



# 2010-2011 Guide to American and English Camps

## Park founded to celebrate peace and nature

One hundred and fifty-one years ago, an American farmer named Lyman Cutlar shot and killed a Hudson's Bay Company pig rooting in his San Juan Island potato patch. In so doing, he nearly started a war between the United States and Great Britain. Fortunately, men of vision and moral authority on both sides realized the folly of bloodshed over a 54-square-mile island far from the seats of power—thus the creation of San Juan Island National Historical Park.

**To learn more, please turn to page 3.**



English Camp's commissary, blockhouse and formal garden sit at the edge of the embankment on Garrison Bay.

## Public transportation to English and American camps

San Juan Transit & Tours:  
378-8887 or (800) 887-8387  
Regularly scheduled routes north to English Camp during the summer season with a reservation-only schedule to American Camp three times daily. Guided tours available.

Bob's Taxi & Tours:  
378-6777 or (877) 4-TAXIBOB  
Service to all points on request.

San Juan Taxi:  
378-3550 or 378-TAXI

Classic Cab Company  
378-7519

Island Bicycles: 378-4941  
Bicycles.

Susie's Mopeds: 378-5244  
or (800) 532-0087  
Mopeds and automobiles.

SJI Marine Center: 378-6202  
Electric boats, runabouts,  
kayaks, fishing kayaks and  
high-speed water taxis.

M&W Rental Cars:  
378-2794 or (800) 323-6037  
Automobile rentals and sales.

Island Tours/Taxi:  
378-4453

## Inside this issue

### Hiking

American and English camps offer numerous hiking trails. Browse our maps and trail guide to find one that suits you. (Pages 6 & 7)

### Programs

From living history to nature to evenings of song and dance, it's all here. Check our summer program guide. (Pages 5 & 8)

### Archaeology

See the park's extensive archaeological collection at the American Camp visitor center. (Page 4)

### Island Marble

American Camp's rare butterfly continues to spark interest around the world. The park is working to preserve this species. (Page 10)

### Civil War Links

Learn how four American Pig War officers returned to the East Coast to serve on both sides during the American Civil War. (Page 11)





National Park Service  
U.S. Department of the Interior

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Web site  
[www.nps.gov/sajh](http://www.nps.gov/sajh)

The park is administered by the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior.

Cover:  
A model in Washington, DC, c. 1858, poses in the dress uniform of a sergeant of the Artillery branch of the U.S. Army. The uniform was considered a marked improvement over earlier issues. The hat with ostrich plume, however, left a lot to be desired among some soldiers. A similar uniform is on display at the American Camp visitor center.

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## Basic information

# Finding your way to the parks

### American Camp

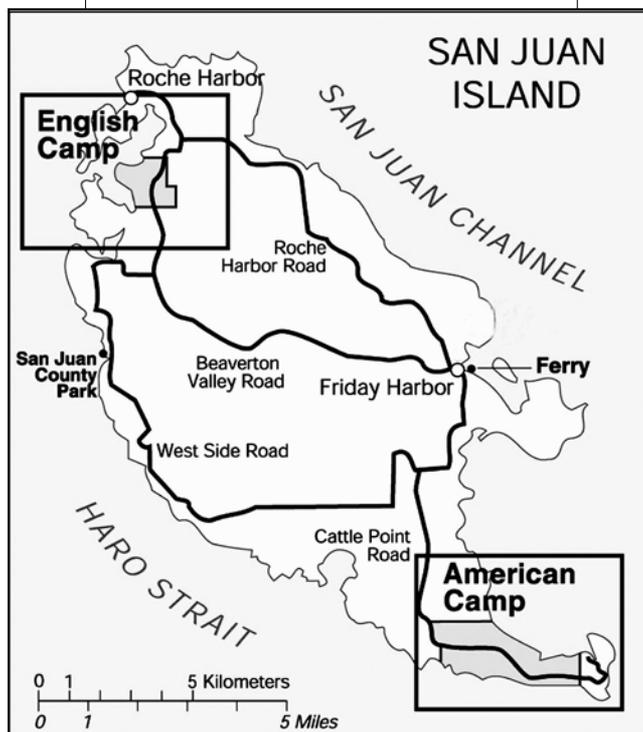
The American Camp visitor center is about six miles southeast of Friday Harbor along Cattle Point Road. Simply drive west on Spring Street to Mullis Street and turn left. The road will wind a bit and change its name twice until it becomes Cattle Point Road. Turn right on the visitor center entrance road *after* you see the large park entrance sign. If you turn before the sign, you'll be in the Eagle Cove housing development. Cattle Point Road passes three miles through the park right-of-way, and the speed limit is 45 mph. Please be mindful, especially in the wooded stretch, that wild animals cross this road and bicyclists may be just around one of the blind corners. Startled cyclists tend to turn and look over their left shoulders, which causes them to swerve toward the center line. Park speed limits are 15 mph on the visitor center entrance road and 25 mph on Pickett's Lane (which leads to South Beach). Remember to be especially careful when exiting the American Camp visitor center entrance road. Over the years, several accidents have occurred at this intersection.

### English Camp

English Camp is located about nine miles northwest of Friday Harbor on West Valley Road. Take Spring Street

to Second Street and turn right. At the first stop sign you encounter, Second becomes Guard. Go to the next stop sign and continue to go straight. The street runs past the library, curves right and left, and then becomes Beaverton Valley Road. Continue over Cady Mountain (not much altitude gain here—it's a small mountain) until the road becomes

seriously. English Camp may also be accessed via Roche Harbor Road. To reach Roche Harbor Road from Friday Harbor, turn right at the second stop sign onto Tucker Avenue, which becomes Roche Harbor Road just outside of town. Continue to West Valley Road and turn left. The parade ground entrance road will be your second right after you pass the park entrance sign.



### A word about road safety

Because the island is only 54 square miles (about 16 1/2 miles long and 6 1/2 miles wide at the midsection), it's easy to get around. Plus, on island time you don't have to be in such an all-fired hurry to get anywhere!

