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образовательное учреждение Иркутской области
«Ангарский педагогический колледж»

Презентация

На тему: «Endangered species of animals»

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Специальность: 44.02.01
«Дошкольное образование»
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Ангарск, 2020 г

Caspian seal

The Caspian seal is a member of a family of real seals, the only marine mammal in the fauna of the Caspian Sea.



Natural habitat

Caspian seals (also these animals are called Caspian seals) got their name due to their habitat. This species is spread throughout the Caspian Sea, sometimes entering the rivers flowing into it. In winter and spring during breeding and molting, the bulk of the herd focuses in the northern areas of the sea on floating ice. In spring, when the ice begins to melt, some seals leave the shallow, well-warmed northern part of the sea and migrate to the south.

Most of the population spends summers in the southern and middle Caspian regions, and some of the herd remains in the northern regions. As the breeding period approaches, seals migrate to the northern regions again.



Life time

Life expectancy in seals depends on whether it is male or female, females live longer than males, on average their life span is 35 years, males alas live on average 10 years less - 25 years.



Food

Throughout the period of instinctive foraging from the ends of spring until mid-autumn, Caspian seals eat a variety of food. Basically it is all possible small fish (bulls, herring, etc.), as well as crustaceans and shrimps. At this time, the fatness of animals increases significantly. If in spring the weight of an adult male is 40-45 kg, by January - 56-63 kg.

During breeding and molting, nutrition is not of great importance for Caspian seals; in the absence of food, the animals starve, but do not leave the ice. After the disappearance of the ice, seals are forced to stay in the water for a long time; some dispersal of them afloat in areas of large ice deposits is associated with the search for food.



The parts of the body

The Caspian seal is a small species. The body length of adult animals (both males and females) is on average 130-140 cm, a maximum of 155 cm. They weigh 50-60 kg, but during the period of the greatest fatness their weight can reach 90 kg.

The length of newborn cubs is 65-79 cm, the body weight is about 5 kg.

The coloration of these seals varies greatly depending on gender and age. The main background of adults is ash-gray on the back and light gray on the sides and abdomen; Before molting in autumn and winter, the back turns brown or olive brown, and the belly becomes dirty yellow.

Throughout the body of adult males scattered small, almost black color spots, forming a peculiar pattern. In adult females spots are smaller, they are light and are located mainly on the back. Sometimes there are animals whose face and head have a reddish red color.

Newborn cubs are covered with a high and soft hair cover of greenish-yellow color, which in a few days turns white. After the first molting, the kids acquire a silvery-gray color, darker on the back and lighter on the belly; in most animals small spots of light and dark tones are clearly visible.

Unlike other types of seals, the Caspian is characterized by a somewhat elongated muzzle.

Have a mustache and big eyes



The problems of extinction

The causes of death are shipping, fishing, poaching, diseases. In winter, under icebreakers passing through the ice fields in the Northern Caspian, newborn puppies of seals die, because they are born in winter on ice.

Seals also end up in fishing nets in many ways and die painfully. Every year, according to rough estimates, about one and a half or more thousand seals die in the nets. Seals continue to be killed by poachers fishing for skins and fat.

Pollution of the sea reduces the immunity of animals, so there is a risk of epidemic. Pollution also has a negative impact on the ability of procreation. According to Russian scientists, the number of yal, that is, unable to conceive females in the population, reaches 50 percent. Due to shipping, fishing, wild tourism, poaching seals leave their usual rookeries and can not safely form new ones on the islands, and this also weakens the body of animals.



Another major problem of concern to the entire world community is climate change. Reducing the ice cover in the Caspian Sea is a great threat to seal breeding. A hydrobiologist at our institute discovered microplastics. Microplastics are the result of the destruction of any plastic, gets into the ecosystem from a variety of sources, including fishing nets made of synthetic materials, plastic bottles, car tires. Microplastics accumulate in the environment in large quantities, polluting the marine ecosystem. And since it decomposes slowly, hundreds or even thousands of years, it increases the probability of getting and accumulation of microplastics in the tissues of many organisms. The consequences of such saturation will be deplorable. All these stressful conditions adversely affect the life expectancy of marine species



Suggested solutions

Vyacheslav Rozhnov, director of the Institute of Ecology and Evolution, head of the laboratory of behavior and behavioral ecology of mammals, head of the working group of scientists on the rehabilitation and restoration of the number of Caspian seals, a member-correspondent of the RAS told in an interview with aif Dagestan correspondent about how to preserve the endangered species of seal in the Caspian Sea.

The government of Dagestan supported it. I am ready to cooperate in this direction and the Dagestan Research Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences, well-received this idea and representatives of reserves, and fishermen, which is very important for us. The Caspian Institute of Biological Resources of the Dagestan Research Center of the Russian Academy of Sciences is also interested in implementing this idea.



Interesting facts about the animal

Mammals spend most of their lives in water. Caspian seals are considered excellent swimmers. The vetainative shape of the torso and a small streamlined head help it to dive perfectly and stay underwater for up to an hour and a half. During the dive under the water nostrils and ear canals are closed, and the animal can breathe thanks to the huge volume of lungs and the supply of oxygen that has accumulated in them. Often animals even sleep on the surface of the sea surface without going ashore.

It's an interesting fact. The Caspian seal has a very strong, serene dream. Often the researchers described such a phenomenon that, swimming up to the animal sleeping on the water, they turned his muzzle down, and the seals at the same time calmly continued to sleep, not reacting to people.

With the onset of winter, mammals go into the water and stay there almost until spring, occasionally going out on dry land in order to gain air. Animals have certain places where they like to be on land - the so-called rookery. It is on their rookeries animals come with the onset of the breeding season.

Animals have excellent hearing and smell, as well as sharp vision. They are incredulous and very cautious behavior. Animals are extremely vigilant when they are on land. Noticing or suspecting danger, they immediately silently descend into the water.

Externally, mammals seem to be clumsy, clumsy animals. However, this is a big misconception. They are very energetic, nimble, and almost never get tired. If necessary, they can develop quite a high speed in the water - up to 30 km/h. In calm mode, they swim much slower. On land move through the front limbs and tail, which alternately sort.

Nerpa tends to lead a separate, solitary life. They are grouped in packs only during the marriage. But even at this time they try to keep their distance and shun each other

