

Nature has a very positive effect on human health and contributes immensely to our quality of life.



Try this the next time you see an eagle:  
Stop ... Watch ... Be still. Notice how you feel.  
**It may just be the best moment of your day.**



**South Pender Island Local Trust Committee**

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For the love of

## PENDER EAGLES



**Islands Trust**

The Bald Eagle! Who does not stop in wonder upon seeing one of these majestic birds? South Pender is home to at least 10 eagles and their offspring. They are unable to protect themselves from human encroachment. Keeping the island wild enough to support them is an ongoing challenge.



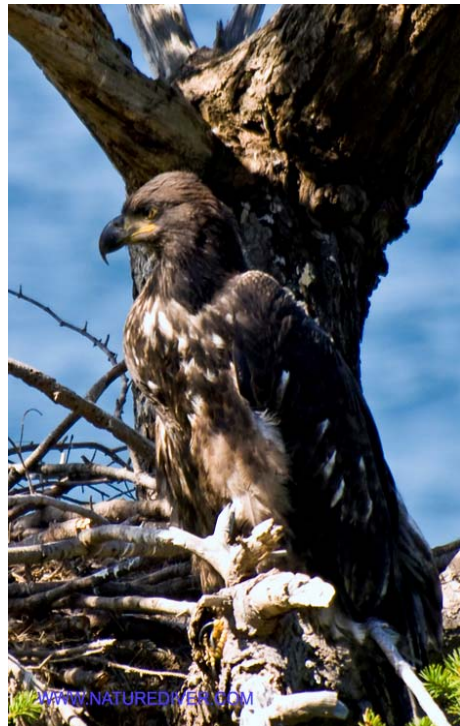
The veteran Douglas fir trees along the ocean are important to eagles for nesting and perching. Unfortunately, these giants are disappearing: they are dying and we are cutting them down for development, our views, and safety reasons.

## EAGLE DATES

- Breeding season from January to September.
- Mate in February.
- Lay eggs in March.
- First flights of juveniles in July.
- Migrate off island in August and September.
- Return to Pender Island in October.

## EAGLE FACTS

- All eagles, their eggs, and their nest trees are protected by the B.C. Wildlife Act.
- They mate for life and maintain lifetime territories.
- There are at least 5 eagle territories on South Pender.
- Both male and female build nests, incubate eggs, and tend to young.
- The female is larger than the male.
- Juveniles are larger than their parents when they fledge (fly) and are brown, then speckled at 2-3 years.
- Eagles mature in 4-5 years and can be identified by their white head and tail.
- Some pairs have alternate nests within their territories.
- Pairs execute spectacular "Cartwheel Displays" in which they lock talons and spin towards earth.
- Only 10% of juveniles live to adulthood (5 years).



## WHAT CAN YOU DO?

- During breeding season, avoid disturbances near nest trees, such as construction noise, fires, barking dogs, and loud voices.
- Keep protective zones of undisturbed vegetation around nest trees for parents to watch their nests and for fledglings to practice flight skills.
- Don't cut standing live or dead trees on your land, especially near the shoreline, unless absolutely necessary.
- Eliminate the use of chemicals, such as rat poison, that may end up in the food chain.
- Give them space: if eagles begin calling or fly away from the nest, you are too close.
- Do not feed the eagles.



- Establish a conservation covenant or voluntary stewardship agreement on your land ([www.islandstrust.bc.ca](http://www.islandstrust.bc.ca)).
- Maintain wetlands.
- Become a volunteer nest tree monitor.
- Post "Wildlife Tree" signs, available from the Pender Island Conservancy ([pica@gulfislands.com](mailto:pica@gulfislands.com)).
- For injured birds, call the Salt Spring Island Wildlife Natural Care Centre at 250-537-0777.
- To report any activities that disturb an eagle or a nest tree, call the Conservation Officer Service at 1-877-952-7277