

## Supplemental methods

Animal handling methods, biollogger specifications, and calculation of arrival and departure dates are described in Robinson, et al.<sup>1</sup>. Satellite tracking data were filtered and processed using the R package `crawl`<sup>2,3</sup> to eliminate inaccurate location points and interpolate between locations. The resulting latitude and longitude estimates were used to calculate great circle distance (in kilometers) from the Año Nuevo breeding beach (37.1083°N, 122.3366°W) for each time-latitude-longitude point in the MATLAB function `distance()`. Across all seals, foraging trip timing (mean  $\pm$  SD day-of-year) was as follows: departure  $157 \pm 9$ , turnaround  $287 \pm 40$ , and arrival  $15 \pm 8$  (Figure 1C). Therefore, outbound trip durations were  $130 \pm 41$  days, and inbound trip durations were  $93 \pm 41$  days. Turnaround dates were calculated using Gaussian kernels with standard deviation 6 hours using custom functions in R. Code and data for a subset of animals are available on GitHub (link available upon review of manuscript) (NOTE: The GitHub repo will be archived on Zenodo, so cite that instead when ready.) Drift rate dates were calculated using a custom MATLAB code based on kernel density estimation of fine-scale changes in depth over time (drift rate, measured in meters/sec).<sup>4</sup> Dates are presented as day-of-year relative to parturition date, with negative numbers indicating dates before pupping. All analyses were carried out in R v4.0.2. A linear mixed-effects model of turnaround date (relative to pupping date) as a function of turnaround distance and buoyancy change date was run in the package `lme4`<sup>5</sup> after scaling and centering the continuous variables and including individual as a random effect.

Figure S1 will go here. There's a bug in analysis/data/9SupplementalFigure.R:105.

1. Robinson, P., Costa, D., Crocker, D., Gallo-Reynoso, J., Champagne, C., Fowler, M., Goetsch, C., Goetz, K., Hassrick, J., Hückstädt, L., et al. (2012). Foraging behavior and success of a mesopelagic predator in the northeast pacific ocean: Insights from a data-rich species, the northern elephant seal. *PLoS ONE* 7, e36728.
2. Johnson, D., London, J., Lea, M., and Durban, J. (2008). Continuous-time correlated random walk model for animal telemetry data. *Ecology* 89, 1208–1215.
3. Johnson, D., Josh M. London (NOAA), and Kenady (2016). *Crawl*: V2.0.
4. Robinson, P., Simmons, S., Crocker, D., and Costa, D. (2010). Measurements of foraging success in a highly pelagic marine predator, the northern elephant seal. *Journal of Animal Ecology* 79, 1146–1156.
5. Bates, D., Mächler, M., Bolker, B., and Walker, S. (2015). Fitting linear mixed-effects models using `lme4`. *Journal of Statistical Software* 67.