

After feeding there was 30 minutes of grooming each other, including adult ♀ mother.

1:20 P.M. 12 common mergansers including 2 males. The males were the first males observed this winter-spring season. The common mergansers are characterized by being constantly on the move and travelling at faster speeds than other aquatic species.

1 ♀ bufflehead along below Bee House.

Jan. 27, 1988

7:10 A.M. first eagle sighted this A.M. Between this time and 8:10 A.M. 6 sightings of eagles flying N or S past Bee House.

9:00 A.M. a harbor seal 10' out from shore below Bee House.

9:20 A.M. single ♀ bufflehead in front Bee House and in Spring Cove for 1 hour.

9:20 A.M. 42 common mergansers swam past Bee House to Spring Cove. Another group of 16 swam to Lichen Point from the E. The 42 to Spring Cove on approaching the Cove ran on water the last 30'. (to N shore of Cove) then reversed direction and swam out of Cove as if a the fan action of a counter wave. They continued S along shore-line to Lichen Point where they joined the 16 other common mergansers that had previously arrived from the E. all 58 mergansers formed single line and continued S into Swift Bay. These mergansers travelled long distances without diving or engaging in fishing. Only 1 ♂ in the 58 birds.

12:30 P.M. 11 mew gulls, 3 of which were adults, swam S past Bee House and picked small organisms or debris from surface of water.

4:55 P.M. noted a white mass 8' x 10' NW of Leo Reef Rocks nos 9, 10, 11. It was moving S with currents. Wind from SE. It had definite borders. It was the only such mass observed ⁱⁿ the entire N Lopez Sound. It was still intact up to 5:50 P.M. when lights faded at dusk. This mass could be a secretion of herring produced in breeding. no birds or mammals concerned with the mass. (see similar occurrence at Lone Tree Point at Thousand Trails in La Conner area of last year notes or perhaps the previous year).

This evening noted a brown creeper at Bee House. In a Douglas fir tree.