

## CHILLIWACK FIELD NATURALISTS

Winter – 2017



Interim Editor: [Janne Perrin](#)

### MEETINGS

**Remember CFN meetings start at 7:00 PM.**

**Tuesday, September 19, 2017:**

Sharmin Gamiet's illustrated talk on Mushrooms of the Fraser Valley really got our attention. She told us there are only 5 mushrooms world wide that will kill you dead, one, Amanita phalloides, doing just that to a victim in Victoria, BC! Sharmin laid out the big groups – Ascomycetes and Basidiomycetes - for us with many anecdotes. Dyes made from Cortinarius sanguineus glow under UV light. Oyster mushrooms, Pleurotus ostreatus, are used to remediate toxic heavy metals in mine sites. Sadly Sharmin was unable to fit in a follow-up field trip but there was an unexpected joint CFN/ LFN's trip October 13 to view fungi.

**Tuesday, October 17, 2017:**

Colin Levings spoke on the Ecology of Salmonids. He received his Masters from UBC and his PhD in Biological Oceanography from Dalhousie University and spent his life working for Fisheries and Oceans. He discussed the types of salmon that visit the estuaries and rivers in BC. Colin went over the differences in the biology of the various species of salmon, the life cycle of salmon, and adaptations such as their ability to move from fresh water to salt water habitats. Colin showed some examples of marine conservation with Lyngbye's sedge, an important species that dominates shorelines and provides critical nutrient inputs in areas where juvenile salmonids feed. The club followed the talk with a field trip to identify salmon. – *Thanks to Lee Larkin for write-up*

### FIELD TRIPS

**Chilliwack Valley: Birding And Fungi**

**Friday October 13, 2017:**

Fernando Selles of CFN and Al Grass of LFN led this trip. After meeting at the Vedder Park parking lot at 9 am, participants carpooled down the Chilliwack Valley Road. Outfitted with lunches and snacks, cameras, binos and warm dress, the trippers saw an array of mushrooms and forest birds. A happy crowd headed home around 2 pm. – *Thanks Al & Fernando*

**Salmon Trip Saturday October 28, 2017:**

Apparently Margaret and I didn't read our email

so we fashioned our own mini-trip. We went to Sears and no one was there. So Melody, Margaret and I checked out the Sears sale and then went to Angel Wings down Chilliwack River Valley instead. It was a beautiful day for a forest walk at Angel Wings and down the Centennial Trail. We saw Chum and Chinook spawning, cutthroat trout, dragonflies, and numerous mushrooms along the trail. After working up an appetite, we ate lunch at the Tractor Grease before returning to Chilliwack.

-Submitted by Lee Larkin

**Hicks Lake Walk Sunday October 29, 2017**

Bona and Helen enjoyed a walk around Hicks Lake in Sasquatch Provincial Park instead of traveling to Weaver Creek. The trail sported new bridges making some areas safer while making other favourite resting spots inaccessible. The many hues of the fall leaves were magical in the autumn sunshine.

### THIS AND THAT

**Camp-Hope Slough Wildlife Area:**

Lee has a grant application in to the Chilliwack Foundation for \$2350 for Camp River Wildlife Area for a planting tentatively for April 7 2018. CFN club provides lunch. Eastern Fraser Valley Nature Kids plan to participate in the planting.

**Christmas Bird Counts 2017:**

**Harrison River:**

Our Count Coordinator, Denis Knopp has picked Thursday December 14, the first allowable Xmas Count date for the Harrison River Count. Post-count dinner is at [Jack's Restaurant](#) in Agassiz.

**Chilliwack:**

Saturday, December 16 is the Chilliwack Count. Janet Pollock is managing the Pot Luck supper to follow at the [Great Blue Heron Reserve](#). You do not have to count to attend the potluck. Bring a food dish and your own plates and utensils. Tea, coffee and juice supplied.

**Orientation/sign Up:**

Pre-count orientation for both counts is Tuesday, December 5 at the [Neighbourhood Learning Centre](#), Yale Road, Chilliwack @ 6:30PM. Either attend the orientation or contact Denis before hand if you can participate in both or either count. 604 858 5141

**Field Trip Policy Change:** Attendance on Field Trips in the last year has been unpredictable. Henceforth all trips listed in our calendar are subject to participants contacting the leader beforehand to confirm attendance. If no one confirms attendance, then the field trip will not take place. Attendees will determine the meeting point.