

NEWSPACKET

Journal of the North Okanagan Naturalists' Club

1951-2026 75th Years for Nature

May 2026



female

Calliope

Hummingbird

photographed
by Charlie Peti



North Okanagan Naturalists' Club (NONC)

**P.O. Box 473
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Website

www.nonc.ca

Email

naturevernon@gmail.com

NONC acknowledges the presence of the traditional, ancestral and unceded lands of the Syilx and Secwépemc peoples who have resided here since time immemorial. We recognize, honour, and respect the Syilx / Secwépemc lands upon which we live, work, and play.

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Frank & Mary Paul



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- Website &
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Annual Membership Dues:

- Couple/Family \$55
- Single \$38

see nonc.ca

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YOU ARE INVITED

75TH ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION

THURSDAY MAY 21st
From 4:30-7pm (Dinner served at 5:30)

SOCIAL TIME

DINNER

PRESENTATION

Coldstream Community Hall
9909 Kalamalka Rd

ADVANCE TICKETS ONLY \$30

FOR TICKETS CONTACT MARNIE AT:
nonc2021@telus.net
call/text 250-549-0005



Club News & Notes

Our latest new members are Leonora Anderson, Alix Gadd, Hyoin Nam and Claire Wilkins. Welcome!

During Earth Day/Week a number of NONC members participated in Scotch Thistle bashes and other invasive weed control events. Thank you to all

who took part. Keep those digging tools handy and dig up thistle rosettes whenever you can.

In the club's weekly e-news we have been seeking donations towards a pergola and a large tree at the Swan Lake Nature Reserve Park. These will provide shade while you rest at the stone benches. Please keep those donations coming! And thanks. 🌿

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The Ways of Our Water

Then, Now, and...stuff we don't know

PART 2 — Okanagan Lake

by Harold Sellers

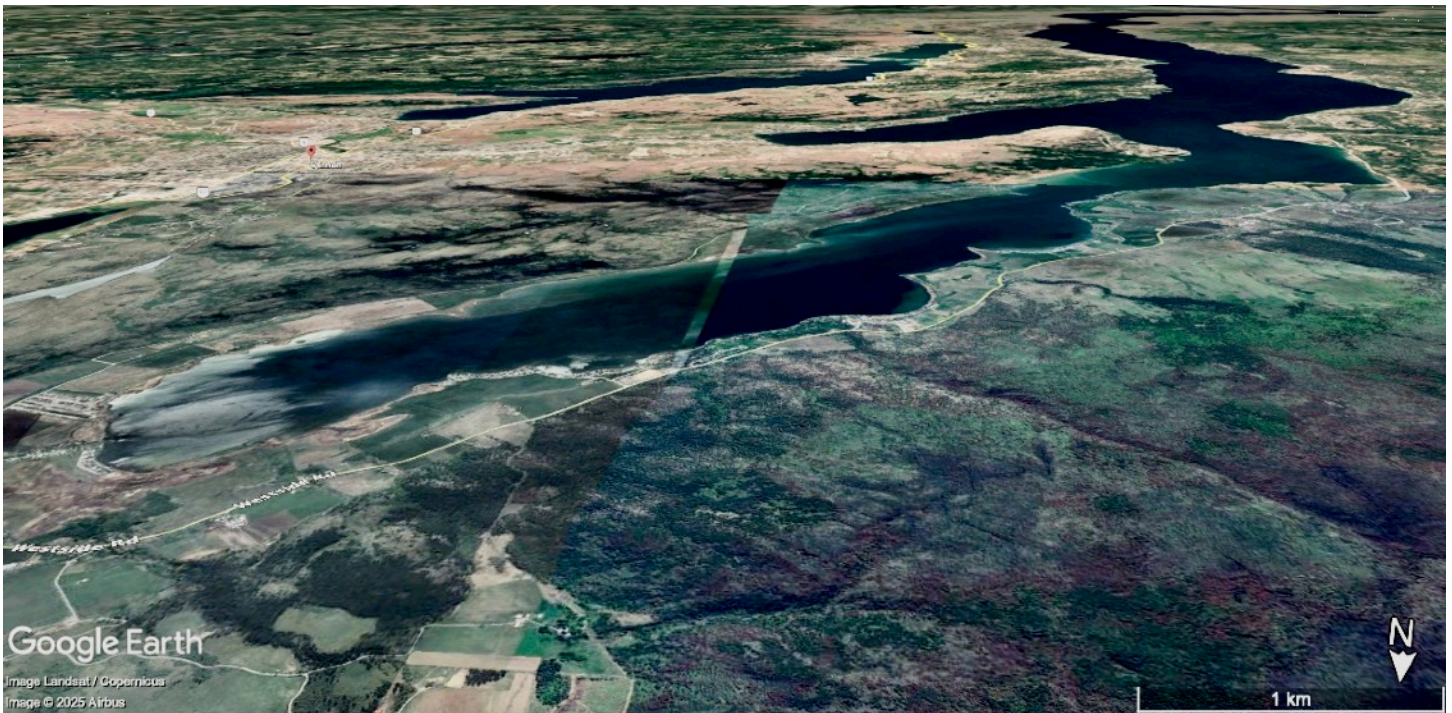
OKANAGAN Lake is approximately 120 kilometres long and averages 3.5 km wide. It is the eighth largest lake entirely within BC. The watershed of the lake is 6,178 square kilometres, about one third the size of Switzerland. Okanagan Lake drains into the Columbia River, which flows to the Pacific.

