

LNS Quarterly Report to BC Nature – July 2007

The BCFO met at Lillooet May 25th - 27th and a good time was had by all. See www.bcfo.ca for the details. We also gave it good coverage on Radio Lillooet. It was wonderful to hear about Dick Cannings's new book and all the speakers were good. At the reception on the Friday evening a pair of Lewis' woodpeckers visited the tree in the garden - that upstaged the Mayor's welcome. A few new birds were identified on the field trips including a Yellow-breasted Chat, initially heard by Dick Cannings and later enjoyed by quite a few of the birders, and the Eurasian Collared Dove and Clay-coloured Sparrow were also confirmed. We added this to the recently confirmed Black-chinned Hummingbird, bringing our local bird list up to 233. We enjoyed the education and networking that went along with hosting the BCFO and we made some money too as they kindly donated \$500. to our local Society. At the same time one of our members made a generous donation to our Society of \$2,000. - thanks Anne !

We purchased a copy of Dick Cannings new book, An Enchantment of Birds, which is now at the Lillooet Library.

The Burrowing Owl session by Mike MacIntosh was well attended and many children enjoyed meeting 'Beaker', so that was neat, and this event received some good coverage in our local newspaper.

The Bridge Coastal Restoration Program has made an important purchase of some 'swampland' upstream from an important hatchery at Gates Creek - this purchase is intended to conserve the wildlife values there.

We have various plans for field trips and education over the next few months including a butterfly field trip with Mr. Threatful from Vernon, time permitting. Hiking is good and most of our trails are in fine shape.

We received a grant of \$300 towards signage at the Powerhouse site from the District - we are still negotiating and planning around that restoration project. We met with BC Hydro June 25th and are in discussions with the District, MOE, DFO and Cayoose Band. A Naturescape garden was entered in the Lillooet Garden Tour which generated some positive attention on more natural, dryland gardens.

The Grizzly research is in progress and they twelve bears collared and are tracking them. Other studies in the area are about mule deer and sockeye salmon. We'll invite the researchers to talk to us about their work at the end of the season.

Some flowers have come up from our guerilla planting, done a few seasons ago, on the gravel hillside at the entrance to town, a very small number but they'll flourish we hope.

On Canada Day our Society adopted a position statement on a steady state economy and we plan to bring it as a resolution to be considered at Nature Canada in August - see our web page for the details.

Kim North, a board member of the Rivershed Society of BC attended the meetings June 23rd at Chehalis, and we look forward to hosting them at Lillooet in September.