

SEAL SURVEY

DATE: Saturday, February 24, 2018

START TIME/ END TIME: 10:00am EST / 11:30am EST

LOCATION: Southern tip of Skeleton Hill Island, Sandy Hook NRA
40.419875 - 73.989896

AIR TEMPERATURE: 47°F

WEATHER (cloudy, sunny, etc.): mostly cloudy - Calm Wind

TIDE: low tide @ 9:30am

LEAD OBSERVOR: Amber Mallm / Joe Reynolds

SPECIES OBSERVED: Harbor Seals

OF DARK-Colored Seal: 5

OF LIGHT-Colored Seal: 21

OF IMMAUTURE: 2

OF SHARK BITES: NONE

OTHER INJURIES (please explain): NONE

TOTAL # SEALS: 26

HUMAN DISTURBANCES

At approximately 6:30am, Joe Reynolds conducted a quick count of roughly 60 seals at this location. At approximately 9:00am, several kayakers got too close to the seal haulout

COMMENTS: Site and scared the seals where many went into the water and never returned to land, for this day.

SEAL SURVEY

DATE: SATURDAY, MARCH 10, 2018

START TIME/ END TIME: 8:30am EST / 10:00am EST

LOCATION: Southern Tip of Sketewan Hill Island, Sandy Hook NRA
40.419875-73.989896

AIR TEMPERATURE: Low 30s F

WEATHER (cloudy, sunny, etc.): SUNNY - Breezy NW Wind 10-20mph

TIDE: Low tide @ 8:30AM

LEAD OBSERVOR: Joseph Reynolds

SPECIES OBSERVED: Harbor Seals

OF DARK-Colored Seal: 55

OF LIGHT-Colored Seal: 71

OF IMMAUTURE: 12

OF SHARK BITES Undetermined

OTHER INJURIES (please explain): 6 seals with injuries around neck, flippers and mouth. Perhaps propellers.

TOTAL # SEALS 126 Seals

HUMAN DISTURBANCES

NONE

COMMENTS :

This was the highest amount of seals with injuries from surveys.

Safety Precautions

When in the field please be aware of any inherent dangers.

- • Be aware of your surroundings and use common sense to avoid injury. This is more important than getting the data.
- • Watch where you walk –vegetation, rocks, dead trees, can catch unwary feet. Always pay primary attention to where you're walking and only secondly to the beautiful scenery.
- • Dress appropriately. Weather can change drastically within a very short time, going from warm and balmy to foggy and very cold and vice versa. Layer, and have a light raincoat/windbreaker in your daypack as well as gloves and warm hat.

Seal Survey Equipment List

1. Binoculars or spotting scope (required)
2. Clipboard (required)
3. Survey forms (required)
4. Digital Camera, with fully charged battery, and 2 memory cards (required)
5. Backpack (optional)
6. "Writes in the rain" notebook (optional)
7. Pencils and small Pencil Sharpener
8. Compass (optional)
9. Pocket temperature gauge (optional)

The Marine Mammal Protection Act (MMPA) was enacted on October 21, 1972. All marine mammals, including seals, are protected under the MMPA. The MMPA prohibits the "harassment" of marine mammals in the United States.

Please take care NOT to make your presence known--either visually or audibly--when you come across an individual or a group of seals when you are on land or on the water. Seals may flee into the water immediately when they hear or see a human. This flight disrupts their resting, can cause separations and may endanger their health. If you see the seals raise their heads in a startle response, immediately back away so that they do not feel threatened.

Maintain a minimum distance of 90 m (300 feet) from any marine mammal in the water or on the shore to prevent a disturbance.