

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**Welcome to Peak Bald Eagle Season on [explore.org](https://www.explore.org)!**

We're excited to announce we finally have a baby eaglet in the [Two Harbors Bald Catalina](#) Island, the first eaglet of the season for the current breeding eagle pair, K-81 (aka Chase) and K-82 (aka Cholyn)!

In collaboration with the [Institute for Wildlife Studies](#), [explore.org](https://www.explore.org) is excited to offer exclusive live footage of nesting bald eagles on Catalina and Santa Cruz Islands off the Southern California coast. This achievement is the result of 40 years of bald eagle restoration on the Channel Islands. As the season progresses we invite our media partners to celebrate bald eagles with us as they start their journey from egg laying to chick fledging.

**Background:**

For millennia the Channel Islands have served as nesting grounds for birds, including the bald eagle, until the population disappeared because of human persecution and DDT contamination (a pesticide that interferes with an egg's ability to form strong eggshells). By 1963 only 487 breeding pairs of bald eagles remained in the contiguous United States (lower 48) and none on the Channel Islands. In 2006, for the first time in over 50 years, a bald eagle chick successfully hatched naturally on Santa Cruz Island due to cutting-edge conservation efforts by the non-profit Institute for Wildlife Studies. Watch the full story [here](#).

There are now productive nests throughout the Channels Islands including Catalina Island where eagles are reproducing without human intervention. By watching several live streaming cameras, audiences all over the world can experience the ultimate symbol of wilderness, the bald eagle, LIVE at [explore.org](https://www.explore.org).

**Dr. Peter Sharpe:**

*A restoration project that seemed relatively straight forward when we started in 1980 expanded into a 40-year effort that included hanging from a helicopter to remove eggs and to foster chicks, captive breeding of eagles, and artificial incubation of eggs. Now we have about 20 pairs nesting on 5 of the 8 Channel Islands without human intervention. During the 40 years of the project we have been able to band almost every eagle that was released or that has hatched on the Channel Islands, so more is known about*

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Founded in 2004 by Charles Annenberg Weingarten, Director and Vice President of the Annenberg Foundation, [explore.org](https://www.explore.org) is a philanthropic multimedia organization with a mission to champion the selfless acts of others, create a portal into the natural world, and inspire lifelong learning. With almost 200 live streaming cameras, [explore.org](https://www.explore.org) is the largest live nature network in the world.

*the population breeding on the Channel Islands than any other population in the country.*



### **About**

[explore.org](https://www.explore.org)'s Bald Eagle cameras are brought to you live from the Channel Islands in partnership with the Institute of Wildlife Studies. E-mail [emily@explore.org](mailto:emily@explore.org) for more information, statements, and crediting requirements for footage and live stream usage.

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