

2013 California sea lion trapping at Bonneville Dam

April 16, 2013

One California sea lion was trapped and euthanized at Bonneville Dam today. A physical exam by ODFW veterinarians showed the presence of precancerous lesions* that made the animal ineligible for transfer to a zoo. The Queens Zoo in New York has offered to take up to two qualified California sea lions.

*Veterinarians estimate California sea lions with this condition have very short life-spans – about 1.5 years.

April 23, 2013

Two California sea lions were trapped today; neither was on the list for removal. Both animals were branded, fitted with GPS tags and released.

April 30, 2013

Nine California sea lions were trapped today. Six were branded and released. Three are on the list for removal and are undergoing health exams for possible transfer of up to two animals to the Queens Zoo in New York.

ODFW is working with a scientist from National Geographic to test a new remote release system for the group's "critter cams." Two steller sea lions have been fitted with video cameras using the remote release system. This will allow scientists to recover the cameras and view the footage.

May 3, 2013

Of the three California sea lions on the removal list that were trapped on April 30, two are being transferred to the Queen's Zoo in New York and one has been euthanized.

May 7, 2013

Nine California sea lions were trapped today. None were on the list for removal. Three were branded and released. Six were already branded and were released.

May 8, 2013

Two California sea lions, not on the list for removal, were trapped and released.