

21ST ANNUAL

Wings over the Rockies

MAY 8th to 14th • 2017

Birds Bats Bears & Beyond

Photo by: Brad Hill - www.naturalart.ca



KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Danny Catt

Danny Catt is a biologist, world traveler and internationally published photographer with over twenty-five years of experience in environmental education.

**A Week Full of Exciting Events
Celebrating Wildlife and Nature**

Registration Opens April 10th • 2017

www.WingsOverTheRockies.org • Local: 250-342-2473

Toll Free: 1-855-342-2473 • Pynelogs Cultural Centre • Invermere • BC



CANADA 150

Birds Bats Bears & Beyond

Message from Wings Fest Chairperson

Welcome to the 21st annual Wings Over the Rockies Festival, one of Canada's largest wildlife festivals. The theme for this year's festival is Birds, Bats, Bears & Beyond to recognise Canada's interconnected but increasingly challenged wildlife - migratory birds; mysterious bats, grizzly bears, symbols of wilderness, and wild bees that pollinate our foods.

We are honoured that conservationist, photographer and environmental educator Danny Catt will be the Keynote Speaker at the Gala Banquet. Danny has explored and photographed the people, landscapes and wildlife of close to 100 countries. Now head of British Columbia Institute of Technology's Fish, Wildlife and Recreational Land Management program he inspires future generations of wildlife conservationists.

Wings Over the Rockies continues to attract expert Presenters. This year, famous author and rancher Charlie Russell talks of his life with bears. Researcher Michael Proctor showcases grizzly bears within BC and around the world. Renowned wildlife photographer Brad Hill unveils animals in the wild. Bob Sandford's Beyond Birds, Bats & Bears examines the impact of

climate change on mountain biodiversity. Peter Marbach explores the 2000 km long Columbia River and its peoples.

In all, more than 100 field trips, presentations, workshops and paddles are scheduled throughout the valley: discover indigenous culture, listen to bats, plant for pollinators and more. We're featuring a Children's Festival at Invermere's Pothole Park with a Teddy bear picnic, clown and nature activities. Many of our favourite event leaders are returning to showcase birds and wetlands including Randy Hopkins, Cam Gillies, BC Rockies Adventure Guides and more.

The festival's home base is Invermere's historic Pynelogs Cultural Centre by Kinsmen Beach. Here you will find registration assistance, evening presentations, an art show and a display of live and silent auction items. The details of each of our events is provided in this flyer. Registration starts Monday, April 10th at 9:00 AM sharp. Many events sell out quickly so register early.

Ross MacDonald
CHAIR

Canadian Geographic nominates the Gray jay / Whiskey jack as Canada's National Bird

Canada has many national symbols; the beaver is our official animal, the maple our official tree. Yet with over 450 species of birds Canada has had no national bird. In time for Canada's 150th birthday the Royal Canadian Geographic Society has stepped into the gap to find an official bird. In 2015 and 2016 the society conducted a nation-wide survey to identify a national bird. Over 50,000 people voted for their favourite candidate birds. Five finalists were identified by popular vote — the common loon, Canada goose, black-capped chickadee, gray jay, and the snowy owl. A panel of experts met to argue the merits of the finalists. In a controversial decision, the experts chose the gray jay over the more popular loon and goose as Canada's national bird.

The gray jay (*Perisoreus canadensis* in Latin, *Mésangeai du Canada* in French) is the Canadian Geographic official choice for national bird because it lives in all 13 provinces and territories. It is the friendly spirit in Canada's wild northern boreal and mountain forests. It remains in Canada year-round, is neither hunted nor endangered, and from the Atlantic provinces to the West is an indicator of the health of the boreal and mountain forests and climate change, inspiring a conservation philosophy for all kinds of northern land uses. It is a distinctive bird that is not easily mistaken for other species. The gray jay is also one of the smartest birds on the planet. The gray jay has long been important to Indigenous Peoples, and will draw all Canadians to their

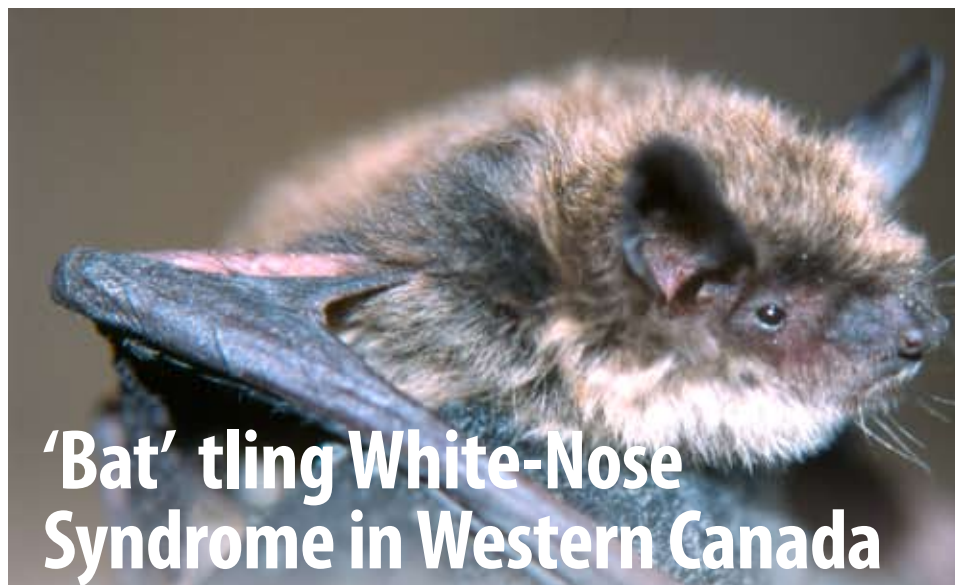


national and provincial/territorial parks, yet unlike the loon and snowy owl, it is not already a provincial or territorial bird.

"The gray jay, or Canada jay or whiskey jack, is all ours. For me, all of my experiences with gray jays are experiences I have had in the wilderness. Those, for me, of course, are experiences of joy." (by Nature artist and Wings patron, Robert Bateman).

The gray jay lives year round in the upper Columbia Valley and adjacent mountains. Learn more at:

<http://nationalbird.canadiangeographic.ca/>



'Bat' tling White-Nose Syndrome in Western Canada

Dr. Cori Lausen, Wildlife Conservation Society Canada, www.wcscanada.org

White-nose syndrome (WNS) is a deadly fungal disease first discovered in a cave in New York State in 2006. The origin of this fungus is Eurasian, and its exact route into North America is still unknown. It has since spread from bat to bat throughout eastern US and Canada and has already killed over seven million bats.

The fungus kills bats while they hibernate during winter. It depletes fat reserves by causing frequent arousals of bats during hibernation, and if mortality does not result from starvation, other complications including physiological imbalances and physical damage to wings most often lead to death. There are bats surviving WNS, and not all species are being impacted equally. WNS is now on our doorstep, having been found near Seattle, Washington in March 2016.

Bats are an integral part of the ecosystem, as primary consumers of night-time insects, including forest and agricultural pests. From fish to trees, the long-term impact of a massive bat decline in western Canada is currently unpredictable but likely to have economic and ecological impacts.

Despite limited available funding, biologists in BC are urgently trying to establish baseline information about our bats. We also hope to make substantial gains in understanding aspects of bat biology, such as where bats overwinter (e.g., BatCaver.org). Identifying and securing important habitats and reducing threats are currently our best strategy for giving survivors of WNS a chance to reproduce and repopulate. Given enough time, we may also be able to mitigate the disease itself. To learn more about WNS, visit whitenosesyndrome.org.

How can you help? Visit bcbats.ca and albertabats.ca to learn more and become a bat ambassador. Help prevent another giant leap of the fungus causing WNS:

1. Are you a caver? Decontaminate caving gear and ideally avoid caves/mines with bats.
2. Camping in an RV? Roll up awnings and umbrellas at night so a roosting bat doesn't inadvertently get rolled up inside and translocated.
3. Are you a truck driver? Shut cargo bin doors at night so bats don't hitch a ride across the country.

In western Canada, many species of bats do not naturally migrate over the Rocky Mountains, explaining why BC and Alberta have different species assemblages. The longer this natural barrier keeps Alberta WNS-free, the more time there is for scientific and ecological mitigation advancements.



Luxor Linkage Conservation Area

This spring the Nature Conservancy of Canada (NCC) celebrated the successful completion of a new conservation project along the Columbia River, north of Edgewater. Luxor Linkage Conservation Area stretches from the Columbia River wetlands, across Highway 95 and into the Rocky Mountains. This area is a high-value corridor for wildlife and ecological communities.

Named after one of the creeks that flows through the property and into the Columbia River wetlands, Luxor Linkage is home to an abundance of wildlife that relies on its grasslands, pockets of deciduous forest, wetlands and rocky outcrops. The conservation area is particularly important for bighorn sheep, which find high-quality winter habitat here. Moose, elk and deer also benefit from the open forest and grassland landscape.

"Luxor Linkage is an incredibly important space for allowing wildlife to move safely across and through the valley," said Chad Townsend, NCC's Canadian Rockies Program Director. "We are also pleased to be able to provide opportunities for residents to walk and enjoy the natural wonders of this region."

The wetlands on Luxor Linkage form part of the internationally significant Columbia River Wetlands. In addition to being key stopover area for waterfowl and other birds, these wetlands are critical for maintaining regional populations of several species of amphibians and reptiles, including the northern leopard frog (re-introduced population), painted turtle and rubber boa.

This project forms part of NCC's efforts to secure critical conservation corridors that connect through mountains and valleys in the Canadian Rockies region in British Columbia and Alberta. Independent research biologist Michael Proctor has identified these lands as one of the most important zones between Fairmont and Golden for grizzly bears moving across the valley.

The Cost of Ignorance

Lunch Presenter: Alien Invasion: The Impact of Invasive Species on Wildlife

I have a bad habit of ignoring things and hoping it will go away. Most of the time they don't go away and they often become worse when I ignore them. Ignorance is not bliss. For me, bliss is the feeling I get when I have fulfilled my moral obligations, achieved my goals, and realized my potential. Bliss is finding the ability to recognize and understand new perspectives and adapt to a changing environment. When I acknowledge my ignorance, I then have the ability to use it as a source of strength, to attain authentic bliss.

In my recent work with the East Kootenay Invasive Species Council (EKISC), this couldn't be more true. I will be the first to admit my ignorance of the impact of invasive species on our planet. Before

I started to work with EKISC, I knew very little about invasive species. Of course, with my background as a Park Ranger, I had done some ecological monitoring and had experience with specific pesky species, but I was barely scratching the surface of a global epidemic. I was unaware of the level of destruction that invasive species hold. In the grand scheme of things, environmentally, economically, and socially speaking, invasive plants seem relatively insignificant. After all, I thought all plants were good for the environment. I was blissfully wrong.

For many people, it takes a personal experience to fully comprehend the impact of an issue. But in the case of invasive species, I



encourage you to avoid the experience but don't ignore the issue. We understand that the scale of this problem is alarming, but what is more terrifying is ignoring it altogether. Inform yourself of what has been deemed the second greatest threat to biodiversity in the world (<http://www.issg.org/>). We are here to help, together we can understand this issue on a larger scale and begin to change the way we think about invasive species. Together we can find bliss.

To find out more about invasive species in the East Kootenays, please visit our website at

www.ekisc.com

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

MONDAY MAY 8th

K2 Ranch Birding Excursion with Brian Wesley

Join Brian Wesley on a birding foray on the north end of the K2 ranch property. The 7 km hike will follow old logging roads through cutblocks, forests, meadows and along several ponds. There would be a mix of both forest and aquatic birds to spot. Those bringing lunch will spend additional time exploring the end point area including an additional pond.

Level: Intermediate
Mon May 8th from 7:30 am to 11:30 am or 2:00 pm (if bringing a lunch).
MAX # 16

LOCATION: North end of K2 Ranch
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, bug spray, sun screen, good hiking/walking boots, binoculars, lunch, snacks and water

Wacky Waterbirds! with Cam Gillies and Michael den Otter

Ducks, mergansers, geese, grebes, and more! We'll survey the best watery haunts of the valley to find the usual suspects, including many high quality birds, but with a keen eye to see if we can find something wacky. Whatever we find, it will be fun! This year we'll try some areas to the north.

