

# Periodic Status Review Steller Sea Lion

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# Periodic Status Review Process and Timeline

## Listing Process Guided by WAC 220-610-110

- Periodic Status Review is not a management document, but provides current information and recommendation on the status of the species.
- Final Periodic Status Review 5 years post delisting – last Steller Sea Lion in 2015, recommended delisting.
- February 2020 - solicit data and information from the public and work on initial draft.
- April 2021 - 90 public comment period on draft
- Listing “...solely on the basis of the biological status of the species being considered, based on the preponderance of scientific data available.”
- Final WAC guided step for a recovered species.



## *Eumetopias jubatus*

Length: 9-11 feet

Females up to 800 pounds;  
males up to 2500 pounds

Lifespan: 20-30 years



# Distribution and legal status

1993 – listed as threatened

1997 – division of Distinct Population Segments (DPS)

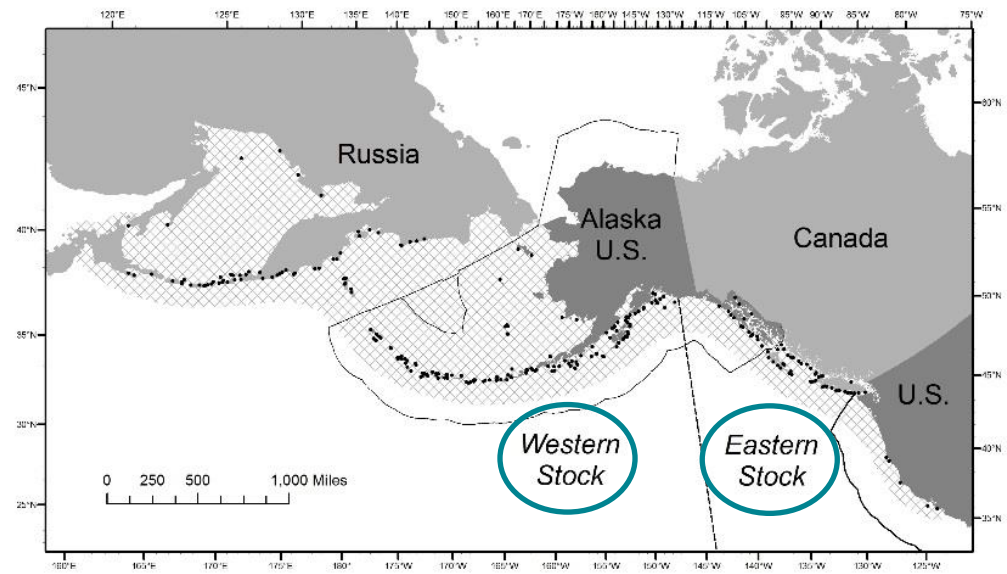
2013 – Eastern DPS federally delisted; delisted in WA in 2015

Current protections:

Marine Mammal Protection Act

“Protected wildlife” under WAC 220-200-100

Priority Habitats and Species (PHS) program



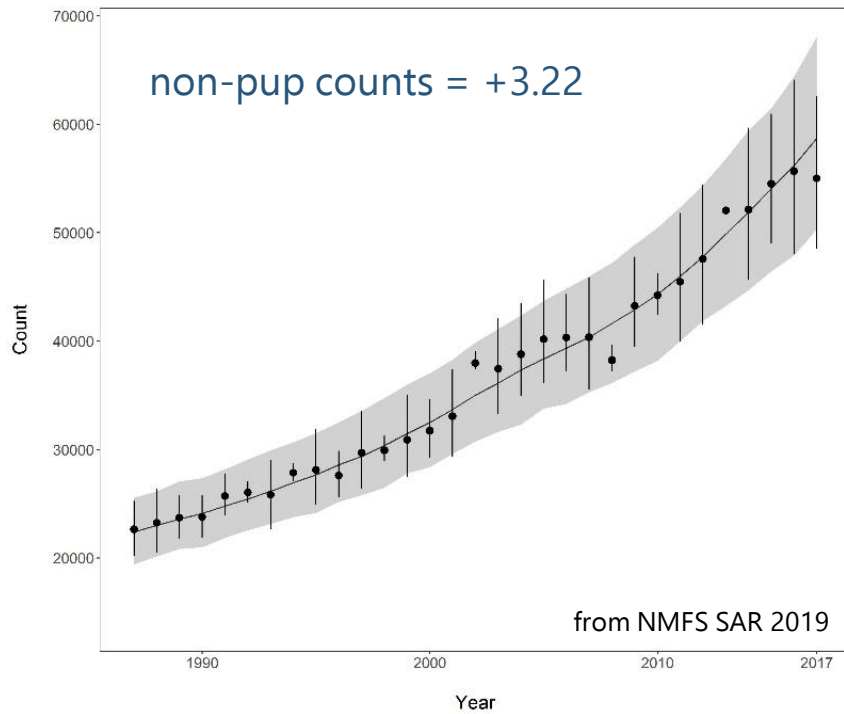
*E. jubatus jubatus*    *E. j. monteriensis*