There is only one other significant island in the lake. Rattlesnake Island is located in the southern part of the lake near Peachland.

The lake exists today because it is a depression carved out by repeated glaciations. In ancient times, at the north end of Okanagan Lake an extensive sandy delta was built by meltwater streams flowing into historical Lake Pentiction from the Salmon River Valley via the valley containing Round Lake.²

Origin of the Name

The presently known Okanagan valley is also known



Its deepest point is 232 metres off of Grant Island, which is just offshore of Kopje Regional Park in Carr's Landing.¹

Grant Island — once known as Whiskey Island — has a fascinating history with NONC. Some day we'll tell that story. For now, we'll simply point out that it is named after James Grant, an early and important figure in the club.

as the Okanagan Indian Nations traditional territory, or as the "Syeelhwh Nation", which means "the people who live here." "S-Ookanhkchinx" or Okanagan translates to mean "transport toward the head or top end." This refers to the people traveling from the head of the Okanagan Lake to where the Okanagan river meet the Columbia river. In other words Okanagan Lake and Okanagan river were the

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Okanagan Lake continued

traditional transportation routes of the people and their traditional boundaries encompassed this area. ³

In Part 1 of this series, we told you that the syilx people call Okanagan Lake *kłúsxńítk*^w, “a place or a body of water that has two long sides” ⁴.

At least forty-seven different spellings of the name have been found, beginning with Lewis and Clark's "Otchenaukane" in 1805 and David Thompson's "Ookanawan" in 1811. It was identified as "Big Okanakan Lake" on 1827 Sketch of Thompson's River District, by Archibald McDonald, HBC and labelled "Great Okinagan Lake" on A. C. Anderson's 1867 map. Sometimes there seem to be just about as many theories as to the derivation of the name. ⁵

Aquatic Species

For recreational fishing, Okanagan Lake is primarily known for Rainbow Trout and Kokanee salmon (landlocked sockeye). Other species found in the lake include Burbot, Lake Whitefish, and Northern Pikeminnow. Several other native and introduced species, such as Carp, also exist.

The 1939 report “The Fishes of Okanagan Lake and Nearby Waters”, by W.A. Clemens, identifies fourteen species of fish in the lake. One, the Eastern whitefish, was introduced.

In this same report Clemens states: “Three species of Pacific salmon, namely, the sockeye, the spring, and the coho, are said to have entered the lake in the early days.”

