

Welcome to the Pacific Mammal Research October 2017 Newsletter.



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Welcome to Pacific Mammal Research!

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October 2017 Newsletter

Happy Fall!

There's no doubt about it: Fall has definitely arrived here in Washington, and we are loving the much-needed rain and cooler temperatures that are starting to move in. Summer typically means fewer harbor porpoise sightings in Burrows Pass, so Fall is always exciting for us at PacMam as we start to see them returning and this year has been no exception.

We were lucky enough to witness some incredible sights in the field this month, most notably a mating attempt between harbor porpoises (see picture

below). We have suspected mating may be occurring in Burrows Pass but until now have not had conclusive evidence, so this photograph lends even more weight to the theory that Burrows Pass is a biologically important area for this species (...plus it's a really cool photo!). We have also had the opportunity to take part in some fantastic local events this last month, so keep reading to find out more!



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*We were *almost* as excited as this male harbor porpoise when we witnessed it jumping out of the water during a mating attempt! Capturing mating events on camera is extremely rare for this species, and to our knowledge this is one of the only photos documenting mating in Burrows Pass.*

First Annual Guemes Salmon Fest 2017

PacMam was given the fantastic opportunity to participate in the first annual Guemes Salmon Fest last month, a fundraiser held to raise money for local charitable organizations with an emphasis on the preservation of local salmon populations. This year's recipient of the proceeds was "[Our Sound, Our Salmon](#)", an organization dedicated to preventing further expansion of Atlantic salmon net pens in Washington and implementing enforceable, scientific-based regulations for existing Atlantic salmon net pens in the area.

Events such as this are crucial to increasing awareness and generating support to protect and conserve our local species and environment, and we were honored to be invited to take part in this one. A huge thank you goes to **Nik Mardesich** for his tireless efforts in initiating, coordinating, and hosting this fantastic event, and to the many others who contributed and helped bring it into fruition. We can't wait till next year!



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PacMam's booth at the First Annual Salmon Fest on Guemes Island.

Coming Up: Society for Marine Mammalogy Conference, Halifax 2017

It is almost upon us: the biennial Society for Marine Mammalogy (SMM) conference will take place from October 21st-28th in Halifax, Nova Scotia. PacMam's researchers are looking forward to an action-packed week of talks, presentations and networking with other marine mammal scientists during this international conference, as well as presenting our own work on harbor porpoises via video presentation. Stay tuned next month for the highlights of this conference!



PacMam's researchers are gearing up for the Society for Marine Mammalogy Biennial Conference 2017 in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Save The Date: PacMam Trivia Fundraiser at Bastion Brewing Company

Mark your calendars for November 8th: PacMam will be joining up with [Bastion Brewing Company](#) for a fun night of trivia (and some pretty great beer!). As one of our favorite hangouts, Bastion Brewing Company has also been highly supportive of PacMam and our work in the area since it opened in last Fall, so we are thrilled to be able to share our first official fundraising event with them.

This all-ages event will be held Wednesday, November 8th, with trivia starting at 6pm. We will have raffle tickets for sale with some fantastic prizes up for grabs, and PacMam researchers will be there all night to share more about our work and answer any questions you may have. Stay tuned for more details as we develop this event, it's going to be a blast!



If you want some practice before the big night you can head over to Bastion every Wednesday at 6pm for their weekly trivia night with Brian, and for more information check out [Bastion's Facebook page](#) as well as their specific [Trivia Night page](#).

Fidalgo Shoreline Academy 2017

If you're interested in the marine environment why not check out the 6th annual Fidalgo Shoreline Academy on October 21st? The Academy, hosted by Friends of Skagit Beaches, consists of a day of educational presentations and workshops lead by scientists and local community leaders, designed to broaden perspectives, deepen knowledge and inspire you to learn more about the area. PacMam has lead sessions in past years and it's definitely a fun way to spend your day while learning about our area. For more detailed information check out the [event flyer](#).

Coming Soon...



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If you haven't already make sure you're connected with us via social media: we're on [Facebook](#) (search for "Pacific Mammal Research - PacMam"), [Instagram](#) (under "PacificMammalResearch"), and now on [Google+](#) (under "Pacific Mammal Research - PacMam"), so make sure to check us out! And, as always, our [website](#) is there for you to read more about what we do, donate, see any upcoming events, and learn how YOU can get involved with PacMam. Have a great October, we'll be back next month with more news!

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