

NZ Sea Lion Necropsies and Disease Investigation 2014/15 Auckland Islands

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Specific Aims for 2014/15 Field Season

- Undertake necropsies of NZ sea lion pups throughout the field season
- Collect avian samples and environmental substrate for testing to improve understanding of *K. pneumoniae* dynamics
- Undertake mitigation of pup mortality in holes by building ramps



NZ sea lion necropsies

- Full gross necropsies of all pups and adults that die on Enderby Island to determine cause of death
- Collection of samples for histopathology, microbiology and parasitology
- Further processing dependent on funding

Reservoirs of *K. pneumoniae*?



Yellow-eyed penguins

Avian reservoirs of *K. pneumoniae*



- Collection of faeces with cloacal swabbing of
 - Yellow-eyed penguins
 - Scavenging birds
 - Northern giant petrels
 - Brown skuas

Sampling of substrate for *K. pneumoniae* testing



- To assess importance of environmental reservoirs of *K. pneumoniae*
- Collection of mud, sand and water samples from Auckland Islands sites throughout season



Ramps to rescue pups from streams and mud pools



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