Interestingly, efforts led by the Okanagan Nation Alliance, have been underway for the past three years and this year could see a noteworthy return to

Vernon Creek resulting from the first release of Sockeye fry there in May 2023.

You might also be aware that there is a commercial shrimp harvest in Okanagan Lake. Freshwater shrimp, *Mysis diluviana*, were introduced in the 1960s to feed fish but instead competed with kokanee. The harvest operates between May and October, producing aquarium fish food and pet products. In this period you may see a shrimp boat anchored off Canoe Beach.

Finally we'll mention mussels, because of a recent project to build a water pumping station at Canoe Beach. Rocky Mountain Ridged Mussels are native to the Okanagan Basin and are listed as endangered by COSEWIC and red-listed in British Columbia. They have been found, in small numbers, in this area of the Vernon Arm of the lake. During the pumping station project, locations of the mussels have been identified aiding research into the species.

Our Part of Okanagan Lake

Since our focus is upon the North Okanagan, let's look at the Vernon Arm and the North Arm, also known as Head of the Lake.

The two major tributaries to the north end of the lake are Vernon Creek and Deep Creek. Vernon Creek empties into the Vernon Arm at Canoe Beach, on Lakeshore Road. Deep Creek enters Okanagan Lake in the Head of the Lake area, with the OKIB reserve.

In the past — and perhaps even now, if there is lots of rain and/or snowmelt — the numerous small lakes and ponds in the Bella Vista Highlands (think where The Rise golf course is), drained into the lake. We can still see many gullies and ravines on the hillsides, which connect the upper and lower bodies of water.

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Okanagan Lake continued

Where Naturalists Go

Naturalists' interest for this northern part of Okanagan Lake include the following locations.

The mouth of Vernon Creek is a favourite for observing many species of gulls, as well as other bird species including waterfowl, sandpipers, kingfishers, and Killdeer.

Paddlewheel Park and Ellison Provincial Park, on the east side of the lake, and Fintry Provincial Park, on the west side, are other good birding sites, as well as having good numbers of wildflowers.⁶

Western Grebes nest in the North Arm area. Margaret MacKenzie has written several reports on surveys for Newspacket.

at right:
Deep Creek enters the North Arm of Okanagan Lake



In the Adventure Bay area, the trail at 9030 Tronson Road often has good birding as it descends to the lake. It's also a top location for Spring-time wildflowers.

Grant Island, mentioned earlier, is home to a small breeding colony of Ring-billed Gulls.

If you kayak or canoe, there are many other good sites along the shoreline.

Next Time: Part 3, Kalamalka Lake.

If you have a story to share about our waterways, please share it with us.

Footnotes:

- ¹ Okanagan Geology British Columbia, by Murray A. Roed and John D. Greenough. Okanagan Geology Committee, 2014
- ² Vernon: A Geological Guide, by Jamie Kidston. Self-published, 1993

- ³ Okanagan Indian Band website, Language and Culture Revitalization, www.okib.ca
- ⁴ <https://indiginews.com/okanagan/the-original-and-accurate-name-for-okanagan-lake/>
- ⁵ BC Geographical Names, Government of British Columbia
- ⁶ The Okanagan Birding Trail, by the naturalists clubs of Oliver-Osoyoos, South Okanagan, Central Okanagan, and North Okanagan 🌿

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Naturalists need to watch where they step

Unexploded Explosive Ordnance (UXO) in the North Okanagan
by Harold Sellers

IF you have lived in the Vernon area for even a few years, you are probably familiar with occasional media reports of unexploded ordnance being found. You might have even seen the signs (see illustration) on many fences, cautioning against entry onto a property.

Here's some historical context, and then we'll speak a bit about what this means to naturalists.

In 1911, the City of Vernon asked the Department of National Defence (DND) to establish a military camp in the Vernon area. Through the decades training with live rounds, involving artillery, mortars, tanks, and small arms is known to have taken place in some areas post WWII right up to the mid 70's.

