

## SUPPLEMENTARY MATERIAL

**Supplementary Table 1**

Numbers and names of harbour seal counting areas (1–98) of each of the seven coastal sub-areas of Iceland, trend estimates for the abundance in the period 1980–2006 (Hauksson, 2010) and the period 2011–2020 (Granquist, 2021), described by exponential growth rate ( $R_{\text{est}}$  (SE; standard error and p-value). Significance levels: ns = not significant, \* significant at the 5%, \*\* 1 % and \*\*\* 0.1% levels.

#	Counting area	1980-2006	2011-2020
		$R_{\text{est}}$ (SE) p-value	$R_{\text{est}}$ (SE) p-value
	Faxaflói, total	-0.07 (0.01)*	-0.01 (0.05) ns
1	Akraós	-0.06 (0.03) ns	0.06 (0.10) ns
2	Borgarfjörður	-0.10 (0.05)*	0.03 (0.09) ns
3	Búðavík	0.03 (0.07) ns	0.24 (0.08) ns
4	Haffjörður	-0.05 (0.02)*	-0.02 (0.21) ns
5	Hvalfjörður	-0.04 (0.02) ns	0.10 (0.09) ns
6	Hvalseyjar	-0.17 (0.03)*	-0.05 (0.21) ns
7	Leirárvogur	-0.06 (0.02)*	-0.23 (0.26) ns
8	Melar	-0.20 (0.04)*	0.29 (0.19) ns
9	Mýrar	-0.14 (0.03)*	0.11 (0.04) ns
10	Hafnarósar	-0.07 (0.02)*	0.04 (0.10) ns
11	W-Snæfellsnes	-0.12 (0.02)*	-0.15 (0.13) ns
	Breiðafjörður, total	-0.06 (0.01) ns	-0.03 (0.01) ns
12	Álfatfjörður	-0.11 (0.02)*	NA
13	Bjarneyjar	-0.20 (0.05)*	-0.21 (0.12) ns
14	Brimilsvellir	-0.13 (0.02)*	-0.25 (0.10) ns
15	Bæjarvaðall	-0.02 (0.02) ns	-0.00 (0.06) ns
16	Fellsströnd	0.01 (0.03) ns	0.02 (0.18) ns
17	Flateyjarlönd	-0.15 (0.04)*	NA
18	Grónes/Hallsteinsnes	-0.10 (0.04)*	NA
19	Hagadrápssker & Flögur	-0.17 (0.04)*	0.25 (0.22) ns
20	Hergilseyjar & Sandeyjarh.	-0.12 (0.07) ns	-0.10 (0.18) ns
21	Hjarðarnes	0.04 (0.06) ns	0.02 (0.08) ns
22	Svefneyjar	-0.12 (0.02)*	0.05 (0.06) ns

23	Kerlingarfjörður	-0.06 (0.04) ns	-0.23 (0.23) ns
24	Króksfjarðarnes	-0.06 (0.02)*	-0.15 (0.14) ns
25	Lækjarskógarfjörur	0.03 (0.02) ns	0.01 (0.10) ns
26	Drápsker	-0.10 (0.04)*	-0.31 (0.09) ns
27	Rauðseyjar	-0.14 (0.03)*	0.25 (0.07) ns
28	Reykhólalönd	-0.06 (0.03) ns	-0.20 (0.16) ns
29	Skarðströnd	-0.17 (0.06)*	0.11 (0.32) ns
30	Skálanes	-0.05 (0.03) ns	NA
31	Skálmarnes	-0.07 (0.05) ns	0.15 (0.07) ns
32	Skógarströnd	-0.15 (0.08) ns	-0.28 (0.18) ns
33	Þórsnes and islands	-0.02 (0.05) ns	-0.07 (0.23) ns
Westfjords, total		-0.02 (0.01) ns	-0.003 (0.02) ns
34	Aðalvík	-0.03 (0.04) ns	-0.09 (0.31) ns
35	Borgarey	-0.07 (0.04) ns	0.07 (0.05) ns
36	Laugaból	-0.01 (0.04) ns	0.13 (0.06) ns
37	Grænahlíð	-0.05 (0.06) ns	NA
38	Vogasker	-0.08 (0.02)*	5.88e-04 (7.51e-02) ns
39	Jökulfirðir	-0.09 (0.04)*	0.06 (0.21) ns
40	Mjóifjörður	-0.01 (0.02) ns	0.23 (0.08) ns
41	Patreksfj & Tálknafj	0.07 (0.03) ns	NA
42	Reykjanes	-0.05 (0.02)*	-0.11 (0.09) ns
43	Súgandafjörður	-0.05 (0.07) ns	NA
44	Vatnsfjarðarnes	0.02 (0.03) ns	-0.10 (0.07) ns
45	Ögurnes	0.02 (0.02) ns	-0.01 (0.06) ns
46	Önundarfjörður	-0.06 (0.04) ns	NA
Northwest Iceland, total		-0.02 (0.01) ns	-0.06 (0.05) ns
47	Eyjar	-0.09 (0.02)*	0.08 (0.22) ns
48	Suður Bjarnarfjörður	-0.02 (0.04) ns	0.12 (0.12) ns
49	Furufjörður	-0.04 (0.03) ns	0.08 (0.13) ns
50	Drangar/Drangavík/Bjarnavík	-0.03 (0.02) ns	-0.11 (0.02)*