If you're driving an automobile or truck, be especially mindful of bicycles, mopeds and three-wheeled motorized scooters. They have the same right-of-way as you. If you must pass, do it carefully and do not cross a solid double line. Conversely, cyclists should remember that, while they do have the right-of-way on county

roads, it's considered a courtesy here to form a single line right. Adults take note: If children are along, be sure to ride both at the front and rear of the pack. Keep your eyes open. You may encounter a deer, fox, or even a river otter crossing the road.

West Valley Road. About 500 feet past the park entrance sign, on the left, is the entrance road to the parade ground that follows the original Military Road. The speed limit on this gravel track is 15 mph, and we urge you to take it

## Fast facts about the park

**Both locations are day-use-only areas with picnic tables, open from dawn to 11 p.m. There are no campgrounds available at either camp, but several private facilities and a county-owned campground are available on the island.**

**Pets must be kept on a leash within park boundaries. Bags are provided to clean up after them. Please respect the leash law—it not only protects fragile plants and wildlife, but other visitors and their pets as well.**

**English and American camps are important archaeological areas dating back 8,000 years to the time of the Coast Salish Indians. Artifacts such as bottles, buttons, bone pendants, projectile points and fish hooks are on display at the American Camp visitor center.**

**Because artifacts are protected under federal law, collecting, digging or using metal detectors is prohibited. Please do not disturb natural features and ruins. You may collect fruits, nuts, unoccupied seashells and mushrooms.**

**Off-road travel (by vehicles or mopeds) is not allowed in the park. Bicycling is permitted only on gravel paths.**

**Use or possession of fireworks is prohibited year-round.**

**Horseback riding is allowed by permit in designated areas only.**

**Do not hunt, trap or use firearms on park lands.**

[www.nps.gov/sajh](http://www.nps.gov/sajh)  
(360) 378-2240

# The Pig War of 1859: A close call for the U.S. and Great Britain



A mix of U.S. citizens and British subjects pose at Belle Vue Sheep Farm in September 1859. At far right are the British and U.S. magistrates, John DeCourcy and Henry Crosby, respectively.

On July 27, 1859, George E. Pickett's Company D, 9th Infantry, arrived on San Juan Island with a mission to protect United States citizens from the British government on Vancouver Island. The reason? An American settler named Lyman Cutlar had shot a pig belonging to the Hudson's Bay Company. Everyone overreacted, particularly U.S. Department of Oregon commander Brig. Gen. William S. Harney, who had issued Pickett his orders.

Ownership of the entire San Juan Island group had been in limbo since the signing of the Oregon Treaty in 1846. The treaty gave the United States lands south of the 49th parallel, extending the boundary to the "middle of the channel, which separates the continent from Vancouver Island."

There are actually two channels—Haro Strait nearest Vancouver Island and Rosario Strait nearer the mainland. The San Juan Islands lie between the two. Britain insisted on the Rosario Strait; the U.S., Haro Strait. Thus, both sides claimed the archipelago.

To solidify the British claim, the Hudson's Bay Company occupied the southern end of San Juan, first with a salmon-salting station in 1850, and then a sheep ranch—Belle Vue Sheep Farm—three years later. The Americans, meanwhile, declared the island within the limits of first Oregon (1848), then Washington Territory (1853). By 1859 about 18 Americans, including Cutlar, had settled on San Juan Island in anticipation of official American possession. Neither group acknowledged the jurisdiction nor taxing authority of the other.

Several incidents ensued over the next several years, culminating in Cutlar's pig murder in June 1859.

The Hudson's Bay Company threatened Cutlar with arrest by British authorities if he did not make fair restitution for the pig. This is what compelled Harney to dispatch Pickett to San Juan Island.

British Columbia Gov. James Douglas responded by sending three warships with 61 total guns under Royal Navy Capt. Geoffrey Phipps Hornby to dislodge Pickett. Hornby's initial orders were to remove Pickett by force if he refused to leave peacefully. But soon after Hornby arrived in Griffin Bay, Douglas, at the urging of the senior Royal Navy officer in the area, dispatched a messenger with a new order proposing a joint military occupation of the island.

Pickett refused and instead wrote Harney for reinforcements. Soon nearly 500 U.S. troops—now under command of Lt. Col. Silas Casey—occupied the island bolstered by eight naval guns and 14 field pieces.

After observing the naval guns being emplaced on an eminence overlooking both water approaches to the island, Hornby sought permission to assault the heights and spike the guns. This course was rejected by Pacific Station commander Rear Adm. R. Lambert Baynes, who cautioned Hornby to fire only if fired upon.

The two sides faced off on the Cattle Point peninsula for more than three months until the arrival

of U.S. Army commander Lt. Gen. Winfield Scott, who, with Britain's blessing, was dispatched from his headquarters in New York City to mediate the crisis. Scott and Douglas negotiated a standdown while the two governments arranged a joint military occupation of the island. The Americans remained at Cattle Point, and Royal Marines established a camp 13 miles north in March 1860.

The joint occupation ended 12 years later when Kaiser Wilhelm I of Germany, acting as arbitrator, settled the dispute by awarding the San Juan Islands to the United States. Thus ended the so-called Pig War—with the pig the only casualty.

# Archaeology reveals a rich and diverse park heritage

Lying as it does at the crossroads of three great waterways, San Juan Island has always been a magnet for human habitation with its sheltered harbors, secluded woodlands and stretches of open prairie.

For thousands of years, people were drawn here to stake a life or to find rest and relaxation amid an abundant food source. As a result, San Juan Island National Historical Park has one of the most significant collections of artifacts in the national park system, representing more than 2,500 years of continuous human occupation.

American and English camps have been cited as winter and summer homes of the Lummi, Saanich, Samish and Songhee peoples, as well as the British Royal Marines and U.S. Army during the joint occupation period.

The artifacts were excavated over a 50-year period by field schools from the University of Washington and the University of Idaho. The historical objects were unearthed in successive summers between 1970 and 1979 by students from the Laboratory of Anthropology under the direction of Dr. Roderick Sprague. Excavations at both sites, under the auspices of the University of Washington, date to 1946.

Specific sites include English Camp, San Juan Town, Bellevue Farm and the



**Dr. Julie Stein (left), Burke Museum director, screens soil with students during a recent test excavation on the American Camp prairie. According to Dr. Stein, the wooden objects at right were probably used as arrow tips to hunt birds, and the hole in the piece at far right was drilled so the hunter could retrieve the point. They are on view at American Camp.**



Parade Ground and Laundress Quarters areas of American Camp. All of the sites date from the Pig War era, 1859-1872, with the exception of Belle Vue Sheep Farm, which was established in 1853 by the Hudson's Bay Company.

