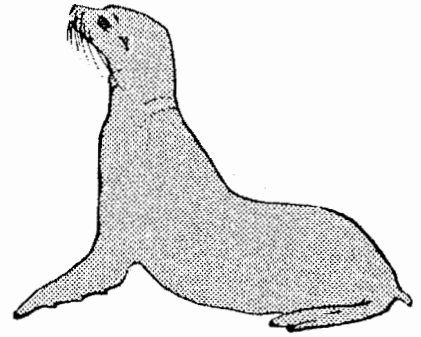
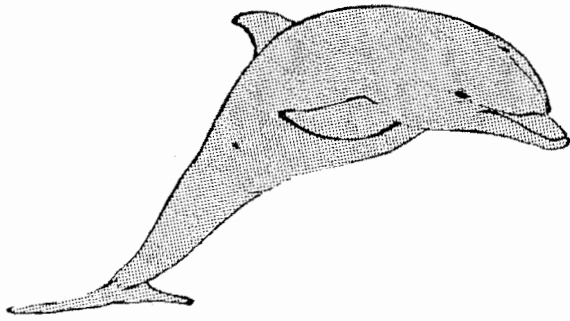


MARINE MAMMAL MANAGEMENT IN NORTHERN ALASKA: CONTEMPORARY CONFLICTS. John J. Burns, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, 1300 College Road, Fairbanks, Alaska 99701

Current controversy and conflict affecting marine mammal management in Northern Alaska can be related to rapidly evolving political, sociological, economic and biological factors. The significance of this suite of factors varies depending on the contribution of each marine mammal species to the health and welfare of the different Eskimo villages. In general, implementation of management regime by government agencies is deemed incompatible with the desire of Alaskan Natives for self-determination, local control of land and resources, and freedom from "outside" interference. Harvest of polar bears and bowhead whales has increased due to their value as food and the social status gained by successful hunters. Walruses are assuming greater importance as a source of income in rural settlements where employment opportunities are limited. The take of walruses rose rapidly from 1972 to 1976 and was curtailed amidst intense controversy. Seals and belukha whales retain their "traditional" subsistence importance.



**PROCEEDINGS**  
**(ABSTRACTS)**

**Second Conference**  
**On**  
**The Biology of Marine Mammals**

**San Diego, California**  
**12 – 15 December 1977**