The Kestrel

Quarterly Newsletter of the
Rocky Mountain Naturalists
2022 spring equinox

Stewart Wilson

Can you find a good kestrel picture (our local species, the American Kestrel) for this spot? If so, please email it to the newsletter at rmnatskestrel@gmail.com.

Inside this Issue

Do You Host Bats?

Stephen Cluff
bat boxes in Ontario

If you have a bat box I want to know about it!

Bats in Canada face multiple threats from habitat loss and disease. As towns and cities expand, the large old trees that bats call home are being cleared, and bats are losing their roosts. Bats need warm and secure places to roost during the day in the summer. A bat box is a simple and effective way to provide additional roosting habitat for bats, but little is known about bat box use in Canada. This is especially important as three bat species in Canada are listed as endangered: little brown bats, northern long-eared bats, and tricoloured bats. Bats now face additional persecution due to worries about COVID-19, but bats in North America do not have the virus that causes COVID-19. Scientists do not know much about bat box use in Canada or the best designs for our northern climate, and this is where you come in!

Which bat species use bat boxes?

Of the 18 bat species that are regularly found in Canada, 13 have been documented using bat boxes, although these data come from studies farther south in the United States. Current recommendations on bat box design are based on research in the United States, especially Texas, and in Europe. Since the box design bats prefer varies by region and species, conservationists urgently need more information on bat boxes in Canada. Little previous research exists about which bat species prefer which bat box designs in Canada. Little brown bats are known to use bat boxes throughout Canada, big brown bats use boxes in some parts of Canada, and Yuma bats use boxes in British Columbia.

How you can help!

Our research seeks to determine which bat species use bat boxes across Canada, what box designs are preferred by bats, and which temperatures bats prefer for roosting in our northern climate. To accomplish this, we need to know where bat boxes are located in Canada, the physical characteristics of the boxes, and whether they are being used by bats! Participants will be sent temperature loggers to install in their box and supplies to collect guano (bat poop), as bat species can be identified from guano.

If you have a bat box and would like to participate in this study, please fill out this online multiple-choice survey with questions about your bat box. Your participation is important even if your box does not have any bats!

This project is in partnership with the Wildlife Conservation Society and the Canadian Wildlife Federation and runs from 2021 – 2023. You can also participate in the long-term stewardship initiative, BC Community Bat Programs, which is interested in any bat sightings. Their website has lots of great information on bats and bat conservation issues.

Why install a bat box?

Installing a bat box gives bats an alternative to roosting in your house, and since all bats in

Canada eat only insects, you may even notice a decrease in the insect population around your house! Bats eat a variety of insects, including agricultural and forestry pests. You can watch bats swooping around your backyard at dusk catching insects in midair.

Jared Clarke

a bat box in Saskatchewan

How do I tell if bats are using my box?

You can tell whether your box is being used by bats by searching for guano underneath your box and watching your box at sunset in June to count bats as they emerge for an evening of eating insects. You can watch an example of bats flying out of bat boxes in Prince Edward Island here. You can also shine a light up into the box during the day to see if there are bats inside from May to October in Canada. The boxes will be too cold for bats during the winter.

How do I get bats to use my box?

Not all bat boxes will be occupied in the first year after installation. Occupancy depends on many factors, ranging from when it was installed to the fact that bats are very selective and might need a little time to familiarize themselves with your bat box. There are no lures or attractants, such as guano, that can attract bats to a bat box, although larger bat boxes with multiple chambers more commonly attract bats than smaller boxes.

Bat boxes are most successful when attached to houses or poles as opposed to trees. Trees shade the box and can block access to the box entrance. If bats are not using your box after two years, try moving the bat box to a new location.

Like tree hollows, bat boxes need to have temperatures that bats like. Bats like hot temperatures, but even in Canada some bat boxes get too hot during the summer, which can increase bat mortality. Temperatures of over 40˚C in bat boxes are too hot, and temperatures in some bat boxes in Canada have been recorded over 50˚C! One of the goals of our project is to understand how prevalent a problem bat box overheating is across Canada.

Our research group measures the temperature inside bat boxes using temperature loggers that can take a reading every hour over the whole summer. One way to ensure that bats can choose their preferred roosting temperature is to install multiple bat boxes as they will vary in temperature depending on how much direct sunlight they receive.

So please participate by filling out our online multiple-choice survey! More information about which box designs bats use in Canada will help bat conservation by providing recommendations for improving bat box design and placement in our northern climate.

