

(e)agle Newsletter

ABEF's New Membership Software

The ABEF is moving to a new membership management service this month that will make it easier and more efficient to distribute information to our supporters. Keep an eye out as we introduce new ways to donate and contribute to the Foundation in the coming months.

As a small raptor center and natural history museum in Alaska, technology has helped us connect with a wide audience around the world. Streamlining the way we communicate with that audience helps us prioritize connecting with our supporters and caring for the animals at the ABEF.

You may not notice much difference at all as we learn this new software, and that will mean it is doing its job properly.



Haines Below Zero

Alaska has a reputation for cold and snowy winters, but Haines rarely has temperatures below zero for long. Temperatures dropped below zero early this month and remained there for nearly three weeks, challenging the staff to adapt to the unusual circumstances.

The ABEF staff reacted to the cold by bundling up and closely monitoring each bird's weight and behavior, ensuring they were comfortable. They even gave an education tour to the Haines kindergarten students who stopped in for a field trip. The ambassadors reacted



much as they would in the wild, by hunkering down, conserving energy and some occasionally using the heater in their aviaries for added warmth. Training took a back seat during the cold snap so staff wasn't asking the birds to use unnecessary energy. Now that the temperature has risen, the birds are back to getting regular exercise and working on behaviors.

Species Spotlight:

Harbor Seal (*Phoca vitulina*)

The harbor seal is an aquatic mammal found throughout most of the Atlantic and Pacific oceans feeding on fish and invertebrates. Weighing 180-235lbs, their blubber stores energy and keeps them warm in Alaska's frigid coastal waters. In the spring and summer, harbor seals often follow spawning salmon or eulachon as they travel upstream.



In the winter, they survive on fish, shellfish, and crustaceans in the open ocean, where they are vulnerable to large predators such as orcas or sharks. Harbor seals are often seen in the company of Steller's sealions, but unlike these large cousins, they cannot walk on land. Instead, harbor seals are adapted to speed through the water, propelling themselves with their flippers.

Interested in donating to the American Bald Eagle Foundation? There are multiple ways in which you can support the mission of our facility. By clicking the **Support Us** button under our logo, you will be transported to the Donate tab on our website. You can explore memberships, sponsorships, legacy giving, and more to choose your impact on the future of our facility. Thank you for being a part of the ABEF Family.

Become a Supporter Today!

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www.baldeagles.org 113 Haines Highway Haines, AK 99827 907.766.3094