

Sea Lions in Newport Harbor

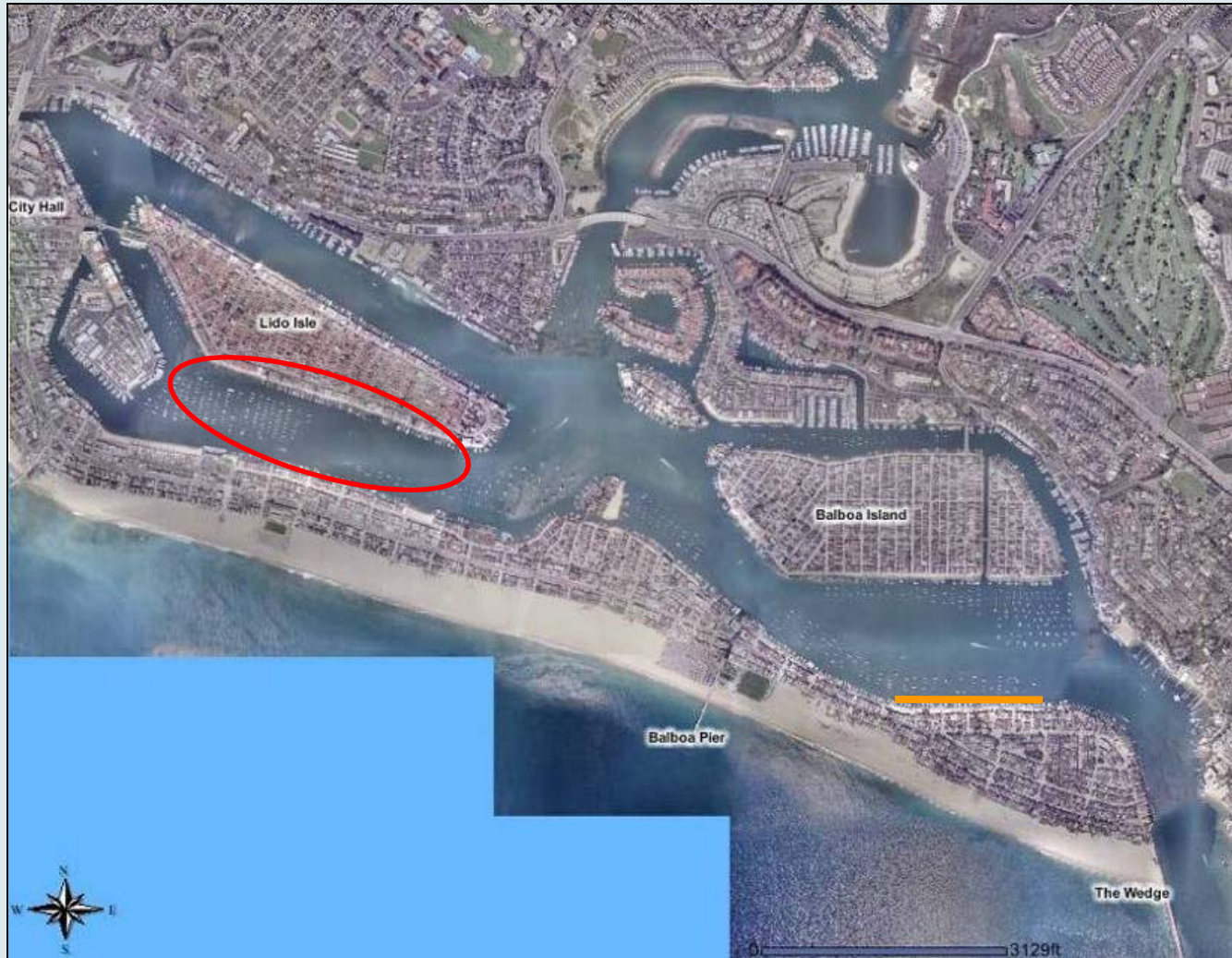
Shannon Levin
Harbor Resources Supervisor

Issues in Newport Harbor

- Roughly 35-50 sea lions spent the summer months in Newport Harbor.
- H & J mooring fields have the largest populations.
- They haul out on any vessel regardless of freeboard. Unprotected swim steps and docks are easy haul out spots.
- Sea lions become territorial and start barking, day and night. Night time barking is most problematic.
- The sea lions have damaged and sunk vessels, docks, aids to navigation and in the past also the white sea bass grow out pens.



