

New Zealand sea lion research Summer 2007/2008



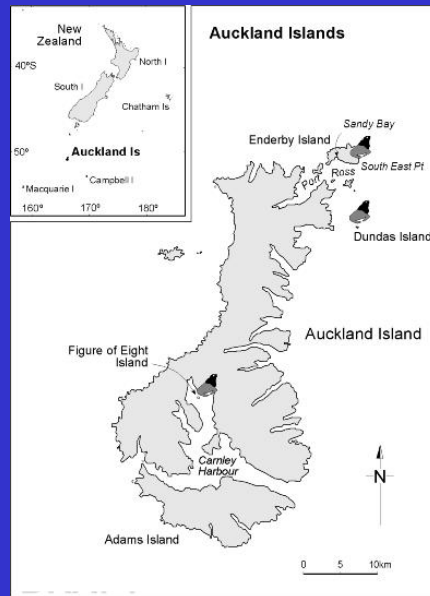
NZ sea lion research objectives Auckland Islands

- Measure Auckland Islands pup production
- Tag pups produced during 2007/08
- Data to estimate survival and reproduction of previously marked female NZ sea lions
- Maintain and update the NZ sea lion database
- Characterise and analyse the at-sea distribution of poorly known age and sex classes of NZ sea lions



Pup production - methods and date of estimate

- Sandy Bay (Enderby Island) - Mark/Recapture estimate (16/1/08)
- Dundas Island - Mark/Recapture estimate (21/1/08)
- S.E. Point (Enderby Island) - Direct count -daily counts
- Figure of 8 Island - Single direct count - (10/1/08)

