Russian River Estuary Management Activities
Pinniped Monitoring Datasheet Instructions

Pinniped Monitoring at Periphery – COUNTS Explanation of Fields

The datasheet is used to record the total number of pinnipeds hauled out at haulouts near Jenner.

Please print all data. Complete all fields as directed below for every peripheral monitoring location. If there is no data for the field, please write a backslash into the field (\).

DATE	Record date as month/day/year (ex: 01/01/2010)
OBSERVERS	Record First and Last Name of each observer (Jane Doe)
ENTERED IN DBASE	Leave blank. To be completed by person entering data into database.
DATA CHECKED	Leave blank. To be completed by person checking data entered into database.
ACTIVITY MONITORED	Circle the type of activity being monitored. Please confirm the type of activity being monitored with either SCWA Project Manager or Stewards Volunteer Coordinator.
START TIME	Record the time of beginning monitoring for the day in 24-hour notation (Write 0700 for 7:00 am, 1430 for 2:30 pm). Midnight is 0000, 1 am is 0100, etc. Noon is 1200, 1 pm is 1300, etc. Do not include a colon or am/pm.
END TIME	Record the time of ending monitoring for the day in 24-hour notation (Write 0700 for 7:00 am, 1430 for 2:30 pm). Midnight is 0000, 1 am is 0100, etc. Noon is 1200, 1 pm is 1300, etc. Do not include a colon or am/pm.
AIR TEMP	Record the estimated air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit
PRECIP	Circle if there is fog or rain
VISIBILITY	Enter a number as shown at the bottom of the datasheet. Measures the amount of fog or rain that may obscure views of seals present at the haulout. Enter 1 for clear; 2 for slightly obscured, but can still accurately count seals hauled out; 3 for unable to conduct an accurate or full count
WIND SPEED	Estimate the wind speed in miles per hour.
WIND DIRECTION	Circle the letter(s) to record the direction that the wind is blowing <u>from</u>. If the wind is blowing from the west, circle "W." If the wind is blowing from the northwest, circle both directions together (a single circle or oval that includes "N" and "W")
OCEAN STATE	Estimate the wind speed on the open ocean using the Beaufort wind scale "Appearance of Wind Effects - On Water." From the overlook, look out into the open ocean water, not where the waves are breaking on the beach or in the estuary. Enter the force number, a dash, and then WMO classification (On a calm day with little or no wind and the ocean surface is smooth, write "0 – Calm")

NOTE CONDITIONS AT HAULOUTS	Write specific observations of unique or atypical conditions that may impact the haulouts, such as large waves breaking across rocks, high or low tides, visitors or dogs in the vicinity of the haulout, etc.
COUNT	Count all harbor seals at the haulout, as defined in the haulout identification powerpoint, available at the Steward's website. Count only hauled out seals, not those in the water. NOTE: When stopping at Jenner haulout, if there is already a monitor present, write "use Jenner count" on peripheral data sheet. If there a monitor is not present at the Jenner haulout, make and record a count on the data sheet.
COUNT – TIME	Record the exact time of beginning seal counts in 24-hour notation (Write 0700 for 7:00 am, 1430 for 2:30 pm). Midnight is 0000, 1 am is 0100, etc. Noon is 1200, 1 pm is 1300, etc. Do not include a colon or am/pm. Seals at peripheral haulouts are counted four times a day during baseline observations, and two times during activity monitoring.
HASE – No. Non-pups	Write the number of harbor seal (HASE) adults, immature, or other age classes that cannot be accurately identified as pup from this season. Include only harbor seals hauled out on the beach, not those in the water.
HASE – No. Pups, Neonates and ≥1 wk	Write the number of pups that can be accurately identified as being born this season. Please use the telescope. Write the number of neonates and the number of pups 1 week old or older in the separate columns provided. Neonates are identified by exhibiting the general characteristics listed at the bottom of the datasheet (less than 1 week old, less than 15 kg in weight, thin for their body length, an umbilicus or natal pelage present, wrinkled skin when the pup is curled up, awkward or jerky movement). Include only neonatal harbor seals hauled out, not those in the water. Please attempt to photograph neonatals.
CASL – No. Adult Males and No. Other	Write the number of California sea lions (HASE) adults, immature, or other age classes that cannot be accurately identified as pup from this season. Write the number of adult males that can be accurately identified (based on presence of prominent sagittal crest) under the NO. ADULT MALES field. Write the number of females, immature, or those that cannot be positively identified as adult males in the NO. OTHER field as described at bottom of the datasheet.
OTHER SP. – No. and Age Class	Write the four-letter code and number of other pinniped species hauled out on the beach using the codes provided at the bottom of the datasheet. Include age class if it can be accurately identified (northern elephant seal adult or juv, for example). Additional information or behavioral observations can be written in the COMMENTS field.
TOTAL PINNIPEDS	Add the numbers from each field in the row together (HASE non-pups and pups, plus CASL adult males and other, plus Other SP.)
NO. PEOPLE	Write the number of people present that might influence the count.
COMMENTS	Use this field to clarify any information in the preceding fields. Notes written here may continue under the COMMENTS column into the following rows. Draw a backslash through the unused fields in the rows and begin a new row for the next count.

