

Testimony prepared for the
Joint Committee on Fisheries and Aquaculture
Chair: Senator Mike McGuire

Dr. Jeff Boehm
April 28, 2016



California Marine Mammal Stranding Network

Northcoast Marine Mammal Center

The Marine Mammal Center

Live Animal Response & Rehabilitation

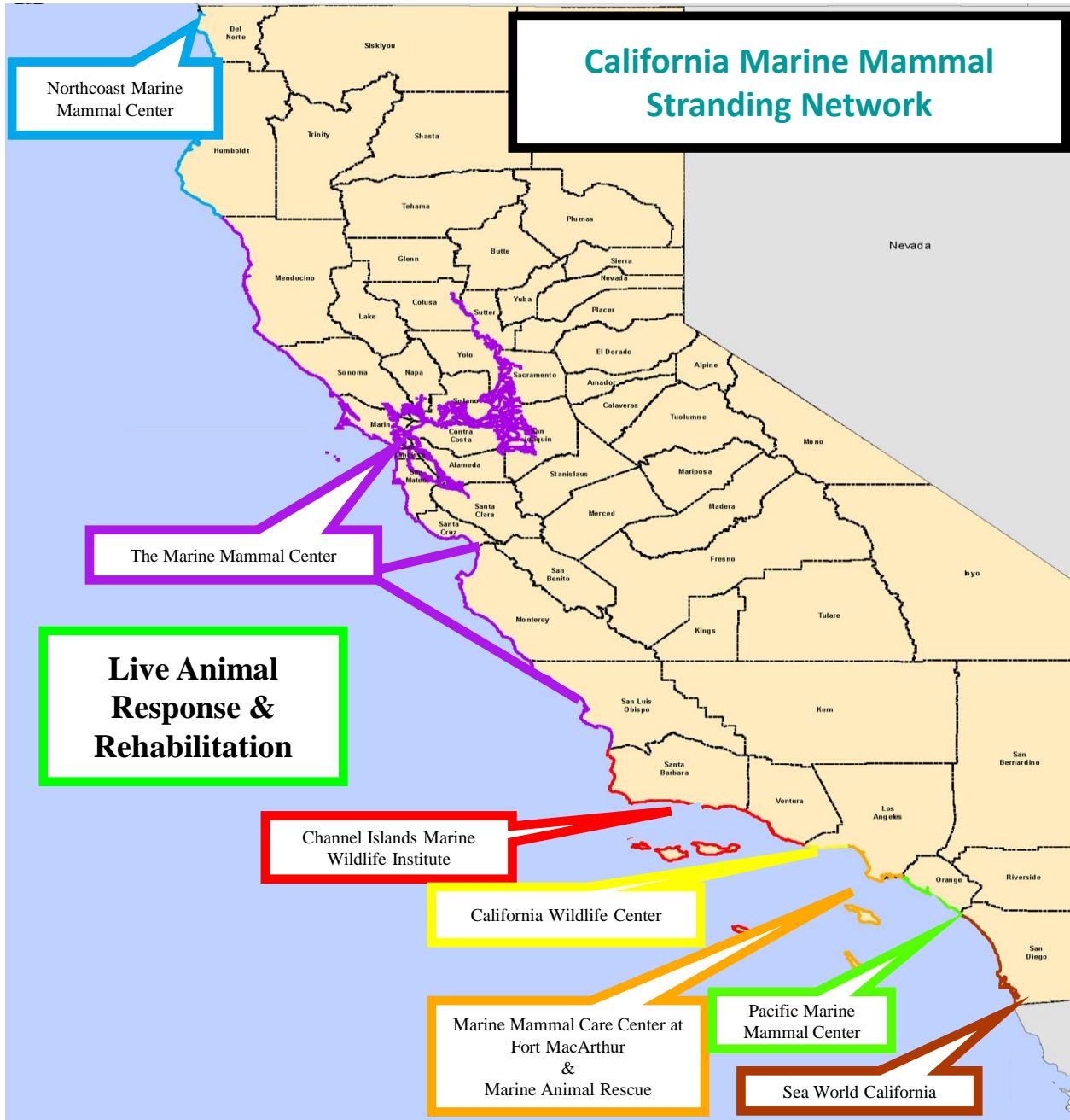
Channel Islands Marine Wildlife Institute

