

# Help Us Track the Health of California's Marine Mammals

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Documenting dead marine mammals helps scientists determine causes of mortality and spot emerging diseases, allowing them to monitor the health of and identify threats to marine mammal populations along the California coast.



CALIFORNIA  
ACADEMY OF  
SCIENCES



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# If you find a dead marine mammal, document it using iNaturalist:

1. Download the *iNaturalist* app and make an account.
2. Take multiple photos of the organism. Refer to the information in this guide for what photos to take to help with identification.
3. Tap “what did you see” in the observation form and use the suggestions or add your own identification by typing it in. If you’re not sure of the species, type in a high level ID, like “seals” or “dolphins” or even “mammals.”
4. Save and upload the observation to share with the iNaturalist community and the Academy’s Marine Mammal Stranding team!

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## Please also call in your finding

SF Bay Area: 415-379-5381

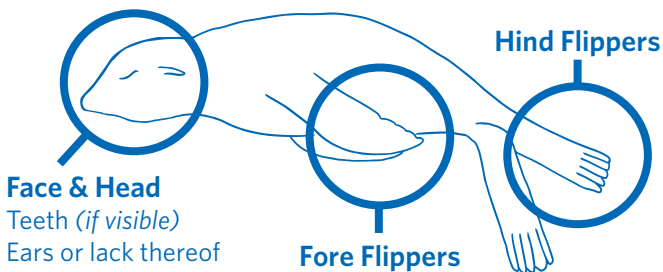
U.S. West Coast: 866-767-6114

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# Photos to take to help with identification:

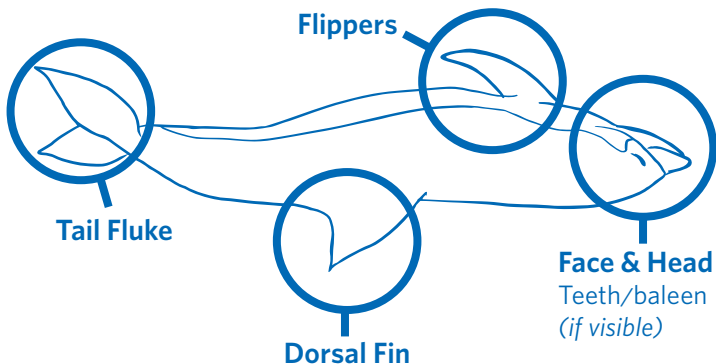
## Seals ■ Sea Lions

Take a photo of the whole animal, then:



## Dolphins ■ Porpoises ■ Whales

Take a photo of the whole animal, then:



# Common Marine Mammals of the California Coast

## Seals

Harbor Seal



Northern Elephant Seal



## Sea Lions

California Sea Lion



Steller Sea Lion



## Fur Seals

Guadalupe Fur Seal



Northern Fur Seal



## Cetaceans

Harbor Porpoise



Common Bottlenose Dolphin



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For sick, injured, or entangled marine mammals, please contact The **Marine Mammal Center** at **415-289-SEAL**.

It is illegal to approach or handle a sick or injured marine mammal or collect any parts of dead marine mammals.

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