



Nature News

Volume 31, Number 1
<http://naturecalgary.com>

Newsletter of the Calgary Field Naturalists' Society
President Cliff Rhodes ph: 403-239-6444

September 2009
naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca

Wed Sept 16
Retreats of the
Canadian Rockies

Nature Calgary General Meeting

Wed Sept 16, 7:30 pm: Retreats of the Canadian Rockies with **John McFaul**. There are a number of fine backcountry lodges that provide an opportunity for Calgaryans to retreat to the beauty of the Canadian Rockies. Join John McFaul as he takes you on an exploration of these lodges and the wonderful mountainous landscapes that surround them.

Wed Oct 21
Amphibian ecology
and diseases in the
Northwest Territories

Wed Oct 21, 7:30 pm: Amphibian ecology and diseases in the Northwest Territories - Insights into causes of global amphibian declines from North of 60 with Dr. Danna Schock.

*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.*



Nature Calgary Issues, Events and Updates

Striped Ground Squirrel
© Val Scholefield

Mark your calendars for the **Nature Calgary Annual Banquet, Saturday, November 7** (6pm – 10pm), at the Best Western Village Park Inn, 1804 Crowchild Trail NW. Speaker: **Dr. Stephen Herrero**, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Science at University of Calgary, world-renowned expert on grizzly bear ecology, behaviour and conservation. Note: We are looking for assistance or ideas regarding door prizes for the banquet. Anyone wanting more information about the banquet could contact Linda and John Stewart at 403-244-0505 or stewart3@telusplanet.net.

For more info, see the poster on the back of the newsletter.

Wed Sept 2
Birding the
Galapagos 2008

Nature Calgary Study Groups

Bird Study Group

Wed Sept 2, 7:30 pm: Birding the Galapagos 2008 (video presentation) with Eric Tull & Brooke Clibbon. Has the Galapagos been on your wish list for a long time? Get a taste of the abundant wildlife and unique species found there, including the dancing Blue-footed Booby!

Wed, Oct 7 - TBA

Bird Study Group meets 1st Wednesday of the month, Room 211, BioSciences Building, U of C except June through August when field trips replace the meetings. Contact Eric Tull 403-295-0830, tull@ucalgary.ca.



Rufous Hummingbird
© Stephen Spring

2010 Calgary Big Year Birding Competition! Join us in 2010 in our Calgary-wide birding competition! It's free and open to all. There will be prizes, fun events, field trips and get-togethers throughout the year. Sign up now to be kept up-to-date with news about the competition and to be informed of events in which you can participate. For more information and to register see <http://birdcomp.fanweb.ca/2010/> and watch the web and Nature News for updates.



Adopt-a-Plant Program
Conservation of Alberta's
rare native plants
<http://ab.adoptaplant.ca>

Botany Study Group

Botany Study Group meets during the summer months. Contact Suzanne Visser 403-288-0658 or svisser@ucalgary.ca for further details.



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**.

Mail 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 on the Nature Calgary web <http://tinyurl.com/NCform>.

Please submit a list of bird species seen on trips to brooke@webfoundations.com

Calling All Photographers !!

The Nature Calgary web needs photographs!

If you are willing to allow your photographs to be used on the web, please contact Jan Brigden, email jbrigden@telus.net or ph. 403-275-1582

Nature Calgary Field Trips

Check http://www.naturecalgary.com/field_trips.html for new trips and updates.

Trips that are highlighted require pre-registration.

...August

Tue Aug 18, 6:30pm: Bird Carburn Park, S from Glenmore Tr E at 18 St SE to second stoplight, then right & follow signs. Leader, Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

Tue Aug 25, 6:30pm: Bird Edworthy Park. Meet S side of Boothman Pedestrian Bridge accessed from Shaganappi Tr & Bowness Rd if N of river, or from W end of Spruce Dr if S of river. Leader, Jim St. Laurent, 403-246-6314.

Sat Aug 29, 8:30am: Bird Beaverdam Flats Park, N from Glenmore Tr at 18 St SE, then left. Meet at S. parking lot (Lynnview Rd & Lynnview Way, S of 62 Av SE). Leader, Al Borgardt, 403-281-4306.

Sun Aug 30, 8am: Bird Mallard Point/Burnsmead/Hull's Woods in Fish Creek Prov. Park, by car. Meet at Mallard Pt, E end of Canyon Meadows Dr SW. Leader, Tony Timmons, 403-256-1754.

...September

Tue, 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.

Sat Sep 5, 8am: Bird Carburn Park, S from Glenmore Tr E at 18 St SE to second stoplight, then right & follow signs. Leaders, Dick/Lenora Flynn, 403-271-1269.

Sun Sep 6, 8:30am: Bird Pearce Estates, 1440 17A St SE, N of Blackfoot Trail. Leader, Al Borgardt, 403-281-4306.

Sun Sep 6, 9:30am: The Wild Berries of Weaselhead Natural Area. Meet parking lot, 37 St & 66 Av SW. Leader, Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

Sat Sep 12, 9am: Birding Bowmont Park. Meet Maranatha Church, 2111 52 St NW (N end of Home Rd). Leader, Horst Grothman, 403-286-3048.

Sun Sep 13, 8:30am: Bird Inglewood Bird Sanctuary, E. end of 9 Av SW. Leader, Al Borgardt, 403-281-4306.

Sat Sep 19, 8:30am: Bird Windham/Carseland Prov. Park. Bring lunch. Meet at Anderson LRT (Macleod Tr) S. of pedestrian walkway. Leader, Andrew Hart, 403-279-5209.

