

22ND ANNUAL

Wings over the Rockies

MAY 7th to 13th . 2018

Webs & Roots: Talk About Networking!

KEYNOTE SPEAKER

Dr. Suzanne Simard



Dr. Suzanne Simard discovered that trees use a network of soil fungi to communicate their needs and send each other nutrients through a matrix of roots and web-type fungi buried in the soil.

A Week Full of Events Celebrating Interconnectedness In Nature

Registration Opens April 9th . 2018



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

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



Message from Wings Fest Chairperson

Webs & Roots: Talk About Networking!

Every spring, for twenty-two years, the Wings Over the Rockies Festival has offered unique insights into our special place on the planet, the Upper Columbia Valley

This year's theme, Webs & Roots: Talk About Networking! is inspired by the research of our 2018 keynote presenter renowned forest ecologist Suzanne Simard.

We seldom think about forests. When we smell the scent of forests we might remember that trees are the lungs of the planet, breathing in CO2 and exhaling the oxygen. But really, trees are the boring upright and rigid members of much more dynamic ecosystems that include flowers, insects, birds and wildlife. Recently scientists have discovered that there is a hidden side to forests. Beneath the forest's floor, roots and fungus are exchanging

nutrients and messages between trees. These hidden communication networks are vital to forest health.

Like a forest, the Wings festival also relies on complex networks to develop its engaging events. These networks include the flora and fauna of the upper Columbia Valley, expert presenters, our event planner, the many volunteers and sponsors, and you, our festival participants. Together we create the magic that is the Wings Over the Rockies Festival.

Sincerely,



CHAIR
2018 Wings Over the Rockies Bird Festival

Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey



Since 2015, the Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey (CWWS) has been connecting residents throughout the upper and lower Columbia Valley, creating an intricate web of incredibly keen and knowledgeable citizen-scientists. Together, 104 local residents counted more than 77,000 birds in the Columbia Wetlands during six survey dates in 2017! This type of coordinated bird count data will allow us to nominate the Columbia Wetlands into the 'Important Bird and Biodiversity Area' program. Are you keen to get more connected to birds and the Columbia Wetlands through active participation? Spring survey dates are April 3, 10, and 16 with fall dates in October 2018. We are seeking those with advanced birding skills, but novice birders are welcome as free bird identification training is provided. To register or for more information, please contact CWWS's Program Biologist at racheldarvill@gmail.com or call 250-344-5530.

Pat and Baiba Morrow Mountaineers, photojournalists and filmmakers, the Morrors are regular Wings participants and presenters.

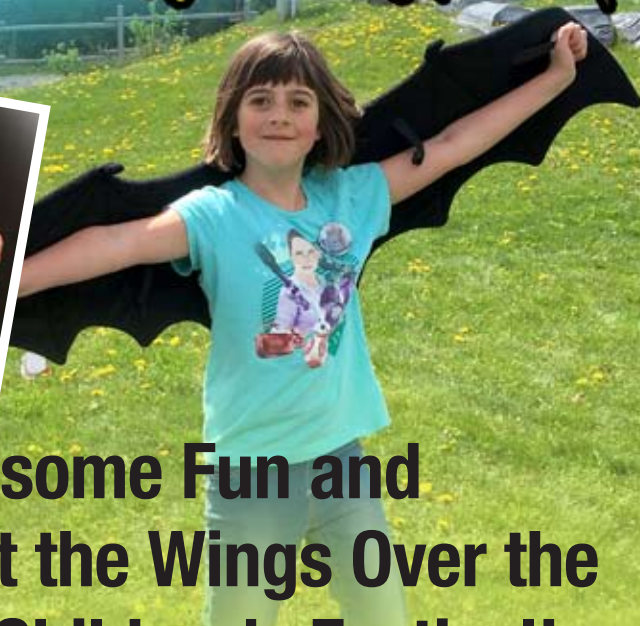
The Royal Canadian Geographical Society recently awarded the mountaineering duo Baiba and Pat Morrow with the Sir Christopher Ondaatje Medal for Exploration. Baiba and Pat Morrow have dedicated their professional and personal lives to the discovery and documentation of the world's physical and human landscapes, beginning right here with the stunning ecosystem in the Columbia Valley.

Pat Morrow is recognized internationally for being the second Canadian to stand on the summit of Mount Everest, and the first person to have completed the Seven Summits project. His book, *Beyond Everest: Quest for the Seven Summits*, has earned him recognition as both an adventurer and a filmmaker. In 1988, he received the Order of Canada, and in 1990, he was recognized with the Summit of Excellence at the Banff Mountain Film Festival.

Baiba Morrow is well-known for her contributions to adventure journalism and for her commitment to teaching the next generation about conservation and environmental stewardship.



Children's Festival



Time for some Fun and Games at the Wings Over the Rockies Children's Festival!

We had so much fun last year we're doing it again! Bubbles, birds, and bugs are just a few of the things you will find when you explore all of the fun at Pot Hole Park. You can get up close to some wild animals, build your own bird nest and have a picnic with your family! Sprinkles the Clown will be back with her unique Magic and Theatre shows to make the kids squeal with delight. There's creativity, learning and play for kids of all ages, so join us and remember to bring your bike for the Peacock Parade; for our grand finale we'll decorate our bikes and wagons and parade around Pot Hole Park showing off all our colours!

A free event for the family
Saturday May 5th
Pothole Park, Invermere
12:00 - 4:00 PM



If Bees Are Few

As part of a themed Art Show at Pynelogs Art Gallery there will be several artists celebrating the awe that one feels in the presence of these social insects, to the astounding service of the honeybee and to the fears that are growing about the risks that they face.

As a group of four artists with connections to bees, a common respect, a deep concern and very diverse artistic viewpoints, Gordon James, Lisa Riehl, Kathryn Manry & Marsha Ross's 'If Bees Are Few' Art Show will present their vision of the magic of bee husbandry. There is so much to explore on their theme: the awe at the intelligent behaviour of the hive and its perfect social organization, the seemingly altruistic devotion of the worker bees to its duty, the weighty role of the queen as mother of all and the absolute beauty of the honeybee itself.

To complete the 'bee' show, the artwork from the Lil Peeps artists (Columbia Valley Daycare Centre kids) will fill the Gallery with cute, fuzzy, creative beeeeezzzz. The Gallery will also feature our local artist community with their interpretation of the theme. So for the week of the Wings Over the Rockies Festival, the Pynelogs Art Gallery will beeee abuzz with artwork, people networking about Webs & Roots and many lively discussions about the Flower Sex & Bee Conversations (Evening Presentation on Friday May 11th at 7 pm hosted by Kathryn Manry)!



"Not a single bee has ever sent you an invoice. And that is part of the problem – because most of what comes to us from nature is free, because it is not invoiced, because it is not priced, because it is not traded in markets, we tend to ignore it."

Pavan Sukdev, United Nations Report, The Economics of Ecosystems and Biodiversity



Once upon a time,
When women were birds,
There was the simple understanding
That to sing at dawn
And to sing at dusk
Was to heal the world through joy.
The birds still remember what we have forgotten,
That the world is meant to be celebrated.

Terry Tempest Williams,
When Women Were Birds

2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

MONDAY MAY 7th

K2 Ranch Birding Excursion - Brian Wesley

Join Brian Wesley on this popular birding event into 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 will be a mix of both forest and aquatic birds to spot. Those bringing lunch will spend additional time exploring the end point area which includes an additional pond.

Level: intermediate

Mon May 7th from 7:30 am to 11:30 am or 2:00 pm (if bringing a lunch).

MAX # 16

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$20.00

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

Birding for Dummies - 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

Mon May 7th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: Bring binoculars and field guides (optional). Dress for the weather, bug spray, sun screen, good hiking/walking boots, binoculars, snacks and water

Dutch Creek Hoodoos: Attaining a Bird's Eye View with NCC

Enjoy a relaxed and informative walk up to the picturesque Dutch Creek Hoodoos Conservation Area, located on the north end of Columbia Lake. Richard Klafki and Kate MacKenzie will share insights about the plants,

birds and other wildlife that inhabit this Nature Conservancy of Canada conservation property. Participants will experience recent trail upgrades and the new interpretive panels along the way.

Level: Moderate

Mon May 7th from 8:00 am to 11:30 am

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Fairmont area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Binoculars, snack, water, hat, sunscreen, good walking/hiking footwear, rain coat (just in case)

Swansea Hike - Ceiling of the Valley!

You will have the chance to view the Columbia Valley from above! This 6-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. You will take some time to soak up the sights, explore the mountain top and have your lunch before heading back down the south side of the mountain (trail conditions permitting) Note: Lunch not included. Bring your own

Level: Must have a good fitness level

Mon May 7th from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$35.00

Things to Bring: Lunch, snacks, water, sturdy walking shoes, dress for the weather, hiking poles (highly recommended), camera, bug spray.

Bedrock Geology of Panorama /Toby Creek - Walter Benstead

Join us for an introduction to the geology of the Purcell Mountains. 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 get to

learn about the varied geological structures and rock types that illustrate this earliest period of our area.

Level: Easy

Mon May 7th from 9:00 am to noon

MAX # 16

LOCATION: Panorama area

COST: \$15.00

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

Source of the Columbia with 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 7th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Canal Flats

COST: \$15.00

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

Wetlands Paddle with Kathy Martin

Spend a fact-filled morning with Scientist & Ornithologist, Kathy Martin from the University of British Columbia as she shares her deep knowledge and experience of our feathered friends in the glorious wetlands of the Columbia River. Kathy's research in excavating birds in cavity nesting, effectiveness of avian monitoring programs and ecology, life history variation, behavior and conservation of birds in high elevation habitats will lead to interesting conversations, sightings and education. Basic paddling experience necessary.

