

Chilliwack Field Naturalists Club Report to BCN 2018 FGM

Chilliwack Field Naturalists Club is now in its 47th year, being founded in 1971. We are a small but active club of 25 members. We host a speaker series open to the public 7 times of the year. Field trips are held monthly and often augment our speakers. This summer our field trip coordinator, Fernando Selles, started Thursday evening walks in our local area. These have been well attended. We continue to steward the Camp Slough Wildlife Area. This November we host the Harrison Eagle Field Camp. It is sold out.

Since our AGM, speakers featured were Jenn Burt, “Sea Otters and Kelp” and Lee Beavington, “Nature as Teacher.” This autumn we have Scott Yaeger, “Mesocarnivores of Jones Lake”; Terry McIntosh “Habitat & Rare Species” and Mike Pearson “Restoration in the Urban Landscape” lined up.

This past summer we had a behind the scenes tour of the UBC Botanical Garden and the Marine Mammal Rescue Centre. As well we visited Manning Park Alpine twice – the flowers weren’t at their peak the first time- and Wilband Creek where we admired the many improvements the AMNC had done. Upcoming trips include Browne Creek Wetland, Blackie’s Spit, Chilliwack Lake Provincial Park, and the Reifel Bird Sanctuary. Some of our members join the LFN and the AMNC on their trips.

All trips are posted on our website, now in its 14th year. We welcome members from other clubs. Along with our FaceBook page we get a couple of hundred “hits” a month. We have plans to produce a bird brochure of our local area. LFN kindly has made a template available.

Monthly work parties at the Camp Slough Wildlife area continue. The pollinator plants installed in April 2018 are flourishing. Our owl box may be occupied as in August we found a barn owl feather. There seemed to be less activity than usual in our swallow boxes. A small but faithful group turns up at “Coffee Cutters” regularly.

In December, we host two Christmas Bird Counts. The Chilliwack Count is December 15 and the Harrison River one is December 18th. Denis Knopp, our Club president, has coordinated these for many years.

We look forward to showing off our thriving Harrison Salmon and Eagle Stronghold to the field camp participants this November. For others join us on one of our outings. See you in the field.

- submitted by Janne Perrin, CFN Director



A family from Asia joined CFN on the Manning Park Field Trip August 8th