



BC Nature Annual Appeal



We are fortunate to live in beautiful British Columbia, a region that has some of the highest biodiversity in North America. With its rugged coast, grasslands, ancient forests, and characteristic fjords and islands, BC's unique land and climate systems provide an environment that promotes biodiversity. Our role as naturalists is to celebrate and protect this biodiversity.

Donate to BC Nature – Support the staff who manage the conservation, education, and stewardship programs, and provide logistical support to the many volunteers who are the backbone of our work. Our priority is to expand the Conservation Coordinator to a full-time position, provide full support for IBA/KBA Coordinator, and to cover the travel and field support for many of the vital conservation programs. [Link](#) or [Link](#)

Donate to the BC Naturalists' Foundation – Donate to the BC Naturalists' Foundation – The Foundation is responsible for managing and building our endowment funds. Having solid long-term investments is key for providing annual support for club projects, our two scholarships and other awards. Each year the Foundation puts more than \$20,000 back into these very worthy causes. [Link](#)

Ban Styrofoam in Marine Environments



Short notice item - please consider signing onto the following this [link](#) **Deadline October 27, 2020**
Petition to the Government of Canada

Whereas:

- Foam from marine infrastructure is an increasing source of pollution on Canada's beaches;
- Expanded polystyrene (EPS), commonly known as Styrofoam™, in the marine environment can cause significant harm to marine life, seafood resources and ecosystems;
- EPS is difficult to impossible to clean up from shorelines after it breaks down and has a high likelihood of entering the marine environment from damaged marine infrastructure, whether encased or not; and
- The Qathet Regional District and the Association of Vancouver Island and Coastal Communities have unanimously endorsed the prohibition of EPS in marine environments.

We, the undersigned, **citizens of Canada**, call upon the **Government of Canada** to Prohibit the use of expanded polystyrene in the marine environment.

Youth Director for BC Nature



In the Fall 2022 *BCnature* magazine, we put a call out for younger BC Nature members to apply to come onto our board as Director-at-Large. **Deadline November 4, 2022**

BC Nature is seeking applications from younger members for the BC Nature Board

Recognizing the need for input from younger members, the BC Nature Board is seeking applications from younger members (near or under 35 years of age) to fill a vacancy for Director-at-Large on the BC Nature Board.

The time commitment is modest, and adaptable to working folk and those with family responsibilities - the Board meets by Zoom approximately once every two months and in-person at the Spring and Fall general meetings. Travel expenses to these general meetings may be covered by BC Nature. Many decisions are also made by email.

Details of the role of Board directors are available in the Policies & Procedures Manual and in the BC Nature Bylaws at <https://bcnature.org/mission/>

To request more information or to receive a copy of the Policies & Procedures Manual, please contact the President Alan Burger (see below).

We would love to have you involved in helping to decide BC Nature's priorities and activities. To apply for this position, please submit a short résumé emphasizing your experience in nature stewardship and education and participation in one of our federated nature clubs. Send to President Alan Burger at aburger@uvic.ca.

Key Biodiversity Areas (KBA)



Over the course of the upcoming year(s) we will see a concerted effort to switch Important Bird and Biodiversity Areas (IBAs) to Key Biodiversity Area (KBA). The change has now started with:

Press Release from Birds Canada - [Link](#) - Watch this great video on [KBA launch](#)

How does this affect your local area?

IBA/KBA partners will be shifting from referring to the Fraser River Estuary as an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area to a Key Biodiversity Area. Please report any IBA signage to [James](#) that you may come

across in the Fraser River Estuary for signage change over.

From the Times Colonist on Vancouver Island - They're called "key biodiversity areas," and seven swaths of land across British Columbia — including Tofino's mudflats, the Trial Islands and Fort Rodd Hill — now have that international designation, which is meant to prevent the decimation of wild animal and plant species before it's too late....

[Read More](#)

Environmental Challenges of Rising Pesticide Use in Canada



There was an excellent colloquium presentation at UNBC's Natural Resources Institute on October 14th by Dr. Christy Morrissey on *'Tackling Environmental Challenges of Rising Pesticide Use in Canada'* that is likely to interest many BCN members: [Link](#) The presentation delves into decreasing complexity of farmland and the impact of insecticides, fungicides and herbicides on insects, birds etc. Of interest to BC, while the problem is worsening in Ontario, Quebec and the Prairies, it is less so in this province.

Thank you member M. Nash for sending us this

informative presentation.

Species at Risk Act listing processes for Grey Whale and Fin Whale



From Fisheries and Ocean Canada - Pacific Division - Online Comment Period for Western Pacific Grey Whale and Fin Whale:

1. **The potential listing of the Pacific Coast Feeding Group and Western Pacific Grey Whale (*Eschrichtius robustus*) populations as endangered under Schedule 1 of SARA and the removal of the Eastern North Pacific Grey Whale population, listed as special concern, from Schedule 1 of SARA.**

2. **The potential reclassification of the Fin Whale (*Balaenoptera physalus*; Pacific population), currently listed as threatened, as special concern under Schedule 1 of SARA.**

Written comments on these processes can be submitted to the SAR public registry until December 2, 2022.

If you wish to participate in the online public comment period for Grey Whale through the SAR public registry, please visit the following link to provide your input:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/consultation-documents/grey-whale-2022.html>

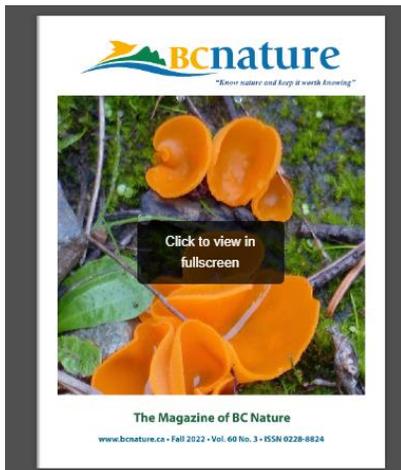
If you wish to participate in the online public comment period for Fin Whale through the SAR public registry, please visit the following link to provide your input:

<https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/species-risk-public-registry/consultation-documents/fin-whale-2022.html>

We also welcome input by phone, letter, and email. Input received will help inform development of listing or reclassification advice. You can also request meeting(s) (held via teleconference, webinar or other virtual mechanisms) to provide your input on these SARA processes. All feedback on the potential listing or reclassification of these species received during the consultation and engagement period will be taken into consideration.

Thank you in advance for your time and interest, we look forward to receiving your input. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Species at Risk Program at 604-666-7907 or e-mail DFO.PACSAR-LEPPAC.MPO@dfo-mpo.gc.ca.

E-version of the Fall Magazine 2022



Hi Members;

For those that have contacted me to make the switch from paper to e-version - Thank you! For those still mulling it over, please see the Fall 2022 e-version [here](#). We have tried to make it further interesting by including bird and animal sounds and including live links and even an embedded video! Compatible with your tablets, laptops, phones and computers. We are not suggesting we are doing away with the print copy, just giving you a more interactive experience and trying to up your "Animal and Bird sounds by ear game!"

Call if you have questions or email info@bcnature.ca to make the switch today

