In 2003, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game initiated a multi-year study in Prince William Sound, Alaska, to investigate movement and haulout patterns of harbor seals (*Phoca vitulina*). Harbor seals were captured and implanted with subcutaneous multi-year VHF transmitters. From 2003-2005 transmitters were implanted into 136 animals (2003 n=48, 2004 n = 46, 2005 n=42). The majority of the transmitters were implanted into females (n=87). Remote data logging stations were erected near six haulout sites and were equipped with continuously scanning receivers to record the presence of seals with transmitters at each location. The majority of the animals (n=131) were resighted post-capture. The number of days of resights per individual averaged 23 (ranging from 1-250). Preliminary analysis of ten females with >50 resights showed the use of 1-4 haulout locations with the majority of their time spent at one or two specific sites. The highest numbers of resights per individual were recorded in July and August. Results from this study indicate that the use of multi-year VHF transmitters may provide insight into haulout usage patterns through detailed time series data.
Book of Abstracts for Oral Presentations and Posters

January 20-23, 2008
Hotel Captain Cook, Anchorage, Alaska

Sponsoring Organizations
Alaska Department of Fish and Game
Alaska Fisheries Science Center
Alaska Ocean Observing System
Alaska Pacific University
Alaska Sea Grant
Alaska Sealife Center
Alliance for Coastal Technologies
Exxon Valdez Oil Spill Trustee Council
Kachemak Bay Research Reserve
Minerals Management Service
National Ocean Service
National Park Service
North Pacific Fishery Management Council
North Pacific Research Board
North Slope Science Initiative
Oceans Alaska Science and Learning Center
Oil Spill Recovery Institute
Pollock Conservation Cooperative Research Center
Prince William Sound Science Center
University of Alaska Fairbanks
US Arctic Research Commission
USGS Alaska Science Center

www.alaskamarinescience.org