

# Steller Sea Lion

*Eumetopias jubata*



- Eared seal (has external ear flaps)
- Coat color is light tan to reddish brown
- Have a blunt face and a boxy, bear-like head
- Walk on all four flippers on land; swim by using front flippers as oars
- Spend most of their lives foraging at sea
- Pelagic (open ocean) dwelling
- Pups are born in May and June
- 35 - 50 pounds at birth
- 1 pup is born each year and nurses for 12 months
- Adult males are much larger than females and have a bulky build, thick neck and long coarse fur on the chest shoulders and back
- Males weigh up to 2,500 pounds, have a straight length of up to 11 feet
- Females weigh up to 1,000 pounds, have a straight length of up to 9 feet
- Pups molt their dark brown to black "lanugo" coat when they are born; at 4 - 6 months of age, pups molt to a lighter brown; older animals molt annually June through October
- Life span is 20 years for males and 30 years for females
- Range is the north Pacific Rim from Japan to central California
- Strand because of malnutrition, trauma and communicable diseases as well as entanglement in fishing gear and marine debris
- Stranding season in CIMWI's geographic range is unknown
- There are 2 distinct stocks of Steller sea lions – Western stock and Eastern stock which is the stock in CIMWI's area of service
- CIMWI has not rescued a Steller sea lion since its inception in 2006