

Summer – 2022

Editor: Janne Perrin  
[www.naturechilliwack.ca](http://www.naturechilliwack.ca)



**MEETINGS**

In September, we plan to resume in-person evening meetings at the [Neighbourhood Learning Centre](#) 46361 Yale Road, Chilliwack. We hope to be able to book Tuesdays but will have to wait to see if it'll be available to us. No decision can be made until bookings are open.

**SPEAKERS**

1. In April Rob Higgins of Thompson River's University gave a very lively talk on ants of BC.
2. Our May Speaker, Marika Van Reeuwijk, told us all about wild bees.
3. In September our speaker depends on whether we have an in-person or a Zoom session. Howard Bailey will speak on Peregrines if we can meet in person. He has consulted on Peregrine falcons in Abbotsford and has done a lot of raptor surveys through the province. Otherwise a speaker on Bio-acoustics in wild life surveys will talk via Zoom.

**FIELD TRIPS**

1. Our field trips seem to attract a fluctuating number of members and guests. In January we had 20 people at Hope River. However February through May the numbers were down. Few people contact the leader beforehand of their intention to attend. Your executive would like input to arrange trips that are appropriate to members. **An email questionnaire accompanies this newsletter.** PLEASE fill it out and get it back to our Field Trip Coordinator, [Fernando Selles](#) ASAP to help Nature Chilliwack plan suitable trips for our membership for this fall.
2. The April 14<sup>th</sup> birding trip to the Hope Airport to look for spring migrants attracted 5 participants. Weather was sunny, breezy and 6°C. 21 bird species were seen, with an abundance of white-crowned sparrows and American Robins. The highlights were



Townsend's solitaire

Photo Paulina Selles

Townsend's solitaire, Western Bluebird and American Pipit –Report by Fernando Selles

3. Heavy rain fell on May 15<sup>th</sup> the date of the Willband Creek Park Trip. The leaders actually had cancelled the trip the night before but went to the park just in case hardy birders turned up. Two did and braved the rain to see a few duck species and some spring migrants. They followed up with lunch in Abbotsford.

**THIS 'n THAT**

1. **Camp River Wildlife Area.** Nature Trust BC closed the area to the public after the winter 2021 ice storm and it remains locked. Our stewards have the combination for monthly maintenance parties. NTBC has informed us due to liability issues, the site cannot be opened to the public yet. [The June Picnic planned for CRWA will be held at Cheam Lake Wetland Regional Park instead.](#)
2. **Facebook & Flickr:** Our [Facebook](#) page continues to be a wealth of nature knowledge – click the link to enjoy. In the past month Scott (our FB “master”) reported that the most popular article out of 73 FB posts from May 4<sup>th</sup> to June 7<sup>th</sup> was the May 4<sup>th</sup> article on the abundance of white-crowned sparrows this spring reaching 420 people. As of June 7<sup>th</sup>, we have a total of 838 Page Followers (up by 10 since May 3<sup>rd</sup>) and 703 total page likes. Click on the link to see new contributions to our [Flickr](#) page.
3. **BC Nature AGM:** Janne Perrin, your club rep, and Helen Turner, long-time member, attended the first in-person AGM since 2019 in Kelowna. The new Executive Director, Stewart Guy, who has a strong background in BC parks and environment, has goals to maintain BC Nature, to improve delivery of programs with a strong admin team, and to take opportunities to increase funds. Alan Burger is interim president. There is no VP but the secretary and treasurer positions are filled. Alan asks anyone who is



Photo: Janne Perrin

interested in joining the Board of Directors to contact him through the BCN website. Field trips were a highlight with many migrating and nesting species seen including American Avocets, Redheads and a Horned owl. Next year's AGM in Langley is from May 4 to 7, 2023.