



MAKING SPACE FOR MARINE MAMMALS

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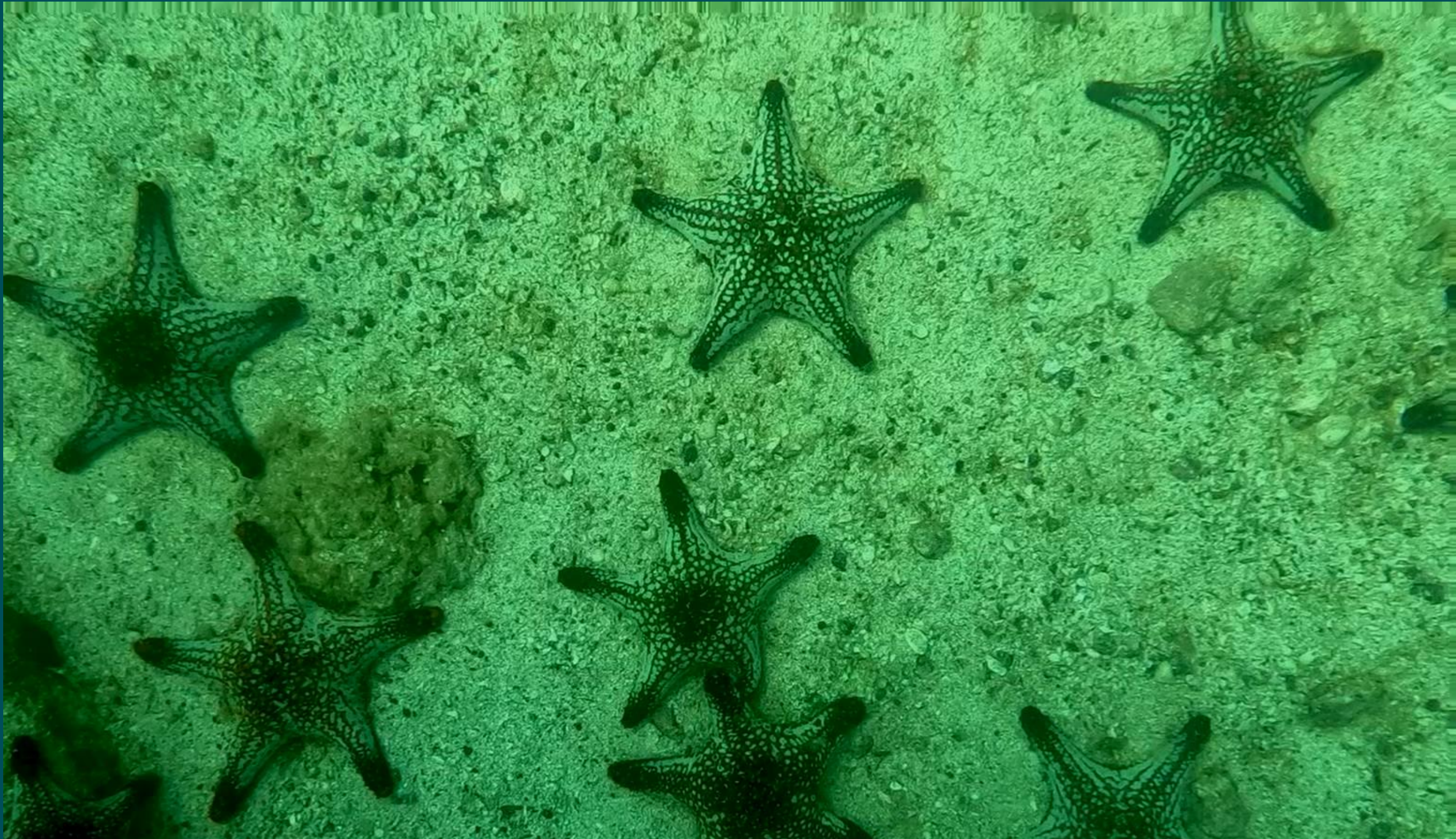
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MARINE PROTECTED AREAS



