

2016 Eagle Chick Update

Last year was a little less productive for our local breeding population of Bald Eagles. Out of the 22 breeding territories that were monitored, 12 nesting attempts were observed in the 17 territories that were occupied by a breeding pair. Of those 12 nesting attempts only 6 eagle pairs were successful, producing a grand total of 9 chicks.

Six of the 9 chicks were fledged from nest trees on private land – and at each of these sites development pressures have squeezed or continue to squeeze the buffer zone around the trees. The remaining 3 chicks fledged from nests in the Campbell River estuary.

For comparison, in 2015 19 breeding territories were monitored and 11 nesting attempts were observed in the 17 territories that were occupied. Of those 11 nesting attempts, a grand total of 15 eagle chicks were raised. While we don't know the specific reason why so few chicks were produced in 2016, severe weather early in the nesting season and food shortages can cause regional nest failures.

Registered Professional Biologist Ian Moul, keeps tabs on the nests under a small contract with the City and he updates the Wildlife Tree Stewardship Atlas hosted on the Community Mapping Network. This Atlas is used by the public, government and other consulting biologists.

Link to Wildlife Tree Stewardship Atlas: http://cmnmaps.ca/wits

Community Planning and Development Services Department

Phone: 250-286-5725

Email: planning@campbellriver.ca