Participants often were richly rewarded, such as when students from Idaho discovered the remains of an ancient Coast Salish plank house at English Camp. The Idaho crews also succeeded in determining the site of the Laundress Quarters, and excavated the stub of the flagpole, situated in front of the Of-

ficers' Quarters at American Camp.

Prehistoric artifacts from the UW projects are held in the Burke Museum in Seattle, while the historic objects from the Idaho excavations are stored at the archival laboratory and storage facility at North Cascades National Park in Marblemount, Washington.

A selection of pre-historical artifacts and objects from the joint military occupation are on view in the American Camp visitor center. The historic-period cases are arranged by location—American and English camps and Old Town

Lagoon—and contain buttons, badges, company and regimental insignia, tableware and even a chamber pot. Each object represents an aspect of daily life long vanished.

The Burke case contains objects such as projectile points, scrapers, grinding stones and fishhooks. At the museum itself, the objects are conserved and displayed for the public as well as for students and researchers. This body of research has not only revealed aspects of the island's ancient past, but has also led to the discovery of new ideas about archaeology that can be used all over the world.

## SAFEGUARD HISTORY: PROTECT ARTIFACTS ON ALL PUBLIC LANDS

**Artifacts within the boundaries of San Juan Island National Historical Park are protected under the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979. It is illegal to disturb, dig, remove or possess archaeological objects.**

**If you find an artifact, leave it in place. Take a careful look at where it is and what it looks like, and then report it to a park ranger or volunteer.**

**Always remember that each object, no matter how insignificant it may appear, could hold the key to opening a door to the past.**

# 2010 Summer Program schedule: Something for everyone

## Weekly Programs

Weekly programs scheduled below also are available on request. For information, call 360-378-2240, ext. 2228, or go to [www.nps.gov/sajh](http://www.nps.gov/sajh).

**Pig War Story Guided Walk** — Park rangers and volunteers describe events leading up to and including the Pig War and the peaceful joint occupation of San Juan Island by British and American troops. Visitors pass by the Belle Vue Sheep Farm site, negotiate a slight incline to Robert's redoubt and finish at the historic officers' quarters within the boundary of the parade ground's white picket fence. **Walks meet at the American Camp visitor center, 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Saturdays, June 5 to August 28.**

**Living History: Life During the Joint Military Occupation on San Juan Island** — Park rangers and volunteers recreate military and civilian life during the island's early pioneer period. Activities may include blacksmithing, coopering, weaving, needlework and exhibitions of military equipment and skills. **12:30 to 3:30 p.m., Saturdays, June 5 to August 28, English Camp parade ground.**

**Winter Village and Bell Point Trail Nature Walk** — Take a ranger-guided walk along the shoreline and through the Pacific madrona forest of English Camp's Bell Point trail and discover how the site has supported more than 2,500 years of continuous occupation. **11:30 to 1 p.m., Saturdays, June 5 to August 28, meets in the English Camp barracks, or by request. Call 360-378-2240, ext. 2228.**

**Birding in the Park** — Join park rangers and volunteers for weekly explorations for birds at both park units. **Check our Web site ([nps.gov/sajh](http://nps.gov/sajh)) or call (360) 378-2240, ext. 2228 for times and locations and/or to make special arrangements.**

**Jakle's Lagoon Nature Walk** — Enter the dark woodlands of the Jakle's Lagoon trail system and emerge on the arid grasslands of the old Jakle homestead overlooking South Beach. Along the way, learn how flora and fauna adapt to these habitats. **11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Sundays, June 6 to August 29, meets in the Jakle's Lagoon trailhead parking area, or by request. Call 360-378-2240, ext. 2228.**



There is always an opportunity for visitors to raise and lower the flag with a park ranger at American Camp.

**Prairie Walk to South Beach** — Learn about the park's long-range prairie restoration plan, and enjoy plant, wildlife and island history on this journey to South Beach, where springs attracted Indians and Europeans alike. This activity can be strenuous. Sturdy footwear, layered clothing, sun hats and water are recommended. **2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Saturdays, June 5 to August 28, American Camp parking area, or by request. Call 360-378-2240, ext. 2228.**

**Young Hill/Royal Marine Cemetery Trek** — Serious hikers will enjoy this two-hour, ranger-led journey up the slope of 650-foot Young Hill, where the summit offers splendid views of the Juan de Fuca and Haro straits, Vancouver Island and the Olympic Mountains. See the Royal Marine Cemetery along the way. **2 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., Sundays, June 6 to August 29, meets in the English Camp parking area, or by request. Call 360-378-2240, ext. 2228.**

**In Concert: Pig War Band** — Folk singer Michael Cohen and the group "Pig War Contradance Band" present an evening of traditional folk tunes. The floor will be cleared for those wishing to dance. Cohen has worked with the Smithsonian in cataloging American folk music. Go to <http://www.ecopsych.com/pwcontra> or dial 360-378-6313 for dance information and special happen-

(Continued on Page 8)

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**Young Hill trail**—Hike this fairly steep trail up 650 feet to the top of Young Hill for a panoramic view of the island group's northwest corner, Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands. Novice walkers should take care to pace themselves as most of the gain is in the last half mile. An exhibit panel identifying geographic features is mounted on an overlook about two-thirds of the way up the hill. (1.25 mi.)