Unexploded Explosive Ordnance (UXO) is the term for military explosives that were used but failed to function properly. The most common UXO encounters in Vernon involve live and expended 2- or 3-inch mortars (high explosive, illumination and smoke).

The areas in which you are most likely to encounter UXO are Cosens Bay/Coldstream Ranch, The Commonage, Goose Lake Range and Madeline Lake (formerly known as the Glenemma Range). Since the 1960s several clearance operations have revealed numerous UXO items at many of these sites. (Credit: Vernon Museum & Archives)

It's been more than six decades since two Vernon Boy Scouts were killed by an unexploded mortar bomb during a work party in the Commonage, but their memory still serves as a safety reminder when discussing development. (Credit: Castanet)

“On 16 March 1963, two boys were killed, and a third boy injured when a two-inch mortar bomb that they discovered near Rose’s Pond exploded,” said Kened Sadiku, DND media relations, in an email. “The boys were part of a work party with the 5th Vernon Boy Scout troop who were clearing land on which to construct a cabin. The Scout Master was not aware that the property was formerly a Second World War firing range.”

Sadiku said during a coroners inquest into the deaths, the commanding officer at Camp Vernon said, “there

was nothing on army files to say exactly what types of ammunition had been used in this district, although fragments indicated the use of infantry weapons.” (Credit: Department of National Defence)



above: one of the local warning signs (courtesy the Vernon MorningStar)

For Naturalists

Some of our favourite areas to hike and observe

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UXO continued:

nature are in these at-risk areas. For a place such as Kalamalka Lake Provincial Park, we know that there is always a risk of coming across a UXO, especially off trail. Several times over the years, sweeps have been done in Kal Park, particularly as new trails have opened. Every time, newer, more sensitive equipment has been used, but UXOs continue to be found from time to time.

“Unexploded ordnance found at site of wildfire south of Vernon” was an August 21, 2025 news headline. Starting beside Highway 97, south of Vernon, the wildfire spread across a large swath of grassland in the Vernon Commonage.

right: remains of a mortar round (courtesy of KelownaNow)

Large areas of the Commonage were used for military exercises. As a result trails and fields we have often walked could also hold UXOs. We have some bluebird trails in the area even now and, especially in years long past, landowners did not object to nature observers walking on they property to enjoy wildflowers, butterflies and birds.



The story below explains how all of this can change.

The Commonage Lands, once part of the Canadian Armed Forces Camp Vernon, was established in 1911. At that time, over 10,000 ha of land was set

aside as a military training area which performed both practice and live fire ammunition exercises. As this land became privately owned, several cases involving public citizens and Unexploded Explosive Ordnance (UXO) have occurred. As a result, the Commonage Lands became known as a UXO Legacy Site, as defined by the Legacy Sites Program, Department of National Defence (DND). Military ammunitions that have been identified by the DND as potential ordnance that could be present in and around the municipality of Vernon include: Grenades, Mortars, Anti-tank projectile rounds; and Projector Infantry Anti Tank (PIAT) rounds. The Commonage project was the first UXO clearance of it's kind on private land. The land owner of the 544 ha parcel entered into a land settlement agreement with the DND to have MRS perform a geophysical survey and full UXO clearance of the property. The effort took 6.5 years to complete. At its conclusion, over 10,000 individual pieces of expended munitions scrap were recovered from the site. Thirty (30) live UXO were discovered and rendered inert through controlled demolition via shaped charge explosives in safe environments. The entire clean up amounted to over 2 tones of munitions scrap being removed from the property. (Munition Response Services <https://www.mrsmanagement.ca/projects/project-one-f7828>)

The land referenced in the above story is now owned by Kerkhoff Develop-Build, who are seeking permission from the City of Vernon to build the 580 Commonage development. They own land on both the east and west sides of Commonage Road, but the proposal to build almost 4,000 housing units is only to the west of the road.

