



An interesting feature of fur seal behavior is that the bull seals or "harem masters," and the cow seals arrive on the islands at different times. The bachelor seals--those under six or seven years of age--arrive even later, and live apart from the harems. This fact has long been utilized to advantage in land harvesting.

Other research concerns the role of the seal as predators of other sea dwellers. Studies are being made of what seals eat, and how, and how far they can range from the breeding grounds to find food.

The research programs are worked out so that the research of one country supplements that done by the other countries.

Fur seals of the Pribilof Islands are managed and harvested by the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries of Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service. Biologists study the seals to learn their characteristics and life habits. From 50,000 to 60,000 processed pelts are sold each year for the account of the United States Government.

The fur seal, very different from other types of seals, is valuable not only as a unique species, but as an economic resource as well. The seals harvested by the U. S. Government on the Pribilof Islands have brought more than \$25 million to the Federal Treasury.

The fur is among the most valuable in the world. A full-length seal coat may cost from \$1,500 to \$3,000 or more.

Chairman of the United States delegation to the Commission's annual meeting will be Ralph C. Baker of the Department of the Interior's Bureau of Commercial Fisheries. He is the United States Commissioner on the Fur Seal Commission. A. F. Rollins, also of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries, is Commission Secretary. Governor William A. Egan of Alaska will participate as an adviser to the United States delegation.

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