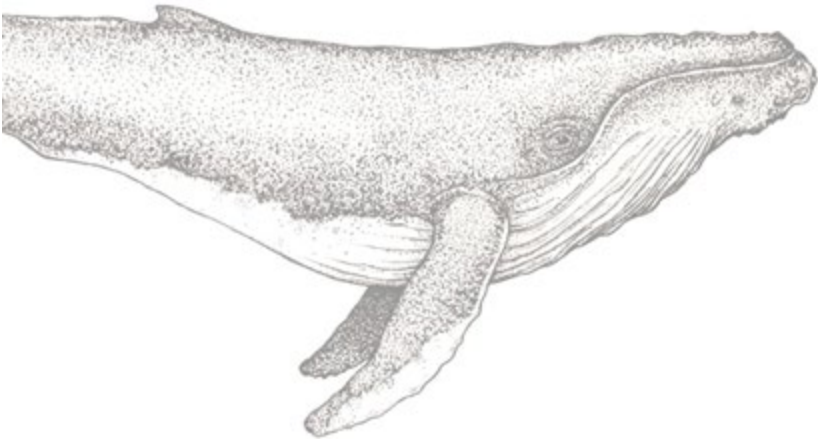




NOAA
FISHERIES

Protected Resources Division



2022



Suzie Teerlink, PhD
Protected Resources Division
NOAA Fisheries, Alaska Region

Negligible Impact Determination (NID)

MMPA 101(a)(5)(E) permit for incidental take of
ESA-listed marine mammals

May 2021 – May 2024 permits

- AK Gulf of Alaska sablefish longline
- AK Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands pollock trawl
- AK Bering Sea, Aleutian Islands flatfish trawl

In clearance – expected to publish on Thursday

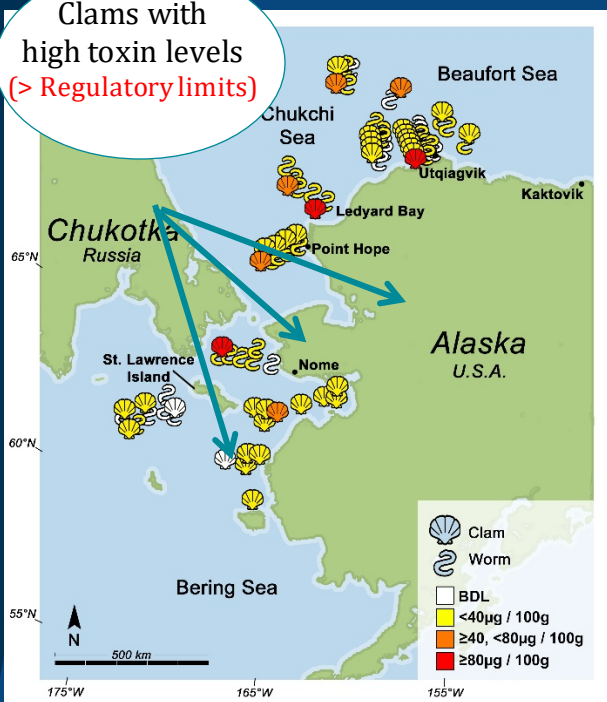
- AK Bering Sea, Aleutian Island Pacific cod pot



NOAA
FISHERIES

Increasing risks of algal toxin exposure in a warming Arctic will impact fisheries & marine mammal health!

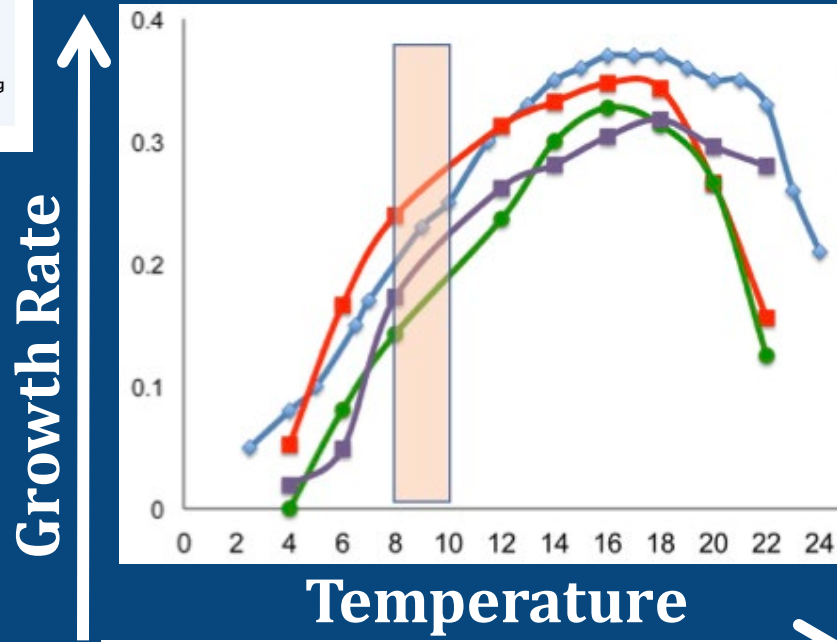
Clams with high toxin levels (> Regulatory limits)



