



May 2021 Monthly talk
Tuesday 11th May @ 7.30 p.m.

Palmerston North City Library,
George Street Entrance, Palmerston North

Talk: “What NZ sea lion whiskers tell us about by-catch”

Speaker: Prof Louise Chilvers, Wildlife Ecology, School of Veterinary Science



Determining the foraging strategies for top marine predators is fundamental to understanding their role in the marine ecosystem and to determine what impacts could occur from changes caused by climate change or fisheries. Female New Zealand sea lions are known to have two distinct foraging strategies (mesopelagic or benthic ecotypes), shown to be constant within and between years. Females who are known to be mesopelagic foragers have higher overlap and are at greater risk of harmful interactions with fisheries. I will talk about how I have used whiskers to identify how females are foraging, using stable isotope analysis, and how that relates to fisheries interactions and their management.

All welcome. Gold coin donation appreciated

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