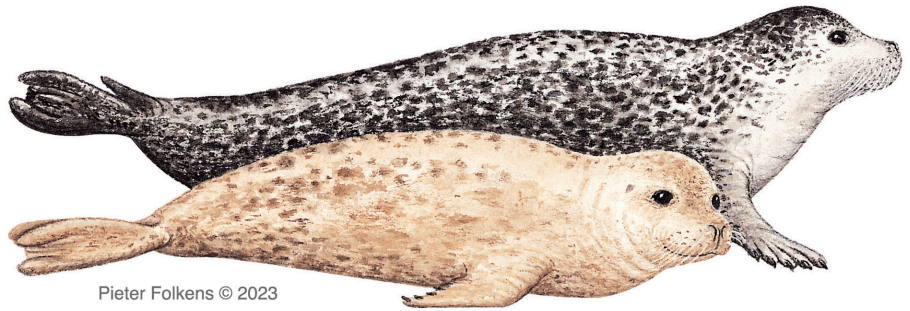


Pacific Harbor Seal

Phoca vitulina



- True seal (has ear holes)
- Coat color is light with dark spots or dark with light spots
- Have a short thick neck, a round head and a blunt snout with distinctive V-shaped nostrils
- Crawl on their bellies when they are on land; swim by moving their rear flippers from left to right
- Curious but shy animals and prefer quiet, unpopulated areas
- Coastal dwelling
- Pups are born December - June based on geographic location
- 12 - 15 pounds at birth
- 1 pup is born each year and nurses for 4 - 6 weeks
- Adult males are slightly larger than females
- Adult males and females weigh up to 300 pounds, have a straight length of up to 6 feet
- Go through a gradual molt mid - late summer
- Lifespan is 25 - 30 years
- Range in Pacific Ocean from Alaska to Baja California, Mexico
- Strand because of malnutrition, abandonment, trauma and communicable diseases as well as entanglement in fishing gear and marine debris
- Strand February - April in CIMWI's area of service
- CIMWI's 3rd most common patient