Level: Easy

Mon May 7th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 24

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$30.00 (includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide)

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



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2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

MONDAY MAY 7th

The Beautiful Chemicals in Beautiful Flowers with Roy Golsteyn (Mid-Morning Presentation)

Join Roy Golsteyn, a cancer research scientist, who is investigating chemicals from native Canadian plants. Roy will share some of his experiences and experiments about chemicals that are present in native plants, including those that flourish in British Columbia. He will give you a healthy look at some of the science and stories behind our beautiful wild flowers and medicinal plants.

Mon May 7th from 10:00 am to 11:15 am

MAX # 70

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$17.00 (includes mid-morning snacks)

'Bears Explained' by Colleen Campbell (Lunch Presentation)

As one outcome of a decade of fieldwork for the Eastern Slopes Grizzly Bear Research project, Colleen presents dozens of talks about bears every year; though their natural history, strategies and patterns for surviving in our tough environment and their most critical challenges can be generalized, each one is a unique being. Questions are encouraged and welcomed.

Mon May 7th from 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm

MAX # 70

LOCATION: Invermere area

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 7th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Canal Flats

COST: \$15.00

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

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 to spot a pair of nesting dippers at the Kindersley Creek dam.

Level: Intermediate

Mon May 7th from 2:00 pm to 5:00 pm

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Edgewater

COST: \$17.00

Things to bring: Dress for the weather, sturdy footwear and snack/water

"Wings" Film with the Windermere District Historical Society

"WINGS" is a historic 1927 film featuring Richard Arlen, Clara Bow and Gary Cooper. Director William Wellman's masterpiece was the first film to win the Academy Award for Best Picture. This timeless story of love and loss follows two boys during the Great War and the girls they left behind. The aerial battle sequences still rank among the best in motion picture history. B&W non-talkie with English intertitles and a masterful music score.

Mon May 7th from 2:00 pm to 4:20 pm

MAX #20

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$12.00

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 preferable.

Level: Easy

Mon May 7th from 3:30 pm to 8:00 pm

MAX # 60

LOCATION: Radium

COST: \$85.00 Includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide, BBQ Dinner and return transportation to Radium

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

Nest Webs: Tree-cavity Housing Networks for Forest Wildlife with Kathy Martin (Evening Presentation)

About one in five birds use cavities in trees year-round for nesting and roosting globally. Tree-cavity-using wildlife communities occur in "nest webs", whereby woodpeckers and nuthatches excavate cavities, and over the next several decades, individual cavities can be used many times by multiple non-excavator species (ducks, owls).

Mon May 7th at 7:00 pm

MAX # 100

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$20.00

Searching for Tao Canyon

A stunning AV presentation of retro, mind-bending photography that unlocks a hidden world of natural wonder, personal reflection and outdoor adventure.

One of the world's most exotic landscapes lies just a 20-hour drive from Invermere. Across the high desert of Utah and northern Arizona stretches a labyrinthine connectivity of slot canyons — narrow, deep, often overhanging and fantastically carved.

For over a decade, beginning in 1975, Art Twomey, Pat Morrow and Jeremy Schmidt inadvertently helped pioneer the sport of canyoneering. Using jury-

rigged climbing and caving techniques, they hauled their cameras through the wildest, most intricate canyons they could find. At the time, slot canyons were virtually unknown, their exquisite beauties not yet appreciated. There were no guidebooks, no guided tours, no satellite images to work from. The pleasure came from old-fashioned exploration and a sense of discovery, of finding places no one knew.

This Presentation is scheduled for Tuesday May 8th at 7 pm. Registration is required.



2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

TUESDAY MAY 8th

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. We all enjoy networking with one another, whether expert or enthusiast, and come away enriched from the experience.

Level: Intermediate

Tue May 8th 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.

At the Edge... with Gerry Wilkie

In this undemanding trip, join Gerry for a stroll through the Village of Edgewater to good viewpoints at the edge of the Columbia Wetlands. Good opportunities to see local flora and fauna and to learn about local history of the region. Enjoy this leisurely walk with a knowledgeable birder and long-time resident. If time permits, we will also take a short drive to view historical European settlement features.

Level: easy

Tues May 8th from 8:00 am to noon

MAX # 16

LOCATION: Edgewater

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, bug spray, sun screen, good hiking/walking boots, binoculars, 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!

Level: Easy

Tue May 8th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Snack & water and dress for the weather

Wildlife Housing Options in Tree Cavities with Kathy Martin

On this field trip, Prof Kathy Martin will show you different kinds of tree cavities used by wildlife for nesting and roosting. Some tree cavities are excavated by woodpeckers, nuthatches and chickadees, while others are formed by natural decay. We will see the differences between nesting cavities and feeding holes.

Level: Moderate

Tue May 8th from 8:30 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$20.00

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

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 experiencing the stunning views and all-natural experience the trail has to offer, you will also hear how two Valley residents developed a crazy beer induced idea into a multi-million dollar world class recreational amenity.

Level: Moderate

Tue May 8th from 9:00 am to 10:30 am

MAX #15

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: water and dress for the weather. Remember to wear sturdy walking/hiking shoes

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 preferable.

Level: Easy

Tues May 8th from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

MAX # 60

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$75.00 Includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide, BBQ lunch, and return transportation

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

The Path to the Perfect Cup: Kicking Horse Coffee Facility Tour

Have you ever wondered how coffee is magically transformed from an itty-bitty bean into the deep, dark and delicious drink you know and love? Join us at coffee heaven and see how those bold, beautiful, bring-it-on beans become the hot stuff you can't live without. See for yourself what makes Kicking Horse Coffee Canada's number-one Organic Fairtrade coffee company!

Tue May 8th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$15.00

Things to know: The tour takes place within a working production facility (there's a lot of beans, bucko). All tour participants must be pre-registered and may be required to sign a non-disclosure form (we gotta keep our secret recipes top-secret). The facility is a 'no-go-zone' for cameras (including cell phones or personal devices with camera capabilities), jewelry, open-toed/open-heeled shoes or high heels (think, "If I were running away from a bear, what would I want to be wearing?).

'Come Root Around with Us' at Edibles Farm + Cafe

Join the Edibles Farm team for a morning walk through Winderberry greenhouses and Edibles vegetable farm. Learn about the web of life on our certified organic farm and the importance of healthy soil and diverse ecosystem. We'll talk about the steps of our operation from seed germination, rooting out and transplanting to greenhouse and field production of our flowers and vegetables. We'll share with you our integrated system on the farm from our living compost pile to our 'mobile' chicken manure station, to the thriving bee community. Your tour will all come together via the web of eating for a lovely farm to plate organic lunch at Edibles Cafe.

Tue May 8th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Windermere

COST: \$30.00 (includes lunch)

Network and Know Rocks, Ridges and Rivers of your Rocky Mountain Parks with Dale Leckie (Lunch Presentation)

Award-winning geologist and best-selling author Dale Leckie guides you through the Canadian Rocky Mountain National Parks. The story of the Rockies, its rivers and valleys, glaciers and hot springs, caves and karst, mountain building and erosion unfolds. With eye-catching illustrations and photographs, this presentation blends story telling with science and natural beauty with easy to understand explanations. Be prepared to be amazed by the story written in the Rocks, Ridges, and Rivers.

Tues May 8th from 12:30 to 1:45 pm

MAX # 70

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$30.00 (includes lunch)

Crazy About Columbia Lake with Donna Rae

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. We'll meet at Columere Marina and head onto the lake on 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: Easy

Tue May 8th from 1:00 pm to 4 pm

MAX # 10

COST: \$25.00

LOCATION: Columbia Lake

Things to bring: Water, snack, dress for potentially cooler weather on the lake. Lifejackets provided.

Floodplain Wetlands in the Columbia Valley: Vegetation, Frogs and the dynamic forces that influence both - 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 8th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Brisco area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: water, snack, hat, bug spray, rubber boots, dress for weather



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Sun 10 - 4 pm
Buzz on over!

2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

TUESDAY MAY 8th

Skookumchuck Prairie IBA with Dianne Cooper and Randy Harris

Join us for a walk and drive through open range to learn more about this important Bird and Biodiversity Area critical to Long-Billed Curlew, Lewis's Woodpecker and other grassland species. This site, historically overgrazed, has become a hotspot for Lewis's Woodpecker. On the walk, we'll explore the Ecological Restoration management actions which have led to this localized recovery, view examples of wildlife trees and hopefully spot the first woodpeckers and curlews arriving to breed.

Level: Easy

Tues May 8th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Skookumchuck area, 23 kilometres south of Canal Flats

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Snacks, water, binoculars, rain gear in case of bad weather, sturdy walking shoes

Wetlands Interpretive Walk with a Columbia Wetlands Adventures Guide

Join geologist Sid Leggett for an hour and a half walk out on our interpretive loop trail adjacent to the Columbia River wetlands. Sid will discuss the development of the mountains, the valley and the wet lands and how the ecology of the valley evolved. He will also talk about the history of the area: the silver mines, the steam paddle wheelers that went up and down the Columbia River and stories of the initial settlers in the area.

