



Killerwhale.org – September issue 2005

Featuring killer whale news forwarded by the B.C. Wild Killer Whale Adoption Program.

For more information on the Adoption Program visit www.killerwhale.org

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Boy's Orca Encounter

When 12 year old Ellis Miller woke up he could have never dreamed that during his innocent swim in Helm Bay, Alaska he would come face to face with a killer whale. Although researchers say that this encounter was highly unusually Ellis found himself in the way of a charging killer whale.

Full story:

http://seattletimes.nwsourc.com/html/localnews/2002445380_orca19m.html

Southern Resident Population Update

The Southern Resident population has increase by at least 3.5% with the identification of 3 new additions to the population. The southern resident population has struggled over the last few years with the population fluctuating from 79 to 87. The first years of life are the hardest for the new young ones, but the addition to the population is good news.

Full story:

<http://www.komotv.com/stories/37823.htm>

Luna Update

The Luna stewardship program is up and running. The joint project involving the Mowachaht/Muchalaht first nations has been put in place to protect Luna and educate those on the water with him.

Full story:

http://www.westcoastaquatic.ca/Luna_news.htm

Killers Off The Coast of Australia

An unusual and amazing sight was seen off the Gold Coast in Queensland Australia. Whale watchers spotted a group of killer whales during a sight seeing trip where they were watching pods of humpback whales. Not normally seen in warmer waters these killer whales were a sight to see. It is suspected that they traveled from more southern waters to the Gold Coast while following prey.

Full story:

<http://www.abc.net.au/news/newsitems/200509/s1465281.htm>

Killer Whale Culture

For some it is hard to imagine that killer whales have culture let alone “cultural learning”. An article in next weeks *New Scientist*, talks about a 4 year old killer whale located at Marineland Canada who has taught the other killer whales in it's family to set traps to catch seagulls

Full story:

<http://animal.discovery.com/news/afp/20050822/orcas.html>

<http://www.newscientist.com/article/mg18725144.000.html>