

In March of 2001 I remember hearing the cry of seagulls and crows outside our windows, they were dive bombing an eagle that was not fully mature. The eagle was sitting on the beach on top of some black netting. The netting ran a huge distance down the beach. I watched for quite a while thinking that it was odd that the eagle would allow the other birds to harass him like that.

I checked back a little while later and the eagle was sitting in the same spot. The tide was coming in. I kept watching growing more and more concerned for this young eagle. I decided to take some pictures (which have been included) the tide was getting closer and closer to the eagle. The eagle would flap his wings lift up a little and be pulled back down by the netting. That was when I finally realized the eagle's talon was stuck.

The water was now covering the eagle's claws and I am starting to panic thinking this eagle is going to drown. I called my husband, I called Washington State Wildlife/Game department. I left a message. I didn't know what to do. I couldn't leave my three month old daughter home alone to rescue an eagle.

My husband got home just as the water was to the bottom of the eagle. We called the department again left another message. At this point a mature eagle has entered the picture. This eagle is huge and is flying around all the other birds that are continually crying and dive bombing the eagle that is stuck.

The water is to the birds head. Jeff (husband) decided to put on several coats and rescue this eagle. Finally, as Jeff was walking toward the eagle, the mature eagle was able to get close to the young eagle. Seconds before the eagle would have drowned it broke free.

It was terrifying to stand and watch in horror this beautiful bird struggling to get loose from a harvesting net, while the mature eagle was crying out. Happy ending but, this could have been prevented.

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