Aquarium's Sea Otter Program Rescues Pup from Carmel Beach

The Monterey Bay Aquarium's Sea Otter Program rescued an otter pup on Carmel Beach, on Wednesday, January 6, 2016.

The following is a timeline of events and the pup's current health status.

- On January 6, 2016, a citizen reported a stranded sea otter pup located on Carmel Beach, between 9th and 10th Avenues to Carmel Police Department animal control, around 1:30 p.m.
- The aquarium's Sea Otter Program team responded, and given the high surf and storm conditions, first attempted to locate a distressed adult otter that could potentially be the mother within the vicinity.
- Unable to locate the mother, the pup was transported to the Monterey Bay Aquarium, where it was given a veterinary exam. It's now in an intensive care unit, where Sea Otter Program staff are stabilizing and monitoring the pup in a behind the scenes area.
- The pup, #719, is a female, weighing about 6.4 pounds, and is roughly four weeks old. (Based on its age, it is NOT the sea otter pup that was born in the aquarium's Great Tide Pool on December 20.)
- The Monterey Bay Aquarium and The Marine Mammal Center are authorized by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under federal permits to respond to live strandings of ill, injured or orphaned sea otters along the California coast. With the help of The Marine Mammal Center, we respond to every call to ensure that live-stranded sea otters receive humane care and are not left to suffer on shore.
- The Monterey Bay Aquarium has found sea otter pup 719 a home at an accredited facility in the US.

Updates as of January 12, 2016:

- Sea otter pup 719 has shed about 25% of her pup coat, at this point.
- On January 11, otter pup 719 was introduced to solid food. She was offered surf clam meat.
- 719's weight today is 3.31 kilograms, up from 2.9 kilograms on January 6.

We will continue to post updates and any available visual assets on the Newsroom.