



THE OSPREY

**Newsletter of the
West Kootenay Naturalists' Association**

**3378 14 Ave, Castlegar BC V1N 4G1
vol 38, no 1 March through
June, 2011**



Blue Heron in flight

© Photo by Margo Saunders

Member address label
HERE

GENERAL MEETINGS

Meetings are held on the last Monday of each month, 7:00 pm, *except as noted*. Check newsletter for each month's venue. **Changes may be mentioned at meetings, and/or in your local newspaper.** Beverages will *not* be available at Nelson meetings until someone steps forward to handle this task. Venues for '10/'11: Sept – Trail, Oct -- potluck always in Robson Hall, 6 pm. BYO dishes, cutlery, etc, Nov – Trail, Jan – Castlegar, February dinner – Castlegar, March -- Nelson, April – Robson, May -- Nelson. For June annual picnic venue, see appropriate Field Trip Schedule. No meetings in July, August, or December. **“The Osprey” is distributed at September, January, and May meetings. Please attend to pick yours up or ask a friend to also request yours, unless you are receiving it by email.** Saving postage keeps costs down and dues stable.

WKNA OFFICERS 2010-11

ELECTED:

PRESIDENT	Brent Hancock	250-304-6840 bthancock@shaw.ca
VICE-PRESIDENT	Arnold By	250-368-3068
PAST PRESIDENT	Joan Snyder	250-226-0012
RECORDING SECRETARY	Linda Szymkowiak	250-362-7107
CORRESPONDING SECRETARY	Felicity Ross	250-367-9179 dfrossbc@telus.net
TREASURER/MEMBERSHIP	Esther Brown	250-368-3663 estherbrown@shaw.ca

APPOINTED:

AREA REPRESENTATIVES:

CASTLEGAR/SLOCAN VALLEY	Marg Webster	250-365-2572
	Mary Martin	250-365-3827
TRAIL & AREA	Pamella Wik	250-368-3378
NELSON/SALMO/KASLO	Ruth Ingles	250-352-7957
SUNSHINE COMMITTEE	Pamella Wik	250-368-3385
BC NATURE DIRECTOR (WKNA)	Joan Snyder	250-226-0012
ARCHIVIST	Mary Martin	250-365-3827
NEWSLETTER EDITOR }	Margo Saunders	250-693-2229
JUMBO WILD CONTACT }		penandpaddle@gmail.com
FIELD TRIP DIRECTORS	Audrey Mann, Rossland, Trail & areas	250-362-9465
	(Nell Plotnikoff, Slocan/Nelson)	250-359-7406
	(John Golik, Slocan/Nelson)	250-359-7278
	Hazel Beynon, Castlegar	250-365-7806
	Webb Webster, Castlegar	250-365-2572
PRESENTATION COORDINATOR	Michael McMann	250-365-5647

SECTION CONTACTS AND COMMITTEE HEADS:

BIRDING	Ed Beynon	250-365-7806
ENERGYCONSERVATION	Shirley Coffin	250-364-0339 slcoffin@shaw.ca
BIRD COUNTS: Bird Studies Canada, WKNA, Christmas and Summer	vacant	
BLUEBIRDS	vacant	
BUTTERFLIES	Rita Wege	250-359-7234
INJURED BIRDS/ANIMALS	Carol Pettigrew (birds)	250-365-3701
	Helen Jameson, Blewett (animals)	250-352-2356
INVASIVE PLANTS	vacant	
RIVERS DAY (National)	vacant	
RIVERS DAY (Provincial)	vacant	
VIOLIN LAKE STAKEHOLDERS	Margo Saunders	250-693-2229
WEBSITE, KOOTENAY REGIONAL	Kevin MacAskill	250-825-2245
	Arnold By	250-368-3068

TRIP REPORTS

Wednesday, August 18, 2010:

An extremely hot day of 39 degrees Celsius for the Trek of 6 hikers. The group viewed Selkirk topography from Indian Flats, as well as the new Power Dam. We set out on our trek across the newly restored Brilliant Bridge and fed upon some blackberries on the other side of the underpass along the trail. At the oxbow, we saw some Canada Geese and three Bald Eagles. We crossed the grasslands onto the middle Selkirk Loop Trail to the Columbia River. Along the trail, we wandered upon a dead skink. As we rounded the confluence of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers, we discovered Dune Tansies. Not only were there bird dippers, but a few human dippers cooling off.....**Pat West**

Saturday, August 28, 2010:

