

NATURE BAY



SALMON ARM BAY
**NATURE
ENHANCEMENT
SOCIETY**

NATURE BAY NEWS

Newsletter of the Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society
PO Box 27, Salmon Arm, B.C. Canada V1E 4N2
Email: sabnes.org@gmail.com
Website: www.sabnes.org

Spring
2017

PLEASE JOIN US

AGM 7:00 pm Friday June 16th

At SD#83 School Board Office

341 Shuswap St SW, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4N2

Please note the different location from usual

There will be a short business meeting followed by a refreshment break. After the break, our AGM speaker will be **GERRY LEERING**. Gerry will give a talk entitled: **This Past Year's Foreshore Works - Habitat Complexing**



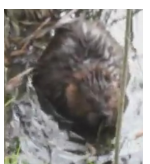
Biologist *Gerry Leering* is describing how the Spidex equipment in the background is being used to create a number of hummocks on the foreshore. Gerry saw an opportunity arise once the City of Salmon Arm was committed to a major project to upgrade the sewer line which crosses the foreshore from Raven to the Sewage Plant. With Gerry's lead and drive **SABNES** applied for and was awarded a \$60,000 grant over two years from the **Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HTCF)** for Habitat Complexing on the foreshore.

Dogs on the Foreshore Trail Committee—Update

In December 2016, Salmon Arm Council moved to implement a trial period to see if dogs walked on the foreshore trail with restricted 2 metre leashes could be adequately managed without increasing impacts to wildlife. The trial included the current closure to dogs during the critical nesting period between **April 15 and June 15**, no dog access off the foreshore trail onto the boardwalks or Christmas Island at any time, and required removal of dog waste. On **Feb 16th, 2017**, after considering a report from committee chairman, **Phil McIntyre-Paul**, City Council passed a motion to continue the trial for one more year. This should enable the City to facilitate a longer term consensus using additional data which will be gathered until the end of 2017. Trail users are **asked to continue** to report any disturbances or bylaw infractions directly to the animal control hotline at **250-833-8492**. Reports can also be emailed to trailreport@shuswaptrails.com.

SABNES is on FACEBOOK Login to Facebook and then search: [salmon arm bay nature enhancement society](https://www.facebook.com/salmonarmbaynatureenhancementsociety)

Lots of information and things to see, including a 25sec clip of a Beaver munching away!



Foreshore Enhancement Project

by SABNES President **Janet Aitken**

One of my favourite quotes is: “*The dreams of tomorrow will be the reality of today.*” The collective ‘we’ started dreaming about diversifying the foreshore 27 years ago or so. **Tom Brighthouse** and **Bill Eaton** will remember the beginnings of Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society. Over the course of the last two years, we have come closer to ‘enhancing’ nature. The work that they started with creating a nature trail and bird viewing platforms continues.

Someone once said to me that Nature couldn’t be enhanced, but in this case, I believe it is a correct term. The monoculture created by the reed canary grass was expansive. Now, when I look down on the foreshore, I do with a sense of curiosity and pride. The four hummocks are verdant. The water is lapping at the edges as we predicted. The willows may be underwater but we are hoping they will take hold in the wet.

SABNES owes special thanks to three people who were vital to making this project a success. **Gerry Leering**, the Biologist that suggested to me at one of our SABNES meetings two years ago that we have a special once in 30 year opportunity to do some diversification on the foreshore during the City Sewage upgrade. Gerry not only had the vision to see what could be done, but he also had the work ethic and the drive to see it to the finish. He spent countless hours sending me reminders so we could move forward. I think Gerry can feel a strong sense of pride for his work on the foreshore sewage upgrade and the Hummocks. It truly would not have happened without him. Thanks Gerry!

The second BIG thank you goes to **Kim Fulton** who according to his grandson, Jonathan, likes to quote Dr. Suess and the Lorax: “*Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, nothing is going to get better. It’s not!*” This is one of Kim Fulton’s favourite expressions and he cares an awful lot about our environment and teaching our young people to be stewards. It was evident when Kim orchestrated the planting of 3,600 trees and 260 volunteers over 10 days. In planning, Kim paid close attention to all the details and consulted his good friend Dr. **Michael Carlson**, emeritus forest geneticist from Kalamalka Forestry Research Center. Through him we also have connections with **Ward Strong**, entomologist at Kal Forestry and **Chuck Bulmer**, soil scientist at Kal.



