



Seymour Center presents lecture on marine mammals and conservation

SANTA CRUZ, CA—What are two Atlantic bottlenose dolphins, three Southern sea otters, and one endangered Hawaiian monk seal telling us about conservation of wild marine mammal populations around the world? Come dive into the world of marine ecosystem conservation and preservation with the Beau Richter, Head Trainer for UCSC's Marine Mammal Physiology Project in a public lecture at the Seymour Center at 1 p.m. this Sunday, November 21. Richter's talk "Marine Mammals and the Physiology Project," is part of the Science Sunday lecture series at the Seymour Center at Long Marine Laboratory. The event is free with paid admission or membership.

The Marine Mammal Physiology Project, under the direction of Dr. Terrie Williams, exercise physiologist and professor at UCSC, seeks to answer the important question of what it costs marine mammals to survive in the ocean. In other words, how much energy must these animals expend to accomplish their daily activities such as swimming, diving, foraging, and mating. Until scientists understand more about what marine animals need to survive in a changing environment, no progress can be made in protecting the resources they need to make a living in the ocean.

Richter will discuss how marine mammals are trained to voluntarily cooperate in the data collection process, what these projects are designed to investigate, what has been learned to date, and plans for the future. The ultimate goal with this research is to convert the knowledge gained into conservation of wild populations around the world.

Located in Santa Cruz on the bluffs overlooking Monterey Bay, the Seymour Center provides exciting and engaging ocean education programs for the visiting public and for students of all ages. It is dedicated to educating youth, families, and the general public about the role science plays in the understanding and conservation of the world's oceans. The Seymour Center is open six days a week, year-round, and serves more than 60,000 people each year.

WHAT:	Science Sunday at the Seymour Center -- Marine Mammals: The Physiology Project, Converting Science into Conservation of Wild Populations Around the World
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FEATURING:	Beau Richter, Head Trainer, The Marine Mammal Physiology Project, Long Marine Lab – University of California, Santa Cruz
WHEN:	Sunday, November 21, 2010, 1:00 PM
WHERE:	Seymour Center at Long Marine Lab La Feliz Room End of Delaware Ave. Santa Cruz, CA 95060
ADMISSION:	Free with admission to the Seymour Center (\$6 Adults / \$4 Students or Seniors) Free for Seymour Center Members and UC Santa Cruz undergraduates
INFORMATION:	(831) 459-3800 or http://seymourcenter.ucsc.edu