



Arbutus, all over the islands, are displaying an abundance of flowers this year.

These **Hooded Mergansers** landed on our small pond full of Pacific chorus frog eggs. photos Izzy Harrington



Blue camas: Aboriginal people dug and steamed the bulbs of this plant in pits. “A sugar called “inulin” develops in the bulbs when they’re cooked. They can be eaten whole, or dried and pounded into flour.” (Sierra Club, photo Izzy Harrington)

Red-flowering Currants are attracting all kinds of migrant spring birds, such as hummingbirds, the Purple Finch and American Goldfinch, and the Golden-crowned and Chipping Sparrows. photo Carolyn Masson

There are lots of Audubon warblers around, a subspecies or race of Yellow-rumped Warblers. We usually have Audubons Warblers here, but we occasionally get the Myrtle Warbler with white under the chin rather than yellow. photo Chris Whiting

Resources, News, Events

Amphibians: The Pacific chorus frogs are laying eggs, and the invasive Bull frogs have risen from the depths of our ponds, and are moving around looking for new habitats. For people who want to keep them from breeding in their ponds, it's a good time to be vigilant. There are also some red-legged frogs around and maybe some green frogs. Photo, right, shows red-legged frog eggs. Have you seen the red-legged frogs around? Let us know.

Check out the Identification guide to local amphibians posted on our website. <http://lasqueti.ca/linc> We'll let you know about future dates for the amphibian walk we have postponed this month.



So many nature webcams and videos to enjoy while we are staying close to home:

Eagle nests from Hancock Foundation Wildlife: <https://hancockwildlife.org/project/live-cams/>

Or these four from Hakai Institute <https://www.hakaimagazine.com/videos-visuals/four-bits-of-wonder/>

And check out Nature Conservancy Canada's webcams from their protected sites in BC: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_EXCJZLAGNs

And here's a great one that has been edited to a video. It's kind of far away - Pennsylvania - but The Log shows us just how much there is to see. https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=qsDU_tTgsFw&feature=youtu.be

The Giant Pacific Octopus: Salish Sea Wild: Shaking Hands With the World's Biggest Octopus:
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jJBPGK53D18>

A view of the Resident Killer Whales (<https://www.hakaimagazine.com/videos-visuals/a-window-into-the-lives-of-resident-killer-whales/>)

Here's an informative article about the Turkey vultures most people love to hate, but this Pender islander loves them. Read about it here: <https://www.hakaimagazine.com/features/the-vulture-watcher/>

News about nature as the Corona Virus puts close scientific work on hold

An important time to listen, as ocean scientists race to hear underwater while shipping is reduced. (*The Narwhal* <https://thenarwhal.ca/an-important-time-to-listen-ocean-scientists-race-to-hear-coronavirus-under-water/>)

Fisheries and Oceans Canada pulls at-sea observers from fishing boats due to coronavirus pandemic. Fishermen rely on observers to keep the industry honest. Now they're worried about maintaining a level playing field. Jimmy Thomson reports. (*The Narwhal* <https://thenarwhal.ca/fisheries-oceans-canada-pulls-at-sea-observers-fishing-boats-coronavirus-covid-19/>)

Grey Whale Research halted due to pandemic: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/grey-whale-research-1.5527208>

The great data freeze: How the pandemic will set back environmental science: <https://www.hcn.org/articles/covid19-the-great-data-freeze-how-the-pandemic-will-set-back-environmental-science>

B.C. hunting licences, wild game permits show dramatic uptick *Hunters could be out in greater numbers this year to secure food supplies as the world grapples with the COVID-19 pandemic...The number of hunting licences sold to British Columbians more than doubled in the first three months of 2020 compared with the same period in each of the past three years, with more than 4,852 already granted. More than 3,500 permits to harvest white tail and mule deer have also been issued in that time, compared with just 1,091 last year. (Vancouver Sun, Ap 5, 2020)*