

Date: November 7, 2009

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PAWS Releasing 11 Seabirds Incapacitated by Coastal Algal Bloom

On Sunday, November 8, at Brackett's Landing in Edmonds, PAWS Wildlife Center will release 11 Common Murres who were among the hundreds of seabirds rescued from the Oregon/Washington coast after being incapacitated by an algal bloom. Stormy weather mixed up the algae and created a foamy, soapy substance that soiled the birds' feathers, damaging their ability to fly, float and keep warm. To avoid drowning and hypothermia, the birds struggled ashore where they were unable to feed or otherwise care for themselves. Over the last two weeks, PAWS Wildlife Center staff and volunteers nursed the murres back to health and washed them to remove the soapy substance so they could regain their waterproofing and return to the wild.

So far the cost for rehabilitating these seabirds and the dozens of others PAWS received in late October has reached upwards of \$30,000. Those interested in helping PAWS cover the cost of water usage, heat, fish and other supplies can donate online at www.paws.org or send a check to PAWS, PO Box 1037, Lynnwood, WA 98046.

- WHO:** PAWS will release 11 rehabilitated Common Murres
- WHAT:** Members of the media are invited to see the murres in their pools at PAWS Wildlife Center, watch staff and volunteers gather them up into carriers, and then watch as the murres are released back into the wild
- WHEN:** Sunday, November 8, 2009
At PAWS – 10 a.m. (It will take around 10-15 minutes to gather the birds)
At Brackett's Landing in Edmonds – Sometime around 10:45 or 11 a.m.
- WHERE:** PAWS Wildlife Center, 15305 44th Ave. West, Lynnwood, WA
[Directions to PAWS](#)
Brackett's Landing, Main St. and Railroad Ave, Edmonds, WA—just north of ferry dock
[Edmonds' parks info](#)
- CONTACT:** Please call Mary Leake Schilder at 206.419.6646 for more information

A champion for animals, PAWS is a nationally recognized leader in rehabilitating injured and orphaned wildlife, sheltering and adopting homeless pets, and educating people to make a better world for animals and humans.

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