Level: Easy
Mon May 8th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Radium/Brisco area
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Dress for the weather, snack & water

Birding for Dummies with Cathy Parkes

Can't tell an Owl from an Albatross? Do you feel intimidated by experienced birders? We will get familiarized with the tools of the trade and learn to identify the birds you see.

Level: Easy
Mon May 8th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am
MAX # 15

LOCATION: Invermere and surrounding area
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, binoculars and field guides (optional)

Source of the Columbia – Colin Cartwright

Walk to the south end of Columbia Lake with host, author and local historian, Colin Cartwright, to see the springs that are the beginning of the headwaters of the mighty Columbia River. Learn some local history of the wetlands and of the surrounding area.

Level: Easy
Mon May 8th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am
MAX # 15

LOCATION: Canal Flats
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: Dress for the weather

Swansea Hike - Ceiling of the Valley!

On this hike you will have the chance to view the Columbia Valley from above! This 5-hour trek brings you up the west side of the mountain, where you will experience sporadic vistas while climbing the switch-backed forested trail. Once you reach the top, the view up and down the valley is spectacular. Take some time to soak up the sights, explore the mountaintop and have a snack before heading back down the south side of the mountain (trail conditions permitting).

Level: Expert
Mon May 8th from 9:00 am to 2:30 pm
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$25.00

Things to Bring: Dress for the weather, lunch, snacks, water, sturdy walking shoes, hiking poles (highly recommended), camera, bug spray. Note: Lunch not included, bring your own. Must have a good fitness level

Bedrock Geology of Panorama /Toby Creek with Walter Benstead

Join us for an introduction to the geology of the Purcells. These rocks west of the Rocky Mountain Trench tell the ancient and intriguing story of the first event in the formation of the Columbia Valley. Our trip will visit several sites along the Toby Creek Road to Panorama where you will learn about the varied geological structures and rock types that illustrate this earliest period of our area.

Level: Easy
Mon May 8th from 9:00 am - noon
MAX # 16

LOCATION: Panorama area
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water and a snack

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

MONDAY MAY 8th

Walking with Coyote with Dr. Shelley Alexander

Coyotes, called song dogs by some early cultures, evolved in North America. The urban coyote now lives in fragments of nature that are surrounded by urban development. We will walk above the Columbia Wetlands which supports a small group of coyotes and is a good example of the ecological challenges of living in an greenspace so close to an urban area.

Level: Moderate
Mon May 8th from 10:00 am to 12:30 pm
Max # 24

LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$15

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, binoculars

From Teddy to Smoky: The Allure and the Alarm of our Furry Friends with Colleen Campbell (Lunch Presentation)

As part of her work as a field biologist for the Eastern Slopes Grizzly Bear Research project, Colleen presented to many service organizations, schools and other agencies about the bears they were researching. She will speak about the natural history of Brown Bears and their relationship to the Rocky Mountain ecosystem, their strategies and patterns for surviving in our tough climate and their most critical challenges. Colleen will also refer to their relationship with Polar Bears and their current expansion of habitat use in western North America. Colleen will also speak about the evolutionary history of bears and about how human behavior is a critical aspect in reducing antagonistic human and bear interactions. Questions will be welcomed and encouraged.

Mon May 8th from noon to 1:30 pm
MAX # 50

LOCATION: Pynelogs Cultural Centre & Cafe
COST: \$30.00 (includes lunch)

Grohman's Dream with Colin Cartwright

Walk a stretch of the Historic Canal constructed by Baillie Grohman. See the remains of the lock and learn some of the history of the construction as well as some local history and information on the area.

Level: Easy
Mon May 8th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Canal Flats
COST: \$12.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather

Old Coach Trail Interpretive Walk with Ross MacDonald

The Old Coach Greenway trail is located within the provincial Columbia River Wildlife Management Area, a component of one of the longest contiguous wetland systems in North America. The trail offers outstanding views of the historic Columbia River, and is the travel route used by indigenous peoples, fur traders and settlers. Natural hoodoos are also visible as the trail passes through Christmas tree farms and grasslands that are habitat to bighorn sheep, numerous birds and rare plants.

Level: Intermediate
Monday May 8th from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, good walking shoes/hiking shoes, binoculars, hat, and camera

Exploring the Edgewater Flume with Norm Funnell

The Edgewater flume, operational since 1913, is one of a very few (perhaps the only) functioning irrigation flumes in BC. You will be introduced to the flume and its history on this exploratory hike. We may even be lucky enough to spot a pair of nesting dippers at the Kindersley Creek dam.

Level: Intermediate
Mon May 8th from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm
MAX # 10

LOCATION: Edgewater
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, good walking/hiking shoes, water, binoculars, camera

Guided Evening Columbia River Trip - Radium to Edgewater

Our knowledgeable and highly skilled guides will lead you through this pristine section of the Columbia River. Paddling into the evening, enjoy the twilight and the sounds of the birds and wildlife before they settle down for the night. A delicious open fire BBQ dinner will be served riverside.

Vegetarian option will be available. Basic paddling experience necessary.

Level: Easy
Mon May 8th from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm
MAX # 36

LOCATION: Radium
COST: \$80.00 Includes PDF, boats, paddles, guide, BBQ

Dinner and return transportation to Radium
 Things to bring: Camera, water & dress for the weather

The Columbia: From Source to Sea with Peter Marbach (Evening Presentation)

Photographer Peter Marbach will share stories and imagery from his current project documenting the landscapes and culture of the entire Columbia, from its humble beginnings in Canal Flats to the two-mile wide confluence with the Pacific. Marbach will discuss the importance of the current

Columbia River Treaty re-negotiations and its implications that may lead to the eventual return of Pacific Salmon all the way to Invermere again.

Mon May 8th at 7:00 pm
MAX # 100

LOCATION: Pynelogs Cultural Centre
COST: \$20.00



Join special guest **Danny Catt** on the Mighty Saint Lawrence Expedition: June 25-July 4, 2017.

Featured Destinations:
 Northwest Passage
 Iceland
 Scotland
 Newfoundland & Labrador

1.800.363.7566
 adventurecanada.com

14 Front Street South Mississauga, Ontario L5H 2C4 Canada TICO Reg# 4001400



Fall Waterbird Survey Results Are In Citizen-scientists record over 51,000 birds!

Due to the outstanding contribution of 79 volunteers, 51,261 birds were recorded over three survey dates during the fall Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey (CWWS)! The highest single day count was recorded on October 15th, 2016 when 20,784 birds (75 species) were counted at 85 locations. This is an incredible accomplishment for our region and this effort is worth celebrating! Data will contribute to long-term conservation efforts in the Columbia Wetlands.

"I am incredibly impressed with the dedication and growing knowledge of the volunteers on the Waterbird Survey," states CWWS Program Biologist Rachel Darvill. "This fall we were able to acquire a huge amount of baseline data on dozens of bird species in an ecosystem where previously little data was available, and we had a lot of fun viewing birds and collecting data in such beautiful habitat."

For more information, or to sign up and participate in the spring waterbird surveys (April 2017), please contact

Rachel at rachel.darvill@gmail.com, or call 250-344-5530. The CWWS is a program of Wildsight-Golden and is funded by the Columbia Basin Trust, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Columbia Shuswap Regional District Area A, Regional District East Kootenay Area G and the Gaming Grant.



Columbia Valley's LARGEST Lakefront Campground

LAKESHORE
 Resort & Campground
 ?a-dasqnik ?ina?kiks



70+ Sites
Leasing Opportunities
Breathtaking Lake and Mountain Views
Boat Launch, Swimming & Day Use

3151 Highway 93/95 Windermere, BC
 Phone For Reservations (seasonal)
250-342-6352
 Email: lakeshore@akisqnik.org
 www.lakeshorerortcampground.com
 OWNED AND OPERATED BY ?AKISQNIK FIRST NATION

**Stay 6 Nights -
 Get the 7th Night
 FREE!**
**BOOK YOUR
 GETAWAY TODAY!**

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

TUESDAY MAY 9th

Birding by Golf Cart with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Join the BC Rockies Adventures guides for the most relaxing birding tour offered! Ride on golf carts through Riverside Golf Course and discover the plentiful bird life and wildlife that inhabit the golf course grounds. Spot nesting pairs of Lewis's Woodpecker, baby eagles and a variety of waterfowl.
Level: Easy
Tue May 9th from 7:00 am to 9:00 am
MAX #20
LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$30.00 (Includes a hot drink and a muffin)
Things to bring: Dress for the weather

Birds & Forestry: Create & Maintain Habitat through Time with Brian Feeney (Event sponsored by Canfor)

We will visit recently logged areas to answer any questions you might have about forestry and to discuss strategies Canfor takes to maintain biodiversity, particularly birdlife. The trip will be led by Canfor Registered Forest Technician, Brian Feeney.
Level: Intermediate
Tue May 9th from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm
MAX # 20
LOCATION: Radium
COST: \$20.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, binoculars, hiking boots or sturdy shoes

Take A Walk On The Westside with the Westside Legacy Trail

Join local nature enthusiast Mark Halwa, Greenways Trail Alliance Executive Director, for an interpretive hike along the Westside Legacy Trail. While learning about the stunning views and natural experience the trail has to offer, you will be the first to experience a section of what will be 25km of paved, multi-use trail connecting Invermere and Fairmont Hot Springs.
Level: Moderate
Tue May 9th from 9:00 am to 10:30 am
MAX #15
LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$20.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, good walking/hiking shoes

Re-wilding the Wild: A Habitat Restoration Experience with Jessie Paloposki & Kim Urbaniak

Invasive plants have had devastating impacts on the native ecology of many natural areas and is one of the greatest threats to biodiversity in our world today. Join Jessie and Kim at Sinclair Creek and gain hands on experience learning to identify invasive plant in the field as well as invasive plant control and disposal methods. Participants will have the opportunity to get hands on experience removing invasive species and planting native species in this habitat restoration workshop.
Level: Intermediate
Tues May 9th from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
MAX # 24
LOCATION: Radium
COST: \$30.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, lunch and water bottle Optional: camera, personal gloves and/or shovel. Resources EKISC is providing: Weed Pull tools (gloves, trowels, garbage bags), weed identification books, native grass seed, native plants (from Tipi Mountain Nursery – species will be determined by restoration area), fertilizer and soil, flagging tape, posts and signage for restoration area. Please bring your own Lunch, snacks & water. Evaluation forms and membership sign up list

Invermere to Radium BBQ Lunch on the River Paddle

On this 3 to 5 hour flat-water paddle from Invermere to Radium Hot Springs (17 km) you will spend a leisurely morning on the Columbia River exploring the local waterways. The Columbia River Wetlands lure more than 250 species of birds. Eagles, ospreys and herons and are a common sight throughout the season as are various species of wildlife. A delicious open fire BBQ lunch will be served riverside. Vegetarian option will be available. Basic paddling experience necessary.
Level: easy
Tues May 9th from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm
MAX # 36
LOCATION: Invermere
COST: \$70.00 Includes PDF, boats, paddles, guide, BBQ lunch, and return transportation
Things to bring: dress for the weather, camera, water

On the Scent: A Hunt for Bear Signs with Colleen Campbell

Early season is a challenging time to find a lot of bear sign. The hike will focus on looking at the habitat, what attractants might be present and how the area may change as the season passes. Bears have a big range of foods and their presence in an area can be used to predict probable bear occurrence at different times of the year. Safety considerations while travelling on wildlife trails will also be part of the experience.
Level: Moderate
Tue May 9th from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm
MAX #10
LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$15.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, good walking shoes, water, bug spray

Water through the Ktunaxa Lens with Bonnie Harvey

Bonnie Harvey, a member of the Ktunaxa Nation, will share her knowledge of Ktunaxa connection to water, focusing on the Columbia and Kootenay River watersheds. Bonnie is an accomplished actress and storyteller, and her presentation will include sharing of Ktunaxa stories and perspectives, outlining the importance of water as an intrinsic value to Ktunaxa culture and wellbeing.
Level: Easy
Tue May 9th from 10:00 am to noon
MAX #20
LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$15.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, please bring chairs, and umbrellas if it rains.

