

33rd Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census Results

24th Nov. – 3rd Dec. 2023

The census was a great success!

48 people took part, the **highest ever participation!**

127 different species in 591 photos, the **2nd highest species count!**

5 new species for the Nelson Bay Census!



Eubranchus sp. ML1
(Steve Smith)



Mexichromis macropus
(Tom & Nicola Davis +
Julie Coombe & Bill Kuiper)



Thorunna florens
(Ian Shaw)



Tambja morosa
(Meryl Larkin & Chris Westley)



Platydorid sp. DH1
(David Harasti)

New species found for the Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census

Thanks to the divers and intertidal searchers that took part:

Alex Bartlett, Allan Kessler, Andrew Hoffman, Andrew Marsh, Ashley Smith, Bill Kuiper, Cath Shorthouse, Cherie Dodd, Chris Westley, David Atkinson, David Harasti, Eric Law, Ezra Boulton, Gitanjali Katrak, Grant Willetts, Hans Staub, Ian Marriner, Ian Oliver, Ian Shaw, Jim Dodd, John Clarke, Julie Coombe, Julie Jones, Kate Tinson, Kerry Hoffman, Lea Stewart-Clarke, Lee Emery, Margo Smith, Matt Nimbs, Matthias Huchel, Meggie Watson, Meryl Larkin, Nicola Davis, Paul Du Prez, Rachel Redding, Renae Moth, Rob Wallis, Roxanne Hoffman, Samantha Oliver, Steph Woolley, Steve Smith, Steve Wylie, Tom Davis, Tony Strazzari, Trish Simpson, Troy Watson, Ulrike Eulenfeldt, Zara Boyce.

Next Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census

The next Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census (34th) will be the 22–24 March 2024.

33rd Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census Results

The 33rd Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census celebrated the 10th anniversary of the first ever Sea Slug Census, which was held in Nelson Bay in December 2013.

Over these 10 years the enthusiasm of the people taking part has been astounding!

279 different people have participated, with an average of 32 participants per census.

The 33rd census had the highest ever participation, with 48 participants (Fig. 1a).

Participants have sent in over 9,000 photos of 295 different species of sea slugs.

The number of species found on each census has increased over time (Fig. 1b), while the total number of species found has steadily risen over the 10 years (Fig. 2).

