

Happy New Year



Newsletter

1 January 2022 | Issue 9

Upcoming Events

See our [Calendar](#) for nature events happening nearby.



Wishing all of our members a wonderful, healthy & joy-filled 2022!

Let's Stay Social

We'd love to hear from you:




Club Events

Monthly Meetings

Our next meeting will be on **Thursday, January 20th at 7pm.**

This will be a ZOOM-only meeting: we are canceling the in-person format due to the omicron surge and the uncertainties involved.

<p><i>Nature Nanaimo</i></p> <p>Presents:</p> <p><i>How old are the trees in old-growth forests on Vancouver Island?</i></p> <p>with <i>Bill Beese</i></p> <p>Thursday January 20th 7:00 PM</p>	
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Nature Nanaimo is very pleased to announce our first presentation in the coming new year. "How old are the trees in old-growth forests on Vancouver Island?" with Bill Beese, Registered Forestry Professional and retired Professor of Forestry at VIU on January 20th. The coastal temperate rainforests of British Columbia (BC) are dominated by old-growth forests. However, few studies have documented the age of specific areas or forest stands, or trees in BC's old-growth in detail. Bill will describe how studies have helped improve our understanding of old-growth dynamics, particularly in relation to large- and small-scale disturbances and successional development.

Bill Beese is currently an honorary Research Associate at VIU, having taught as a professor in the Forestry Dept at VIU for 11 years. Before joining the VIU faculty, Bill spent over 30 years on the BC Coast as a Forest Ecologist in research and policy development for several forest companies. Bill is internationally recognized for practical implementation of innovative forestry, in particular his landmark work implementing retention silviculture systems, in which trees are left to maintain biodiversity over the long term. This work on variable retention as an alternative to clear-cut harvesting was a team effort that received the Corporate Award from the Ecological Society of America.

Bill has served on numerous advisory committees on research, old growth forests and ecosystem-based management including an international science panel for Forestry Tasmania. He is a co-author of three book chapters and numerous research papers. Among the many awards and recognitions Bill has received, he most recently (2020) was awarded the Canadian Forestry Scientific Achievement Award from the Canadian Institute of Forestry, recognizing "individuals who have made innovative and outstanding achievements in forestry research in Canada."

Nature Nuggets and News

Will 2022 be a BIG YEAR for you? Here are some tips & tricks:



How To Do Your Own Big Year - The BC Bird Trail

It's a new year and that means a fresh Big Year challenge has begun for many birders. A Big Year is a personal goal that some birders like to create for themselves to encourage them to explore and seek out birds. Typically, a birder's Big Year...

[Read more](#)
bcbirdtrail.ca

Central Vancouver Island - The BC Bird Trail - Look Up,...

Ordering from this Indigenous-owned online bookstore supports the local community while extending your learning journey through art and literature. Explore More Guided Bird Walks hosted by The Backyard Wildbird and Nature Store Leaves the...

[Read more](#)
bcbirdtrail.ca

RPBO 'About Bird Conservation' Brochures



RPBO has prepared a number of brochures regarding bird conservation. You can view and/or download them from the list below:

[Bird Friendly Gardening](#)

[Creating a Bird-Friendly Home](#)

[Ethical Consumerism & Birds](#)

[How Pets Affect Birds](#)

[Outdoor Recreation with Birds](#)

More details on Rocky Point Bird Observatory's website:
<http://rpbo.org/abc.php>



B.C. couple gifts property with pristine grizzly habitat ...

A British Columbia couple has gifted a large parcel of land near Bella Coola containing pristine old growth forest and rich riverside habitats to the Nature Conservancy of Canada. Harvey and Carol Thommasen donated the 122-hectare parcel in...

[Read more](#)
www.cbc.ca



Cold snap taking a toll on B.C.'s Anna's hummingbirds |...

The extreme cold snap is taking a toll on British Columbia's littlest bird. Fifteen frozen or injured Anna's hummingbirds were brought to the non-profit Wildlife Rescue Association of B.C. facility in Burnaby, B.C., on Tuesday alone, a record...

[Read more](#)
www.cbc.ca

Monthly Roundup of Nature Events

Christmas Bird Count (Nanaimo) – **NEW DATE** January 3



Hi Folks,

Looking at the calendar (the last possible date by the rules is Jan 5) and the weather forecast (we have a 'least bad' weather window), **I think our best day of birding available is going to be Monday January 3.** After a couple of days of above-zero temperatures I am hoping that Nanaimo roads will finally be in somewhat reasonable shape.

In addition to the calendar and weather, Omicron cases are exploding. This is an outdoor event, I think we can manage the risks. We are all responsible adults, please make the choices that work for you, and please don't feel pressure to exceed your comfort level. At the very least practice strict physical distancing and think about outdoor mask use when birding in groups that include people from outside your household.

If you are a team member your Area Team leader will be in touch for arrangements on Monday.

If you are an Area Team leader and January 3 does not work for you, please let me know ASAP, we should be able to find a competent fill-in leader. Area Team leaders should think about dividing up their areas when feasible to allow competent deputy's to bird independently.

That is all folks, thanks for your patience, lets get this done!

Bryan
cell 250 713 6393

<https://www.birdscanada.org/bird-science/christmas-bird-count/>

Raincoast Speaker Series: **Basking Sharks (Zoom) – January 13**



Basking Sharks

Dr. Scott Wallace, Marine Conservation
Thursday, January 13th, 7:00 pm

via Zoom

Not that long ago, Basking Sharks, the second largest fish in the world were a common occurrence along the west coast of Vancouver Island. The last time this species was regularly observed on the BC coast was in Clayoquot Sound in the early 1990s. In this presentation Scott will explain the biology, shameful history, current research, and future recovery of the basking shark in Canada's Pacific waters.

Scott is a lifelong biologist most happy when wearing gumboots and being with people in the outdoors. He has recently become a partner and owner-operator of a new lodge in Bamfield, Outer Shores Lodge. Before pivoting to Outer Shores Lodge, Scott worked as a marine ecologist at the David Suzuki Foundation for 15 years in the capacity of Senior Research Scientist. He is an educator, author, activist, naturalist, and fisheries researcher whose career has focused on marine conservation. Scott holds a PhD from the University of British Columbia and has taught several university and college level courses on the marine and coastal ecology of British Columbia. Scott currently teaches courses with North Island College's Adventure Guiding program, UBC's Haida Gwaii Institute, and is a fisheries advisor to the Council of the Haida Nation. In 2006 Scott wrote a book about basking sharks in Canada's Pacific waters.

RSVP here:

<https://raincoasteducation.org/calendar-event/raincoast-speaker-series-giants-of-the-deep-basking-shark/>

Bamfield Marine Science Centre Webinar – January 19

BMSC Climate Action:

Join us as we transport you to the coastal waters and temperate rainforests of the traditional territory of the Huu-ay-aht First Nations. Engage with climate and ocean experts, indigenous knowledge holders, fishers, scientists, ocean tech companies, and policy makers to uncover the potential of coastal community-based climate action.



Please register for each workshop and webinar individually by clicking the registration links within the [table](#).

Schedule is subject to change. Please check back regularly or sign up for email updates.

Links for registration are provided on the calendar:

<https://www.bamfieldmsc.com/climate-action/bcas-registration>.

Jan 19, 13:00 PST	Dr. Sophie Cormer-Warner University of Birmingham & McGill University	Register here	Episode 9: Coastal Restoration & Carbon Sequestration
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