

**SPRING - 2024**

Editor: Janne Perrin

[www.naturechilliwack.ca](http://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. January members night presentations highlight the great knowledge of our members. Lee walked us thru the FVRL bat pack and echometre use. Janne shared photos of dragonflies and other insects seen in 2023. Scott demonstrated our social media sites.
2. February 20<sup>th</sup> Denis Knopp presented a comprehensive show on speiceis at risk in the Chilliwack Area. SAR range from the huge Rossevelt Elk to minute Dunn Skipper butterfly and elusive phantom orchids. Habitat loss, outdoor recreation pressure and climate change all contribute to species decline.
3. Dr. Christine Bishop is a Research Scientist with Environment and Climate Change Canada will enlighten us about trends in populations of hummingbirds, their biology and her recent studies on pesticide exposure in the birds. She is our speaker for our AGM on Tuesday, March 19 2024.

**FIELD TRIPS**

1. Our annual winter walk January 20<sup>th</sup>, after a few snowy days, saw three members find clear walkways and lots of birds in Corbould Park. A Double-crested cormorant, 2 bald eagles, a lone common goldeneye and no less than 67 wood ducks were observed - 29 species in all. Lunch at the Harvest on Mill street followed
2. Browne Creek Wetland, a FVWC restoration site, February 18<sup>th</sup> had a good turnout. Birds were a little sparse but brown creepers, a common golden eye and 2 American dippers pleased us. Hazel catkins, crocus and a tiny fluted fungus nested in a mossy tree trunk reminded us of the great diversity of nature. Later at the River's



Song Sparrow Photo by Paulina Selles



Restaurant in Yarrow the seven participants enjoyed a warm meal. We submitted 23 species on our ebird list.

3. Willband Creek Park Abbotsford is also a restored wetland that also acts as a filtration area for the city's storm water. The Abby-Mission Naturalist club in collaboration with the City has built a viewing stand, upgraded trails and planted native shrubs and trees. Our ebird March 10<sup>th</sup> list had 36 species with Ruddy ducks, marsh wrens and a lone northern pintail included. Red elderberry and hardhack were leaving out. The trip attracted a new member. Welcome Sharon.



**THIS N' THAT**

1. **Membership:** Please [renew](#) by March 2024 either [online](#) or at the AGM with cash or cheque on hardcopy renewal forms. Our website renewal is by google form. Waivers are fillable and must be saved and sent to our membership secretary, Mercedes Bustamante, at [naturechilliwack5@gmail.com](mailto:naturechilliwack5@gmail.com) Payment can be made by e-trf or cheque. If you opted to get a hard copy of [BCN quarterly magazine](#) please include an extra \$5 to the fee of \$30 for individuals or \$40 for families.
2. **Nature Chilliwack became a club in 1971.** We have survived 53 years with a strong volunteer core of members. Many have served in executive roles for over 15 years. We need new people with fresh ideas to help with this important aspect of our club. At the AGM March 19<sup>th</sup> consider stepping up to help Nature Chilliwack carry out our 54<sup>th</sup> year!
3. **AGM** The doors open at 6 PM for setting up the computers and food. A Pizza super with donated veggie and fruit platters will be served at 6:30 PM. The cost of pizza will be about \$8 to \$10 per person. The speaker is at 7:15 PM followed by donated dessert items and coffee. After that, the AGM will be called to order with presentation of the Annual Report & Financial statement and election of officers.
4. **Camp Slough Wildlife Area:** Nature Chilliwack has received a \$1600 grant from BC Nature Foundation for native shrubs and tree purchase. These will be installed later this year. Regular stewardship session the 1<sup>st</sup> Saturday of each Month have a dedicated group of NC members participating. On March 3 the Barred owls hooted up a duet.
5. Check out our [Facebook](#) and [Flickr](#) pages. We post many informative articles and photos on local nature and club events. Our Facebook has almost 1000 followers. Check out [our YouTube channel](#) on our meeting page to hear speakers you missed.