

BC Nature, A Fifty-Year History 1969-2019

Appendix 2. Field Camps and Exploratory Camps

BC Nature Council

	Camp Location, Leader, Host Club	Fees & attendance where available
1964	Oliver, UBC Geology Camp; leader Freeman King together with Canadian Audubon Society, July 20-31 for juniors	\$30 fee 30 attendees
1965	Peachland, Maple Springs Baptist Camp; leader Fred Gornall July 7-18 senior, July 20-21 junior	
1966	Peachland, Maple Springs Baptist Camp; leader Barry Thornton. July 9-17 senior; July 17-24 junior	
1967	Point Roberts, near Vancouver; leader M.A.F. Waugh	

Federation of BC Naturalists

	Camp Location, Leader, Host Club	Fees & attendance where available
1977	Exploratory Backpacking trip to Stein; leader FBCN President Norman Purssell with Vancouver Natural History Society	
1978	Second Exploratory Backpacking trip to Stein; leader Norman Purssell with Vancouver Natural History Society	
1978	Waterton Lakes National Park, Alberta, at Canyon Church Camp, June 4-10, June 10-17; leader Bill Merilees	\$50 fee 139 attendees
1979	Nanoose Bay, Vancouver Island, May 5-11; leader Bill Merilees	101 attendees
1979	Waterton Lakes National Park, June 3-9, June 10-16; leader Bill Merilees	138 attendees
1980	Nanoose Bay, Vancouver Island, Pentecostal Church, May 4-10; leader Bill Merilees and Nanaimo Field Naturalists	\$70 62 attendees
1981	Oliver, UBC Geology Camp; leader Bert Brink with South Okanagan Naturalists and Oliver-Osoyoos Naturalists	
1982	Oliver, UBC Geology Camp, June 12-20; Bert Brink and others	
1983	Elko near Kikomun Creek Provincial Park, Ministry of Forest Fires Suppression Crew Camp, Sept 3-10; organized by Bert and Ruth Brink, Helen Akrigg and others	\$200 60 attendees
1984	Goose Spit, Comox Bay, HMCS Quadra training school, Apr 28-May 6; organized by Pat Smith and Comox-Strathcona Naturalists	\$200 76 attendees
1985	Shuswap Lake - Magna Bay, Camp Grafton, Sept 7-15; organized by Elsie Nykyfork and North Shuswap Naturalists	\$210 70 attendees
1986	Balfour, Kootenay Lake, Pentecostal Church Camp, Aug 16-23; organized by Margaret Barwis and West Kootenay Naturalists; Creston-Salmo bus tour: Creston Wildlife Centre, Mount Idaho, Kokanee Glacier & Kokanee Creek Provincial Parks, Doukhobour Heritage Museum	\$210 45 attendees

1987	Bamfield Marine Station, Aug 31-Sept 7; organized by Norm Pursell and Sally Carson	\$285 60 attendees
1988	Oliver, UBC Geology Camp, May 28-June 5; organized by John Motz and Oliver Osoyoos Naturalists	\$280 54 attendees
1988	Bamfield Marine Station, Sept 4-11; organized by Bert Brink with registrar Barbara Blow	\$290 55 attendees
1989	Smithers field camp, Driftwood Creek Bible Camp, Aug 6-13; Bulkley Valley Naturalists leaders Rosamund and Jim Pojar; Bert Brink coordinator, Barbara Blow registrar; trips to Telkwa and Babine Mountains, Fossil Beds, Smithers Community Forest Nature Trail, Hankin Basin, Hudson Bay Mountain and Moricetown and K'San Village	\$255 fee 55 attendees
1989	Bamfield Marine Station, Sept 3-10; organizer Helen Akrigg	\$400 50 attendees
1990	Vernon field camp at Camp Hurlburt on Okanagan Lake, May 3-10; sponsored by North Okanagan Naturalists, registrar Elsie Nykyfork	\$295 70 attendees
1990	Bamfield Camp, Sept 2-9; organizer Helen Akrigg	\$435
1991	Victoria, UVic Campus at dormitories, May 12-19; organized by A. Copping and Victoria Natural History Society; birding, botany, marine field trips	\$393 Attendees limited to 70
1991	Bamfield Camp, Sept 1-8: organizer Helen Akrigg	
1991	Redfern Lake, Northern Rockies, Expeditionary Camp, Aug 7-14; leader Norman Pursell; float plane access one hour northwest of Fort St John; outfitter Paul Gillis	18 attendees
1992	Chilcotin Camp at Fletcher Challenge bunkhouses, Gaspard Creek, May 23-30; organized by Williams Lake Field Naturalists and FBCN camp chair Norman Pursell; day trips to Farwell Canyon, Junction Sheep Range, Fraser benchlands, Churn Creek, Gang Ranch and Empire Valley grasslands, Doc English bluffs	60 attendees
1992	Spatsizi Provincial Park Exploratory Camp, three separate week-long camps between July 30 to August 20; camp chair Norman Pursell with camp leaders each week: Mary Rode, Ted Stubbs, Bill Paterson; fly into Cold Fish Lake cabins (BC Parks) from Tatogga Lake	\$250 Total 66 attendees (about 22 each week)
1992	Bamfield Camp, Sept 7-13; organizer Helen Akrigg	\$450
1993	Salmon Arm residential camp at Gardom Lake Bible Camp, June 20-27; host Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society with leader Joyce Henderson; field trips to Salmon Arm Bay, Mara Meadows, Harold Park and Margaret Falls, Larch Hills, Fly Hills, ostrich farm, Kalamalka Lake, Vernon Commanage and Anstey Arm boat trip	\$320 51 attendees