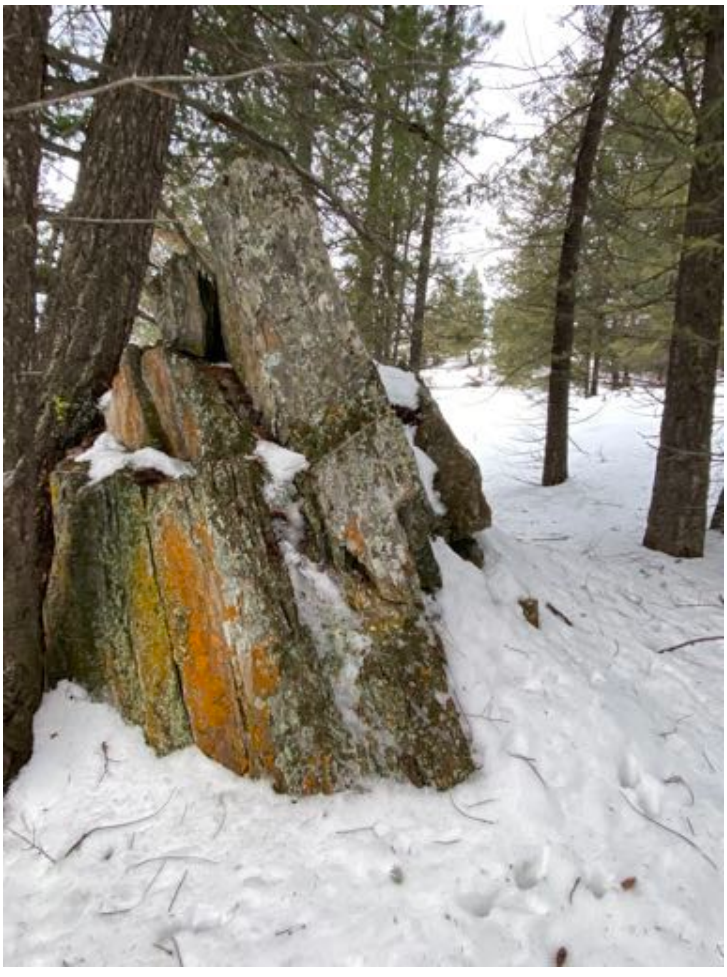
Karen Vanderwolf

Snowshoeing the Wilks Woods Loop 15 January

Seven snowshoers, under the able and informed guidance of Daryl Calder and Marianne Nahm, strapped on snowshoes and headed up the trail.

Open pine and Douglas-fir forest allowed us to see the landscape. Daryl ensured that our attention was given to its special features: the yellowish discolouration from melting snow carrying rich nutrients from the needles of conifers to the ground below; a gnarly pine, twisted into a dramatic S-curve near its top; and the delicate-looking multi-coloured lichens that grow tenaciously on the large boulders. Throughout the trek we noted numerous tree trunks snapped like matchsticks from the recent snowload.

Winding our way up, vistas opened to the northwest, affording views of The Buttes, Luke Creek drainage, the solar farm and, beyond, Bootleg Gap. Continuing up the "Huff and Puff" hill, we approached a steeper incline to the small knoll, Whisky Jack in local parlance, with southerly views over Baker Mountain, other mountains nearby and the city of Cranbrook.



On top of Whisky Jack, we found a treasure of features. A substantial inukshuk, created by the imagination, hands and labour of Dean Chatterson, was flanked by substantial juniper trees. In the afternoon light, the inukshuk collects sun directly through spacings in the rocks, like certain structures from ancient times. Other special touches include a bench with a removable top that protects the seating surface, a guest book to chronicle those who ventured here and a large sunflower head suspended in a tree, its seeds a welcome food source for chickadees, Red-breasted Nuthatches and Clark's

Nutcracker. From that vantage point the valley opens up, inviting views to the east of The Steeples and Rockies.

sunflower seedhead hung from a Douglas-fir branch (tree trunk on the left)

Rather than returning via the same route, we continued clockwise, making a short side trip to look down the St. Mary River to the Kootenay River and St. Eugene Mission, its spire piercing the snowy backdrop and visible even from this distance.

Though animals were not in abundance, we watched Common Ravens and an adult Bald Eagle circling overhead and heard the jazzy notes of a Townsend's Solitaire and the cheery tones of chickadees. Those of us from Kimberley were also

treated, while driving south to the starting point, to three roadside Wild Turkeys and an elk on the road allowance.

In all, a lovely day of winter exploration with:

7 snowshoers
5 snowshoers for whom this was the first time on the Wilks Woods Loop
4 snowshoers who are new to the Rocky Mountain Naturalists
and
2 Daryls!

Dina Hanson

photos by Dina Hanson (except this)

Marianne Nahm
on top of Whisky Jack

looking down the St. Mary Valley from Sunflower Hill

Duck box Clean-out Day 11 February

On 11 February 2022, nine Rocky Mountain Naturalists volunteered to observe, record and clean the duck boxes at Elizabeth Lake. It was a gorgeous sunny day. We probably could have crossed on the lake, but it was slippery and we were starting to get nervous with the warm weather. We walked to 4 boxes on the west side of the lake, then drove to the end of Innes Avenue and walked to the remaining 6 boxes. In total, the RMNats monitor 10 boxes at Elizabeth Lake, which is the only lake where we have installed boxes and continue to monitor them.