A Morning with the Birds & The Bees in Spillimacheen – BEELAND Market

This presentation will overview the role of the honey bee in our bio-diverse Columbia Valley environment. Held at BEELAND Market in Spillimacheen, the event will include an overview of the life of the bee with a live observation hive, environmental stresses affecting bees, the role of bee pollination in our food chain, the sex-life of the queen bee and drones, wildflower honey production, and the growth and expansion of honey-based food production at BEELAND and Jubilee Mountain Apiary. Lunch at the newly opened Beeland "BEESTRO" and Inuit Sculpture Gallery, located in the Beeland store, is included in the ticket purchase price.
Tue May 9th from 10:00 am to 12:30 am
MAX # 30
LOCATION: Spillimacheen
COST: \$20.00 (includes lunch at Beeland "BEESTRO")

'Bug off and Buzz around' at Edibles Farm + Cafe

Join the Edibles Farm team for a morning walk through Winderberry greenhouses and Edibles certified organic vegetable farm. We will discuss the importance of Integrated Pest Management (IPM) in our greenhouses and on the farm as our alternative to using chemical herbicides and pesticides. Focusing on microbiology, the health of our soil and beneficial insects is key to organic gardening. Also, we will talk about bee-friendly gardens, plant material and safe ways to combat unwanted insects in your garden. To complete your tour we will serve you a delicious, organic lunch from our farm-to-plate Edibles Café.
Tuesday May 9th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
MAX# 20
LOCATION: Windermere
COST: \$30.00 (includes organic lunch)

Water through the Ktunaxa Lens with Bonnie Harvey

Bonnie Harvey, a member of the Ktunaxa Nation, will share her knowledge of Ktunaxa connection to water, focusing on the Columbia and Kootenay River watersheds. Bonnie is an accomplished actress and storyteller, and her presentation will include sharing of Ktunaxa stories and perspectives, outlining the importance of water as an intrinsic value to Ktunaxa culture and wellbeing.
Level: Easy
Tue May 9th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
MAX #20
LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$15.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, please bring chairs, and umbrellas if it rains.

A Tour Through Time: History of the Valley with JD Jeffery

The Windermere District Historical Society invites you to join them with a Tour Through Time at the Windermere Valley Museum. Come and enjoy 150 years of historical highlights that created the valley you see today.
Level: Easy
Tue May 9th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
MAX #20
LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$10.00

Ecosystem Restoration with Randy Harris & Ian Adams

Join us for a walk through open forest to learn more about open forests of the Rocky Mountain Trench and the partnership that is working to restore them. This site, burned by a severe wildfire in 1985, is home to Lewis's Woodpecker, a listed species that require open range habitat with large diameter nest trees. On the hike, we'll discuss ER management actions, learn more about Lewis' Woodpecker ecology and conservation and, if really lucky, maybe spot an early migrant!
Level: Easy
Tue May 9th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
MAX #20
LOCATION: Canal Flats area
COST: \$20.00
What to bring: dress for the weather, lunch water, binoculars, sturdy walking shoes

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

TUESDAY MAY 9th

Floodplain Wetlands in the Columbia Valley: Vegetation, Frogs and the dynamic forces that influence both with Dr. Suzanne Bayley & Penny Ohanjanian

Suzanne and Penny will take you to three different types of floodplain wetlands and describe the ecology and forces that affect the vegetation and frogs that inhabit the region. We will sample the water, examine the vegetation and biota and possibly dig in the sediment.
Level: Moderate
Tue May 9th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
MAX # 15
COST: \$20.00
LOCATION: Brisco area
Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, hat, bug spray, rubber boots

Crazy About Columbia Lake with Tracy Flynn

The Columbia Lake Stewardship Society, a citizen based group interested in the health of Columbia Lake would like to take you on a tour of the lake. After a quick overview of the lake from a vantage point mid-lake, we'll head down to the lake and onto a pontoon boat. Our time on the boat will be spent discussing the current condition of Columbia Lake and the challenges and pressures that face it.
Level: Moderate. Some walking over uneven, steep conditions
Tue May 9th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
MAX # 10
COST: \$25.00
LOCATION: Columbia Lake
Things to bring: dress for the weather (potentially cooler on the lake), water, snack. Lifejackets provided.

From Salter Creek South...or as the locals call it Hither Dither with Drew Bragg

The hike follows a narrow trail that parallels the western shore of Lake Windermere about 30 metres above the shoreline, with an opportunity to drop down to lake level to check on activity at the mouth of the creek.
Level: Intermediate
Tue May 9th from 2:30 pm to 5:00 pm
MAX # 13
LOCATION: Westside Road
COST: \$15.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snacks

Flight of Beer - Arrowhead Brewery Tour

(n.) from the verb flight - a flight is a grouping of similar objects, like a flight of stairs or a flight of geese.
Make like a flight of geese and migrate over to Invermere Arrowhead Brewery Co. If you love beer and are curious about the plethora of beer options then join us for a 'behind the scenes' tour to learn the background of Arrowhead and its brews. After your tour, enjoy a sample or an entire Flight. Not included in price.
Must be 19+
Tue May 9th from 6:15 pm to 7:30 pm
MAX # 15
COST: \$20.00
LOCATION: Invermere area
Things to bring: Beer goggles!

A Potpourri of Pretty Plants & Some Seed Sendoff Systems with Bryan Kelly-McArthur (Evening Presentation)

Bryan Kelly-McArthur, a naturalist with primary interest in native plants will help you enjoy some of the plants and plant forms found in the valley and will introduce you to some seed dispersal systems - all seen through a camera macro lens.
Tue May 9th at 7:00 pm
MAX # 100
LOCATION: Pynelogs Cultural Centre
COST: \$20.00

Flight of Beer - Arrowhead Brewery Tour

(n.) from the verb flight - a flight is a grouping of similar objects, like a flight of stairs or a flight of geese.
Make like a flight of geese and migrate over to Invermere Arrowhead Brewery Co. If you love beer and are curious about the plethora of beer options then join us for a 'behind the scenes' tour to learn the background of Arrowhead and its brews. After your tour, enjoy a sample or an entire Flight. Not included in price.
Must be 19+
Tue May 9th from 7:45 pm to 9:00 pm
MAX # 15
COST: \$20.00
LOCATION: Invermere
Things to bring: Beer goggles!

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

WEDNESDAY MAY 10th

Dawn Chorus with Brian Wesley

Please join Brian for one of those birding treats, the Dawn Chorus. Despite the very early start, it offers one of nature's truly delightful experiences, listening to the cacophony of bird songs and calls as the sun rises. Our location for the Chorus will be in one of the more prolific birding locations in the upper Columbia Valley. Sorting out all the calls and songs will be a challenge for any experienced birder, but even the beginner will appreciate the richness of the happening and the opportunity to learn. An easy 2km birding walk will follow the Chorus.
Level: Easy
Wed May 10th from 5:00 am to 7:00 am
MAX # 16
LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$15.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, bug spray, walking shoes/boots, binoculars

The Spectacular Fairmont Hoodoos with Daryl Calder from Rocky Mountain Naturalists

Experience the dry bench lands west of the source of the Columbia Headwaters. A wide, improved trail leads visitors up to the rim of the Hoodoos providing great views of Dutch Creek and Columbia Lake. Many birds, including Swifts can be observed. Arrive at 7:30 for early birding around the trailhead; enjoy a nice variety of interesting birds. We'd like to acknowledge the generosity of Sue Coy & Lloyd Wilder for permission to access their private property on this hike.

Level: Intermediate
Wed May 10th from 7:30 am to 11:00 am
MAX # 20
LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$15.00
Things to Bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, binoculars, camera.

Osprey & Eagle Nests with Cathy Parkes

The Columbia River valley is home to many Osprey and Eagle nesting sites. We will be viewing, without disturbing, several locations in the Columbia Valley. We'll start at Pynelogs and then carpool to a variety of viewing locations.
Level: easy
Wed May 10th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am
MAX # 15
LOCATION: Invermere and Wilmer area
COST: \$15.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, binoculars, scopes and cameras

Half-Day Guided Fishing Trip on Lake Windermere with Reel Axe Adventures

Join us on our 21-foot pontoon fishing boat for a half day of guided fishing. We have all the gear and know-how to take you on this fun adventure. No fishing experience necessary.
Level: Easy
Wed May 10th from 8:00 am to 2:00 pm
MAX # 6 (min 2)
LOCATION: Invermere Area

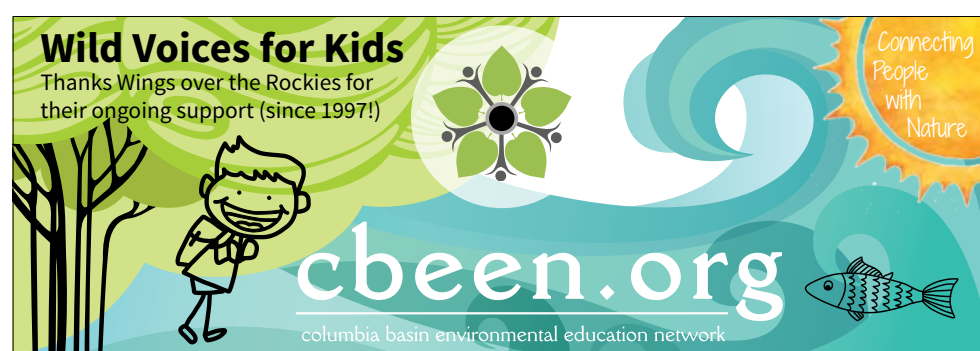
COST: \$110.00
LOCATION: Lake Windermere
Things to bring: dress for the weather, drinks and snacks, fishing license, camera. Please purchase fishing license at www.fishing.gov.bc.ca. Bring printed license to this event.

Wetlands Paddle with a local Naturalist


Experience the world class Columbia Wetlands by canoe/kayak during a morning paddle with a local naturalist. Discover the secrets of the ecology and morphology of the Columbia Wetlands and its surrounding landscape, along with a touch of local history. This leader will bring knowledge, enthusiasm and experience to this paddle, providing educational entertainment for all ages and levels of experience. Basic paddling experience necessary.
Level: Easy
Wed May 10th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am
MAX #24
LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$30 (includes PDF, boats, paddles, guide)
Things to bring: dress for the weather, camera, water



COPPER POINT RESORT
Your very own Birds Eye View
Discover exciting new flavours and fresh fun cocktails. Elements Grill Patio is the place to be this summer season.
760 Cooper Rd. | 250-341-4000 | www.copperpointresort.com



Wild Voices for Kids
Thanks Wings over the Rockies for their ongoing support (since 1997!)
cbeen.org
columbia basin environmental education network



WAKE UP & KICK ASS®
(& count birds!)
Coffee? Get the flock over to our Café!
491 Arrow Rd, Invermere, BC V0A 1K2 | KickingHorseCoffee.com

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

WEDNESDAY MAY 10th

Nature Walk on the Bella Vista Walking Trails with Bryan Kelly-McArthur

Enjoy a 3-hour nature walk with possible orchid and lily sightings on the trail systems at Bella Vista Estates above Lake Columbia. The season will be somewhat early for orchids and lilies, and plants in general, but there will be some early ones for you to enjoy. There will be an introduction and sharing with any insects or spiders that may be up and about.

Level: Intermediate

Wed May 10th from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm

MAX # 5

LOCATION: Columbia Lake

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snacks, identification books and camera

History of the Hot Springs Tour with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Join the BC Rockies Adventures Guide to explore the history behind the hot water. Learn about the early settlers of Fairmont Hot Springs and the Resort's history.

Level: Intermediate

Wed May 10th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

MAX #20

LOCATION: Fairmont area

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather

Bighorn Sheep Educational Virtual Tour - Radium

Come and meet our Bighorn Sheep... this educational virtual tour will help you understand their habits and what makes them so unique. Knowledgeable staff will provide a hands-on experience with props and tools. Tour also includes video and take home printed material. Spend a couple of hours with the Radium Bighorns!

