



Volume 31, Number 8
<http://naturecalgary.com>



Weed Lake, Langdon
© Ian Halladay

Nature Calgary is run by volunteers!
Contact Jamie 403-243-7232 to volunteer or for more details

Volunteers opportunities
<http://naturecalgary.com>



Albertabird

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Albertabird>

Adopt-a-Plant Program
Emerald Award
Winner!

<http://ab.adoptaplant.ca>



Calypso Orchid
©Stephen Spring

Nature News

Newsletter of the Nature Calgary (Calgary Field Naturalists' Society) July-August 2010
President: (position vacant) naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca

Nature Calgary Speaker series resumes in September.

All general meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of the month (except June, July & August) at 7:30pm, in **The Burnswest Theatre, Fort Calgary**, and are open to the public. To suggest a speaker or topic please call John McFaul 403-289-9517 or email naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca

Issues, Events and Updates

Waterton weekend July 16-18. To book, send a cheque to the Nature Calgary mailbox (\$120 members, \$150 non-members). Call Andrew Hart 403-279-5209 with any questions.

Weed Lake has been rehabilitated as a wetland and a new sign recognizing our support for this reclamation project has been installed at the site. Bob Pella and Ian Halladay represent Nature Calgary on the Weed Lake Management Committee. A new map with access points is available at http://birdcomp.fanweb.ca/docs/WeedLake_MapandLandowners.pdf

Volunteers

Many thanks to **Donna Wieckowski** who has done an outstanding job as membership coordinator for the past five years! And a very warm welcome to **John Laurence** who has volunteered to take on this key role for the society.

Board vacancies: Volunteer manager: recruit, support and thank our volunteers.

Publicity Director: coordinate our booth at events and promote Nature Calgary.

Directors-at-Large: participate in board meetings and individual projects.

Non-board positions - Membership Promotion, Field Trip Leaders, Welcome Table.

Nature Calgary Study Groups

Bird Study Group meetings will resume in September.

Bird Study Group meets 1st Wednesday of the month, 7:30 pm, Room 211, BioSciences Building, U of C, except June through August when field trips replace the meetings.

Contact, Andrew Hart 403-279-5209 or andrewhart*@telus.net (remove *s).

2010 Calgary Big Year Birding Competition:

See <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BirdsCalgary2010> for all the latest news!

Botany Study Group summer field trips

Sat June 19, 9 am: LICHENS, MOSSES & LIVERWORTS. Day trip (bring lunch) to **West Bragg Creek**, leaders, Peter Whitehead, Doug Waylett (403-984-3981) and Sandra Davis (403-475-9347). Meet Canadian Tire parking lot off Richmond Rd SW, just E of Sarcee Tr.

Tue June 22, 7:30 pm: Summer Solstice Orchid Walk. Meet Bow Valley Provincial Park at the Many Springs Fen trailhead parking lot. Participants must register with leader Jim Posey at jpo*@persona.ca (remove *'s) or 403-949-4926 before noon the day of the walk.

Sat June 26, 10 am: Weekend Orchid Exploration in Seebe/Yamnuska area. Meet in parking lot for Yamnuska Natural Area. Please register with leader Linda Vaxvick 403-239-9434 to discuss locations for wildflowers, and arrange carpooling.

Sat July 10, 8:00 am: Ptarmigan Cirque for alpine flowers. Meet Assumption School parking lot 7311 34 Av NW. Bring lunch. Register with Robin/Cedric Hitchon 403-271-8789.

Thu Aug 12, 6:30 pm: Griffith Woods. Register with Heide Blakely, 403-281-4227.

Early Detection Rapid Response (EDRR) Program – co-operative project between the City of Calgary and Nature Calgary to report and eradicate selected noxious plant species. Contact Suzanne (svisser*@ucalgary.ca) for plant surveillance list, procedures and form.