Sun Sep 20, 8:30am: Bird Griffith Woods Park, 2.5km W on Hwy 8 from Sarcee Tr SW, then left at 69 St SW into Discovery Ridge. Continue straight at traffic circle, then left on Discovery Link into parking lot. Leader, Grant Brydle, 720-4957.

Sat Sep 26, 9am: Bird Mallard Point, E end of Canyon Meadows Dr SE. Leader, Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

Sun Sep 27, 8:30am: Bird Windham/Carseland Prov. Park. Bring lunch. Meet at Anderson LRT (Macleod Tr) S. of pedestrian walkway. Leader, Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

Sun Sep 27, 9am: See the huge and unusual trees of Bowness Park; trees over 1 m in diameter, over 100+ ft tall; also the scarlet-hued leaves of Red Maple, etc. Meet in first parking lot, Bowness Park, 48 Av, W of 85 St NW. Leader, Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

...October

Thu Oct 1, 8am: 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.

For more nature activities in the Calgary area visit:

Canadian Parks & Wilderness Society (CPAWS)
<http://cpawscalgary.org>

Weaselhead & Glenmore Park Preservation 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>

Of General Interest

Tangle-Trap Teardown, Wagner Natural Area near Edmonton, Sat, Sept 26, 10:00am to 4:00pm. Help The Nature Conservancy of Canada - Alberta Region (NCC) get rid of some dangerous, fallen smooth wire fence, and then take a guided tour of Wagner "Bog" to learn more about this biologically rich natural area. Excellent photo opportunities!

Photo Contests 2009-2010 - The Natural Areas Adopt-A-Park program is looking for photos taken in Calgary's Natural Environment Parks taken by amateur photographers. For more information see <http://www.calgary.ca> and search on "photo contest", or contact Linda Vaxvick at 403-239-9434.
 Bowmont NEP: deadline Oct 9, 2009
 Twelve Mile Coulee NEP: deadline Feb 12, 2010
 Weaselhead NEP: deadline Jan 10, 2010

River Guide Internship, Fall 2009
 Love the outdoors? Comfortable in a canoe, kayak or raft? Enjoy working with students? Interested in protecting the environment? Looking to make a difference? RiverWatch is a non-profit education company offering paid internships to deliver field studies for secondary science students. Interns and their students travel by inflatable raft, tour wastewater facilities and conduct water quality monitoring along Calgary's Bow River.
 If you are between the ages of 19 - 30 years, a graduate or soon-to-be-graduate of university or college programs in education, physical education, ecotourism or environmental sciences, and you want to enhance your professional careers, then RiverWatch is for you! RiverWatch has seven intern positions available in Calgary, Alberta. River Guides receive \$120 - \$150/day and may work extended hours, evenings and/or weekends during five or more days per week during September - October.
 Applicants should submit a cover letter, résumé and references to Program Coordinator Rob Vickers at calgaryriverwatch@telus.net.

For details of these and other volunteer opportunities, email naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca or see the volunteers' page at <http://naturecalgary.com>

Volunteer Opportunities

Nature Calgary is operated entirely by volunteers who generously give their skills and time. Volunteers have the opportunity to meet others with similar interests in a fun and rewarding experience. Would you like to participate?

Nature Calgary Board members needed - Publicity Director, Directors -at-Large, and Manager Volunteers - contact Jamie 403-243-7232 for details.

Non-board positions - Membership Promotion, Field Trip Leader and Welcome Table Volunteers - contact Nature Calgary for more information.

naturecalgary@cfns.fanweb.ca
 Nature Calgary, PO Box 981, Station M, Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

Nature Calgary Memberships
 Individual \$20.00/yr
 Family \$25.00/yr
 Contact Donna, 403-276-7799
 ♻️ please recycle

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
Calgary Honda (special discounted rates) Anderson & Macleod 403-253-6531, x 4021	

Nature Calgary (Calgary Field Naturalists' Society) publishes **Nature News** 8 times per year. Send copy to Linda lvaxvick@telus.net, Brooke brooke@webfoundations.com and Jan jebriqden@*telus.net (remove *) ph: 403-275-1582.
Deadline for the October/November issue is Friday September 11, 2009.



Nature Calgary Banquet '09



**Feature Presentation:
Discoveries About Bears**

**With guest speaker:
Dr. Stephen Herrero**

**Join us on
Saturday November 7, 2009**
Best Western Village Park Inn
1804 Crowchild Trail NW, Calgary

Time: 6 - 7 pm: Cash Bar
7 pm: Three course sit-down dinner (choice of prime rib roast of beef, fillet of halibut or vegetarian selection)
8 pm: Feature Presentation **"Discoveries about Bears"**

Guest Speaker: Dr. Stephen Herrero, Professor Emeritus of Environmental Design at the University of Calgary, is recognized world-wide as the leading authority on grizzly bear ecology, behaviour and conservation, and is the chair of the Eastern Slopes Grizzly Project www.canadianrockies.net/grizzly.

Dr. Herrero's presentation is sure to entertain and inform us as he describes many fascinating—and some unexpected, discoveries made during his years of research and contact with these remarkable creatures.

Limited Tickets Available: \$45 Nature Calgary members, \$50 non-members. Reserve yours now by calling Linda or John Stewart (403) 244-0505.

Send cheques (payable to Nature Calgary) to:
Nature Calgary, 830 - 18 Ave. SW, Calgary T2T 0G7
(please indicate your menu choice and include your contact information).

Final deadline for tickets is October 23.