Level: easy

Tue May 8th from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Parsons, BC

COST: \$15.00

Things to Bring: Camera, Binoculars, Good Hiking boots, Sketchpad, Outerwear suitable for changing weather conditions. Bring your lunch to enjoy after the walk

Searching for Tao Canyon with Pat Morrow (Evening Presentation)

Over the period of a decade, beginning in 1975, the subterranean world of the American desert began to offer up its secrets to photographers Art Twomey, Jeremy Schmidt and Pat Morrow. Long before the region was "discovered" by modern day adventurers, the trio set out to explore and document the slickrock canyons (some for the very first time) that radiate across the surface of the parched Colorado Plateau. This AV presentation is timed to launch the book by the same name, published by Rocky Mountain Books.

Tues May 8th at 7:00 pm

MAX # 100

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$25.00

The Journey of Vodka – from Grain to Bottle

How do we turn BC grain into a smooth, crisp, clean spirit? Come to Taynton Bay Spirits for a distillery tour, and vodka cocktail journey. We will start with tasting our plain vodka and move onto explore different cocktail making techniques from simple to complex.

Tue May 8th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

MAX # 16

Location: Invermere Area

COST: \$15.00

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.

2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

WEDNESDAY MAY 9th

Dawn Chorus - 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 neighbourhood walk will follow the Chorus. Those interested can go to the Smoking Waters Coffee Company for a post-event cup of java (not included).

Level: easy

Wed May 9th from 5:00 am to 7:00 am

MAX # 16

LOCATION: Fairmont Area

COST: \$15.00

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

The Spectacular Fairmont Hoodoos with Daryl Calder from Rocky Mountain Naturalists

Experience the dry bench lands west of the source of the Columbia River. We will walk about 5km along a network of dirt trails and loop back to the vehicles. From the rim of the hoodoos, we'll have a fine view of Dutch Creek, Columbia Lake and the Rocky Mountain Trench. Many birds, including Swifts, Grouse, Swallows and Raptors 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 9th from 7:30 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Fairmont

COST: \$15.00

Things to Bring: Water, snack, layered clothing, binoculars, camera.

Meadows Meander - Brian Wesley

One of the more abundant areas for sighting different bird species in the East Kootenay is located close to Fairmont. Please join Brian for this 2 km birding walk along meadows, country lanes, river sides and mixed forest trails as we seek out the various water, shore and woodland birds.

Level: easy

Wed May 9th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 16

LOCATION: Fairmont Area

COST: \$20.00

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

Osprey & Eagle Nests - 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 9th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Invermere and Wilmer area

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: Bring binoculars, camera and field guides (optional). Dress for the weather, bug spray, sun screen, good hiking/walking boots, binoculars, snacks and water

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 preferred but not necessary.

Level: Easy

Wed May 9th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 24

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$30.00 (includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide)

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

History of the Hot Springs Tour with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Join the Activity Centre Guides 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 9th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

MAX #20

LOCATION: Fairmont Area

COST: \$15.00

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

Come, meet our Bighorn Sheep...

This interactive educational experience will help you understand the habits and what makes the Bighorn herd so unique and why the Village of Radium Hot Springs find these majestic animals so important to the community. Knowledgeable staff will provide a hands-on experience with props, tools and storytelling. The Bighorn Experience also includes a video, take home printed materials and a small token to say thank you for joining us. Join us and spend a couple of hours at the Radium Hot Springs Visitor Centre and learn about what makes Radium tick! ... The Radium Bighorns!

Wed May 9th from 10:00 am to noon

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Radium

COST: \$15.00

The Path to the Perfect Cup: Kicking Horse Coffee Facility Tour

Have you ever wondered how coffee is magically transformed from an itty-bitty bean into the deep, dark and delicious drink you know and love? Join us at coffee heaven and see how those bold, beautiful, bring-it-on beans become the hot stuff you can't live without. See for yourself what makes Kicking Horse Coffee Canada's number-one Organic Fairtrade coffee company!

Wed May 9th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$15.00

Things to know: The tour takes place within a working production facility (there's a lot of beans, bucko). All tour participants must be pre-registered and may be required to sign a non-disclosure form (we gotta keep our secret recipes top-secret). The facility is a 'no-go-zone' for cameras (including cell phones or personal devices with camera capabilities), jewelry, open-toed/open-heeled shoes or high heels (think, "If I were running away from a bear, what would I want to be wearing?").

2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

WEDNESDAY MAY 9th

History of the Ktunaxa People with Chief Alfred Joseph & Bonnie Harvey

The Ktunaxa have occupied their Territory since time immemorial, and they have deep spiritual, cultural and social connections to the land and the water. Their relationship to the land and water, including all living things, is supported by their oral histories and teachings. Their Creation Story follows the waterways within their Territory, highlighting the importance of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers; both being central to their worldview. Alfred Joseph, a Knowledge Holder and Nasukin (Chief) of ?akisq?nuk, will be leading an interactive discussion about the history of Ktunaxa in the Columbia Valley and throughout their traditional homelands. Alfred will bring his display of cultural items that have been used in the past for cross-cultural workshops and elementary and secondary school presentations. The presentation and discussion will be in an open format framed by questions and input from the audience. To supplement Alfred's presentation, 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 ?akxam?is q?api qapsin (All Living Things).

Wed May 9th from 10:30 am to noon
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$18.00

Things to bring: please bring chairs, blankets and umbrellas if it rains. 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. No paddle experience necessary.

Level: easy
Wed May 9th from 12:00 pm to 1:30pm

MAX # 24
LOCATION: Kinsmen Beach
COST: \$30.00 (includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide)

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

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, anyone with an hour to spare can take a little driving tour. Daryl will lead interested parties to nearby pictographs which are situated about 100m up a rough trail near a paved road. Then we can drive about 10 minutes to the West, up a gravel road and hop out at 2 roadside viewpoints. From here, we'll have a fine overview of the Headwaters area and eventually exit to the North along the Findlay Creek Forest Service Road which leads back to the highway. Your scope or telephoto lens will reveal the finer details.

Level: intermediate
Wed May 9th from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

MAX # 20
LOCATION: Canal Flats
COST: \$15.00

Things to Bring: Water, snack, layered clothing, binoculars, camera.

"Nuisance Nutrients" with Thea Rodgers from the Lake Windermere Ambassadors (Lunch Presentation)

Have you ever wondered what causes algae blooms? What happens to fish when they decompose? Join the Lake Windermere Ambassadors for this engaging lunchtime talk to learn about the science of nutrient cycles and nutrient loading in lakes, rivers, and streams. Attendees will learn about "nuisance" nutrients, impacts of nutrient loading in waterways, and how to help reduce your own nutrient impact in your watershed.

Wed May 9th from 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm
MAX # 50

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

Bedrock Geology of Panorama /Toby Creek - Walter Benstead

Join us for an introduction to the geology of the Purcell Mountains. 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 get to learn about the varied geological structures and rock types that illustrate this earliest period of our area.

Level: Easy
Wed May 9th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MAX # 16
LOCATION: Panorama area
COST: \$15.00

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

History of the Ktunaxa People with Chief Alfred Joseph & Bonnie Harvey

The Ktunaxa have occupied their Territory since time immemorial, and they have deep spiritual, cultural and social connections to the land and the water. Their relationship to the land and water, including all living things, is supported by their oral histories and teachings. Their Creation Story follows the waterways within their Territory, highlighting the importance of the Columbia and Kootenay Rivers; both being central to their worldview. Alfred Joseph, a Knowledge Holder and Nasukin (Chief) of ?akisq?nuk, will be leading an interactive discussion about the history of Ktunaxa in the Columbia Valley and throughout their traditional homelands. Alfred will bring his display of cultural items that have been used in the past for cross-cultural workshops and elementary and secondary school presentations. The presentation and discussion will be in an open format framed by questions and input from the audience. To supplement Alfred's presentation, 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 ?akxam?is q?api qapsin (All Living Things).

Wed May 9th from 1:00 pm to 2:30 pm
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$18.00

Things to bring: please bring chairs, blankets and umbrellas if it rains. 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, 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 the grasslands that are habitat to bighorn sheep, numerous birds and rare plants.

Level: Intermediate
Wed May 9th from 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm

MAX # 20
LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Good walking shoes/hiking shoes, binoculars, hat, and camera

Soaring Connections with Valley Zipline

Take flight with us while we soar through the trees on this unique adventure while experiencing our local webs and roots. Each of our ziplines will feature a different category of interpretation, providing an adventurous and educational experience. You'll hear about local ecology, geography, and the indigenous culture that connects throughout our valley.

All Levels
Wed May 9th from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm
MAX# 10 Weight: between 65 & 250 lbs.

LOCATION: Radium
COST: \$62.00

Things to bring: Be sure to wear close-toed shoes and weather appropriate clothing

Columbia River Paddle with BC Rockies Adventures Guides

Discover the gem of the Columbia Valley with Fairmont Hot Springs Resort's

Activity Centre 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 9th 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, bug spray, sun screen, binoculars, snacks and water

Mainstreams Stream Trailer – FREE family event

Join Mainstreams Facilitators Dave Quinn and Patty Kolesnichenko for an all-ages program on the Stream Trailer, a hands-on opportunity to build and modify your own rivers, and witness firsthand the erosion, deposition, and human influences that affect water quality and landform creation. Mainstreams Environmental is a non-profit society based in Kimberley, BC and specializes in place-based, hands-on experiential education programs focussing on water quality, watershed management, and climate change. Their classroom-based programs on beavers, Climate Change in the Kootenays, Macroinvertebrates are big hits with local teachers and students. Their field programs include creek science, a water science certificate, and the Stream Trailer.

