

# Fiscal Year 2020 **IMPACT REPORT**

October 2019 – September 2020

Guided and inspired by a shared vision of a healthy ocean for marine mammals and humans alike

## OUR MISSION

The Marine Mammal Center advances global ocean conservation through marine mammal rescue and rehabilitation, scientific research, and education.

## Inspired by a growing need

**The ocean is in trouble.** From the depletion of fish stocks to increasing ocean temperatures, human activity threatens marine ecosystems that are vital to the health of our ocean and all life on earth. The Marine Mammal Center is a critical first responder to these threats and a leader in the field of ocean conservation through our work in marine mammal rescue, science and education. Marine mammals are ecosystem indicators, and the health of these animals provides insights into human and ocean health threats. Together, we are taking action today to support a network of scientists and stewards to **protect our shared ocean environment** for future generations.

## Accomplished by a dedicated community

Thanks to support from people like you, the Center continued its core work as an essential business while prioritizing staff and volunteer safety during this unprecedented time. Throughout fiscal year 2020, approximately 1,070 volunteers recorded about **76,792 hours**, remotely and onsite, in service to the Center's mission.

## Made possible by supporters like you

More than **90 percent** of our funding comes from charitable gifts contributed by individuals, foundations and corporations. **None of this life-saving work is possible without people like you.**





# ADVANCING GLOBAL OCEAN CONSERVATION

## Reflections on growth and gratitude



Much has been put to the test, but thanks to this steadfast community, the Center was able to adapt, continuing its core work safely while pursuing innovative ways to connect, educate and inspire. Thank you.

**Cecily Majerus, M.A.**  
Chair of the Board of Directors



While we were farther away from one another this past year, I've never felt closer to you, our supporters. Your unwavering commitment to our mission fuels us and allows us to have high impact in spite of the challenges we face.

**Jeff Boehm, DVM, Dipl. ACAP**  
Chief Executive Officer



While this year was a challenge in many ways, your generous support ensured that marine mammals were responded to while we continued to prioritize safety for our staff and volunteers. Thank you from our team!

**Aliah Meza**  
Operations Manager, San Luis Obispo Operations



Your support is essential for our necropsies and research, because it advances our overall understanding and allows for future inquiry. Thank you so much for your contribution and giving us the ability to further our conservation work.

**Barbie Halaska**  
Necropsy Manager



Your contributions supported teachers and students by providing curriculum and virtual opportunities that brought science to life, helping them become ocean stewards. During a year when schools have been so affected, the impact of these programs is even more meaningful. Thank you for helping to make this possible!

**Jade Fugini-Laws**  
School Partners Coordinator



You enable a whole community of staff and volunteers to make a difference. We're able to rescue and heal marine mammals while sharing our scientific knowledge with the global community. Through that, generations of people, younger and older, locally and globally, are inspired by the unique story and mission of the Center. Thank you.

**Marc Lie**  
Animal Husbandry and Rescue Volunteer



# ANIMAL CARE

One of three areas of focus in our mission to advance global ocean conservation

The Marine Mammal Center **rescues and rehabilitates** sick and injured marine mammals at our state-of-the-art veterinary facilities by engaging a dedicated workforce and a supportive community.

## Highlights of our animal care impacts from October 2019 to September 2020, made possible by your support:



### Released four female Hawaiian monk seals

that researchers estimated had less than one percent chance of survival without help. After nearly a year rehabilitating at Ke Kai Ola, our hospital on the Big Island that's dedicated to conserving this endangered species, these four seals were successfully returned to the wild.



**Launched our whale entanglement response and prevention program**, participating in seven whale response missions with our partners.



### Disentangled and released 15 wild California sea lions

while collecting health data with partner researchers on San Miguel Island in Channel Islands National Park. Satellite telemetry tags we attached to the sea lions will help us better understand how to prevent entanglements in the first place.



**Supported partners from UC Santa Cruz's Long Marine Laboratory when they were evacuated during the 2020 wildfires** by transporting and housing their animals, which included a California sea lion, a ringed seal, a harbor seal and two bearded seals.

