

2014 Northern Elephant Seal: Totals, Sighting & Tracking, On-Effort



The focus of the survey is Gray whales (northbound) during migration. We record sighting data for all cetaceans (in our survey whales and dolphins), including a distinguishing tally of Gray whales (southbound) and Humpback whales.

We gather data on all marine mammals, except the ubiquitous California sea lions swimming around. We do, however, watch for sick and injured Sea lions and enter them, if they come on shore and are in need of rescue. We, then, contact Channel Islands Marine and Wildlife Institute (CIMWI) to attend to the animal. Unfortunately, these sightings were not entered on our datasheet in 2014.

In addition to regular sightings of a small group of Harbor seals, we sometimes observe Northern Elephant seals and Northern Fur seals. In 2014, we managed to find a single, male Northern Elephant seal in a wave in front of us, and a weaned pup, exhausted on the sand, which was rescued.

part of **2014 Gray Whales Count, Survey Report** © Gray Whales Count, 2016,
prepared by Michael H Smith, Project Coordinator, Gray Whales Count, Santa Barbara, California, USA.

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Northern Elephant seal *Mirounga angustirostris*

Total: 2 Pups: 1 Number of Sightings: 2

Day	Day of 107	Northern Elephant seal	Daily Totals	Pinnipeds	Pups
Feb 20	Day 11 of 107			1	0
	Sighting Number 28	Quality: Good Beaufort: 2	Total 1 — 0 Pups at sighting		
		14:40 -PST	Saw: Body		
		22:40-GMT	Position: 174° / 183 m Direction: West; Behavior: Speed slow • in surf zone		
Apr 03	Day 53 of 107			1	1
	Sighting Number 06	Quality: Good Beaufort: 1	Total 1 — a pup on sand		
		09:32 -PDT	Saw: Body		
		16:32-GMT	Position: 207° / 20 m Direction: Still; Behavior: Resting, horizontal <i>Pup on shore/rocks; called Marine Mammal Center</i>		
		10:03 -PDT	Saw: Body		
		17:03-GMT	Position: 207° / 20 m Direction: ni; Behavior: Resting, horizontal • Rescue attempt		