California Wildlife Center

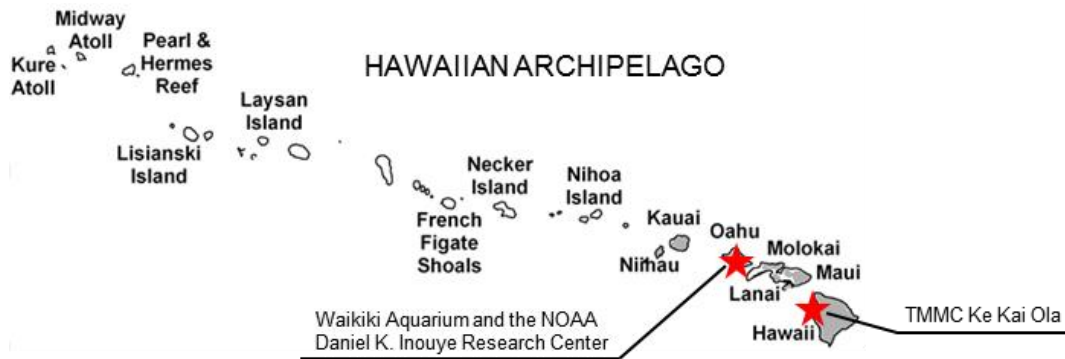
Marine Mammal Care Center at Fort MacArthur & Marine Animal Rescue

Pacific Marine Mammal Center

Sea World California



TMMC at work in California and Hawaii





...by the Numbers

- Founded in 1975
- 21,000 marine mammal patients treated
- 60-plus staff
- 1,200 volunteers
- 85% of funds from private sources



