

**Russian River Estuary Management Activities
Pinniped Monitoring Datasheet Instructions**

Pinniped Monitoring at Jenner Haulout – COUNTS Explanation of Fields

The datasheet is used to record the total number of pinnipeds hauled out on the beach at the mouth of the Russian River. Counts are made every 30 minutes.

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 (\).

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.
RIVER MOUTH CONDITION	Circle the condition of the river mouth when beginning monitoring for the day. The river mouth is open (fully tidal), closed (sandbar is built up and there is no tidal exchange into the estuary), transition (partly open with some tidal exchange into the estuary), or perched (closed but with river flowing through outlet channel or over sandbar)
AIR TEMP	Record the estimated air temperature in degrees Fahrenheit
PRECIP	Circle if it is clear or if there is fog or rain
WIND SPEED	Estimate the wind speed at the overlook 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 ON BEACH	Write specific observations of unique or atypically conditions on the beach that may impact the haulout, such as large waves breaking across the sandbar, large numbers of birds resting on the beach, visitors or dogs in the vicinity of the haulout, etc.
COUNT	<p>If there are more than one distinct group of seals hauled out on the beach, use multiple rows for each count. If seals are indiscriminately hauled out across the beach, include counts in a single row. Example: at 0700, there are two groups of seals hauled out, one is on the estuary shoreline near the jetty (label as group "A" and the other is on the ocean side of the sandbar near the mouth (label as group "B"). In the first row, write 0700 under Time, A under Beach Site, and counts of seals in that group. On the following line, write 0700 under Time, B under Beach Site, and counts of seals in that group. Do not add the group counts together in subsequent rows. See COUNT – TIME and COUNT – BEACH SITE below.</p> <p>Count only the pinnipeds that are hauled out on the beach, not those in the water.</p>
COUNT – TIME	<p>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.</p> <p>Seals at the haulout are counted every 30 minutes (1/2 hour) after the first count of the day.</p>
COUNT – BEACH SITE	If seals are hauled out in distinct groups on the beach, draw a sketch of the beach on the back of the data sheet and identify approximate location of each group on the beach. Include the jetty location and Haystack Rock (large rock outcropping inside the estuary near the beach) for reference. Label each group with a capital letter beginning from the south end of the beach and moving north. Example: two groups of seals hauled out, one is on the estuary shoreline near the jetty (label as group "A" and the other is on the ocean side of the sandbar near the mouth (label as group "B"). See COUNTS above for more info.
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
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. Write the number of neonates and the number of pups 1 week old or older in 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, thing for their body length, an umbilicus or natal pelage present, wrinkled skin when the pup is curled up, awkward or jerky movement). Include only harbor seals hauled out on the beach, not those in the water.

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 on the beach from the jetty north at the time of 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 Jenner Haulout – 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 on the beach. It can also be used to record the time of pinnipeds entering the haulout during or after equipment operation on the beach on days that equipment is excavating a lagoon outlet channel or artificial breaching pilot channel.

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 DATASHEET	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.								
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.								
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 on the beach 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.								
RESPONSE		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 border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="text-align: center;">Type of Response</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Definition</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <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 (flushes) to the water, another group of seals, or over the beach.</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Type of Response	Definition	Alert	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.	Moving	Movements away from the source of disturbance, ranging from short withdrawals over short distances to hurried retreats many meters in length.	Flight	All retreats (flushes) to the water, another group of seals, or over the beach.
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DISTANCE TO		Write the estimated number of feet from the source of the disturbance to the								

SOURCE	pinnipeds responding to the disturbance.
NO. TAKEN/DISTURBED	<p>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. 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.</p> <p><i>On days that equipment is operating on the beach, this field will be used to record the number of pinnipeds that are "taken" or "harassed" as allowed by the Marine Mammal Protection Act Incidental Harassment Authorization issued by the National Marine Fisheries Service. Be sure to note in the COMMENTS field if the disturbance is a result of crews or equipment on the beach/in the vicinity of the haulout.</i></p>
NO. FLUSH TO WATER	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. Record if the pinnipeds flush to the estuary or into the ocean under COMMENTS.
PINNIPEDS REMAINING	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 the beach at the end of the disturbance.
COMMENTS	<p>Use this field to clarify any information in the preceding fields.</p> <p><i>During beach management activities, record the following in this field: time that crews enter the beach near the jetty ahead of equipment; time that equipment enters the beach from the Goat Rock State Beach parking lot; time that equipment begins to operate on the beach (begins to excavate the outlet channel or pilot channel); any start or stop time of equipment operation and the number of restarts of equipment; time that equipment ends operations and leaves the work area; time that equipment exits the beach to the parking lot; time that crews leave the work area.</i></p> <p>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.</p>