



International News

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Seal Appeal

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Climate Change

Thanks to the financial encouragement of the EC, and a thaw in frosty relations between Aegean neighbours, cooperation between NGOs in Turkey and Greece is at last beginning to take hold, leading to better monk seal conservation practices in both countries. [Full story](#)

“Dakhla Declaration” envisages MPA for Coast of Seals

From 12-15 October, the third meeting of the Working Group coordinating the Monk Seal Action Plan in the Eastern Atlantic was held in Dakhla. The representatives of the range states approved the technical document of the Plan and formulated a document known as the “Dakhla Declaration”, calling for international support for Morocco's initiative to create a Marine Protected Area at the Coast of Seals. [Full story](#).

Book focus on Hawaiian, Caribbean monk seals

Veteran monk seal conservationists Prof. Keith Ronald (the convener of the landmark 1978 Rhodes International Conference) and Barra L. Gotts are the authors of a book section on Phocidae, Otariidae, and Odobenidae in a recent Wild Mammals of North America publication.

The section includes chapters on the Hawaiian and Caribbean Seal, covering distribution, habitat, feeding habits, behaviour and mortality. It also includes an extensive subsection on seal management including:

- historical background
- international agreements
- international convention protocols
- management policy and application
- population and stock assessment
- fisheries management plans
- international management
- research and management needs

- urbanization and exploration
- drilling and spills
- underwater acoustic effects

Ronald, K. and B.L. Gotts. 2003. Seals. Phocidae, Otariidae, and Odobenidae pages 789-864 *in* Feldhamer, G.A., Thompson, B.C. and Chapman, J.A. (Eds.) *Wild mammals of North America*. The Johns Hopkins University Press, Baltimore and London: 1-1216.

NetWatch

Another pair of seals, a mother and her 3-week-old pup, kept hundreds of visitors and residents off the [Po'ipu, Kauai] beach... Wailua resident Alejandro Hernandez brought his nephew, Alex Lopez of Makakilo, to the beach specifically to see the seals. "It's good. It's time for humans to do something for endangered species. I feel sorry for the tourists who come so far to visit a safe beach, but I think it's worth it," Hernandez said.

Source: Honolulu Advertiser, August 27, 2004.

<http://the.honoluluadvertiser.com/article/2004/Aug/27/In/In07a.html>

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