

Welcome to the Pacific Mammal Research October 2015 Newsletter.



Welcome to Pacific Mammal Research!

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October 2015 Newsletter

What's New

Happy Fall, everyone! We have had some fantastic days out in the field with lots of porpoise and harbor seal sightings to add to our data.

As always we have been keeping very busy here at Pacific Mammal Research, and this month we have lots of exciting news to share with you so read on for more details!



Seals Hauled Out



Seagull stealing fish from seal

Skagit Valley Herald Article

PacMam has received some very exciting press recently: those of you local to the area may already have seen the recent article in the Skagit Valley Herald newspaper which features an interview with our Research Director, Dr. Cindy Elliser. The article details our ongoing photo-ID research in the area as well as highlighting our important work with local education facilities. The article can be viewed online [here](#) at the [Skagit Valley Herald's](#) website.

Anacortes Life Skills Class

One of our main missions here at Pacific Mammal Research is educational outreach. One way we have been able to implement this is through our involvement with the Anacortes Middle School Life Skills Class, in which we conduct monthly presentations/workshops for students. This is a fantastic opportunity to engage with students and foster interest and concern for their local environment.

Upcoming Talk: Mount Vernon High School

PacMam is delighted to have been asked to give a talk for Mount Vernon High School's marine science class this month. The presentation will provide students with an insight into life as a marine mammal researcher and how we can use the information we collect to further our knowledge of these amazing animals.

New Harbor Porpoise Naming

Another harbor porpoise has been added to our ID catalogue, this time one which was resighted by one of our contributors, Zita Fekete, while on the water around Fidalgo Island. Zita has contributed many photos to us from her outings around the Islands, therefore we gave her the opportunity to choose the new porpoise's name. She chose to name it Pearl due to the "string" of white markings on the porpoise's flank.

This is a great example of how YOUR photos can assist with our ongoing data

collection, so make sure to send in your photos of harbor porpoise and harbor seal - you never know, we might recognize the animals in your picture!



One of our newly identified harbor porpoises, "Pearl".

Society For Marine Mammalogy Conference, 2015

As mentioned in last month's Newsletter, PacMam researchers will be attending the 21st Biennial Conference on the Biology of Marine Mammals in San Francisco this December. The conference provides a unique opportunity for marine mammal researchers from around the world to come together to share and discuss their research and findings during various workshops, talks and poster sessions. We are thrilled to be presenting a poster exploring our research on harbor porpoise photo-ID, and hope to learn lots from other researchers during a dedicated harbor porpoise workshop which will bring together researchers currently working in this field of study.

For more information about the Society or the upcoming conference, check out their website [here](#).

Coming Soon...

This is set to be a busy and productive month so make sure you have Liked our [Facebook](#) page and continue to stop by our [website](#) to keep up to date with the latest info and upcoming events from PacMam.

And if you are out and about this Fall make sure you keep your eyes peeled for harbor porpoise and harbor seals! You can send your photos or sighting information (date/location/time) to cindy.elliser@pacmam.org!

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Our mailing address is:
1513 A Avenue, Anacortes, WA 98221

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