



The Marine
Mammal Center

News Release

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

November 22, 2008

THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER TO BE FEATURED ON NOVA'S DOCUMENTARY *OCEAN ANIMAL EMERGENCY* ON NOVEMBER 25

(SAUSALITO, Calif. – November 22, 2008) The Marine Mammal Center will be featured on NOVA, an award-winning science television documentary series that airs on PBS. The episode, *Ocean Animal Emergency*, will air November 25 at 8pm in most areas. Earlier this year, PBS producer Doug Hamilton and crew spent four months filming the Center's staff and volunteers as they rescued ill and injured seals and sea lions, provide medical treatment, and investigated health issues affecting each patient. During the filming of *Ocean Animal Emergency*, the Center was immersed in pupping season – a time when the Center's trained volunteers responded to harbor seals and elephant seals that looked to be ill and in peril. During the height of pupping season, veterinarians hustled to care for as many as 80 patients on site at its outdoor headquarters in Sausalito. Months in to filming, sea lion patients began arriving and NOVA was there to capture the medical challenges each of those patients faced. On average, approximately 550 marine mammals are treated at the hospital each year for malnourishment, injuries as a result of entanglements and human-related activities, and for diseases that in some cases reflect the declining health of the ocean.

NOVA is the highest rated science series on television and the most watched documentary series on public television. The show has also one won every major television award.

About The Marine Mammal Center: Headquartered in Sausalito, California, The Marine Mammal Center is a nonprofit veterinary hospital, research and educational center dedicated to the rescue and rehabilitation of ill and injured marine mammals - primarily elephant seals, harbor seals and California sea lions - and to the study of their health. Since 1975, the Center has rescued and treated more than 13,000 marine mammals and has accumulated a body of knowledge about marine mammal and ocean health from its patients. For more information, visit www.marinemammalcenter.org

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