

FALL – 2020

Editor: Janne Perrin



**MEETINGS**

1. In-person meetings have not been held due to Covid-19 Health Restrictions. Instead links to YouTube presentation by our designated speakers were posted on our Facebook page and a link sent by email to our members. For the remainder of 2020, the Executive suggests meeting via Skype. It can accommodate 50 people. The Skype program can be downloaded for free and is easy to use.

**2. Glyn Williams-Jones our March 17<sup>th</sup> Speaker:**

In the video sent to members, Williams-Jones in this [Tyrell Museum presentation](#) talks of two areas in BC with recently active volcanoes – Tseax and Lake Meagher.

**3. Ross Vennesland our April 21<sup>st</sup> Speaker:**

Members received a link to “[Nesting with the Devil](#)” an award winning film on the relationship between nesting bald eagles and great blue herons.

**4. Maureen Vo our May 19<sup>th</sup> Speaker:**

A link to a [Killer whale](#) video from Ripple Coast Society especially for Nature Chilliwack was posted for members. The three eco-types of orcas in BC waters – residents, Bigg’s and off-shores – look alike but have very different lifestyles and needs.

**FIELD TRIPS**

**1. Manning Park July 29, 2020**

Five Nature Chilliwack members enjoyed the splendor of sub alpine flowers on a very hot day. Leaving the lodge parking area at 9 AM we stopped for scarlet gilia on the way up then walked the paintbrush trail ablaze with lupine. At 11 AM we joined the park naturalists for a guided walk to learn spreading phlox takes 20 years to flower. We then ventured out on the heather trail loop where white rhododendron bloomed and elusive birds tested our identification skills. A midafternoon lunch at the lodge picnic area with the Columbian ground squirrels ended a pleasant day. Social distancing was observed of course!



*Photo: J. Meints – Lupine & Paintbrush*

**2. Evening Walks June 17 to August 5, 2020**

The Wednesday evening walks were well attended in early summer, but attendance waned in August so trips were cancelled. Some were submitted to the Nature Guide Contest (see below). Destinations were Camp Slough Wildlife Area, Jesperson Dyke, McDonald Park, Cheam Wetland & Hillkeep.



Photo: P. Selles – Jesperson Dyke

**THIS 'n THAT**

**1. Bird Brochure**

The brochure is at the printers. Hopefully a web based printable copy will be made available to members soon. Thank you to Fernando Selles, Paulina Selles, Scott Denkers, Denis Knopp, Lee Larkin & Janne Perrin for project participation. Funding was from BC Nature Foundation and Valerie Whetter Endowment Fund.

**2. What’s Happening for the Rest Of 2020?**

Nature Chilliwack activities due to Covid-19 Health Restrictions are physically distanced or virtual. We have scheduled speakers and field trips for the fall (see our calendar) subject to the regulations. Our website ([www.naturechilliwack.ca](http://www.naturechilliwack.ca)) and Facebook page ([www.facebook.com/NatureChilliwack](http://www.facebook.com/NatureChilliwack)) feature current club events and interesting nature information.

With missing our AGM we need to ratify your executive for 2020-21. In the interim Janne Perrin in her role of club representative has agreed take the lead in Denis’ place. Present officers are: President Denis Knopp, Past President Helen Turner, Secretary Scott Denkers, and Treasurer Janet Pollock. Other positions such as field trip coordinator are appointed. The September meeting date is past so for October 20<sup>th</sup> a Skype meeting will be set up for a club update and voting in an executive. If you will take an executive position please contact Janne: [naturechilliwack1@gmail.com](mailto:naturechilliwack1@gmail.com) The slated speaker for September will soon send us a link to share on “The Future of Birds.”

**3. Camp Slough Wildlife Area in 2020.**

So far club members have managed a few social distancing tours of Camp River which resulted in sightings of pileated woodpeckers, barred owl with 3 youngsters, lots of goldfinches and purple finches, cedar waxwings, bushtits, flycatchers, vireos, savannah sparrow and a lazuli bunting. Coffee Cutters re-emerged in July and participants have been enjoying an opportunity for a chat while trimming blackberries. This fall, plans abound to add a wildflower meadow in the short grass inside the first pond. There are also a number of trees and shrubs that are being donated for a planting once the rains begin in October. Thank you to all the members and your social distance participation! – Submitted by: Lee Larkin

**4. Nature Guide contest:**

Nature Chilliwack has submitted 8 [Nature Guides](#) for BC Nature to post on their site. We have several more in the works. The winning club receives a prize of \$1500. It will be November before BC Nature updates the link.