

March – 2017

THIS N 'THAT



Editor: Janne Perrin

MEETINGS

1. Tuesday, January 17, 2017

Members night saw several naturalists present nature shows: Denis on a cricket study in the Okanagan, Fernando on the Camp/Hope River Watershed, Janne on species encountered in the last year and Paulina's fantastic photography of avians.

2. Tuesday, February 21, 2017

Quercus Ecological 's Patrick Burke presented the finding on a species at risk study in the Wahleach Watershed. Notable ones seen were Tailed Frog, Western Toad and Townsend's bat. A narrow escape from a charging mother bear taught one field biologist a good lesson. B.C. Hydro Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program funded the study.

FIELD TRIPS

1. Hope River–Corbould Park Jan. 21, 2017

This well attended field trip yielded 33 species of



birds on a cloudy day with patchy snow cover. Lee's grandson, the youngest tripper, spotted an owl pellet with mouse bones. Some

of our older members spotted an American Goldfinch dining on London Plane tree seeds. Wood ducks, common goldeneye and many mallards rested on the ice in the slough. Lunch at the Callicarpa topped off a fine day!

2. Wilband Creek Park February 25, 2017

The highlight of this trip was the American bittern that flushed from some cattails as we were nearing the end of our walk around the ponds on a rather blustery day. Paulina managed an identification shot. Participants warmed up over soup, steak & kidney pie and ploughman's lunch at the Clayburn Tea Room after the excursion.

1. Camp Slough Wildlife Area Study -

Be sure to attend April's regular meeting. Several BCIT students will report their findings on a small mammal & fish study done at the Camp Slough Wildlife Area. The students completed the study as part of the requirements in the Fish, Wildlife, and Recreation program. For their yearlong project, the group performed baseline surveys and biophysical inventories at both Camp Slough and Wells Sanctuary as a means of assessing property size, restoration work, and possibly edge effects.

2. Rare Fish Found - The Salish sucker is a small freshwater fish found in eleven



Canadian watersheds, all in British Columbia's Fraser Valley. It is listed on Schedule 1

of SARA as Endangered. Adults are most abundant in headwater marshes and beaver ponds. Juveniles are most often found in shallow pools or glides containing cover. Aquatic invertebrates form most of their diet. Recently the BCIT students found Salish Sucker at the [Wells Sanctuary](#) in Chilliwack.

3. Executive Decisions - For the coming year your executive is going to coordinate speakers and field trips. Thus after the butterfly presentation, we travel on June 2nd to the Skagit, a prime area for butterflies. We are also going to streamline our meetings so speakers end no later than 9 PM. Those who wish to ask more questions can stay for coffee to talk. At present we must vacate the room by 10 PM. We are considering a 7 PM start to meetings. A vote will be held at the coming AGM.

4. Valentine's Day Presentation - Fernando & Paulina Selles gave the Parkinson's Society a talk February 14th about our club, easy walks, plants, mushrooms, insects & bird watching.

5. Celebrate Earth Day - On April 22, 2017 from noon to 3 PM we will have our display board at the Fraser Valley Regional Library Chilliwack.

6. Field Trip coordinator needed. Contact [Helen](#) or [Janne](#).