

June 6 – June 7, 2008 Wildlife Report

June 6 - Well the weekend was off to a fast start with orcas passing Point Roberts at 1207 Heading South. J pod was in small groups and spread out over a few miles. The last ones went past the park at 1250. Many of them, including J1 Ruffles were very close to shore most likely looking for food as J pod does. They were travelling for the most part but some heads could be seen as they moved along . At 1350 they were still approximately 2 miles off the Lilly Point reef marker. In the evening they were heading into Rosario Strait.



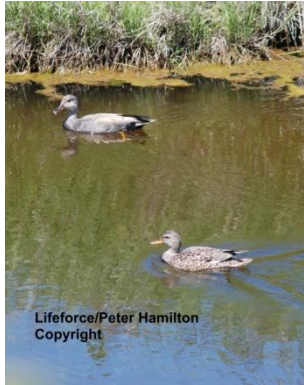
In the evening Lifeforce monitored a Harbour seal that was on the boat ramp dock in Lighthouse Marine Park, Point Roberts. Fortunately most people were respectful and kept their distance but we did have to stop one family that wanted to pet the seal and some kids who were shouting/laughing at the seal. The seal had eye problems and Lifeforce found it dead on Sunday. We have sent the photos to the US agency to try to determine a cause of death.



June 7 – J pod stayed off San Juan Island for most of the day. A caller to our Whale and Dolphin Hotline reported that visitors to the park at the East Point, Saturna Island were thrilled to watch Js go by after 2000 Heading North.

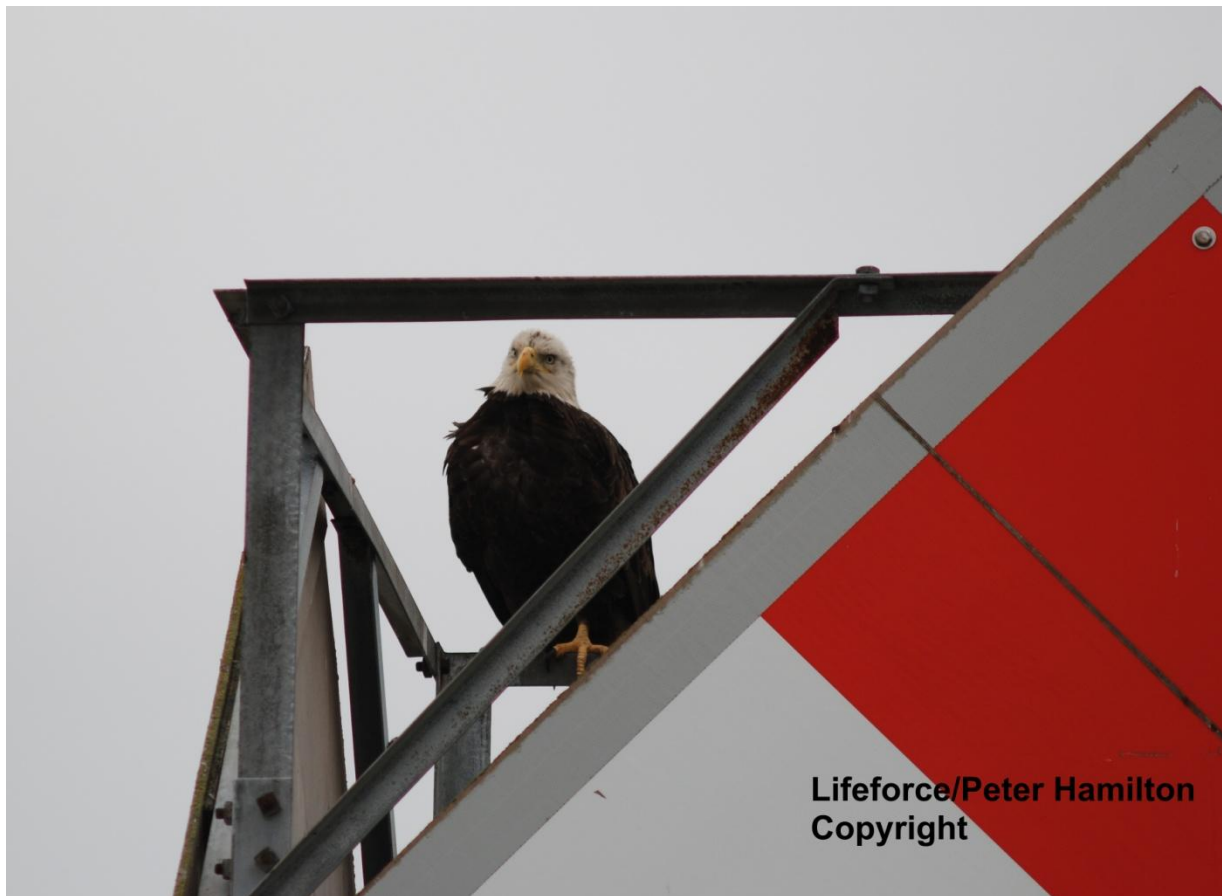
While waiting to hear if Js are coming in our monitoring territory, Lifeforce’s Peter Hamilton took some photos of the Point’s diverse wildlife. He photographed juvenile and mature Bald Eagles in a variety of beautiful settings, a pair of Mallard ducks with 9 nine ducklings, a Northern Harrier and Gadwells. A Brown Pelican was way off shore and too far for a picture. Just when Peter thought that the hares in Point Roberts were hard to photographed, two hares seemed to pose for some great photos.





June 8 – J pod had already been in Canada during the night and travelled to the bottom of Rosario Strait by approx. 1000.

Some eagles ended the weekend with an adult sitting on the Navigation beacon allowing park visitors to stand nearby to watch him watch them.



We also took some photos of the new boat. The Stop/Slow paddle helps us stop boaters from getting too close to orcas and other marine wildlife.



For Freedom,

Peter Hamilton

Lifewatch Boater Awareness Program

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