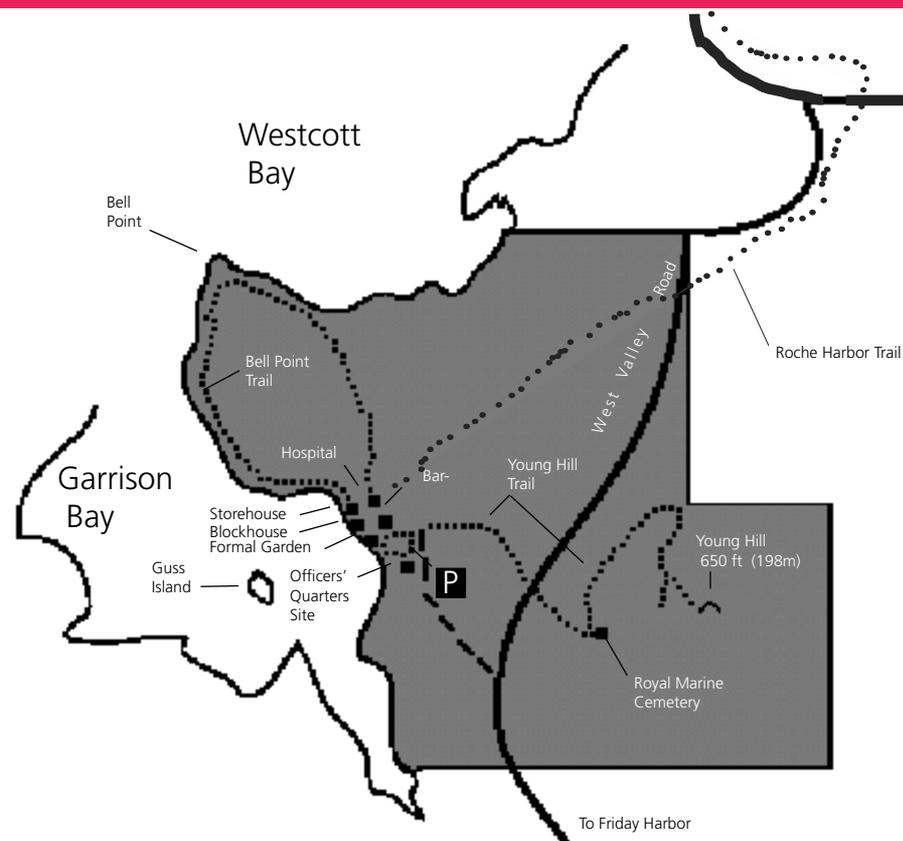
**Royal Marine cemetery**—The Royal Marine cemetery is about 50 yards off the Young Hill trail, about a third of the way up. Five Royal Marines are interred, and a memorial stone is in place for two other marines. A stone also commemorates a civilian who was accidentally shot by his brother while hunting.

**Bell Point trail**—Walk the mile-long, fairly level trail to Bell Point for a view of Westcott Bay. If you like to harvest shellfish, check with the park ranger at the visitor center for information on licensing, locations, daily limits and red tide warnings. (2-mi. loop)

**Self-guided walk**—Relive the Royal Marine era along the trail that starts at the base of the main entrance trail. Pick up a guide in the box next to the bulletin board and follow the numbered posts. When finished, please return it to the box provided at the end of the walk. Or, you can purchase a guide for a \$1 donation at the visitor center. (.25 mi.)

**English formal garden**—The flower and herb garden—originally known as the strawberry garden—lies between the officers' quarters site and the parade ground. The camp's second commanding officer had it built for his family to remind them of home.

**Roche Harbor trail**—Follow in the footsteps of the Royal Marines to Roche Harbor Village. Ask a park ranger or volunteer for directions to the trail connection completed in 2010 in partnership with the San Juan Island Trails Committee. (3 mi.)



## Visitor center resources

Both American Camp and English Camp (summer only) have visitor centers with maps, books, gifts and more. The bookstore at American Camp is more comprehensive. Here are some of the more popular guides and books.

**Friday Harbor**, by Mike and Julia Vouri.

**Images of America: The Pig War**, by Mike Vouri.

**The Pig War: Standoff at Griffin Bay**, by Mike Vouri.

**Outpost of Empire: The Royal Marines and the Joint Occupation of San Juan Island**, by Mike Vouri.

**Plants of the Pacific Northwest Coast: Washington, Oregon, British Columbia & Alaska**, by Jim Pojar and Andy MacKinnon.

**Wild Plants of the San Juan Islands**, by Scott Atkinson & Fred Sharpe.

**The Butterflies of Cascadia: A Field Guide to All the Species of Washington, Oregon and Surrounding Territories**, by Robert Michael Pyle.

**Seashore Life of the Northern Pacific Coast, an Illustrated Guide to Northern California, Oregon, Washington and British Columbia**, by Eugene N. Kozloff.

