

Nature's Voice

THE PERIODICAL NEWSLETTER FROM BCnature

TO KNOW NATURE AND TO KEEP IT WORTH KNOWING

Upcoming Events

2022 BC Nature Conference & AGM Registration

After three long years, we are finally able to have an “Inperson” AGM. Your hosts in May are the Central Okanagan Naturalists’ Club (CONC). The location of the meetings/accommodation is at the **UBC Okanagan Campus, 3333 University Way, Kelowna, BC.**

Registration for this sure to be awesome conference can be found on the CONC website – [Link](#)

In the Spring BCnature magazine is also a paper registration. But due to us all waiting to find out if we are able to have an inperson meeting, it will be slightly delayed

World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) 2022

The state of the world’s bird populations can be overwhelming and discouraging. Finding ways to create positive change is the most important thing we can do as nature based organizations, to give hope to folks who want to make a difference. That’s why we need your help.

This year’s **World Migratory Bird Day (Bird Day)**, is taking place on **Saturday, May 14th**

2022. Every year Nature Canada works alongside nature organizations to celebrate Bird Day, and this year is no different! Will you host a Bird Day event?

The [conservation theme](#) of this year’s **World Migratory Bird Day** focuses on light pollution and raising awareness about the [negative impacts it has on birds across the globe](#). Over the course of the pandemic, birds have helped us to connect with each other and nature during a time when we are all feeling isolated (and tired)



birds and their songs remind us that we aren't as disconnected from nature as we may think.

Last year, over 50 nature organizations in Canada took the opportunity to connect with their communities and used birds to foster a sense of togetherness by hosting a Bird Day event. This year, we are aiming to go even bigger! We need your help in hosting events across the country.

Some ideas may include: virtual events like webinars or trivia nights, night walks to experience the awe-inspiring dark skies that birds need for safe migratory travel, participating in [citizen science programs that deal with light pollution](#), or by also hosting other in-person events (where possible and safe to do so!), all to celebrate the return of migratory birds back to our landscapes.

If you are interested in hosting an event, please fill out [this form](#) and we will share it on our [birdday.ca](#) website. You can also use the form to request resources to help support you in your efforts to organize an event.

[Event Sign Up Form - Saturday, May 14](#)

French Creek Estuary! Eagle Sanctuary Takes Flight!



The BC Parks Foundation has secured an exclusive agreement to purchase 18 acres of French Creek Estuary Land, a purchase that would see a total of 23 acres of this productive and ecologically valuable land protected.

They will work with all partners on a crowdfunding effort to raise the remaining \$300,000 by a deadline of April 10th, 2022.

French Creek House Ltd., the land owner, have generously agreed to gift \$3,280,000 of land value if the remaining funds can be raised.

Another major donor, Mr Dax Dasilva and his non-profit Age of

Union Alliance, will provide a landmark gift of \$1,000,000 in matching funds if the remainder can be raised.

The Regional District of Nanaimo is onboard with a \$400,000 contribution toward the purchase of the estuary lands and will work with the BC Parks Foundation to manage this important ecological area as a nature preserve.

And . . .generous Community Donations of over \$200,000!

YOUR HELP to reach the goal would be appreciated! Please consider donating & sharing this email with your networks.

Click for details: [BC Parks Foundation - French Creek Estuary](#)

[Donate Now](#)

Only \$300,000 to go!

Deadline is April 10th to raise the funds

BC Parks Foundation accepts credit card and bank donations

To donate by cheque please make payable to FFCCS - Eagle Preserve and mail to PO Box 331, Qualicum Beach, BC, V9K 1S8

[Nicola Naturalist Society!](#) **Snow Bunting Shiver Outing – February 2022**

Our annual Snow Bunting Shiver Sunday on February 27th 2022 was a success, despite some initial weather threats. Every year we venture up to the Douglas Lake plateau at this time to look for winter specialties in the high grasslands. Early morning snowfall promised a cold, dreary day but by the time we got going the weather had improved and it was a very



pleasant, if blustery day. Six members showed up which made for a convenient 3-car convoy. The roads were in reasonable shape so we all managed both the Pennask Lake Road (which is well maintained) and the more dicey and muddy Minnie Lake Road to end up at Douglas Lake and loop back to Merritt. All our travels were on public roads with no intrusion on to the private ranch-land or First Nations reserve. [Read more.](#)

Interesting Video about Carbon



[CBC Gem - The Nature of Things - Carbon: The Unauthorized Biography](#)

What is Mission Monarch?