COMMON SPECIES



California sea lions



Northern elephant seals



Pacific harbor seals



Guadalupe fur seals



Northern fur seals



Dolphins



Whales

SHARE THE SHORES

Marine mammals
are federally protected

It is illegal to touch, harass or cause intentional harm to any marine mammal in the United States



@pacificmmc.org

SHARE THE SHORE

Guidelines for watching Marine Mammals

The West Coast provides many opportunities to observe seals and sea lions as they swim, rest, or tend to their young. For your safety and the animals' health, never approach or interact with a marine mammal.

- **Give animals space. Move away at the first sign of disturbance or agitation.**

Seals and sea lions on land are easily disturbed and may change position, move away, flee, trample or abandon pups. Animals may become stressed and repeated interruptions by you and others may be harmful to their health. Even if you don't see these reactions, keep yourself a safe distance to make sure you are not disrupting their behavior.

- **Be considerate of mothers and pups.**

Seals and sea lions come ashore to rest, regulate their body temperature, and nurse their young. It is normal for mothers to leave pups behind while they are feeding offshore (up to 24 hours). Keep your distance so mom can return to care for her pup.

- **Keep pets away and on a leash.**

Pets can disturb or harm wildlife, or may separate mothers from their pups. These are wild animals that can injure or spread disease to pets and humans.

- **For your safety and the health of the animals, we recommend staying 100 yards away from all marine mammals on shore.**

If you see a dead, injured or stranded marine mammal call
(866) 767-6114

You will be asked to provide the location and a description of the animal.

For information on regulations for boaters: www.bewhalewise.org
For more information: <http://bit.ly/SharetheShore>
Front panel photos, NOAA: from top, California sea lion, Kristin Wilkinson;
Pacific harbor seal, Dave Wilthow; northern fur seal, Kristin Wilkinson

SHARE^{THE} SHORE

with Seals
& Sea Lions



Watch marine mammals in a safe, responsible way.

