

ADVERTISING

The Seattle Times presents **new Urban eats** 3 courses for \$30 January 4-29 View all restaurants

WESTERN WASHINGTON TOYOTA DEALERS

The Seattle Times Company NWjobs | NWautos | NWhomes | NWapartments | NWsource | Classifieds | seattletimes.com

The Seattle Times | **Nation & World**

53° F

Our network sites seattletimes.com | Advanced

Home Local Nation/World Business/Tech Sports Entertainment Living Travel Opinion Shopping Jobs Autos Homes Rentals Classifieds Buy ads

Quick links: Traffic | Movies | Restaurants | Today's events | Video | Photos | Blogs Your account | Log in | Contact us

Originally published Wednesday, January 7, 2009 at 12:00 AM

Comments (21) E-mail article Print view

Pelicans fall out of sky from Mexico to Ore.

Pelicans suffering from a mysterious malady are crashing into cars and boats, wandering along roadways and turning up dead by the hundreds across the West Coast, from southern Oregon to Baja California, Mexico, bird-rescue workers say.

By Pat Brennan The Orange County Register

SANTA ANA, Calif. — Pelicans suffering from a mysterious malady are crashing into cars and boats, wandering along roadways and turning up dead by the hundreds across the West Coast, from southern Oregon to Baja California, Mexico, bird-rescue workers say.

Weak, disoriented birds are huddling in people's yards or being struck by cars. More than 100 have been rescued along the California coast, according to the International Bird Rescue Research Center in San Pedro.

Hundreds of birds, disoriented or dead, have been observed across the West Coast.

"One pelican actually hit a car in Los Angeles," said Rebecca Dmytryk of Wildrescue, a bird-rescue operation. "One pelican hit a boat in Monterey."

While some of the symptoms resemble those associated with domoic-acid poisoning — an ocean toxin that sometimes affects sea birds and mammals — other symptoms do not. Domoic acid also apparently has not been found in significant amounts offshore, although more tests are needed.

Rescuers are wondering whether the illness is caused by a virus, or even by contaminants washed into the ocean after recent fires across Southern California. Many of the birds also have swollen feet.

"These birds are on the freeway, getting run over," said Jay Holcomb, executive director of the rescue center in San Pedro. "A bunch we've seen have been hit. They've been landing on yards five miles inland. When some of the people have captured them in parking lots, they just sit in the corner. They just go pick them up."

"Maybe the weather has been particularly difficult on them," said Heather Nevill, a veterinarian tracking the problem for the International Bird Rescue Research Center. "Maybe the fish stocks are particularly low. It might be more than one thing, all coming together at once."

Copyright © 2009 The Seattle Times Company

E-mail article Print view Share: Digg Newsvine More Nation & World headlines...

Latest comments

This has nothing to do with "God being displeased," for Christ's sake (pun intended). Nor does it disprove or prove global warming.... Posted on January 7, 2009 at 10:39 AM by Terry Parkhurst. Jump to comment

The pelicans are only reflecting the culture of death our nation has embraced, from abortion to doctor-assisted suicide, and God is displeased. We... Posted on January 7, 2009 at 10:31 AM by tsaye. Jump to comment

Climate change, not global warming. Climate change is the scientific term used. It means the disruption in weather patterns and temperatures... Posted on January 7, 2009 at 10:29 AM by juked175. Jump to comment

Read all comments / Share your thoughts

ADVERTISING

More Nation & World

UPDATE - 10:41 AM Israel orders brief halt, then Gaza fight resumes

UPDATE - 10:45 AM Burris says he expects to be seated in Senate soon

UPDATE - 09:10 AM Heavy rain causing flooding across South

NEW - 09:57 AM Joe the Plumber to become war correspondent

Index steadies, but more job losses expected

ADVERTISING

We are your Relocation Experts!

Search Listings Here

RE/MAX Realty Professionals

Tell us what is important to you.

Contact us at 800-211-2493 or visit our website, www.ServingBellevue.com.

Video

Wilderness Awareness School
A group of students from the teen program at the Wilderness Awareness School welcomed 2009 at Snoqualmie Falls.

Interview with Jason Mesnick

Resolution Run 2009

Needle New Year's Fireworks Prep

Kwanzaa Harvest Festival Piano

Dodge of Bellevue

click here to see our specials

An AutoNabon.com Dealer

AS SEEN ON **nwautos.com**

[More videos](#)

AP's News Minute
All of today's news in one minute.

Marketplace

2009's most fuel-efficient SUVs NEW
Choosing a new SUV? Weigh the impact your choice will have on your wallet and on the planet.
[Post a comment](#)

Sell Your Car for **Free** | Search for a **New Car**

[POST A LISTING](#) | [SEARCH NOW](#)

New Urban Cars | 3 courses for \$30 | January 4-29

Research vehicles | Gas saver cars | Cheap cars (under 6k) | Today's new listings

Most Popular Cars

Land Rover Range Rover | Audi A4 | Dodge Dakota

[Buy a link here](#)

Most read | **Most commented** | **Most e-mailed**

1 Flat Stomach Rule: Obey

I cut out 2 lbs of body fat per week by following this 1 old rule!
momsdoublediet.com/Success

Find Seattle New Condos

Search all the brand new condo developments in Seattle for free
www.newcondosonline.com

Equifax - Official Site

Get a Free Credit Report & Score with Equifax 3-in-1 Monitoring Order
www.equifax.com

Get home delivery today!

ADVERTISING

Site map

Our network sites seattletimes.com | [Advanced](#)

The Seattle Times Company

- [About the company](#)
- [Employment opportunities](#)
- [Seattle Times store](#)
- [Advertise with us](#)
- [Newspapers in Education](#)

Services

- [Your account / Log in](#)
- [E-mail newsletters](#)
- [Contact us](#)
- [Feedback and questions](#)
- [Submit listings](#)
- [Send us news tips](#)

News

- [Home](#)
- [Local](#)
- [Nation/World](#)
- [Business/Tech](#)
- [Entertainment](#)
- [Living](#)
- [Travel](#)
- [Sports](#)
- [Opinion](#)
- [Extras](#)

Marketplace

- [Jobs](#)
- [Autos](#)
- [Homes](#)
- [Rentals](#)
- [Classifieds](#)
- [Shopping](#)
- [NWsource](#)
- [Personals](#)
- [Post an ad](#)

Getting Your Newspaper

- [Home delivery](#)
- [Temporary stops](#)
- [Subscriber services](#)

Other editions

- [News by e-mail](#)
- [Mobile](#)
- [RSS feeds](#)
- [e-Edition](#)
- [Low-graphic](#)
- [Twitter](#)

[Privacy statement](#) | [Terms of service](#)
Copyright © 2009 The Seattle Times Company