

This Project is in the lower B range. Great information but no images or videos.

Marine Life Discovery

By Ishmael

Cali Sea Lions

Order-Pinnipedia

Family-Otariidae

Genus, species- *Zalophus Californianus*

Habitat & Distribution

Located on the coast of the eastern north pacific, from southern british columbia to western mexico including baja california.

Inhabit sandy beaches, coastal islands, and mainland shorelines

Most males migrate north from breeding grounds

Physical characteristics

Color- dark brown sometimes black when wet, as they age hair turns lighter brown.

Size- males reach about 6.5-8ft and 440-880lbs, females reach about 5-6.5ft and 110-240lbs

Flippers-like mammals sea lions have 5 digits in the hand limbs nails are visible on the middle three

Senses

Poor sense of taste

On land Could smell a human 100 meters away

Tactile usually on the beach sea lions group with each other laying and touching

Underwater vision is acute, in the water, a sea lion's eyes adapt easily to decreasing light levels; in the air, decreased light causes a dramatic decrease in visual acuity.

Adaptations

Swim with up and down wing like structures with foreflippers
very agile maneuver well in water

Do not dive deep most of their food is found in shallow water

Short exhalation, Short inhalation long periods of holding
breath

Core temp is 99.5 F fat is a thick layer of blubber right under
the skin

Communication

Can communicate with postural displays

Vocal cords, use vocals to talk below and above water

During periods of nonbreeding submissive males become more vocal than dominate males

Behavior

Rest in water sleep and rest on land, may sometimes rise its flipper to regulate body temperature

California sea lions normally coexist peacefully with other marine mammal species, but breeding males, and females with newborn pups, may threaten and chase intruders.

Diet & eating habits

Obtain all their food from the ocean feed on over 50 species of fish mostly feed on octopus, squid, hake, and opaleye

Obtain water they need from their food

Reproduction

In captivity they can breed as young as two years but in the wild it can take up to nine years

Tend to breed in the same area each year

Birth & Care for young

Gestation take 11-11.5 months most sea lions are born in june

Females give birth to one pup each year multiple births have never been seen in one year

When the pups are born it is usually on land 63% of pups are born head first

Longevity & causes of death

Live in average of 15-25 years the ones in a zoo have been known to live up to 30 years

More than 7000 years ago they were being hunted by humans for subsistence and their hide

Very susceptible to gastric disorders viral and bacterial infections, host to a variety of parasites

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