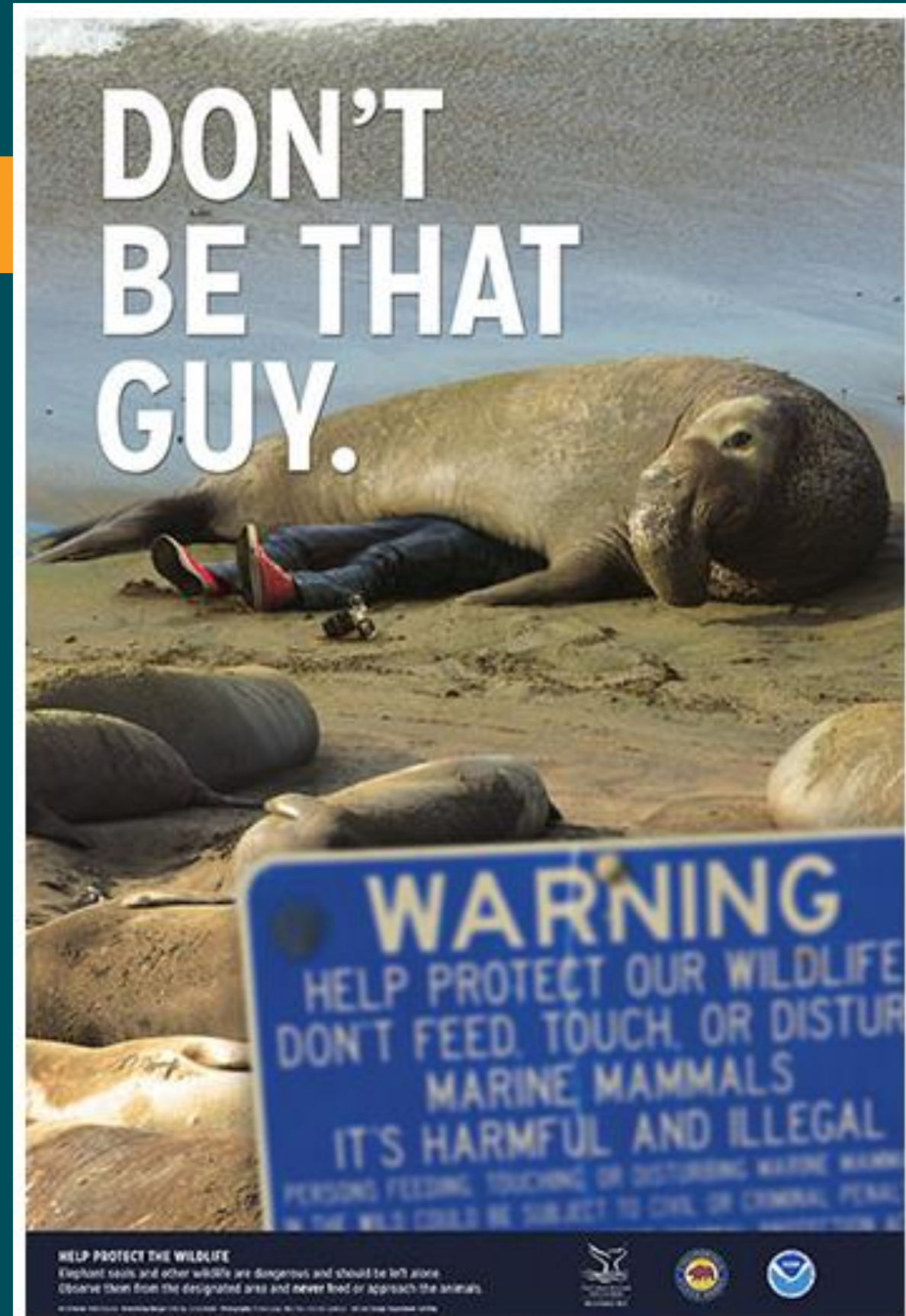
- 1** Sea lions and seals are protected by federal law.
- 2** It's illegal to disturb them or to do anything that might make them change their behavior.
- 3** Enjoy watching them in a safe, responsible way.



<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/resource/outreach-materials/share-shore-seals-and-sea-lions>

SHARE THE SHORES

It's normal for me to be onshore.
I don't need to go swimming.
I'm resting and need my space.
I'm not a selfie prop!
Please stay back at least 100 feet.



Getting too close can be dangerous for you and animals. For everyone's safety, think twice before approaching a wild animal. Credit: California Polytechnic State University San Luis Obispo. View larger version

SHARE THE SHORES

How close is too close?

If the animal is staring...

I am **alert**, please be cautious and don't come any closer.

If the animal is fidgeting...

I am **disturbed** it's time for you to back away slowly.

Too late!

I do not feel safe with you this close, you've forced me to flee.