Botany Study Group meets during the summer months. Contact Suzanne Visser 403-288-0658 or [svisser@ucalgary.ca](mailto:svisser*@ucalgary.ca) (remove*s) for further details.*



Nature Calgary Luncheon Banquet 2010

Presentation:

**Calgary Parks – Past, Present & Future:
Celebrating 100 Years!**

Saturday November 6, 2010

Fort Calgary

Officers' Mess - 2nd Floor Barracks Building
750 – 9 Avenue SE, Calgary

Time: 11:30 am: Meet, greet and explore**
12:30 pm: Three course Roast Beef Luncheon
(vegetarian option is available on request)
1:30 pm: Feature Presentation
**"Calgary Parks – Past, Present and Future:
Celebrating 100 years!"** with Anne Charlton

Guest Speaker: Anne Charlton is a professional landscape architect and Director of The City of Calgary Parks. Please come and learn more about the urban parks and natural areas in our own backyard and hear about exciting plans for the future.

Limited Seats Available: \$35 Nature Calgary members, \$40 non-members. Reserve now by calling Linda or John Stewart (403) 244-0505 or email stewart3@telusplanet.net. Send cheques (payable to Nature Calgary) to: Nature Calgary, 830 – 18 Av SW, Calgary T2T 0G7 and please include your meal choice (beef/vegetarian) and contact information.

Deadline for reservations is October 12.

Additional Features:

- Free parking
- Book Exchange – please bring no-longer-needed nature books to share with others, for free. A nice way to share our knowledge and appreciation of nature.
- **Explore the Fort – your banquet ticket includes free admission to Fort Calgary exhibits and the surrounding park. Explore before or after the luncheon.

Nature Calgary
Calgary Field Naturalists' Society
www.naturecalgary.com



All Nature Calgary field trips are free and open to all.

Lead a field trip!

To share your knowledge of a favourite location call Gus at 403-243-2248

**CFNS & Inglewood
24hr Rare Bird Alert
403-221-4519**
Updated Mon & Thu

Field trip leaders please turn in signed **waiver forms** to Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M, Calgary, AB, T2P 2K4, or hand in at the General and Bird Study Group meeting welcome tables.

Latest version of the **waiver form** is available <http://tinyurl.com/NCform>.



Great Grey Owl
© C.J. Thompson

Nature Calgary Field Trips

Many meeting places are mapped on <http://birdcomp.fanweb.ca/locations.html>

New trips and updates - see http://www.naturecalgary.com/field_trips.html

Note: Trips that are highlighted require pre-registration.

...June

Tue Jun 15, 6:30pm: Birding Edworthy Park, accessed from Shaganappi Tr & Bowness Rd over the Boothman Pedestrian Bridge if N of river, or from W end of Spruce Dr via Edworthy St SW if S of river. Meet in large parking lot, S of RR tracks, Leader, John McFaul, 403-289-9517.

Sat Jun 19, 9am: Bird Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, E end of 9 Av SE. Leader, Penny Smith, 403-283-9260.

Sat Jun 19, 9am: Interested in LICHENS, MOSSES & LIVERWORTS. Join leaders, Peter Whitehead, Doug Waylett and Sandra Davis for a day trip to West Bragg Creek. Meet S. side Canadian Tire, N of Richmond Rd SW, just E of Sarcee Trail. Info? 403-984-3981 (Doug) or 403-475-9347 (Sandy).

Tue Jun 22, 6:30pm: Tour of Don Stiles' Bluebird Trail in foothills, SW of Calgary. Meet Anderson LRT station, next to Macleod Tr, S of pedestrian overpass. See young bluebirds in nest, and other locally nesting species. Leader, Don Stiles, 403-271-4689.

Sun Jun 27, 8:30am: Bird LaFarge Meadows, FCPP, home of Western Kingbirds. Meet at boat launch, S end of Bow Bottom Tr SE. Leader, Nimali Seneviratne, 403-265-8750.

