

## Alaska SeaLife Center Wildlife Response

### Report to Ice Seal Committee 2021

Even with the challenges we faced due to Covid-19 over the 2020 season, it was still a busy year. The ASLC marine animal stranding hotline (1-888-774-7325) fielded almost 400 calls, more than we had in 2019, and responded to 65 cases. Of those calls, 5 were ice seals.

When we get phone calls from the general public we work to communicate with local experts or authorities as part of determining an appropriate action which we coordinate with NOAA for approval before proceeding. One case was a pup found in March frozen to the ground near a snow machine trail in Kotzebue. It was cared for by a local biologist for a few days as it awaited air transport. It died the first night after being admitted to ASLC. Necropsy showed it had frostbite and sepsis. Three were young animals who returned to the water: a ringed seal in Nome and two spotted seals. An odd case we received came over a month after the actual observation, we were forwarded a short video of a bearded seal swimming near the docks in Anchorage. In all cases, we also work closely with researchers in order to further scientific understanding of the species.

Thank you to the members of the public, the stranding agreement holders, and invested parties who call our hotline.

Respectfully submitted

Jane Belovarac, BS, LVT  
Wildlife Response Curator  
Alaska SeaLife Center  
[janeb@alaskasealife.org](mailto:janeb@alaskasealife.org)

#### Rehab Alumni Summary Information

ID	Species	Sex	Stranding Location	Admit Date	Current Location
PL1001 'Amak'	Spotted Seal	M	King Salmon	12 Apr 10	Died 2020
PL1002 'Tunu'	Spotted Seal	M	Tununak	5 Apr 10	ASLC*
PL1401 'Sura'	Spotted Seal	F	Clark's Point	30 Apr 14	ASLC*
PL1501 'Kunik'	Spotted Seal	M	Nome	19 Jun 15	ASLC*
PL1601 'Siku'	Spotted Seal	F	Kotzebue	7 Apr 16	Mystic Aquarium
PL1901 'Nuna'	Spotted Seal	F	Stebbins	24 May 19	Mystic Aquarium
PH1101 'Nayak'	Ringed Seal	F	Nome	15 Jun 11	LML*
PH1502 'Pimniq'	Ringed Seal	M	Stebbins	17 Jul 15	ASLC*
PH1701 'Dutch'	Ringed Seal	F	Unalaska	3 Mar 17	ASLC*
PH1802 'Taku'	Ringed Seal	M	Unalaska	11 Mar 18	ASLC+
PH1804 'Spencer'	Ringed Seal	M	Unalaska	6 May 18	ASLC+
EB1901 'Saktuliq'	Bearded	F	Shaktoolik	13 Apr 19	LML*

\*On Colleen Reichmuth's, Long Marine Laboratory, NOAA Scientific Permit 18902

+On NOAA's MMPA/ESA Permit 18786-04