Note: In 1993 Norman Pursell had been Camp Committee Chair for about five years, with Committee including Helen Akrigg, Doreen Shaw, and Barbara Blow. In the newsletter, Norm asks for others interested in leading, or assisting with, the camps to take over.

1993	Height of the Rockies Exploratory Camp, Aug 1-7 and 7-15; camp near Sylvan Pass with campers hiking 17 km to camp via Joffre Creek; baggage horse (mule) packed by Cody Tegart of Radium; camp leaders - the Bussells; Bob Harris maps; coordinator Norm Pursell	\$250 20 campers each week
1994	Nanoose Bay field camp at Nanoose Pentecostal Camp, May 7-13; organized by Terri Martin with Arrowsmith Naturalists and Nanaimo Field Naturalists; boat charter to Mitlenatch Island, day trip to Newcastle Island, bus charters	\$325 52 participants
1994	Salmon Arm Nature Camp at Gardom Lake Bible Camp, June 5-10; host Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society	\$300 Limit 50 attendees
1994	Ilgachuz Mountains Expeditionary Camp, two separate week-long camps between July 31 and August 13; trail head 10 km north of Anahim Lake on the Dean River Road; trail about 8 hours to campsite for hikers, horse packer for gear was Paul Lowrie; coordinator Ted Stubbs with Pat Stubbs and Bob Harris; Bob Harris maps; registrar Barbara Blow	\$250, 20 attendees each week
1995	Atlin Lake Exploratory Camp, northwest BC, two week-long camps between July 23 and August 5; leaders Ted and Pat Stubbs, Bob Harris; day hikes combined with rental of three houseboats (Norseman Adventures) and touring for five days on Atlin Lake	\$275 19 attendees each week
1995	Lac du Bois Field Camp at McQueen Lake Environmental Centre, July 15-22; host Kamloops Naturalists Club with organizers Susan Hammond and Karen Willies; toured Lac du Bois grasslands and Isobel Lake, Dew Drop Range, Valleyview Silt Cliffs, North Thompson river by paddlewheeler	\$300 15 attendees
1995	Bamfield Marine Centre, Sept 10-17; coordinator Helen Akrigg	\$485 33 attendees
1996	Sunshine Coast, Pender Harbour and District Wildlife Society, Spring on the Sunshine Coast, May 9-17	\$375 50 attendees
1996	Lorna Lakes Exploratory Camp, headwaters of Big Creek (now part of Big Creek Provincial Park), two week-long camps between July 28 and August 12; leaders Ted Stubbs (Week 1) and Norman Pursell (Week 2) with registrar Barbara Blow; fly-in and out (a few hiked) to base camp at Lorna Lakes; day trips to Dorrie Peak, Grant Creek and Cluckata Ridge, Elbow Pass, Warner Pass	\$275 to fly in & out \$150 for hikers 18 attendees each week
1997	Nonda Creek Exploratory Camp (eastern edge of Muncho Lake Provincial Park), July 10-16; leader Ted Stubbs and registrar Barbara Blow; drive-in camp near microwave tower at 3100 ft; hiking and day trips to Liard Hotsprings, one night at Summit Lake Provincial Park	\$160 15 attendees
1998	South Okanagan Spring Camp "Bunchgrass and Benchlands", May 2-6; lodging at motel on Skaha Lake, coordinator Laure Neish and South Okanagan Naturalists; day trips to Osoyoos Pocket Desert, Mahoney Lake, McIntyre Bluff, White Lake, Vaseau Lake, Keremeos Grist Mill, Summerland Ornamental Gardens, bus charter	\$375, (\$125 without accommodation) 60 attendees