Greg Ross

Marilyn Doggart

It's always humbling to try to figure out which species of duck used each box. In our area, there are 6 species of ducks that breed and use cavities to nest. They are: Wood duck, Bufflehead, Hooded Merganser, Common Merganser, Common Goldeneye and Barrow's Goldeneye. All of these have been observed at Elizabeth Lake during the breeding season of 2021 (based on e-bird sightings) and in previous years. We observed the colour, shape, length and width of all the different types of eggs. Based on these sightings, we had successful offspring from the boxes from at least 3 species of ducks, and possibly as many as 5 species. The reason why it is uncertain exactly how many species is because of the overlap in similarity of eggs between 2 pairs of species: The Bufflehead and Wood Duck eggs are very similar to each other. And the Common Goldeneye and Barrow's Goldeneye eggs are very similar to each other, with

Marilyn Doggart

overlapping colours and sizes. The Hooded Merganser, however, has a very distinctive look with bright white eggs. One nest must have had Hooded Merganser ducklings, as it had bright white egg fragments with no unhatched white eggs.

Seven out of the ten boxes had crushed egg fragments in the bottom of the nest, indicating successful hatches of ducklings. Although this sounds like a success, it was a little disheartening to find many unhatched eggs as well. Based on the previous 4 years, we usually have an average of about 6 unhatched eggs for the 10 boxes. This year, we had 49 unhatched eggs! We do not know why so many eggs were unhatched this year. Initially we thought the high number of unhatched eggs might have been due to the unusual heat wave we had from 25 June -1 July. However, we have records of Common Goldeneye chicks being on the lake as early as 2 June. Another reason might be due to the lack of nesting cavities available. We've learned that the availability of cavities is often the main factor for a goldeneye's breeding success. Goldeneyes often lay their eggs in others' nests (even "invade" occupied wood duck nests, for example) and will sometimes abandon a nest if there are too many eggs that have been "dumped" by other ducks. We definitely saw this combination of eggs in many of

Dina Hanson

blue-green shell fragments, indicating a successful hatch of goldeneyes

Dina Hanson

Cream egg is either Bufflehead or Wood Duck. Blue-green egg is a goldeneye. Bright white shell fragment indicates a Hooded Merganser (and Greg and Katrin did see a Hooded Merganser going into this nest last summer during breeding season).

our boxes. We also saw a couple of abandoned nests, with 15 and 11 goldeneye eggs (higher than the average clutch size of 7). It should also be noted that one of the boxes and the tree it was on had fallen to the ground. This box was removed and will be replaced as soon as possible.

The presence of chicks on the lake is an excellent indication of breeding success. If you are recording your bird sightings using e-bird, it's helpful if you enter the presence of adults and chicks (juveniles) in the "add details" section. We often use this information to do analyses such as this. Plus, the information helps biologists and other users analyze the movements and changes in bird populations.

Elizabeth Lake, with its adjacent riparian and mature deciduous woodlands, is an excellent breeding area for many duck species. However, the surrounding woodlands have been compromised by the removal of mature trees. Without nest boxes, the cavity nesting ducks would be limited to nesting only in woodpecker holes. as is usual in nature. The Bufflehead prefers the smaller Northern Flicker holes, and the larger ducks use Pileated Woodpecker holes. The Rocky Mountain Naturalists are supplementing nature with the boxes due to our human influence around Elizabeth Lake.

Greg Ross

Some interesting facts that we have learned regarding cavity nesting ducks include:

- They fly straight into the holes. No perching or dainty entry for them.
- Many of the cavity nesters lay their eggs in another cavity nester's nest, especially when they have trouble finding a nest of their own.
- A wood duck will lay 6-15 eggs, but you may find as many as 40 in a nest due to acts of "egg dumping", as mentioned above.
- The ducklings leave the nest within 24-36 hours of hatching.
- Once the ducklings leave the nest, several different broods may come together to be taken care of by a single female.

And thank you, everyone who came out to help with the Duck box clean-out day:
Dina, Daryl, Marilyn, Darcy, Gaetan, Dan, Lyle, Greg and Katrin.

