

National Park Service



2008 Northern Elephant Seal Season Highlights

- The first pup of the 2008 breeding season was observed from the Sunset Beach Overlook on Wednesday, December 19th.
- The highest number of elephant seals ever recorded on Drakes Beach occurred throughout the 2008 breeding season.
- The first pup observed on Drakes Beach on 12/24/07.
- The alpha male on Drakes Beach in 2008 was the 2007 alpha male of Gus' Cove.
- Peak count of 1203 elephant seals in the headlands occurred on 1/30/08.
(Peak count historically occurs the last week of January or first week of February).
- On March 4th, a 21 year old female on Drakes Beach was identified by an old brand on her left side, number 222, which was applied at the Ano Nuevo colony in 1987.



Biologist placing a flipper tag on a weaned pup.



First Pup of 2008 breeding season



21 year old female

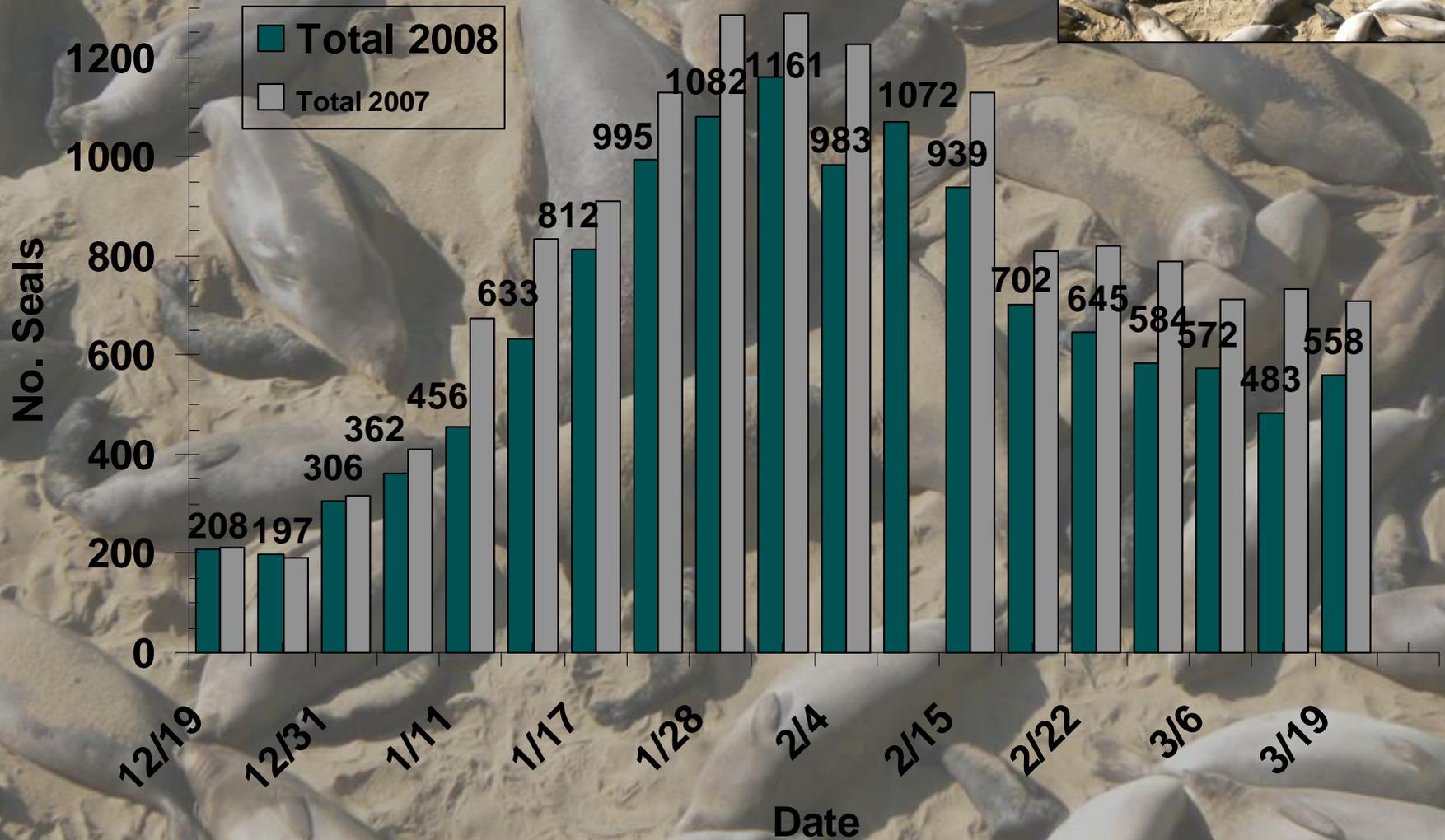
Close up of brand 222



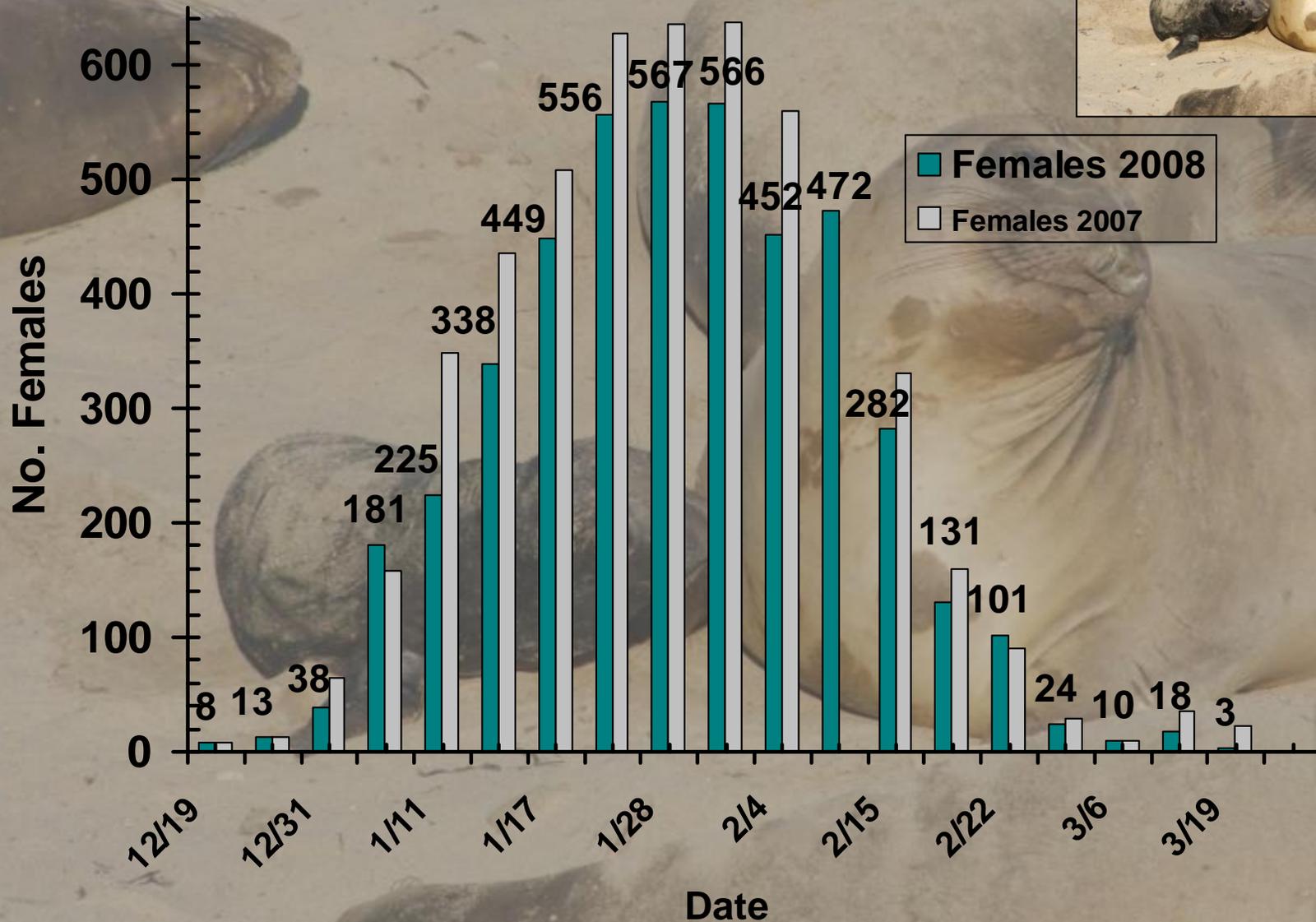
Drakes Beach

All photographs in slideshow by H. Jensen

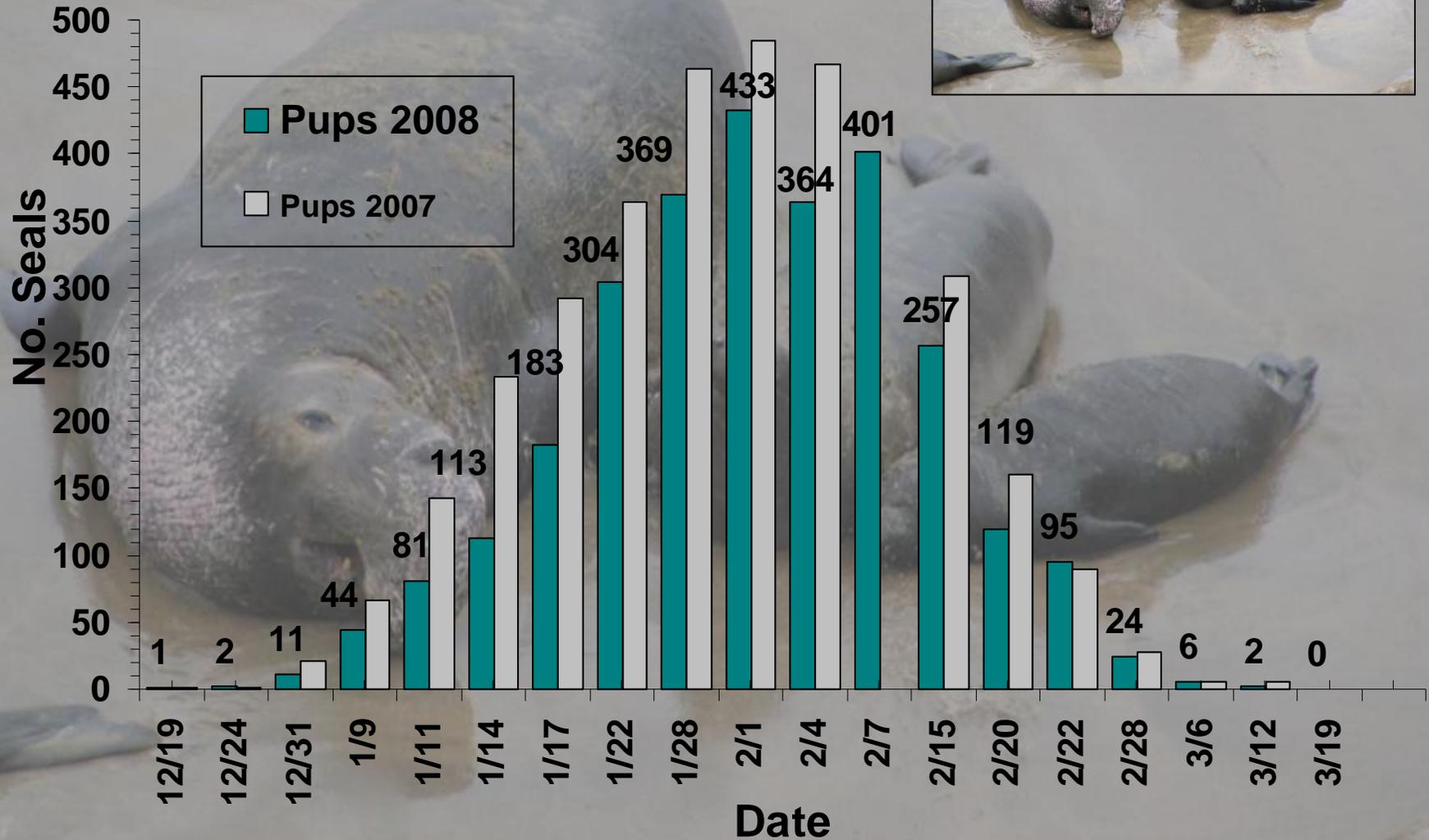
NORTHERN ELEPHANT SEALS at POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE Total Seals Counts