Medical Conditions



Malnutrition

Toxicity

Infection

Cancer

Entanglement

Maternal separation

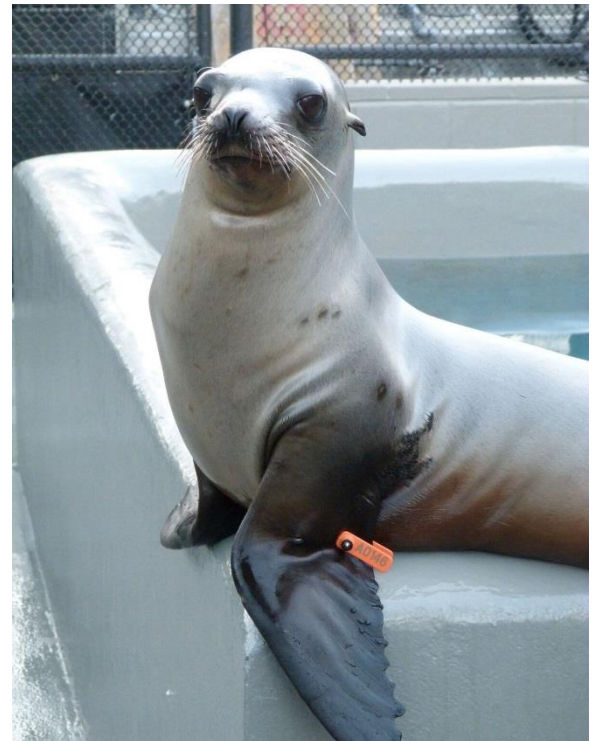
Gunshot/Shark bite

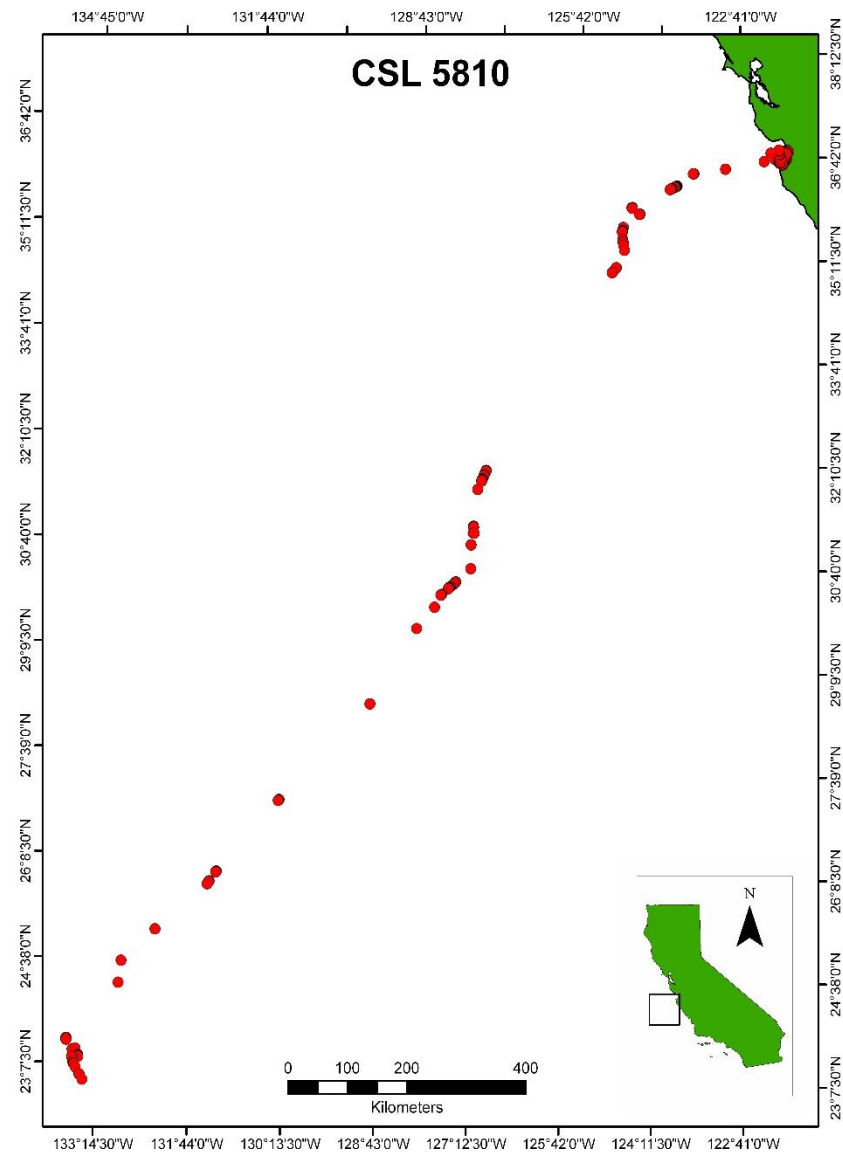
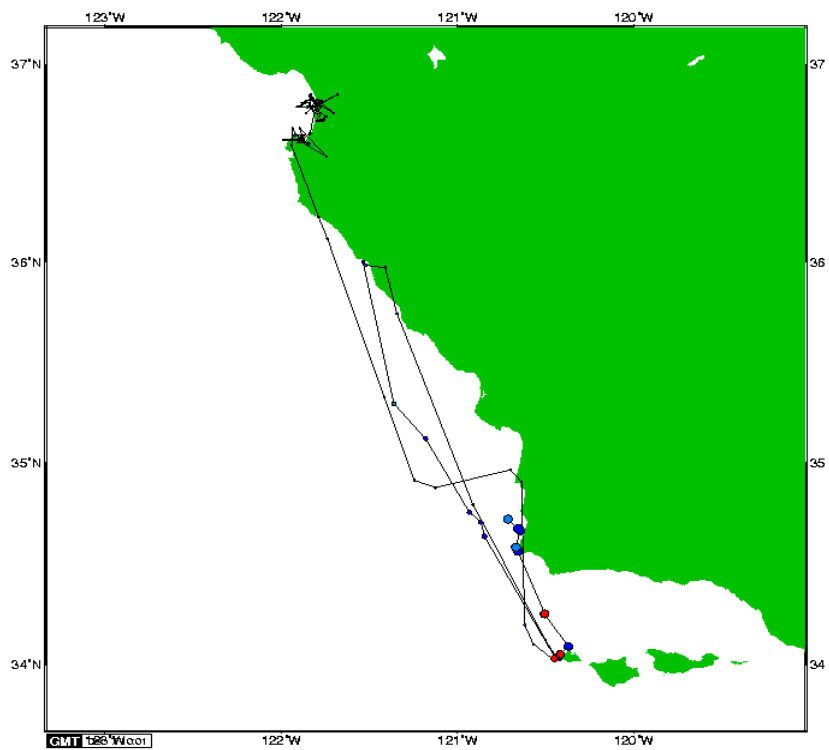