**Birds of the Puget Sound Region**, by Morse, Averza and Opperman.

**Birding in the San Juan Islands**, by Mark G. Lewis and Fred A. Sharpe.

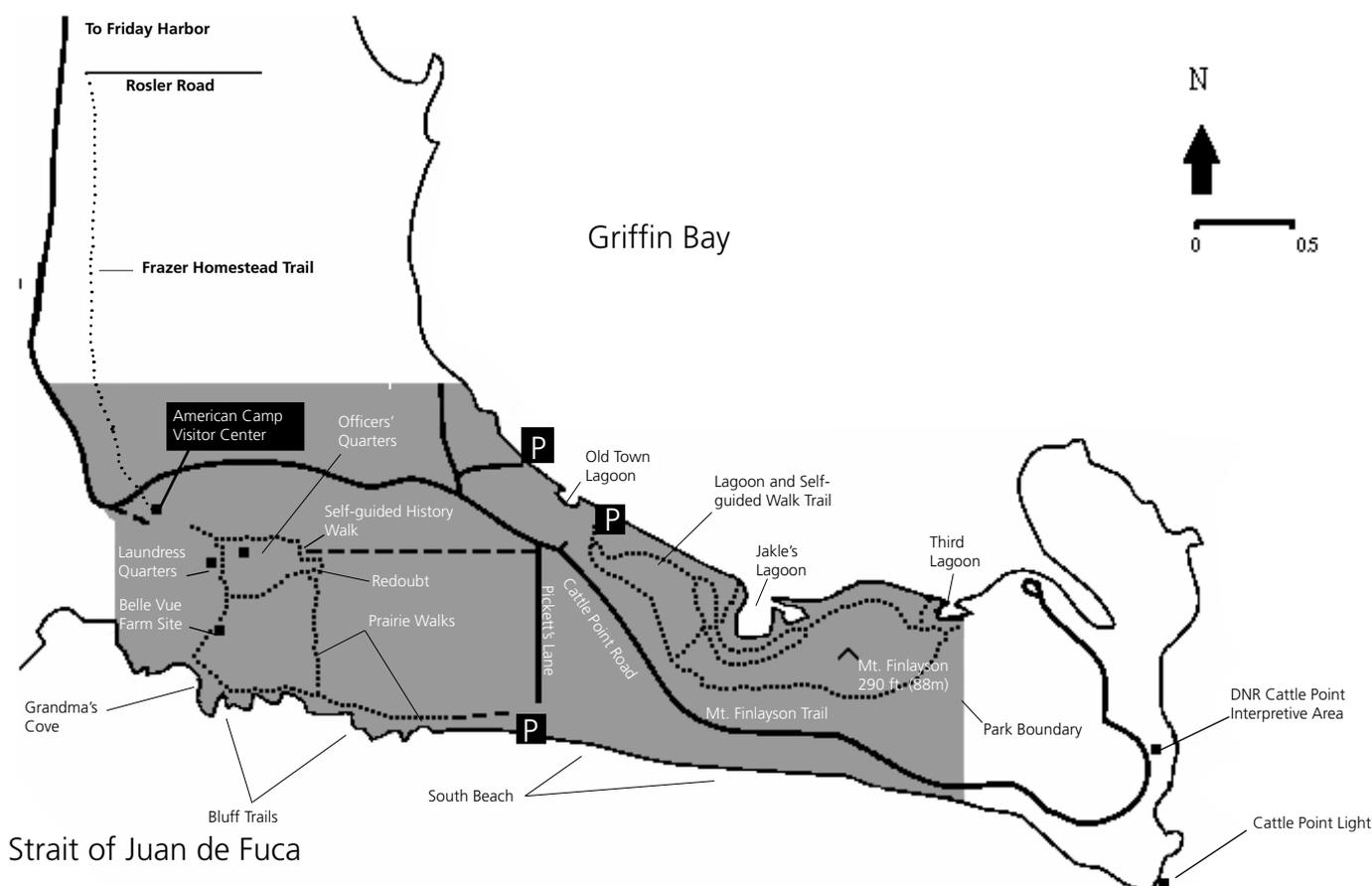
**The Audubon Society Field Guide to the Bald Eagle**.

**American Cetacean Society Field Guide to the Orca**.

**The Restless Northwest: A Geological Study**, by Hill Williams.

**Guide to Native Wildflowers of American Camp**, by Julia Vouri.

# American Camp



Trails range from leisurely to strenuous. Ask a park ranger or volunteer about the best hike for you.

**Self-guided history walk**—Relive the Pig War along the trail that starts and finishes in the visitor center parking area. Pick up guides in boxes at the trailhead and follow the numbers. (1.25 mi.)

**Frazer Homestead trail**—Trace the route of the old Military Road from the Visitor Center north to Rosler Road on this joint project of the park, the San Juan Island Trails Committee and the San Juan County Land Bank. Highlights include a pine forest. (1.7 mi.)

**Prairie walks**—Primitive tracks crisscross the prairie and trace the bluff from Grandma's Cove to South Beach and back to the visitor center via the Redoubt. A great place for viewing Orca whales, the Redoubt also offers a regional perspective with views of Mt. Baker, the Olympic and Cascade ranges, Vancouver Island, and on an exceptionally clear day, even Mt. Rainier, 130 miles up Admiralty Inlet. Sweeping views are also plentiful from the Cattle Point and Redoubt roads and Pickett's Lane. Walkers are advised to use caution as rabbits have excavated warrens throughout the prairie. (2.5 mi.)

**Grandma's Cove**—Stroll downhill to one of the finest beaches on the island. Use caution when descending the bluff. (.25 mi.)

**Mt. Finlayson trail**—Hike along the grassy ridge to the top of Mt. Finlayson where you can see Mt. Baker to the east, Mt. Rainier to the southeast, the Olympic Mountains to the south and Vancouver Island, British Columbia to the west. Come back the way you came, or, for a change of scenery, go through Jakle's Lagoon. (3-mi. loop)

**Jakle's Lagoon trail**—Pick up a self-guided walk booklet, hike along the old roadbed and enjoy the quiet of a Douglas fir, cedar and hemlock canopy. This wooded area shelters deer and many types of birds, and is one of the most popular hiking areas on San Juan Island. (1.5 mi.)

**South Beach**—Walk along the longest public beach on the island. This is a great place to see an abundance of shorebirds, and in spring and summer, Orca whales. The beach is mainly gravel, so shoes or sandals are advised. Fires are limited to grates in the picnic areas. (2 mi.)

# 2010 Summer Program Schedule: (Continued from Page 5)

(Continued from Page 5)

ings week by week. **7:30 to 9 p.m., Mondays, June 28 to August 30, English Camp barracks.**

## Special Programs

**The Birds of American Camp** — Come join San Juan Island bird expert and former national park ranger Barbara Jensen for a colorful 90-minute walk through American Camp's prairies. The program is suitable for beginning as well as veteran birders, and provides insights into the park's rich flora and fauna. **7:30 to 9:30 a.m., Sunday, June 6, American Camp visitor center.**

**Fishing the Salmon Banks: A Brief History** — Park historian Mike Vouri explores the salmon fishery off American Camp's South Beach and along San Juan Island's southern shore, from Indian reef-netting to fish traps and the purse seining that continues to this day. **7 to 8:30 p.m., Saturday, July 24, San Juan Island Library.**

**Northwest Pioneer Folkways Demonstrations** — Janet Oakley, education coordinator for the Skagit County Historical Museum in La Conner, demonstrates pioneer folkways during Encampment 2010, from butter churning to Dutch oven bak-

ing and other tasks. **Noon to 3 p.m., Saturday, July 31, English Camp parade ground.**

**Pickett's Irish: The Irish in the U.S. Army in the 1850s** — Folk musician Michael Cohen and historian Mike Vouri bring back this popular program that takes a closer look at the Irish in the U.S. Army in words and song. **7 to 8 p.m., Saturday, July 10, San Juan Island Library.**

**Encampment 2010** — Park staff, volunteers and re-enactors from throughout the region recreate life on San Juan

Island at mid-19th century. The major highlight of the weekend will be the Candlelight Ball, an evening of dancing and refreshments, scheduled 8 to 10 p.m. on Saturday. **All day, Saturday, July 31, English Camp.**