1998	Jarvis Lakes Exploratory Camp (now Kakwa Provincial Park - northern Rockies), July 12-18; coordinators Ted and Pat Stubbs and registrar Barbara Blow	\$400 fly in & out \$150 for hikers 18 attendees with 3 being hikers
1998	Fall Shuswap Camp at Sorrento Centre, Sept 20-24; host North Okanagan Naturalists	\$375 rooms \$275 tenting
1999	Comox Valley Spring Camp based at Monfort House, UBC Research Farm, two one-week camps between May 6-22; coordinator Betty Lunam; day trips to Mitlenatch Island, Seal Bay, Hornby Island, Oyster River, and Strathcona	\$340 - \$400 25 attendees each week
1999	Pre-Princeton FGM Camp based at A & P Ranch, Sept 20-23; leader Madelon Schouten and Vermilion Forks Naturalists; day trips to Kentucky/Alleyne Lakes, Bluey, Hornet, Lodestone and Nicola Lakes; birding and botany	\$175 - \$250 depending on accommodation 36 attendees
2000	Alaska-Cassiar Highway bus tour with Inside Passage boat return, June 19-July 2000; leader Bill Merilees, assisted by Anne Murray, Cathy Aitchison, Rosemary Taylor and Terry Taylor; joint FBCN- VanNHS tour	36 attendees
2004	Saturna Island Field Camp, May 8-12; leaders Bev Ramey and Anne Murray, assisted by Wally Kiel and Bob Holden; most accommodated at East Point Cottages; day trips to Taylor Beach, Brown Ridge, Saturna Beach, Winter Cove, Boat Pass and boat tour to Tumbo and Cabbage Islands	\$300 shared room \$400 private Fee included dinners and accommodation
2005	Saturna Island Field Camp, April 23-27; leaders Bev Ramey and Anne Murray, assisted by Wendy DaDalt; same itinerary as 2004	\$375 shared room \$475 private
2005	Williams Lake Field Camp, based at Gavin Lake Residential Camp, May 29-June 4; hosted by Fred McMechan and Williams Lake Field Naturalists; day trips to Beaver Valley, Quesnel Forks, Chilcotins Grasslands	Fee \$400 35 attendees
2005	South Chilcotins Provincial Park Exploratory Backpacking, July 19-25; organizers Bill and Bev Ramey; hiked in via Big Paradise Creek	5 attendees
2006	Saturna Island Field Camp, April 29-May 3; leaders Bev Ramey and Anne Murray, assisted by Wendy Dadalt	\$375 shared \$475 private
2006	Okanagan Camp, north of Kelowna, east side of lake at Arbuckle Girl Guide Camp, May 14-19; leaders Pat Westheuser and Central Okanagan Naturalists; day trips to Okanagan Mountain Park, Allan Brooks Nature Centre, Campbell Brown EcoReserve, Kalamoier, Rose Valley, Bear Creek, Beaver Lake Park, and evening presentations	\$450-500 26 attendees
2006	South Chilcotin Provincial Park Exploratory Backpacking, July 9-14; organizers Bill and Bev Ramey; Cinnabar Basin area	4 attendees
2006	Bamfield Marine Station, Sept 8-15; organizer Anne Murray	About \$900
2007	Quadra Island Camp based at Tsa-Kua-Luten Lodge, May 16-20; leaders Rolf and Heather Kellerhals and Mitlenach Naturalists; explored Quadra Island and boat trip to Mitlenatch Island	\$450 - \$550 24 attendees
2007	Manning Park Bird Blitz, June 15-17; BC Nature hosts for first time (25 th Anniversary of Bird Blitz)	\$35

