It has been a difficult start to the 2014 season for some of the bald eagles nesting in the City of Vancouver, following an exceptionally good 2013 nesting season. Of the 21 nests currently being monitored (see map on pg. 4), eleven are inactive or failed, five are active but the number of chicks are undetermined, and six nests thus far have confirmed eaglet sightings.

Some nests that have been consistent producers in previous years appear to be struggling this year, and one recently suffered losses from windfall. There is good news, too – a new nest has been established near the Fraser River.
Wall St. (LaFarge)

*2 chicks* – Originally had three eggs, but the third did not hatch. This highly visible nest can be seen through a Hancock Wildlife Foundation webcam ([www.hancockwildlife.org](http://www.hancockwildlife.org)). The eagle pair has produced chicks for a third year in a row. A peregrine falcon was also seen to be attacking the nest, seemingly in an effort to predate on the eaglets.

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**Point Grey Golf Course**

*2 chicks* – This is a brand new nest in Vancouver! The nest is at the (Audubon certified) Point Grey Golf and Country Club. Staff there have observed these eagles attempting to nest in a locust tree there for several years. This year they were finally successful. The nest, situated on the 6th hole tree, contains two chicks.

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*Adult and chick at new Point Grey Golf Course nest. Photo by Point Grey Golf & Country Club member, AJ Papp*
Merilees
1+ chick – Recently, volunteers sighted at least one eaglet at this nest.

Southlands
1+ chick – The sighting of an eaglet’s wings flapping in the nest was confirmed June 5th above the stable on this private property.

Jericho
1+ chick - This nest has been active throughout the season and it appears that there is likely at least one chick. A diversity of food sources were found under the nesting tree including duck, gull, and pigeon feathers, flat fish skeletons and human garbage (BBQ leftovers) presumably scavenged from the nearby beaches.

Learn more about SPES’s bald eagle monitoring program at stanleyparkecology.ca/conservation/urban-wildlife/bald-eagles
Hastings and Renfrew St.

2 chicks – These eaglets were doing well in their location above a parking lot until Monday June 9th when high winds destroyed much of the nest and caused two of the eaglets to come crashing down from the tree. One eaglet died but the other was rescued by OWL (Orphaned Wildlife Rehabilitation Society). The third eaglet remains in the damaged nest with its parents.

The Hastings / Renfrew Street nest started out with three healthy eaglets
Photo by Martin Passchier

One of the Hastings / Renfrew eaglets survived the fall and was transferred to OWL (Orphaned Wildlife Rehabilitation Society)
Photo by Martin Passchier
Vanier Park

No chicks - After four consecutive years of producing chicks, it appears that this nest will not produce eaglets this year. A resident in the area has made observations that the adult female which has historically nested here returned after an absence when presumably she had undergone rehabilitation to her wing. When the original female returned in early spring, she chased the new female off her nest. However, several weeks later, the older female, who had been showing signs that her wing had not healed properly, suddenly disappeared. A new female has been seen at the nest since May 22.

Strathcona Park

No chicks – After three consecutive years of producing healthy chicks, it looks as though the eagles at Strathcona are having difficulty. Observers noted that raccoon predation was likely occurring at this site, but is unclear whether their eggs were taken, or if they just didn’t have any eggs to begin with.

UBC Farm

Inactive – This is a relatively new nest which is believed to have been established by the breeding pair that abandoned the nearby Wesbrook nest. However, there is significant disturbance caused by construction nearby which may discourage nesting.
Active nests
These eagle pairs have been observed near their nest sites, but due to the low visibility of the location, chicks have not yet been confirmed.

- Kerrisdale – Adult regularly perched near nest
- Brockton - adult eagles seen at nest fighting off crow mob
- Cathedral – adults consistently seen and heard near the nest
- Third Beach – Adults heard recently at the site
- SW Marine – Likely eaglet, 2 adults seen, 1 on nest, and mobbed by crows

Inactive Nests
These nests have had little eagle activity or have not had adults spotted near the nest so far this year:

- Botanical, Imperial, Monument, Musqueam, Wesbrook, Pandora, UBC Farm, Pipeline Road and Tower Beach

Very soon the eaglets will be much more visible and testing their wings from nearby branches adjacent to the nests. By July we will know how many nests have succeeded. SPES’ final report on Vancouver’s bald eagles will be prepared and distributed by the end of summer.

The eagle monitoring program would not be possible without the help of our eagle monitoring volunteers. SPES compiles observations from volunteers across Vancouver to provide these reports. Please help to continue bald eagle monitoring by donating to habitat restoration and wildlife monitoring.

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Bald eagle nests and the trees they reside in are protected under Section 34 of the Wildlife Act. If you have concerns about the safety of a nest in your areas, please contact your regional BC Ministry of Environment office.