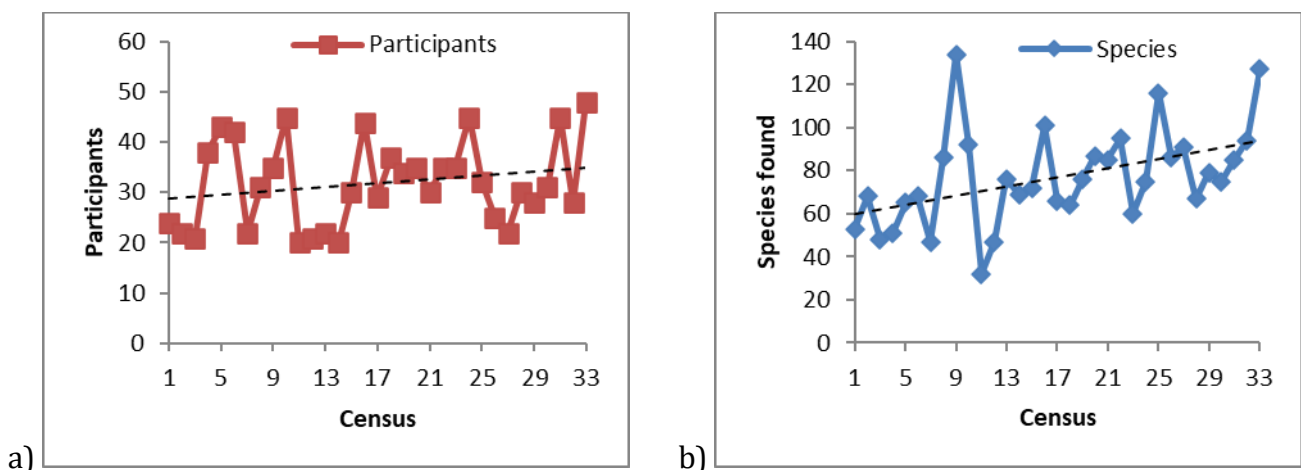


Fig. 1: a) Participants and b) Species found for Nelson Bay Sea Slug Censuses

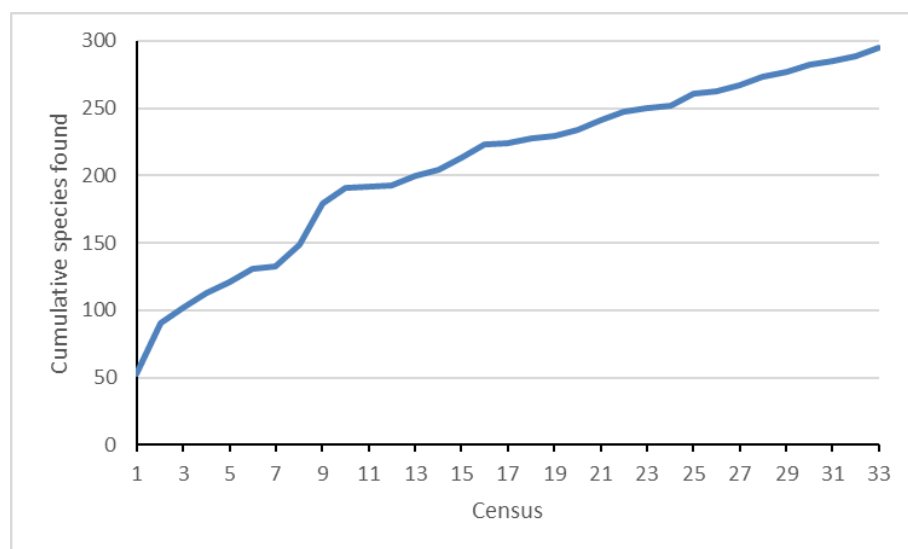


Fig. 2: Cumulative number of species found on Nelson Bay Sea Slug Censuses

33rd Nelson Bay Sea Slug Census Album – December 2023

The following pages shows all the species found on the census in order from most to least common. Numbers in brackets refer to the number of team sightings. All photos were taken by the participants.



Goniobranchus splendidus (25)



Ceratosoma amoenum (20)



Doriprismatica atromarginata (20)



Hypselodoris bennetti (19)



Aphelodoris varia (17)



Goniobranchus daphne (17)



Goniobranchus aureopurpureus (14)



Hypselodoris obscura (14)



Polycera capensis (14)



Dendrodoris krusensternii (12)



Aplysia extraordinaria (10)



Goniobranchus collingwoodi (10)



Plocamopherus tilesii (10)



Ceratosoma brevicaudatum (9)



Dermatobranchus cf
dendronephthyphagus (9)

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Phyllodesmium poindimiei (9)



Aplysia concava (8)



Caloria cf indica (8)



Dendrodoris arborescens (8)



Elysia tomentosa (8)



Pleurobranchus peronii (8)



Plocamopherus imperialis (8)



Thecacera pennigera (8)



Thorunna daniellae (8)



Trapania brunnea (8)



Atagema intecta (7)



Austreaolis ornata (7)



Kaloplocamus ramosus (7)

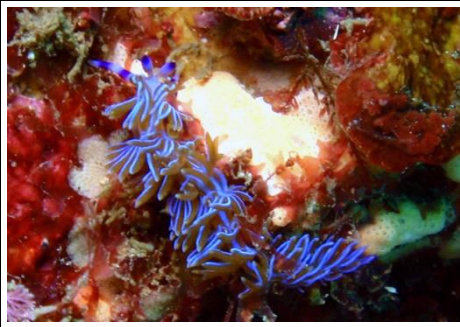


Mexichromis festiva (7)



Nembrotha purpureolineata (7)

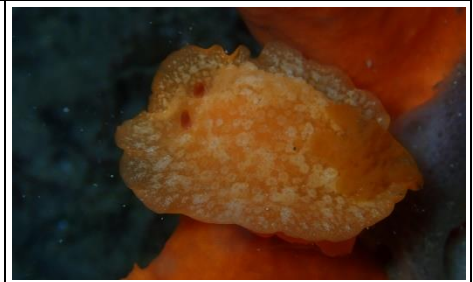
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Pteraeolidia ianthina (7)



Coryphellina cf lotos (6)



Doriopsilla peculiaris (6)



Elysia maoria (6)



Goniodoridella savignyi (6)



Kaloplocamus acutus (6)



Baeolidia australis (5)



Bulbaeolidia alba (5)



Doris cameroni (5)



Goniobranchus albonares (5)



Jorunna ramicola (5)



Aplysia juliana (4)



Berthellina citrina (4)

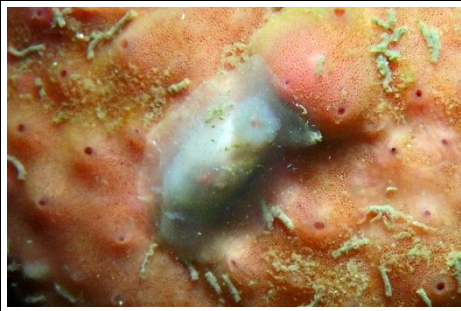


Glossodoris angasi (4)