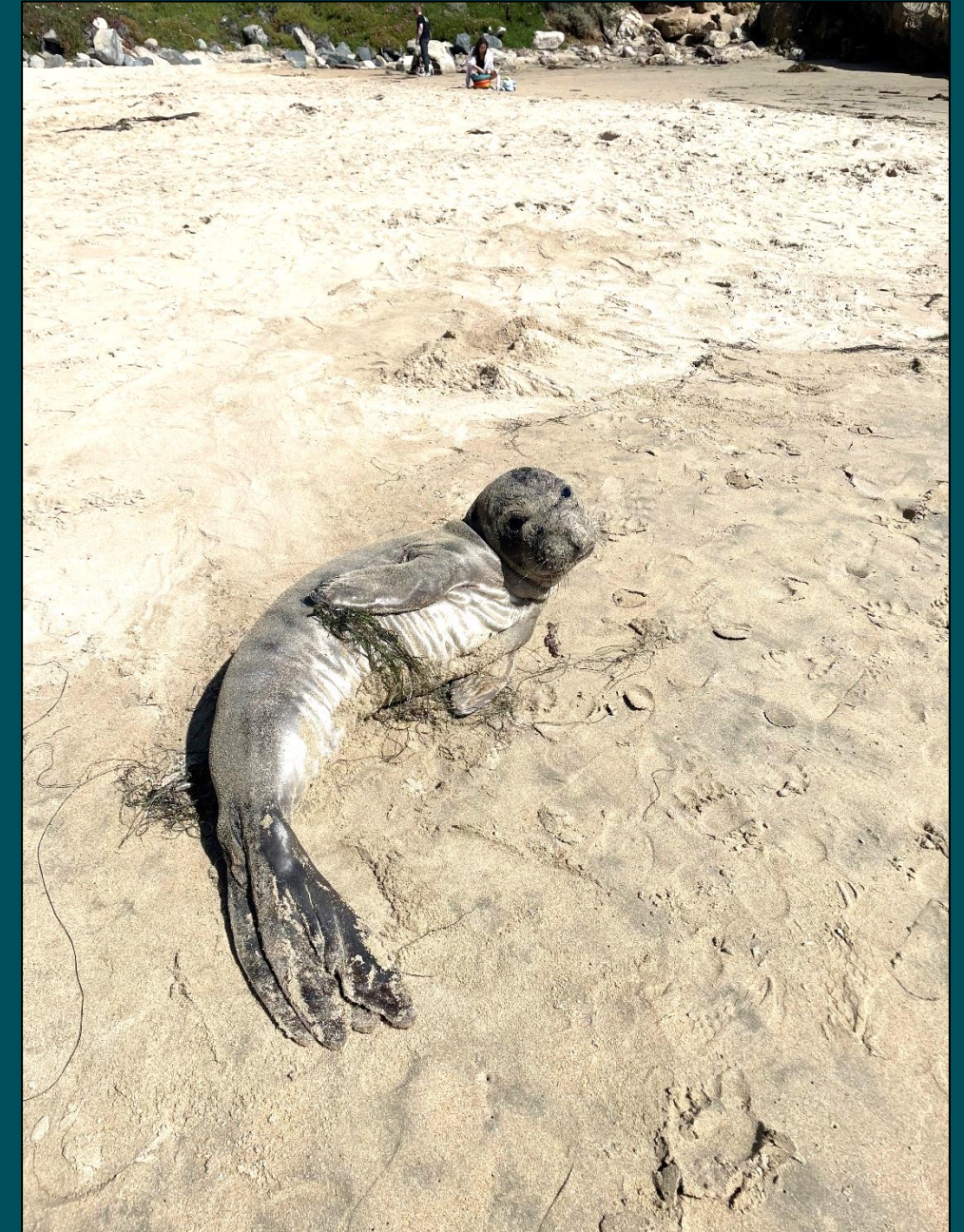
If the animal is fleeing...



NOAA
FISHERIES



DOES THAT ANIMAL NEED HELP?



WHAT TO DO



Stay back!