2007	Okanagan Camp, Kelowna at Glenrosa Church Camp, Westbank, May 6-11; leader Pat Westheuser, assisted by Fiona Flook and Central Okanagan Naturalists; day trips to Fintry, White Lake, Okanagan Mountain Park, and evening presentations	\$450 14 attendees
2007	Bamfield Marine Station, Sept 7-12; organizer Anne Murray. Fee includes return boat transportation from Port Alberni to Bamfield, all field activities and meals	\$900
2008	Birding Camp in Eastern Washington based at Soap Lake, Apr 14-19; leaders Anne Murray and Eva Durance; departure from South Okanagan	\$700 20 attendees
2008	Manning Park Bird Blitz; hosted by BC Nature	
2008	Snowy Mountain Provincial Park Exploratory Backpacking and Breeding Bird Atlassing, July 6-12; organizers Bill and Bev Ramey; hiked in via South Slope to base at Joe Lake	10 attendees
2008	Boundary Bay Winter Birding based at South Delta Coast Tsawwassen Inn, Nov 6-9; leader Anne Murray guided to birding hot spots of the delta including Boundary Bay Regional Park and dykes, Reifel Bird Sanctuary, Westham Island, Brunswick Point and Roberts Bank, Blackie Spit, Iona Regional Park, and Point Roberts, WA; evening presentations, workshops and social time	\$450 per person, double occupancy, includes all meals 24 attendees
2009	Manning Park Bird Blitz, June 12-14; now organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$45 43 attendees plus 19 non-paying volunteers/youth
2009	South Chilcotins (Relay Creek and Little Paradise) and Big Creek (Graveyard Valley) Provincial Parks Exploratory Backpacking and Breeding Bird Atlassing, July 4-11; organizers Bill and Bev Ramey	10 attendees
2009	Lillooet Field Camp based at historic Miyazaki House, Sept 13-18; organized by Vivian Birch-Jones and Lillooet Field Naturalists; camp cooks Pat Westheuser and Fiona Flook; day trips alpine hiking, birding, St'at'imc cultural tour and salmon dinner, geology outing, rafting trip down the Fraser to Lytton; evening presentations	\$400, meals included but not accommodation 24 attendees
2010	Salt Spring Island Camp, April 27-May 2; organized by Nieke Visser and Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club; day trips to Mount Ruckle, Mount Erskine, Mount Maxwell, Cusheon Cove, and marine wildlife zodiac boat tour; evening presentations	\$600 Single extra \$180 24 attendees
2010	Williams Lake, Gavin Lake Field Camp, May 30-June 5; organized by Fred McMechan and Williams Lake Field Naturalists; cooks Pat Westheuser and Fiona Flook; day trips to UBC Alex Fraser Research Forest, Beaver Valley, Quesnel Forks, Becher Prairie and Horsefly River valley	\$450 24 attendees
2010	Manning Park Bird Blitz, June 18-20; organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$45
2010	Kakwa Provincial Park Exploratory Backpacking and Breeding Bird Atlassing, July 3-11; Bill and Bev Ramey; hiked into Kakwa Lake and day trips from base camp	10 attendees

2011	Spring Fraser Canyon Field Camp based at Camp Squeah near Yale, April 28-May 1; organizers Janne Perrin, Chilliwack Field Naturalists and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning; day trips including rafting down Fraser and evening presentations	\$550 12 attendees
2011	Skagit Bird Blitz, May 6-8; organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$45 25 attendees
2011	Manning Bird Blitz, June 17-19; organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$45 per birder 44 attendees
2011	Potato Range Exploratory Backpacking and Breeding Bird Atlassing, July 2-9; organizers Bill and Bev Ramey	No fees, self-sufficient 10 attendees
2011	Strathcona Provincial Park based at Strathcona Park Lodge, July 15-19; organized by Comox Valley Naturalists	\$600 24 attendees
2011	South Chilcotins, Fortress Ridge Exploratory Backpacking and Breeding Bird Atlassing, July 16-23; organizers Bill and Bev Ramey; day trips to Tyaughton Creek, Fortress Ridge and Castle Peak	No fees, self-sufficient 10 attendees
2012	Skagit Valley Bird Blitz, May 4-6; organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$50 per birder
2012	Salt Spring Island based at Cusheon Lake Resort, June 4-8; organized by Nieke Visser and Salt Spring Trail and Nature Club	\$650 double occupancy 24 attendees
2012	Manning Bird Blitz, June 15-17; organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$50 per birder 50 attendees
2012	Big Creek and South Chilcotin Mountains, early July week-long Exploratory Backpacking and Breeding Bird Atlassing; organized by Bev and Bill Ramey	No fees, self-sufficient 10 attendees
2012	Niut Range Exploratory Backpacking, mid-July week-long Exploratory Backpacking and Breeding Bird Atlassing; organized by Bev and Bill Ramey	No fees, self-sufficient 10 attendees
2012	Lillooet based at Miyazaki House, Oct 1-6; organized by Vivian Birch-Jones and Lillooet Field Naturalists; volunteer cooks Pat Westheuser and Fiona Flook	\$450 per person, accommodation not included
2013	Tofino based at Tofino's Ecolodge, April 27-May 1; organized by Anne Gosse and Anne Murray; marine exploration and spring shorebird migration; two boat tours included	\$650 24 attendees
2013	Skagit Bird Blitz, May 10-12; jointly hosted by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$50 per birder
2013	Manning Bird Blitz, June 14-16; jointly hosted by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$50 per birder
2014	Tofino, April 27- May 1; organized by Anne Gosse; marine exploration and spring shorebird migration, included two boat tours	\$650 24 attendees
2014	Skagit Bird Blitz, May 9-11; organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$50 per birder
2014	Nicola Valley, May 29-June 1; hosted by Alan Burger and Nicola Valley Naturalists; volunteer cooks Pat Westheuser and Fiona Flook	\$490 and up 24 attendees
2014	Manning Bird Blitz, June 20-22; organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$50 per birder