Also in the Commonage is Rose's Pond. Within the next few years we anticipate a nature reserve, with *continued on page 9*

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UXO continued

some walking trails, to be built here. The Regional District of North Okanagan is talking about a necessary UXO sweep.

For our final example, the Goose Lake Range Park was opened to the public in late 2025. The well-built and beautiful trail network there is immensely popular. UXO clearance was a major requirement before the public could be invited in. The trails should be safe, but users should be aware that going off trail still poses risks. The cost of sweeping the entire property would have been huge and there's never a guarantee.

Be Aware

So as we use any of these publicly accessible areas, and especially if you venture elsewhere, be aware of where UXOs might be.

Be safe, look at where your feet are, as well as enjoying the bird, butterfly or flower.

As the Vernon Museum & Archives article, quoted above, concludes: If you see something that could be UXO, do not touch it! If UXO is disturbed, it could explode and cause serious injury or death. Leave the area and call 911. 🌿

Vernon's Swan Lake Stocked with Rainbow Trout

from an April 11 Facebook post

Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC
<https://www.gofishbc.com>

Okanagan stocking continues with Swan Lake near Vernon being stocked with 1500 spring catchable-size trout this week.

Stocking has also started in the Kootenays this week, with Campbell, Stoney and Wapiti lakes receiving catchable-size rainbows.

Stocking of yearlings (which will be ready to catch in about one year's time) has also started in many regions this week.

Image: Craig Adamson

From the GoFishBC website:

For the 11 years of 2016 thru 2025 once or twice each year Rainbow Trout have been added to the lake. Add this 2026 release and the 12 year total is 262,100 fish! (Harold Sellers, editor)

photo: trout release (Facebook post)



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sncæmałqtn (BX Ranchlands) Agricultural Park

by Roseanne Van Ee

HAVE you ever visited an agricultural park? Well now you can, right here in Vernon. The sncæmałqtn (Okanagan/Sylix word for “place of small crops or gardens”) Agricultural Park is an inspiring unique living example of how history, ecology, farming, environmental restoration and community effort can all come together. The focus is on regenerative farming and gardening — restoring the micro organisms and health of the soil while providing healthy habitats for birds, bees, bats and people.

Alongside native and pollinator plantings, the park is home to organic community food gardens, riparian and creek restoration, land rehabilitation and wildlife enhancement projects, food forests, composting zones, and educational spaces where people can visit, learn, share, and reconnect with the land. There’s even work happening to preserve the historic BX barn and weave the area’s ranching and agricultural heritage into this new chapter of stewardship. A fabulous 4km level BX Ranch Trail with expansive views surrounds the park and passes through the Agricultural Park’s highlights. There’s interesting interpretive signs describing the park and its history.

It starts from the parking lot at 4122 East Vernon Rd. Come walk the trail and visit the park. It’s free and open year round. The BX Ranch Tr is also accessed from behind the Mutrie Dog Park, or across BX Rd along an uphill trail from the BX Dog Park. Walkers with dogs on leash are welcome on the trail, but no dogs are allowed in the agricultural park though. Please!

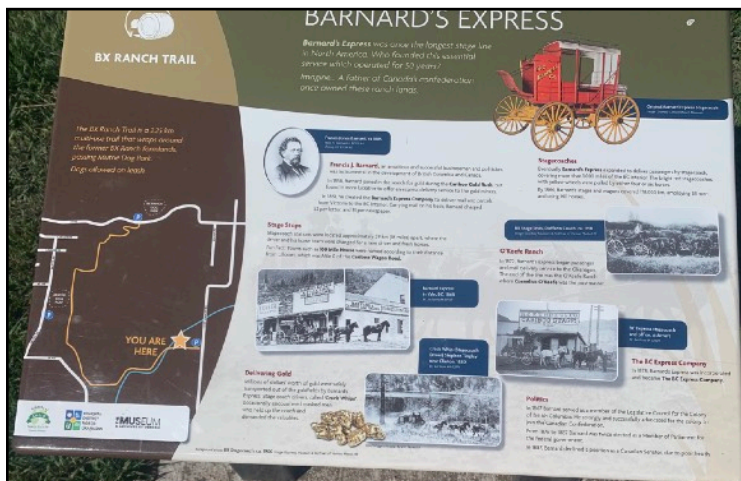
Take your binoculars and watch Great Blue Herons catch mice. Birds of prey like Kestrel falcons, Red-tails and other hawks, and owls help control rodent populations. Killdeers nest near the creek. Listen and