The Marine
Mammal Center™

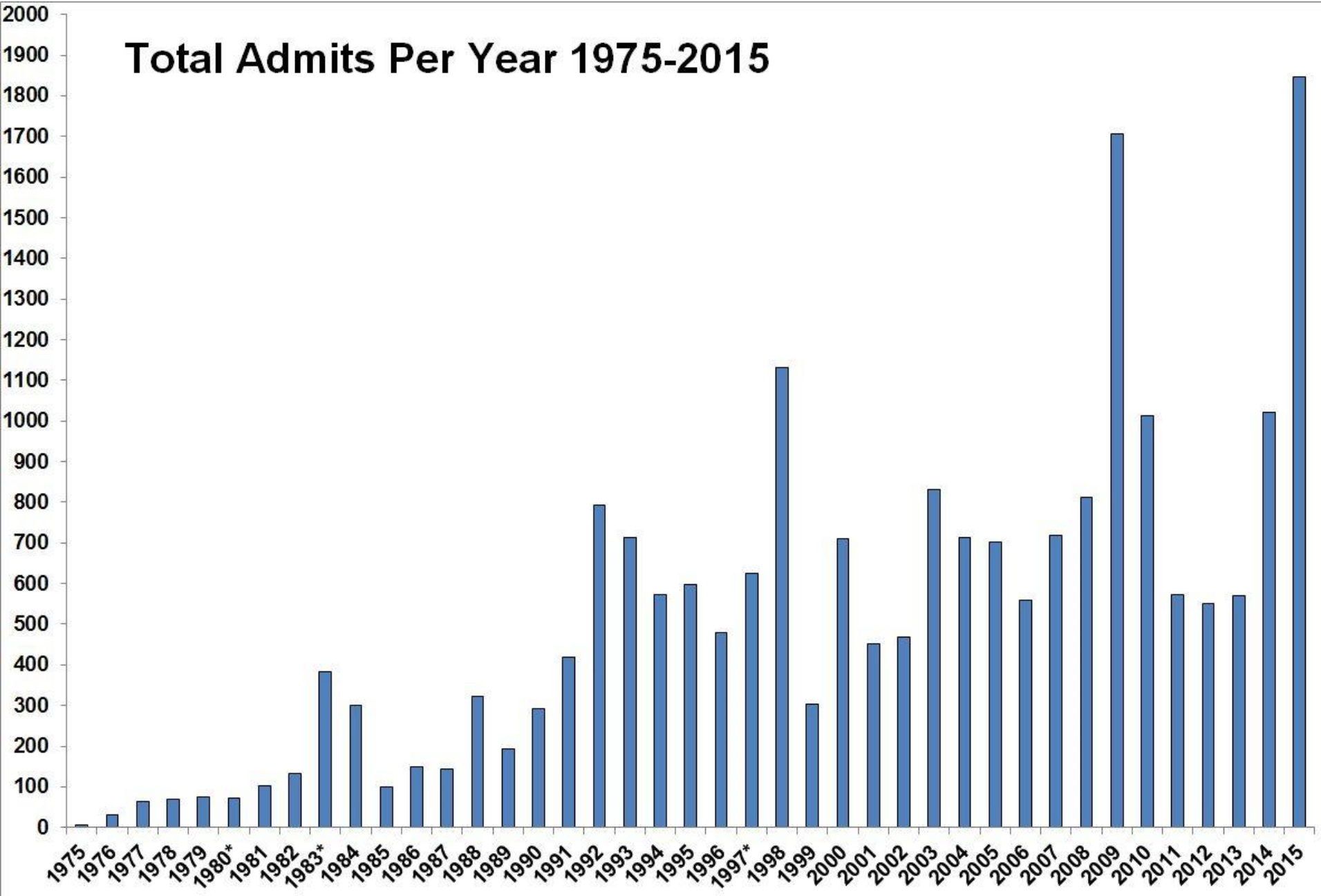
Domoic Acid and Marine Mammals

- 1998 – first diagnosed in stranded California sea lions admitted to The Marine Mammal Center
- Clinical signs: seizures, disorientation, coma, death
- Later recognized:
 - Other marine mammal species
 - Earlier cases suggested DA toxicosis
 - Chronic DA toxicosis as separate syndrome
- Sea lions with DA toxicosis are five times more likely in females



