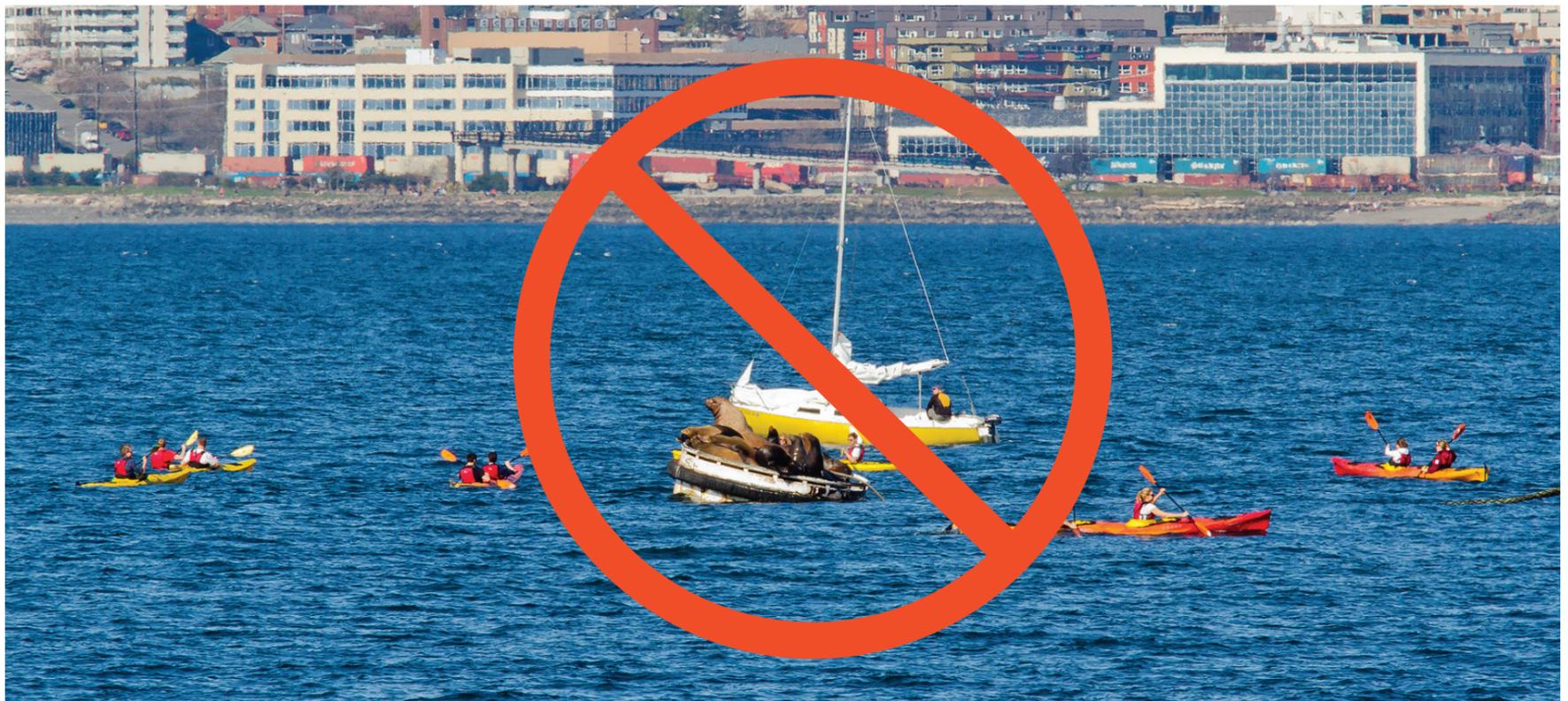


GIVE MARINE MAMMALS SPACE - STAY 100 YDS AWAY

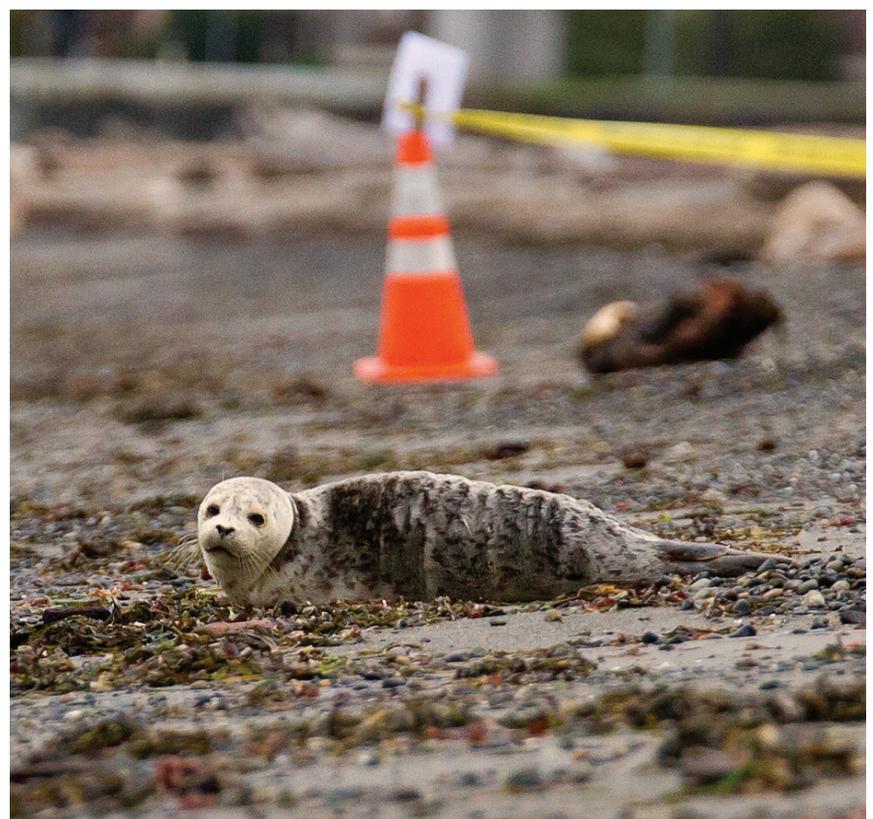


GUIDELINES FOR VIEWING SEALS AND SEA LIONS FROM WATERCRAFT

Marine mammals are protected by Federal Law, the Marine Mammal Protection Act

Seals and sea lions “haul out” of the water to rest and warm up. This uninterrupted rest is critical to their survival.

- **Stay 100 yards away** whenever possible from seals and sea lions on shore, docks or buoys. Observe quietly from a distance. **Do not disturb.**
- **Paddling close to a buoy or dock with resting animals is not only breaking the law, it is DANGEROUS.** Adult male California sea lions weigh up to 850 lbs and Steller “bulls” can weigh 2500 lbs. Both can be aggressive if aggravated.
- Be observant. **If you see orange cones and tape ON SHORE, please steer away.** It means that an animal is resting there - most likely, a seal pup. Pups are easily scared back into the water by the presence of a kayaker or paddleboarder.
- If a seal pup hops onto your kayak or board to take a rest, please remain in the general area. When you need to travel on, gently coax the pup to disembark - rocking the kayak is an effective and harmless means of encouragement.



To report a violation of the Marine Mammal Protection Act, call:
NOAA Office for Law Enforcement 1-800-853-1964

To learn more about marine wildlife guidelines including cetaceans, visit bewhalewise.org



For more information about seals, sea lions and NOAA's Northwest Marine Mammal Stranding Network, please visit Seal Sitters MMSN's websites: www.sealsitters.org and www.blubberblog.org