Photo by Colleen Reichmuth © Long Marine Lab / NOAA permit #18902

# SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

One of three areas of focus in our mission to advance global ocean conservation

The Marine Mammal Center **learns from the patients in our care** and **contributes to scientific understanding** of the changing health of our ocean, taking action to address ocean threats and save endangered species.

## Highlights of our scientific research impacts from October 2019 to September 2020, made possible by your support:

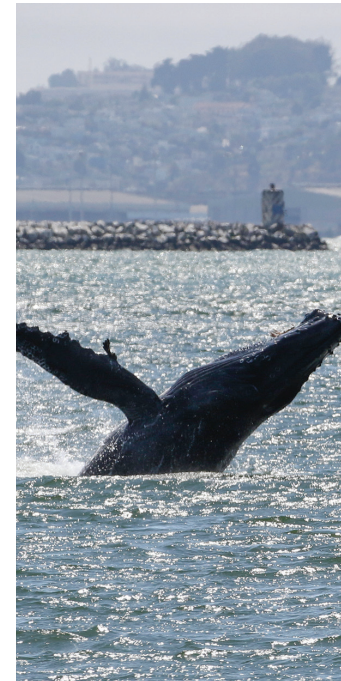


**Contributed 18 scientific research papers to peer-reviewed journals and presented scientific findings to global audiences at six conferences,** including the World Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals in Barcelona and the virtual International Association for Aquatic Animal Medicine conference.

**Trained our first Pathology Fellow** who, under the guidance of our Chief Pathologist Pádraig Duignan, DVM, Ph.D., added critical capacity to our necropsy activities that help us better understand why marine mammals strand and determine how these factors are connected to ecosystem and human health.



**Recruited more than 40 commercial fishers and 10 whale-watchers** to participate in our Dungeness Crab Fishery Solar Logger Project, and launched a series of vessel surveys with partner organizations to gather critical data on humpback whales and entanglement risk in the California Dungeness crab fishing grounds.



**Applied our extensive data on whale migration routes along the West Coast and expertise in cetacean necropsy work** related to vessel collisions to publish an op-ed in the San Francisco Chronicle highlighting the need for increased protections for migrating whales that frequent San Francisco Bay.



# EDUCATION

One of three areas of focus in our mission to advance global ocean conservation

The Marine Mammal Center **leads as a teaching hospital** by training veterinary professionals locally and internationally, and **inspiring future ocean stewards** through innovative school and public education programs.

## Highlights of our education impact from October 2019 to September 2020, made possible by your support:



**Engaged thousands of online visitors** through expanded virtual public programming and Online Learning Resources created by our award-winning educators to help people of all ages connect with and learn about marine mammal health, science and conservation.

**Created in-depth teacher guides** to advance STEM curriculum and complement “Sea Lions: Life by a Whisker,” a feature-length IMAX film showcasing the Center as a model for global marine mammal conservation while documenting the story of an Australian marine scientist who visits the Center to acquire new skill sets and knowledge to bring back home.



**Supported more than 5,000 middle school students in California and on Hawai'i Island** through our marine science and ocean conservation programs, Ocean Ambassadors and Nā Kōkua o ke Kai, by **supplying more than 60 teachers with resources to continue engaging and inspiring their students at a pivotal time in their development.**



**Shared our extensive knowledge** of climate and conservation communication strategy with the professional community by leading the National Network for Ocean and Climate Change Interpretation (NNOCCI) and the Climate Literacy Collaborative, and by becoming members in groups such as Zero Waste Marin, Pacific Ocean Aquafarms and the Global Ghost Gear Initiative.