Katrin Powell and Greg Ross

Greg Ross

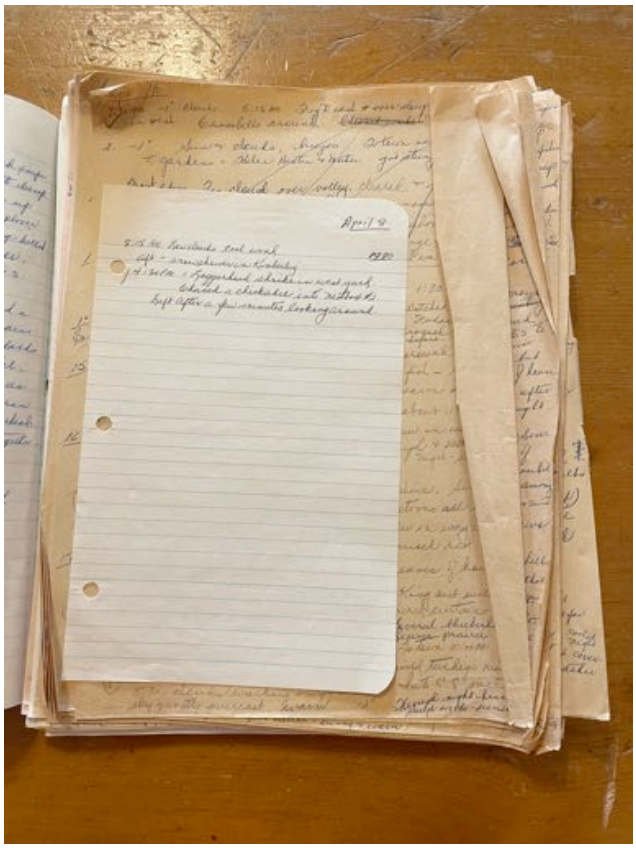
Mildred V. White and her Nature Journals

Mildred V. White (1916 - 2001)

Here is a brief biography about founding Rocky Mountain Naturalists member Mildred White (1916 – 2001), her birding sightings and their journey into the public archive on the occasion of the last of her birding data finally getting entered into eBird.

Mrs. White recorded her bird sightings between April 1964 and December 2001. She wrote them down in 6 Blueline brand record books, which are in journal-style, and 5 black ringed binders, in list-style. She began recording her natural history observations on 5 Apr 1964, when she was 48 years old. At first, she re-used loose sheets of letter-size paper to record her "home" sightings of birds and other animals. The paper was rescued from the trash at the gift shop in the Kimberley Hospital where Mrs. White was a volunteer with the Hospital Auxiliary. Every once in a while she would copy these notes into Blueline brand bound record books, in a narrative journal-style with wonderfully legible cursive handwriting. For field trips, she used little pocket notebooks, also transferring these notes to the Bluelines. After doing it this way for about 25 to 30 years, she switched to list-style for her "final copy" in medium-sized black ringed-binders. She also re-copied some of her journal-style sightings as lists in the black binders.

In December of 1974, Mildred and her husband, King, moved from a modest house on a small city lot in Kimberley to a newly built house on several acres south of Ta Ta Creek. The acreage was on the western edge of the vast grassy benchlands bordering the



some of the loose sheets; 1980 and 1981 sightings and happenings

Sloughs. The lack of city services gave her an excuse to make the trip across the Kootenay River Valley to the refuse station south of the Sloughs. From there she would head for the Sloughs, taking a dirt track north through the pine forest to a clearing we now call “Mildred’s Meadow”. It was her tradition to check this field for the first of the spring buttercup blooms peeking up between the thick litter of pine needles. This signalled spring was in full flight, the ice would soon be off Wasa Sloughs, so it was time to start looking for the spring arrival of birds. Mr. White built a small boardwalk and viewing blind at the end of a spit on the east side of the Sloughs where they photographed waterfowl. It was still functional in 1979, and I used it

Kootenay River. They built a river-rock birdbath, which stood over one meter tall. It attracted many birds, deer, coyote, and small mammals. They also put up several nest boxes and feeders for the birds and squirrels. A shelf-type feeder below the utility room window was easily accessed from indoors during the winter. In especially cold weather Mrs. White stocked it with her homemade shortbread, a special treat for the birds.