Wed May 9th from 3:30 pm to 4:30 pm
FREE EVENT – Registration NOT necessary
LOCATION: Windermere Elementary School

Evening Swansea Hike - Ceiling of the Valley!

On this hike you will have the chance to view the Columbia Valley from above! This 3.5 - 4-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, before heading back down to the upper parking lot (15-minute walk). Guests will be driven down to the base (starting point).

Level: Must have a good fitness level
Wed May 9th from 4:30 pm to 9:00 pm
MAX # 8

LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$55.00 (includes snacks & refreshments)
Things to Bring: Water, sturdy walking shoes, dress for the weather, hiking poles (highly recommended), camera, bug spray.

This Food is for the Birds with Slow Food Columbia Valley (Evening Foodie Event)

OK, so this isn't the typical marketing language used to entice diners to a great event, but we're pretty sure it caught your eye! Did you know that agriculture has an enormous impact on the migration of birds, on pollination and seed dispersal, on the health of bird populations and that birds play an important role in our food system? Whether it is the great migratory paths of birds in the Americas being affected by landscape degradation and the use of pesticides, the way we farm, or simply, what we eat for dinner, our food and birds are inextricably linked and are part of a vital network. Join Slow Food Columbia Valley, with presentations by Alison Bell and Dave Zehnder, for an evening of delicious food made by Allium Café that is "for the birds!"

Wed May 9th from 6:00 pm to 9:30 pm
MAX # 70

LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$50 (includes sit-down dinner prepared by Café Allium)

Wings 2018

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





Wings over
the Rockies
FESTIVAL

**Registration
Required for all
Events**

**Registration
Starts on
April 9th**

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 9
9am to 1pm

April 12 to May 3
Mondays & Thursdays 11am to 1pm

Monday May 7
9am to 1pm

General Enquiries

registrations@wingsovertherockies.org

Refund Policy: All Wings Over the Rockies events and activities are non-refundable after May 1, 2018. 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 7	Tuesday • May 8	Wednesday • May 9
5:00			• Dawn Chorus
6:00			
7:00			
7:30	• K2 Ranch Birding Excursion	• Wilmer Wetland Experience	• The Spectacular Fairmont Hoodoos
8:00	• Birding for Dummies • Dutch Creek Hoodoos: Attaining a Bird's Eye View	• At the Edge...with Gerry Wilkie • Wacky Waterbirds!	• Meadows Meander • Osprey & Eagle Nests
8:30	• Swansea Hike – Ceiling of the Valley!	• Wildlife Housing Options in Tree Cavities	
9:00	• Bedrock Geology of Panorama/ Toby Creek • Source of the Columbia • Wetlands Paddle with Kathy Martin	• Take a Walk on the Westside with the Westside Legacy Trail	• Wetlands Paddle with a local Naturalist
9:30		• Invermere to Radium BBQ Lunch on the River - Paddle	
10:00	• The Beautiful Chemicals in Beautiful Flowers with Roy Golsteyn (Mid-Morning Presentation)	• The Path to the Perfect Cup: Kicking Horse Coffee Facility Tour	• History of the Hot Springs Tour • Come, meet our Bighorn Sheep... • The Path to the Perfect Cup: Kicking Horse Coffee Facility Tour
10:30			• History of the Ktunaxa People with Chief Alfred Joseph & Bonnie Harvey
11:00		• Come Root Around with Us' at Edible Farm + Cafe	
12:00			• Historical Tour of Taynton Bay by Voyager Canoe
12:30	• 'Bears Explained' by Colleen Campbell (Lunch Presentation)	• Network and Know Rocks, Ridges and Rivers of your Rocky Mountain Parks with Dale Leckie (Lunch Presentation)	• The Headwaters of the Columbia • "Nuisance Nutrients" with Thea Rodgers (Lunch Presentation)
1:00	• Grohman's Dream	• Crazy About Columbia Lake • Floodplain Wetlands in the Columbia Valley • Skookumchuck Prairie IBA	• Bedrock Geology of Panorama/ Toby Creek • History of the Ktunaxa People with Chief Alfred Joseph & Bonnie Harvey • Old Coach Trail Interpretive Walk • Soaring Connections with Valley Zipline
1:30			
2:00	• Exploring the Edgewater Flume • 'Wings' Film with the Windermere District Historical Society	• Wetlands Interpretive Walk	• Columbia River Paddleh
3:00			
3:30	• Guided Evening Columbia River Trip Radium to Edgewater		• Mainstreams Stream Trailer - FREE Family Event
4:30			• Evening Swansea Hike – Ceiling of the Valley!
5:00			
5:30			
6:00			• This Food is for the Birds with Slow Food Columbia Valley & Café Allium (Evening Foodie Event)
7:00	• Nest Webs: Tree-Cavity Housing Networks for Forest Wildlife with Kathy Martin (Evening Presentation)	• Searching for Tao Canyon with Pat Morrow (Evening Presentation) • The Journey of Vodka: From Grain to Bottle	
7:45			



Thursday · May 10	Friday · May 11	Saturday · May 12	Sunday · May 13
		• The Roots of Bird 'Nerding' for Newbies	• The Roots of Bird 'Nerding' for Newbies
• Birding by Golf Cart			
• Avian Exploration & Education • Wildfire & Forest Ecology	• Luxor Linkage: Connections to Land & Water with NCC	• Kootenay Park 'Birding' • Roots & Birds with Suzanne Simard & Cam Gillies	
		• The Birds of Wasa Lake & Bummer Flats	• Paddle the Columbia Wetlands with "The Bird"
• Guided River Tour of the Upper Columbia Wetlands to Lake Windermere		• Wetlands Paddle with Joel Hagen	
• Birds & Photography	• Invermere to Radium BBQ Lunch on the River - Paddle	• Caught in the Columbia Web	
• Come, meet our Bighorn Sheep... • The Path to the Perfect Cup: Kicking Horse Coffee Facility Tour	• History of the Hot Springs Tour • Spillimacheen Wetlands Walk-About	• W The Land of Smoking Water	
• Historic K2 Ranch Village Walk		• Wings, Wetlands and Wine & Cheese	
		• Stand Up Paddle (SUP) Tour of the Columbia Wetlands	
• A Good Ole-Fashioned Cat Fight! With David Bird (Lunch Presentation) • Historic K2 Ranch Village Walk	• The Language of Trees with Suzanne Simard (Lunch Presentation)		
• Petal to the Metal with Andrea Petzold • Soaring Connections with Valley Zipline • Web of Life Imperative: 'NETworking' at Its Basic Form		• Flight Cage Open House • The Birds of Wasa Lake & Bummer Flats	
• Akisqnuq First Nation Cultural Welcome • Birds & Photography			
• Columbia River Paddle • A Stream Through Time: Sinclair Creek Greenway • Wetlands Interpretive Walk	• Columbia River Paddle • The Roots of Bird 'Nerding' for Newbies	• Columbia River Paddle	• Plant ID Field Workshop
	• Connections Down Under Groundwater in the Columbia Basin & Beyond		
• Historical Tour of Taynton Bay by Voyager Canoe		22nd Annual Gala Event & Keynote: Finding the Mother Tree with Keynote, Suzanne Simard Webs & Roots: Talk About Networking!	
	• Wild Ideas Café with Suzanne Simard		
• Drones: A New Tool for Bird Research & Conservation with David Bird (Evening Presentation) • Taynton Bay Spirit Exploration	• Flower Sex & Bee Conversations with Kathryn Manry (Evening Presentation)		
	• Eavesdrop on Bats & learn to count them too! (Invermere)	• Eavesdrop on Bats & learn to count them too! (Fort Steele)	

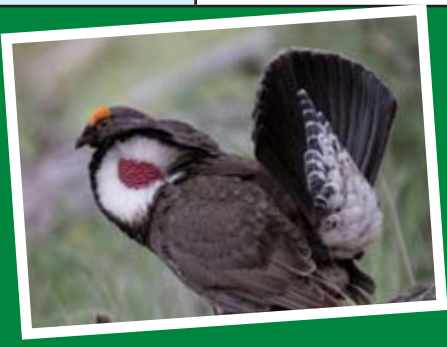
Meeting place and directions for registered events will be forwarded by email confirmation after registration.

Map of the Columbia Valley



Approximate driving time in minutes from Invermere to:

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



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

2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

THURSDAY MAY 10th

Birding by Golf Cart with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Join the Activity Centre 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 10th 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, bug spray, sun screen, good hiking/walking boots, binoculars

Avian Exploration & Education with Liam Singh and Cam Gillies

Here's a chance to watch a young whipper-snapper teach an old guy a few birding tricks! I'll bet we will all learn a thing or two. Join Liam and Cam for an exploration of a few birdy spots and a chance to let the birds teach us something too.

Level: Easy

Thu May 10th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Fairmont

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: snack & water

Wildfire and Forest Ecology

Join Canfor's Forest Scientist, Kari Stuart-Smith, and Forestry Planner Brian Feeney to visit the site of one of the Kootenay region's largest wildfires that burnt last summer. We will tour the White River Fire and discuss the affects that wildfires of this magnitude have on Forest Ecology, Wildlife, and Watershed Hydrology. We will explore how, on one hand, the fire has impacted the network of flora and fauna in the forest but at the same time brings new life and a fresh start. We will discuss Canfor's fire salvage planning which involved communication between a network of stakeholders, First Nations, ecologists and the public to develop and refine those plans.

