

ECOSONAR

Endangered Sea Turtles Released



Ryana the Green Sea Turtle and Mariana the Pacific Hawksbill turtle

Ryana, a Green Sea turtle and Mariana a Pacific Hawksbill turtle both came to the South Pacific Marine Mammal Center after becoming stranded on the coast. It is unusual for sea turtles to come to shore unless to breed (annually or biannually) and after a veterinary assessment including blood tests and X-

rays it was concluded that they had ingested plastic and this had caused severe inflammation which had disrupted their navigational skills. They were treated by a series of antibiotics and anti-inflammatory medication and the plastic was pumped out of their intestines. This is the first time sea turtles have

been successfully rehabilitated and released due to plastic poisoning in Peru and the news made it worldwide - including the BBC in England. Sea turtles are suffering from all kinds of human impacts such as pollution, global warming, a nutrient shift and a reduction in fish stocks as well as direct human impacts. Hawksbill turtles are listed as Critically Endangered since 1996 under the IUCN Red List of Threatened Species and the Green Sea turtles are listed as Endangered, showing the great importance of these successful rehabilitations. Both turtles were quite young (15, 25 respectively) for their species and have the potential to live up to at least 80 years in the wild. They've both been tagged so ORCA can monitor them if they're found again, hopefully tracking their successful lives!



Ryanas big release back into the ocean

More ORCA News

To celebrate World Oceans Day on June 8th, 500 students got involved with beach cleans on Peru's coastline, removing all damaging material for the oceans and the marine mammals that get tangled or poisoned by it. These beach clean ups help to raise awareness about the importance of recycling and correct waste disposal.

There has also been a significant change in ocean temperature linked to climate change and the

oncoming El Nino that has seen Long Beak Common Dolphins come back to the central coast as they enter new waters looking for the declining fish sources. This change of temperature has also brought with it the Blue Bottle Jelly Fish reported right on our doorstep in San Bartolo. This jellyfish can cause severe burns on contact with skin and health warnings are being issued along the coastline.

Fundraising News

ORCA is launching its first online fundraising campaign through the platform GoFundMe. This money is desperately needed in order to keep the South Pacific Marine Mammal Center, as a huge influx of patients in the last year has meant money has been focused on the patients and has left the center in desperate need to pay for the center. We are hoping more people will want to get involved and run their own fundraisers and generate their own donations to help but we will be asking for any help we can get for donations on this GoFundMe page. The South Pacific Marine Mammal center is the base for all ORCA Peru's rescues and where all rehabilitation occurs as well as

education of the public as it is open on weekends for people to come in. Any donations will help and all money will go towards securing the center and therefore the future of rehabilitation for marine wildlife in Peru.

Simple ways you can help:

- **Donate to the page!**
- **Spread the word** - share the page on all social media and with friends and family.
- **Adopt** a sea lion or other marine animal on our website!
- **Have your own fundraising campaign** - whether it's doing a 10k run or a bake sale, every little helps and we are always grateful.
- **Become an intern/volunteer** at the center!



The online campaign will be live soon and links to be posted on Facebook and our other social media sites.

Donations can be made directly at:
 Continental: 0011-0157-0200375828-57 (Soles)
 Continental CCI: 001-157-000200375828-57
 Interbank: 166-3039828012 (Dollars)
 Interbank CCI: 003-166-013039828012-68

World News



Minke Whale mother and calf being killed for "scientific research"
 Photo: Australian Customs and Border Protection

Japan has stated it will continue with its annual whale hunt despite the International Whaling Commission (IWC) demanding the country against progressing unless details of their "scientific research" were released. They have been unable to provide enough detail but have refused to let the IWC and the resounding number of organisations and people against it to let it alter their plans. Japan will begin the hunt again in December with their "lethal sampling" being no more than commercial hunting, leading to almost 4,000 Minke whales to be killed in Antarctic waters over the next 12 years. In the 1980s commercial whaling was banned but Japan has continued to use this loophole of stating it is for scientific research to continue hunting. ORCA have been backing petitions and campaigns to try to prevent more whaling before the season starts and it becomes too late for thousands of whales.

Every month we will be focusing on one of our "Sentinels of the ocean" and telling you a little more about them



July = Julia and Augusta the Southern Right Whales

July celebrates mother and baby Julia and Augusta, the endangered Southern Right whales (*Eubalaena australis*) who were first discovered on July 27th by the ORCA team. This was the most northern sighting ever recorded for this species, as they had travelled up from Antarctica where they feed in the nutrient rich waters. Southern Right whales can be identified due to their lack of dorsal fin on a broad back, a long arching mouth and the presence of white callosities on its head which is caused by cyamids (a form of whale lice). They have two blow holes and thus produce a distinctive V-shaped blow when they surface to breathe. Their thick layers of

blubber make it difficult for them to regulate their body temperature in tropical waters, which is why they are never normally found so north and more commonly off the coasts of Chile and Argentina. The National Geographic in 2008 estimated the whale population to be at 10,000, estimating to grow by 7% a year - however the last major review by the IWC was taken in 1998. Whaling of this species was banned in 1937 after populations were almost entirely depleted, however illegal whaling continued for several decades. However, sightings are becoming more common which is a good sign for this endangered species!



Follow ORCA Peru on all social media for regular news and pictures!

"Rescue, Education, Science and Conservation Protecting Marine Life in the Eastern South Pacific"

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