An Introduction to the Elkhorn Slough Sea Otter Project

Sarah Espinosa
UCSC Graduate Student
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Tim Tinker, Kerstin Wasson
Michelle Staedler, Jess Fujii, Teri Nicholson, Joe Tomoleoni, Ron Eby and Robert Scoles
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### Purpose

- **Habitat Use**  
  (Tim Tinker)

- **Population status**  
  (Michelle Staedler)

- **Contaminate analysis**  
  (Chayo Fuentes)

- **Ecosystem effects**  
  (Brent Hughes)
Female and Pup Survival

![Graph showing female and pup survival rates for Cambria and San Nicolas, with Elkhorn Slough highlighted.]
Elkhorn Slough Sea Otter Population

Population Trends, Elkhorn Slough

Number Counted

- Independents
- Pups

Start of Project
Elkhorn Slough Abundance
Averages: 99 Individuals, 7 large pups and 5 small pups = 111 total
Pup Abundance

![Graph showing fluctuations in pup abundance over time. The x-axis represents months from 2013 September to 2017 January, and the y-axis represents pup survey count ranging from 0 to 25. The data points show a general trend with peaks and troughs.]

- **Pup Abundance**

- Chart illustrating the fluctuation of pup survey counts over time from 2013 to 2017.
Year 1: Density Distributions
Year 2: Density Distributions

Sea Otter Density Yr2
Otter/400m^2
- High: 0.2
- Low: 0
Year 3: Density Distributions

Sea Otter Density Yr3

Otter/400m^2

- High: 0.2
- Low: 0
Male Re-sights

Sea Otter Number

- 3-146
- 3-183
- 3-434
- 3-520
- 3-568
- 6-486
- 386
Female Re-sights

- Females (n=21)
- Females w/Large Pups (n=13)
- Females w/Small Pups (n=16)
Diet Composition

Proportion of Diet

Clam
Crab
Mussel
Worms

Introduction
Methods
Preliminary Results
Summary
Elkhorn Slough Abundance

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