



## Physiological responses to anthropogenic stressors

Gitte McDonald

Moss Landing Marine Laboratories  
San Jose State University, USA

A growing human footprint in the marine environment has led to increased interactions between marine mammals and humans, leading to concerns about the impact of these activities on populations that already face other threats such as climate change. Exposure to disturbance from naval exercises and tourism results in short-term disruptions of natural behavior that may have energetic consequences or put the animals at greater risk to pressure related problems such as decompression sickness. To predict and quantify how marine mammals will respond to natural and anthropogenic stressors, it is essential to understand their physiological limits and the plasticity in the physiological responses to stress.



NMFS # 14636

**Friday, June 23<sup>rd</sup> from 10.15 to 11.00 in the  
Zoophysiology Seminar Room (1131-127)**