

# CHILLIWACK FIELD NATURALISTS

Spring– 2018



Interim Editor: [Janne Perrin](#) Newsletter published quarterly

## MEETINGS

**Tuesday, November 21, 2017:**



Denis thanks Sean

Sean Boyd, biologist with Science & Technology, Environment & Climate Change Canada presented on Lesser Snow Geese from Wrangell Island, Russia. As many as 300 000 use the Pacific Flyway and up to 70 000 winter between BC and Washington State Skagit area. Wrangell tagged geese have shown up as far away as

Kansas. Others flew straight to California. Snow geese walk 60 km overland with goslings to gather into large migrating flocks. BC's habitat in the Fraser Delta can support 30 000 birds. Their exponential population increase is managed by hunting.

**Tuesday, January 16, 2018:**

January's meeting is member's night. This year Paulina Selles showed us a fantastic sequence on a black oystercatcher opening a shellfish. Fernando showed us that weather data for Agassiz reveals an increase in mean temperatures because the coldest days are getting hotter, rather than by an increase in the temperatures of the hottest days. Lee Larkin and Denis Knopp's PowerPoint on Prince Edward Island highlighted the red soil, birds, flora, & Larkin historic roots. Vic Guinet's flowering Witch Hazel branch filled the room with a marvelous perfume. Janne Perrin shared photos of her & Marg Tranah's summer trip to the Prairies, Churchill and Jasper as well as Janne's BCN field camp trip to Telegraph Cove to see whales and grizzlies. Scott showed us pictures of birds and other wildlife from his recent visit to New Mexico. Thank you all.

**February 20, 2018**

Jessie Corey, Terrestrial Conservation Manager at Canadian Parks and Wilderness (CPAWS), presented on conserving wild landscapes, regionally and nationally. CPAWS was founded in 1963 and has helped protect over 400,000 square kilometers of threatened areas across Canada. Jessie's presentation highlighted CPAWS successes on significant wild and beautiful spaces in BC including the Flathead Valley and the South Okanagan grasslands.

## FIELD TRIPS

[Fernando Selles](#) is our new Field Trip Coordinator. ☺

**Reifel Waterfowl Refuge: Sun. Nov. 26, 2017**

A large group of CFNers traveled on a rainy day to Ladner where they were rewarded with fields white



with Wrangell Island Snow Geese. On the wet, windy walk of the refuge many wintering songbirds adorned the

feeders & dabbling ducks the ponds but lunch in warming hut pleased the naturalists best.

**Hope River: Saturday January 20, 2018:**

Eight members enjoyed bird watching along the river.

The highlight of the day was having Dorteia Knopp, Dennis and Melody's mother, walk with us. She is

90+-years young! We saw 20 species of birds

including: 50 Wood Duck, 23 Dark-eyed Junco, 15 American Robin, 12 Steller's Jay, 9 Northern Flicker, and 1 Brown Creeper. Lunch was at the Harvest on



Mill Street. -Submitted by *Janet Pollock*

## THIS AND THAT

**Camp-Hope Slough Wildlife Area:**

With \$ from the Chilliwack Foundation grant, we host a Camp River Wildlife Area wildflower-pollinator planting on April 7 2018. Start time: 10:30 AM. Tools & gloves provided. Pizza Lunch on site follows. Bring your friends to help. All welcome. Extra spades good too.

**Christmas Bird Counts 2017:**

**Harrison River:** Species - 83 **Total** birds- 9385

New: sooty grouse/greater white-fronted goose

**Chilliwack:** Species - 95 **Total** birds-30507

3 Golden Eagles a highlight

The potluck at the [GBHNR](#) after was well attended.

**Membership:** Is due for the 2018 year - Single \$30 or Family \$40. BC Nature Magazine is included with membership as is all CFN meetings, field trips and newsletters. To join, please download the form from our website and send it to Janet Pollock, our membership chair. Urge your friends to join. Bring them as a guest to a meeting or trip.

**AGM:** Tues. March 20 @ 5 PM [IHOP Restaurant](#)

**Speaker:** Emily Johnson - Marine Rescue Centre

**Field Trips:** As our Club membership dwindles leaders are hard to find. But both the Abbotsford – Mission Nature Club and the Langley Field Naturalists have many trips. Schedules from these clubs will be forwarded to CFN members and selected trips will be on [CFN Website Field Trip](#) page. Please contact AMNC or LFN to attend. As people step up, we will have more CFN trips. Several, complimenting our speakers, are being arranged (see our events calendar).