FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pacific Marine Mammal Center Responds to Common Dolphin Calf

_Laguna Beach, CA Friday, July 20, 2017_ - Pacific Marine Mammal Center responded to a common dolphin calf, estimated to be one week old, that beached itself on Capo Beach late Thursday afternoon. PMMC was notified of the animal by a San Clemente Animal Control officer at approximately 5:35 pm.

PMMC was in the midst of a National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) whale disentanglement training and immediately jumped into action. The rescue team arrived at the beach by 6:15 pm. A small crowd had gathered and had the animal in a small children's pool to keep him wet and buoyant until PMMC arrived.

Upon returning back to the center, PMMC's Veterinarian Kelli Barnett and NOAA West Coast Stranding Coordinator Justin Viezbicke, both observed that the animal was visibly emaciated, 19.8 pounds.

"Unfortunately the animal was picked up in very poor condition and in the process of evaluation the animal passed," said Viezbicke. Less than 1% of cetaceans that strand survive. A necropsy will be performed on the animal.

PMMC wants to thank San Clemente Animal Control and those of the public that were down at the beach that afternoon. Both children and adults were very respectful, quiet and calm assisting PMMC's rescue team which expedited the process getting the animal back to the center.
PMMC Animal Care Volunteer Billy Long, PMMC Rescue & PR Coordinator Krysta Higuchi & Jill Morgan San Clemente Animal Control Officer during rescue.

PMMC Animal Care Coordinator Wendy Leeds and Higuchi supporting calf as PMMC Vetrinarian Dr. Kelli Barnett examines condition and behavior.

About Pacific Marine Mammal Center

The Pacific Marine Mammal Center rescues, rehabilitates and releases marine mammals and inspires ocean stewardship through research, education and collaboration. Pacific Marine Mammal Center is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Our Tax-ID number is: 95-3680896
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About National Ocean and Atmospheric Administration
The National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) West Coast Marine Mammal Stranding was established in the early 1980’s under the Marine Mammal Protection ACT (MMPA). Members of the network respond to marine mammals stranding events along Washington, Oregon, and California coasts and are a part of a nationwide network.

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