Goniobranchus setoensis (4)

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Hallaxa michaeli (4)



Oxynoe viridis (4)



Pelagella longicornis (4)



Rostanga crawfordi (4)



Trinchesia sibogae (4)



Dermatobranchus primus (3)



Dermatobranchus sp. 1 (3)



Dolabrifera brazieri (3)



Elysia coodgeensis (3)



Favorinus tsuruganus (3)



Goniobranchus geometricus (3)



Goniobranchus hunterae (3)



Gymnodoris alba (3)



Tritonia sp. 1 (Carijoa) (3)



Vayssierea felis (3)

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Anteaeolidiella cacaotica (2)



Carminodoris nodulosa (2)



Cratena lineata (2)



Dendrodoris fumata (2)



Doriopsilla carneola (2)



Facelina sp.trd (2)



Flabellina sp. 2 (2)



Goniobranchus aff. *reticulatus* (2)



Goniobranchus verrieri (2)



Hancockia burni (2)



Lamellaria sp.trd (2)



Mexichromis macropus (2)



Murphydoris adusta (2)



Okenia harastii (2)

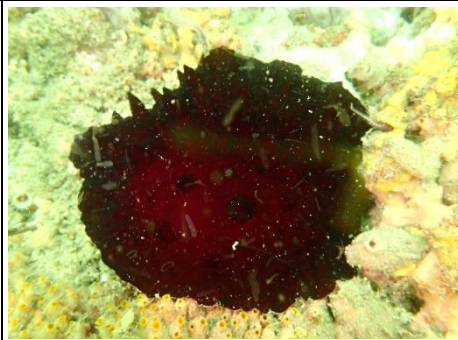


Phyllodesmium sp. 1 (apricot) (2)

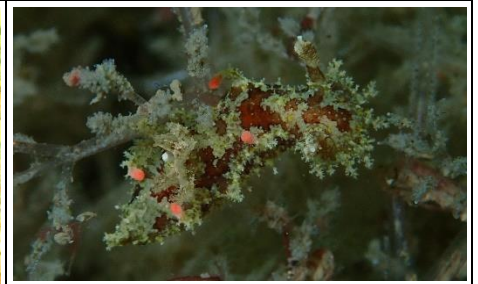
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Pleurobranchaea maculata (2)



Pleurobranchus hilli (2)



Plocamopherus ceylonicus (2)



Rostanga sp. BE1 (2)



Stiliger aureomarginatus (2)



Syphonota geographica (2)



Tambja tenuilineata (2)



Trapania benni (2)



Trinchesia ornata (2)



Tubulophilinopsis lineolata (2)



Tularia bractea (2)



Verconia haliclona (2)



Atagema spongiosa (1)



Biuve fulvipunctata (1)



Caldukia affinis (1)

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Ceratosoma tenue (1)



Chromodoris sp.1 (1)



Crosslandia viridis (1)



Dendrodoris nigra (1)



Diaphorodoris mitsuii (1)



Diversidoris sulphurea (1)



Doris chrysoderma (1)



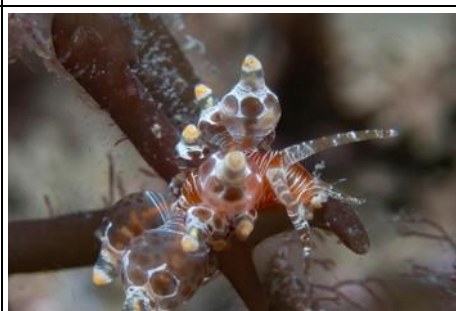
Elysia sp. 1 (1)



Elysia sp. 2 (1)



Eubranchus ocellatus (1)



Eubranchus sp. ML1 (1)



Facelina newcombi (1)



Goniobranchus loringi (1)



Goniobranchus tasmaniensis (1)



Hypselodoris jacksoni (1)

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Janolus sp. 1 (orange) (1)



Jorunna sp.4 (1)



Madrella sanguinea (1)



Okenia echinata (1)



Okenia mija (1)



Onchidoris sp. 1 (1)



Philinopsis speciosa (1)



Platydorid sp.DH1 (1)



Polycera janjukia (1)



Polycera nimbsi (1)



Rostanga arbutus (1)



Tambja morosa (1)



Tayuva lilacina (1)



Thordisa tahala (1)



Thordisa verrucosa (1)

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Thorunna florens (1)

Bubble and Umbrella shells



Bullina lineata (17)



Umbraculum umbraculum (10)



Hydatina physis (6)



Bulla sp. (4)



Micromelo scriptus (1)



Tyrodina corticalis (1)