Mike provided us with conifer plugs of 5 species - fir, spruce, white pine, cedar and larch.

There are also those who work quietly and unassumingly behind the scenes. Our SABNES Treasurer, **Geoff Benson** is so much more than just our Treasurer. He is always available to advise and assists with all financial decisions and managing the invoices and bookkeeping that come with a **\$60,000 Grant**. Somehow he also fit in major back surgery, and designing signs and newsletters. We are truly fortunate that Geoff is an active part of the SABNES Board. My favourite quote from Geoff was: “*Don’t let’s spoil the ship for a half-pennyworth of tar*”.

Thanks to **Jim Hoskins** and **Vic Massey** for their hours building bat houses and bird boxes and putting them up, and to **Clive Bryson** for his incredible photographs of wildlife which he has allowed SABNES to use in its publications.

Then there are a long list of others to thank. We sincerely appreciate your part in making this project happen. Every little bit helps and in many cases it was more than a little bit.

We probably didn’t catch all the names and so if you helped in any way “**Thank You**”.

Sonya Rokosh and Kayla Fulton- Planting Supervisors, **Jordie and Jonathan Fulton**, **Ceren Caner**, **Sharon Langlois**, **Dave Ramsay**, **Tammy Meerza**, **Jodi Wentworth**, **Kira Limber**, **Helena McGowin** and the **Salmon Arm Scouts**, **Judy Murray**, **Blaine Carson**, **Helga Vrabac**, **The Drone People**, **Aubin Dorion** at **Coldwatersolutions**, **Al Bianco’s** daughter **Libby**; **Laura Gaster**, Aquatic Invasive Species Program Coordinator; **Rob Lythe** of Property Boyz Landscape; **Rhonda Cooper** of Columbia Shuswap Invasive Species; **Neil Brookes**, past executive director of Kingfisher Interpretive Centre; **Val Jenzen**, Ethnobotanist from the Neskonlith Indian Band; **Brian Thomas**, **Mark Thomas**, **Jasmin Fredricson**, **Dave Aitken**, **Steve Rodwell**, **Megan Weir**, **Tiffany Lambert**, **Mona Broad** and others.

Many thanks to the **Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF)**, not only for the generous grant, but also for the interest and encouragement they have given us. Thanks also goes to **BC Nature Trust** for a grant of **\$1,500** and **\$1,000** from the **Shuswap Community Foundation** for a project sign. Thanks to BC Ministry of forests, lands and natural resource operations (**MLFNR**) for providing gloves for the youngsters. We also received **\$750** from **Shuswap Rotary** to buy extra poles and materials for bird and bat boxes. Thanks to **Terra Sense Analytics Ltd** for pro-bono drone work. Thanks to **Aaron Deans** of Alan Brooks Nature Centre for advice on birdnesting habitat and situating birdhouses and for loaning extra boots for kids and a water pump to clean them! Many Businesses and Organisations gave in-kind contributions. The biggest contributor in this category was the **City of Salmon Arm** with an estimated value of **\$85,400** in Goods and Services. **Stella Jones** gave us 7 poles and transported them on-site. Thanks also go to **Doug Webb Contracting** for riprap and sand which they transported to the site. Also to **PinPoint Surveying** for Drone photos and **School District #83** for bus transportation. **Buckerfields** and **Lordco** gave discounts on items purchased. Last but not least, thanks to **Reliable Septic Services** for the provision of a portable toilet for the week of planting.

A Pictorial Summary of Recent Events on the Foreshore



In order to protect the wetlands surface, the City laid swamp mats to carry the heavy equipment needed to repair the sewer line.



Taking advantage of the accessibility afforded by the swamp mats, SABNES installed poles for bird and bat boxes.



Meanwhile, at the Raven end of the trail, the versatile SPIDEX machine was creating the four hummocks.



Here is Kim Fulton shank's ponying willow cuttings from Raven to the hummocks.



Here are one of the many young students who planned the layout of the plantings using coloured pins to indicate where to plant each species.



