

Be Sea Otter Savvy

Are **you** looking out for otters?

Sea otters are the smallest marine mammal in California and have little fat to keep them warm. To stay warm and healthy they need to...

Rest a lot



Eat a lot



And groom a lot



When we get **TOO CLOSE** they may...



Wake up, become nervous,
or stop feeding



Get frightened & swim
or dive away

This can cause stress, waste energy, and be harmful to their health.

Follow these tips for safe sea otter viewing

- If you see behavioral changes, back away slowly before the sea otter swims away or dives
- Keep boats and kayaks at least 50 feet away from sea otters
- Pass by parallel to sea otters (do not approach head-on)
- If more than one vessel is in the area, wait your turn from a distance and then approach cautiously after the other has left the area
- Never encircle or trap animals between vessels

Sea otters are protected under the Endangered Species Act, Marine Mammal Protection Act, and California State law.



Monterey Bay
Aquarium



The Marine
Mammal Center