Level: intermediate

Thu May 10th from 8:00 am to 3:00 pm

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Radium

COST: \$25.00

Things to bring: water, snack, binoculars, hiking boots or sturdy shoes, dress for the weather. Lunch. May be walking through the burn-area, so be prepared to get dirty.

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. Basic paddling experience necessary.

A perfect accompaniment to this trip is the Akisqnuq First Nation Cultural Welcome event, later in the day. Separate registration required.

Level: easy

Thu May 10th from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm

MAX # 42

LOCATION: Fairmont area

COST: \$65.00 (includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide and transportation put-in)

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

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

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Binoculars, camera, water, hat and sunscreen and rubber boots.

Come, meet our Bighorn Sheep...

This interactive educational experience will help you understand the habits and what makes the Bighorn herd so unique and why the Village of Radium Hot Springs find these majestic animals so important to the community. Knowledgeable staff will provide a hands-on experience with props, tools and storytelling. The Bighorn Experience also includes a video, take home printed materials and a small token to say thank you for joining us. Join us and spend a couple of hours at the Radium Hot Springs Visitor Centre and learn about what makes Radium tick! ... The Radium Bighorns!

Thu May 10th from 10:00 am to noon

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Radium

COST: \$15.00

The Path to the Perfect Cup: Kicking Horse Coffee Facility Tour

Have you ever wondered how coffee is magically transformed from an itty-bitty bean into the deep, dark and delicious drink you know and love? Join us at coffee heaven and see how those bold, beautiful, bring-it-on beans become the hot stuff you can't live without. See for yourself what makes Kicking Horse Coffee Canada's number-one Organic Fairtrade coffee company!

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

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$15.00

Things to know: The tour takes place within a working production facility (there's a lot of beans, bucko). All tour participants must be pre-registered and may be required to sign a non-disclosure form (we gotta keep our secret recipes top-secret). The facility is a 'no-go-zone' for cameras (including cell phones or personal devices with camera capabilities), jewelry, open-toed/open-heeled shoes or high heels (think, "If I were running away from a bear, what would I want to be wearing?).

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 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

Thu May 10th from 10:30 am to 11:30 am

MAX # 13

LOCATION: K2 Ranch Village

COST: \$18.00 (includes treats & coffee by From Scratch)

Things to bring: dress for the weather

A Good Ole-Fashioned Cat Fight! With David Bird (Lunch Presentation)

The direct ancestor of our house cats is likely the African wild cat, *F. libyca*. The cat, as we know it, was only fully domesticated during the last 150 years. Based on figures gleaned from the literature, there are now well over 150 million pet cats in the world. The number of feral cats is not really known. Roughly half of owned pet cats run free outdoors. While not all pet cats hunt birds, many of them do, even if well fed. A very conservative estimate is that close to two billion birds are killed by pet cats all over the world each year! Needless to say, it has been no easy task to convince cat-owners to keep their pets indoors and the subject has pitted animal-lovers squarely against one another, sometimes quite fiercely. It is critical that the two sides at least maintain a dialogue with one another to find a solution that is palatable for all. This visual presentation by Dr. David Bird attempts to do just that.

Thu May 10th from 12:30 pm to 1:45 pm

MAX # 50

LOCATION: Fairmont

COST: \$30.00 (includes lunch)

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 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

Thu May 10th from 12:30 pm to 1:30 pm

MAX # 13

LOCATION: K2 Ranch Village

COST: \$18.00 (includes treats & coffee by From Scratch)

Things to bring: dress for the weather

PETAL TO THE METAL with Andrea Petzold

Join us for an introduction to the wildflowers of The Purcell and Rocky Mountains. We will stroll through some flower meadows and examine the differences between many similar looking flowers. We will discover what flowers grow near water, near rocks and near higher elevations. Are you thinking this is too early for flowers to bloom? We will have an individual photo display of wild flowers showing their important characteristics.

Level: easy

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

MAX # 12

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather and wear good walking shoes.

Soaring Connections with Valley Zipline

Take flight with us while we soar through the trees on this unique adventure while experiencing our local webs and roots. Each of our ziplines will feature a different category of interpretation, providing an adventurous and educational experience. You'll hear about local ecology, geography, and the indigenous culture that connects throughout our valley.

All Levels

Thu May 10th from 1:00 pm to 3:30 pm

MAX# 10 Weight: between 65 & 250 lbs.

LOCATION: Radium

COST: \$62.00

Things to bring: Be sure to wear close-toed shoes and weather appropriate clothing



WAKE UP & KICK ASS®

(& count birds!)

Coffee? Get the flock over to our Café!

491 Arrow Rd, Invermere, BC V0A 1K2 | KickingHorseCoffee.com



2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

THURSDAY MAY 10th

Web of Life Imperative: "NETworking" at Its Basic Form with Natalie Forrest

Experience the well-known Project Nature Connect "Web of Life" activity where we will explore what our connections to nature mean and how to communicate with nature in order to stay part of the network. We will discover and play with our senses (we have more than five) and start to answer the question: What keeps Nature's web in balance? We will begin with learning a few basic Applied Eco-Psychology communication techniques so that we can keep ourselves in balance and then move into the activity.

Level: easy
Thu May 10th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
MAX # 15
LOCATION: Invermere Area
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Dress for the weather and bring a journal

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 frybread 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 10th from 1:30 pm to 3:00 pm
MAX # 50
LOCATION: Windermere area
COST: \$20.00 (includes snack)

Things to bring: Water and dress for the weather

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 10th from 1:30 pm to 4:30 pm
MAX # 15
LOCATION: Invermere area
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Binoculars, camera, water, hat and sunscreen and rubber boots.

Columbia River Paddle with BC Rockies Adventures Guides

Discover the gem of the Columbia Valley with Fairmont Hot Springs Resort's Activity Centre 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 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, bug spray, sun screen, binoculars, snacks and water

A Stream Through Time: Sinclair Creek Greenway with Ross MacDonald

Travel through time on this 2 km walk along the banks of Sinclair Creek. The journey begins where the Ktunaxa and Shuswap people harvested spawning salmon from the creek. It then continues through the age of settlers with their dikes, flumes and sluice boxes used to work the creek for gold. Your voyage brings you to the present, where the Columbia River Greenways Alliance and the Village of Radium Hot Springs have partnered to restore the stream channel to benefit Kokanee Salmon. Test your knowledge of rock weirs, embedded logs and other stream restoration structures. This greenway will eventually connect to the greenway trail network that will link Radium to Fairmont. Additional details are available on this trail: www.greenways.ca

Level: Easy
Thu May 10th from 2:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Radium area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: dress for the weather, wear sturdy footwear, water/snack

Wetlands Interpretive Walk with a Columbia Wetlands Adventures Guide

Join geologist Sid Leggett for an hour and a half walk out on our interpretive loop trail adjacent to the Columbia River wetlands. Sid will discuss the development of the mountains, the valley and the wet lands and how the ecology of the valley evolved. He will also talk about the history of the area: the silver mines, the steam paddle wheelers that went up and down the Columbia River and stories of the initial settlers in the area. **Level: easy**

Thu May 10th from 2:00 pm to 3:30 pm
MAX # 15

LOCATION: Parsons, BC

COST: \$15.00

Things to Bring: Camera, Binoculars, Good Hiking boots, Sketchpad, Outerwear suitable for changing weather conditions. Bring your lunch to enjoy after the walk

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. No paddle experience necessary.

Level: easy
Thu May 10th from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm
MAX # 24

LOCATION: Kinsmen Beach

COST: \$30.00 (includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide)

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

Drones: A New Tool for Bird Research and Conservation with David Bird (Evening Presentation)

The use of small unmanned vehicle systems (aka drones) is rapidly evolving as wildlife biologists and managers all over the world adopt them for conducting population surveys, tracking radio-tagged animals, sensing and observing animals in sequestered or dangerous places, mapping and monitoring wild habitats, and deterring poachers. This naturally includes avian species. Dr. David Bird has experimented with using drones to record the nest contents of several raptorial bird species, abundance of nesting colonies, counting seabirds, map breeding habitat and to disperse nuisance birds. Join Dr. Bird for this visual presentation.

Thu May 10th at 7:00 pm
MAX # 100

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$20.00

Taynton Bay Spirit Exploration

What's distilling at Taynton Bay Spirits? Pickled Vodka, Canadian Tequila, Gin, bitters and more! Learn what goes into producing a craft spirit in BC, how spirits are infused and, of course, taste the end product.

Thu May 10th from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
MAX # 16

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$15.00



Wings over the Rockies
Children's Festival
Pothole Park Invermere
Sat May 5th 12 - 4
Hosted by Main Street Fun & Games

- Sprinkles the Clown Magic and Fairy Tale Show at 1 and 3pm
- Nature-themed Face Painting, Crafts, Stories and Games
- Teddy Bear Picnic at the Invermere Public Library
- Decorate your bike or wagon for the Peacock Parade

FREE FAMILY EVENT!
wingsovertherockies.org



Volunteers Wanted on Marsh Bird Monitoring Project



Assist a biologist, experience the Columbia Wetlands, hear & see secretive marsh species. No bird experience necessary, but volunteers should be proficient with use of small watercraft & available 6-8 hrs during an early morning in May or June.