Algal toxins are present in Arctic food webs

Lefebvre et al, 2016
Harmful Algae 55:13-24

Chukchi Sea



Sea Ice Loss + Warming Ocean =

INCREASED algal growth & toxins in Arctic food webs



Outreach: “Do not feed sea lions”

30-sec video PSA (website; harbor master offices; NOAA Office of Law Enforcement; hotels)



Airport electronic baggage kiosks (Juneau, Anchorage)



Waterproof stickers



Brochures

Take the LEAD
DO NOT FEED!

Feeding sea lions causes problems for us ALL

- Habituation
- Aggression
- Negative impacts to fisheries
- Entanglement
- Injury
- Death

HABITUATION AND AGGRESSION: Sea lions lose their natural wariness of humans and associate people with food. This often results in dangerous and unpredictable behavior towards people.

FISHERMEN LOSE GEAR, TIME, & MONEY: Feeding changes the natural behaviors of sea lions, decreasing their willingness to find their own food, and increasing chances they will steal fish (and gear) from fishermen. Fishermen have been injured.

SEA LION ENTANGLEMENT, INJURY, & DEATH: These changed behaviors may be passed to other sea lions which increases their risk of injury from boats, entanglement in fishing gear, and intentional harm by people frustrated with the behavioral changes.

REMEMBER... It is ILLEGAL to feed sea lions

1-800-853-1964
PLEASE REPORT VIOLATIONS

STOP IS YOUR PHOTO WORTH THIS RESULT?

Sea lion being illegally fed...

Sea lion died after swallowing a hook

How Can You Help?

- ◆ **DO NOT FEED SEA LIONS!**
- ◆ Educate others about the negative impacts of feeding sea lions and discourage the practice when possible.
- ◆ Encourage a “no feeding” policy in your community.
- ◆ Keep a clean dock and boat – do not leave whole fish or discarded fish pieces where sea lions can reach them.

The Benefit?

Sea lions remain wild...
People (and sea lions) remain safe

PLEASE REPORT VIOLATIONS: 1-800-853-1964

Harbor/Cannery signs

⚠️ WARNING!	⚠️ ADVERTENCIA	⚠️ BABALA
DO NOT FEED SEA LIONS!	NO ALIMENTE A LOS LEONES MARINOS	Huwag pakainin ang mga sea lion
Did you know that feeding sea lions is hazardous to:	¿Sabe que alimentar a los leones marinos es peligroso para:	Alam mo ba na ang pagpapalain ng mga sea lion ay mapanganib sa:
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your health and safety? A fed sea lion can become aggressive and bite. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your catch? A fed sea lion will follow your boat and steal your fish. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Your wallet? If you feed, be prepared to pay! It is illegal to feed sea lions. Violators are subject to civil and criminal penalties under the Federal Marine Mammal Protection Act. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The life of the sea lion and its young? A fed sea lion can become a dead sea lion.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¿Su salud y seguridad? Un león marino alimentado puede volverse agresivo y morder. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¿Su captura? Un león marino alimentado seguirá su bote y robará su pescado. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¿Su billetera? Si se alimenta, ¡prepárese para pagar! Es ilegal alimentar a los leones marinos. Los infractores están sujetos a sanciones civiles y penales en virtud de la Ley Federal de Protección de Mamíferos Marinos. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ¿La vida del león marino y sus crías? Un león marino alimentado puede convertirse en un león marino muerto.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iyong kaligtasan at kaligtasan? Mga pagpapalain sa leones marino ay maaaring maging agresibo at magbitay. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iyong buhat? Pagpapalain ng mga sea lion ay magiging bahagay sa pagpapalain ng mga pagpapalain. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Iyong buhat? Pagpapalain ng mga sea lion ay magiging bahagay sa pagpapalain ng mga pagpapalain. <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Buhay ng leon ng dagat at ng mga supling nito? Ang pagpapalain ng mga sea lion ay magiging bahagay sa pagpapalain ng mga pagpapalain.
<p>Take the lead... Do not feed!</p> <p>REMEMBER... IT IS ILLEGAL to feed sea lions</p> <p>1-800-853-1964 PLEASE REPORT VIOLATIONS</p>	<p>¡Tené en cuenta... No se alimente!</p> <p>RECUERDA... ES ILLEGAL alimentar a los leones marinos</p> <p>1-800-853-1964 POR FAVOR REPORTE VIOLACIONES</p>	<p>Magpapas... Huwag magpapalain.</p> <p>TANDAAN... Bagal pakainin ang mga sea lion</p> <p>1-800-853-1964 MAGPAPALAIN SA VIOLACIONES</p>