you’ll hear lots of other birds, especially now in the spring. Right now you’ll see people busy gardening, visiting and working on the many park projects. Then, as the summer progresses, plants grow ’til by autumn the whole park is alive and filled with flowers, vegetables, berries, nuts and busy gardeners. Go visit this inspiring progressive project that’s creating a better, clean and healthy future for our whole community. Enjoy this sensational showcase of land rehabilitation and stewardship in a park. 🌱

Photographs by Roseanne Van Ee
above: A resting / conversion area in the park with the old barn in the background

left: One of the interesting trailside interpretive signs



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New boardwalk and viewing platform at Salmon Arm

via Facebook

THE last bolt went into the Eric Christmas Memorial Boardwalk and Wildlife viewing platform on Thursday, April 9th around 4:30. Thanks to Quinton Lindgren and a few of the SABNES' Board Members and their spouses, the Memorial Benches were placed and bolted in place.

The lake levels are starting to rise so there was mud and a few inches of water underneath the platform. So one lucky 'volunteer', Gerry, drew the short straw and bolted the benches from under the deck. The rest carried benches, and helped place



The donors of the benches have waited patiently for this to happen for a number of years! The benches look beautiful and will be there for others to enjoy for years. As the reeds green up and the water rises the view will only get better.



We have received many kind words of appreciation but the biggest joy is watching those enjoying it. It is totally accessible for wheelchairs and strollers so please come take a look and sit awhile.

Another bonus, the Western Grebes are back! You will likely hear them as you wander along the foreshore trail in Salmon Arm. Do enjoy!! 🌿

them while Quinton drilled holes for the bolts. Two of the benches have small tables in front of them.

NONC congratulates the Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society (SABNES)

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New Trail

by Harold Sellers

THE Regional District of the North Okanagan has completed work on a new trail giving access to the Grey Canal Trail.

A parking lot was built on the old SPCA property off Old Kamloops Road. The parking and trail are accessed by taking Haney Road west off Old Kamloops Road.



From the parking lot the new gravel trail ascends up the hill to connect with the Grey Canal Trail section that runs between Turtle Mountain and the Blue Jay sub-division. The climb

has a couple of switchbacks and is fairly steep, rising 48 meters over its 386 m length.

As the Kin Race Track Park is built in the coming years, pathways there will reach a (future) crossing of Old Kamloops to Haney Road. The City is currently considering a draft concept plan for that park. 🌿

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Watching for our disappearing wildlife, Part 4: Gastropods, Mollusca, & Fish

by Ben van Drimmelen, Director, BC Nature
January 15, 2026

TWICE per year, the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) meets to discuss and evaluate the status of Canadian wildlife species.

I reviewed the wildlife species assessments results for just those species in BC that have been made extinct, eliminated from the province or endangered.

I've started such a matrix; below is how it might look. I've included probably-extirpated species because member clubs would get VERY EXCITED if one of their members found a remnant population.

The list would continue with endangered species as well.

To determine the member clubs with potential occurrences, I've cast the "net" a bit wide, including buffer clubs that are likely to be near, rather than within, the expected range of each species.

A suggestion is that their members look up how to recognize each species that is listed for their area and then keep a special eye open whenever they are doing field trips. If they see what they suspect is an endangered or an "extirpated" creature, take a photo and report the observation by email to the Conservation Data Centre at the CDC team.