Wed May 10th from 10:00 am to noon

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Radium

COST: \$12.00

Alien Invasion: The Impact of Invasive Species on Wildlife with Jessie Paloposki (Lunch Presentation)

Some species that appear in new environments fail to survive; but more often than not, they thrive and become invasive. In most cases, native species are unprepared to defend themselves against these invaders. This process, together with habitat destruction, has been a major cause of species extinction. In the past many of these losses have gone unrecorded; however, there is an increasing realization of the ecological costs of biological invasion in terms of irretrievable loss of native biodiversity. Join Jessie as she explores the impact of this invasive species in the East Kootenay Region and what you can do to avoid being part of the problem.

Wed May 10th from noon to 1:30 pm

MAX # 50

LOCATION: Fairmont area

COST: \$30.00 (includes lunch)

Historical Tour of Taynton Bay by Voyager Canoe

Join one of our experienced and knowledgeable guides by going back in history, and learning about the explorers of the area, David Thompson, Taynton family, Pynelogs Cultural Center (Robert Randolph Bruce, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia), Fort Point and much more.

Level: Easy

Wed May 10th from noon to 1:30pm

MAX # 24

LOCATION: Kinsmen Beach

COST: \$25 (includes PDF, boats, paddles, guide)

Things to bring: dress for the weather, camera, water

The Headwaters of the Columbia with Daryl Calder

Explore the unique area, which connects the source of the Columbia River with the Kootenay River. Rocky Mountain Naturalists will guide visitors along a level, improved, interpretive trail at Canal Flats. Contemplate the struggles of David Thompson and William Adolph Baillie Grohman and enjoy the peace and quiet. Curious brushland, lovely clear springs and great birding. Following the walk, Daryl will lead interested parties to a nearby viewpoint, which offers a fine view of the Headwaters area. We drive west to the Findlay Creek Forest Service Road; your scope or telephoto lens will reveal the finer details.

Level: intermediate

Wed May 10th from 12:30 to 2:00 pm

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Canal Flats

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, binoculars, camera.

Nature Walk on the Bella Vista Walking Trails with Bryan Kelly-McArthur

Enjoy a 3-hour nature walk with possible orchid and lily sightings on the trail systems at Bella Vista Estates above Lake Columbia. The season will be somewhat early for orchids and lilies, and plants in general, but there will be some early ones for you to enjoy. There will be an introduction and sharing with any insects or spiders that may be up and about.

Level: Intermediate

Wed May 10th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MAX # 5

LOCATION: Columbia Lake

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snacks, identification books & camera

A Walk with Charlie Russell

Take a stroll with Charlie to hear about his lifelong experiences with Bears. His visionary and courageous work has overthrown countless widely held convictions concerning the nature of grizzly bears. He is the only person to ever successfully demonstrate that, when treated as intelligent beings, worthy and deserving of respect, grizzly bears will co-exist peacefully with humans.

Level: Easy

Wed May 10th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

MAX #14

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather

Hiking Edgewater's Back Trails with Herb Cohen

A fairly lengthy hike through the forests and meadows behind Edgewater to several viewpoints overlooking the wetlands, and returning along the Columbia River past several sloughs, the lagoon, and hoodoos. Expect to see raptors, perching birds and (lots of) ducks.

Level: intermediate

Wed May 10th from 1:00 pm to 4:45 pm

MAX # 12

LOCATION: Edgewater

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather and be prepared for possible muddy conditions; bring fluids and a snack, walking/hiking shoes and binoculars

Bedrock Geology of Panorama /Toby Creek with Walter Benstead

Join us for an introduction to the geology of the Purcells. These rocks west of the Rocky Mountain Trench tell the ancient and intriguing story of the first event in the formation of the Columbia Valley. Our trip will visit several sites along the Toby Creek Road to Panorama where you will learn about the varied geological structures and rock types that illustrate this earliest period of our area.

Level: Easy

Wed May 10th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MAX # 16

LOCATION: Panorama area

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water and a snack

Paddle the Columbia River with BC Rockies Adventures Guides

Discover the gem of the Columbia Valley with Fairmont Hot Springs Resort's BC Rockies Adventures Guides. Enjoy the fantastic landscape which includes panoramic views of snow-capped mountains, eagles, ospreys, mule deer, and fish; all while learning about the importance of wetlands for humans and wildlife. If you want to see Lewis's woodpeckers, this is the tour for you! This is a great opportunity for anyone (beginner to expert) to enjoy nature at its best. This is an interpretive tour that involves basic instruction to kayaking. We put in on the South end of Fairmont Hot Springs and paddle to the North end of the community.

Level: Intermediate

Wed May 10th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MAX #12, ages 12+

LOCATION: Fairmont area

COST: \$49.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather

Ecological Tour on the Zehnder Ranch with John & David Zehnder

Join us for a walk through the hay fields looking for Long Billed Curlews and other birds, followed by a herding demonstration with John and his Border Collies. Then we will take a walk along Bunyan Lake looking for Painted Turtles, wetland birds, and glass for Mountain Goats along Mount Taynton. The tour will finish with John and David talking about two conservation projects that are helping to protect both wetlands and Mountain Goat habitat on the Ranch.

Level: Intermediate

Wed May 10th from 2:30 pm to 5:30 pm

MAX # 18

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather

Full Moon Swansea Hike - Ceiling of the Valley!

On this hike you will have the chance to view the Columbia Valley from above! This 5-hour trek brings you up the west side of the mountain, where you will experience sporadic vistas while climbing the switch-backed forested trail. Once you reach the top, the view up and down the valley is spectacular. Take some time to soak up the sights, explore the mountaintop and have a snack, all while watching the sunset behind Mt. Nelson and the full moon rising over the Rockies, before heading back down to the upper parking lot (15 minute walk). Guests will be driven down to the base (starting point).

Level: Expert

Wed May 10th from 5:30 pm to 9:00 pm

MAX # 20

Location: Invermere Area

COST: \$45.00 (includes snacks & refreshments)

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, sturdy walking shoes, hiking poles (highly recommended), camera, bug spray. Must have a good fitness level

Wild and Wacky Wetland Trivia at Arrowhead Brewery

Whet your whistle, nurture your noggin' and bust out your brains with tantalizing trivia! Join the famous trivia host Richard Matthews and the Wildsight Team at Arrowhead Brewery for an exciting evening of nature trivia. We'll battle through Birds, Bats, Bears & beyond, all made better with BEER! There will be 2 rounds, with 20 questions each. Play as a single or up to a group of 4. Best score out of 40 questions takes the prize!

Wed May 10th at 7:00 pm

MAX #60

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$10 Pre-registration or \$12 at the door

***all proceeds go to WOTR (beer not incl)**

Bears & Beyond...Evening Presentation Grizzly Bears in the Kootenays: The Dance Between Berries and Bullets with Michael Proctor

This will be a slide presentation with pictures, stories, and maps about grizzly bears in BC, including their biology, ecology, future, and conservation status. Also a quick look at grizzlies around the world, including the Gobi desert of Mongolia, the Alps of Italy, and more.

Living with Wildlife Film with Leanne Allison

The Bow Valley of Alberta is one of the busiest places in the world where people and grizzly bears still share the landscape. *'Living with Wildlife'* looks at the work that has been done over the past 20 years to make this happen. It also explores what communities need to do to in the future to reduce human wildlife conflict in the face of increasing tourism, recreation and development pressure.

Wed May 10th at 7:00 pm

MAX #100

LOCATION: Pynelogs Cultural Centre

COST: \$30.00

Wings 2017 Festival At A Glance Pull Out Section

FIELD TRIP RECOMMENDATIONS

Our mountain weather can be unpredictable. Even on a hot sunny day the weather conditions can change quickly. Please be 'wings weather wise' when attending field trips. We also recommend wearing sturdy walking shoes. Bring water, snacks or lunch. A camera and binoculars can enhance your experience!



Photograph by Jim Lawrence

Wings Over the Rockies Festival

We Welcome Donations! We Welcome Sponsors!

Charitable Tax Receipts available

Check out our website for:

- Interesting articles • Tourism information • Up to Date Exciting NEWS
- Details on our Presenters & Event Leaders





**Registration
Required for all
Events**

**Registration
Starts on
April 10th**

HOW TO REGISTER

24-Hour Online
www.wingsovertherockies.org
Booking on-line is the fastest and most efficient method for Registration

Telephone
1-855-342-2473 toll free
250-342-2473 local • Please see hours below

Walk-in
Pynelogs Cultural Centre • Next to Kinsmen Beach, Invermere, BC
Please see hours below

Hours

For Walk-In & Telephone Registration

Monday April 10
9am to 1pm

April 13 to May 4
Mondays & Thursdays 11am to 1pm

Monday May 8
9am to 1pm

May 9 to May 12
Daily from 11am to 1pm

General Enquiries
registrations@wingsovertherockies.org

Refund Policy: All Wings Over the Rockies events and activities are non-refundable after May 1, 2017. In the event that Wings organizers must cancel an activity or event a full refund will apply. Like water off a duck's back, scheduled events will go rain or shine.