Contact your local marine mammal
rehabilitation center

Text picture of animal & location

Describe condition of animal

STAY BACK



50 yards from marine mammals



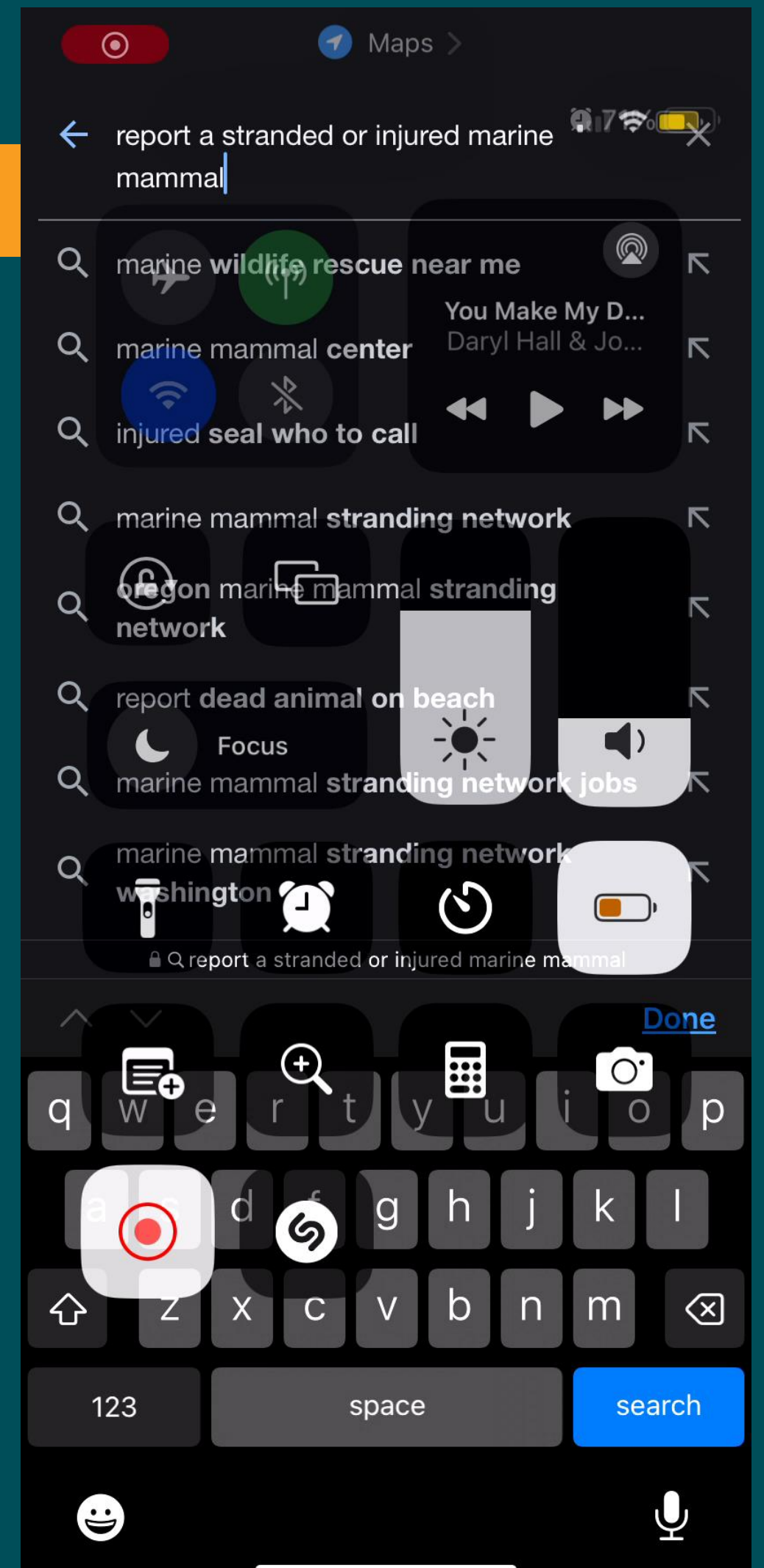
Keep pets leashed and away