Editor's Note: Ben's list is quite extensive, so I have made it into a multi-part series. In this issue we look at gastropods, mollusca, and fish. 🌿

<i>Species (Extirpated or Endangered only)</i>	<i>BCN member clubs with potential occurrences</i>	<i>Habitat</i>
Northern abalone	Alberni	Rocky intertidal and subtidal habitats along the open coast, from fairly sheltered bays to exposed coastlines on hard substrate of bedrock and/or boulders, with secondary substrate of sediment, sand, mud or shell. Occur at depths of less than 10m with good water exchange.
Oregon forestsnail	Victoria, Cowichan, Vancouver, Abbotsford-Mission, Burke Mountain, Delta, Langley, Chilliwack, White Rock and Surrey	Mixed wood and deciduous forests, typically dominated by bigleaf maple, with coarse woody debris, copious amounts of leaf litter, and both living and decaying vegetation.
Shortface lanx (<i>snail</i>)	West Kootenay	In unpolluted, swift-flowing, highly oxygenated cold water on stable, boulder-gravel substrates, often near rapids in small to large rivers. Prefer attaching themselves to hard surfaces in high velocities to avoid competition with other snail species.
Rocky mountain ridged mussel	Central Okanagan, North Okanagan, South Okanagan, Oliver/Osoyoos	In creeks and rivers in shallow water (typically < 3 m deep), in well-oxygenated substrates varying from gravel to firm mud; rarely found in lakes or reservoirs.

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Disappearing Wildlife continued

Hotwater physa (<i>snail</i>)	Timberline (?)	In warm water springs and pools, with average temperatures of 23-36 C.
Puget Oregonian (<i>snail</i>)	Cowichan, Victoria	A mature forest specialist - moist old-growth and late successional stage forests and riparian areas below 200 m. Requires bigleaf maple.
Hadley Lake stickleback	Malaspina	
Nooksack dace	Vancouver, Abbotsford-Mission, Burke Mountain, Delta, Langley, Chilliwack	Riffles in small lowland creeks, typically with a loose coarse-gravel substrate and a flow of around 0.25 m/sec.
Speckled dace	West Kootenay	Occurs in many kinds of habitats: riffles, runs and pools of cool flowing headwaters, creeks, and small to medium rivers with mostly rocky substrates, large and small lakes (rarely) and warm, permanent and intermittent streams. Usually found in shallow water (averaging about 0.5 m deep or less); in streams, often congregates below riffles and eddies.
Eulachon	Kitimat, Vancouver, Abbotsford-Mission, Burke Mountain, Delta, Langley	Adults live in ocean, so only detectable (mainly at night) when spawning during spring freshets in coastal freshwater streams. Prefer bar and riffle habitat with sand or pea-gravel, but will use silt, sand, gravel and cobble. Poor swimmers, so use flood tide to go upstream (restricting spawning to lower river sections).
Western brook lamprey (Morrison Creek only - special because there are both parasitic and non-parasitic individuals)	Arrowsmith, Comox	Post spawning, dying adults can be detected into July and August. Spawning nests are typically in sand and gravel substrate (< 2 cm diameter) near the upstream end of riffles and the downstream portion of pools. Spawned-out lamprey and nests have been found in low water flow and hard substrate covered with small pebbles.
Basking shark	Victoria, Kitimat, Bowen, Delta, Malaspina, Pender Harbour, Sunshine Coast	Found offshore and often close to land, just off the surf zone, entering enclosed bays. Swims slowly at the surface, usually in groups of 3 or 4.
White sturgeon	West Kootenay, Williams Lake, Prince George	In large rivers and large lakes - upper Kootenay River, Kootenay Lake. Groups will bask near the surface of Williams Lake, Stuart Lake in the spring.

Part 5 will be in the next issue.

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Birdathon50



@wildmadegoods

Celebrating
50 Years of
Birding for
Conservation

The Hooters in the Birdathon

This May, we're going birding for Birdathon50!