Time	Monday · May 8	Tuesday · May 9	Wednesday · May 10	Thursday · May 11	Friday · May 12	Saturday · May 13	Sunday · May 14
5:00			• Dawn Chorus				
7:00		• Birding by Golf Cart with BC Rockies Adventure Guides		• Birding by Golf Cart with BC Rockies Adventure Guides			
7:30	• K2 Ranch Birding Excursion		• The Spectacular Fairmont Hoodoos (Hosted by Rocky Mountain Naturalists)		• Wilmer Wetland Experience	• Birdwalk at Edelweiss Slough (Golden)	
8:00	• Wacky Waterbirds! with Cam Gillies & Michael den Otter • Birding for Dummies	• Birds & Forestry: Create & Maintain Habitat (Sponsored by Canfor)	• Osprey & Eagle Nests • Half-Day Guided Fishing Trip (Hosted by Reel Axe Adventures)	• Luxor Linkage: Lessons from the Land (Hosted by NCC) • "All Day" Exploration Blitz: South with Randy Hopkins	• Birding for Dummies • "All Day" Exploration Blitz: North with Randy Hopkins	• Kootenay Park Car Birding • The Catt & the Bird'er with Danny Catt & Cam Gillies • Golden Wildsight: Breakfast with the Birds • Exploring Columbia Lake Lot 48 (Hosted by NCC) • Cruising 4 Curlews	
8:30							• Danny & Randy Birding Team: Wetlands Paddle with Danny Catt & Randy Hopkins
9:00	• Source of the Columbia • Swansea Hike with Columbia River Paddle Guides • Bedrock Geology of Toby Creek	• Take a Walk on the Westside (Hosted by Greenways Trail Alliance) • Re-wilding the Wild: A Habitat Restoration Experience (Hosted by EKISC)	• Wetland Paddle with a Local Naturalist	• Ducks (and other birds) for Beginners • Guided River Tour with Columbia River Paddle Guides	• Wildlife Sign & Safety on the Columbia Wetland Viewpoint Trail		• Ecological Tour on Zehnder Ranch
9:30		• Invermere to Radium BBQ Lunch River Paddle with Columbia River Paddle Guides	• Nature Walk on Bella Vista Walking Trails	• Birds & Photography with Don Delany	• Invermere to Radium BBQ Lunch Paddle with Columbia River Paddle Guides	• First Footsteps at Bella Vista	
10:00	• Walking with Coyote with Dr. Shelley Alexander	• On the Scent: A Hunt for Bear Signs • Water through the Ktunaxa Lens • A Morning with the Birds & Bees (Hosted by BEELAND)	• History of the Hot Springs Tour with BC Rockies Adventure Guides • Bighorn Sheep Educational Virtual Tour	• Bighorn Sheep Educational Virtual Tour	• Ramblings of a Rocky Mountain Naturalist with Danny Catt (Mid-Morning Presentation) • History of the Hot Springs Tour with BC Rockies Adventure Guides • Plate Tectonics and the Wetlands of Spillimacheen	• The Land of Smoking Water with BC Rockies Adventure Guides	• Bugs, Beasts & beyond: A Family Wetland Exploration • Lake Enid Family Walk (Hosted by Wildsight Invermere)
10:30					• Historic K2 Ranch Village Walk	• Wings, Rockies, Wine & Cheese Paddle	
11:00		• Bug Off & Buzz Around at Edibles Farm + Cafe				• I Love My Lake Pontoon Boat Tour (Hosted by Lake Windermere Ambassadors) • Stand Up Paddle (SUP) Tour of the Columbia Wetlands with Columbia River Paddle Guides	
12:00	• From Teddy to Smoky: the Allure and the Alarm of our Furry Friends with Colleen Campbell (Lunch Presentation)		• Alien Invasion with Jessie Paloposki (Lunch Presentation) • Historical Tour of Taynton Bay by Voyager Canoe with Columbia River Paddle Guides	• Discovering the True Nature of the Grizzly Bear with Charlie Russell (Lunch Presentation)		• Dippers & Ducks Wings Fest Children's Festival • Explore the World of Bats! • Sprinkles the Clown • Magic Shows • Crafts with Black Star Studios • Teddy Bear Picnic • Buggy Fun Station	
12:30			• The Headwaters of the Columbia (Hosted by Rocky Mountain Naturalists)		• A Sense of Mountain Place with Bob Sandford (Lunch Presentation) • Historic K2 Ranch Village Walk		
1:00	• Grohman's Dream with Colin Cartwright • Old Coach Trail Interpretive Walk with Ross MacDonald	• Water through the Ktunaxa Lens • A Tour Through Time (Hosted by Windermere Valley Museum) • Ecosystem Restoration • Floodplain Wetlands: Vegetation, Frogs and the Forces that Influence Both • Crazy About Columbia Lake	• Nature Walk on Bella Vista Walking Trails • A Walk with Charlie Russell • Hiking Edgewater's Back Trails • Bedrock Geology of Toby Creek		• Wetlands Interpretive Walk (sponsored by Columbia Wetlands Adventure)	• I Love My Lake Pontoon Boat Tour (Hosted by Lake Windermere Ambassadors)	• Building Homes for Bats (Radium) (Hosted by KCBP, sponsored by CBT & Lake Windermere District Rod & Gun Club)
1:30				• Birds & Photography with Don Delany • Akisqnuq First Nation Cultural Welcome			
2:00	• Exploring the Edgewater Flume		• Paddle the Columbia River with BC Rockies Adventure Guides	• Paddle the Columbia River with BC Rockies Adventure Guides	• Paddle the Columbia River with BC Rockies Adventure Guides	• Paddle the Columbia River with BC Rockies Adventure Guides	
2:30		• From Salter Creek: Hither Dither	• Ecological Tour on the Zehnder Ranch				
3:00						• Build It and They Will Come: Build a Bat House Workshop (Golden) (Hosted by KCBP, sponsored by CBT & Lake Windermere District Rod & Gun Club)	
3:30	• Guided Evening Columbia River Trip with Columbia River Paddle Guides			• Historical Tour of Taynton Bay by Voyager Canoe with Columbia River Paddle Guides			
5:00							21st Annual Gala Event & Keynote: A Gala Banquet Celebrating Birds, Bats, Bears & Beyond... with Keynote Speaker, Danny Catt
5:30			• Full Moon Swansea Hike with Columbia River Paddle Guides				
6:15		• Flight of Beer - Arrowhead Brewery Tour					
7:00	• The Columbia: From Source to Sea with Peter Marbach (Evening Presentation)	• A Potpourri of Pretty Plants with Bryan Kelly-McArthur (Evening Presentation)	• Wild & Wacky Wetland Trivia at Arrowhead Brewery • Bears & Beyond with Michael Proctor & Leanne Allison (Evening Presentation)	• Beyond Birds, Bats & Bears with Bob Sandford (Evening Presentation)	• Essence of Bear with Brad Hill (Evening Presentation)		
7:45		• Flight of Beer - Arrowhead Brewery Tour			• Eavesdropping on the Secret World of Bats (Invermere)		
8:00						• Eavesdropping On the Secret World of Bats (Golden) (Hosted by KCBP)	

Wings Over the Rockies has collaborated with other organizations in support of long term horsepower restrictions to protect the remarkable Columbia River wetlands

Meeting Place & Directions for events will be forwarded in email Confirmation



Approximate driving time in minutes from Invermere to:

Edgewater 20 Canal Flats 30
Golden 75 Wasa 60
Windermere ... 10 Kimberley 90
Fairmont 20

Driving directions and meeting information will be forwarded with booking confirmation.

21ST ANNUAL GALA

Banquet & Keynote



Wildlife around the Globe: Lions & Tigers & Bears... Oh My!

Award winning naturalist, photographer, wildlife-champion and world traveler Danny Catt has explored and

photographed wildlife in close to 100 countries around the planet. In this thought provoking and entertaining presentation, Danny will share his images and stories from some of the most beautiful places on Earth, reflect on humanity's fragile relationships with nature and share lessons learned about ways we can all make our world a better place.

Sat May 13th at Fairmont Hot Springs Resort

5:00 pm · Refreshments

6:30 pm · Dinner

8:00 pm · Live Auction & finale of the Silent Auction

8:30 pm · Keynote by Danny Catt

MAX # 180

Cost \$75 (partial tax receipt provided)

The Nature Conservancy of Canada is a proud participant in the Wings Over the Rockies Festival.



We hope you can join us on our nature walks!

Luxor Linkage: Lessons From the Land
May 11th | 8:00 to 11:30

Columbia Lake-Lot 48: An Ecological Ramble
May 13th | 8:00 to 11:30

Results you can walk on

www.natureconservancy.ca



2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

THURSDAY MAY 11th

Birding by Golf Cart with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Join the BC Rockies Adventures guides for the most relaxing birding tour offered! Ride on golf carts through Riverside Golf Course and discover the plentiful bird life and wildlife that inhabit the golf course grounds. Spot nesting pairs of Lewis's Woodpecker, baby eagles and a variety of waterfowl.

Level: Easy
Thu May 11th from 7:00 am to 9:00 am
MAX #20

LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$30.00 (Includes a hot drink and a muffin)
Things to bring: dress for the weather

Luxor Linkage: Lessons From the Land with NCC

Join Cam Gilles, Richard Klafki and Chad Townsend for a tour of the Nature Conservancy of Canada's new Luxor Linkage Conservation Area north of Edgewater. Luxor Linkage stretches from the Columbia River wetlands, across Highway 95 and into the Rocky Mountains. This area is a high-value corridor for wildlife and ecological communities. Named after one of the creeks that flows through the property and into the Columbia River wetlands, Luxor Linkage is home to an abundance of wildlife that relies on its grasslands, pockets of deciduous forest, wetlands and rocky outcrops.

Level: Easy
Thu May 11th from 8:00 am to 11:30 am
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Edgewater area
COST: \$15
Things to bring: dress for the weather, binoculars, snack, water, hat, sunscreen, good walking/hiking footwear

"All Day" Exploration Blitz: South with Randy Hopkins

"All Day?" Well, most of the day at least. Join Randy on a fast paced trip following the Columbia River valley from Invermere south to the Columbia Lake area. We'll be covering as much habitat as time permits, from wetlands to forests, from fields to river shores. Bring a lunch and enjoy the birds!

Level: Challenging
Thu May 11th from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Columbia Valley area
COST: \$30.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, binoculars, spotting scope, camera, water and lunch.

Ducks (and Other Birds) For Beginners with Herb Cohen

Take a leisurely hike to the lagoon and various sloughs (ponds) along the Columbia River behind Edgewater. The outing will be geared to novice bird watchers, though anyone who wants to familiarize themselves with the area is welcome.

Level: Easy
Thu May 11th from 9:00 am to 11:45 am
MAX # 13

LOCATION: Edgewater area
COST: \$15.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, binoculars, spotting scope, camera, water and lunch.

Guided River Tour of the Upper Columbia Wetlands to Lake Windermere

Our knowledgeable and highly skilled guides will lead you through this spectacular and scenic body of water, as you discover intricate facts about this great North American river and its ecologically important wetlands, along with its abundant birds, fish, reptiles and mammals. Historical, geographical and geological information will be shared and discussed along the length of this brilliant waterway. A perfect accompaniment to this trip is the Akisqnuq First Nation Cultural Welcome event. Separate registration required. Basic paddling experience necessary.

Level: easy
Thu May 11th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm
MAX # 24

LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$65.00 (includes PDF, boats, paddles, guide and transportation put-in)
Things to bring: dress for the weather, camera, water, snack

Birds & Photography with Don Delaney

Walk and talk about marsh and lakeside birds and bird photography with Don Delaney, avid birder and photographer. Observe early marsh and lake birds as you walk. Don will provide information on species of the birds observed on Lake Enid or along the shore and also give some tips on photographing different types of birds. The importance of wetlands, lakes, streams, and ponds to the species observed will be discussed along the way.

Level: Easy
Thu May 11th from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm
MAX # 15

LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$20.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, binoculars, camera, water and snack.

Bighorn Sheep Educational Virtual Tour - Radium

Come and meet our Bighorn Sheep... this educational virtual tour will help you understand their habits and what makes them so unique. Knowledgeable staff will provide a hands-on experience with props and tools. Tour also includes video and take home printed material. Spend a couple of hours with the Radium Bighorns!

Thu May 11th from 10:00 am to noon
MAX # 15

LOCATION: Radium

COST: \$12.00

Discovering the True Nature of the Grizzly Bear with Charlie Russell (Lunch Presentation)

Spend some time with Charlie over lunch. Enjoy his photographs and stories of his encounters with Bears. Charlie Russell is the founding director of the Pacific Rim Grizzly Bear Co-Existence Study. Renowned worldwide for his groundbreaking work with grizzly bears in Canada and Russia, Charlie has spent the better part of 54 years closely observing the nature of these animals in their natural habitat — more time than anyone else in direct, peaceful relationship with wild grizzly bears.

Thu May 11th from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm
MAX #50

LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$30.00 (includes lunch)

Birds & Photography with Don Delaney

Walk and talk about marsh and lakeside birds and bird photography with Don Delaney, avid birder and photographer. Observe early marsh and lake birds as you walk. Don will provide information on species of the birds observed on Lake Enid or along the shore and also give some tips on photographing different types of birds. The importance of wetlands, lakes, streams, and ponds to the species observed will be discussed along the way.

Level: Easy
Thu May 11th from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
MAX # 15

LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$20.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather, binoculars, camera, water and snack

Akisqnuq First Nation Cultural Welcome to the Wetlands

Enjoy a traditional welcome to the shores of the Akisqnuq First Nation with drumming, dancing and a traditional fry bread snack. The wetlands of this area offer numerous sightings of birds and provide photo opportunities, feel free to stay longer if you wish.

Level: Easy
Thu May 11th from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm
MAX # 50

LOCATION: Windermere
COST: \$20.00 (includes snack)
Things to bring: water and dress for the weather

Paddle the Columbia River with BC Rockies Adventures Guides

Discover the gem of the Columbia Valley with Fairmont Hot Springs Resort's BC Rockies Adventures Guides. Enjoy the fantastic landscape, which includes panoramic views of snow-capped mountains, eagles, ospreys, mule deer, and fish; all while learning about the importance of wetlands for humans and wildlife. If you want to see Lewis's woodpeckers, this is the tour for you! This is a great opportunity for anyone (beginner to expert) to enjoy nature at its best.

This is an interpretive tour that involves basic instruction to kayaking. We put in on the South end of Fairmont Hot Springs and paddle to the North end of the community.

Level: Intermediate
Thu May 11th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
MAX #12, Ages 12+

LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$49.00
Things to bring: dress for the weather

Historical Tour of Taynton Bay by Voyager Canoe

Join one of our experienced and knowledgeable guides by going back in history, and learning about the explorers of the area, David Thompson, Taynton family, Pynelogs Cultural Center (Robert Randolph Bruce, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia), Fort Point and much more.

Level: Easy
Thu May 11th from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm
MAX # 24

LOCATION: Kinsmen Beach
COST: \$25 (includes PDF, boats, paddles, guide)
Things to bring: dress for the weather, camera, water

Beyond Birds, Bats & Bears: The World's Shifting Thermal Equator & What It Means Where We Live with Bob Sandford (Evening Presentation)

Our changing Arctic, its impact on weather and climate at mid-latitudes in Canada and its consequences for biogeography and biodiversity where you live in the mountain West.