Dear Nature BC,
Agathe works as an Education Coordinator for [Mission Monarch](#) - a community science program run by the [Montreal Space for Life Insectarium](#). Each year, hundreds of participants take part in this program and actively contribute to our understanding of the monarch's reproductive success in Canada.

Since Nature BC works to protect endangered species and provides opportunities to connect with nature, Mission Monarch might be an interesting addition to your undertakings. You will find below an infographic that resumes our Monarch Ambassador Training.

In the past years, we have collaborated with the [Toronto and Region Conservation Authority](#), [Nature New Brunswick](#), the [Center for Environmental Cooperation](#), and various schools boards, amongst others. They would be delighted to count you as a collaborator and move the needle on the protection of this endangered species. If you have any questions or specific needs, please do not hesitate to [contact us](#).
Looking forward to collaborating with you!

WHAT IS MISSION MONARCH?

Mission Monarch is a **community science program** that documents the reproductive success of the monarch butterfly. Participants can help by **collecting data on milkweed and monarchs**. The information collected is used by the scientific community to implement efficient conservation actions.



MONARCH AMBASSADOR TRAINING

TARGET AUDIENCE: Organization employees, general public
DURATION: One hour

This training provides the knowledge and tools required to lead a field mission and document the monarch's habitat. At the end of the training, participants will be able to lead a field mission with their community.

Mission Monarch offers many ways for your organization to get involved in the protection of this endangered species. The activities we offer are **free of charge**.

To book a Monarch Ambassador Training please contact us at:
MISSION-MONARQUE@MONTREAL.CA

Mission Monarch is a program run by the Montreal Insectarium | Image credit: Louise Paradis

Wonders of the Salish Sea 2022



Wonders of the Salish Sea is an educational program designed for the general public that consists of a series of presentations over a 4 week period. Presenters are scientists, naturalists, and environmentalists who share their passion and expertise on a wide variety of topics related to the Salish Sea ecosystem.

Wonders of the Salish Sea 2022 Mondays, April 4, 11, 25, and May 2, 7 to 9 PM PDT, via Zoom Ages 16+, \$25. for the series, or by donation.

More information at wondersofthesalishsea.com. Hosted by Transition Salt Spring

2022 Presentations will cover the following topics: An Overview of the Salish Sea Ecosystem; Oceanography and Plankton Dynamics; Shorebirds,

Biolfim and Robert’s Bank Terminal 2 Expansion; Fraser River Estuary Restoration and Salmon Recovery; Gray Whales of the Salish Sea; The Curious World of Seaweeds; Toward an Atlas of Salish Sea Biodiversity; and Nudibranchs - Up Close and Personal.

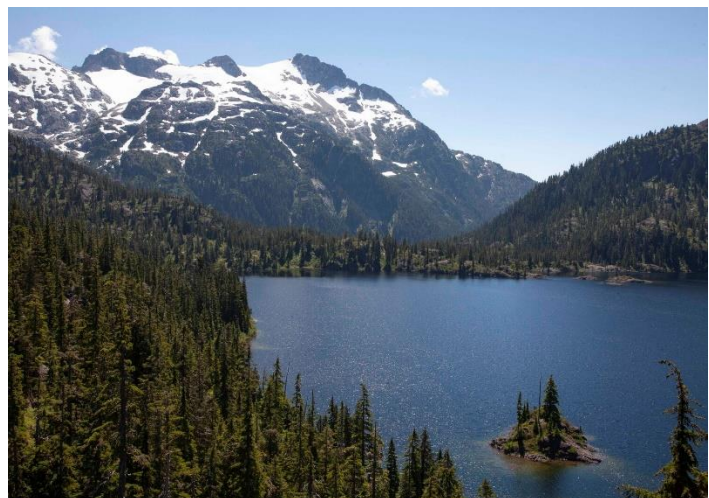
Biodiversity collapse is a major driver of climate change, and vice versa

To respond to the climate crisis, BC needs better monitoring of biodiversity—including in protected areas. It also needs to rethink previous assumptions about the static nature of protected area boundaries, including the impacts of nearby forestry. Consider, for example, Strathcona Park on Vancouver Island.

<https://www.evergreenalliance.ca/analysis/20/>

By *Loys Maingon*

Photo credit: *David Broadland*



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