

# NATURE GUIDE – INFORMATION SHEET

## Eagle Point Community Park

<b>Name of Club submitting this form</b>	Nature Chilliwack
<b>Name of club members completing this form</b>	Lee Larkin, Denis Knopp
<b>Region</b>	Fraser Valley Regional District
<b>Area</b>	Chehalis Flats in Harrison Mills
<b>Location Name</b>	Eagle Point Community Park
<b>Key Photos</b>	Purple Martin – Denis Knopp – <a href="https://flic.kr/p/2pm3Ujm">https://flic.kr/p/2pm3Ujm</a> Eagles at Chehalis Flats – Lee Larkin – <a href="https://flic.kr/p/2pm3g1n">https://flic.kr/p/2pm3g1n</a> Viewing platform over the Chehalis Flats – Lee Larkin – <a href="https://flic.kr/p/2pm2jBf">https://flic.kr/p/2pm2jBf</a>
<b>Description</b>	This 5-minute walk on a wide gravel pathway is located between homes in the private residential area of Eagle Point Estates. It takes you to a 'Viewpoint' trail and a 'Bench' trail on the shoreline of the Harrison River, known as the Chehalis Estuary. The return is on the same pathway. The Chehalis flats are designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA). Wildlife Viewing is the main activity.
<b>Photo Gallery</b>	<a href="https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjB6G9y">https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjB6G9y</a>
<b>Geographical Description,</b>	Eagle Point is part of the 'Chehalis Estuary' where the Harrison and Chehalis Rivers converge.
<b>Area/Trail Length</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Shoreline park – a short narrow strip along the shoreline, &lt;0.5km walk</li> <li>2) Total length of trail – approximately 0.7 km</li> <li>3) Rated as an easy, flat, loose gravel trail</li> </ol>
<b>Seasons to Visit</b>	Year-round; spring/summer for songbirds and dragonflies, fall/winter when water is low for salmon, eagles, swans and shorebirds.
<b>Habitat, Eco system</b>	Riparian vegetation consists of large Cottonwoods, Big-leaf maple, Pacific crab-apple, Willow, western Red Cedar, Red-osier Dogwood, Hardhack and sedges. Off-shore during low water, mud flats and gravel river bars are exposed.
<b>Viewing Highlights</b>	There are lots of songbirds along the trail such as Bullock's Oriole, Black-headed Grosbeaks, Purple Martins, warblers, flycatchers and other songbirds as well as Sandpipers, Yellowlegs and other shorebirds in the mud flats. Binoculars or a scope are a must to see shorebirds and eagles off-shore on exposed mud flats and river bars from November to February. Eagles nest year-round here, but migratory eagle numbers concentrate in the area during the salmon return, feeding on carcasses from November through to January. Eagle numbers can reach up to 1,000 birds. Swans also winter in the Chehalis flats. There are five species of salmon in the Chehalis Estuary and you can often see spawning chum salmon in the water from the 'Bench' trail near the kiosk. The site is also a good place to find a variety of colourful dragonflies.
<b>Other Features</b>	The Chehalis Estuary is an Important Bird Area (IBA), which is a global network of sites designated for their outstanding value to bird conservation.
<b>Main Access</b>	From Highway #7, turn onto Morris Valley Road. The park is located 1.7km down the road inside Eagle Point Estates, 14500 Morris Valley Road (opposite Elbow Creek Road). Drive straight into the estates to the small public parking lot and trail entrance.
<b>LAT, LONG</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Eagle Point Community Park trail head at 49.261235 -121.947955</li> <li>2) The entrance for Eagle Point Estates on Morris Valley Road is located at 49.261041 -121.949315</li> </ol>
<b>Secondary Accesses</b>	
<b>Cautions</b>	Lock your vehicles and keep valuables out of site.

<b>Jurisdiction</b>	Fraser Valley Regional District, Area C.		
<b>Regulations</b>	Limited Parking; Be respectful of residents; Please stay on the trail; Obey signs and keep out of the sensitive shoreline area and flats; Leash and clean up after dogs; no kayaking, boating or ATVs in Chehalis flats. Park is open dawn to dusk.		
<b>Facilities</b>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1) Viewing platform, informational kiosks on eagles and salmon and a bench.</li> <li>2) No washrooms. Food, gas and washroom facilities are located in Mission, Agassiz and Harrison or at gas stations along Hwy #7.</li> </ol>		
<b>Other Recreational Activities</b>	Camping and fishing outside of the Chehalis Flats.		
<b>Other Connections</b>	Wildlife viewing at the Weaver Creek Spawning Channels, Chehalis River Salmonid Enhancement Facility, Chehalis Recreational Site campgrounds and fishing. Check facilities for operating hours.		
<b>History</b>	Kilby Historic Site, south of Hwy #7, contains a museum with the history of the area.		
<b>For More Info</b>	Eagle Point area map – <a href="https://mapcarta.com/W688237959">https://mapcarta.com/W688237959</a>		
<b>Links</b>	Nature Chilliwack - <a href="https://naturechilliwack.ca/">https://naturechilliwack.ca/</a> Harrison River Valley Website - <a href="https://tourismharrison.com/get-ready-to-soar-bald-eagles-in-harrison-hot-springs/">https://tourismharrison.com/get-ready-to-soar-bald-eagles-in-harrison-hot-springs/</a> Kilby Historic site - <a href="http://kilby.ca/">http://kilby.ca/</a>		
<b>Describe the type of area where the site is located</b>	Park with a trail that crosses through private property to the shoreline of the Chehalis Flats.		
<b>Should this Nature Site be preserved as a protected site</b>	Yes - Area is designated as a regional park and IBA.		
	<b>File #</b>	<b>Caption for Photograph</b>	<b>Name of Photographer</b>
<b>#1</b>	n/a	Purple Martin	Denis Knopp
<b>#2</b>	n/a	Eagles at Chehalis Flats	Lee Larkin
<b>#3</b>	n/a	Viewing platform over the Chehalis Flats	Lee Larkin