Twenty two NATS followed the 2.5 km. road from the parking lot at Bridal Lake (Kootenay Pass) up to the Ripple Ridge trailhead. The somewhat rough trail, at times over windfalls, took us to just below the crest of Ripple Ridge, then continued on a gradual ascent around rocks and among stunted trees to the first knob at 2073 m. From there, rock cairns marked the trail over large rock slabs where the trail ended at 2 km. on a 2165 m summit, at which point a deep basin plunges to the northwest. After a lengthy lunch break/photo-shoot in the sun, we made it back to the parking lot in good time and great spirits. Along the way there were many flowers to enjoy and some guesses at identification. Was that pink one a Wintergreen and was the sedge a Scandinavian Sedge? Apparently this variety of sedge can be "widespread at mid to high elevations in moist habitats". Many of us walked over to the Dragonfly Café (in Salmo) for coffee and really baffled the poor waitress: "Are you all together?" "Where are you coming from?" We must have looked like escapees from a Seniors' Care facility! Little does she know what these seniors are capable of doing.

Nell Plotnikoff

Saturday, September 4, 2010:

At 8:30am, fourteen keen naturalists turned out for the advertised "strenuous" hike up Ladybird Mountain. We gathered at the Brilliant Park and Ride, a point from which we could see our objective. After a quick stop at the Ladybird Falls, we headed up the 23 km of West Ladybird logging road. By 9:30 we were parked and had started up the skid roads to the top of the clearcut. Once into the forest, we followed the flagged trail until we reached the more open area on the ridge leading to Ladybird Mtn. Time about 10:45. After a quick rest stop, we carried on to the meadows where we enjoyed a long lunch under the warm sun. The fall colours and the surrounding jagged peaks were, for most of us, the highlights of the day. The return trip was uneventful and we all arrived back feeling it was worth the effort. Bird sightings (list courtesy of Ed Beynon): Cooper's hawk, robin, mountain chickadee, red-breasted nuthatch, Audubon warblers, white-crowned sparrow, hairy woodpecker, and ruby-crowned kinglet.

Dennis Holden

Saturday, September 18, 2010:

Seventeen NATS plus one guest, Allistair Fraser, enjoyed an easy "walk in the park" and a bit of local, little known history in the Kokanee Creek area. From the waterfall viewpoint we followed a forest trail to the site of the former location of the Busk Manor. Charles Busk, a civil engineer, immigrated to Canada in the late 1870s and was mainly employed on construction of the CPR transcontinental railway and other railways on Vancouver Island. He arrived in Nelson in 1888 and was instrumental in surveying for the townsite of Salisbury, today's Fairview area of Nelson. Then he went on to stake out what is now Balfour where he erected the Balfour House Hotel/general store. Soon after, he purchased lakeshore property near Kokanee Creek and in 1901 completed his new home, which had "six bedrooms, an equal number of fireplaces and chimneys, a spiral oak staircase and imported furniture." (Unfortunately the manor has been dismantled and burned, but in our vivid imaginations it was still there!) On the grounds were rock walls, tennis courts, a stable, a soccer field. A huge copper beech tree, planted over 100 years ago, still stands majestically. Perhaps the most amazing sight for the hikers was the oval-shaped concrete swimming pool, still intact, with stairs descending into it. Many hikers had fun whispering to each other from opposite ends of the pool and being heard clearly in this awesome Kootenay "whispering gallery". We stopped for lunch at the former gardener's cabin then crossed the highway to walk down Maple Lane to the picnic area, and followed the Grassland Trail to the kokanee spawning channel where the fish were on their journey upstream. A great day!

Nell Plotnikoff

Saturday, September 25, 2010:

Eight W.K. Naturalists joined me at the Castlegar Hawk Watch under warm, sunny skies. Because the migrating raptors were between 50 to 700m away there was no reason to be quiet. This was a chance for birders to get loud and raucous and enjoy their passion openly. Throughout the day there were shouts, sometimes simultaneously as two raptors would enter the flight path at different locations. Someone would call out the location and elevation, then as others got their optics focused they would rattle off the list of diagnostic traits visible. Finally there was a consensus taken on species or a debate would start. Margo Saunders spotted the only Peregrine Falcon and it was an immature brown bird low against a brown and green hillside- well spotted! In the end Paul Prappas and I stayed for two hours after the main party left at 2:30pm, and were rewarded with two Swainson's Hawks and Paul's two Broad-winged Hawks. Note: Ed & Hazel Beynon and Shirley Coffin found a fair number of raptors entering the flight path further south than we usually set up to record. In other words if a better monitoring system/location can be found this sight has the potential to yield even higher raptor counts. In 6 hours of observation there were 75 raptors counted, or 12+ per hour.