Pinniped Monitoring at Periphery – DISTURBANCES Explanation of Fields

This datasheet is used to record the type and duration of disturbances that elicit a behavioral response from pinnipeds hauled out at peripheral haulouts. It can also be used to record the time of pinnipeds landing or leaving a haulout.

Please print all data. Complete all fields as directed below. If there is no data for the field, please write a backslash into the field (\).

COPY FROM ***COUNTS***	DATE	Record date as month/day/year (ex: 01/01/2010)
	OBSERVERS	Record First and Last Name of each observer (Jane Doe)
	ENTERED IN DBASE	Leave blank. To be completed by person entering data into database.
	DATA CHECKED	Leave blank. To be completed by person checking data entered into database.
	ACTIVITY MONITORED	Circle the type of activity being monitored. Please confirm the type of activity being monitored with either SCWA Project Manager or Stewards Volunteer Coordinator.
HAULOUT		Write the name of the haulout being monitored (should be the same as where the disturbance is occurring).
DISTURBANCE TIME		Record the time and number of minutes of any occurrences that result in a behavioral response of the pinnipeds hauled out on the beach to the disturbance.
	START	Record the exact time the disturbance begins in 24-hour notation (Write 0700 for 7:00 am, 1430 for 2:30 pm). Midnight is 0000, 1 am is 0100, etc. Noon is 1200, 1 pm is 1300, etc. Do not include a colon or am/pm.
	END	Record the exact time the disturbance ends in 24-hour notation (Write 0700 for 7:00 am, 1430 for 2:30 pm). Midnight is 0000, 1 am is 0100, etc. Noon is 1200, 1 pm is 1300, etc. Do not include a colon or am/pm. Do not wait for the disturbance to end before moving on to the next count site. In the END box, write “continued”.
	DURATION	Write the number of minutes that the disturbance occurs. Subtract the start time from the end time to calculate the number of minutes.
DISTURBANCE		Record the source of the disturbance and the behavioral response of the pinnipeds hauled out to the disturbance.
	SOURCE	Write the number of the cause of the disturbance as provided at the bottom of the datasheet. 1 = people; 2 = photographer; 3 = kayak; 4 = other boat; 5 = surfer; 6 = other. If other, specify the source of disturbance in the COMMENTS field.

<table>
<tr><td>RESPONSE</td><td>Write the letter code of the pinniped response to the disturbance provided at the bottom of the datasheet. A = alert, M = move, F = flush

<table><tr><th>Type of Response</th><th>Definition</th></tr><tr><td>Alert</td><td>Seal head orientation in response to disturbance. This may include turning head towards the disturbance, craning head and neck while holding the body rigid in a u -shaped position, or changing from a lying to a sitting position.</td></tr><tr><td>Moving</td><td>Movements away from the source of disturbance, ranging from short withdrawals over short distances to hurried retreats many meters in length.</td></tr><tr><td>Flight</td><td>All retreats (flushe s) to the water, another group of seals, or over the beach.</td></tr></table></td></tr>
<tr><td>DISTANCE TO SOURCE</td><td>Write the estimated number of feet from the source of the disturbance to the pinnipeds responding to the disturbance.</td></tr>
<tr><td>NO. TAKEN/DISTURBED</td><td>Write the total number of pinnipeds that exhibit a behavioral response to the disturbance. If possible, record the number of seals by response (the number that alert, the number that move, the number that flush), using the most extreme response for each individual. For example, there are two harbor seals hauled out and one harbor seal alerts, and another harbor seal alerts, then moves along the beach, the total number of disturbances would be one alert and one move. This field should include the total number of pinnipeds disturbed, including those that flush into the water.</td></tr>
<tr><td>NO. FLUSH TO WATER</td><td>Write the total number of pinnipeds that retreat (flush) to the water in response to the disturbance. This number should be included in the NO. TAKEN/DISTURBED field as well.</td></tr>
<tr><td>PINNIPEDS REMAINING</td><td>Write the number of non-pups (adults, immature, or other age classes that cannot be accurately identified as pup from this season) and pups, in their respective columns, hauled out on at the end of the disturbance.</td></tr>
<tr><td>COMMENTS</td><td>Use this field to clarify any information in the preceding fields.

Notes written here may continue under the COMMENTS column into the following rows. Draw a backslash through the unused fields in the rows and begin a new row for the next disturbance.</td></tr>
</table>