

# Sea otter census

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Each year Seattle Aquarium researchers and biologists participate in the Washington state sea otter **census** (run by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife). Participants count sea otters from planes, as well as from shore using binoculars.

How many sea otters do you see in this photo? \_\_\_\_\_



In 2017, a total of 2,095 were spotted along the Washington coast. In 2019, 2,785 sea otters were counted. Did the population increase or decrease from 2017 to 2019? \_\_\_\_\_

By how much? \_\_\_\_\_

What are some factors that may affect sea otter populations?

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