Swainson's Hawk x 2
Turkey Vulture x 4
Northern Harrier x 2
Sharp-shinned Hawk x 20

Cooper's Hawk x 10
Northern Goshawk
Broad-winged Hawk x 2
Bald Eagle
Golden Eagle x 2

Michael McMann

Saturday, October 2, 2010:

Thirteen Nats and one guest left the Brilliant Park 'n' Ride in the fog, but soon saw blue sky while hiking above the Brilliant Dam. It was a relaxing hike up the north side of Dove Hill, and along the way we saw lobster mushrooms and large clusters of honey mushrooms. We had lunch on top of Dove Hill and a wonderful view of Castlegar and the surrounding mountains in the sunshine.

Susan D'Andrea

Saturday, October 16, 2010:

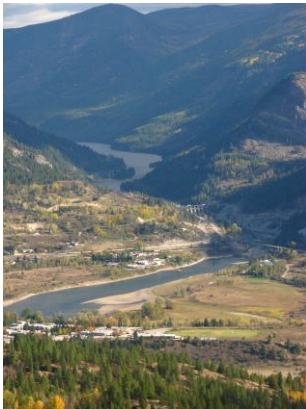
Eleven Nats showed up on a frosty morning to hike on the Paulson country ski trails. We were impressed with the beautiful views which have been created by the recent logging. It was also a preview of some of the new trails we have to look forward to in the coming ski season. The sun came out in time for us to enjoy a lovely warm lunch stop.

SW Webster

October 23, 2010:

Seven keen Nats drove up Merry Creek Forest Road to the end of a branch, and walked a short distance to road's end. We then struck out uphill for the 'discovery' part of the jaunt, not rushing, enjoying the company, noticing and admiring the surroundings. Shortly, we found a trail constructed by mountain bikers, and followed it past and over the sturdily constructed leaps, bridges and death-defying curves. We gazed in awe at the amount of work put into this trail, and despite the constant light drizzle, everyone was excited to follow this easy route. We admired the trees, the shrouds of fog, and discovered dozens of mushrooms and fungi. Paul and Clint identified many of them, some edible, and Margo photographed them for posterity. Not one complaint was heard about the weather, and all agreed that it was an excellent hike into new territory. We are looking forward to following this trail further south, perhaps to find the other end, next year. We lunched at a coffee shop in Castlegar and perused photos of the fantastic views of the city, confluence and dam that were taken on the recce, but unfortunately hidden by the low clouds today.

Margo Saunders



View of dam from branch road



Death-defying curve

© Photos by Margo Saunders



So many mushrooms!

Saturday, October 30, 2010:

Smallwood Creek Hike -- Seventeen naturalists, including two new hikers, met at the Beasley Fire Hall and car pooled up Queen Victoria Road to Garrity Creek Forest Service Road and the parking area. We walked to the trail head and began the lovely walk through the woods. Mushrooms abounded and there was a sprinkling of fresh snow in the forest. This day was the first of the week with no rain and the sun came out for the naturalists to enjoy the view of the Kootenay River Valley from Glade to Nelson. The mountain peaks of Copper Mountain, Red Mountain and Toad Mountain as well as landmarks such as the Kootenay Canal, the "Old Nelson Bridge" and 49 Creek were pointed out and enjoyed from the ridge. Three brave naturalists took the steep, faster trail down the other side and met us on the road below. There were smiles all around at the end of the day.

Diane White

Saturday, November 6, 2010:

[Fall Stakeholder's Hike] Eleven Nats gathered for a hike to Cambridge and Violin Lakes. It threatened rain at first but turned into a beautiful day, albeit overcast. Most of the group hiked the new loop trail around Violin Lake. This is always an enjoyable hike and we had a very congenial group.

SW Webster

Saturday, November 13, 2010:

Yesterday two of us biked from Lemon Creek to Slocan City. The idea was to check out the water birds on the Slocan River just above Lemon Creek and to see if we could spot a Eurasian wigeon that was reported. No luck with the E. wigeon but did see 18 swans some juveniles. I thought it would be a little early for the swans but a local person said they had just arrived. Also saw mallards, Canada geese, hooded mergansers (4), great blue herons (3), buffleheads (16) a few jays, a flock of pine siskins and song sparrows. It was a good day for birding.

