

Monk Seal Fast Facts



Scientific Name - *Monachus schauinslandi*

Size - Monk seals can grow up to 7 feet long and can weigh as much as 600 lbs.

Diet - These seals are considered to be “generalist” feeders. Which means they eat a wide variety of foods depending on what’s available. The most common include fishes, squids, octopuses, eels and crustaceans (crabs, shrimps and lobsters)

Life Span: The average Hawaiian monk seal lives between 25-30 years.

Habitat: These seals are found on the main and Northwestern Hawaiian Islands. They live in warm, subtropical waters and spend two-thirds of their time at sea.

Predators - Sharks tend to be their biggest predators, specifically, Tiger Sharks.

Fun Facts

- They can remain under water for up to 20 minute.
- They can dive more than 1800 feet deep, the length of FIVE football fields, but prefer to swim in shallow waters of 200 feet or less.
- They love to sleep on beaches for days at a time.