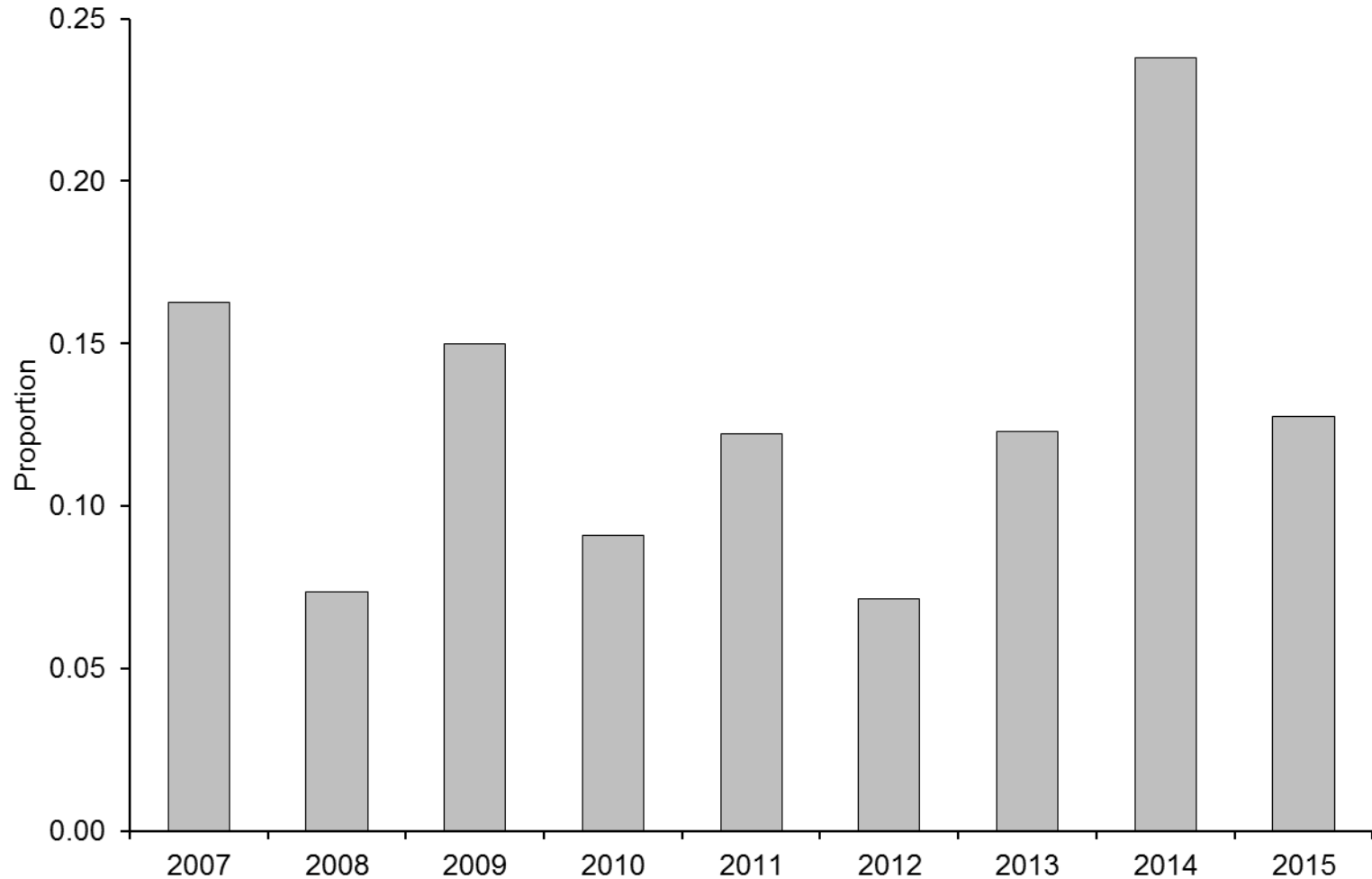


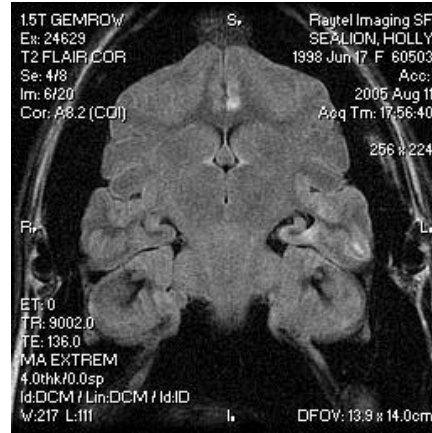
Total Admits Per Year 1975-2015



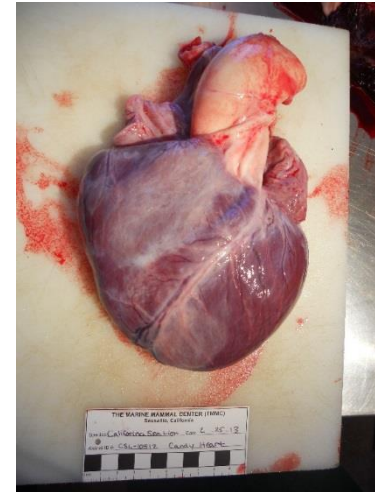
Domoic Acid Toxicosis, 2007-2015

DA toxicosis cases relative to total admissions





Neurologic pathology



Degenerative cardiomyopathy



Reproductive failure

Warning and Surveillance

Dept. of Public Health

Wildlife Algal-toxin Research
Response Network
(ARRN-West)



Questions

