

## **Naomi A. Rose**

As the marine mammal scientist for The Humane Society of the United States, Naomi handles marine mammal protection issues in the U.S. and internationally. She has a Bachelor of Arts degree in biology from Mount Holyoke College and a doctoral degree in biology from the University of California at Santa Cruz. Naomi's dissertation addressed the social dynamics of killer whales and her graduate training was in all aspects of marine mammal biology (particularly small cetaceans and pinnipeds); but focused primarily on behavior.

During her time at the HSUS, Naomi has become familiar with the biology and management concerns of all marine mammal taxa, including manatees, polar bears, and sea otters. She has handled and addressed a wide range of marine mammal management issues, including whaling, captivity, and habitat degradation.

A major issue for her organization since 1994 has been the impact of human-caused noise on marine mammals and their habitat. This issue first came to the HSUS' attention via the proposed ship-shock trials for the U.S.S. John Paul Jones near the California Channel Islands. The HSUS was involved in the Acoustic Thermometry of Ocean Climate (ATOC) controversy and partnered with the Natural Resources Defense Council and others on addressing concerns related to the deployment of Low Frequency Active (LFA) sonar from the time this new technology became publicly known in 1996. They were also coplaintiffs on the successful lawsuit challenging the National Marine Fisheries Service's final rule on LFA sonar.

Naomi has made presentations on the issues of active sonar and acoustic impacts on marine mammals (primarily from a management perspective, including addressing the application of science to management decisions) at forums hosted by organizations ranging from the American Cetacean Society to the Acoustical Society of America. She has testified in front of Congress on active sonar as well.

Naomi therefore brings a broad, decade-long policy background on relevant issues to this Committee, as well as scientific training in the biology of marine mammals. She hopes to contribute constructively to the efforts of this Committee to improve the management of human-caused noise in the marine environment.