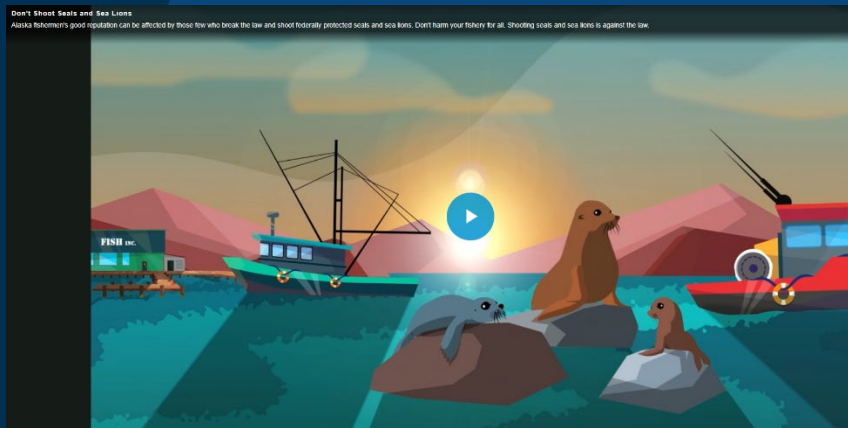
Radio PSA's



Outreach: "Do not shoot seals & sea lions"

PSA Video: Do not shoot

(Website; Harbor master offices; NOAA Office of Law Enforcement)



Electronic & print ad: National Fisherman magazine

Shooting seals and sea lions is against the law.



Shooting a seal or sea lion may result in:

- Paying civil penalties > \$29,000
- Spending up to a year in jail
- Paying criminal fines
- Forfeiture of your vessel
- Harming your fishery's good name

Report violations **1-800-853-1964**



Harbor signs

Don't harm your fishery for all.
Shooting seals and sea lions is against the law.



All marine mammals, including seals and sea lions, are federally protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act

Shooting a seal or sea lion may result in:

 Paying civil penalties of > \$29,000 PER COUNT	 Forfeiture of your vessel
 Spending up to a year in jail	 Harming your fishery's good name
 Paying criminal fines	

REMEMBER...
It is **ILLEGAL** to shoot seals & sea lions

1-800-853-1964
PLEASE REPORT VIOLATIONS



Radio PSA's

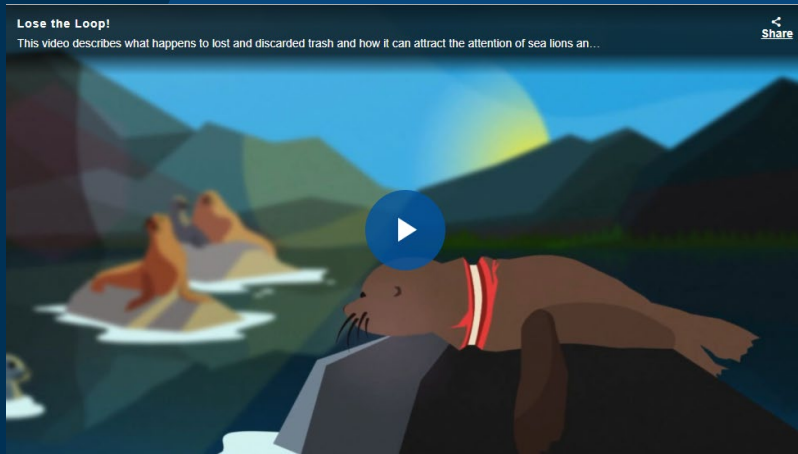


NOAA FISHERIES

Entanglements: Outreach: "Lose the loop"

30-sec PSA Video: Lose the loop!

(Website; Harbor master offices;
NOAA Office of Law Enforcement)



Brochures

KEEP THE SEA ENTANGLEMENT FREE!

Every year many seals and sea lions **UNNECESSARILY SUFFER** or **DIE** from becoming entangled in marine debris.