Len Dunsford

Saturday, November 20, 2010:

Some were surprised that we did, but we did have enough snow to ski – though some remained galoshed and snow-booted striders – on the Centennial Trail to the base of Red Mountain. The conifers, with snow bundled white sheet boughs suspended in the stillness of air, evoked awe-struck washer women interrupted by epiphanies. And every twiglet of the deciduous was, in the habit of snow, trimmed to mathematical precision; the axils snow-clotted with the bleached wings of bats. Little snow fell now and then. I mean snow littlenesses, not large leisurely wafting flakes, but snow dots and drops and dashes. We enjoyed these polishing our faces, crisping the bright of our eyes, slapping rose-pink petals into our cheeks, because we were being made over, wintered over, like the snow-capped fence posts and the ice-baubled brook we passed. We realized, speechlessly, as we strode further down the path at the rim of the forest, that winter had arrived. This was the fulfillment of our greatest desire.

“Quilly” (aka Pamela Wik)

Saturday, November 27, 2010:

Six Nats joined the ski/snowshoe on Shields Creek Road. It was an overcast day, but temperature and snow conditions were perfect. We found a sheltered spot in the trees for lunch. No wildlife was *seen*, but various tracks of rabbit, grouse and others were noted in the fresh snow.

SW Webster

Saturday, December 4, 2010:

Eleven Nats and one guest snowshoed the Woodland Loop Trail. It was a bright, sunny day with perfect snow conditions. There were many animal tracks, especially elk, deer, and turkey. We ate in the warm sunshine overlooking the confluence of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers. Everyone enjoyed the 3-1/2 hour outing and rated it as excellent.

Hazel and Ed Beynon



Saturday, December 11, 2010:

Nine NATS, 4 on skis and 5 on foot, enjoyed a great outing on the Slocan Valley Rail Trail from Lemon Creek to a stop for "lunch with a view", about 4 kilometers from the Lemon Creek trailhead. Along the way we saw the following: 2 herons, 1 bald eagle, 1 kingfisher, 102 Trumpeter and Tundra swans (if you doubt that, ask Ed--he counted every one of them!) and numerous ducks/mallards, green-winged teal, ring-necked duck, hooded merganser and others. There were many deer tracks and another set of tracks, leading right to the water's edge, which were identified as those of a muskrat. Mother Nature gave us a wonderful gift indeed!

Nell Plotnikoff



MARCH 21 IS WORLD WATER DAY

GIANT HOGWEED: IT'S NASTY AND IT'S HERE



Gardeners may be unwittingly spreading invasive plants throughout the Kootenays. Giant hogweed (*Heracleum mantegazzianum*), an invasive plant that can be extremely harmful to people, has recently been discovered in the New Denver area.

The Central Kootenay Invasive Plant Committee (CKIPC) has worked collaboratively with the Invasive Plant Council of BC local Hot Spots team to eradicate this infestation of giant hogweed. Jim May the supervisor and lead for the Hot Spots team in the Central Kootenays says, "Giant hogweed is the flagship of invasive plants, due to its direct tangible impacts on humans. It is really unfortunate that we found this plant in the Kootenays, but I think it will really help make people aware of invasive plants in our area."

Native to Europe and Asia, giant hogweed was introduced to North America as an ornamental plant in the early 1900s. It is now present in BC, Ontario, Quebec, Nova Scotia, and Newfoundland, as well as a number of US States. Gardening enthusiasts grow giant hogweed for its majestic size, up to 5 meters high, its huge tropical-looking leaves and white-clustered flowers that can grow up to 1.5 meters in diameter. Apart from this plant's astounding size, it harbors a toxic sap that can cause serious skin burns.

Although some gardeners insist the weed can be grown without causing hazard, many experts tend to disagree. Just touching the plant won't generally cause a reaction; however, if you brush against a broken leaf, stem or stem hairs and get the sap on your skin, you may be in trouble. Contact with the sap, followed by exposure to the sun, can cause painful blisters within 48 hours and scars that can last up to six years. The allergic reaction that this plant sap causes is technically called "phytophotodermatitis." In addition to causing blisters, getting the sap from giant hogweed into the eyes can cause temporary or permanent blindness.