Thu May 11th at 7:00 pm
MAX # 100

LOCATION: Pynelogs Cultural Centre

Wings over the Rockies
Childrens Festival
Pothole Park • Invermere
Saturday May 13th, 2017
from 12 to 4 pm
Entertainment Including

- Sprinkles the Clown!
- Magic shows, balloon twisting and roving puppet theatre.
- Crafts with **Black Star** studios, workshops, gallery
- Nature Activity Stations
- Teddy Bears Picnic with friends
- Buggy Fun Station
- Explore the World of Bats

Tickets \$8 per child (3+yrs) in advance
• register online at www.wingsovertherockies.org
Registration starts April 10th - \$10 per child at the gate

wingsovertherockies.org

Wild & Wacky Wetland Trivia
at
ARROWHEAD BREWERY

Whet your whistle, nurture your noggin' and bust out your brains with tantalizing trivia! Join the famous trivia host Richard Matthews and the Wildsight Team at Arrowhead Brewery for an exciting evening of nature trivia. We'll battle through Birds, Bats, Bears & beyond, all made better with BEER! There will be 2 rounds, with 20 questions each. Play as a single or up to a group of 4. Best score out of 40 questions takes the prize!

Wed May 10th at 7:00 pm
COST: \$10 • Pre-register at www.wingsovertherockies.org starting April 10th or \$12 at the door
*all proceeds go to Wings Over the Rockies (beer not incl)

Directions: Arrowhead Brewery, 481 Arrow Rd Invermere



Photograph by Bryan Kelly-Moatbur

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

FRIDAY MAY 12th

Wilmer Wetland Experience with Sherry Dewey & John Pitcher

Join local enthusiasts Sherry Dewey and John Pitcher for a walk to the Wilmer Wildlife Area, in the ecologically rich Columbia River Wetlands. The trail makes its way down to the wetlands and loops back through open Douglas fir forest. As well as waterfowl and Bald Eagles, various grassland species such as Savannah Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Meadowlark and Mountain Bluebird have been spotted here in May.

Level: Intermediate
Fri May 12th from 7:30 am to 10:30 am
MAX # 16
LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather and bring water and a snack. Sturdy footwear is a must as we will be walking on game trails and possibly through mud. Some elevation gain and loss.

Birding for Dummies with Cathy Parkes

Can't tell an Owl from an Albatross? Do you feel intimidated by experienced birders? We will get familiarized with the tools of the trade and help learn to identify the birds you see.

Level: Easy
Fri May 12th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am
MAX # 15
Location: Invermere and surrounding area
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: binoculars and field guides (optional)

"All day" Exploration Blitz: North with Randy Hopkins

"All Day?" Well, most of the day at least. Join Randy on a fast paced trip following the Columbia River valley from Invermere north to the Brisco wetlands and Spillimacheen area. We'll be covering as much habitat as time permits, from wetlands to forests, from fields to mountain lakes. Bring along a lunch and your enthusiasm for birds!

Level: Challenging
Fri May 12th from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm
MAX # 20
LOCATION: Columbia Valley area
COST: \$30.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, lunch, binoculars, spotting scope & camera

Wildlife Sign & Safety on the Columbia Wetland Viewpoint Trail with Andrea Smillie & Kalista Pruden

Join local naturalist and wildlife safety coordinator for a walk along the Columbia Wetland Viewpoint Trail (on the way to the Fairmont Hoodoos). We will be discussing wildlife encounters, how to prevent one, and how to behave in the rare chance it does occur. We will also be observing animal sign including scat, tracks, sounds, vegetation, etc.!

Level: Moderate
Fri May 12th from 9:00 am to 11:30 am
MAX # 20
LOCATION: Fairmont area

Things to bring: Please be prepared for a 1 to 2 hour hike! There isn't much elevation gain, but the dirt trail isn't level. Bring water and snacks for yourself, proper footwear, rain gear in case the weather isn't great, bear spray and holster (if you have them) and your camera in case you want to take photos.

Invermere to Radium BBQ Lunch on the River Paddle

On this 3 to 5 hour flat-water paddle from Invermere to Radium Hot Springs (17 km) you will spend a leisurely morning on the Columbia River exploring the local waterways. The Columbia River Wetlands lure more than 250 species of birds. Eagles, ospreys and herons are common site throughout the season as are various species of wildlife. A delicious open fire BBQ lunch will be served riverside. Vegetarian option will be available. Basic paddling experience necessary.

Level: Easy
Fri May 12th from 9:30 am to 2:30 pm
MAX # 36
LOCATION: Invermere
COST: \$70.00 (includes PDF, boats, paddles, guide, BBQ lunch, and return transportation)

Things to bring: dress for the weather, camera, water

Ramblings of a Rocky Mountain Naturalist with Danny Catt (Mid-Morning Presentation)

Every summer, camera in hand, Danny takes his passion for wildlife, developed here in the BC Rockies, and explores other regions of the country in search of Grizzly Bears and Orca on the west coast, Polar Bears in the Arctic and wild horses on a remote Atlantic island. Join Danny for a mid-morning snack and a fun and lively photographic journey from coast to coast to coast in the most amazing country in the world . . . Oh Canada!

Fri May 12th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am
MAX #50
LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$20.00 (includes mid-morning snack)

History of the Hot Springs Tour with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Join the BC Rockies Adventures Guide to explore the history behind the hot water. Learn about the early settlers of Fairmont Hot Springs and the Resort's history.

Level: Intermediate
Fri May 12th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am
MAX #20
LOCATION: Fairmont Area
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather

Plate Tectonics and the Wetlands of Spillimacheen with Ron Grams & Karen Reid

The Columbia River and wetlands environment occupies a portion of the Rocky Mountain Trench, a landform created by tectonic activity, which initiated approximately 200 million years ago. Fast forward . . . the valley, over the past million years has endured multiple cycles of global cooling and associated glaciation. Participants will be taken on a scenic hike through a historic

wetlands property near Spillimacheen and introduced to various components of the wetlands ecosystem, the valley's tectonic origin, some glaciology trivia and to the areas amazing pioneering history.

Level: Intermediate
Fri May 12th from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm
MAX # 10
LOCATION: Spillimacheen
COST: \$25

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water proof footwear, camera & binoculars. Involves occasional light bush whacking.

Historic K2 Ranch Village Walk

Take a leisurely guided stroll around the historic and restored ranch buildings, including a 100 year old, still operating blacksmith shop; a large historic barn (home to many many barn dances) and several historic and period ranch houses dating from the glory years of cattle ranching in the Columbia Valley. Treats and coffee.

Level: Easy
Fri May 12th from 10:30 am to 11:30 am
MAX # 13
LOCATION: K2 Ranch Village
COST: \$15.00 (includes treats & coffee)

Things to bring: dress for the weather

A Sense of Mountain Place: Wallace Stegner & Our West with Bob Sandford (Lunch Presentation)

Wallace Stegner is considered by many to be the greatest of all the writers who have written about water and the American West. Few realize, however, that he also wrote a definitive book on sense of place in the Canadian West and profoundly influenced through his writing how we appreciate our mountain national parks and protected places. This presentation is a homage to Stegner that concludes with a thoughtful, caring reminder to those of us who live in the mountain West that there is much left to do if we want to create a culture commensurate with the spectacular landscapes and the intact natural systems that define our identity as a region and as a people.

Fri May 12th from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm
MAX #50
COST: \$30.00 (includes lunch)
LOCATION: Fairmont area

Historic K2 Ranch Village Walk

Take a leisurely guided stroll around the historic and restored ranch buildings, including a 100 year old, still operating blacksmith shop; a large historic barn (home to many many barn dances) and several historic and period ranch houses dating from the glory years of cattle ranching in the Columbia Valley. Treats and coffee.

Level: Easy
Fri May 12th from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm
MAX # 13
LOCATION: K2 Ranch Village
COST: \$15.00 (includes treats & coffee)

Things to bring: dress for the weather

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

FRIDAY MAY 12th

Wetlands Interpretive Walk with Columbia Wetlands Adventure Guides

Join Geologist, Sid Leggett to adventure out on our interpretive loop trail with its breathtaking views of the Canadian Rockies. Follow the meandering boardwalk through marshes, past Heron Rookeries, beside beaver lodges and across a swinging bridge to discover the magic and to learn of the geology of the Columbia River Wetlands. Stunning lunch stops are available in the wetlands or above at the "Worlds Largest Paddle area."

Level: Easy
Fri May 12th from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm
MAX # 15
LOCATION: Parsons, BC
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, camera, binoculars, good hiking boots, Sketchpad. Bring your lunch to enjoy after the walk

Paddle the Columbia River with BC Rockies Adventures Guides

Discover the gem of the Columbia Valley with Fairmont Hot Springs Resort's BC Rockies Adventures Guides. Enjoy the fantastic landscape which includes panoramic views of snow-capped mountains, eagles, ospreys, mule deer, and fish; all while learning about the importance of wetlands for humans and

wildlife. If you want to see Lewis's woodpeckers, this is the tour for you! This is a great opportunity for anyone (beginner to expert) to enjoy nature at its best. This is an interpretive tour that involves basic instruction to kayaking. We put in on the South end of Fairmont Hot Springs and paddle to the North end of the community.

Level: Intermediate
Fri May 12th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
MAX #12, Ages 12+
LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$49.00

Things To Bring: dress for the weather

Essence of Bear with Brad Hill (Evening Presentation)

Far from being vicious and blood-thirsty carnivores, bears are shy but highly complex social animals. Like humans, no two bears are alike. . . and their range of personalities is vast. During this narrated slideshow you'll see bears like you've never seen them . . . and hear some great stories about what bears do when they're left on their own to "just be bears".

Fri May 12th at 7:00 pm
MAX #100
LOCATION: Pynelogs Cultural Centre
COST: \$20.00

Eavesdropping on the Secret World of Bats (Invermere) with Leigh Anne Isaac

With funding support from the Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund, join Kootenay Community Bat Project biologist, Leigh Anne Isaac, to learn more about bats and eavesdrop on one of our most interesting and misunderstood nocturnal animals. We will discuss the ecology of local bats, how bats echolocate, and listen to bats using specialized detectors.

Level: Easy
Fri May 12th from 7:45 pm to 11:00 pm
MAX # 12
LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$12.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, warm drink if it is cool, bug spray, headlamp

The Wings Over the Rockies Festival could not fly without the support of staff, volunteers, donors, and participants.

Thanks to these Funders who support our Festival

Columbia Basin Trust
 District of Invermere
 Village of Radium
 Regional District of East Kootenays
 Columbia Power Corporation
 Kootenay Savings
 Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program



Photograph by Jim Lawrence

TINHORN CREEK
 NATURALLY SOUTH OKANAGAN
 Winery & Vineyard | Tastings & Tours | Summer Concerts | Wine Club
Mirador RESTAURANT
 www.tinhorn.com 537 Tinhorn Creek Road, Oliver, British Columbia 1-888-484-6467

Eagle-Eye Tours
 Canada's leading bird & nature tour company
 Columbia Valley based
 We offer 70+ tours WORLDWIDE!
 Call for a free catalogue
 250-342-8640
 1-800-373-5678
 travel@eagle-eye.com
 www.eagle-eye.com

radium HOT SPRINGS
 RadiumHotSprings.com | 888.347.9331
 @TourismRadium @Tourism.Radium @Tourism_Radium
BIGHORN SHEEP VIRTUAL TOUR MAY 10 & 11
 @ the Radium Visitor Centre

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

SATURDAY MAY 13th

Birdwalk at Edelweiss Slough with Verena Shaw

Join naturalist and Wildsight Golden's Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey (CWWS) assistant Verena Shaw to discover what birds we find as well as talk about the CWWS. This wetland is located right in the town of Golden. Recommendation: After this walk participants can go to Reflection Lake, a 10-minute drive away, for Joan Dolinsky's Breakfast with the Birds. Separate registration required.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from 7:30 am to 9:15 am
MAX # 10

LOCATION: Golden area
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: water, snack, binoculars, field guide, dress for the weather. Part of the trail may be very wet so a pair of boots could come in handy.

