

## DON'T TOUCH SEAL PUPS!



**I may look cute and irresistible, but  
IF YOU DISTURB ME, YOU WILL HARM ME -  
and risk your own health and safety.  
Besides, it's the LAW.**

*Marine mammals are protected under the  
federal Marine Mammal Protection Act.*

**It is a violation of this law to harass, touch,  
move, feed or kill ANY marine mammal.**

If you find a seal pup  
on the beach, its mother  
is likely feeding near by.

**Give the pup space -  
stay back 100 yards.**

If it is injured, is being  
harassed, or remains on  
the beach for over  
24 hours, report it to  
the number below.

**PLEASE**



**LEAVE ME ALONE!**



In Island, Skagit, & North  
Snohomish counties, CALL:  
1-866-ORCANET (672-2638)  
or 360-678-3765  
All other areas call:  
1-800-853-1964

[www.orcanetwork.org/strandings.html](http://www.orcanetwork.org/strandings.html)

## SEALS and SEA LIONS REST ON THE SHORE



Do not touch, feed, attempt to move, or pour water on animals that are hauled out on shore.

### SEAL PUPS

**Human encroachment can stress the pup and scare the mother away.**

**For your safety and the health of the pup, leave the pup alone.  
DO NOT TOUCH!**

Seal “pupping” occurs in June and July along the Strait of Juan de Fuca and San Juan Islands, and July through September in southern Puget Sound and Hood Canal.

Most pups are born at haul-out sites or rookeries, but a female may give birth anywhere there is easy access to the water’s edge.

Nursing pups remain with their mothers for four to six weeks and are then weaned to forage and survive on their own.

A nursing pup may triple its weight by the time it is weaned and uses its stored fat reserves as it learns to feed on its own.

Up to 50% of pups will not survive their first year.

Contributing factors to pup mortality are: premature birth, infection, disease, dehydration, starvation, or predation by wild predators or domestic dogs.

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