

Be Smart for Wolves

Spring Island has a long history of intermittent coastal wolf activity throughout the year.

Since 2014, we've shared Spring Island with wolves now living here year-round. During summer 2016, the young wolf pack had 6 pups, 3 sub-adults, and their 2 parents.

Throughout our summer season, from late May to mid-September, these wolves respected our camp space and guests. There were no negative interactions: no signs of aggression or looking at our camp as a source of food. As far as we've heard this has been the same for other island visitors here for day hikes or overnight camping elsewhere on Spring Island.

For your safety, and the wolves' safety, please practice the following while using this site and visiting Spring Island and the Mission Group of Islands – the Treaty Lands of the Ka:'yu:'k't'h'/Chek'tles7et'h' (Kyuquot/Checleset) First Nations:

- If the wolves are allowed to forage successfully for food on the shore and in the forest, they will likely have no need to consider humans as a source of food; if you are on the beach and see the wolves walking along the beach (looking for food or in transit), you don't need to disturb them or scare them away...unless they turn in your direction;
- You may see wolves while walking the shoreline or forest trails – they are likely as surprised as you. **If the wolves don't run away and approach you, simply scare them away by yelling or throwing rocks/sticks toward them – this does them a favour;**
- Please keep all food, food waste (e.g., fish guts), and food scraps/debris tightly covered and concealed so that they don't look at campsites and humans as a source of food;
- Please don't intentionally approach or bait the wolves (with food) for close-up photos or sightings/interactions – this only encourages them to not be concerned about humans. Please keep your distance when viewing;
- Closely supervise young/small children and travel as a group;
- **Please leave your dogs at home**, on your boat, or at the very least, have them on a leash – wolves consider dogs a threat in their territory and may try to assert their dominance by attacking your dog(s).

Please report any concerns to the Kyuquot-Checleset First Nation (VHF 14, 250-332-5959), the BC Conservation Officers (1-877-952-7277), and/or our West Coast Expeditions Office (info@westcoastexpeditions.com; 250-338-2511).

Enjoy the wild beauty of howls, tracks, and sightings. Thank you!

West Coast Expeditions