THREE STEPS YOU CAN TAKE NOW

- 1 LOSE THE LOOP!**
Prevent nooses by cutting any loops before discarding in the trash.
- 2 STASH THE TRASH!**
Keep plastic and other discards out of the ocean.
- 3 REFUSE single USE!**
Reduce, Reuse, & Recycle. People created marine debris – we CAN stop it!

Entangling materials that strangle:

- Packing bands
- Rubber bands
- Ropes & Netting
- Garbage

Responsibly stowing or disposing of these materials prevents harm and death.

Entangled Marine Mammal Hotline:
1-877-925-7773

Pinniped Entanglement Group
(PEG) (148 members; 18 countries)



Radio PSA's



Harbor signs



MMPA mortality/injury reporting

Are you covered?

From 1996-2015
only 351 reports
were received from Alaskan fishermen

Be smart. Report. It's the law.

ALL fisheries are required to report injuries and deaths

48 hours from the end of the trip

even when an **OBSERVER** is on board



A marine mammal take is not legal unless reported



Credit: Alaska Dept Fish and Game, NMFS permit 235-1514

Credit: NOAA Fisheries, NMFS permit 022-181001

Credit: NOAA Fisheries, NMFS Form # 022-1489

You must report!



Complete the mortality/ injury reporting form on
www.nmfs.noaa.gov/pr/interactions/mmap/
Questions? Call (907) 586-7240

NOAA FISHERIES



ALASKA REGION

LARGE WHALE ENTANGLEMENT GUIDE

HOW TO RESPOND TO A LARGE WHALE
ENTANGLEMENT SIGHTING IN ALASKA

Every day whales are at risk of becoming entangled in marine debris, moorings, fishing gear, and other lines in the water. Our goal is to gain information to reduce this threat. Promptly reporting the entanglement to NOAA can increase the survival rate of these entangled animals. Refer to this material to help entangled whales.

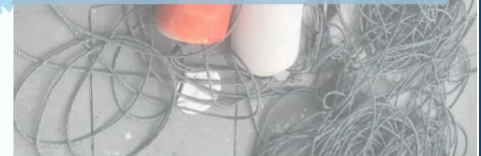


Photo by S. Teerlink/NOAA; Permit #18786-04

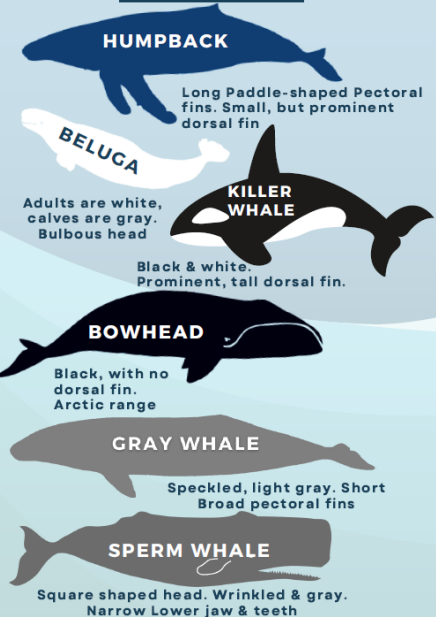


WHAT TO DO

- 1 CALL (877) 925-7773**
Notify a NOAA official by calling the hotline.
- 2 RECORD**
Maintain a safe distance of at least 100 yards away. If possible, take photos of the head, fluke, and dorsal fin.
- 3 WAIT**
Continue to monitor the animal until feedback is received from a NOAA official. Safe entanglement response requires training.

Call US Coast Guard Channel 16 if you are without cell service


COMMON LARGE WHALES OF ALASKA



NOAA FISHERIES


Deterrents

2020: Guidelines for Safely Deterring Marine Mammals –
Proposed Rule (Final Rule expected by summer 2022)



**NOAA
FISHERIES**

Guidelines by Taxa:



Mysticetes

Proposed Rule for Safely Deterring Marine Mammals

Conflicts between humans and marine mammals can arise when the animals interact with fishing gear or catch, damage property, or endanger people. Although the Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972 (MMPA) and the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA) prohibit the “taking” of marine mammals, there are limited exceptions to the prohibitions under certain circumstances. Section 101(a)(4)(A) of the MMPA allows “specified persons” (e.g., the owner of fishing gear or catch, the owner of private property, or an employee or agent of such owner as well as any person deterring a marine mammal from endangering personal safety and any government employee to deter a marine mammal from damaging public property) to use measures that deter marine mammals from damaging fishing gear, catch,

2022: Virtual Regional & National “EFFECTIVE” deterrents
workshop – **coming this spring!**



**NOAA
FISHERIES**