NORTHERN ELEPHANT SEALS at POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE Female Counts

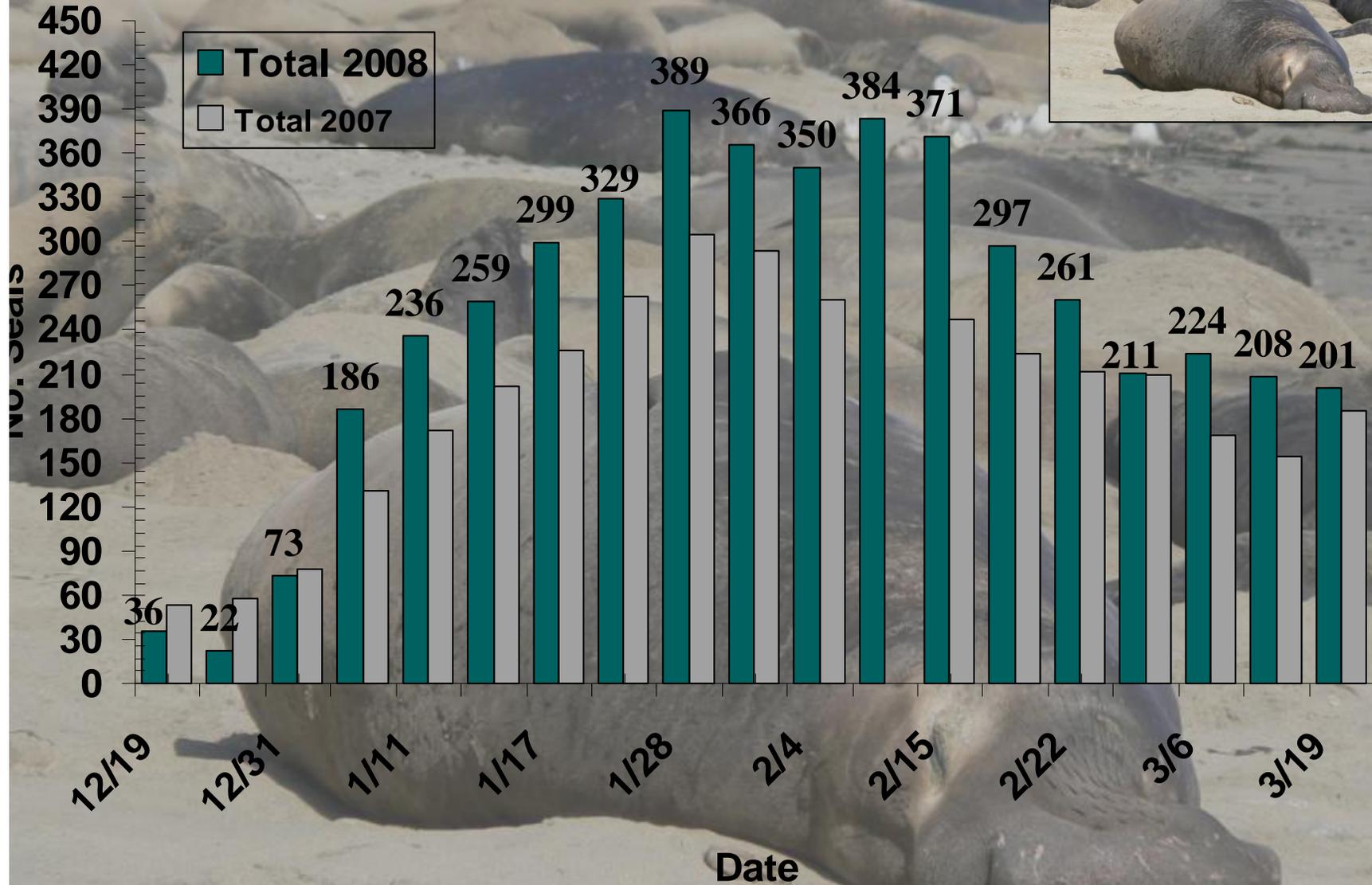


NORTHERN ELEPHANT SEALS at POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE Pup Counts

