

Nature's Voice

THE PERIODICAL NEWSLETTER FROM BCnature

TO KNOW NATURE AND TO KEEP IT WORTH KNOWING

Upcoming Events

BC NATURE/BC NATURALISTS FOUNDATION CLUB SUPPORT GRANT APPLICATIONS

Grant application for 2022 : [Deadline January 31, 2023](#)
2023 Club Support Grant Application – [PDF version](#)
2023 Club Support Grant Application – [Word](#)
[Format](#) Budget template – [Excel Format](#)

BC NATURE AGM 2023

AGM Conference 2023 - May 4-7, 2023

"Nature where city and country meet"

Hosted by Langley Field Naturalists at the Langley Golf & Banquet Centre

Online Registration opens on February 1, 2023. [LINK](#)

BC NATURE RESOLUTIONS

ISSUE JANUARY 13,
2023-01 2023



Soon you will see our
little friends coming
back - House Finch

Part of BC Nature's mission is to conserve nature. Naturalist and nature clubs often identify conservation problems that need to be addressed. When BC Nature and the community of naturalists come together to discuss and pass resolutions about degradation of our environment, local concerns take on prominence.

Go to this [LINK](#) to find out more

BC NATURE SPRING 2023 MAGAZINE

Do you have a great article for sharing with fellow naturalists? or advertising of a club outreach event? Submit via [EMAIL](mailto:manager@bcnature.ca) manager@bcnature.ca by February 15, 2023.

BC NATURE AWARDS

Every year, BC Nature encourages clubs to nominate a worthy volunteer from their club for recognition of their efforts in conservation, education, and club service. Our awards are handed out at our AGM. For further information and nomination criteria [LINK](#)

GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT - FEBRUARY 17-20

From our friends at Birds Canada

The Great Backyard Bird Count is an opportunity for your club to participate in a global event connecting people with birds and nature. We hope you'll join in on February 17-20, 2023.

Not only does the Great Backyard Bird Count provide a break from daily worries, it is a fantastic opportunity for your members to contribute to Citizen Science, no matter where they are - from their own home or favourite birding location.

Participants can share their observations for as little as 15 minutes over the 4 days or

as long as they want. Last year 384,641 participants in 192 countries identified 7099 species, providing a snap shot of where birds were around the world.

Participating is easy, fun to do alone or with others, and **can be done anywhere** you find birds.

- watch birds for **15 minutes or more, at least once over the four days**, February 17-20, 2023.

Identify all the birds you **see or hear** within your planned time/location and use one of these tools for sharing your bird observations:

- If you are a **beginning bird admirer and new to bird identification**, try using the [Merlin Bird ID app](#) to tell us what birds you are seeing or hearing.
- If you have **participated in the count before** and want to record the **numbers of birds**, try the [eBird Mobile app](#) or enter your bird list on the [eBird website](#) (desktop/laptop).

Here is a link to last years' [results](#), the [instructions](#) and [social media graphics](#). We hope you'll tell the world you're part of the Great Backyard Bird Count 2023 and invite them to join in!

PLEASE TAKE 5 MINUTES FOR THE 6 MOUNTAINS



From Cowichan Naturalists Society:

Summary:

Everyone is revelling in the fantastic results of NatureCOP15 with the Feds commitment to protect 30% of land and ocean by 2030 (30x30) and BC announcing the same! Unfortunately, very little of that protection will likely be for the Coastal Douglas Fir (CDF) Bio geoclimatic Zone where I live. Although the CDF is one of the smallest and most threatened ecosystems in Canada and contains all of the Garry Oak subzone, only <5% currently remains and ~85% is very expensive private property - likely too expensive to conserve. Luckily, the Municipality of North Cowichan, and therefore it's **citizens own fee simple about 12,000 acres of this CDF zone** in our Municipal Forest Reserve (MFR) - affectionately called the "six mountains" forests.

Since the 1950's North Cowichan Municipality has been merrily logging it on the less visible tops and back sides of the mountains. Four years ago, residents, citizens and naturalists gathered to ask for a pause to the logging while we looked at other

options. The UBC Forestry Department has now come up with four scenarios ranging from status quo logging to full conservation. **So, it's decision time.** Most of us are advocating for **Active Conservation** which might allow for some Eco-forestry and management like thinning and invasive removal in areas that have been logged and planted already. The survey only takes a few minutes (really!) and is open to anyone anywhere (not just NC residents).

