

EDUCATION & RESEARCH

CIMWI is committed to promoting positive change by increasing public awareness of the plight of marine mammals and the impact humans have on the environment. CIMWI provides education and support to local communities, schools, agencies, organizations, veterinarians and researchers. CIMWI also conducts and participates in research studies on the causes of illness and injury to marine mammals.



Blue Whale Necropsy

FACILITY

CIMWI is located at the historic Vista Del Mar Union School campus on the Gaviota coast. The grounds have outdoor rehabilitation enclosures and pools, while the indoor facilities include a Hospital/Quarantine Room, Laboratory/Pharmacy, Fish Kitchen and Surgery/Treatment Room with plans for future research facilities, administrative offices and education space. The combination of classrooms, support buildings and outdoor areas provides ample space for a world-class marine mammal institute.



CIMWI Hospital/Quarantine

HOW YOU CAN HELP

CIMWI's trained and experienced marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation teams provide timely response and quality animal care for stranded marine mammals. In order to maintain CIMWI's commitment to high-quality response and animal care, the support of the local community is critical.

There are many ways you can help!

Volunteer

CIMWI is an all-volunteer organization with people from Santa Barbara and Ventura counties. Volunteers are critical to all aspects of CIMWI; they actively participate in rescues, rehabilitation, education, administration, fundraising and facility maintenance.

Donate

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, CIMWI relies on external financial support to sustain day-to-day operations and advance its mission. Private donations, grants and corporate contributions are critical to CIMWI's continued operation and growth. Donations of any amount help make a difference.

If you are interested in donating or volunteering, please call (805) 567-1506 or email info@CIMWI.org.



PO Box 4250, Santa Barbara, CA 93140
(805) 567-1506 www.CIMWI.org

Rescue Hotline (805) 567-1505

CIMWI is a member of the Marine Mammal Health and Stranding Response Program which is under the direction of NOAA's National Marine Fisheries Service. CIMWI is also an active member of the Oiled Wildlife Care Network and the Large Whale Disentanglement Network.

Channel Islands Marine & Wildlife INSTITUTE



Giving marine mammals a second chance at life!

Channel Islands Marine & Wildlife Institute (CIMWI) is dedicated to positively impacting conservation through marine mammal rescue, rehabilitation, research and education to promote ocean and human health.

CIMWI serves Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.

RESCUE

CIMWI's core work is the rescue and rehabilitation of sick, injured, malnourished, displaced, orphaned, entangled and oiled marine mammals that strand in Santa Barbara and Ventura counties.



Reports of marine mammals in distress are managed through the CIMWI Rescue Hotline. Trained and experienced volunteers respond to the calls, evaluate the animals and help determine the best course of action. Many times, animals are just resting onshore and do not require any assistance. There are times when interfering with nature could make the situation worse for the animal. CIMWI personnel may determine it is best to put the animal under observation and monitor its condition. In all cases, volunteers at the stranding site provide information and education to the public. When a rescue is required, the animal is transported to CIMWI's rehabilitation facility for care.



REHABILITATION

CIMWI provides acute and long-term medical care. Licensed veterinarians are responsible for examination, evaluation and treatment of each patient throughout the rehabilitation process.



Dedicated volunteers provide daily supportive care for the marine mammals in rehabilitation at CIMWI. This includes assessing the patients, providing daily nutrition and medication for the animals, following treatment plans set by the veterinary team, assisting with medical procedures, documenting medical records and cleaning the rehabilitation and treatment facilities.



RETURN TO THE WILD

CIMWI's ultimate goal is to release rehabilitated marine mammals back to their natural habitat. A flipper tag is applied to these animals for identification and research purposes.



CIMWI's Chief Veterinarian authorizes all releases based on the animal's health and ability to successfully survive back in the wild. In order to facilitate successful re-introductions, CIMWI releases rehabilitated marine mammals in areas with populations of the same species. Releases are done at one of the Channel Islands or on local beaches with minimal human presence.