# Population and habitat status

## Eastern DPS



## Washington State

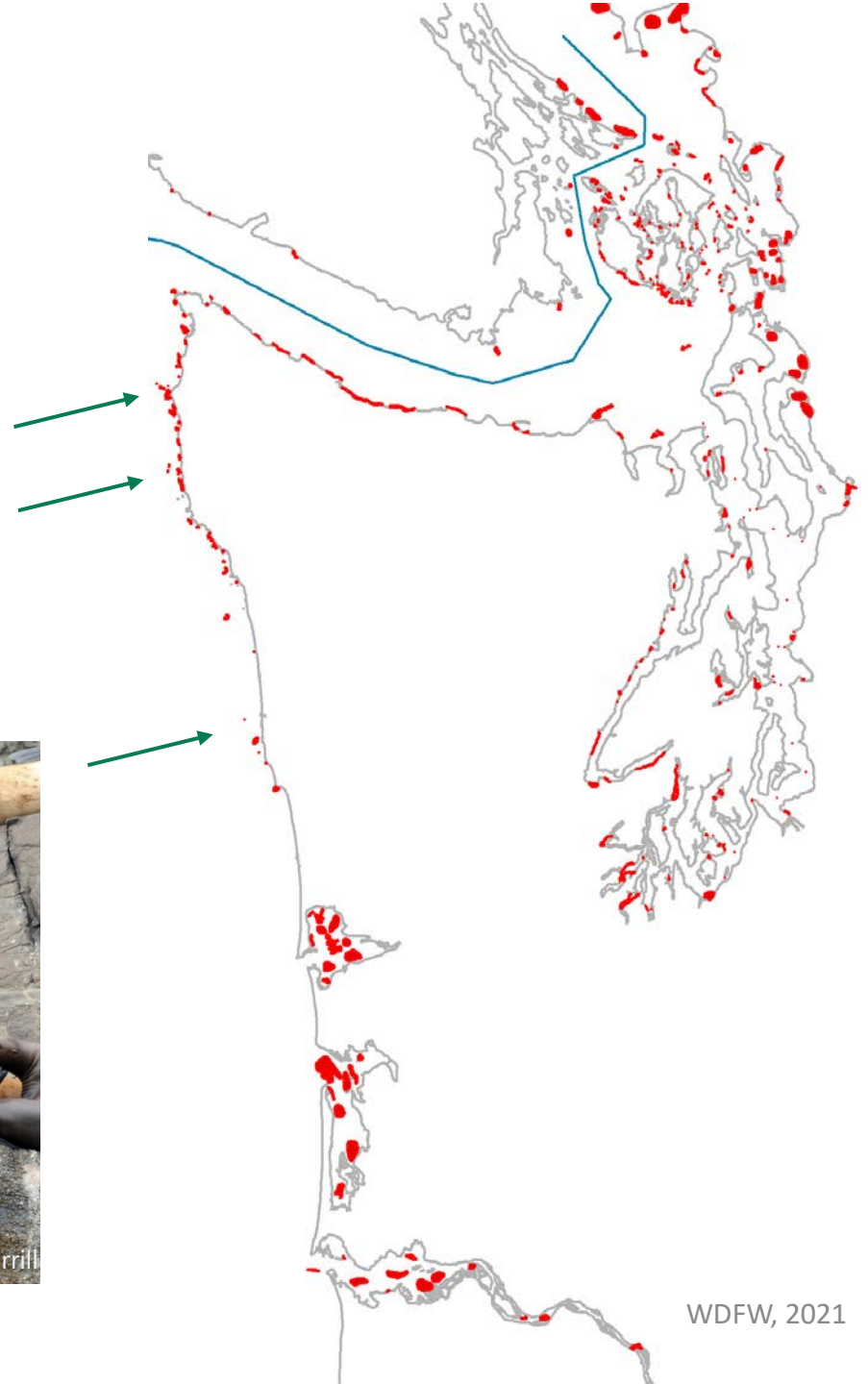
SAR non-pup counts = +9.12

Scordino and Allyn (2020) = +7.9

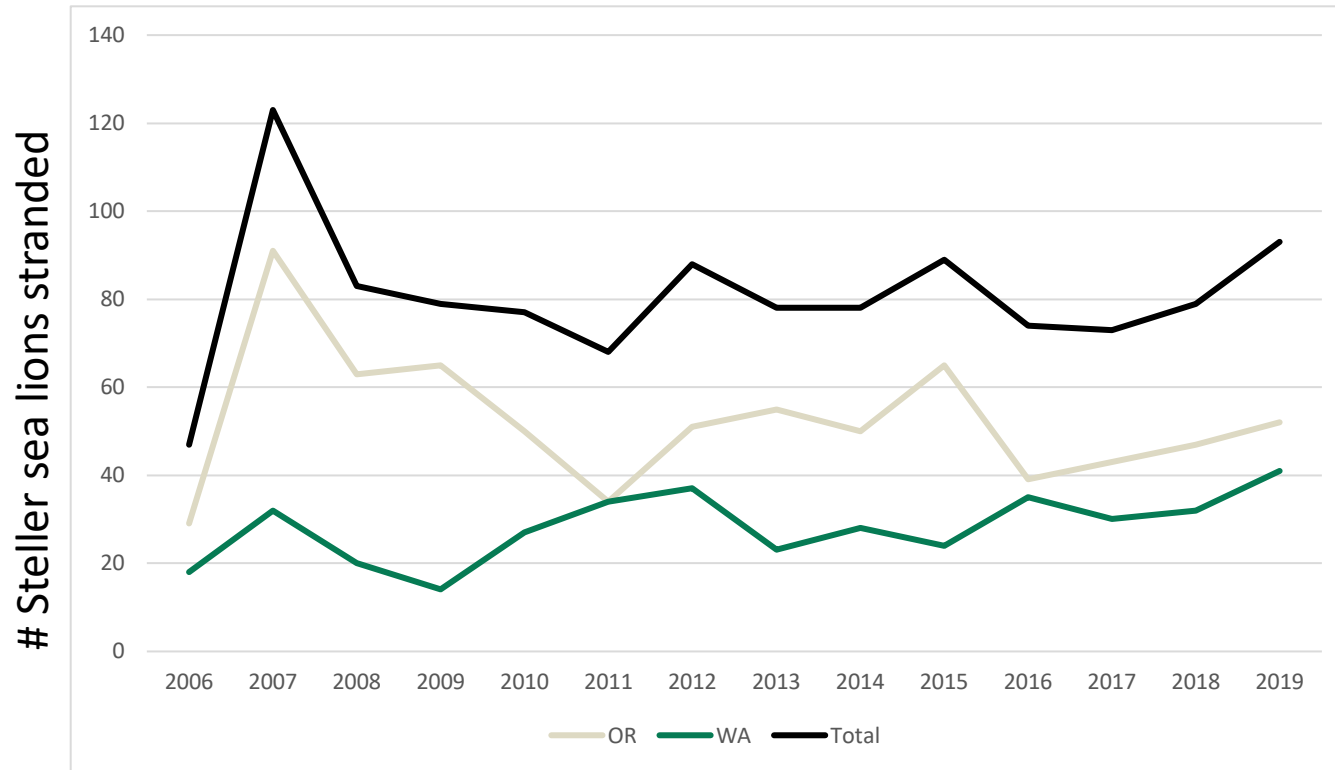
WA rookery complex



# Population and habitat status



# Factors affecting continued existence



NOAA, unpublished





# Factors affecting continued existence

A brown seal is resting on a rocky shore. The seal is the central focus, lying on its side on a large, dark rock. The background consists of a rocky coastline with dark, jagged rocks and a clear sky. The overall scene is a natural, coastal environment.

Human population:  
Entanglement  
Contaminants/spills

Climate change:

Disease, parasites, algal blooms  
Altered food web dynamics



# Management activities

Year	California Sea Lions			Steller Sea Lions	
	Bonneville Dam Salmonid Passage	Adjusted Salmonid Consumption Estimates	% Run	Adjusted Salmonid Consumption Estimates	% Run
2002	284,732	1,010	0.4%	0	0.0%
