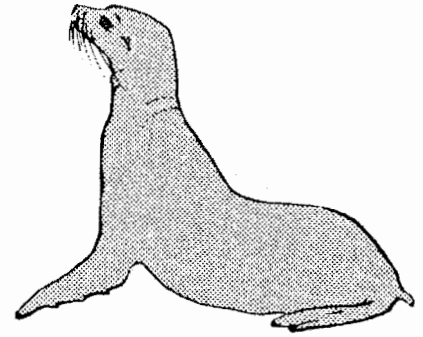
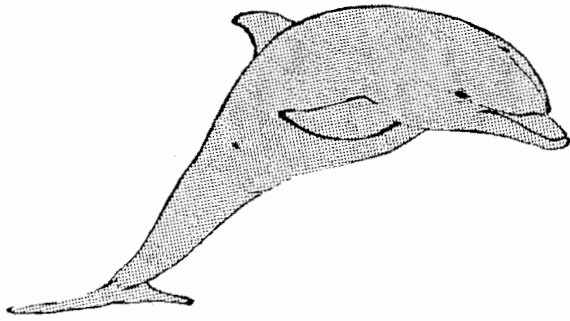


UNUSUAL SIGHTINGS OF MARINE MAMMALS IN THE GULF OF ALASKA.
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The Alaska Department of Fish and Game, marine mammals staff, has maintained records of marine mammals which have been sighted outside the normal range of the species. Unusual sightings have been recorded for the California sea lion (Zalophus californianus), the northern elephant seal (Mirounga angustirostris) and the belukha whale (Delphinapterus leucas).

The Zalophus sighting, apparently the first documented sighting in Alaska, probably represents an extremely rare occurrence. A total of three Mirounga sightings have been documented recently, considerable distances north and west of previous records.

A single sighting of 21 belukha whales was made in Yakutat Bay, 400 miles southeast of the nearest population. This could represent a previously unknown but normal movement, it could be considered an expansion of the Cook Inlet belukha stock, or it could have been an anomalous movement.



PROCEEDINGS
(ABSTRACTS)

Second Conference
On
The Biology of Marine Mammals

San Diego, California
12 – 15 December 1977