

Plate 6 Black Rocks, Algoa Bay (South Africa)



6.1

6.1 Black Rocks in the foreground, ~ 5 nm from land. Stag and Seal Islands to the right. Alexandra State Forest in the background (photo: E. Pike).



Plate 7 Field trips to Black Rocks



7.1



7.2



7.3



7.4

7.1–7.3 The Cape Nature Conservation rubber duck was used to commute to Black Rocks. It was launched from the nearest suitable beach, 7–15 nm from Black Rocks, e.g., Alexandra State Forest beach; Cannon Rocks (photos 7.1 & 7.2: C. Stewardson; photo 7.3: C. Urquhart).

7.4 The Port Elizabeth Museum ski boat (*Delphinus*) was occasionally used to commute between Port Elizabeth and Black Rocks, a 68 nm round trip (photo: C. Stewardson).



Plate 8(a) Pup mortality attributed to storms



8.1



8.2



8.3



8.4

8.1 Waves breaking over Black Rocks (photos: C. Stewardson).

8.2–8.4 Pups are introduced to the water when only a few hours old; however they acquire swimming abilities slowly, gaining proficiency only after some months of ‘training’ in the rock pools. If storms occur during the pupping season (Nov–Dec), many pups may be washed from the rocks (photos: C. Stewardson).

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Plate 8(b) Pup mortality attributed to storms



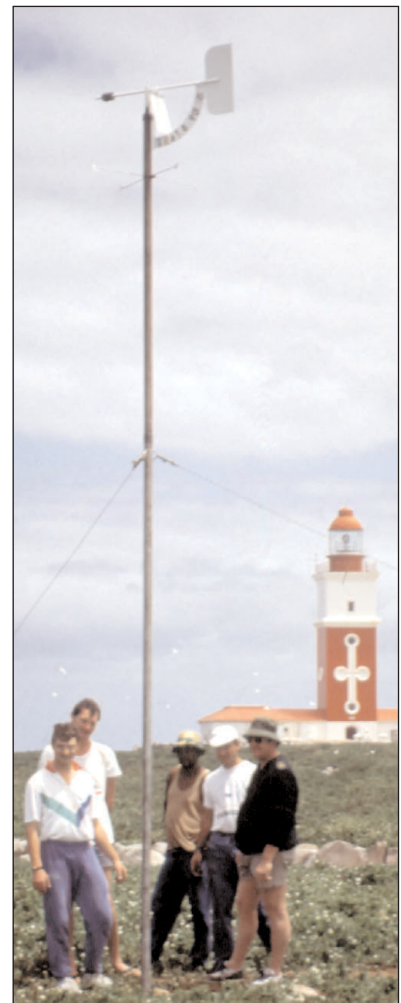
8.5



8.6



8.7



8.8

8.5–8.8 For the purpose of this study, a weather station was established on Bird Island < 1 nm east of Black Rocks seal colony. Wind speeds and directions were measured using a pressure plate anemometer (photos 8.5, 8.6 & 8.8: C. Stewardson; photo 8.7: H. Watts).

**Plate 9 Fur seal industry**



**9.1**



**9.2**

9.1 & 9.2 Before commercial exploitation by Europeans began in 1610, Cape fur seals inhabited six islands in Algoa Bay (Seal, Stag, Black Rocks, St. Croix, Jahleel and Brenton). By the early 1900s, all Eastern Cape colonies were extirpated, with the exception of Black Rocks. Here, a lone Cape fur seal hauls-out on St. Croix Island. Available evidence suggests that seals were extirpated from the St. Croix Islands in the late 1850s (photos: G. Ross).

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