**The Night Sky** — San Juan Island naturalist Barry Boyce, astronomy enthusiast Terry Ogle and friends return in 2010 with their exciting star watch program, beginning with a brief introduction to astronomy and ending with Barry and Terry showing how to navigate the night sky via telescope on the redoubt. Dress warmly! **8:30 to 10**



**The English Camp barracks is a great place to view an osprey nest perched on a snag overlooking the parade ground. A bird scope is always set up during the summer months on the east end of the barracks.**

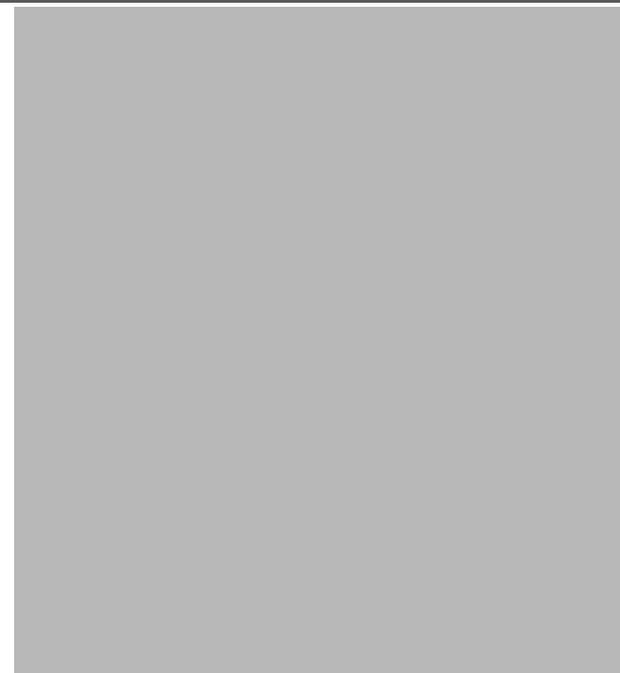
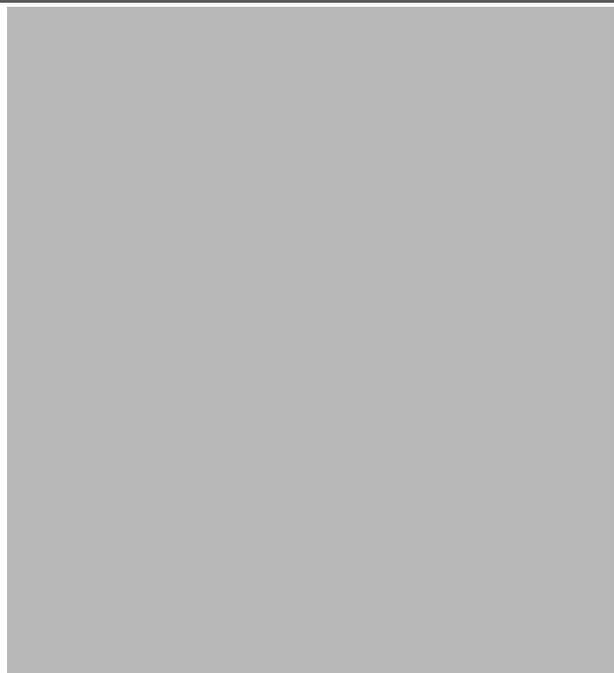
**p.m., Saturday, August 7, meets in the American Camp Visitor Center.**

**The Royal Navy in the North Pacific, 1859-1872** — The Royal Navy served as the guardian of commerce on the high seas during the so-called Pax Britannia of the 19th century. Park historian Mike Vouri explains in a PowerPoint presentation how British policies affected life on San Juan Island during the Pig War crisis. **7 to 8 p.m., Saturday, August 14, San Juan Island Library.**

**A Weaving Weekend** — Weavers from San Juan Island and Washington State will gather for the weekend to demonstrate how European and American Indian techniques melded to create woven objects and clothing unique to the Pacific Northwest. Cowlitz Nation weaver Judy Bridges and storyteller Karen Haas will join San Juan Island spinners and weavers to show how it was done with all-natural fibers, including wild reeds, on the frontier. **All day, Saturday and Sunday, August 28-29, English Camp parade ground.**

Programs are free and open to the public, except where noted. Programs are subject to change. For updates and accessibility information, call (360) 378-2240, ext. 2227, or e-mail [mike\\_vouri@nps.gov](mailto:mike_vouri@nps.gov) or visit [www.nps.gov/](http://www.nps.gov/)

For additional Park Guides go to:



# Prescribed fire: Thinning and pile burning planned for 2010

In an ongoing effort to restore and maintain park lands, National Park Service fire crews will conduct prescribed fire activities from May through October at both units of San Juan Island National Historical Park.

Thinning and pile burning is scheduled for English Camp's Young Hill, while prescribed fire is slated for six acres of the American Camp prairie. These activities are designed to decrease fuel loads and thereby reduce the threat of wildfires, as well as restore native vegetation and natural forest/prairie ecosystems, said Peter Dederich, park superintendent.

"Evidence suggests that fire played a key role in sustaining a natural balance to island prairies and woodlands before the arrival of Europeans 150 years ago," Dederich said. "You can see that by observing the burn scars on older conifers here and on Lopez Island."

Euro-Americans have focused on preventing fires, which has resulted in unnatural forest and prairie conditions marked by significant accumulations of standing burnable fuels



In 2009, National Park Service fire crews conducted prescribed fires on the south slope of Young Hill.

and a corresponding increased risk of wildfire, Dederich said.

"Wildfires are hard to control and the results are often catastrophic in a wildland-urban interface," he said. "It is much better to conduct regular

treatment schedules and protect our neighbors."

Activities in 2010 include:

**American Camp Prairie** – The six-acre prescribed fire planned for the American Camp prairie is a primary tool in

an ongoing effort to restore a prairie dominated by non-native grasses and forbs. These fires will be used as a preparation technique to help native plants compete with non-native species.

## English Camp Oak Woodland –

English Camp's Garry Oak woodland has slowly become overrun by invading Douglas-fir. To combat this, the National Park Service will be restoring the woodland using a combination of manual cutting and prescribed fire. The primary role of fire is to periodically remove any regenerating Douglas-fir seedlings that germinate after the manual cutting and pile burning are completed.

