



THE SEALS OF NAM

SAVE OUR SEA LIONS

Did you know the states of Washington, Oregon and Idaho are responsible for a seal hunt as barbaric as the commercial seal hunts of Namibia and Canada?

Despite legal protections afforded to California Sea Lions under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, hundreds of these gentle animals will be hazed, branded, shot and sold to zoos and marine parks each year.

They are fired upon with rubber bullets and stun grenades.

They are tortured by having white hot branding irons sear into their sensitive hides. The resulting blisters take months to heal while the onset of severe infections are not uncommon.

Branding has been listed by the ASPCA as an act of cruelty.

Any Sea Lion unfortunate enough to survive this excruciating agony is in effect marked for death row.

THE REASON?

Sea Lions are being unfairly blamed for a decline in fish stocks.

WHO IS PAYING FOR THIS?

The American tax payer is. Officials from the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife are paid between \$2038 and \$2113 per month to be part of the "hazing" crews.

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THE FACTS

Sea Lions are a natural part of the Columbia River system. They were recorded in the area by early explorers Lewis and Clark.

Sea Lions are NOT responsible for a decline in salmon stocks.

A series of large scale dams built along the Columbia River system are responsible for the loss of up to 75% of all salmon.

A scientific panel has determined that fish farms and hatcheries impede the recovery of both steelhead and salmon.

The US Environmental Protection Agency has found hazardous pollutants from industrial waste to be unacceptably high within the Columbia River system and toxic contamination poses a severe threat to fish, humans and wildlife.

Deliberately introduced invasive alien species such as walleye and bass compete with and prey upon the native salmon.

Recommendations from government scientists to stop stocking invasive aliens such as walleye and bass are largely ignored.

Commercial and recreational fishing operations take up to 17% of the salmon. This is considered by government to be negligible.

Studies show the sea lions only consume between 1-5% and therefore have no significant negative impact on salmon stocks.

WHAT CAN BE DONE ABOUT IT?

Unless we take a stand, this lethal take program will continue unabated until 2016. We therefore urge you to contact the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife by sending an e-mail to

odfw.info@state.or.us

FOR MORE INFORMATION VISIT OUR WEBSITE

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