

Rare whale found at Adak

(U.S. Fish and Wildlife release)

An extremely rare Stejneger's Beaked Whale was found dead offshore Adak Naval Station in the Aleutian Islands National Wildlife Refuge.

Only four previous reports of this species are known—all from the Aleutian Chain with two from Adak.

The military cooperated in getting the whale ashore so U.S. Fish and Wildlife biologists could examine it. The 17-foot whale was a female with a full-term, unborn calf. Dr. James Mead of the Smithsonian Institute made positive identification of the species.