

January 2020



NOAA
FISHERIES

OFFICE OF LAW
ENFORCEMENT

Up to **\$20,000 REWARD**

**for information on the shooting of an
elephant seal near Highway 1 viewing area.**



*Male northern elephant seal during mating season.
Photo: Jim Milbury, NOAA Fisheries*

The NOAA Fisheries Office of Law Enforcement is seeking information about the September shooting death of a northern elephant seal at a viewing area along California Highway 1 near San Simeon. The animal was shot in the head, its tail fins removed, and its chest cut open.

Elephant seals and other marine mammals are protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, which carries civil penalties of up to \$28,520 per count, a year in prison, criminal fines, and forfeiture of any vessel involved.

A reward of up to **\$20,000** may be paid if you provide information about a violation that leads to the issuance of a civil penalty or criminal conviction.

Call 1-800-853-1964

<https://www.fisheries.noaa.gov/national/enforcement/report-violation>