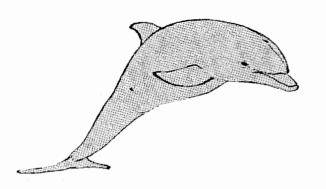
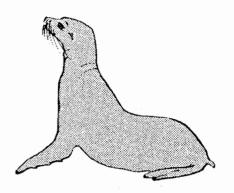
A RINGED SEAL (PUSA HISPIDA) STRANDING IN SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA. Merrill J. White, Jr.*, Hubbs/Sea World Research Institute, San Diego, California; Kent G. Osborn, Sea World, Inc., San Diego, California; John J. Burns, Alaska Department of Fish and Game, Fairbanks, Alaska.

This paper documents the stranding of a young female ringed seal (Pusa hispida) on January 12, 1976 in La Jolla, California. The animal was brought to Sea World for rehabilitation and survived for 136 days. Physical and behavioral evidence and post mortem findings contributing to the identification are described. Differentiation of this species from harbor seals (Phoca vitulina) is discussed. Ringed seals have a circumpolar distribution and this stranding appears to be the first record on the Pacific coast of North America, south of the Alaskan peninsula.





PROCEEDINGS (ABSTRACTS)

Second Conference On The Biology of Marine Mammals

> San Diego, California 12 — 15 December 1977