Although many of the concerns with this plant surround human health, there are also ecological consequences. Giant hogweed is an extremely competitive and aggressive plant species, due to its tolerance of full shade, its ability to grow vigorously in early spring, and its ability to produce up to a 100,000 winged seed's that can float for three days before becoming water logged and sinking. These seeds can even remain in the soil for up to 15 years! Due to the large size and rapid growth of this plant, it can quickly invade and dominate sensitive stream banks, decreasing the habitat available to native plants and wildlife and increasing erosion during the winter months.

Proper identification of giant hogweed is the first step to preventing these plants from harming you or your family. Giant hogweed is often mistaken for other plants in the carrot family, to which giant hogweed belongs. Cow parsnip (*Heracleum lanatum*) for example, can be easily confused with giant hogweed. Both have an umbrella-like flower head of white

blooms and can grow in moist soil conditions. Hogweed can also be confused for angelica (*Angelica* spp.), Queen Anne's lace (*Daucus carota*), and water-hemlock (*Cicuta douglasii*). However, the characteristics that easily distinguish giant hogweed from its look-a-likes are three key features: its giant size (1.5-5 m), its sharply-cut shiny leaves (like a jagged saw edge), and its prickly, purple-spotted stem.

The CKIPC has received several calls this summer regarding giant hogweed sightings. The CKIPC works throughout the Central Kootenay region to educate and raise awareness about invasive plants and their impacts. In addition, they work collaboratively with private landowners and various agencies to prevent the introduction and spread of invasive plant species and coordinate management initiatives. Crystal Klym, coordinator for CKIPC, would like to thank the public for being so diligent in reporting potential sightings of giant hogweed.

"The increased public awareness and involvement has been greatly appreciated. Without the dedication and participation of the general public this plant would not have been found and controlled," said Klym.

Although giant hogweed has been eradicated for this season, the CKIPC will conduct follow-up efficacy checks for the next few years, to ensure this plant does not re-emerge.

Individuals can report invasive plant species sightings to the CKIPC at 250-352-1160 or coordinator@kootenayweeds.com. For more information regarding invasive plant species of concern within the Central Kootenays, please visit the CKIPC website at www.kootenayweeds.com.



Left: Giant Hogweed



Right: Cow Parsnip (for comparison)

FMI -- Google "Giant hogweed" Also several videos on You Tube

Turkey vulture behaviours.....a few favourite factoids



photo: Steven Burton Hill/istockphoto.com

It would be difficult to design a bird with worse manners than a turkey vulture. As a scavenger, its *raison d'être* is to cleanup animal carcasses; and it approaches this task with zeal. Its head—the colour of exposed flesh—is featherless and tapered, perfect for plunging repeatedly into the cavities of carrion. While the bird can be excused its choice of entrée—who doesn't like free food?—some of its other adaptations are downright bizarre. Here are just a few of our favourite turkey vulture facts:

- A turkey vulture's preferred defense mechanism is regurgitation. Get too close and you could be showered in foul smelling half-digested food.
- To cool off, a turkey vulture will sometimes defecate on its own legs.
- The bird can detect mercapton, a gas produced by carrion as it's beginning to decay, from more than one and a half kilometres away.
- Turkey vultures have no voice box, so cannot sing (though do hiss and grunt). They rely on clumsy dance moves to attract mates instead.
- The Cherokee people of the U.S. know the bird as the "peace eagle," because it does not kill.

In the Fall 2010 issue of *British Columbia Magazine* we explained that one of the best places to witness turkey vultures in B.C. is at East Sooke Park on Vancouver Island during their fall migration. Ann Nightingale of the Rocky Point Bird Observatory offers this tip: "Sometimes people have found that if they lie down on the ground and play dead the turkey vultures will come a little closer. I don't know if that's just a rumour or if there's validity to it, but once they realize it doesn't smell bad, they don't stick around!"

Deadline for submissions for the next newsletter is April 14, 2010

Material accepted by the Publisher any time up to this date.

We reserve the right to edit for space, clarity, spelling and syntax.

Major changes will be discussed with the contributor.