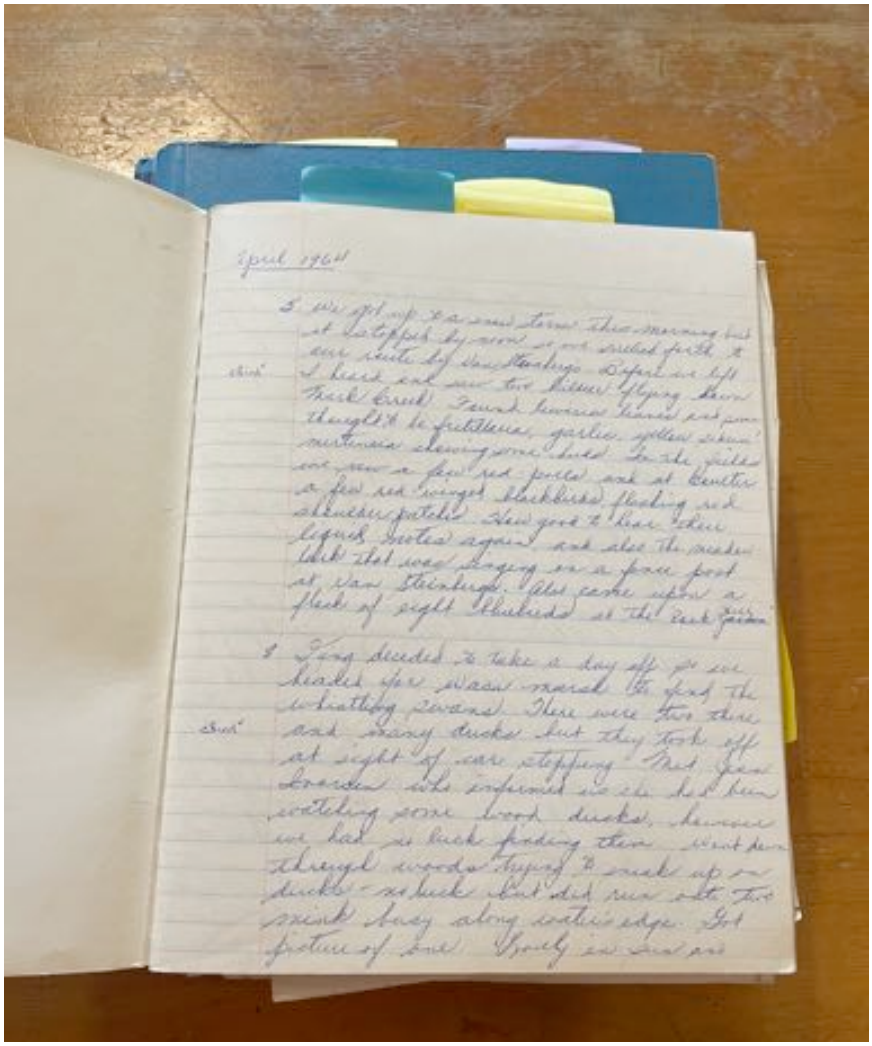
A variety of bird habitats were within walking and listening distance of their property. There was a creek with beaver ponds — Waite Creek, which flows into Bartholomew Lake; and Sun Marsh, named after Joe Sun, a resident of the acreage adjacent to the Whites’. The Suns operated a market garden with home delivery service of vegetables.

Mrs. White enjoyed traipsing around Wasa

the Blueline brand
bound record books; 1964 to 1979

several times myself when I first started birding; I didn't know the Whites then but had heard about them. Everybody had. They also had a portable blind they set up at Sun or Bartholomew Marshes.

She recorded sightings for Project Feederwatch, the Breeding Bird Survey, American Birds / Northwest Field Notes and the BC Sight Record and Nest Record Schemes. The latter two provided data for the four-volume work, *The Birds of British Columbia*, by R. W. Campbell and others. Other activities and projects she worked on were for the Rocky Mountain Naturalists, the Federation of BC Naturalists, and the Rocky Mountain Trench Natural Resources Society. She helped start two of the local Christmas Bird Counts.



the first page of the journal-style entries in the first of the the 6 Blueline record books; April 1964

Mildred was also a guest speaker at Wasa Lake Provincial Park, using her own and King's slides in her presentations. She wrote a nature column in the *Kimberley Bulletin* for many years. In 1996, she and other members of the Rocky Mountain Naturalists composed the "Rocky Mountain Naturalists Wildflower Checklist" commemorating the tenth anniversary of the RMN. And they also made a "Birding Tour" brochure.

In 2000, at the age of 84, she took a computer class at Kimberley Campus of the College of the Rockies to learn Microsoft Excel. Because of her experiences with other data banks, she was determined to get her data digitized and distributed. She would contribute records to many organizations and people but then would never hear of how the data were used or what help it had been. In some cases, reports and publications were unpublished and difficult to access. In other cases, the cost of obtaining published copies was prohibitive. If she'd been around when cell phones and the eBird app came out, I have no doubt she would have embraced them both whole-heartedly. Also, Mrs. White wanted to

acknowledge the hundreds of fellow bird watchers who told her of the birds they'd seen and who accompanied her on field trips, sharing their enjoyment of birds.

I met Mrs. White in July of 2001 and, because of my interest and background with the beginnings of the digitization of bird records, I agreed to digitize hers. We got a grant from Columbia Basin Trust for tuition for a course in MS Access and for the software program; then a grant from BC Nature to publish the database and pay me for some of my time (which worked out well because with my "wages" I was able to replace my stolen spotting scope - but that's another, shorter story). In the autumn of 2001, we photocopied the pages of her 5 black binders at the Kimberley Hospital—they allowed us to use their machine because of all her work with the hospital auxiliary. She passed away in December.

