



Cover: A southern sea otter (*Enhydra lutris nereis*) pup in Moss Landing, California, USA. Sea otters have high mass-specific energetic demands among marine mammals. For adult females, energetic costs associated with pup rearing are superimposed on already staggering basal metabolic demands. Thometz et al. (pp. 2053–2061) examined the energetic demands of immature sea otters from birth through weaning and quantified the energetic cost of pup rearing for adult females. The exceptionally high energetic cost of pup rearing in this species makes females especially vulnerable to energetic shortfalls and appears to have cascading implications on population-level trends. Photo credit: J. Tomoleoni.

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