Interested? Contact racheldarvill@gmail.com

Goldeneye Ecological Services gratefully acknowledges the financial support of the Fish and Wildlife Compensation Program, and ECC Canadian Wildlife Service for their contributions to the Columbia Wetlands Marsh Bird Monitoring Project.

goldeneye
ECOLOGICAL SERVICES

FWCP
Fish & Wildlife
COMPENSATION PROGRAM

Environment and
Climate Change Canada
Canadian Wildlife Service

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada
Service canadien de la faune

2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

FRIDAY MAY 11th

Luxor Linkage: Connections to Land and Water with NCC

Join Richard Klafki and NCC staff for a tour of the Nature Conservancy of Canada's 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. Participants will also witness the results of recent habitat restoration efforts. **Level: Easy**
Fri May 11th from 8:00 am to 11:30 am
MAX # 20

LOCATION: Edgewater area
COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Binoculars, snack, water, hat, sunscreen, good walking/hiking footwear, rain coat (just in case)

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 11th from 9:30 am to 3:00 pm

MAX # 60

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$75.00 (includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide, BBQ lunch, and return transportation)

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

History of the Hot Springs Tour with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Join the Activity Centre Guides 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 11th from 10:00 am to 11:30 am

MAX #20

LOCATION: Fairmont Area

COST: \$15.00

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

Spillimacheen Wetlands Walk-About with Ron Grams & Karen Reid

The Columbia River and wetlands environment occupies a portion of the Rocky Mountain Trench... a landform 'rooted' in tectonic processes which began more than 200 million years ago. Fast forward... the valley, over the past million years has endured multiple cycles of global cooling and associated glaciation. From a barren, post-glacial landscape to the wetlands we observe today. 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 area's amazing pioneering history.

Level: Intermediate

Fri May 11th from 10:00 am to 2:30 pm

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Spillimacheen

COST: \$25.00

Things to bring: Light hiking gear (water proof footwear), camera & binoculars and lunch. Involves occasional light bush whacking.

The Language of Trees with Suzanne Simard (Lunch Presentation)

Suzanne will speak of the underground mycorrhizal networks that connect and facilitate communication among trees, and how the network patterns and language of the conversations underscore the intelligence of forests. Suzanne Simard will be introduced by Joel Hagen, a long-time naturalist in Lake Louise. Expect a theatrical pairing featuring a tree and "Fun-guy," a perfect lead-in to Simard's profound (and rich) research about how forests work.

Fri May 11th from 12:30 pm to 2:00 pm

MAX # 70

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$30.00 (includes lunch)

Columbia River Paddle with BC Rockies Adventures Guides

Discover the gem of the Columbia Valley with Fairmont Hot Springs Resort's Activity Centre 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 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, bug spray, sun screen, binoculars, snacks and water

The Roots of Bird 'Nerding' for Newbies with Nick Bartok (Fri & Sat)

Join us in understanding the basics, the 'roots' of bird watching through an informative in-class session and a field trip to local hotspots. We will also discuss online programs (e.g., eBird) and apps for your phone. The in-class session will be held at the Pynelogs Cultural Centre. We will also meet at Pynelogs and carpool to site for each field trip.

Level: easy

Fri May 11th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm & Sat May 12th from 6:00 am to 8:00 am

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Be prepared for weather extremes (cold, warm, rain) and bring along your binoculars and spotting scope if you have one. Field trips will involve light hiking. A pen and notebook will be useful for the classroom session and a cell phone with the eBird and BirdEye apps will be useful.

The Roots of Bird 'Nerding' for Newbies with Nick Bartok (Fri & Sun)

Join us in understanding the basics, the 'roots' of bird watching through an informative in-class session and a field trip to local hotspots. We will also discuss online programs (e.g., eBird) and apps for your phone. The in-class session will be held at the Pynelogs Cultural Centre.

Level: easy

Fri May 11th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm & Sun May 13th from 6:00 am to 8:00 am

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$20.00



Wild Voices for Kids
Programs offered in the Columbia Valley over Wings Week & Spring 2018 include:

- Webs & Roots**
 - Trees + Me with Susie MacDonald
 - The Magic of the Soil Food Web with Susan Panylyk
 - Plant + Play with Jessie King

CBEEN has set up an endowment fund through the Columbia Valley Community Foundation to support Wild Voices at <http://valleyfoundation.ca/fund-options/>

wild voices
founded by Wings Over the Rockies in 1997
adopted by CBEEN in 2008

cbeen.org
Columbia Basin Environmental Education Network

Thanks to Wings Over the Rockies for their continued support!



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MAY 9 & 10
@ the Radium Visitor Centre

2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

FRIDAY MAY 11th

Things to bring: Be prepared for weather extremes (cold, warm, rain) and bring along your binoculars and spotting scope if you have one. Field trips will involve light hiking. A pen and notebook will be useful for the classroom session and a cell phone with the eBird and BirdEye apps will be useful.

Connections Down Under – Groundwater in the Columbia Basin & Beyond with Paul Bauman, Heather Leschied & Carol Luttmmer

Join Living Lakes Canada for a workshop about the interconnectedness of groundwater within our global ecosystems. Learn about grassroots groundwater monitoring in the Columbia Basin and hear from Geophysicist Paul Bauman about his experiences in Uganda on a grassroots effort to identify and repair water systems in villages that were destroyed during the 22-year insurgency. Tell us about your water source and participate in this interactive workshop on protecting our valued water resources.

Fri May 11th from 3:00 pm to 5:00 pm

MAX # 100

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$15.00

Things to bring: notepad/pen & enthusiasm

Wild Ideas Café with Suzanne Simard

If trees talk, why aren't we listening? Here's your chance to delve deeper into the Festival theme of networking. Join Suzanne Simard and your community in a conversation about trees and forests, and how we're all inter-connected. Does Nature have rights? What do you think? Hosted by Wildsight Invermere

Fri May 11th from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$Donation at the door – registration is required
Drinks and snacks available for purchase.

Flower Sex & Bee Conversations with Kathryn Manry (Evening Presentation)

Bees talk to each other through a fascinating variety of sensory connections. In the dark of the hive they share information, give directions, and generally keep in touch. Much of their conversation is about flower sex (pollination) – which should interest us because it is vital to our food supply. And now, bees are facing threats that are quieting their conversations – and we should be very worried about that. In addition to the presentation, Rick and Dianna Tegtart will present their beekeeping display titled "Pure Columbia Valley Ambrosia, Nectar of the Gods." They will be on hand to guide you through the life of a honey bee.

Fri May 11th at 7:00 pm

MAX # 100

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$20.00

Eavesdrop on Bats & learn how to count them too! (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 our Kootenay bats and eavesdrop on one of our most interesting and misunderstood nocturnal animals. We will discuss the ecology of our local bats, learn how to conduct a bat count, and listen to bats using specialized detectors.

Level: Easy

Fri May 11th from 7:45 pm to 11:00 pm

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$15.00

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

Note: Following this training you will be asked to commit to conducting an annual bat count in your community

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

Our partnership with Eagle-Eye Tours

The birds fly south and you can too!

For the last three years the Wings Over the Rockies festival has been partnering with local birding tour operator, Eagle-Eye Tours on a few trips outside the Columbia Valley. A portion of the proceeds from each of these trips has been donated back to Wings to support the work we do on conservation and better understanding our relationship with nature.

Eagle-Eye's co-owner, Cam Gillies is our gala MC and a regular leader on walks during the festival. There have been three trips to Costa Rica plus a trip to Saskatchewan during fall migration.

This year, Eagle-Eye is offering a tour to Belize & Tikal and any booking coming as a result of the festival will give a boost back to this incredible festival

Learn more at www.eagle-eye.com



2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

SATURDAY MAY 12th

The Roots of Bird 'Nerding' for Newbies with Nick Bartok (Fri & Sat)

Join us in understanding the basics, the 'roots' of bird watching through an informative in-class session and a field trip to local hotspots. We will also discuss online programs (e.g., eBird) and apps for your phone. The in-class session will be held at the Pynelogs Cultural Centre.

Level: easy

Fri May 11th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm & Sat May 12th from 6:00 am to 8:00 am

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Be prepared for weather extremes (cold, warm, rain) and bring along your binoculars and spotting scope if you have one. Field trips will involve light hiking. A pen and notebook will be useful for the classroom session and a cell phone with the eBird and BirdEye apps will be useful.

Kootenay Park 'Birding' - Brian Wesley

The Wings festival is centered near the Kootenay National Park. This event is the only birding excursion into the park. We will drive along Highway 93, stopping in five locations offering some different locales and bird types. All stops have established parking lots. At most locations a short walk is required.

Level: easy

Sat May 12th from 8:00 am to noon

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Kootenay National Park

COST: \$20.00

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

Roots & Birds with Suzanne Simard and Cam Gillies

Here's a chance to learn more about the incredible world under our feet with more than a few feathered distractions above ground. This will be a beautiful walk among forest and wetlands near the Columbia River with our keynote speaker, Suzanne Simard, and local birder and owner of Eagle-Eye Tours, Cam Gillies.

Level: Easy

Sat May 12th from 8:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 20

LOCATION: Fairmont

COST: \$25.00

Things to bring: snack & water

The Birds of Wasa Lake & Bummer Flats - Dean Nicholson

The Wasa Lake and Bummer Flats area is one of the best birding sites near Cranbrook. The inter-connected waterways and changing water depths of the area make it a great breeding and migratory stopping place for a host of birds. We will look for a variety of migrating waterfowl, shorebirds and gulls, as well

as returning warblers, swallows, raptors and hummingbirds. On past walks we have seen over 50 species of birds. This is a walk where anything can show up and something unusual always does.