WHO TO CONTACT

National Marine Mammal Stranding Response Network

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/report>

@pacificmmc.org

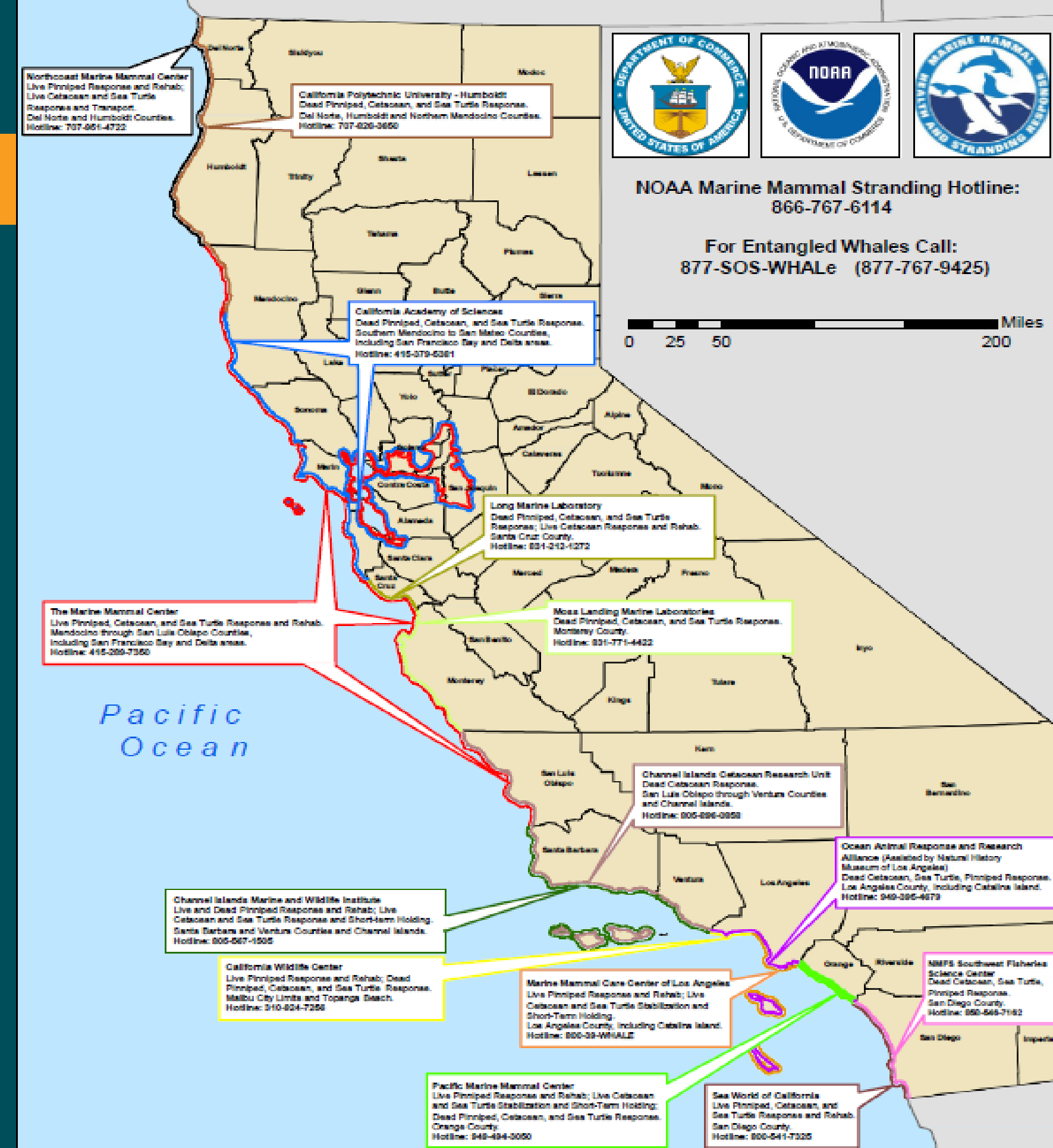


WHO TO CONTACT

West Coast Region Stranding Hotline
