

## Help Our Team Count the Penguins

<http://www.polar66.org/pcam/images.shtml>

Adelie penguins spend most of their life in the ocean, swimming, finding food and resting on ice floes (large pieces of flat ice). They only come onto land to make their nest, lay eggs and raise their chicks during the summer breeding season of Nov - Jan. Knowing how many penguins are in the colony at any given time is an important piece of our data and how the numbers change over the season helps us understand the lives of these amazing birds.



If you would like to help us collect this important data here is how.

Our camera takes a picture of five breeding groups everyday. The pictures are not archived so once the new one is taken the old one is gone. We are not able to do this count everyday so we need help. You can download the picture to your desktop from the website and then use any tool to count the

birds and record the a) date of the picture b) picture number c) number of adults on nests d) number of adults standing around. Keep these numbers in a data table and at the end of the season send it to me so we can add your data to others and complete the numbers for the season. Here is an example of a picture.



Count only the penguins in the groups circled in red. Top group = A, bottom group = B. If a bird is standing or laying on a pile of rocks it is on a nest, if not it is just standing. You may have to enlarge the photo to get a better look at what is going on. This is not always easy, take your time and do the best you can. We have to do the same thing.

The adults are black and white the chicks are brown fuzz balls. Do not try to count the chicks, but if the adult is standing near one, then they are on a nest. In the picture here there are 42 total adults and 22 on nests. Data entry might look like this:

Date	Picture #	Group	Adults on Nest	Standing	Total
Jan 6, 2019	3	B	22	20	42

Daily pictures are found here: <http://www.polar66.org/pcam/images.shtml>

The camera takes 5 close up shots a day of breeding groups. For best results select one of the 5 pictures to focus on so you can see the change over time. Here are examples of the 5 shots and the groups within those shots to count.

Picture #1



Top group = Pic#1-A

Bottom group = Pic#1-B

This picture is early in the season and most birds are laying on their nests. The group in the rocks is difficult to count, that's why we are asking for help from you.

Picture #2



Group on left = Pic#2 - A

Group on right = Pic#2 - B

Picture#3



Top group = Pic #3-A

Bottom group = Pic#3 - B

Picture # 4



Pic#4 only one group. This picture has many chicks. Look for the brown fluff balls

Picture # 5



Pic#5 Our smallest group. In this picture most birds on laying on their nests

Thank you for your help and have fun.