## Conifer Forests at Both Camps –

Fuel load reduction fires are scheduled between May and October 2010 in the conifer forests at English and American camps. To achieve fuel reduction goals, the park plans to use a variety of prescribed fire techniques during these burns, including pile burns and understory thinning of small-diameter Douglas-firs and lodgepole pines.

Before any prescribed fire is undertaken, a burn plan is written conforming to the park's Fire Management Plan. For more information about 2010 planned burns, please visit the park's website.

# Island Marble butterfly habitat monitoring continues

The reappearance of the rare Island Marble butterfly on San Juan Island after nearly 100 years continues to intrigue researchers and enthusiasts throughout the country.

Butterflies and other pollinators are an essential component of the world's flowering plants to reproduce and bear fruit. In 1998, the Island Marble (*Euchloe ausonides insulanus*), thought to be extinct since 1908, was discovered during a prairie butterfly survey at American Camp. The only known specimens had previously been found on Vancouver Island and Gabriola Island in British Columbia.

The Island Marble is not listed as an endangered species, but efforts are ongoing to protect it. The National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) are working in partnership to learn more about the natural history of the butterfly, including how far it flies, how long it lives and whether gender ratios vary in different areas.

In 2010 the park will be monitoring usage of test plots of native host plants as a follow up to a 2008 mark-release-recapture (MRR) study by Merrill Peterson, a professor/researcher in the Biology Department at Western Washington University. A similar MRR was conducted during the spring 2009 flight period.

Preservation of the Island Marble is an essential part of the National Park Service Mission, which is "... to conserve the scenery and the natural and historic objects and the wildlife therein and to provide for the enjoyment of the same in such manner and by such means as will leave them unimpaired for the enjoyment of future generations." Below are highlights concerning Island Marble butterfly life cycles, threats and what you can do to help.

## Life cycle of the Island Marble:

The life cycle of a butterfly is a fascinating four-stage process—a transformation from egg to caterpillar to chrysalis and finally winged adult. After Island Marble butterflies mate in spring, the females carefully lay their eggs on the flower buds of mustard plants. About 10 days later, the eggs hatch into tiny larvae (caterpillars) and begin to feed on the flower petals of the mustard plants.

As they grow and feed on other parts of the plants, they shed their skin (molt) five times, with each stage larger



The National Park Service is working with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to survey and document Island Marble butterfly activity on the American Camp prairie and elsewhere in the San Juan Islands. Photo (left) by Keith Van Cleve.

than the last. After about 35 days, the caterpillars leave their host plants and travel a short distance to select a spot low in the vegetation and shed their skins one last time to form a chrysalis. This process is usually completed by mid-July. The Island Marble overwinters as a chrysalis and emerges as an adult butterfly the following spring.

## Threats:

Threats to Island Marble habitat include clearing for development and encroachment by trees and shrubs. Mustards, the larval host plants for the Island Marble, germinate and grow after ground-disturbing activities like plowing, burning and digging by animals and humans.

While these activities can help create habitat for the Island Marble, they can be damaging once the mustards are present. Mowing, grazing, trampling of vegetation and application of herbicides can harm or kill mustard plants. Pesticide use on and around plants, including the biocide B.t.k. (*Bacillus thuringiensis kurstaki*), can kill butterflies and larvae. Plus, a common threat is the local Columbia Blacktail deer, which eats the mustard flowers where eggs are deposited and larvae develop.

## Golden paintbrush restoration underway at American Camp

Golden paintbrush (*Castilleja levisecta*)—once a thriving symbol of native northwest grasslands—is in the process of being reestablished at American Camp.

Of the 42 paintbrush species in the Pacific Northwest, this is the only one with yellow bracts, which glow when it blooms from April until June.

Once abundant in Oregon, Washington and British Columbia, it's currently listed by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) as endangered, and is found in fewer than 11 populations in Washington and Canada, largely due to habitat destruction and fire suppression.

In an effort to recreate a self-maintaining population the National Park Service and USFWS (and other agencies and landowners) collected local seeds, and supervised propagation at Fourth Corner Nurseries in Bellingham and planting on False Bay Drive and private properties around San Juan Island. About 3,500 plugs were planted on the American Camp prairie in fall/winter 2009/2010.

To volunteer to collect seed, report



Park biologist Todd Trapp plants golden paintbrush plugs on the American Camp prairie. The plastic mesh tubes discourage hungry deer.

sightings or help with planting, contact Jerald Weaver, chief of resource management, San Juan Island National Historical Park, at 360-378-2240. For more information about golden paintbrush, go to [www.nps.gov/sajh](http://www.nps.gov/sajh).

## How you can help

Throughout the world, the population of butterflies, bees and other pollinators are decreasing at an alarming rate. Here's what you can do to help:

- Create pollinator habitats in your yard, community, local schools and other lands nearby by planting native plants that provide nectar or larval food for pollinators. You can also install nest boxes for bees.
- Supply a water source.
- Reduce pesticide use.
- Minimize your environmental impact.
- Enjoy nature.

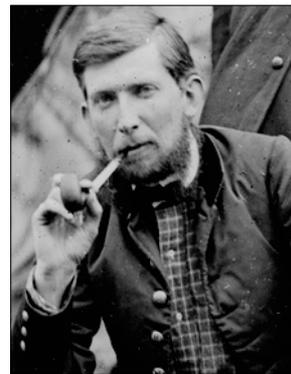
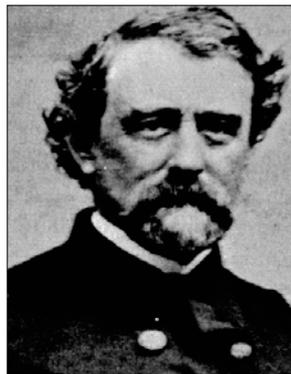
For more information about the Island Marble butterfly, go to [www.nps.gov/sajh](http://www.nps.gov/sajh).

# Civil War Connections: Pig War officers went off to the fight

Many of the key American players in the Pig War incident, on and off island, went on to serve in the American Civil War in both Confederate and Union ranks. For some the war brought fame, promotion and long careers. For others, it brought death, destruction, lasting heartache and legend.