2003	217,934	2,329	1.1%	0	0.0%
2004	186,771	3,516	1.9%	7	0.0%
2005	81,252	2,904	3.5%	16	0.0%
2006	105,063	3,312	3.1%	85	0.1%
2007	88,474	4,340	4.7%	15	0.0%
2008	147,558	4,735	3.1%	192	0.1%
2009	186,056	4,353	2.3%	607	0.3%
2010	267,167	5,296	1.9%	1,025	0.4%
2011	223,380	2,689	1.2%	1,282	0.6%
2012	171,665	1,067	0.6%	1,293	0.7%
2013	120,619	1,497	1.2%	1,431	1.2%
2014	219,929	2,747	1.2%	1,874	0.8%
2015	239,326	8,324	3.3%	2,535	1.0%
2016	154,074	6,676	4.1%	2,849	1.7%
2017	109,040	2,142	1.9%	3,242	2.8%
2018	100,887	746	0.7%	2,368	2.3%
2019	63,591	176	0.3%	2,022	3.1%
2020*	47,074	373	0.8%	813	1.7%

from Tidwell et al. 2021





# Public comment

14 comments:

- 3 support
- 11 outside of scope

Recommendation:  
**MAINTAIN DELISTED STATUS**



# What it means to have a recovered Steller Sea Lion?



This is the final WAC driven Periodic Status Review

Still identified in WAC 220-200-100 as Protected Wildlife as are all Pinnipeds

New Status Report and listing process should the species warrant it in the future

