



DETAILS

LOCATION

Nearest town/area

ENVIRONMENT

Photos/video: ☐ Yes ☐ No

☐ Baleen whale ☐ Seal

ANIMAL DETAILS

ANIMAL

☐ Map or ☐ GPS reference:

Tides (circle): H / M/ L Incoming / Outgoing

Shape of blow (tall, bushy, v-shaped, angled etc):

DEPARTMENT OF CONSERVATION Te Papa Atawhai MARINE MAMMAL - LIVE SIGHTING FORM

IMPORTANT: if you see an entangled, stranded or dead marine mammal please call 0800 DOC HOT (0800 362 468) as soon as possible. Please complete as much of this form as possible and send to: marinemammals@doc.govt.nz or Marine Species & Threats, P0 Box 10420, Wellington 6143

Time of observation: _____ Date of observation: _____

Name/Description/FMA: ______ (with photocopy of map)

What map grid did you use? ☐ NZMS260, ☐ Topo50, ☐ Other:

Depth: _____ Habitat: ____ Sea condition (Beaufort scale): _____ Wind Direction: _____ Strength: _____

Animal type: ☐ Hector's / Maui's dolphin ☐ Other dolphin ☐ Beaked whale ☐ Toothed whale

Description of animal (colour/shape of body, dorsal fin, tail, any scars present etc):

Total length of animal (please note unit of measurement): ☐ Juvenile ☐ Adult

Description of behaviour:

Number of animals (total): _____ Species: _____ Number of adults: _____ Number of juveniles (if present): _____

ID confidence (definite/probable/unsure):

PLEASE MAKE TAKING PHOTOS OF THE ANIMAL A PRIORITY

Seen from: □ Shore □ Boat □ Aircraft □ Underwater □ Other

Swell (circle): None / Light (0-1m) / Moderate (1-2m) / Heavy (>2m)

Sighting ID No. National office database input only

Distance from shore:

Direction animals heading:

Leopard seal (*Hydrurga leptonyx*)

True seals (Phocids)

Eared seals (Otariids) NZ sea lion (Phocarctos hookeri)

Blunt nose. Males: up to 3.5m, 250-400kg, dark brown fur. Females: up to 2m, 100-160kg, honey-coloured fur. Southern NZ and Sub-Antarctic

Big, snake-like head. Grey fur, black spots. Sharp, trilobed teeth. Males: up to 3m, 270kg. Females: up to 3.5, 300kg. Regular visitor to NZ

Southern elephant seal (Mirounga **NZ fur seal** (Arctocephalus forsteri)



Pointed nose. Dark brown fur. Males: up to 2.5m, 150kg.



Females: up to 1.5m, 30-60kg. Widely distributed

Weddell seal (Leptonychotes weddellii)

5m, 3600kg. Large proboscis. Females: up to 3m, 900kg.



Large body, small head, Dark brown, mottled spots, Trilobed teeth. Size: up to 3m, 400-600kg. Very rare vagrant **Sub Antarctic fur seal** (A. tropicalis)



Pointed nose, short face, "Mohawk" hair, big eyes, Dark brown, cream throat. Males: up to 2m, 160kg. Females: up to 1.5m, 50kg. Rare vagrant to NZ

Crabeater seal (Lobodon carcinophaga)

☐ Used kev

Regular visitor to NZ



Slender body, long head. Dark brown to blonde fur. Fourfive lobes per tooth. Size: up to 2.5m, 200kg. Very rare vagrant to NZ

Antarctic fur seal (A. gazella)



Short, wide, pointed nose. Dark brown fur. Males: up to 2m, 90-210kg. Females: up to 1.5m, 30-60kg. Rare vagrant to NZ

Otariids (eared seals) – fur seals and sea lions

☐ Swim with large front flippers ☐ Flippers bare

Ross seal (Ommatophoca rossii)



Short head, large eyes. Throat striations. Dark brown, silvery belly. Tri-lobed teeth. Males: up to 2m. 130-215kg. Females: up to 2.5, 130-215kg. Very rare vagrant

☐ Can rotate hind flippers Phocids (true seals) – Antarctic seals

☐ "Walk" with belly off ground

☐ No external ear ☐ Front flippers short

☐ External ear

- ☐ Flippers furry

☐ Short fur. blubber insulation ☐ Swim with hind flippers ☐ "Inch-worm" on land ☐ Hind flippers trail behind

☐ Thick insulating fur