

The eagles have landed (online)

Title

Birds Australia (BirdLife Partner) have launched EagleCAM - a live 24-hour remote video feed brought to you from the Discovery Centre in Sydney. It provides scientists, researchers and bird lovers with unique insight into the habits of a pair of nesting White-bellied Sea-Eagle *Haliaeetus leucogaster*.

‘Part of our wider education and outreach program, EagleCAM allows us to observe safely at a distance and to gain invaluable knowledge about their behaviours’, said Cara Schultz from Birds Australia. ‘This information can then be used to make better decisions around issues such as habitat management and food sources’.

Right now the sea-eagles are sitting on two eggs, and are taking turns to closely guard the nest through rain, wind, hail and shine. The eggs, which were laid in early July, are due to hatch in mid August.

‘That’s when the real fun begins!’, added Cara. Activity around the nest will increase dramatically as the parent birds relay between the nest and the Parramatta River bringing back a constant supply of food to the squawking nestlings. After that, you’ll be able to watch as the eaglets begin the exciting process of learning to fly.

‘Dedicated volunteers have been the drivers behind the project, providing the constant support and technical know-how in the face of some severe technical limitations to bring you this live footage’, said Cara.

‘To overcome these technical difficulties and keep the video rolling seamlessly, we need to replace the cable that feeds the Discovery Centre. Our goal is to raise \$30,000 for the Discovery Centre EagleCAM by the time the chicks fledge in late October. The funds will enable us to upgrade the cable and to bring you a new improved version of EagleCAM in 2012 so that we can all continue to keep tabs on the life and times of our resident sea-eagles’.

Witness the magic of nature in real time through EagleCAM below!

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