

ECOPredS Project

Ecological Consequences of Orca Predation on Seals

SEAL MONITORING AND FOCAL FOLLOW FORMS

Please record as much information as possible, but feel free to also leave fields empty. You do not need to provide name and contact details, but if you do, they may be helpful in case there are any further questions about your observations. Your name and email/telephone would be stored securely with restricted access, separate from the main database, and not shared. Please see attached information sheet for further details. **Thank you** for taking part!

Observer name and email/tel (optional):

Time & location (where and when did you watch?)			Sight conditions					Number of seals on LAND (total = both adult/pup and known/unknown species)					Number of seals in WATER (total = both adult/pup and known/unknown species)					Number of boats in water		Notes and other potential prey (porpoise, fish or fishing) (e.g., confidence in seal species ID, any human disturbance, grey-harbour seal interactions, tide state, description of habitat [rocky/sandy, kelp?])	
Site (*)	Date	Time (start - end)	Sea State	Swell	Visibility	Cloud (%)	Wind dir.	Weather	Total	Harbour	Grey	Total pups	Mum-pups	Total	Harbour	Grey	Total pups	Mum-pups	W motor		No motor

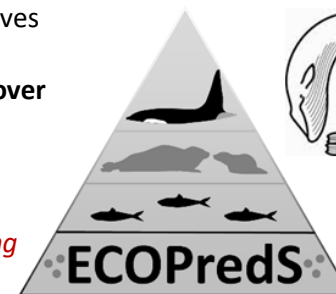
* Site name(s): 1: 2: 3:

4: 5: (please include coordinates if not a regular monitoring site)

Sea state: 0=mirror calm; 1= slight ripples, no foam crests; 2 = small wavelets, glassy crests, but no whitecaps; 3= large wavelets, crests begin to break, few whitecaps; 4=longer waves, many whitecaps, 5= moderate waves of longer form, some spray, 6 and over =large waves, whitecaps everywhere, frequent spray. **Swell height:** Light = <1m; Moderate = 1-2 m; Heavy = >2 m. **Visibility:** Visibility: < 1km; 1-5 km; 6-10km; >10km. **Cloud cover** (percentage %), **Wind Direction** (N, NE, E, SE, E, SW, W, NW), **Weather** (windy, haar, sunny, overcast).

Please return with signed consent form: picture/scanned forms via email ecopreds@st-andrews.ac.uk or post 'Saana Isojunno, Office B5, Bute Building, University of St Andrews, St Andrews, Fife, KY16 9TS' or fill online form at www.ecopreds.wordpress.com/citizen-science. *We will forward all anonymized sighting data to Sea Watch Foundation and Hebridean Whale and Dolphin trust.*

Focal follow overleaf...



Sea Mammal Research Unit



University of St Andrews

Focal follow orca sightings: please attempt to track an individual killer whale and its associated group. Please make a new row when whale behaviour, group composition or the monitoring site changes. Each focal follow should be labelled by a number (focal follow ID) – if you change the focal individual, please make a new row with a new number, or leave focal whale field empty if individual tracking is not possible.

Date: **Observer name and email/tel (optional):**

Time & location (where and when did you track the whales?)			Focal whale (leave empty if tracking whole group)			Number of orca (circle the num. that includes focal whale)			Distance (m) to shore	Orca behaviour (list) Surfacing; Normal Swim; Fast Swim; Blow; Feeding; Leap/ Breach; Tail Slap; Bow-ride; Rest/ Milling; Sexual; Aggression	Foraging for seals phase: None, Search, Approach* Pursuit* Capture* Injury* Escape* Unknown*	Number of seals * approached, pursued, captured, injured, escaped or unknown				Additional notes (known individuals or pod e.g. 27s, confidence in group size estimate, confidence in seal species ID) Please note how encounter started/ended (e.g., appear/disappeared behind headland, or into distance)
Site (*)	Start time	End time	Focal ID	Dive dur. (min)	Breath interval (s)	Total	Male	Calves				Total	Harbour	Grey	Pups	

* Site name(s) and coordinates: 1: 2: 3:
4: 5: 6: 7:

Never disturb wildlife keep your distance, use binoculars, minimize noise, and leave at the first sign of disturbance. Know the signs; seals can be vulnerable while resting on land.
More info: [Scottish Marine Wildlife Watching Code](#).