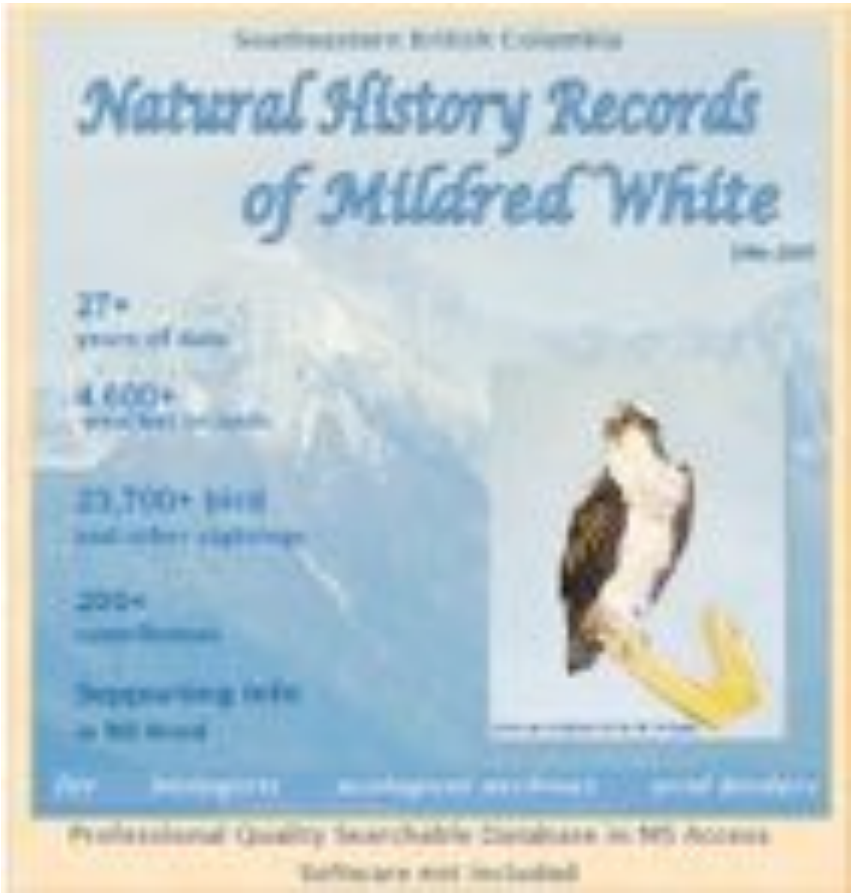
I continued with the project and five years later, in 2006, "published" a database containing data from her black ringed binder notebooks: almost 24,000 bird, other animal and plant sightings of Mrs. White and over 200 other contributors over 27 plus years. The database was disseminated to anyone who requested a copy. The Species Inventory Project, Government of British Columbia, uploaded the sightings to their online database, making it available to everyone.

photocopies of the black ringed binder books, 1 January 2022 - These were organized by date, then all the years under that heading. Almost 1000 pages from about 1974 to 2001!

Dr. Mike Panian of the Species Inventory Project said the database was the "largest one-time contribution by a single person in the history of the provincial databank!"Also in 2006, Dick Cannings, an ornithologist with Bird Studies Canada at the time, and current MP for South Okanagan-West Kootenay, uploaded approximately 17,500 of the bird sightings to eBird, an online database of bird sightings contributed by citizen scientists, launched in 2002 and operated by Cornell University, New York. Mrs. White's sightings jump-started eBird in the region. Twenty years later, birders, researchers, and

naturephiles find eBird almost indispensable for its data and an inspiring and invaluable resource for their birding activities.

Now, thanks in part to the pandemic, which allowed me to focus my undivided attention on the onerous task of going through her narrative journals, I was able to glean another 6,900 or so bird sightings from her Blueline books. Between the interesting antics of chipmunks, what plants were in bloom, what subjects were deemed promising enough to use up costly photographic film and maybe good enough to pay for printing, where King went fishing and with whom, who dropped by for a visit - friends, family and fellow birders, and what birds and animals they reported, were records of her first time seeing many East Kootenay species. eBird now houses over 24,000 of Mrs. White's bird sightings.



front of the case for the CD containing Mildred's data, digitized by Dianne

Perusing the East Kootenay checklist on eBird, looking at the date of "first seen": Mrs. White recorded the first sightings of 160 species in the region (we have 348 species, but only 306 are on eBird). This is eight times more than the contributor with the next most "firsts", Ian McTaggart-Cowan. Dr. McTaggart-Cowan visited the Newgate area in May of 1930 and recorded the first sightings of 20 of our species. Mrs. White's first "first" was two Killdeer flying down Mark Creek on 5 Apr 1964, and her last East Kootenay "first" was 19 Black-necked Stilt at Elizabeth Lake on 26 Apr 2001.

Her journals will be digitized and housed at the Royal British Columbia Museum for anyone to read. It has been over twenty years since Mrs. White's passing, yet her 37 years worth of fauna and flora sightings remain as an inspiration and a valuable source of information about nature in the East Kootenay.