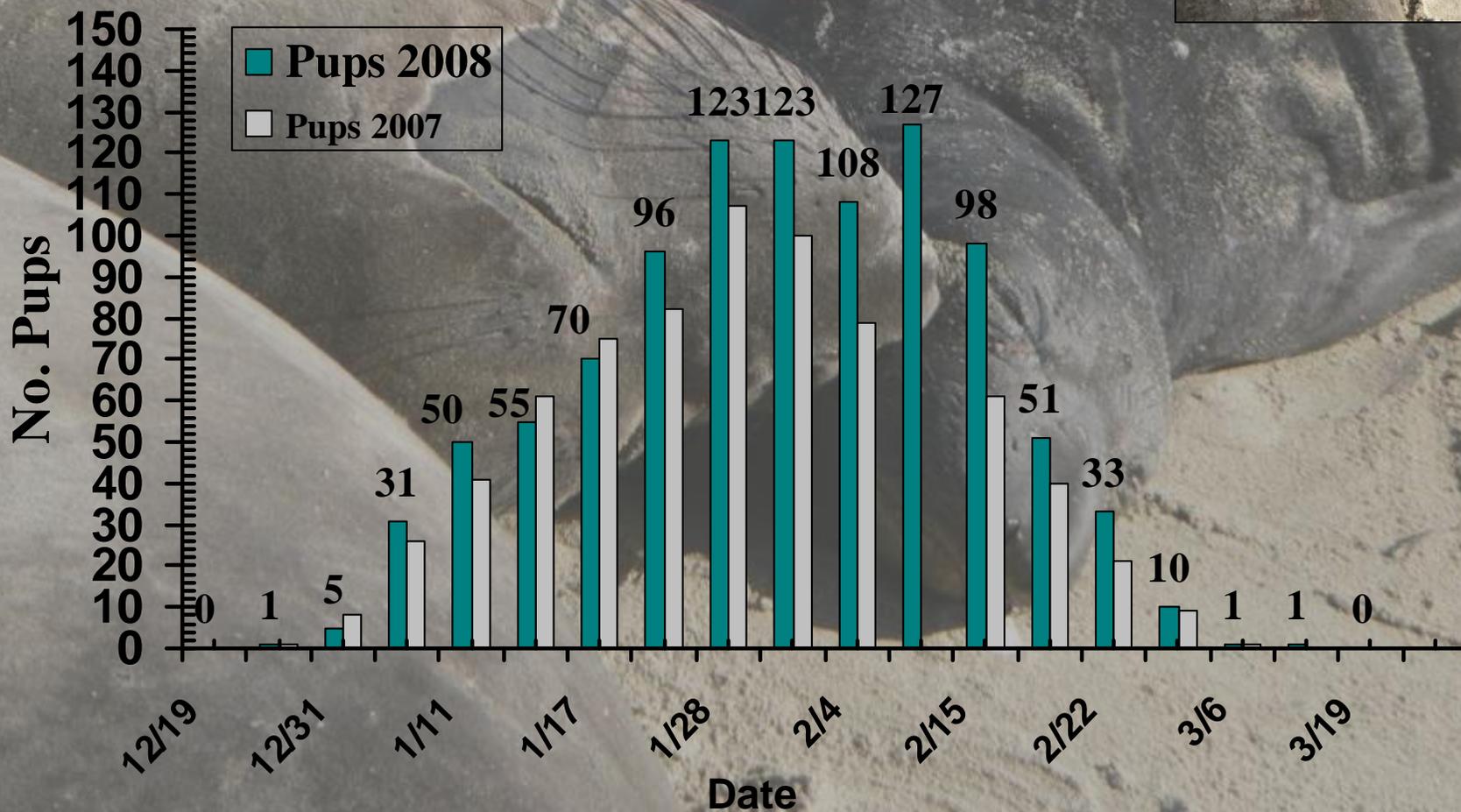


NORTHERN ELEPHANT SEALS at POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE

