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Contact: Lena' Lewis, 619 201-1554



News Release

MAYOR BOB FILNER UNVEILS “SEAL CAM”

(San Diego) -- San Diego Mayor Bob Filner unveiled a “seal cam” today at the lifeguard tower at the Children’s Pool in La Jolla. The custom made HD webcam will provide live streaming video 24/7 over the internet at www.sandiego.gov/mayor. The “seal cam” will also be available for viewing on City TV Channel 24 in the City of San Diego between regularly scheduled meetings. Western Alliance for Nature, a non-profit dedicated to preserving bio-diversity through wildlife conservation and education funded and installed the camera.

“This is a great way to showcase San Diego’s unique, natural treasure with people all over the world. I personally am looking forward to checking out the webcam to observe the seals. Imagine the education tool this can also be not only for researchers and scientists, but children in our schools as well,” said Mayor Filner.

This is the first and only such “seal cam” on the Pacific Coast. Founders of the Western Alliance for Nature, Larry and Sara Wan hope to promote good practices and management in an urban setting.

“Wildlife faces severe human population pressures and this allows us to monitor their behavior and activities to make sure their needs in this environment are being met,” said Larry Wan.

“We are honored to be able to provide an up close view of these amazing creatures to not just San Diegans, but people all over the world. We hope that providing a way to study and watch these animals will not only tell us more about them, but also provide a way to make sure they are respected,” said Sara Wan.

The camera is also equipped with night vision to give observers a rare glimpse at Harbor seals giving birth, which they only do at night.

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