51	Drangsnes	0.04 (0.02) ns	0.48 (0.07)*
52	Eyjarey	-0.06 (0.02)*	NA
53	Vatnsnes	-0.02 (0.03) ns	-0.04 (0.12) ns
54	Heggstaðanes	-0.01 (0.03) ns	0.04 (0.12) ns
55	Horn - Straumnes	0.01 (0.08) ns	NA
56	Kollafjörður	-0.02 (0.02) ns	0.07 (0.09) ns
57	Munaðarnessker	0.04 (0.05) ns	0.01 (0.05) ns
58	Litla Ávík	-0.03 (0.04) ns	0.01 (0.05) ns
59	Ófeigsfjörður	-0.04 (0.04) ns	-0.01 (0.05) ns
60	Reykjarfjarðarsker	-0.04 (0.05) ns	-0.01 (0.05) ns
61	Suður Reykjafjörður	-0.03 (0.04) ns	NA
62	Siglufjörður	-0.06 (0.04) ns	NA
63	Sigríðarstaðaós	-0.004 (0.10) ns	-0.10 (0.04) ns
64	Skagi	-0.04 (0.02) ns	-0.06 (0.06) ns
65	Skjaldarbjarnarvík	-0.02 (0.05) ns	-0.12 (0.32) ns
66	Vestur Hrútafjörður	-0.02 (0.03) ns	-0.09 (0.17) ns
Northeast, total		-0.04 (0.01) ns	-0.06 (0.06) ns
67	Bakkahlaup	-0.02 (0.02) ns	-0.09 (0.08) ns
68	Eyjafjörður	0.03 (0.04) ns	NA
69	Melrakkasléttá	-0.07 (0.03)*	-0.37 (0.11) ns
70	Skjálfandafljót	-0.06 (0.02)*	1.30e-01(8.36e-03)**
71	Tjörnes	-0.13 (0.05)*	NA
72	Þistilfjörður	0.03 (0.09)ns	-0.17 (0.19) ns
East Iceland, total		-0.01 (0.01)*	0.05 (0.03) ns
73	Álftafjörður	-0.04 (0.02) ns	0.10 (0.07) ns
74	Bakkaflói	-0.07 (0.02)*	0.21 (0.10) ns
75	Berufjörður	0.06 (0.04) ns	0.03 (0.08) ns
76	Breiðdalsvík	-0.09 (0.02)*	0.13 (0.32) ns
77	Dalatangi	-0.10 (0.01)*	-0.26 (0.27) ns
78	Eystrahorn	-0.14 (0.03)*	NA

79	Héraðsflói	-0.01 (0.02) ns	-0.10 (0.06) ns
80	Húsavík	0.04 (0.07) ns	-0.09 (0.04) ns
81	Jökla	0.02 (0.03) ns	0.04 (0.02) ns
82	Loðmundar & Seyðisfj.	-0.11 (0.04)*	NA
South Iceland, total		-0.07 (0.01)*	0.02 (0.07) ns
83	Skaftárós	-0.11 (0.04)*	-0.04 (0.47) ns
84	Eyrarbakki/Stokkseyri	-0.03 (0.05) ns	1.40e-01 (8.42e-03)**
85	Fjallsárós	-0.07 (0.04) ns	0.01 (0.06) ns
86	Hestgerðirlón	-0.14 (0.05)*	-0.06 (0.08) ns
87	Öræfi	0.02 (0.11) ns	0.02 (0.14) ns
88	Hornafjörður	-0.19 (0.17) ns	0.16 (0.15) ns
89	Hrollaugseyjar-Tvísker	0.02 (0.06) ns	NA
90	Kúðafljót	-0.06 (0.01)*	0.07 (0.07) ns
91	Landeyjarsandur	-0.19 (0.04)*	NA
92	Markarfljót	-0.07 (0.02)*	0.10 (0.12) ns
93	Papós and skerries	-0.07 (0.05) ns	0.10 (0.34) ns
94	Vestmannaeyjar	-0.09 (0.05) ns	NA
95	Vígur í lóni	-0.15 (0.04)*	0.09 (0.30) ns
96	Þjórsá	-0.01 (0.02) ns	5.55e-04 (1.45e-01) ns
97	Selvogur	-0.05 (0.04) ns	0.29 (0.01)**
98	Ölfusá	-0.01 (0.06) ns	-0.07 (0.09) ns