Kootenay Park Car Birding with Brian Wesley

In Kootenay Park, there are several pull out areas along highway 93 offering some different locales and bird types. All stops except for one have established parking lots. At most locations a short walk is required.

Level: easy
Sat May 13th from 8:00 am to noon
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Radium & Kootenay National Park
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, bug spray, walking shoes/boots, binoculars

The Catt & the Bird'er with Danny Catt and Cam Gillies

It is prime time for arriving migrants in the valley and we'll visit a nearby spot to see who's back for the summer and who never left. This will be a beautiful walk among forest and wetlands near the Columbia River with our keynote speaker, Danny Catt, and local birder and owner of Eagle-Eye Tours, Cam Gillies.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$25

Things to bring: dress for the weather, snack & water

Golden Wildsight: Breakfast with the Birds with Joan Dolinsky

Join Wildsight Golden at Reflection Lake Wildlife Viewing area for a home made breakfast at Golden's best local site for waterfowl watching. Binoculars, spotting scopes and field guides provided.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am (Drop in at any time)
MAX # 30

LOCATION: Golden area
COST: \$15.00 (includes home made breakfast)

Things to bring: dress for the weather

Exploring Columbia Lake - Lot 48: An Ecological Ramble with NCC

Enjoy a relaxed and informative walk through picturesque Columbia Lake - Lot 48, Conservation Area, located on the shores of Columbia Lake. Richard Klafki and Chad Townsend will share insights about the plants, birds and other wildlife that inhabit this Nature Conservancy of Canada conservation property. Participants will also witness the results of recent habitat restoration efforts.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from 8:00 am to 11:30 am
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$15

Things to bring: dress for the weather, binoculars, snack, water, hat, sunscreen, good walking/hiking footwear

Cruising 4 Curlews with Randy Hopkins

Come along on this visual quest for the sometimes elusive, sometimes right-out-there, Long-billed Curlew. We'll be searching the fields east of Windermere for this shore bird. See why some call it the "sicklebird".

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am
MAX # 15

LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, binoculars

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

SATURDAY MAY 13th

First Footsteps at Bella Vista with Bob Walker

This illustrated walk focuses mainly on the early human history and exploration of the Columbia Valley and surrounding Rocky Mountains. We'll enjoy wonderful views of Columbia Lake while reflecting how exploration mystery became history in the area. We'll finish with some reference to the recent human footprint in the area. Stories of bear encounters will be interspersed throughout. The venue is on a narrow, easy to moderate nature trail and can be enjoyed by people with a wide range of walking ability. Afterwards, four km of beautiful walking trails are available on the property, if you wish.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13 from 9:30 am to 12:00 pm
MAX # 15

LOCATION: South of Fairmont Hot Springs
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, good walking shoes, water, bug spray

The Land of the Smoking Water with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Explore the forests around Fairmont Hot Springs Resort. An easy forested walk with BC Rockies Adventure guides will take you to see evidence of bears in the area as well as local plants and other animals. Children welcome! Includes pass to hot springs pool.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Fairmont area
COST: \$16.50 - includes a pass to hot springs pool (under 3 - FREE)

Things to bring: Dress for the weather & bring your bathingsuit!

Wings, Rockies, Wine & Cheese Paddle with Ron Grams

This event starts at the historic Galena Church where participants will be introduced to the pioneering history of the area. We'll put in just downstream of the Church. This is a 3 hour paddle along a serene reach of the Columbia River wetlands with gorgeous views Bugaboo Mountain Range ... and, we should observe plenty of bird life. We'll make one stop on the Fraling Creek delta where folks can relax or take a short walk. The trip ends with a wine and cheese event hosted on the grounds of a Spillimacheen heritage property situated along the margin of the wetlands.

Level: Easy (should be comfortable around water)
Sat May 13th from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm
MAX # 2

LOCATION: Galena Church (Brisco)
COST: \$250.00 for two (includes boats - canoe and optional kayak), life jackets, guide, beverages and snacks, wine & cheese and shuttle back to vehicle

Things to bring: dress for the weather, sunscreen, hat, camera, river footwear suitable for walking (old runners, etc)

I Love My Lake Pontoon Boat Tour hosted by Pete's Marina & The Ambassadors (am)

Interested in the health of Lake Windermere and the Upper Columbia Watershed? Join the Lake Windermere Ambassadors and our captain Pete for a unique on-water tour of Lake Windermere by pontoon boat and experi-

ence first-hand our acclaimed community-based water quality monitoring program.

Level: Moderate
Sat May 13th from 11:00 am to 12:30 pm
MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$20.00 (includes pfd)

What to bring: dress for the weather, water, sunscreen/sunhat, a lunch or snacks

Stand Up Paddle (SUP) Tour of the Columbia Wetlands

From your SUP board, take in the vistas across Lake Windermere to the Fairmont Range. SUP or Stand Up Paddle Boarding is globally the fastest growing watersport and it's not difficult to see why. Easy to learn, very accessible and amazing fun...with just a little training from one of our instructor/guides, who will spend the time on the water with you, you will be up and paddling and enjoying this amazing sport. Starting at Kinsman beach with easy access from the sandy beach and shallow waters will make it easy and fun for any skill level.

Level: Easy to Advanced
Sat May 13th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$30.00 (Includes PDF, SUP Board, paddle & guide)

Things to bring: dress for the weather

Dippers & Ducks - Randy Hopkins

Take a drive up the road to Panorama and help search for the fascinating and elusive diving birds that inhabit this rollicking mountain creek. Bring lots of patience and your best eyesight to spot the Harlequin Ducks and American Dippers who make their home in this amazing watery environment.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from noon to 3:00 pm
MAX # 15

LOCATION: Panorama area
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, binoculars

Wings Fest Children's Festival

Sat May 13th from noon to 4:00 pm

LOCATION: Pothole Park, downtown Invermere
COST: \$8.00 per child for Passport (pre-registration) or \$10.00 at the gate

Events & Interactive Stations:

- Explore the World of Bats! With Kootenay Community Bat Project biologists
- Sprinkles the Clown
- Magic Shows, Balloon Twisting & roving Puppet Theatre
- Crafts with Black Star Studios
- Nature Activity Stations
- Teddy Bear Picnic with friends
- Buggy Fun Station

I Love My Lake Pontoon Boat Tour hosted by Pete's Marina & The Ambassadors (pm)

Interested in the health of Lake Windermere and the Upper Columbia Watershed? Join the Lake Windermere Ambassadors and our captain Pete for a unique on-water tour of Lake Windermere by pontoon boat and experience first-hand our acclaimed community-based water quality monitoring program.

Level: Moderate
Sat May 13th from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm
MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$20.00 (includes pfd)

What to bring: dress for the weather, water, sunscreen/sunhat, a lunch or snacks

Paddle the Columbia River with BC Rockies Adventures Guides

Discover the gem of the Columbia Valley with Fairmont Hot Springs Resort's BC Rockies Adventures Guides. Enjoy the fantastic landscape, which includes panoramic views of snow-capped mountains, eagles, ospreys, mule deer, and fish; all while learning about the importance of wetlands for humans and wildlife. If you want to see Lewis's woodpeckers, this is the tour for you! This is a great opportunity for anyone (beginner to expert) to enjoy nature at its best. This is an interpretive tour that involves basic instruction to kayaking. We put in on the South end of Fairmont Hot Springs and paddle to the North end of the community.

Level: Intermediate
Sat May 13th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm
MAX #12, Ages 12+

LOCATION: Fairmont Area
COST: \$49.00

Things To Bring: dress for the weather

Build it and They Will Come: Build a Bat House for your Backyard

With funding support from the Columbia Basin Trust & the Lake Windermere District Rod and Gun Club, join Kootenay Community Bat Project biologist Leigh Anne Isaac and Joyce deBoer from Wildsight Golden, to learn a thing or two about bats and build your own bat house. This workshop includes an informative presentation and provides all the materials to build a multi-chambered bat-house that might attract a few hundred mosquito-munching bats. One bat-house per household please.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from 3:00 to 5:30 pm
MAX #12

LOCATION: Golden area
COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: water, snack, portable drill with Phillips drill bit, staple gun and staples, a drop cloth or some other material to wrap up your bat house if stain is not dry

Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey - Spring 2017



Photograph by Jim Lawrence

Do you love the Columbia Wetlands, birds, and being outside? If so, participating in the Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey (CWWS) may be for you!

Migratory bird surveys will be occurring on the Columbia Wetlands this spring from 8am-11am on each of the three following dates:

- Monday, April 3rd
- Monday, April 10th
- Sunday, April 16th (please note that this is Easter Sunday).

We are currently seeking citizen-scientists like you to survey for birds near Golden, Parson, Spillimacheen, Brisco, Radium, Wilmer, Lake Windermere, Invermere and Columbia Lake. A major goal of the CWWS is to collect baseline data necessary for achieving Important Bird Area (IBA) status for the Columbia Wetlands; data you collect may be used to help designate the Columbia Wetlands as an IBA!

We are also determining where the most significant staging and feeding areas are in the Columbia Wetlands, for more than 30 migratory bird species (including species-at-risk).

A limited number of high quality optical gear sets can be lent to those in need. We also offer free CWWS training modules to CWWS volunteers. Dates are as follows:

- In class training sessions:
- Invermere - Thursday, March 23rd, 5-7pm
 - Golden - Monday, March 27th, 5-7pm

Identification skills in the field:

- Invermere - Saturday, March 25th, 9am-10:30am
- Golden - Saturday, April 1st, 9am-10:30am

If you are interested in participating in the CWWS or would like to know more, please email racheldarvill@gmail.com or call us at 250-344-5530.

COLUMBIA WETLANDS WATERBIRD SURVEY
 FULL TRAINING PROVIDED

DO YOU LOVE WILDLIFE & THE COLUMBIA WETLANDS? WANT TO OBSERVE AND COUNT BIRDS AND CONTRIBUTE TO REAL SCIENCE?

THE COLUMBIA WETLANDS WATERBIRD SURVEY IS FOR YOU!
 (SURVEY DATES: April 3, 10, 16 & October dates TBA)

TO REGISTER: 250.344.5530 racheldarvill@gmail.com

Partners: Kootenay Community Foundation, Columbia Basin Trust, Wildsight Golden.

Come see why we were voted #1 Great Adventure Experience TOURISM HOSPITALITY AWARD



2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

SATURDAY MAY 13th

21st Annual Gala Banquet & Keynote Wildlife around the Globe: Lions & Tigers & Bears...Oh My!

