

# Guadalupe Fur Seal

*Arctocephalus townsendi*



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- Eared seal (has external ear flaps)
- Coat color is dark brown to black; adult males have tan or yellow hairs on the back of their mane; fur extends the length of their flipper past their wrist which is referred to as “long sleeves”
- Have a flat head with a long pointed snout
- Walk on all four flippers on land; swim by using front flippers as oars
- Solitary, non-social animals
- Pelagic (open ocean) dwelling
- Pups are born in June and July
- 10 - 12 pounds at birth
- 1 pup is born each year and nurses for 9 months
- Adult males are noticeably larger in size than females
- Males weigh up to 400 pounds, have a straight length of up to 7 feet
- Females weigh up to 110 pounds, have a straight length of up to 5 feet
- Not much information is available on when this species molts
- Lifespan is 13 years for males and 23 years for females
- Range is Mexico to California
- Strand because of malnutrition, trauma and communicable diseases as well as entanglement in fishing gear and marine debris also very sensitive to climate change
- Strand February - June
- Endangered Species Act listed as threatened and Marine Mammal Protection Act listed as depleted
- CIMWI rescues 1 - 4 Guadalupe fur seals each year