Level: easy

Sat May 12th from 8:30 am to 11:30 am

MAX # 12

LOCATION: Wasa Lake

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Dress for the weather, sturdy walking shoes, water/snack

Wetlands Paddle with Joel Hagen

This event is hosted by Master Interpreter Joel Hagen, past Wings presenter, co-owner of Great Divide Nature Interpretation in Lake Louise. Joel is a life-long birder, and will share stories of the birds spotted, from the smallest wren to the mighty eagle.

Level: Easy

Sat May 12th from 9:00 am to 11:00 am

MAX # 24

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$30.00 (includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide)

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

22ND ANNUAL GALA

Banquet & Keynote

Finding the Mother Tree with Keynote, Suzanne Simard Webs and roots, talk about networking!

Suzanne Simard is a professor of forest ecology at the University of British Columbia. Her work demonstrates that these complex, symbiotic networks in our forests mimic our own neural and social networks. She has thirty years of experience studying the forests of Canada. She discovered that trees use underground fungi networks to communicate and share resources, uprooting the idea that nature constantly competes for survival.

Sat May 12th at Copper Point Resort

5:00 pm • Refreshments

6:30 pm • Dinner

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

8:30 pm • Keynote by Suzanne Simard

Cost \$75 (partial tax receipt provided)

#1 Great Adventure Experience

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- Stand Up Paddle



www.columbiawetlandsoutpost.com

2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

SATURDAY MAY 12th

Caught in the Columbia Web with Bob Walker

This illustrated walk focuses mainly on the early human history and European exploration of the Columbia Valley and surrounding Rocky Mountains. Stories tell us about the web-like Intricacies and Interconnections of humans along the Columbia River. For example, did you know the Columbia Region was the source of a debate so intense it nearly sparked a war between the US and Canada? We'll share some of the stories about the significance of the Columbia Region in the development of North America. We'll enjoy wonderful views of Columbia Lake while reflecting how the webs of exploration affected the area. We'll finish with some reference to the recent human footprint in the area. 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 to explore further.

Level: Easy

Sat May 12th 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, sturdy walking shoes, water/snack

The Land of the Smoking Water with BC Rockies Adventure Guides

Explore the forests around Fairmont Hot Springs Resort. An easy forested walk with Activity Centre Guides will take you to see evidence of bears in the area as well as local trees, plants and other animals. Children welcome! Approximately 1.5 hours. Includes pass to hot springs pool. **Level: Easy**

Sat May 12th 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). Bring your bathingsuit

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

Wings, Wetlands and Wine & Cheese 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. We'll make one stop on the Fraling Creek delta where participants can stretch their legs and enjoy the serenity of this hidden gem. 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

Sat May 12th from 10:30 am to 3:00 pm

MAX # One Spot for 2 participants

LOCATION: Galena Church (Brisco)

COST: \$300.00 for two (includes boats - canoe and optional kayak), life jackets, guide, beverages and snacks, wine & cheese and shuttle back to vehicle

Things to bring: Sunscreen, hat, shorts, camera, river footwear suitable for walking (old runners, etc), layers, wind pants & wind breaker

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 12th from 11:00 am to 1:00 pm

MAX # 26

LOCATION: Invermere Area

COST: \$30.00 (Includes PFD, SUP Board, paddle & guide)

Things to bring: dress for the weather, bug spray, sun screen, snacks and water

Flight Cage Open House with Dr. Mark Zehnder & Judy Ellison

The Invermere Veterinary Hospital's raptor flight cage has been a huge success. It has played a key role in the rehabilitation & release of over 55 birds over the 7 years since it was built. Come & tour the unique structure that was built by the hard work of our community & the generous support of the Panorama Foundation, BC Hydro and many others. This is your opportunity to learn about the raptors in our area & what to do if you find an injured bird. The flight cage is only open to the public once a year during the Wings Over The Rockies Festival. Wait till you see what we've built! Donations for the Flight Cage welcome

Sat May 12th from 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm

MAX # 100

LOCATION: Toby Benches

COST: \$10.00

The Birds of Wasa Lake & Bummer Flats – Dean Nicholson

The Wasa Lake and Bummer Flats area is one of the best birding sites near Cranbrook. The inter-connected waterways and changing water depths of the area make it a great breeding and migratory stopping place for a host of birds. We will look for a variety of migrating waterfowl, shorebirds and gulls, as well as returning warblers, swallows, raptors and hummingbirds. On past walks we have seen over 50 species of birds. This is a walk where anything can show up and something unusual always does.

Level: easy

Sat May 12th from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm

MAX # 12

LOCATION: Wasa Lake

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Dress for the weather, sturdy walking shoes, water/snack

Columbia River Paddle with BC Rockies Adventures Guides

Discover the gem of the Columbia Valley with Fairmont Hot Springs Resort's Activity Centre 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 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, bug spray, sun screen, binoculars, snacks and water

22nd Annual Gala Banquet & Keynote

Finding the Mother Tree with Keynote, Suzanne Simard

This year's Wings Over the Rockies Festival explores the theme Webs & Roots: Talk About Networking! in recognition of Ecologist Dr. Suzanne Simard who while researching her doctoral thesis discovered that trees use a network of soil fungi to communicate their needs and send each other nutrients through a network of roots and web-type fungi buried in the soil. Suzanne will describe her journey to find and study mother trees, and how her discoveries can help transform our worldview and treatment of forests.

Sat May 12th at Copper Point Resort

5:00 pm - Refreshments

6:30 pm - Dinner

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

8:30 pm - Keynote by Suzanne Simard

LOCATION: Copper Point Resort

COST: \$75.00 (tax receipt included)

Eavesdrop on bats & learn how to count them too! (Fort Steele area) with Leigh Anne Isaac

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

Level: Easy

Saturday May 12th from 7:45 pm to 11:00 pm

MAX # 15

LOCATION: Fort Steele area

COST: \$15.00

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



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2018 Wings Week Events • Presentations & Field Trips

SUNDAY MAY 13th

The Roots of Bird 'Nerding' for Newbies with Nick Bartok (Fri & Sun)

Join us in understanding the basics, the 'roots' of bird watching through an informative in-class session and a field trip to local hotspots. We will also discuss online programs (e.g., eBird) and apps for your phone. The in-class session will be held at the Pynelogs Cultural Centre.

Level: easy

Fri May 11th from 2:00 to 4:00 pm & Sun May 13th from 6:00 am to 8:00 am

MAX # 10

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$20.00

Things to bring: Be prepared for weather extremes (cold, warm, rain) and bring along your binoculars and spotting scope if you have one. Field trips will involve light hiking. A pen and notebook will be useful for the classroom session and a cell phone with the eBird and BirdEye apps will be useful.

Paddle the Columbia Wetlands with "The Bird"

Join Dr. David Bird 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. During his forty years, Dr. Bird has taught about birds, led numerous birding trips, given hundreds of talks on birds to all ages, and written countless articles about them. It is Ornithology 101 while sitting in a canoe!

Basic paddling experience necessary.

Level: Easy

Sun May 13th from 8:30 to 10:30 am

MAX # 24

LOCATION: Invermere

COST: \$30.00 (includes PFD, boats, paddles, guide)

Things to bring: dress for the weather, bug spray, sun screen, binoculars, snacks and water

Plant ID Field Workshop with Jessie Paloposki

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 to gain hands-on experience identifying invasive plants in the field. If time permits, she will also demonstrate invasive plant removal and disposal methods. Participants will take home an invasive plant ID booklet but are also encouraged to bring along a camera or a plant press and make a field guide of their own.

Level: easy

Sun May 13th from 2:00 to 3:30 pm

MAX #12

LOCATION: Invermere area

COST: \$15.00 (includes Invasive Plant Field Guide)