# FINANCIAL SUMMARY

## Statement of Activities for the year ended September 30, 2020

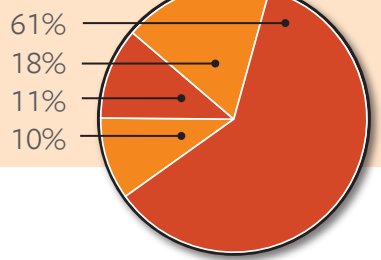
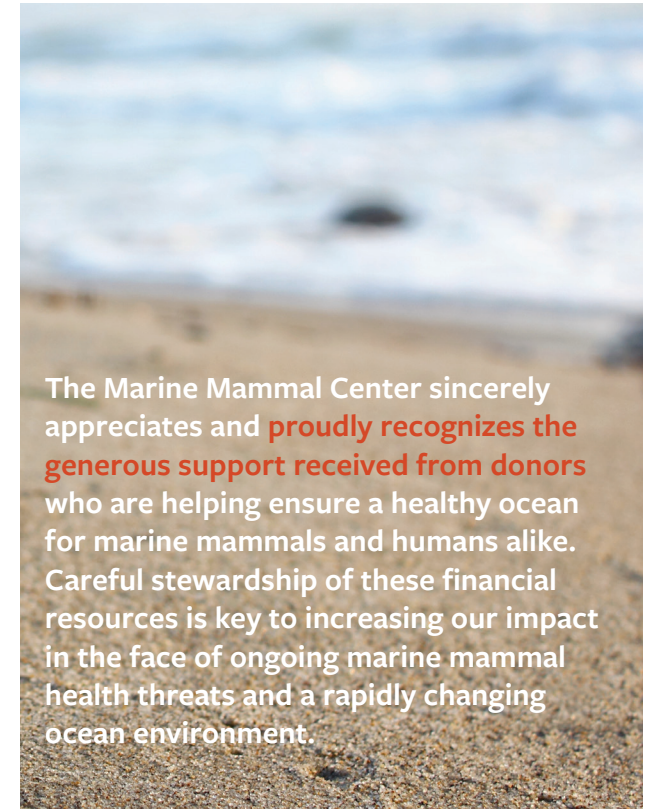
### Support and Revenue

Contributions and grants	\$8,631,883	45%
Bequests	\$5,709,405	30%
Paycheck Protection Program	\$1,281,291	7%
Return on investments, net	\$1,242,499	6%
Federal and state government service contracts	\$1,176,569	6%
Donated materials, services and equipment	\$663,354	3%
Other revenue	\$366,482	2%
Education program fees and retail revenue	\$182,350	1%
<b>Total Support and Revenue</b>	<b>\$19,253,833</b>	



### Expenses

Veterinary science programs	\$9,553,843	61%
Educational programs	\$2,775,750	18%
Management and general	\$1,719,088	11%
Fundraising	\$1,560,246	10%
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$15,608,927</b>	
<b>Change in Net Assets</b>	<b>\$3,644,906</b>	
Transfer to reserves	(\$3,644,906)	
<b>Net Impact</b>	<b>\$0</b>	

The Marine Mammal Center sincerely appreciates and **proudly recognizes the generous support received from donors** who are helping ensure a healthy ocean for marine mammals and humans alike. Careful stewardship of these financial resources is key to increasing our impact in the face of ongoing marine mammal health threats and a rapidly changing ocean environment.



# FINANCIAL SUMMARY Continued



## Statement of Financial Position as of September 30, 2020

### Assets

Cash and cash equivalents	\$1,220,385
Restricted cash	\$373,601
Investments	\$16,749,573
Accounts receivable	\$192,601
Contributions receivable	\$1,422,510
Prepaid expenses and other assets	\$301,616
Property and equipment, net	\$24,596,930
<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$44,857,216</b>

### Liabilities

Accounts payable and accrued expenses	\$1,114,690
Capital lease obligations	\$230,266
Deferred revenue	\$66,178
Notes payable	\$10,000
<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,421,134</b>

### Net Assets

Without donor restrictions	\$39,026,846
With donor restrictions	\$4,409,236
<b>Total Net Assets</b>	<b>\$43,436,082</b>

**Total Liabilities and Net Assets** **\$44,857,216**

Audited financial statements for fiscal year 2020 are available at The Marine Mammal Center's administrative office and on our website at [MarineMammalCenter.org](http://MarineMammalCenter.org).



THE MARINE MAMMAL CENTER

# Fiscal Year 2020

## OUR WORK

We rescue and rehabilitate sick and injured marine mammals at our state-of-the-art veterinary facilities by engaging a dedicated workforce and a supportive community.

We learn from the patients in our care and contribute to scientific understanding of the changing health of our ocean, taking action to address ocean threats and save endangered species.

We lead as a teaching hospital by training veterinary professionals locally and internationally, and inspiring future ocean stewards through innovative school and public education programs.

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The Marine  
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