

Expanding the geographic and geochronologic range of early pinnipeds: New specimens of *Enaliarctos* from Northern California and Oregon

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The early pinnipedimorph *Enaliarctos* was a marine-adapted carnivore with dental and locomotor features intermediate between terrestrial arctoids and living pinnipeds. New specimens of *Enaliarctos* are described from Oligocene and Miocene deposits on the Pacific coast of North America, and include the oldest enaliarctine mandible (Yaquina Formation, 30.6–27.4 Ma), the first enaliarctine from Northern California (Skooner Gulch Formation, 23.8–22 Ma), and the stratigraphically youngest fossil of the genus (Astoria Formation, 17.3–16.6 Ma). The wide biogeographic and temporal range of *Enaliarctos* provided the potential for interaction or competition with ptopterid birds, odontocete whales, and crown pinnipeds such as early odobenids, early otariids, and desmatophocids. The expansion of the known ranges of *Enaliarctos* species and the description of additional morphology, particularly of the mandible and lower dentition, provides insight into the origins of pinniped diversity and their possible interactions with other early Neogene coastal marine organisms.

Key words: Mammalia, Arctoidea, Pinnipedia, *Enaliarctos*, Miocene, Pacific.

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