Dianne Cooper

Winter Social 2022 4, 5 and 6 February

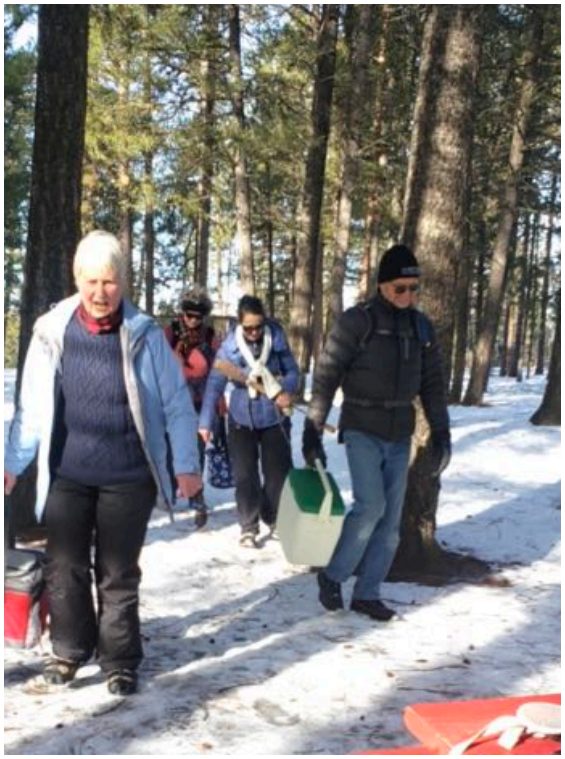
Creative thinking among naturalists helped to solve an issue.
How do we conduct a safe and effective winter social?
A good place to start is to think 'outside the box'.

In one way, the box in question represents the limits of what is usually thought or done conventionally.

In another way, 'inside the box' seemed like a good idea, too, especially if it was a box of firewood.

Daryl Calder

Greg Ross



Wendy Maisonneuve

Gretchen Whetham getting the fire ready

A total of 27 Rocky Mountain Naturalists came out over three days in early February to participate in the Winter Social. We were unable to hold a gathering in 2021, so we had two years of socializing to compress into a few hours. With our COVID guidelines limiting us to 10 participants per outing, spreading our annual Winter Social over three days was a way to ensure that more of us were able to participate [see green box above]. It was wonderful to reconnect and to meet other members. At one point one

Greg Ross
enjoying the warmth of the fire

Gretchen Whetham
enjoying the sunshine

member had to ask when the "naturalist portion" of the walk would start!

Along the walks in the Community Forest and around Idlewild Park we observed and reported several birds and picked out, from among the myriad of dog and deer tracks, those of a deer mouse, red squirrel, and a cottontail rabbit.

The Friday folks had overcast cold weather, but the Saturday and Sunday groups welcomed the sunshine. And we all savoured the wieners roasted over the welcome fires in Idlewild Park after our walks.

Bird species recorded: Mallard, Common Raven, Bald Eagle, Northern Flicker, American Crow, Mountain Chickadee, Golden-Crowned Kinglet, White-Breasted Nuthatch, Red-Breasted Nuthatch, and Red Crossbill

Gretchen Whetham, Hilary Anderson, Helga Knote

Gretchen Whetham

Yum!

Busy Butterflies and Buzzing Bees (and Birds and Bats)

A LOCAL PERSPECTIVE

You may be aware of the David Suzuki Foundation's Butterflyways Project. Founded nationally in 2017 in five Canadian cities, its goal is to train Rangers who organize teams to incorporate native plants into urban yards, school grounds, parks and streets, to support pollinators such as bees and butterflies. Here's a link to a video about the Butterflyways Project: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=MkF2cx6e6ZQ

Lyle Grisedale

In the five years since, over

Lyle

85,000 wildflowers in more than 6000 pollinator patches have been planted. Seventy-five community and neighborhood gardens have been established as official Butterflyways, offering food and shelter to wild pollinators and earning the program the Nature Inspiration Award in 2020 from the Museum of Nature.

Lyle Grisedale

Insects make up 2/3 of all life on Earth. It is estimated that wild insects provide ecological services worth $57 BILLION annually. Over 3/4 of wild flowering plants and 1/3 of the food we eat depend on insect pollination.

A survey of dead insects on windshields graphically demonstrates the declining number of insects worldwide, as pointed out on a recent episode of CBC's 'The Current' by the British climate writer Oliver Milman, author of *The Insect Crisis: The Fall of the Tiny Empires That Run the World* (bookdepository.com/The-Insect-Crisis/9781838951177).

