the fiscal year ended September 30, 2007.

Our Mission

We recognize human interdependence with marine mammals and their importance as sentinels of the ocean environment, the health of which is essential for all life. It is our responsibility to use our awareness, compassion and intelligence to foster marine mammal survival and the conservation of their habitat. The Marine Mammal Center works toward this end:

- ▶ Through rescue and humane treatment of ill, injured or orphaned marine mammals, to return healthy animals to the wild
- ▶ Through scientific inquiry, to increase knowledge of marine mammals, their health and their environment and assure their long-term survival
- ▶ Through education and communication, to increase appreciation of marine mammals, foster informed decision-making affecting them, and inspire action to protect the marine environment



**The Marine
Mammal Center**

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Sausalito, California 94965
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Fx. 415.289.7333
www.marinemammalcenter.org**

**Monterey Bay Operations
P.O. Box 778
Moss Landing, CA 95039**

**San Luis Obispo Operations
P.O. Box 696
Morro Bay, CA 93443**

**Anchor Bay Operations
P.O. Box 381
Gualala, CA 95445**

Design: Mónica DuClaud

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