Things to bring: Camera & plant press (optional). Dress for the weather

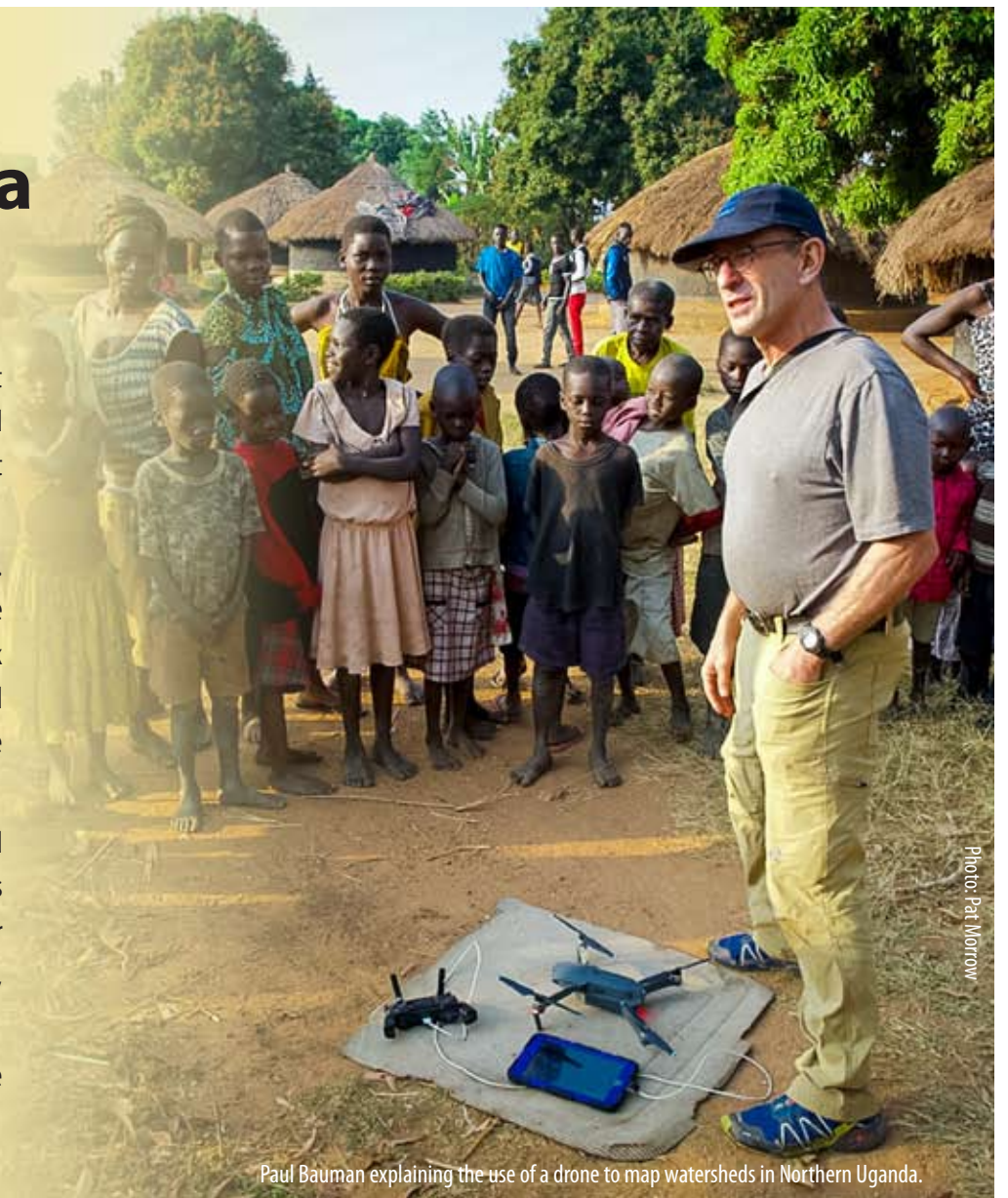
Grassroots Groundwater Initiatives in the Columbia Basin and Beyond

The wetlands and surface waters that birds depend on are only one storage compartment for water as it cycles through our atmosphere, soil, rivers, lakes, and oceans. Across the world we are seeing grassroots efforts to help protect our waters— for human use and to support healthy ecosystems.

In the Columbia Basin, groundwater is important for contributing to base flows in rivers. Living Lakes Canada is a grassroots organization that is monitoring groundwater levels in the Basin to provide data that will help manage and protect groundwater resources. This work supports the recommendations in the Columbia Basin Trust's report on water monitoring and climate change, which concluded that more information is needed to effectively manage water resources across the Basin's different hydrologic regions.

Another example of a grassroots groundwater initiative is a project that was coordinated by Paul Bauman in Uganda with the Society of Exploration Geophysicists, the Geoscientists Without Borders Foundation, and IsraAID. Local Acholi people, whose homes and water systems had been destroyed during a 22-year insurgency, were trained in water exploration, manual drilling, and hand-pump repair and installation.

Living Lakes and Paul are excited to be a part of this year's Festival as we explore the interconnectedness of our ecosystems- including groundwater.



Paul Bauman explaining the use of a drone to map watersheds in Northern Uganda.

Photo: Pat Morrow

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Tree cavities – a vital wildlife habitat



Photo: Jenny McDonnell

OVER 1,000 BIRD species, and many mammals, amphibians and reptiles worldwide depend on using tree cavities for nesting and shelter. In interior British Columbia, about 25% of forest birds and mammals use tree cavities to conduct their critical life activities. Tree cavities can be formed by excavation or decay. Some cavity-dependent species are able to excavate their own holes in trees. In other situations the normal decay processes in senescing trees gradually form holes, some of which are suitable for nesting and roosting. Cavity-using species are classified into three guilds according to how they acquire cavities. Woodpeckers, nuthatches and some chickadees are primary excavators that create cavities in trees. Secondary cavity nesters include a variety of songbirds, ducks (yes, some ducks nest in tree holes!), birds of prey, and medium-sized mammals that use but cannot excavate cavities. Thus, they rely on cavities created by excavators or decay. A third guild, weak excavators, may excavate their own cavities in decayed trees or use existing decay-formed or excavated cavities. Dr Kathy Martin (Department of Forest Sciences) coined the term Nest Web to describe the inter-dependence among the three groups with respect to the creation and use of nesting and roosting tree cavities. Nest Web wildlife communities occur on all continents except the Antarctic where there are no trees.

Woodpeckers and Aspen

When Kathy Martin started her research on cavity-nesting verte-

brates in interior British Columbia 17 years ago, it was immediately obvious to her that aspen, especially decayed trees, were a very important resource for cavity nesters. Although aspen comprised only 15% of the trees in her study sites, over 95% of the 4,850 nests of 32 species of cavity-using birds and mammals were found in aspen. In British Columbia, about 90% of secondary cavity nesters use excavated cavities, with the rest in decay-formed holes. The northern flicker is the most important of the 10 excavating species at Kathy's sites because it is abundant and produces many medium to large-sized cavities that can be used by species ranging from bluebirds and swallows to squirrels and ducks. The less abundant pileated woodpecker provides large long-lasting cavities for owls, kestrels, goldeneye, pine marten, and fisher. Woodpeckers prefer to excavate cavities in trees that are still alive but unhealthy with some internal decay or damage, but aspen that are recently dead and those with advanced decay are frequently used. To support cavity-dependent wildlife communities, it is important to keep aspen in a range of conditions, especially live unhealthy aspen (hard trees with soft spots of decay) and dead trees.

Woodpecker Legacies

Woodpeckers can produce several cavities annually but use each cavity only once for nesting. Since tree cavities can last for 10 to 15 years or longer, these cavities are available for over 30 other species to use. Kathy Martin's research group followed the lives of tree cavities and

found that a cavity over its lifetime may be used by such different species as flickers, red squirrels, northern flying squirrels, saw-whet owls, kestrels, tree swallows, chickadees, and several duck species. One cavity was used 17 times in 13 years (cavities can be re-used sequentially in the same year). In North America, woodpeckers are often considered to be a keystone species or an ecosystem architect because they form high quality tree cavities that are suitable for use by many cavity-using vertebrates. Kathy's research group discovered that woodpeckers are excellent indicators of biodiversity as forest stands with many woodpeckers generally also have high avian biodiversity.

Decay Legacies

Kathy and her research group have also looked at the use of excavated and non-excavated cavities and at cavity persistence across continents. They found striking differences among regions. In North America, woodpeckers were responsible for a large proportion of functional cavities, and both excavated and decay-formed cavities had a similar lifespan. In South America, there are many cavity-using birds and mammals, including very colourful species such as toucans and parrots. In Argentina, about 80% of the non-excavating cavity users nested in decay-formed cavities, despite the presence of many woodpecker species. This extensive use of decay-formed cavities was found in South America, Europe, Asia, and Australia. In contrast to North America, decay-formed cavities elsewhere persisted much longer than the woodpecker cavities. But decay is a very slow process. Trees can be 100 years old before decay processes are advanced enough to form cavities and are usually several centuries old before a number of suitable cavities are formed. Thus, wildlife species using decay-formed cavities are relying on large old living trees, but these valuable cavity trees are also targeted for harvest in South America and across much of the tropics. Kathy Martin's results suggest that excavating species may be able to ameliorate some impacts of tree harvest on cavity-using species

in North America, but that this approach will not work so well in other regions.

High quality cavities are limiting in almost all ecosystems and this research supports the need to ensure an ongoing supply of tree cavities for cavity-using wildlife. In North America, management for woodpecker friendly forests is required, and this involves retaining as much aspen as possible in a range of live and dead, mid-aged and older trees. The majority of cavity-using species live in South America and other continents, and here large old trees, in which decay-created cavities are found, need to be retained to support these complex wildlife communities.

For further information contact Dr Kathy Martin at kathy.martin@ubc.ca or kathy.martin@ec.gc.ca



Pileated woodpecker feeding chicks

Protecting the Columbia Wetlands

Last spring, after 16 years of tireless efforts to give the Columbia Wetlands the layers of protection it deserves, the final part of a three-part boating regulation was enacted. The precedent-setting federal regulation restricts boats over 20 hp on the main channel of the upper Columbia River and its tributaries.

The Columbia Wetlands are the source of the largest river flowing into the Pacific Ocean in North America—the mighty Columbia. Internationally recognized as a wetland of importance, its rich ecosystem forms the life support system for hundreds of thousands of birds, fish, reptiles, amphibians and mammals, and freshwater to surrounding communities.

The boating regulation not only recognizes the ecological importance of the Columbia Wetlands, but also our community's perseverance and commitment to protecting our wild backyard.

As we head into nesting season in the wetlands, let's continue to be mindful of our impact in this sensitive ecosystem, remembering that aggressive behaviour from non-motorized boaters can disturb nesting birds, and keep working together to protect wildlife, water and wild spaces in the Columbia Valley and beyond.



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May 11 | 8:00 to 11:30

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