2014	Wells Gray Camp Alpine Trek hut-to-hut, August 13-17; guided by Frank Ritcey and Kamloops Field Naturalists	\$795 10 attendees
2014	Wells Gray Park Camp, August 14-17; organized by Kamloops Field Naturalists	\$300 excludes accommodation 26 attendees
2015	Tofino, May 3-6; organized by Anne Gosse; marine exploration and spring shorebird migration, included two boat tours	\$700 24 attendees
2015	Skagit Bird Blitz, May 22-24; hosted jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$50 per birder
2015	Manning Bird Blitz, June 19-21; hosted jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$50 per birder
2015	Tatlayoko Lake Valley Camp, West Chilcotins, Sept 6-12; organized by Fred McMechan and Williams Lake Field Naturalists	\$450 26 attendees
2015	South Chilcotins based at ranch near Gold Bridge, Aug 13-15; organized by BC Nature; hiking with option for horseback riding	\$710 20 attendees
2015	Harrison Hotsprings Eagle and Salmon Stronghold Camp based at Harrison Beach Hotel, Nov 26-29; leader Janne Perrin and hosted by BC Nature and Chilliwack Field Naturalists	\$700 21 attendees
2016	Skagit Bird Blitz, May 6-8; organized jointly BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$60 per birder
2016	Mitlenatch Camp based at Heriot Bay Inn, Quadra Island, May 8-11; leaders Janne Perrin, Bill and Bev Ramey; two boat tours including Mitlenatch Island	\$750 36 attendees
2016	Manning Bird Blitz, June 17-19; organized jointly by BC Nature and Hope Mountain Centre for Outdoor Learning	\$60 per birder
2017	Okanagan Experience based at Camp Arbuckle residential camp, north of Kelowna; hosted by Pat Westheuser and Central Okanagan Naturalists; volunteer cooks Pat Westheuser and Fiona Flook	\$630 15 attendees
2017	Mitlenatch Camp based at Heriot Bay Inn, Quadra Island, May 8-11; leaders Bev and Bill Ramey; two boat tours including Mitlenatch Island	\$750 36 attendees
2017	Telegraph Cove Camp; organized by Heather Neville; grizzly bear and orca watching boat trips around Johnstone Strait	\$840 24 attendees
2018	Tofino based at Ecolodge, May 4-8; organized by Pat Westheuser and Fiona Flook; includes two boat trips	\$775, limited to 24 attendees
2018	Cathedral Lakes based at Cathedral Park Lodge, July 5-7; organized by Kees Visser, with leaders Kees Visser, John Henry and Mary Masiel	\$550 - \$700 40 attendees
2018	Tatlayoko Lake Field Camp, West Chilcotins, Sept 9-14; organized by Fred McMechan and Williams Lake Field Naturalists	\$645 25 attendees
2018	Harrison Eagle Camp based at Harrison Beach Hotel, Nov 22-25; leaders Janne Perrin and Helen Turner, Chilliwack Field Naturalists	\$725, capacity 21 attendees
2019	Bulkley Valley Botany Camp, Smithers, July 14-19; leader Harry Crosby	\$850 6 attendees

2019	Tumbler Ridge Geology Camp, July 21-26; leader Harry Crosby	\$350 - 550 24 attendees
2019	Telegraph Cove, Grizzly and Whale Watching Camp, Sept 9-12; leaders John and Heather Neville	\$775 - \$995 46 attendees
2019	Telegraph Cove, Grizzly and Whale Watching Camp, Sept 16 - 19; leaders John and Heather Neville	\$775 - \$995 24 attendees