

Welcome to the Pacific Mammal Research November 2015 Newsletter.



Happy Fall from Pacific Mammal Research!

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November 2015 Newsletter

What's New

Happy Fall from all of us here at PacMam! October was a very special month for us as it marked our *One Year Anniversary!* We are very thankful to have the opportunity to study the marine mammals of this beautiful region and want to thank you all for your continued support: we wouldn't be here without you!

We have been continuing our educational work in the area: our ongoing work with the Anacortes Middle School Life Skills class is progressing well, and this month saw students getting out into the field for a hands-on marine biology STEM workshop. We also gave a presentation to students of Mount Vernon High School's Marine Science class, giving them a glimpse into the life of a marine biologist and why it is important that we study marine mammals.

PacMam has been working on some exciting new projects so read on to find out more!

GoFundMe: New Crowd-Funding Campaign



Firstly we have some very exciting news to share, which those of you following our Facebook page may already have seen: PacMam has started a new charity campaign on the crowd-funding website [GoFundMe](#)! The aim of this campaign is 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, both through this [campaign](#) and via 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.

We are very excited to be able to share our work and vision with the world in this way, so to check out our campaign site and donate, please head over to www.gofundme.com/pacmam. You can also get your hands on some exclusive PacMam goodies just by donating, so go take a look!

New Animals Identified

Although rain often means we can't get out into the field, we use the time to work through existing data and identify new animals to add to our databases. Through this process we have been able to add several new porpoises to our ID catalogue, two of which are pictured below: Illuminati (left) and FlashGordon (right). FlashGordon is a great example of how markings such as scars and scratches can be used to accurately identify an individual over time.



Photos of two new harbor porpoises added to our ID catalogue: Illuminati (left) and FlashGordon (right). Photos copyright Cindy Elliser, 2015.

Update: 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 have just received the exciting news that we have been allocated time to give a talk about our research on harbor porpoise photo-ID! This talk will provide us with an invaluable opportunity to raise awareness about Pacific Mammal Research and share our findings with fellow researchers in a more direct way.

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

Coming Soon...

The season of Thanksgiving is upon us here in the US, so from all of us here at PacMam thank all of you for following us on this journey: your support makes it possible for us to continue our work and share our findings with all of you, and we cannot thank you enough for this!

As always, make sure you have Liked our [Facebook](#) page for news and photos from the field, and stop by our [website](#) to keep up to date with the latest info and upcoming events from PacMam.

And remember: keep those photos coming! If you are taking a post-Thanksgiving walk and happen to see some harbor porpoises or seals snap us a photo - you can send your photos or sighting information (date/location/time) to cindy.elliser@pacmam.org.

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