Lyle

Though the deadline to apply for membership in the Butterflyways Project for 2022 has passed, we, as members of the Rocky Mountain Naturalists, can echo this initiative in the East Kootenay. The Columbia Mountains and Highlands, with their high mountain slopes, fertile valleys, diverse soil types and mix of sun and shade, create a wide range of plant habitats for invaluable, and threatened, pollinators. The file at this link describes pollinators, landscapes, 100 local

birdwatchingdaily.com

Calliope hummingbird and thistle

According to Shannon at Cranbrook's Top Crop Gardens and Kimberley's Top Crop Too, they strive to make all plants bee-friendly, by following the IPM (Integrated Pest Management) Program, a decision-making process for managing pests in an effective, economical, environmentally sound way, and use bee stickers on bee-friendly plants, including trees, shrubs, annuals, perennials and seeds. To encourage even more

theconversation.com

fruit bats, Australia

plants plus habitat and nesting: https://www.pollinator.org/pollinator.org/assets/generalFiles/ColumbMts.Highlands.2019.FINAL.pdf.

Pollinators include a wide range of animals, including bees, the most important pollinators. In fact, honey bees are responsible for pollinating over 110 crops that humans eat and use. Pollinators include butterflies, moths, beetles, flies, wasps, ladybugs, birds, mammals (bats) and lizards (geckos). The habitats of all these animals are under threat and they need our help!

Local businesses and organizations are also taking steps to create healthy environments for a range of pollinators.

wired.com

one of our species, the little brown bat

pollinators, they are bringing in Mason bee houses to welcome the super-pollinator Mason bees.

unclewiener.com

Mason bee house

It is essential that we humans do some heavy lifting, to support the busy butterflies and buzzing bees, as they do the vital work of pollinating our planet - and feeding us.

Dina Hanson

directgardening.com

a different kind of Mason bee house

And to add a little element of
5-year old word play:
Why do bees have sticky hair?

Lyle Grisedale

because they have HONEY COMBS

Internet Links

The website for Rocky Mountain Naturalists can be found at:
http://www.rockymountainnaturalists.org/
It has a calendar of events, a blog with photographs, archived newsletters, and more.

Make sure you are up to date on the latest techniques for keeping yourselves safe in the wild. Visit this site now and then to see how the science has given us new information.
www.wildsafebc.com

Cranbrook Community Forest https://www.cranbrookcommunityforest.com/

For reporting invasive plant species https://bcinvasives.ca/take-action/report/

East Kootenay Invasive Species Council (EKISC) https://www.ekisc.com/

Bird Observations https://ebird.org

About Field Trips

Leaders:

- Radios and first aid kits are available from Paula.
- Find a replacement leader if necessary.
- Keep the group together.
- All leaders must have trip waiver forms (available from Paula) in case any non-members come along on the trip. Non-members must sign, and forms must be returned to Paula. Non-member insurance costs $2.00.
- Make sure everybody leaves the parking area safely.
- Get someone to write an account of the field trip for the newsletter. Send it in to rmnatskestrel@gmail.com, along with pictures, as soon as possible.

Carpoolers: Please offer to chip in for gas. On a round trip with a driving time of under an hour the compensation should be $5.00, and on a round trip with a driving time of an hour or more the compensation should be $10.00.

No dogs on field trips, please

Events and Activities

These are the events planned at the present time. Watch your inbox for notices of events and activities, or check the calendar on the website.

Early Morning Birding	Wednesday mornings	See RMN Calendar on our website.
Club Camp	Tuesday 31 May - Friday 3 June	

Club Information

Dina Hanson
Whisky Jack inukshuk

Executive

President	Marianne Nahm
Vice President	Hilary Anderson
Past President	Helga Knote
Secretary	Theckla Sawicki
Treasurer	Judy Brunner
BC Nature Director	Wendy Maisonneuve
Director at Large	Janice Strong

Committees, Co-ordinators and Representatives

Bats	Scott Bodaly
Bluebirds	Marianne Nahm
Bylaws and Policies	Gretchen Whetham/Wendy Maisonneuve
Christmas Bird Count	Dianne Cooper
Club Camp	Jackie Leach/Ruth Goodwin
Communications	Susan Walp/Gerry Warner
Early Morning Birding	Daryl Calder
East Kootenay Invasive Species Council	Frank Hastings
Elizabeth Lake	Stewart Wilson
Field Trips	Paula Rogers
Internal Communications	Paula Rogers
Kootenay Conservation Program	Helga Knote
Little Big Day	Greg Ross
Membership	Hasi Oates
Newsletter	Susan Walp
Personal Information/Privacy	Jim Hurvid
Presentations	Marianne Nahm/Paula Rogers
Records	Wendy Maisonneuve
Rocky Mountain Trench Natural Resources Society	Jo Ellen Floer
Skookumchuck Prairie IBA	Dianne Cooper
Turtle Monitoring	Greg Ross
Upper Columbia Basin Environmental Collaborative	Emma DeGroot
Webmasters	Dianne Cooper

RMNats meetings - every two months, on the third Wednesday of odd-numbered months

Next meetings -	Wednesday	18	May	7 pm
	Wednesday	20	July	7 pm