Tue Jun 29, 6:30pm: Bird Weaselhead Natural Area. Meet parking lot 37 St & 66 Av SW. Leaders, Dick and Lenora Flynn 403-271-1269.

...July

Thu Jul 1, 6:30am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Sat Jul 3, 8:30am: Bird Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, E end of 9 Av SE. Leader, Penny Smith, 403-283-9260.

Tue Jul 20, 6:30pm: Bird Beaverdam Flats Park. Meet S parking lot at Lynnview Rd & Lynnview Way S of 62 Av SE. Go N from Glenmore Tr at 18 St SE, then left. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Sat Jul 31, 8:30am: Birding Brown-Lowery Prov. Park. Meet Anderson LRT (Macleod Tr) just S of pedestrian overpass. Bring lunch. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

...August

Sun Aug 1, 7am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return

Sat Aug 7, 8:30am: Bird Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, E end of 9 Av SE. Leader, Penny Smith, 403-283-9260.

Sat Aug 14, 8:30am: Bird East of Calgary. Meet Carburn Park, S from Glenmore Tr at 18 St SE to second stoplight, then right & follow signs, for car-pooling. Bring lunch. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Sat Aug 14, 9am: Interested in learning the LICHENS, MOSSES & LIVERWORTS. Rain date, Aug 21. Join leaders, Doug Waylett and Sandra Davis at Brown-Lowery Provincial Park. Meet Fish Creek Public Library, Bonaventure Dr just N of Anderson Rd. Info? 403-984-3981 (Doug) or 403-475-9347 (Sandy).

Tues 24 Aug. 6:30pm: Birding Carburn Park. S from Glenmore Tr at 18 St SE to second stoplight, then right & follow signs. Meet parking lot. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Wed Sep 1, 7:30am: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey. Meet Stanley Park, 42 Av SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leaders, Aileen Pelzer/Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

Of General Interest

City of Calgary Community Stewardship for Biodiversity. Free drop-in sessions to learn from local experts and help eradicate invasive species.

McHugh Bluffs

June 19, 9:30- 11:30 am, Dr. Oetelaar, *People, Places, Memories, and Narratives: A Landscape History of Calgary* and Goatsbeard Pull. Meet 5 St & Crescent Rd NW.

June 26 9:30 - 11:30 am, Horst Grothman, *McHugh's Birds & the B's (Bluff & Beard)* and Goatsbeard Pull. Meet 3 St & Crescent Rd NW.

For more nature activities in the Calgary area visit:

Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society (CPAWS)

<http://cpawscalgary.org>

Weaselhead Society

<http://talkaboutwildlife.ca>

Alberta Wilderness Association

<http://albertawilderness.ca>

Calgary Area Outdoor Council (CAOC)

<http://www.caoc.ab.ca>

Friends of Fish Creek

<http://friendsoffishcreek.org>

Cross Conservation Area

<http://crossconservation.org>

Calgary Zoo

<http://www.calgaryzoo.org>

Nature Conservancy of Canada Alberta Region

Toll Free: 1.877.262.1253

www.natureconservancy.ca
alberta@conservationvolunteers.ca

naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca

Nature Calgary, PO Box 981, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

Memberships

Individual \$20.00/yr

Family \$25.00/yr

Ph: John

403-284-4245

General Interest contd...

Weaselhead - Glenmore Reservoir - Sandy Beach

July 31 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Lisa Dahlseide & Sarah Crook, *Coyotes: Urban Canines* and Knapweed Pull, Contact sonia.gonsalves@calgary.ca

August 4 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., Amy Ross, *Riparian Zone Health, Invasive Species and the Glenmore Reservoir* and Knapweed Pull, Contact sonia.gonsalves@calgary.ca

Whispering Woods, Nose Hill Park

August 7, 9:30 - 11:30 am, Dr. Ted Pike, *Wading Through Weeds & Butterfly Creeds* and Knapweed & Nodding Thistle Pull. Meet parking lot - 64 Ave & 14 St NW.