Throughout the war, American Camp remained an active U.S. Army installation garrisoned entirely by regular Army soldiers who rotated between Northwest Washington and the battlefields of the East. The enlisted soldiers probably counted their blessings to be away from the fray, while the officers chafed for glory and the promotions that were certain to follow. Here are our top four:

Born January 28, 1825, **George E. Pickett** was commander of Camp Pickett, San Juan Island, from July 27, 1859 to August 10, 1859; and again from April 28, 1860 to July 25, 1861. Promoted to brigadier general in January 1862, he served in the Seven Days campaign and was seriously wounded



From left; George Pickett, James Alden and James Forsyth were among several Pig War officers who went on to play key roles in the American Civil War. Alden's moment came when he led the Union line into Mobile Bay (left) in August 1864.

at Gaines Mill. While convalescing, he was made a major general and given command of the division that bore his name in October 1862. He went on to achieve lasting fame on July 3, 1863, when he led his division in a fatal

charge against the federal center at the Battle of Gettysburg. He sold insurance in Richmond until his death in Norfolk on July 30, 1875.

**James Alden**, born March 31, 1810 in Portland, Maine, was a direct descen-

dent of John Alden and Priscilla Mullins of Mayflower fame. As commander of the U.S. Coast Survey Ship *Active*, Alden was directly involved in the Pig War crisis, as the *Active* served as a messenger ship throughout the incident. The senior Alden was one of the U.S. Navy's most stalwart captains, commanding three different warships on blockade duty during the Civil War. As commander of the steam sloop U.S.S. *Brooklyn*, he led Admiral David Farragut's battle line into Mobile Bay. When Alden stopped under heavy fire to locate and clear mines, one of which had sunk the ironclad U.S.S. *Tecumseh* with all hands (save two), Farragut, aboard the U.S.S. *Hartford*, is said to have shouted, "Damn the torpedoes, four bells (or full speed ahead)!"

**Winfield Scott** was born June 13, 1786 near Petersburg, Virginia. He was known as the "Great Pacificator" because twice he helped settle border disputes with the British—at San Juan Island and in the 1830s near the town of Aroostook, Maine. As commanding general of the U.S. Army at the start of the Civil War, the 74-year-old Scott knew that the war would be long and bloody and planned accordingly. He drafted a strategy that would give the North strategic advantage by occupying or blockading areas critical to the survival of the Confederacy as an independent nation. Scott finally resigned in November 1861 with Maj. Gen. George McClellan succeeding him as commanding general of all Union forces. Three bloody years would pass before the Union Army finally realized Scott's vision under Ulysses S. Grant, a pre-war friend of George Pickett.

**James W. Forsyth** was born August 8, 1835 in Maumee, Ohio. He was second, then first lieutenant of Company D, 9th Infantry from December 1856 to July 1861. During the war, Forsyth served on the staff of Maj. Gen. Philip H. Sheridan, where he became closely acquainted with a brash young officer named George A. Custer. Forsyth remained in the army and closely aligned with Sheridan following the war. As a full colonel, he commanded the Seventh Cavalry (Custer's regiment) at Wounded Knee Creek on December 29, 1890. He survived an attempted censure from Brig. Gen. Nelson Miles, his immediate superior, and retired a major general.

To learn more about Civil War Connections, visit us at <http://www.nps.gov/sajh/historyculture/civil-war-connections>.

# Exploring the Salish Sea

San Juan Island National Historical Park sits in the heart of the Salish Sea, a region named for its first stewards, the Strait Coast Salish peoples. One of the most diverse—and fragile—marine ecosystems in the world, it includes Puget Sound, Georgia Strait and the Strait of Juan de Fuca. Here is a sampling of marine life that may be seen from the park's shorelines.

## Orca whales

As you walk the bluffs of American Camp between May and September, listen for the soft spouting of Washington's state marine mammal—the Orca whale, aka Killer whale. You'll see more than one. They travel in large family groups, or pods, that often stay together for life and have been observed breathing in unison. These "whales" are actually dolphins that propel themselves through the water at great speeds, and true to their acrobatic status, they breach, lobtail, flipper-slap and spy-hop. If you're lucky, you may spot the dorsal fin of one of the males. At six feet, they are the tallest in the sea.



## Dall's porpoises

It's easy to mistake a Dall's porpoise for an Orca whale. The markings are similar, but they're only about six feet long and have a much smaller dorsal fin.



Look for their telltale rooster-tail spray as they slice through the water at up to 30 knots and play "chicken" before the bows of boats.

## Minke whales

Minke whales regularly swim past South Beach at American Camp, but their dark, slim bodies, swift surfacing movements and nearly invisible blows can be overlooked in all but the calmest sea. The smallest of baleen whales at 25 to 35 feet, they approach smaller boats out of curiosity.



## Seals

Hike to the bluffs overlooking the Strait of Juan de Fuca at American Camp and look down. You may see one or more harbor seals sunning on the rocks or lolling in the water, heads up like periscopes.

If so, please keep your distance. As marine mammals, pinnipeds are protected under the *Marine Mammal Protection Act of 1972*, which forbids "hunting, killing, capture, and/or harassment of any marine mammal; or, the attempt at such." The law also pertains to dogs, and is one of

many reasons why they must be leashed at all times in the park.

Harbor seals are the most commonly observed marine mammals in the park, as females often leave their young on the beaches for up to 24 hours while out foraging for food. Visitors may approach the pups believing they are in danger, which causes stress and dehydration and frightens off the mother.

In recent years, other pinnipeds such as molting el-



A harbor seal pup awaits the return of its mother on South Beach in 2009. Please do not approach within 200 yards of these animals.

ephant seals and California sea lions have appeared, with the former remaining for weeks at a time.

To ensure the safety and well-being of pinnipeds and humans alike, the park may close a section of beach until the animals depart. However, the accepted practice—onshore, in a kayak or boat—is to remain 200 yards away from haul-out sites.

"If even one seal acknowledges your presence by lifting its head and looking at you, you're too close," said Amy Traxler of the San Juan County Marine Mammal Stranding Network. "Slowly back up and leave the area." Next contact the visitor center or call the Stranding Network at 1-800-562-8832.

For more information: <http://www.whalemuseum.org/programs/mmsn>

