

January 17, 2009

Greetings from Uruguay! I always think about sea lions and fur seals as sea dogs. So many of their behaviors remind me of dogs. Their curiosity, the playfulness. Being a dog person, that might also explain my affinity to study them. Any way, after putting out two tags in the am. We took a zodiac ride and I shot a few pictures of sea lions and fur seals in the water.

A behavior common to all fur seals, is the tendency to fold one flipper over the other in a posture called jug handling. Like the handle on a jug. It got its name from the old sealers, who would find them at sea resting in this position.

Best,
Dan





Given that it gets really warm here in the mid day, we get up at first light and work until mid morning when it gets to hot for us and the sea lions. Attached are some images of the team at work. One picture of us weighing a sea lion. It gives you an idea of how big these animals are.

It's always good to see the mother and pup back together after we have caught her to put a tag on.



