

Marine Mammals of the North Coast with Sarah Allen

Thursday, March 28, 7:00 p.m.
Admission is \$5

Sarah Allen has devoted her life to studying marine birds and mammals, many of which Mendocino residents view every day. In her talk at Gualala Arts Center on Thursday, March 28, she will discuss local marine mammals and how, in a changing environment, they are benefiting from federally-protected sanctuaries off the Northern California coast.

A graduate of UC Berkeley in Wildlife Resource Science, Allen has spent her life studying both land and sea wildlife from California to Antarctica. Her special passion is pinnipeds, many of which breed along our shores. Currently, she is working for a federal environmental agency to benefit ocean conservation. Her mission is to explore, restore and preserve native ecosystems of the Pacific.

Many locals who frequently drive the Coast Highway are unaware that the waters they gaze on in the Gulf of the Farallones, an area larger than the state of Rhode Island, have been designated a National Marine Sanctuary since 1981.

Combined with the Cordell Banks Sanctuary established in 1989, this body of water is home to at least twenty-five endangered species and thirty-six marine mammal species. Point Reyes National Seashore and Golden Gate NRA are national parks



that share jurisdiction with the sanctuaries and provide another layer of marine protection. Allen will discuss the sanctuaries and the national parks and their inhabitants, particularly marine mammals. She also will explain the role protected areas play in preserving an important habitat that is facing rapid environmental changes from both naturally occurring and human influences.

The co-author of a recently published book, *Field Guide to Marine Mammals*, Allen will have ample visual aids and will allow time for questions from the audience.

“Elaine Jacob may be the Queen
of Sea Ranch but she will always
be the Fairy Godmother of
Gualala Arts!”

- David ‘Sus’ Susalla

**HUGE thanks to Elaine for her
very generous annual
year-end contribution and all of
our year-end contributors!**

