



**FACT SHEET
REGULATIONS FOR
MARINE MAMMAL PARTS
BEACH FOUND BY NON-NATIVES**

January 2001

Fish and Wildlife Service • U.S. Department of the Interior

The U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service manages sea otters, polar bears and walrus in Alaska. This fact sheet addresses often asked questions about beach found marine mammal parts collected by Non-Natives. Similar Fact Sheets addressing Alaskan Natives and marine mammals are also available. For answers to specific questions please contact one of the offices listed on the back of this sheet.

WHO MAY COLLECT BEACH FOUND PARTS?

Federal regulations allow the collection of parts by Non-Natives (and Natives) from some dead marine mammals found on the beach or land within 1/4 mile of the ocean (including bays and estuaries), depending on land ownership.

WHERE CAN BEACH FOUND PARTS BE COLLECTED?

Regulations vary depending on land ownership. It is the collector=s responsibility to know whose lands they are visiting. Collectors should check for additional regulations established by individual landowners (Federal, State, or private) before removing any resource. Collection of all animal parts (including marine mammals) is prohibited on National Park Service lands.

WHAT PARTS MAY BE COLLECTED?

Skulls, bones, teeth or ivory from beach found sea otter, polar bear and walrus may be collected. The skins, meat and organs from these animals may not be collected. Animal parts (including marine mammals) of an archeological or paleontological origin may not be collected from Federal or State lands.

WHAT ABOUT OTHER MARINE MAMMALS?

The National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) has responsibility for managing whales, seals, sea lions, dolphins, and porpoises. **Detached** hard parts, skulls and bones, from a non-endangered species may be collected. Most large whales (more than 25 feet in length) are endangered and parts cannot be collected. For specific questions on these species, contact the NMFS at a location listed on the back of this sheet.

ARE THERE REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR BEACH FOUND PARTS?

Collected parts from sea otter, polar bear, and walrus must be presented to a Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) representative for registration and/or tagging. Parts from other marine mammal species must be registered with NMFS. Parts must be reported within 30 days of the find. Once these parts are registered, they become property of the finder and cannot be sold, traded or given away without permission from the registering agency.

WHAT ABOUT FOSSIL IVORY?

Fossil ivory (including walrus, mammoth and mastodon), archeological and paleontological materials are regulated by an array of Federal and State laws and these items may not be collected on any State or Federal public lands. Fossil ivory may be collected on private lands with permission of the landowner. Fossil ivory collected on private lands is not regulated under the Marine Mammal Protection Act and does not have to be registered.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE FOLLOWING OFFICES:

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Supervisor, Marine Mammals Management Office, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 786-3800 or **1-800-362-5148.**

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Assistant Regional Director, Division of Law Enforcement, 1011 East Tudor Road, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 786-3311.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Senior Resident Agent, 605 W. 4th Avenue, Room 57, Old Federal Building, Anchorage, AK 99501, (907) 271-2828

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Special Agent, P.O. Box 346, Bethel, AK 99557, (907) 543-3151

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Senior Resident Agent, 1412 Airport Way, Fairbanks, AK 99701, (907) 456-0255.

U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Special Agent, P.O. Box 2030, Nome AK, 99762, (907) 443-2479

National Marine Fisheries Service, 701 C. Street, P.O. Box 43, Anchorage, AK 99513, (907) 271-5006.

National Marine Fisheries Service, 709 W. 9th. Street, Suite 453, P.O. Box 21668, Juneau, AK 99802, (907) 586-7221.

National Park Service, National Register Archeologist, 2525 Gambell Street, Anchorage, AK 99503, (907) 257-2559.

State Historic Preservation Officer, Office of History and Archeology, 3601 C Street, Suite 1278, Anchorage, AK 99503 (907) 269-8727.