

Welcome to the Pacific Mammal Research May 2016 Newsletter.



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Welcome to Pacific Mammal Research!

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May 2016 Newsletter

What's New?

Happy May everyone! We have enjoyed some beautiful weather here in Washington over the last month, promising another hot, sunny summer. This has meant more field days for us, and lots of porpoise, seal and sea lion sightings!

Along with field time, the researchers here at PacMam have been busy gearing up for the summer in other ways. We are continuing our work in education and outreach giving presentations to local groups and organizations, including a recent presentation to the Skagit Valley College Environmental Group in Mount Vernon. We also participated in The Whale Museum's Naturalist "Gear Up" workshop on Friday Harbor, SJI, a day-long event giving participants the chance to learn about the waters around the San Juan Islands, its inhabitants, and how our actions are affecting them. PacMam Research Director, Dr. Cindy Elliser, gave a talk about our harbor porpoise photo-ID work, which was very well received. Many thanks to The Whale Museum and all who attended for making it a great and informative event!

So what other things have been happening at PacMam this month? Read on to find out!



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Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference, Vancouver BC

We enjoyed a great few days in Vancouver, BC at the Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference last month. The conference is a 3-day event held every two years and included presentations and workshops covering a wide range of disciplines and topics related to the Salish Sea, its ecosystem and inhabitants. PacMam was thrilled to present a poster detailing our work on harbor porpoise photo-ID during the conference's Poster Gala. There was a general interest shown throughout the conference on harbor porpoise in general, which was encouraging - hopefully this will mean that we begin to learn more about this understudied species in the coming years!



PacMam researchers present a poster about our work on harbor porpoise photo-ID in the Salish Sea at the 2016 Salish Sea Ecosystem Conference.

"Marine Biologist For A Day" Winner

Pacific Mammal Research was thrilled to host a budding marine biologist this month for a "Marine Biologist For A Day" experience. The experience was offered as one of the prizes at a STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics) fundraising auction held in December, 2015, which raised funds to provide STEM opportunities for the Anacortes school system.



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Harbor porpoise surfacing during our "Marine Biologist for a Day" field session.

The winners have the opportunity to spend a day with the researchers here at PacMam, conducting field research, data collection and analysis, and finding out exactly what being a field researcher is all about. Many thanks to our winner, a local 11 year old girl, for being a fantastic research assistant for the day - it is always encouraging to see the next generation of scientists being so enthusiastic and engaged about the environment!

Fidalgo Shoreline Academy



Pacific Mammal Research's Director Dr. Cindy Elliser will be giving a presentation on our harbor porpoise research at the upcoming Fidalgo Shoreline Academy on 14th May 2016. This one-day event consists of talks and sessions designed to enable community members to learn about the marine environment, including a presentation on Midway Island from keynote speaker and Seattle photographer, Chris Jordan.

The event will take place from 9:00am - 3:30pm at the Fidalgo Bay Resort, Anacortes, and costs \$30 for the full day or \$40 including a box lunch (student discounts available). For more information on the sessions available and how to get your tickets, click [here](#) to check out the event poster on our [website](#). We hope to see you there!

Give While You Shop - New AmazonSmile!

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You shop. Amazon gives.

Did you know you can now donate to your favorite charities while you shop...at no extra cost to you?! New [AmazonSmile](#) lets you do just that! AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that enables you to shop the same selection of products at the same prices, but the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to your selected charity.

All you need to do is click this link <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/47-2296603>, select "Pacific Mammal Research" as your chosen charity, and that's it - you just shop as normal and 0.5% of your purchase price will automatically be donated. This is a great way to support your favorite charities at no additional cost to you, so make sure to check it out today!

GoFundMe Campaign



Haven't checked out our [GoFundMe](#) campaign yet?! Do it now! [GoFundMe](#) is a crowd-sourcing website geared towards raising money via an online portal. PacMam's [GoFundMe](#) campaign, "PacMam: Research With A Porpoise", aims to extend the reach of our organization and encourage greater active interest and support in our long-term study of the marine mammals of the Salish Sea. Donations made through this [campaign](#) and on the "Donations" page of our [website](#) allow us to continue to research these amazing animals, improve and increase our educational opportunities, and expand our current research in the future to include new and innovative technologies. And, if you donate through [GoFundMe](#), you can get your hands on some exclusive PacMam goodies! Pacific Mammal Research is a registered 501(c)3 charity, and all donations made are fully tax deductible.

To check out our campaign and donate, please visit www.gofundme.com/pacmam now, or visit our website at www.pacmam.org.

Coming Soon...



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Well that's all for this month folks! To make sure you stay up to date with what's going on at PacMam, look out for these monthly Newsletters and check out our [website](#) for all the latest news and updates; we have lots of exciting things coming up so you'll want to keep checking in with us.

Also, make sure you check out our social media pages: you can Like our page on [Facebook](#) and/or follow us at "PacificMammalResearch" on [Instagram](#) for real-time check-ins from the field, as well as cool new articles and stories about the marine environment. Hope you all have a fantastic May and are able to enjoy some sunshine wherever you are!

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