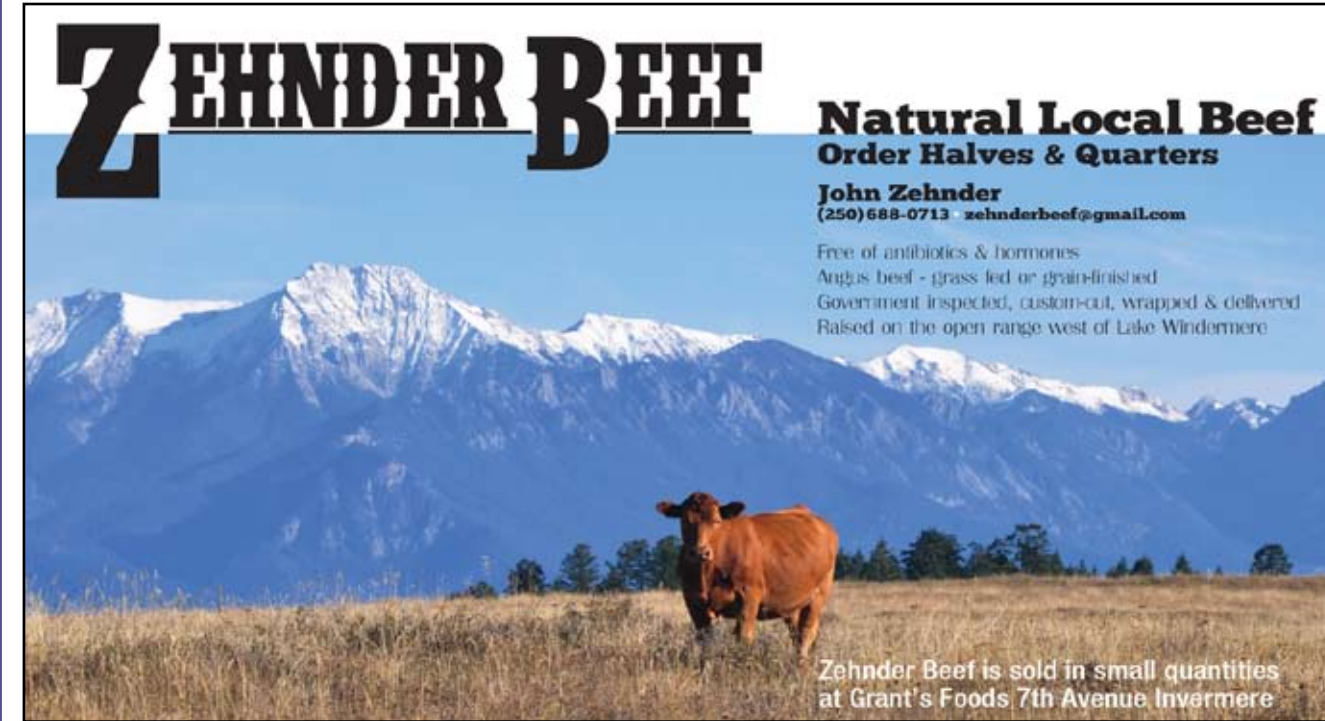
Award winning naturalist, photographer, wildlife-champion and world traveler Danny Catt has explored and photographed wildlife in close to 100 countries around the planet. In this thought provoking and entertaining presentation, Danny will share his images and stories from some of the most beautiful places on Earth, reflect on humanity's fragile relationships with nature and share lessons learned about ways we can all make our world a better place.

Sat May 13th at Fairmont Hot Springs Resort
5:00 pm Refreshments
6:30 pm Dinner
8:00 pm Live Auction & finale of the Silent Auction
8:30 pm Keynote by Danny Catt
MAX #180
LOCATION: Fairmont Hot Springs Resort
COST: \$75.00 (tax receipt provided)

Eavesdropping On The Secret World of Bats

With funding support from the Columbia Basin Trust, join Kootenay Community Bat Project biologist, Leigh Anne Isaac and eavesdrop on one of our most interesting and misunderstood nocturnal animals. We will discuss the ecology of local bats, how bats echolocate, and listen to bats using specialized detectors.

Level: Easy
Sat May 13th from 8:00 pm to 11:00 pm
MAX # 12
LOCATION: Golden area
COST: \$12.00
 Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, warm drink if it is cool, bug spray, headlamp



ZEHNDER BEEF Natural Local Beef
Order Halves & Quarters
John Zehnder
 (250) 688-0713 zehnderbeef@gmail.com
 Free of antibiotics & hormones
 Angus beef - grass fed or grain-finished
 Government inspected, custom-cut, wrapped & delivered
 Raised on the open range west of Lake Windermere

Zehnder Beef is sold in small quantities at Grant's Foods 7th Avenue Invermere

2017 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

SUNDAY MAY 14th

Danny & Randy Birding Team: Wetlands Paddle with Danny Catt & Randy Hopkins

Join Danny Catt & Randy Hopkins on a fun-filled paddle through the wetlands to identify the various kinds of water birds and to discuss how they have adapted to living there. Danny Catt, an internationally known conservationist, photographer and environmental educator, has spent more than a decade in the Upper Columbia Valley and has studied conservation around the globe. Randy Hopkins, our local birder and man of many talents will share his knowledge on the Columbia Wetlands and the birds that inhabited them. It is Ornithology 101 while sitting in a canoe! Basic paddling experience necessary.

Level: Easy
Sun May 14th from 8:30 to 10:30 am
MAX # 20
LOCATION: Invermere
COST: \$30.00 (includes PDF, boats, paddles, guide)
 Things to bring: dress for the weather

Ecological Tour on the Zehnder Ranch – John & David Zehnder

Join us for a walk through the hay fields looking for Long Billed Curlews and other birds, followed by a herding demonstration with John and his Border Collies. Then we will take a walk along Bunyan Lake looking for Painted Turtles, wetland birds, and glass for Mountain Goats along Mount Taynton. The tour will finish with John and David talking about two conservation projects, which are helping to protect both wetlands and Mountain Goat habitat on the Ranch.

Level: Intermediate
Sun May 14th from 9:00 am to noon
MAX # 18
LOCATION: Invermere
COST: \$20.00
 Things to bring: dress for the weather, water, snack, binoculars

Bugs, Beasts & Beyond: A Family Wetland Exploration – Duncan Whittick & Karen Reid - Family Event

Join us for a Junior Naturalist exploration! Kids ages 5-12 will be able to discover bugs and beasts. Make sure to bring your rubber boots, a snack and your sense of adventure.
Sun May 14th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am
MAX # 14
LOCATION: Invermere
COST: \$5.00 - under 2 Free
 Things to bring: dress for the weather, rubber boots, snack, water

Lake Enid Family Walk with Kim Urbaniak (Hosted by Wildsight Invermere)

Connect with Nature and your kids and at the same time! Join Wildsight Invermere's Kim Urbaniak at Lake Enid on a playful guided walk geared for children aged 5 to 7 and their parents. We will explore our surroundings, play some games, and make a craft to take home. Children must be accompanied by an adult.

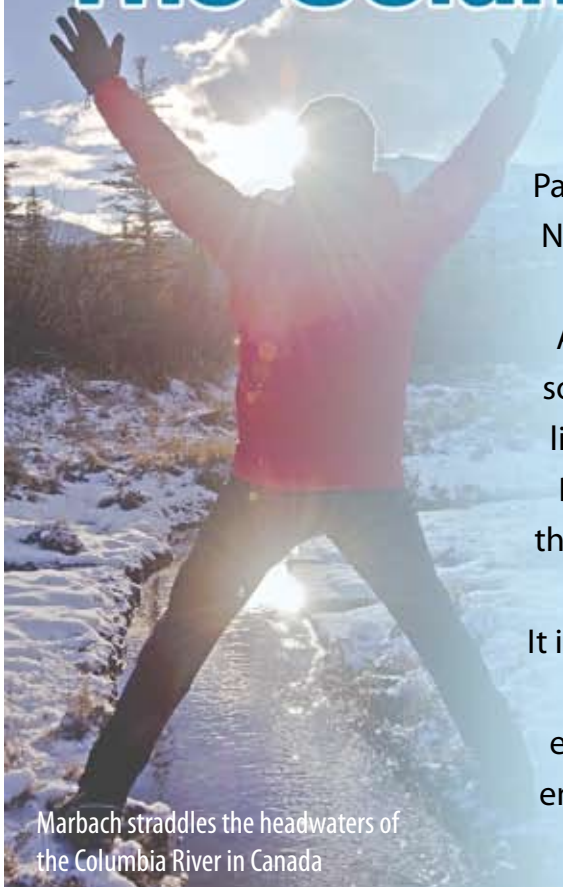
Level: Easy
Sun May 14th from 10:00 am to noon
MAX # 16
LOCATION: Lake Enid area
COST: \$5.00 - kids under 2 Free
 Things to bring: dress for the weather, good walking shoes, rain gear, snack

Building Homes for Bats (Radium) with Leigh Anne Isaac

With funding support from the Columbia Valley Local Conservation Fund & the Lake Windermere District Rod and Gun Club, join Kootenay Community Bat Project biologist, Leigh Anne Isaac, to learn about bats and build a bat house. This workshop includes a short presentation on bats and then provides all the materials you need to build a bat-house of your own. One bat-house per household please.
Level: Easy
Sun May 14th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm
MAX # 12
LOCATION: Radium area
COST: \$15.00
 Things to bring: water, snack, portable drill with Phillips drill bit, staple gun and staples, a drop cloth or some other material to wrap up your bat house if stain is not dry

The Columbia - From Source to Sea

By Peter Marbach



Marbach straddles the headwaters of the Columbia River in Canada

On a summer evening ten years ago, I sat by the shoreline of the Columbia River at Viento State Park in Oregon. With eyes closed, I imagined a journey that reached back in time to the origins of Nch I Wana – The Big River. A week later I stood near the headwaters and was in awe of the scene before me with the wild and free section winding north between towering mountain ranges. And so began a decade-long odyssey and passion to document the entire 1,250 mile river, from source to sea. I expected to be inspired by wondrous riverscapes and fleeting moments of magic light. Finding the actual source and straddling the headwaters was a moment I will never forget. But by far, it has been my encounters with the people of the river, their stories, and the plight of the salmon that has fueled my passion to educate the public about the Columbia Treaty re-negotiations and the efforts to restore the ancient runs of salmon all the way to Invermere again. It is nothing short of miraculous that the possibility exists that in our lifetime, salmon may be able to go all the way home. This is what inspires me, that in some small way my lectures, traveling exhibit, and eventual book can educate the public and inspire those at the negotiating table to embrace a bold vision and do what is right and just and good for the fish and people of the Nch I Wana – The Big River.

Wild Nature Tours & Workshops



- Bees • Beavers • Hike Jumbo
- Birds • Bears • And More!

Celebrating 30 Years! Wildsight.ca/Invermere

Welcome Wings Over the Rockies

Edibles Farm
 Visit us for a variety of fresh certified organic produce
 Located at Wilderberry 1681 Hwy 93/95 Windermere BC

Edibles Café
 Farm to Fork Simple, fresh, feel good food
Daily Lunch Specials
 Mon to Sat 9 - 6 pm
 Sun 10 - 4 pm
Buzz on over!

THE WARDENS
 MUSIC FROM THE MOUNTAINS

The Wardens return to Pynelogs
SATURDAY MAY 20TH
 Tickets for sale at Pynelogs • \$20 LIMITED SEATING
 Doors open at 6 pm • Show at 7 pm

Pynelogs Cultural Centre
 Kinsmen Beach | Invermere, BC
 www.columbiavalleyarts.com
 250.342.4423

Over the years, Wings Over the Rockies has served as the incubator for successful organizations including Greenways, Wild Voices for Kids and the Take Flight raptor rehabilitation cage.




**EAST KOOTENAY
INVASIVE SPECIES
COUNCIL**

May 9th
9am – 3 pm
\$30

REWILDING THE WILD
A habitat restoration experience

May 10th
12:00 pm
\$30

ALIEN INVASION
The impact of invasive species on wildlife

More info at www.ekisc.com
 @eastkootenayinvasives
 1-888-553-5472



\$99 ROOMS

AT FAIRMONT HOT SPRINGS RESORT

Make Fairmont Hot Springs Resort your home base for the Wings over the Rockies festival from May 10–15, 2017.

*Centrally located for all festival activities, you'll be in the heart of the action. **Stay with us for only \$99/per night.***

Some conditions apply, see website for details.



Immerse Yourself
FairmontHotSprings.com
 Or call: 1.800.663.4979 and quote "Wings over the Rockies"




COLOURFUL SUMMIT

— Exclusive Tamarack Ridge Walk —

Photo: Chris Freeborn

An extraordinary transformation of brilliance and colour transpires in the alpine as the mountains change from summer to fall. Join us at 9 AM, September 16, 17, 23, or 24 and experience this visual feast from one of the best and most accessible places: the summit ridges at Panorama Mountain Resort.

This catered excursion will see guests ride three chairlifts in order to access the summit. Once at the resort's upper regions, guests will be chaperoned to select vantage points with spectacular vistas of fall colours. After rambles on the ridge, guests will then descend to the resort for drinks and entertainment.

There's more to the mountains. 

Tickets for this event must be purchased in advance. For more information and to purchase tickets, please visit PanoramaResort.com or call 250.342.6941.

ADULTS: \$99 / CHILDREN: (6-12) \$79; (5 & under) FREE

*Note: This event is best suited for those in reasonable physical condition and equipped with suitable outdoor apparel.



PANORAMA
PURE CANADA

250.342.6941 | PanoramaResort.com