August 12, 6:30 - 8:30 pm, Polly Knowlton-Cockett, *Reading the Land: Nose Hill's Story* and Knapweed & Nodding Thistle Pull. Meet parking lot - Berkley Gate & 14 St NW.

August 14 9:30 - 11:30 a.m., Greg Sutor, *Nosey about the Nose Hill's Fescue and Flora?* and Knapweed & Nodding Thistle Pull. Meet parking lot - Berkley Gate & 14 St NW.

For more information about any of these events, contact sonia.gonsalves@calgary.ca.

Celebrating 100 years of Calgary Parks. Various events from geo-caching, to musical performances and temporary gardens are planned. Go to calgary.ca and search on parks.

U of C Biogeoscience Institute at the Barrier Lake Field Station.

Open House Sunday July 18, 10 am to 4 pm, free. Research displays on eagles, butterflies, climate change, bumblebees, orchids, alpine plants, pollinators, small mammals; environment education activities.

BioBlitz and Open House at Barrier Lake Field Station, July 17-18. A BioBlitz, in recognition of the 2010 International Year of Biodiversity, will involve a census of animals, plants, and fungi during a 24-hour period from 2 pm on July 17 until 2 pm on July 18 around the Barrier Lake Field Station in the Kananaskis Valley. Teams of volunteers will observe, count, listen for and collect representatives of as many species as they can. Volunteer experts will be on hand to provide identifications of more difficult groups. Our **Free Open House** will be held on July 18 from 10 am until 4 pm. See research displays on eagles, butterflies, climate change, bumblebees, orchids, alpine plants, pollinators, small mammals; environment education activities. A presentation to present details of what was found during the BioBlitz around 3 pm on July 18. To participate in the BioBlitz, contact Judy Buchanan-Mappin, jmbuchan*@ucalgary.ca, (403) 220-5355.

Also – advance notice for their **Fall Naturalist's Weekend** on Sep 17-19, (\$125/person). **Have Your Say in 2010 Calgary's VitalSigns** survey that measures our city's quality of life in 12 key issue areas. By taking the pulse of our community, Calgary's VitalSigns provides a snapshot of Calgary's strengths and weaknesses today so that, collectively, we can create the city we want for ourselves and our children. The survey is quick and simple! Sign up now at www.thecalgaryfoundation.org – deadline is July 2nd, 2010. Please pass on this information to friends and colleagues. 2010 Calgary's VitalSigns Report card will be published in the Calgary Herald on October 5th. Please share this information with friends and colleagues.

Adopt-A-Plant Alberta invites anyone interested in botany and rare plants to join Southern Alberta Rare Plant Study Group, which is based in Calgary. Meetings are the 2nd Saturday of every month from noon to 4pm, at the UofC Herbarium (basement of the Biological Sciences Building). Topics/agenda will be announced at www.ab.adoptaplant.ca.

Natural Areas Photo Contests: Take some photos on your trips to these Calgary Natural Environment Parks and enter them in the contests: **Bowmont** (deadline Oct 8, 2010), **Twelve Mile Coulee** (Feb 11, 2011), and **Weaselhead** (Jan 2011). Go to www.calgary.ca and search on "photo contest".

A notebook was found in the McHugh's Bluff/Sunnyside area NW Calgary, containing information about bird varieties and #'s of birds seen between Feb and May 2010. Please call 403-275-1582 if this may be yours.

Nature Calgary members receive discounts at businesses shown below (with membership card)

Campers Village (10% discount)

7208 Macleod Tr SE 403-252-3338

The Wild Bird Store (10% discount)

D3-8330 Macleod Tr S 403-640-2632

Nature Calgary (Calgary Field Naturalists' Society) publishes **Nature News** 8 times per year. Send copy to Linda lvaxvick*@telus.net and Jan jebridgen*@telus.net (remove *) ph: 403-275-1582.

Deadline for the September issue is Friday August 13, 2010.