

January – 2017



Editor: [Janne Perrin](#)

MEETINGS

1. Tuesday, November 15th, 2016



John Clague & Lee Larkin

Dr. John Clague's lecture noted that for the last 5000 years sea levels have been stable. Now in the age of climate change many factors – gravity, ocean currents, temperature - all contribute to rising levels. Trends point to accelerating rates and eventual loss of low-lying areas like the Fraser Delta. The good news is BC has a high rocky coast to protect much of the land.

CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Saturday, December 17, 2016



Deep snow and minus 9 C. temperatures motivated counters at the 39th Chilliwack Christmas Bird Count. We recorded over 90 species including a high number of red-breasted sapsuckers. A delicious potluck supper at Little Mountain Meadows followed the count.

Members enjoyed punch, hot dishes and yummy desserts with hot coffee. Thank you to Lee Larkin and Margaret Williams for arrangements.

FIELD TRIPS

1. Chilliwack River Fish hatchery – November 13, 2016

Coho & Chum salmon in profusion, a few Chinook and even a gold fish delighted nine CFN members on a cloudy Sunday morning. The DFO caretaker showed us around as a



courtesy although he had other jobs to do. We warmed up at the Tractor Grease Café over coffee and lunch.

2. Fraser Valley Bald Eagle Festival November 19–20, 2017

Janet Pollock and Helen Turner set up our display board at Leq' a'mel Hall for two days of the Eagle Festival. Many members of the public stopped by to watch the natural history photo show and to ask questions about the Chilliwack naturalists club.

THIS n 'THAT

1. Camp River Wildlife Area – Nov. 2016

The Nature Trust Conservation Youth Crew was at Camp Slough in November cleaning out the bird nesting boxes, taking notes on which boxes had been occupied and by whom. TNT crew GPS'd the location of each box and decided which ones needed to be repaired or replaced. Later they will be going back to Camp Slough to put up some new nesting boxes. TNTBC purchased 12 swallow nesting boxes and 8 chickadee. Samantha Penner is hopeful for some more funding to replace more boxes next year.

2. What's in a name? - Turns out that the "stream" that runs beside our Camp "River" Wildlife Area is actually the Hope Slough. Denis knew that, Fernando learned that as he did water surveys for Water Wealth and now all Club members know. Besides, the Camp River is actually gazetted as a SLOUGH and so is the Hope River. A "slough" is a natural channel that is only sporadically filled with water. The BC Ministry of Environment officially calls the property the "Camp Slough Wildlife Area".

3. 2017 is the tenth anniversary of "[Coffee Cutters](#)" the brainchild of Lee Larkin. It is hard work but worth the noticeable habitat improvement and the camaraderie afterwards at coffee time!

4. Terry Lecher is stepping down as Field Trip Coordinator. Many thanks for a job well done, Terry!