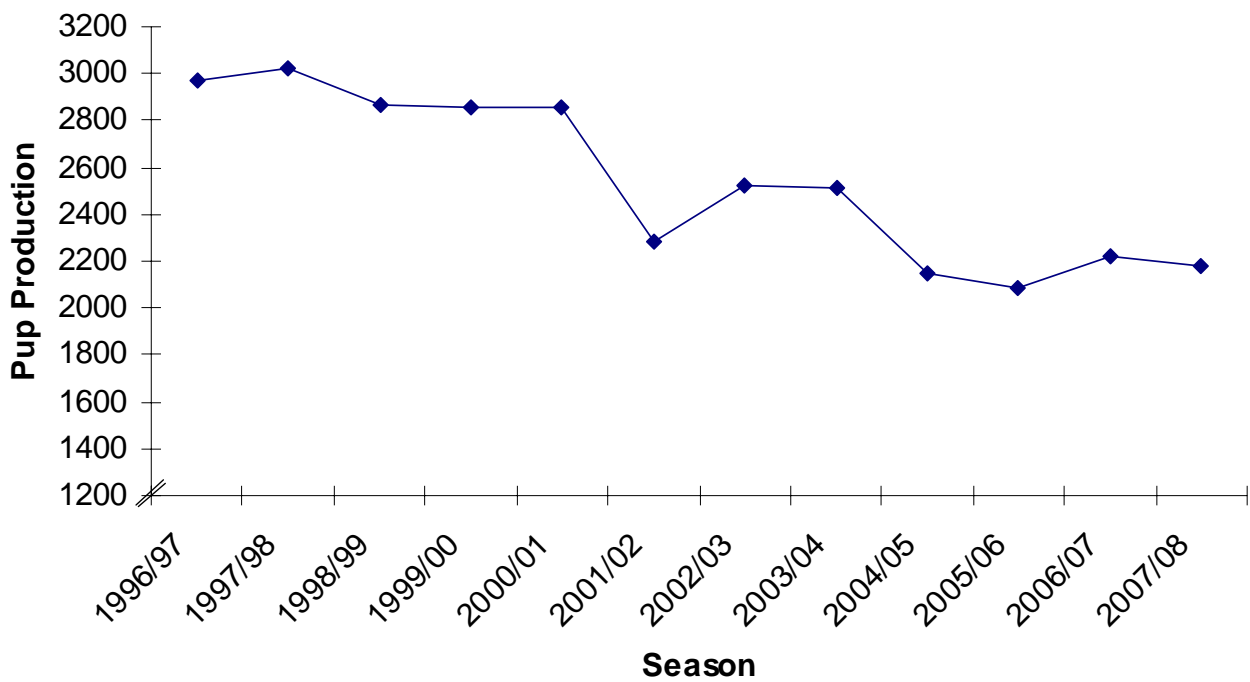


Pup production 2007/08 - Results

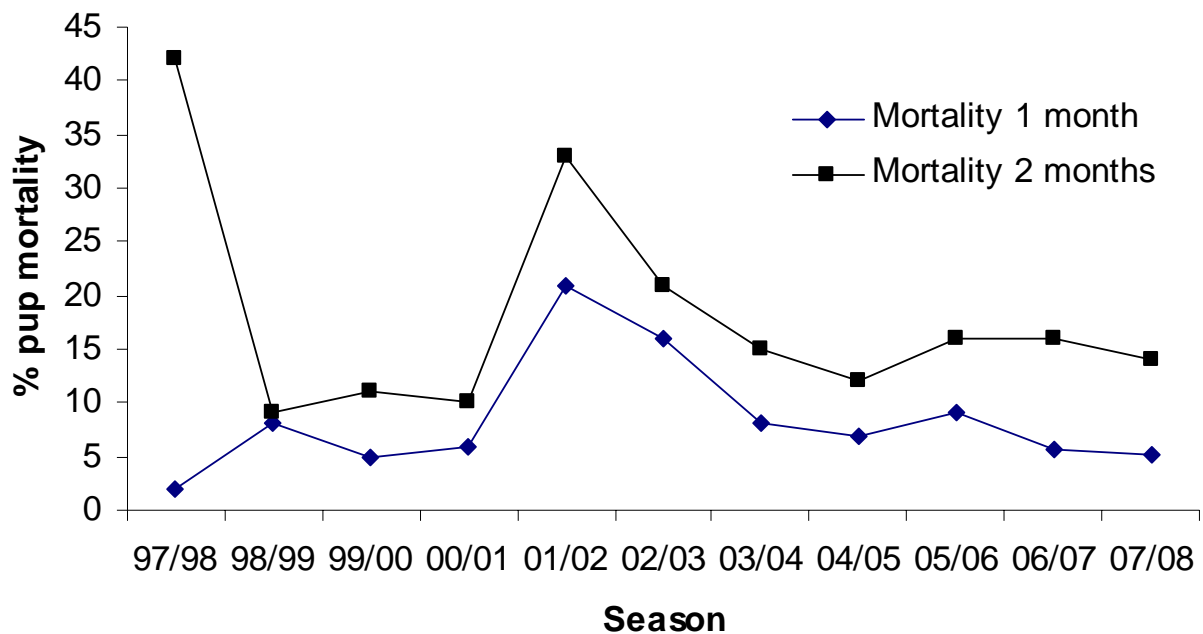
- Sandy Bay = 448
 - 425 +/- 3 live pups
 - 23 dead pups
 - 417 tagged
- Dundas = 1635
 - 1512 +/- 44 live pups
 - 123 dead pups
- South East Point = 18
 - 13 live pups
 - 5 dead pups
- Figure of 8 = 74
 - 72 live pups
 - 2 dead pups

**Total for Auckland
Islands = 2175 +/- 46**

AUCKLAND ISLANDS PUP PRODUCTION 1997-2008



Pup Mortality



Pup tagging – Satellite tagging

- 866 pups were double tagged for population studies.
- Ten juvenile sea lions (4 male / 6 female) aged between 2 and 5 years were captured and satellite tagged at Sandy Bay, Enderby Island. Deployment lasted between 2 and 60 days (one satellite tag is still on and operating).



NZ sea lion research 2007/2008 – Campbell Island

Objectives:

1) Estimate pup production of Campbell Island 2) Investigate pup mortality at Davis Point

Trip: 31 Dec 2007 to 20 Feb 2008. First two weeks at Davis Point to tag and autopsy pups. The following 6 weeks to conduct island wide pup tagging and count.

Results:

1) Results not comparable with previous pup production estimations as methodology and timing of estimate differ significantly.

2) A new breeding are was identified on the south side of Perseverance Harbour.

3) 592 pups counted, 397 pups tagged, 50 animals autopsied.

Davis Point: Total 442: 290 tagged, 196 dead.

New Colony: Total 122: 92 tagged, 32 dead.

Rest of Island: Total 28: 15 tagged, 4 dead.



Davis Point Colony

New Colony

