



WINTER- 2026

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MEETINGS

Neighbourhood Learning Centre at 46361 Yale Road, Chilliwack at 7 PM. Meetings are held the third Tuesday of the month 8 times a year. Meeting attendance in-person or Zoom

SPEAKERS

- September 16, 2025. Club member Paulina Selles** presented a very informative show on Leucistic birds that have normal colouration in their eyes, legs, & beaks but various amounts of white in the feathers. Statistics show only 1 bird in 30 000 is leucistic.
- October 21, 2025. Biologist Phil Henderson**, taught us about bryophytes - mosses, liverworts and hornworts. Mosses are leafy with a midrib while liverworts have a flat thallus. Bryophytes are important for preventing erosion, protecting soil moisture and many other ecological services.
- November 18, 2025. Birder Gord Gadsden** gave us a primer on the skills needed for a Christmas Bird Count. Ability to separate gulls and sparrows is tricky. Determining numbers in large flocks is also a challenging skill



FIELD TRIPS

- September 25 2025:** Nature Vancouver and Nature Chilliwack members enjoyed a trip to **Cheam Lake Wetlands Regional Park** led by Fernando and Paulina Selles. After reviewing the geology and history of the park, the group hiked the trails & boardwalk observing birds, flowers, mushrooms and waterlilies. Meeting with Aimee Mitchell, one of the team members from [Coastal Partners in Conservation](#) was a highlight. Aimee brought some captive bred western painted turtles to release; plus she dug out a nest and put into the lake a dozen newly hatched turtles. CLWRP is one of the WP turtle release sites in the Fraser Valley. Each turtle has a unique carapace pattern.
- October 14, 2025:** Lee Larkin led an enthusiastic Nature Chilliwack group to the Chilliwack River Valley Angel Wings trail to see mushrooms. They were everywhere in a rainbow of colours and a variety of shapes. Here's a few photos taken on the trip, left to right, Scarlet Waxy Cap; Genus Hygrocybe (Photo: Janne Perrin), Red Belt, Genus Fomitopsis (Photo: Lyn Isaac) and Coral Fungus, Genus Ramaria (Photo: David Aguilera):



- November 22, 2025:** Despite steady rain, seven hardy NC members ventured to the Harrison Estuary to observe waterfowl, bald eagles and spawning chum salmon. A conservative count was 850 eagles at Eagle Point Park as well as many other water birds. In the shallows plenty of chums thrashed about. Lunch at the Sasquatch Inn warmed the birders before several departed to hear Fernando's talk about Nature Chilliwack at the Agassiz Harrison Museum as part of the Season of the Wild Series presented by Harrison River Valley Tourism.



Left to right, top to bottom: Fernando speaks at the museum, juvenile trumpeter swan, two wet bald eagles in a cottonwood tree and seven wet birders at Eagle Pont. Photos: People: Scott Denkers/ Birds: Janne Perrin

THIS N' THAT

- Christmas Bird Counts coordinator, Denis Knopp reports the number of species on both counts were down this year. The exact tally is not available at publication. Post count birders met at local restaurants to share sightings.
- March is our AGM. It will be held on the 24th, the fourth not the third Tuesday because the facility is not available during Spring Break. This year instead of pizza, NC will have a potluck "supper" of finger-ready savories and desserts with the Club supplying coffee. Please bring your own mug and plate.