Please consider taking the survey!

If you already know about the North Cowichan Municipal Forest Review and the citizens attempts to change logging practices here, then please just take the quick **survey** (literally 5 minutes - highlighted below) and choose Active or Passive Conservation over Reduced or Status Quo Logging. Then pass it along to all your friends. **You don't have to be a North Cowichan resident**, but you might say you enjoy hiking or mountain biking in the six mountains - Prevost, Sicker, Richards, Maple, Stoney, and Tzouhalem - or are a stake holder in some way. **The Survey has been extended till January 31st.** [SURVEY LINK](#) (About 6 paragraphs down)

You might also want to spend 30 seconds and watch Briony Penn sending us her love and hope across the narrows from Salt Spring Island [LINK](#)

Four lovely videos, interviews, the survey link and more all here: [Where Do We Stand - North Cowichan Forest - Six Mountains](#)

Numerous blogs by my hiking buddy Larry Pynn a "retired" award-winning Vancouver Sun Environmental Journalist.

Different approach, same topic: [Home | www.sixmountains.ca](#)

CELEBRATE WORLD WETLAND DAY 2023



From - Friends of Semiahmoo Bay

Together the Coastal Painted Turtle Project, Metro Vancouver Regional Parks and the Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society are excited to offer the 7th annual World Wetland Day event on Saturday, February 4th, 2023, at 1:00pm until 3:30 pm.

Janice Jarvis, Natural Resource Management Specialist with Metro Vancouver Regional Parks will provide a presentation on the "Wetlands of Regional Parks".

Then we'll learn about the Western painted turtle, a species at risk in our local

wetlands and what is being done to support their survival with Aimee Mitchell and Andrea Gielens of the Coastal Painted Turtle Project.

Presentations will begin at 1:00pm at the East Area Regional Parks office (1558 200th Street). After the presentations we'll walk to a constructed wetland nearby to learn about its increasing biodiversity. We'll then carpool to visit a Western painted turtle nesting beach.

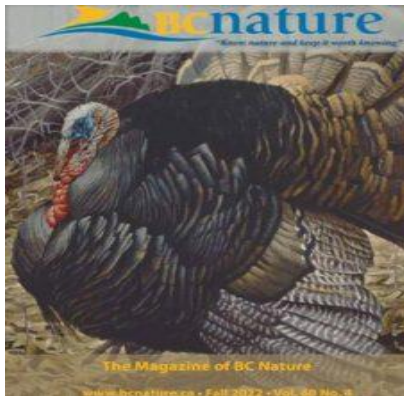
Space is limited, participation is registration only.

Please register with [Marg](#),

You will receive a reply email confirmation of your participation.

Be prepared for the weather and wear appropriate footwear for walking.

A FEAST FOR YOUR NATURE SENSES



Hello everyone;

As a member of one of the BC Nature federated clubs, one of the best items that is a part of your membership, is the BC Nature Quarterly magazine "BCnature".

We are so very proud of the work we have done on the winter e-version of *BCnature*. Nothing is changing with the print edition, those members that are currently receiving the paper copy will continue to receive it in this manner. For members that use your tablets, cell phones, laptops, e-readers to read their correspondence, you should have a look at the new e-version. From the video on the front cover to the bird sounds and many video links within the magazine, it offers many more offerings than the black and white version of our printed magazine. It's a feast for your Nature senses! Have a look and even if you still prefer paper, the e-version is always available in the members only section for either reading on line or for downloading. Here is the link to the [Winter e-version](#) and here is the [email](#) link to switch if you so desire!

BC Nature 2023 Photo Contest



Prizes will be awarded to the following five categories listed:
1. Wildlife 2. Botany, Landscape 3. Hired and Wonderful
4. Youth 12-18 - Photographer 5. Child 11 and under - Photographer

Time to submit your entries for the BC Nature Photo Contest - [LINK](#) to upload area Deadline is February 24, 2023




BCnature
FEDERATION OF BC NATURALISTS

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