1-866-767-6114

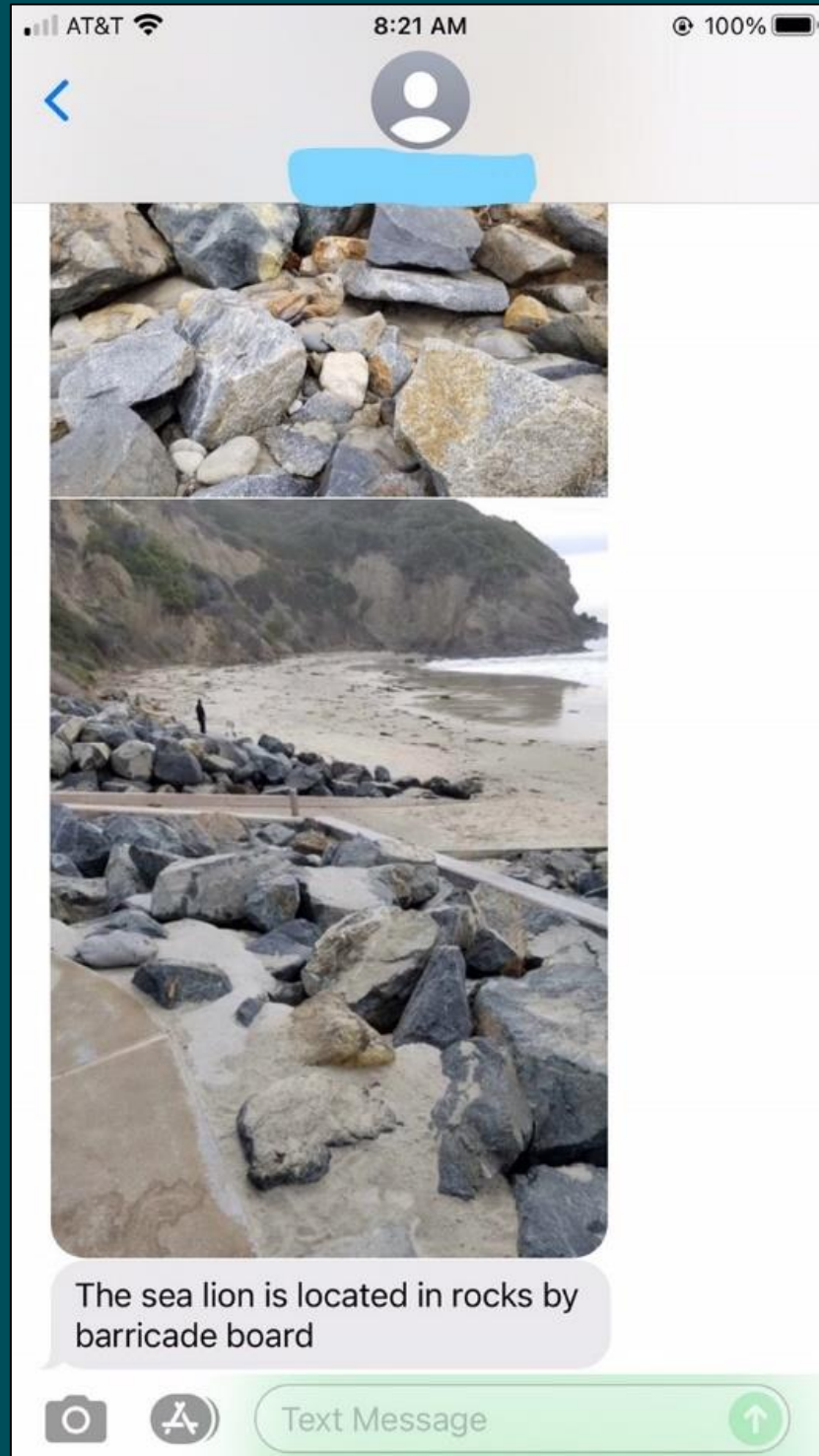
Orange County
Pacific Marine Mammal Center
949-494-3050

@pacificmmc.org



<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/s3/2023-04/stranding-network-california-2023.pdf>