CHECK OUT OUR CLUB WEBSITES

www.kootenaynaturalists.org

<http://www.columbiariver.ca/wkna/>

(powered and funded by Sharpwit Consulting "Virtual Community")

**** JUST A REMINDER ****
NOTE -- IMPORTANT CHANGES IN #4

1. **Everyone likes cookies and squares!** We need TWO people to bring them to each meeting. Contact Shirley Coffin to volunteer your baking skills. Get your name in early and choose your month (new list begins each September).
2. **Do you have any suggestions for new areas to visit?** Would you be willing to lead a hike? Please contact a Program Director with your great ideas. Thank you to all the contacts/leaders in all seasons. We learn so much from each of you.
3. **Common courtesy and common sense** dictates that you call the contact person to confirm your attendance at an event on the program. Lead time for the newsletter is as much as nine months between planning and execution. Nothing is written in stone and changes may have to be made from time to time, due to weather conditions or personal reasons. We would not want you to miss out on a single chance to enjoy our environment! **Don't wait until the last minute** to phone if you are interested in any of our events...leader may have already left, especially if camping or long distances are involved.
4. **The leader of an outing is responsible for:**
 - ✓ Finding a replacement contact/leader if you cannot be available for your planned outing. A replacement *leader* may choose to do the same outing, or they may suggest another.
 - ✓ Getting the appropriate waiver form signed by every person attending. *Member* waiver forms are included in your newsletter (if you are getting hard copy), one for each hike you are leading. If you are getting your newsletter by email, please request the waivers as attachments and the Editor or the Treasurer will be happy to supply them. *There are TWO waivers - one for members and one for guests (one-day membership + \$1.00). Request the guest waiver beforehand and keep extra copies just in case.* Forward these forms to Webb Webster or Esther Brown, respectively, immediately.
 - ✓ Make it a policy with the entire group to keep the person behind you in sight. If your follower on the trail is lagging, slow your pace to keep them in sight. If everyone in the group continually checks to make sure they can see the person behind them, it is impossible for anyone to get into serious trouble. If you split into groups, do not allow any one person to 'take off' by him/herself.
 - ✓ Making sure that no one is left behind with car trouble at the parking area, especially in winter,
 - ✓ Arranging to have the trip report forwarded to the Editor. The leader may delegate this, of course, but please advise the Editor from whom to expect it. The writer also has the obligation to get the report submitted *in time.*



The woodpecker might have to go!

FIELD TRIPS

For all field trips, please call the contact person for meeting time and place

MARCH

Saturday March 5	Ski to Moose Meadow. Easy	Dennis Holden 250-365-2715
Saturday March 12	Snowshoe or ski Bonanza area. Moderate	Pat West 250-304-2656
Saturday March 19	Snowshoe Plewman Cabin Loop. Easy/mod	Margo Saunders/ SW Webster 250-693-2229/250-365-2572
Saturday March 26	Leader's Choice, Rossland area. Moderate	Anja Logodi 250-362-3302
Monday March 28	Gen meeting & presentation: Margo Saunders – slide shows of Flathead area and MORE! Nelson venue	Michael McMann 250-365-5647

APRIL

Saturday April 2	Snowshoe to Sunshine Cabin. Mod/stren	Pat West 250-304-2656
Saturday April 9	Birding at Beaver Creek Park. Easy	Michael McMann 250-365-5647
Saturday April 16	Leader's Choice, Nelson area	Diane White 250-825-4178
Saturday April 23	Leader's Choice. Rossland area. Probably mod	Pat Thomson 250-362-5795
Monday April 25	AGM, potluck & presentation by Irene Manley, Fish & Wildlife Compensation: "Western Screech Owl, Vaux Swift & Lewis Woodpecker". Genelle Hall, 6 pm. BYO dishes, cutlery	Michael McMann 250-365-5647
Saturday April 30	Hike Great Northern railbed to Paterson	Ed Davies 250-362-7727

MAY

Saturday May 7	Hike – birding & waterfalls, Broadwater area. Easy	Ed & Hazel Beynon 250-365-7806
Saturday May 14	Birding – Creston area. Easy	Peter Mclver 250-365-1191
Saturday May 21	Hike Gardner Cave, Crawford Park near Metaline Falls WA. Easy. BRING PASSPORT	Margo Saunders 250-693-2229
Saturday May 28	Leader's Choice Nelson area	Diane White 250-825-4178
Monday May 30	Gen meeting & presentation: "Native Plant Propagation", speaker TBA. Trail Seniors' Centre	Michael McMann 250-365-5647

JUNE

Saturday June 4	Bird Count	Peter Mclver 250-365-1191
Saturday June 11	Birding – Leader's Choice	Gwen Nicol 250-362-7282
Sunday June 12	Canadian Rivers Day: paddle CVWMA, Creston. Easy	Michael McMann 250-365-5647
Saturday June 18	Hike Payne Bluffs, Sandon area. Easy/mod	SW Webster 250-365-2572
Saturday June 25	Annual Picnic	Peter Mclver 250-365-1191