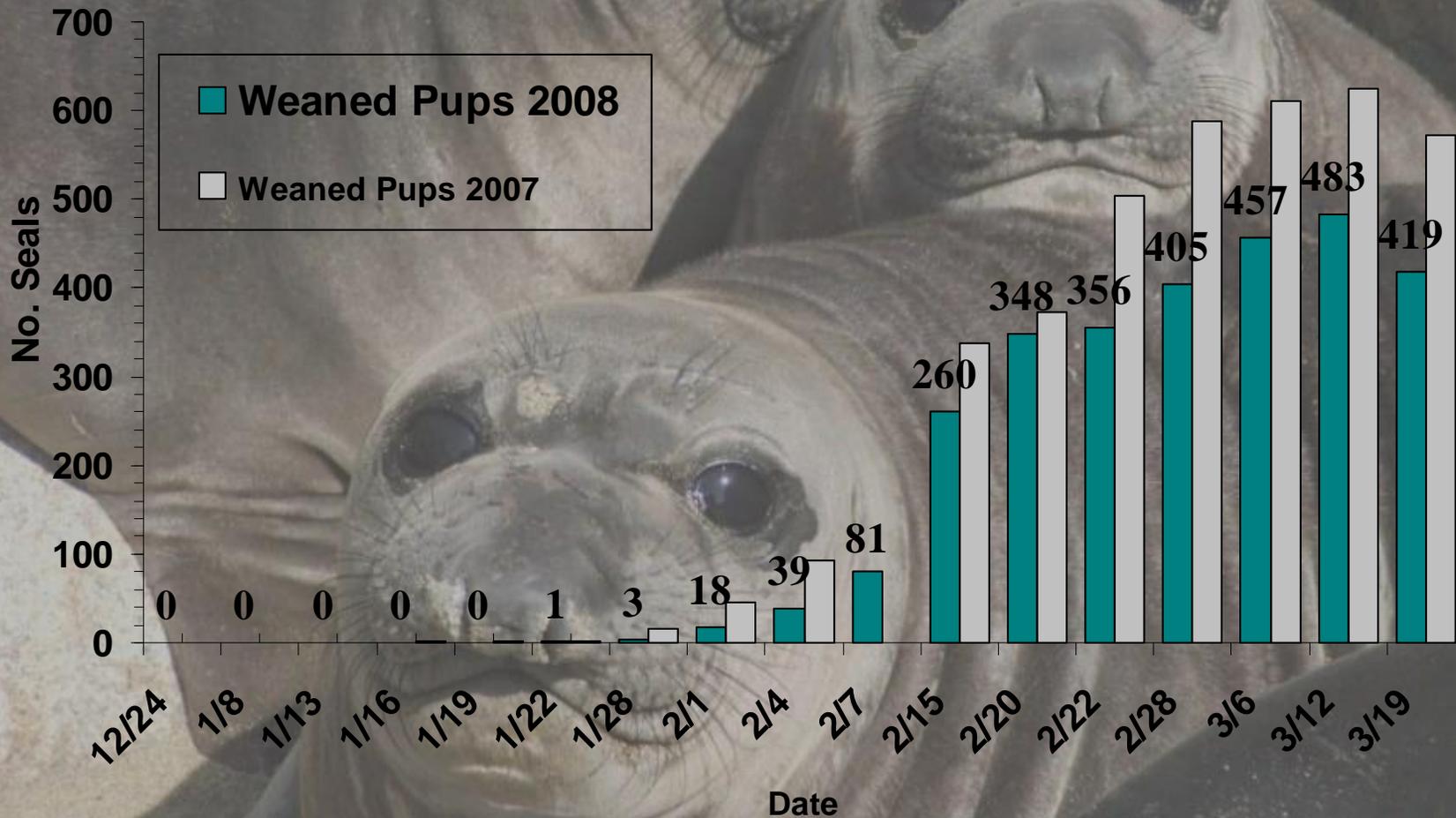
Total Seals at Drakes Beach



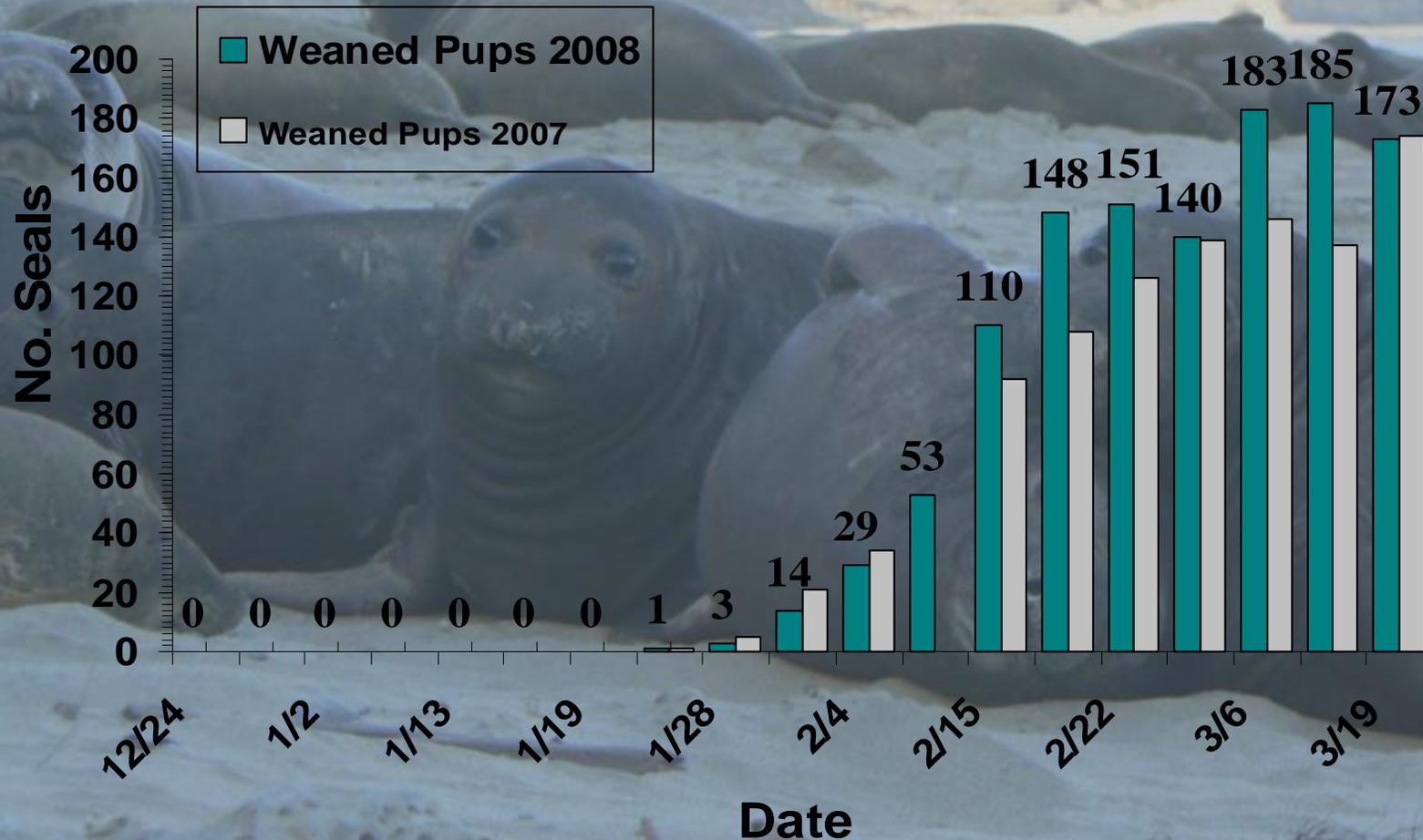
NORTHERN ELEPHANT SEALS at POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE Pups at Drakes Beach



NORTHERN ELEPHANT SEALS at POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE Weaned Pup Counts



NORTHERN ELEPHANT SEALS at POINT REYES NATIONAL SEASHORE Weaned Pups at Drakes Beach



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