The plantings were done in mainly adverse weather conditions by students, scouts and others and directed by skilled supervisors.



The planning of the planting activities was detailed and thorough.



Jim Hoskins installed bat houses on poles positioned near to the hummocks.



Tree saplings were transported and placed near to the hummocks for planting. Fortunately on this day the weather cooperated. There were 3,600 trees planted, including willow, black cottonwood, dogwood and prickly rose.



Spring growth is now evident. The fencing around the trees is to protect them from voles and other predators.



The myriads of tasks having been completed, the last day's crew prepares to depart after a job well done!



The hummocks have survived the pounding of waves during the storm of May 23rd and now exist as a string of micro-islets in the bay.

SABNES BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Elected Directors

Janet Aitken, President
 Geoff Benson, Treasurer and Newsletter Editor;
 Moana Broad; Hanne MacKay; Gale-Paule Davison;
 Gary Lomax; Sid Visser

Appointed Directors

Councillor. Ken Jamieson, **City of Salmon Arm**;
FishNGame and **Downtown Improvement Association** No appointed reps

Non-voting Directors

Georgia McLeod, Secretary
 Tom Brighthouse, Advisor

We greatly appreciate the financial and service support from the following companies:

LIFE CORPORATE MEMBERS

Askews Foods
 Royal Bank

CORPORATE MEMBERS

Bowers Funeral Service Limited
 Browne Johnson Land Surveyors
 Dr Lyle A Martin
 Gentech Engineering Inc.
 Hub International Barton Insurance
 Johnston Meier Insurance Agencies Group
 Petro Car Wash
 Shuswap Acupuncture and Laser Therapy Clinic

GRANTING AGENCIES

City of Salmon Arm
 Salmon Arm Rotary Club
 Shuswap Community Foundation
 Habitat Conservation Trust Fund

Annual Membership Fees *

Individual.....	\$ 15
Family.....	\$ 25
Sustaining Individual.....	\$ 50
Sustaining Family.....	\$ 100
Life Membership.....	\$ 500
Corporate or Organization	
1-4 Employees.....	\$ 50
5-10 Employees.....	\$ 100
+ 10 Employees.....	\$ 150
Life Membership.....	\$ 2,500

* All but \$5 is tax-deductible

Membership Form

(If you have been a member, we only need you to enter new information)

Name: _____

Address : _____

Phone: _____

E-Mail Address _____

Amount Paid : _____ Date : _____

I would like to give **SABNES** my time to help staff the nature centre (June, July and August)

to help with trail clean-up and maintenance

Nature Bay Society (**SABNES**) is a Charitable Organization. Most of the Annual Fee is tax-deductible. Receipts for Income Tax purposes will be issued.

Nature Bay Society, P.O. Box 27, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4N2
 website : www.sabnes.org Email:- sabnes.org@gmail.com



Nature Centre to Open on June 11th

Thanks to a grant of **\$3,500** from the **City of Salmon Arm** and **\$3,883** from the **Fed. Govt. CSJ Program**, we will be able to hire **2** students for **13** weeks to staff the **Brighthouse Nature Centre**.

As part of the funding from our HCTF grant **SABNES** will be hiring an Interpreter to escort parties to the Hummocks, two days each week. Call in at the Nature Centre for more details.

Look for the New Sign at the end of the Wharf

Have a walk to the end of the wharf and look at the new sign created by **SABNES**. It names physical features and places of interest in the bay and also shows some of the local nature walks and what to look for.



A Way of making an Everlasting contribution to SABNES

Please consider making a tax-deductible donation to **SABNES** via the **Shuswap Community Foundation (c/o SABNES Endowment Fund)**. Your donation will remain in perpetuity in the fund and will generate income which will be used to help keep the **SABNES** lands in their natural state for the foreseeable future. **Please send** your cheque payable to **Shuswap Community Foundation, PO Box #624, 450 Lakeshore Drive, Salmon Arm, BC V1E 4N7**. Indicate on your cheque that you wish to place your donation in the **SABNES ENDOWMENT FUND**. The **Shuswap Community Foundation** will send you a tax receipt.

Red-tailed hawk



Clive Bryson