

Winter – 2023

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MEETINGS

We meet in-person at 7 PM at the [Neighbourhood Learning Centre](#) 46361 Yale Road, Chilliwack. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month. A Zoom link will also be available for 2023 meetings.

SPEAKERS

1. Our September 20th speaker Howard Bailey spoke in-person on Raptors. His photos were awesome but the demise of the Abbotsford peregrine nesting site was distressing.
2. Jeremiah Kennedy of [Pacific Megascops Research Alliance](#) spoke via Zoom to members at the NLC and to others who were home. His presentation covered bioacoustic tracking of Western Screech Owls which are found in many habitats on Northern Vancouver Island.
3. [Coastal Partners in Conservation's](#), Aimee Mitchell spoke also via Zoom to both people in the NLC and at home. Aimee shared their work on restoration and monitoring of at risk species including western painted turtle, western screech owl, several bat species and raptors.

FIELD TRIPS

1. Aldergrove Regional Park October 2 - On a very nice sunny day, Nature Chilliwack members walked the trails of this restored gravel pit. Not that much bird life but a few painted turtles basked on the logs. Aimee mentioned this project in her talk.
2. Harrison Hot Springs Lagoon November 12 – Scott kept a list for ebird and came up with 22 species including 10 canvasback, 16 hooded mergansers and 1 ruddy duck.



Afterwards some of us went to Earthwise Agassiz's Open house for homemade soup and bread. Yummy!

3. Reifel Bird Sanctuary – two separate groups of Nature Chilliwack members visited Reifel in November. On November 18th 38 species were recorded. The highlight was the Sandhill cranes but hand feeding chickadees & waterfowl was also great fun.



THIS N' THAT

1. **Nature Chilliwack:** With the AGM coming up in March, we need members to step up to executive positions. If you are interested please contact Janne. Membership fees are due for 2023. You can renew [on line](#) or bring your fee to the meeting for our membership secretary, Mercedes Bustamante.
2. **Meetings:** With members spread from Hope to Greendale and weather often inclement in this age of climate change, it was decided to provide a Zoom link to all our in person regular meetings. This also gives us access to may more speakers. The Zoom link will be sent out with the meeting notice.
3. **Eagle Counting:** The Hancock Foundation informs us several local municipalities are adding a layer to development permit applications of location of nests of bald eagles, osprey, great blue herons and peregrine falcons. Developers will need to follow environmental protocols around nest sites. Nature Chilliwack has agreed to provide locations of nesting sites. Participants are asked to submit data online. Club members will receive an email with more details soon.
4. **Camp River Wildlife Area:** Recently the Nature Trust team planted willow whips along the Hope Slough area on the west edge of the property. The area remains closed to the public but members can join us at "coffee cutter" sessions on the 1st Saturday of the month at 9 AM for a firsthand look at this restored wildlife area.
5. **Facebook & Flickr:** Be sure to visit our [Facebook](#) page for a myriad of educational and informative articles. "Seed Miracle" is a must read. Check out our [Flickr](#) (search "naturechilliwack") for trip and nature photos. Got a contribution? Let us know for instructions on how to post.
6. **BC Nature:** The 2023 AGM hosted by the Langley Field Naturalists is from May 4 to 7th. Many great speakers and trips are planned. [Registration](#) opens February 1st.