

Seasonal Use of Auke Bay Recreation Area by Harbor Porpoise (*Phocoena phocoena*)

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Systematic surveys in Auke Bay, Juneau, Alaska off the Auke Recreation area (Fig. 1) between 1995 and 2009. Students in the UAS Biology program and the National Science Foundation's Research Experiences for Undergraduates were trained to conduct surveys and collect environmental data. Shore-based observations were made from a station on the beach at the Auke Recreation Area (Auke Rec). Porpoise use of the area was highest in spring and winter (Fig. 2).

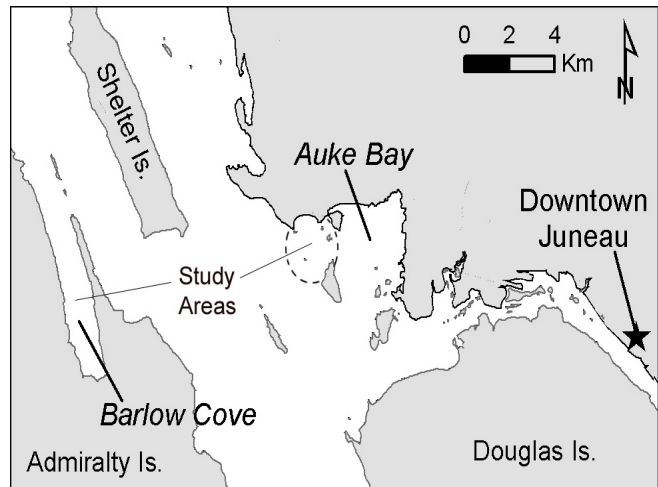


Figure 1. Area showing harbor porpoise survey area along the northwest shore of Auke Bay. The Auke Recreation (Auke Rec) area is outlined by a dashed line. Point Louisa is the south facing point along the western shore. (Map courtesy of Jennifer Mondragon)

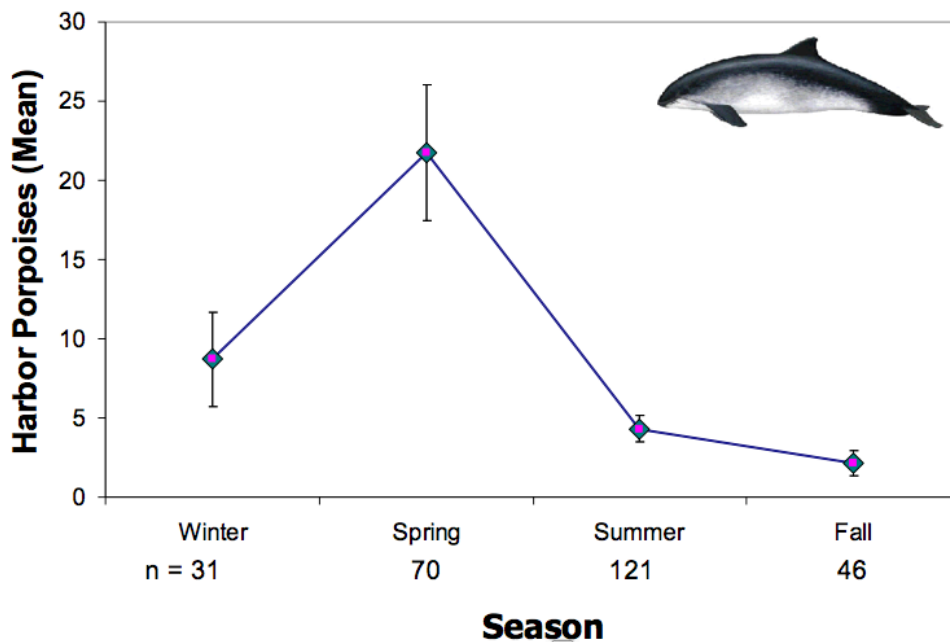


Figure 2. Mean numbers of harbor porpoise counted in Auke Bay from Auke Recreation area from 1995 – 2009 (Error bars = 95% CI) (data E.A. Mathews 2009).