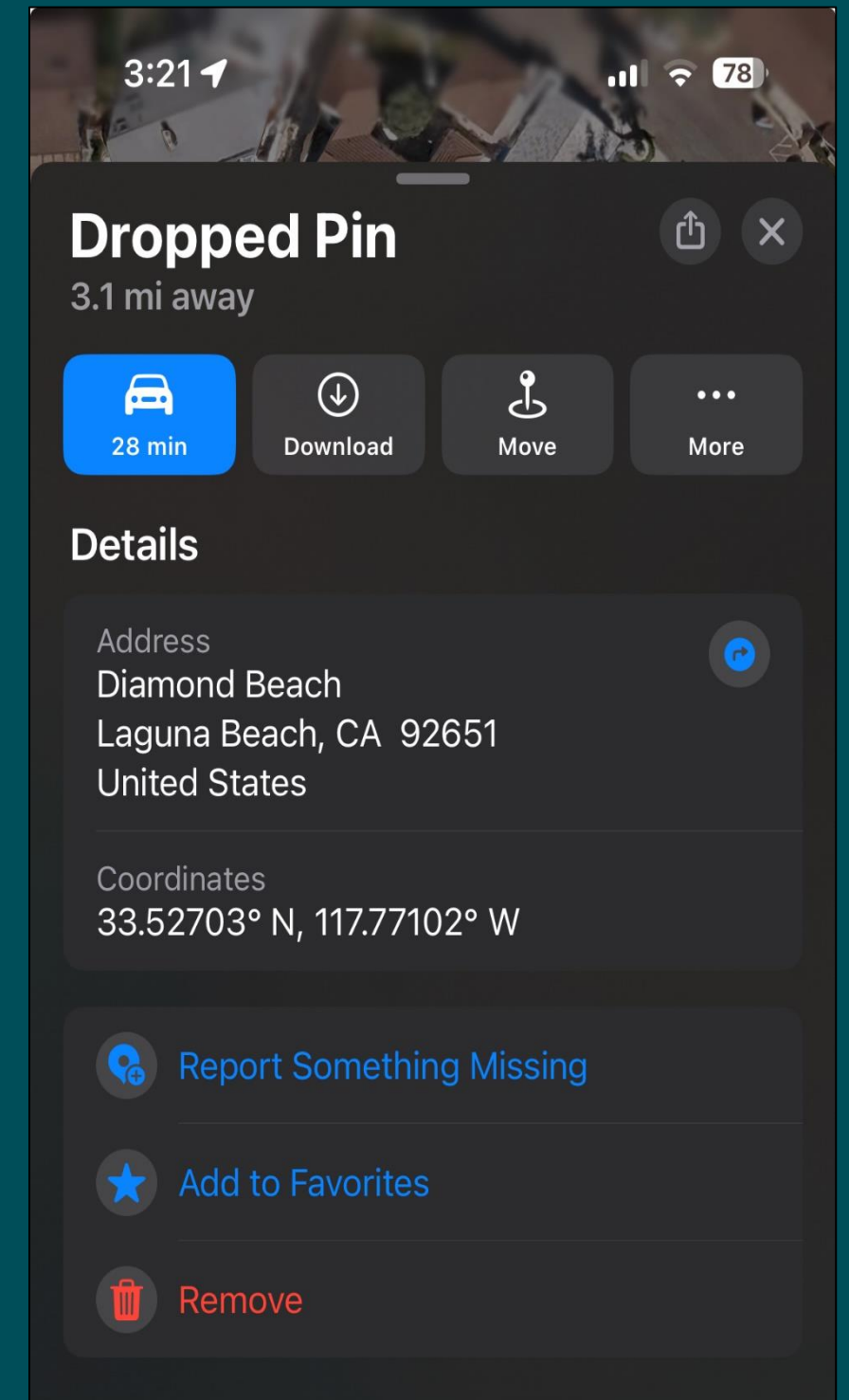
PICTURES AND LOCATION



Take pictures at safe distance

Videos can also be helpful

Drop a pin of your location



WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR



Any obvious injuries

Fishing line or hooks
--NEVER REMOVE--

Body condition

Tags, Farrell marks, or grease
markings



WHAT TO LOOK OUT FOR



RESCUES



WHAT TO DO



Stay back!

Contact your local marine mammal
rehabilitation center

Text picture of animal & location

Describe condition of animal

DECEASED MARINE MAMMALS



Please still contact us!

We report all deceased marine mammals
in national database

Photos & GPS coordinates

Necropsies for fresh animals

RESCUE TO REHAB

All patients receive an admit exam, then next steps are determined

If you would like to be involved, visit us at [pacificmmc.org](https://www.pacificmmc.org)

TMMC will now share about the rehabilitation process and large whale responses

