

NATURE GUIDE – INFORMATION SHEET

Popkum Community Trail

Name of Club submitting this form	Nature Chilliwack
Name of club members completing this form	Lee Larkin and Deanna Knopp
Region	Eastern Fraser Valley
Area	Popkum, BC
Location Name	Popkum Community Trail
Key Photos	Popkum Tall grass wet-meadow habitat – Deanna Knopp – https://flic.kr/p/2ppzC73 Popkum Boardwalk – Deanna Knopp – https://flic.kr/p/2ppAp8H Popkum Hillside trail – Deanna Knopp – https://flic.kr/p/2ppuTCe
Description	The trailhead to this nature sanctuary is just off Yale Road and is signed. Access is limited as there is only room for 2 cars in the parking lot. A short, graveled pathway gives way to a narrow grassed-based trail that traverses through a wet meadow consisting mainly of very tall grasses and scattered shrubs and willows along Karr Creek. Wetter areas are covered with a boardwalk. After the wet meadow section, a small bridge takes you over Karr Creek and then the trail ascends steeply uphill into a forested hillside on a natural trail. There are stairs on the uphill and on the downhill to the lakeshore. The trail terminates at a small viewing platform that looks across Cheam Lake.
Photo Gallery	https://flic.kr/s/aHBqjB8Hks
Geographical Description	Popkum Community Trail is located north of Highway 1, just east of Highway 9 on Yale Road which also leads to Cheam Lake Wetlands Regional Park.
Area/Trail Length	1) Trail length 750m one way, return on same trail. 2) Open 7 a.m. to dusk. 3) The trail is classed as moderate due to steep uphill/downhill section and stair limitations. 4) Nature sanctuary size: 33 acres.
Seasons to Visit	Visit during dry weather as parts of the trail can be water saturated and slippery. In spring and summer, you can enjoy the hummingbirds, swallows and songbirds that use the wet meadow and if you are lucky, see an osprey flying overhead. You can view waterfowl, year-round on the Cheam Lake.
Habitat, Eco system	The nature park near the parking lot contains exotic plants (fruit trees, roses) from the old residence. The main trail through the wetland consists of grasses/sedges and shrub/willow habitat. The forested hillside is a mix of western red cedar, western hemlock and Douglas fir habitat.
Viewing Highlights	Birders will enjoy the wetland section of the trail where they can see hummingbirds, songbirds, swallows, warblers in the shrubbery and raptors flying overhead. The viewing platform peaks out onto Cheam Lake, but better views of the lake and waterfowl are actually attained from the other side of the lake at Cheam Lake Wetlands Regional Park.
Other Features	
Main Access	Take exit 135 off Highway 1 to Highway 9 north and turn east onto Yale Road. Follow Yale Road ~800 metres to the signage for the Popkum Community Trail. From Highway 1 west, take exit 138 travelling westward onto Yale Road East and follow it westward onto Yale Road to get to the site.
LAT, LONG	49.186027 -121.753154
Secondary Accesses	None.

Cautions	During high precipitation the wet meadow area can be seasonally flooded. The boardwalks and hillside can be slippery with heavy dew, rain or when snow covered.		
Jurisdiction	Fraser Valley Regional Parks		
Regulations	Stay on the trail only, including at the lakeside viewing platform, to protect sensitive habitat; Do not pick or destroy vegetation; No dogs, horses, cycling or boating; No fires or barbecues; No climbing fences or structures; Do not feed any animals. No littering.		
Facilities	1) Two car parking lot 2) Garbage can at parking lot		
Other Recreational Activities	Nature viewing		
Other Connections	Cheam Lake Wetlands Regional Park		
History	The Fraser Valley Regional District acquired the land in 2010 to create a nature sanctuary that is managed to protect sensitive habitat.		
For More Info	Fraser Valley Regional District contact email – parks@fvrd.ca		
Links	Nature Chilliwack – https://naturechilliwack.ca/ Around Chilliwack – https://www.aroundchilliwack.ca/what-to-do-in-chilliwack//popkum-community-trail-what-to-do-in-chilliwack AllTrails – https://www.alltrails.com/trail/canada/british-columbia/popkum-community-trail--2		
Describe the type of area where the site is located	This nature sanctuary is situated in between private rural properties on Yale Road, north of Highway 1 and east of Highway 9.		
Should this Nature Site be preserved as a protected site	Yes - Site already is a Fraser Valley Regional District Park		
	File #	Caption for Photograph	Name of Photographer
#1	n/a	Popkum Tall grass wet-meadow habitat	Deanna Knopp
#2	n/a	Popkum Boardwalk	Deanna Knopp
#3	n/a	Popkum Hillside trail	Deanna Knopp

Figure 1. Popkum tall grass wet-meadow habitat



Figure 2. Popkum boardwalk.....

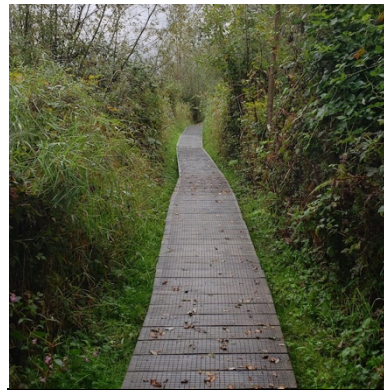


Figure 3. Popkum hillside trail....