NONC has it's own Birdathon team: The Hooters. For several years now a few NONC members head out on a single day in May to spot as many birds as possible to raise funds for bird conservation with Birds Canada. This year is a special one: **we're celebrating Birdathon's 50th anniversary!**

Our team members are excited and proud to be part of the tradition, Canada's longest-running fundraiser for birds. Cheer the birds and us on by donating! Select one of our team members and make a donation to their page. Every gift, big or small, directly funds bird conservation projects across Canada through initiatives like the Birds Canada Community Grant, the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network, and more.

To donate to The Hooters efforts, go to <https://www.canadahelps.org/s/jKcJA6>

Thank you! Team leaders Margaret MacKenzie and Harold Sellers. 🌱

Photo: mother Osprey on the Swan Lake Nature Reserve nest, by Harold Sellers



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NONC CALENDAR

MONTHLY MEETINGS

NONC monthly meetings are held in the Emerald Room at The Schubert Centre for Seniors, 30th Ave., in downtown Vernon. No entry fee. Members and non-members welcome. Coffee and cookies served!

Resuming in September

75th ANNIVERSARY EVENT

Thurs., May 21 at the Coldstream Hall. see page 3

SATURDAY NATURE WALKS

Join us Saturdays at 9:00 am. Visitors welcome. Dress for the weather. Hiking poles are very helpful on hilly and rough trails. We do a lot of birdwatching, so bring binoculars if you have them. No dogs please.

DR 1 & 2 are generally suitable for almost anyone, of any age. However, if you have issues of mobility and/or stamina, you should speak to the leader before attempting.

DR 1 Easy — Suitable for most people. Mostly paved or good-surface path, fairly level with some gentle climbs.

DR 2 Moderate — Suitable for most walkers and hikers with no mobility or endurance issues. May have longer distance with steeper hills and switchbacks, some uneven and rough path.

May 2 – 9am DR 1

Join the North Okanagan Naturalists' Club for a walk on the Longacre Trail, Okanagan Landing. Meet at the small parking lot at east end of trail on Apollo Rd near Longacre Dr. Take Apollo Rd south off Okanagan Landing Rd. Contact Heidi at heidi@bcgrasslands.org

May 9 - 9am DR 2

Join the North Okanagan Naturalists' Club for a walk on the Kal Crystal Waters Trail, from Bailey Road to

Crystal Waters Road. 7 km, 3-hour hike, there and back. Meet in the trail parking lot at Bailey Road. Take Hwy 97 south from Vernon and instead of a right turn on Bailey Road towards Predator Ridge, turn left and the parking lot is then on your left. Be careful crossing the highway!

Contact Norbert at nmaer10s@gmail.com

May 16 – 9am DR 3

Join the North Okanagan Naturalists' Club for a walk on the- BX Creek and Falls Trail. Meet at the parking area on Star Road. This walk is three hours and sections of the trail are steep, rough and slippery. Contact Marnie/Paul at mpw660@telus.net

May 23 – 9am DR 2

Join the North Okanagan Naturalists' Club for a walk on McLennan Rd to Glenhayes Rd. Scenic walking trail, some rocky uneven ground with some gullies. Swan Lake views and historical interest, approx. 4km. Take McLennan Rd off L&A Rd and meet at trail parking on north side of McLennan Road at Grey Canal Rd. Contact Jean at Jean.amatt@gmail.com

May 30 - 9am DR 2

Join the North Okanagan Naturalists' Club for a nature walk from Blue Jay to Turtle Mountain. Meet at the parking lot at the end of Blue Jay Road (Old Kamloops Road to Goose Lake Road then left on Blue Jay Rd). Contact Harold at hikerharold@gmail.com

June 6 - 9am DR 1

Join the North Okanagan Naturalists' Club for a walk at the Coldstream Cemetery. Bird watching at the cemetery and along the creek, perhaps adding on a walk to Friesen's Country Tyme Garden for coffee, and return. Take Howe drive south from Kalamalka Road to cemetery.

Contact Michelle at michelle@ufocanada.ca