

Winter - 2024

Editor: Janne Perrin
www.naturechilliwack.ca



MEETINGS

[Neighbourhood Learning Centre](#) at 46361 Yale Road, Chilliwack at 7 PM. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month. Meeting attendance in-person or via Zoom.

SPEAKERS

1. Vic Guinet shared slides of prospecting in the Yukon in the 1970's. Several club members worked to get these historic slides from basement shelf to a carousel to a functioning slide projector. Thanks Vic and Lynn Guinet.
2. On October 17th, Drew Brayshaw, biologist and mushroom enthusiast, spoke. His comprehensive talk covered local mushrooms both edible and not. His speaker's mushroom hat and quality photographs were a pleasure.
3. In November John Elliot told us surprising facts about our only truly aquatic songbird & year-round resident, the American dipper. Nests are built along fast running streams with one on a girder under Tamihi Creek bridge and another on a big bolder in the middle to the stream. Dippers have solid bones instead of hollow like other song birds. .



Drew Brayshaw

FIELD TRIPS

1. Thank you to the Selles, for a most informative geology and bird focused trip to Cheam Lake Wetlands Regional Park October 6th. Fernando pointed out the great prehistoric slide with rock hummocks left behind as evidence as it approached the park. Paulina pointed out many birds. . Interesting mushrooms were found in the woods including ink caps, corals and vermilion waxy caps
2. The October 15th field trip to the Chilliwack River Valley area to seek out all things mushroom attracted many NC members. The abundant mushrooms in colours of the rainbow and the spawning salmon reminded us how biodiverse our coastal rainforests are. Thank you to Lee Larkin & Denis Knopp for fungi identification.



Vermillion Waxy Cap

3. The trip to the Harrison Lagoon November 19 to see the wintering waterfowl attracted 14 people including some visitors. The weather was appalling but we



managed to submit 19 species of birds to ebird including 11 Barrow's goldeneye, 2 American dippers and 108 buffleheads. Just before noon a wonderful rainbow lifted our spirits. A delicious lunch followed at Muddy Waters Café.

THIS N' THAT

1. **Membership:** It is time to [renew](#) for 2024. You can do it [online](#) with an e-Transfer & submit the form by email. You can also print the membership form and mail it with a cheque. Also you can renew at our meeting with cash or cheque. Please renew by March 2024. If you opted to get a hard copy of [BCN quarterly magazine](#) instead of a digital one, please include an extra \$5 to the fee of \$30 for individuals or \$40 for families.
2. **Camp Slough Wildlife Area:** Our stewards continue to host "Coffee Cutters" the first Saturday of the month at 9 AM. This January the barred owls serenaded the volunteers. The photo blitzes held in 2023 yielded a huge amount of data. In October we assisted Nature Trust BC plant over 300 native trees and shrubs. Grade 6 students from a local private school helped too. This is the 30th year of our [stewardship](#).
3. **Christmas Bird Counts 2023:** 41 counters on the Chilliwack Count saw 43192 individuals & 98 species. On the Harrison count 13 observers recorded 7387 individuals and 79 species including a long-tailed duck. Thank you to Denis Knopp.
4. Check out our [Facebook](#) and [Flickr](#) pages. Lee Larkin and other club members post frequent informative articles and photos on local nature and club events

