

Code of Conduct

- Keep your distance from seals hauled out from the water (no closer than 100m or 300 ft) and use binoculars for a better view.
- Limit observation to a maximum of ten minutes.
- Limit vessel numbers to two at a time.
- Keep quiet! Do not rev engines or shout.
- If you are approached by a seal, maintain course with slow speed or remain stationary. Do not approach the seal.



- If seals show any signs of avoidance or disturbed behaviour (frequent direction changing away from the boat, moving into the water from haul-outs or diving) then move away immediately, but at slow speed.
- If you see a seal in the water, slow down (less than 5 knots or no-wake speed).
- Make steady movements parallel to the animal to minimise risk of disturbance.



- Always allow seals an escape route. Avoid boxing animals in or blocking narrow channels.
- Never drive or walk through a group, or come between a mother and her pup. If you see a nursing pup, leave the vicinity immediately and slowly.
- Never land or go ashore at haul-out sites. Seals can be dangerous when they perceive a threat.
- Chichester Harbour Conservancy will be monitoring boat activity at seal haul-out sites.
- If you see an injured marine mammal call the British Divers Marine Life Rescue on 01825 765546 or 07787 433412.
- Send marine wildlife sightings to www.hiwwt.org.uk/marine-sightings.

