

Welcome to the Pacific Mammal Research August 2016  
Newsletter.



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*August 2016 Newsletter*

## What's New?

Happy August, everyone! Summer is speeding by and we are keeping busy here at Pacific Mammal Research, getting in lots of field time and working through various office-based tasks on those days when the weather is less agreeable.

We have also been fortunate enough to have an intern working with us full-time this summer, which has been a huge help to our researchers both in

the field and in the office. PacMam is passionate about education and providing opportunities for learning, and we hope that by working with volunteers and interns we can help to spread our enthusiasm and knowledge about these beautiful animals!



So what else have we been up to this month? Read on to find out!

### *Sightings of New Babies!*

One of our favorite times of the year is when we start seeing new harbor porpoise calves coming into our study site. We were fortunate enough this month to have a fantastic sighting of a harbor porpoise adult and calf, which was doing the characteristic "chin-slap" breathing. This type of surfacing pattern is seen in infant cetaceans while they learn how to efficiently surface, breathe and dive again, and involves the head lifting high out of the water before "slapping" back down chin-first (rather than the typical roll seen in older animals). Baby porpoises are tiny, only about 2 feet in length, so watching them is always a lot of fun!





*Cindy R. Elliser - Pacific Mammal Research*

*Photos from our sighting of a neonate harbor porpoise! Above: two adult harbor porpoises and a calf doing characteristic "chin-slap" breathing. Below: harbor porpoise calf.*

#### *PacMam Takes to the Water...*

Although we are fortunate that much of our data can be collected from land, PacMam's long-term mission is to create photo-ID catalogues of harbor porpoise and harbor seal populations around the whole Salish Sea. In order to achieve this we must be able to get out on the water.

Our researchers have been fortunate this month to get out on a sailboat to collect more data (owned by a local individual). It is through these types of collaboration and involvement with the local community that we can continue to not only build our dataset, but also engage and encourage interest in these animals in the wider public. So if you have or know anyone who has a boat, let us know - we would love to come out with you and hopefully see some porpoises!



*PacMam Research Assistant Kat scanning for harbor porpoises.*

Give While You Shop - New AmazonSmile!

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Have you checked out the new [AmazonSmile](https://smile.amazon.com) yet? [AmazonSmile](https://smile.amazon.com) 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. To support PacMam through this new site, simply 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 head over there now!

## GoFundMe Campaign



Don't forget, our [GoFundMe](#) campaign is still waiting for your support! [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](http://www.gofundme.com/pacmam) now, or visit our website at [www.pacmam.org](http://www.pacmam.org).

## Coming Soon...

We hope you are all making the most of the summer and getting outdoors to enjoy nature! Stay tuned for upcoming news and from us here at PacMam via these monthly Newsletters, and check out our [website](#) for all the latest updates.

Don't forget to check out our social media pages, too! You can find us 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.

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