

**SPRING – 2020**

Editor: Janne Perrin



### MEETINGS

#### **1. Tuesday, January 21, 2020**

Member's night did not disappoint. Paulina Selles presentation on butterflies illustrated by her photographs was most informative. Tumbler Ridge BCN Field Camp photos by Janne Perrin highlighted both flora and geology. Denis Knopp treated us to an aerial view of Camp Slough Wildlife Area taken by Leo Awram's drone. His Spring 2019 photo show included the herring run on Vancouver Island, rare birds, bears, flowers and butterflies. Fernando Selles gave a dissertation on nuts vs berries. Who knew walnuts, almonds and pecans are not nuts!

#### **2. Tuesday, February 18, 2020**

Jasper Lament of the Nature Trust of BC (NTBC) presented an informative talk on the 500 properties owned by this organization founded in 1971. Their goal is to secure and sustain biodiverse land for future generations. Nature Chilliwack manages the 8.8 hectare Camp Slough Wildlife Area, acquired in 1994, with NTBC. There are properties at Wells Road and in the Chilliwack River Valley Twenty-eight hectares adjacent to Nicomen Slough were acquired in 2019. The urgency to protect biodiverse lands is escalating in the 21<sup>st</sup> century forcing NTBC to pay more money for land. Much of their budget goes to land management restoration, invasive removal, signage, monitoring and research.



**Jasper Lament of Nature Trust British Columbia**

### FIELD TRIPS

#### **1. McDonald Park February 16, 2020**

Bona Baillie led this trip attended by a small group of Nature Chilliwack members. The great blue herons were fussing over their nests closely watched by the resident eagles. Snowdrops covered the fields near the tobacco huts. They enjoyed lunch at Yarrow's Chestnut Springs Cafe after the walk.

### THIS 'n THAT

**1.** Until further notice all Spring Nature Chilliwack **activities are suspended** due to Covid19 Health Restrictions. We have tentatively scheduled speakers and field trips for the fall (see our calendar) subject to the regulations. Our FaceBook page features video talks by the speakers slated for March, April and May plus other interesting nature information. Take a look at [www.facebook.com/NatureChilliwack](http://www.facebook.com/NatureChilliwack) .

#### **2. Bird Brochure**

The brochure is in its final stages. Descriptions have been written and final photos decided. Fernando is working on the layout. Printing should take place in the next month or so. Thank you to Fernando Selles, Paulina Selles, Scott Denkers, Denis Knopp, Lee Larkin and Janne Perrin for participating in this project. Funding was from BC Nature Foundation and our Valerie Whetter Endowment Fund.

#### **3. 2020 AGM**

Due to Covid19 Health Restriction our March AGM had to be cancelled. In the interim Janne Perrin has agree to act as president with other officers remaining in their positions. Hopefully we will hold the AGM in conjunction with our planned September meeting.

**4.** Our **website** transition is nearly complete. Scott Denkers is the webmaster with Janne Perrin assisting. We thank Leo Awram for his help in this effort. Our web address is [www.naturechilliwack.ca](http://www.naturechilliwack.ca). The site is still under construction.

**5.** Our **Camp River** stewards have tilled the field, planted big leaf maple, evergreens, and introduced cattails and bog buckbean into the riverside benches. They saw eagles, swallows, chickadees, bushtits, ruby-crowned kinglets, flickers, song sparrows, towhees, flickers, barred owl, Anna's hummingbirds, geese, woodducks, bufflehead, tiger beetles, mining bees and two species of butterflies. Spring is finally here!

**6.** Please notice that in the calendar, all the field trip dates are tentative, depending on recommendations of the Provincial Health Officer about future COVID-19 preventive measures.