

Population Monitoring of Elephants Seals at Año Nuevo, 2012

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Table 1: Estimates of breeding elephant seal female and pup populations, Año Nuevo rookery, 2012. Number of pups born estimated as $0.975 \times$ female number. Based on tags observed on weaners, 30-45 had moved from North Point to Main Point before these counts were taken.

Area	Breeding females	Pups born	Pups weaned
Main point	1243	1212	1212
North point	323	315	214
Island	508	495	418
Total	2074	2022	1844

Table 2: Mean body mass in kg for elephant seals, Año Nuevo rookery, 2012. Sample size in parentheses. No correction for time since weaning date.

Age	Females	Males
Weaner	115.4 (150)	117.7 (139)
Pup	90.8 (12)	103.2 (8)
Adult	none	

Table 3: Age and origin of breeding females whose tags were read, Año Nuevo rookery, 2012. The row *known* for Año Nuevo is the sum of the previous rows of known age. The following row is the number of observed females that had been tagged at Año Nuevo as adults, so age is not known. Age of most foreign-tagged females is not available to us.

Origin	Age	Main Point	North Point	Island	Total	
Año Nuevo	3	2	2	0	4	
	4	10	5	0	15	
	5	16	9	3	28	
	6	9	6	0	15	
	7	10	4	0	14	
	8	2	0	0	2	
	9	6	5	0	11	
	10	7	0	0	7	
	11	4	0	0	4	
	12	4	5	0	9	
	13	4	2	0	6	
	14	7	0	0	7	
	15	1	0	0	1	
	16	0	1	0	1	
	17	1	1	0	2	
	Año Nuevo	known	83	40	3	126
		unknown	26	10	1	37
San Miguel		6	1	5	12	
Point Reyes		5	0	3	8	
Gorda		2	0	0	2	
Piedras Blancas		6	4	1	11	
San Nicolas		1	0	0	1	
MM Center		1	1	0	2	

Table 4: Elephant seal tagging, Año Nuevo colony, 2012. A total of 1459 Roto tags (green) were deployed on 678 animals. This included 623 weaners/pups plus 25 older animals tagged for the first time, as well as 30 animals re-tagged (already tagged in earlier years). In addition, 42 tags were voided and 21 were unaccounted for (observed but never recorded as original).

A total of 291 PIT tags were also deployed on 240 animals, of which 217 were pups or weaners. PIT tags were always deployed with Roto tags.

The table below covers young-of-the-year by sex and number of tags. The column Total includes a few animals given 3 Roto tags, and the row Total includes a few with sex unknown. Those with PIT tags also had Roto tags and are included in the Total column.

Sex	Single green tag	Double green tag	Total	Also given PIT tag
Female	100	248	351	115
Male	68	183	251	97
Total	176	444	623	217

Table 5: Number of individual sightings and individual animals identified each year since 2003

Year	Breeding		Non-breeding	
	Sightings	Animals	Sightings	Animals
2003	2926	186	21	1
2004	3779	207	144	32
2005	4926	270	1782	235
2006	4229	286	707	216
2007	2693	187	572	127
2008	1914	200	1271	287
2009	3064	208	835	207
2010	4932	242	2065	346
2011	7240	263	2139	347
2012	7231	292	913	169