Problem Areas



H and J Fields
& South Lido

East Balboa
Peninsula Point



Our Efforts

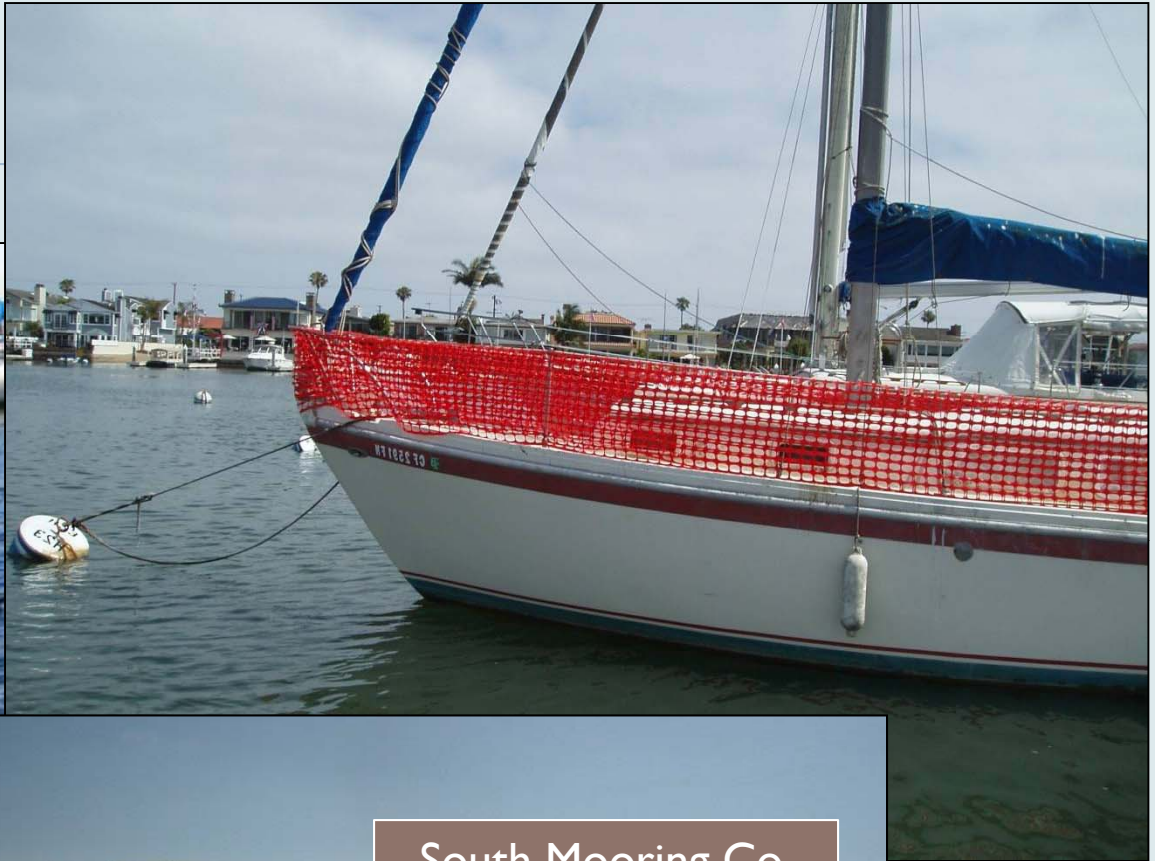
- ▶ The City has found that the best way to deter the sea lions is to control the following:
 - ▶ Securing vessels using visual barriers and physical deterrents
 - ▶ Updating Title 17 with tighter time frames for mooring permittee's response
 - Currently 1st notice requires action 10 days
 - 2nd notice gives 7 more days
 - ▶ Hiring South Mooring Co. to conduct night time abatement
 - ▶ On occasion the Harbor Patrol will move vessels
 - ▶ Harbor Resources “kicked-out” a renter this summer



Seven Sisters



What Works



South Mooring Co.



Prep for Next Season

- ▶ Update the Code
 - ▶ Shorter response time for permittees
- ▶ Reminders to mooring permittees before summer season
- ▶ Arrange night time abatement
- ▶ Distribute stickers to commercial businesses



It Could be Worse

San Francisco, Summer 2009



For More Information

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