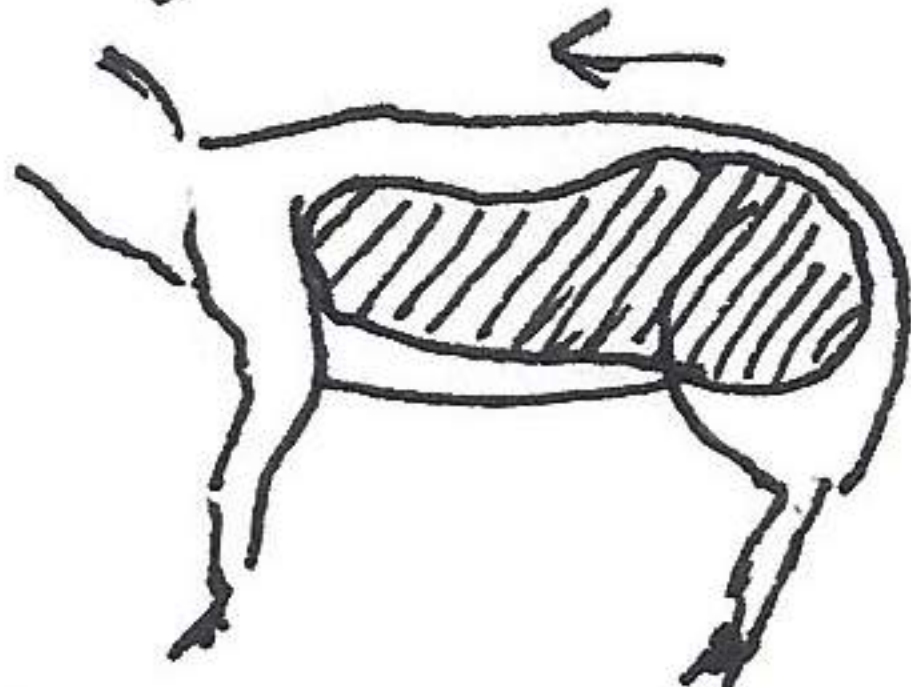


Bee Estate, Humphrey Head, Lopez Island, San Juan Co., Wash.

April 24, 1988

9:04 A.M. Light adult ♀ measured 29 1/4" at shoulders. Pelage starting to appear on rear lower rump. Her ears show edges of old and new hair <sup>old</sup> and look ragged or serrated <sup>new</sup>.


The largest of her last year young measured 27" at shoulder. Her pelage is more advanced and has been changing from start at rear, especially near middle of upper rump to front legs thus:



This change started at least 3 weeks ago.

9:10 A.M. 3 bald eagles flew past Bee House and at

9:21 A.M. 3 imm. and one ad. bald eagle flew N past Bee House and approx 50' above water.

Buster, a mule deer, ♀, 31 1/4" high at shoulders. It has 2 suspicious warts approx 1" x 3/4" each and outline thus . One is at upper anterior-dorsal margin of left scapula and the other at top radius-ulna on anterior edge. I have only observed these warts since last recorded in journal.

A Townsend chipmunk fed 3" from hind foot of one of the mule deer.

Buster struck a young ♀ mule deer (28" at shoulder, ♀), seven times before the young ♀ retracted and then the ♀ shook its head for at least 8 times afterwards returning to feeder for continued abuse. It left but remained 26' away. In 3 minutes returned for the 3rd time and was again rebuffed.

Trip to Lopez Village. at Humphrey Lagoon 2 pelagic cormorant, 2 hooded mergansers, 1 great blue heron in lagoon. At shore of Swift Bay, 27 mew gulls, 9 glaucous-winged gulls and 5 American crow. In Swift Lagoon: 19 gadwall ducks, 14 northern pintails, 9 mallards, 8 green-winged teal, 2 cinnamon teal, 2 shovellers.

At Fishermans Bay Peninsula (causeway) on W side: 13 brant (western subspecies), 4 bufflehead, 29 red-breasted mergansers (males incorporating bathing and courtship ritual by lowering head, neck and anterior body under water, then up and rear down and splashing of wings on one side)