

2022

Marine mammals in the Western English Channel, a survey from the Rame Head Peninsula

Douglas, J.

Douglas, J. (2022) 'Marine mammals in the Western English Channel, a survey from the Rame Head Peninsula', *The Plymouth Student Scientist*, 15(2), pp. 163-192.

<https://doi.org/10.24382/kq6f-0x30>

<http://hdl.handle.net/10026.1/20118>

<https://doi.org/10.24382/kq6f-0x30>

University of Plymouth

All content in PEARL is protected by copyright law. Author manuscripts are made available in accordance with publisher policies. Please cite only the published version using the details provided on the item record or document. In the absence of an open licence (e.g. Creative Commons), permissions for further reuse of content should be sought from the publisher or author.

Coastal Survey Form- 2021

Date:		Observers:			Methods used: (Binos/Scope)		Location: Rame Head Peninsula		
Scan 1	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Strength (knots)	Sea State (Beaufort no)	Cloud cover %	Visibility (km)	Glare	Sightings: Y/N	Other Notes
Start									
End									
Scan 2	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Strength (knots)	Sea State (Beaufort no)	Cloud cover %	Visibility (km)	Glare	Sightings: Y/N	Other Notes
Start									
End									
Scan 3	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Strength (knots)	Sea State (Beaufort no)	Cloud cover %	Visibility (km)	Glare	Sightings: Y/N	Other Notes
Start									
End									
Scan 4	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Strength (knots)	Sea State (Beaufort no)	Cloud cover %	Visibility (km)	Glare	Sightings: Y/N	Other Notes
Start									
End									
Scan 5	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Strength (knots)	Sea State (Beaufort no)	Cloud cover %	Visibility (km)	Glare	Sightings: Y/N	Other Notes
Start									
End									
Scan 6	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Strength (knots)	Sea State (Beaufort no)	Cloud cover %	Visibility (km)	Glare	Sightings: Y/N	Other Notes
Start									
End									
Scan 7	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Strength (knots)	Sea State (Beaufort no)	Cloud cover %	Visibility (km)	Glare	Sightings: Y/N	Other Notes
Start									
End									
Scan 8	Time	Wind Direction	Wind Strength (knots)	Sea State (Beaufort no)	Cloud cover %	Visibility (km)	Glare	Sightings: Y/N	Other Notes
Start									
End									

Figure 18: Page 1 of the recording form used by surveyor. This was used to record all environmental data and beginning and end times of the scans.

Species counts (max. number visible at surface from watchpoint). Please note whether the same animal has been seen/recorded more than once.								
Sightings								
Time	Number of Individuals (with sex if known)	Species and confidence	Distance (meters)	Compass Bearing (degrees)	Compass Heading (degrees)	Behaviour	During scan?	Notes; associating birds, vessel interaction, distinctive marks, photographs taken?
Example 10:00	1 male	Grey Seal (definite)	150m	30	150m	Breaching/Cruising	Y/N (Incl scan no.)	
<p>Sea State: 0 = mirror calm 1 = slight ripples, no whitecaps 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 = large waves, whitecaps everywhere, frequent spray. Do Not Survey in anything above 3.</p> <p>Visibility: < 1km 1-5 km 6-10km >10km</p> <p>Glare: None Low Medium High</p> <p>Confidence: State the species and ID confidence - Definite Probable Possible</p> <p>Group size: give range from minimum to maximum estimate.</p> <p>Calves/Juveniles: Estimate numbers of smaller-sized animals relative to adult body size: calves: less than half adult size juveniles half or more adult size.</p> <p>Bearing and Distance should be at point of closest approach.</p> <p>Behaviour: Surfacing Normal Swim Fast Swim Blow Feeding Leap/Breach Tail Slap Spyhop Bow-ride Rest/Milling/Bottling(seals) Hauled out (seals) Sexual Aggression</p> <p>Notes: Notes of anything of interest- associated seabirds Vessels in the area, including whether they approach the animals Disturbance, note anything you think might be disturbance.</p>								

Figure 19: Page 2 of the recording form used by surveyor. This was used to record all marine mammal observations. Information regarding their location, and behaviour was also noted.