Flipping chaos! Sea lion escapes from German circus and waddles through rush-hour traffic... before being stopped by police

- Sea lion called Charly escaped from the circus in Coburg, Germany
- He was pictured waddling through the rush hour traffic on Monday
- Police then stopped the mammal and he was taken back to the circus By JENNY AWFORD FOR MAILONLINE

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This is the bizarre moment a sea lion was stopped by police after it escaped from the circus and brought traffic to a standstill in a German town.

The runaway mammal, called Charly, was pictured waddling through the rush hour traffic in Coburg, east of Frankfurt, on Monday.

He had escaped from his enclosure in a circus in Coburg before breakfast - despite usually being first in line for the fish feeding.



A sea lion was stopped by police after it escaped from the circus and brought traffic to a standstill in German town

Bemused locals called police after they spotted him making his way through a busy crossing.

Charly was stopped by officers and pictured lying on the road next to a police car after the adventure became too much for him.

He was captured with the help of his keeper and later taken back to the circus.

There are seven species of sea lions and they can be found in bodies of water all over the world, except the northern Atlantic Ocean.



The runaway mammal, called Charly, was pictured waddling through the rush hour traffic in Coburg, east of Frankfurt, on Monday

They are intelligent animals and can be taught to perform many of their natural behaviours on cue.

Sea lions are also highly sociable and groups often rest closely packed together on land or float together on the ocean's surface in 'rafts.' Males can grow to 11-ft long and weight between 1,500 pounds and one

tonne.

Females are much smaller, weighing 700 pounds on average and growing to around nine-ft long.

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