

Seal Surveys

2011-2012 Seal Haul Out Surveys

Weather conditions for the surveys are shown below.

Date	Low Tide	Wind (direction; Beaufort scale)	Sea State	Rain
	12:56; 0.7 m	SW, 2	1-2	None
	11:58; 0.9 m	SW, 1	1	None
	11:01; 1.1 m	SW, 2	2	None
	10:46; 1.2 m	NW, 2	1-2	Occ. Drizzle, worsening towards end
	11:24; 0.4 m	S, 2	2	None
	12:52; 1.0 m	WSW, 1	1	None
	14:15; 1.2 m	SE, 2-3	2	None
	11:54; 1.0 m	W, 1-2	1	None
	11:43; 0.7 m	SW, 2	1-2	None
	11:59; 0.2 m	SE, 2	1	Occ. drizzle
	10:59; 0.2 m	SSW, 1-2	1	None
	11:31; 0.2 m	SW, 2-3	2	None

The results of this survey are shown in Table 7.12, below.

Site	19.05.2011	16.06.2011	14.07.2011	12.08.2011	27.09.2011	14.10.2011
Deer Island	0	0	33 (6) Common	26 Common, 1 Grey	3 Common	8 Common
Kinvara Bay/Tarrea Pier area	27 Common	20 Common	63 (17) Common	87 Common, 3 Grey	71 Common, 3 Grey	43 Common
Tawin	55 Common	50 Common	11 Common	3 Common	4 Common	12 Common
St.Brendan's Island/Earl's Rock	0	0	5 Common	0	0	0
Skerry nr. Rinville	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oranmore Bay	40 Common	23 Common	46 (8) Common	53 Common	45 Common	50 Common
Rabbit Island	0	0	0	0	0	4 Common
Hare Island	0	0	0	0	0	0
Point 900 m E Rinmore Point	0	0	0	0	0	0
Lough Atalia	0	0	0	0	0	0
Claddagh Beach, South Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	122 Common	93 Common	158 Common (31)	169 Common, 4 Grey	123 Common, 3 Grey	117 Common

Numbers in brackets refer to pups.

Site	30.11.2011	12.12.2011	10.01.2012	09.02.2012	08.03.2012	06.04.2012
Deer Island	1 Common	0	0	0	0	0
Kinvara Bay/Tarrea Pier area	0	2 Common	3 Common	0	0	1 Common, 6 Grey
Tawin	59 Common	18 Common	23 Common	23 Common	26 Common	58 Common
St.Brendan's Island/Earl's Rock	0	0	1 Common	1 Common	0	0
Skerry nr. Rinville	0	0	0	0	0	0
Oranmore Bay	66 Common	11 Common	15 Common	10 Common	13 Common	3 Common
Rabbit Island	0	0	0	0	0	13 Common
Hare Island	0	0	0	0	0	1 Common
Point 900 m E Rinmore Point	0	0	0	0	0	2 Common
Lough Atalia	0	0	0	0	0	2 Common
Claddagh Beach, South Park	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total	126 Common	31 Common	42 Common	34 Common	39 Common	80 Common, 6 Grey

Table 7.14.1 Seal haul-out site survey, Inner Galway Bay, 2011-2012

Date	Tide	Observation
12/11/2011	Low tide	2 Common Seal at haul-out rock near railway bridge ¹
25/11/2011	Falling - 2 hours after full tide	None
29/11/2011	Low Tide	None
05/12/2011	High Tide	None
14/12/2011	Low Tide	None
22/12/2011	Rising Tide/High Tide	None
06/01/2012	Rising/High Tide	None
11/01/2012	Low Tide	None
18/01/2012	High Tide	None
23/01/2012	Rising Tide	None
02/02/2012	Falling	None
09/02/2012	Low/Rising Tide	1 Common Seal at haul-out rock
15/02/2012	Falling Tide	None
21/02/2012	Rising Tide	1 Common Seal at haul-out rock
29/02/2012	Rising /High Tide	1 Common Seal at haul-out rock
07/03/2012	Rising/High Tide	None
10/03/2012	Low tide	1 Common Seal at haul-out rock ²
15/03/2012	Full Tide	None
22/03/2012	Falling/Low Tide	None
29/03/2012	Low Tide	Common Seal in water
02/04/2012	Low/Rising Tide	None
06/04/2012	Low tide	2 Common Seal at haul-out rock ³
11/04/2012	High tide	Common Seal in water
18/04/2012	Rising Tide	Common Seal in water
25/04/2012	Falling tide	None
01/05/2012	High Tide	None
09/05/2012	High Tide	Common Seal in water
15/05/2012	High Tide	None

1 = C. Peppiatt, during I-WeBS count of Inner Galway Bay.

2 = C. Peppiatt, during I-WeBS count of Inner Galway Bay.

3 = From low tide seal haul-out survey (see Table 7.12, above).

Table 7.13 Seals in Lough Atalia, 2011-2012

Date	Observation
31/03/2011	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
17/04/2011	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area, 5 Common hauled out on Rabbit Island, 5 Common hauled out on point 900 m E of Rinmore Point.
17/05/2011	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area, one Common hauled out on Rabbit Island.
17/06/2011	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
11/07/2011	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
12/10/2011	Four Common Seal hauled out on Rabbit Island

11/11/2011	One Common Seal hauled out on point 900 m E of Rinmore Point.
29/12/2011	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
13/01/2012	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area, One Common Seal hauled out on point 900 m E of Rinmore Point.
20/01/2012	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
05/02/2012	Two Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
07/02/2012	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
28/02/2012	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
06/03/2012	One Common Seal in water in bird survey sea area
25/03/2012	Two Common Seal hauled out on Rabbit Island

Table 7.14 Seals recorded during bird and cetacean surveys, 2011-2012



Photo. 5: Seals feeding on spratt off Nimmo's Pier, Galway, December 1st 2010.