

# NATURE NEWS

From Nature Calgary

[www.naturecalgary.com](http://www.naturecalgary.com)



President: John McFaul  
403-289-9517  
email: [president\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:president*@naturecalgary.com)

## VOLUNTEER

[Volunteer\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:Volunteer*@naturecalgary.com)  
for general inquiries.

## LEAD A FIELD TRIP

To suggest a location or lead a trip  
email [fieldtrips\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:fieldtrips*@naturecalgary.com)

[Check the website frequently for new trips and updates.](#)

## MANAGE MEMBERSHIP

Contact Val 403-288-7441 or  
[membership\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:membership*@naturecalgary.com)

[Join or renew online.](#)

## GET IN TOUCH

Nature News is published 8 times per year. Send suggestions to:  
[newsletter\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:newsletter*@naturecalgary.com).  
Next deadline: Jan 11, 2019

Mailing address:  
Nature Calgary, Box 981 Stn. M  
Calgary, AB T2P 2K4

Find us on   
[facebook.com/naturecalgary](https://facebook.com/naturecalgary)

 [@NatureYYC](https://twitter.com/NatureYYC) on Twitter

## Speaker Series

**Wed Nov 21: Oceanbridge - Connecting to our oceans and rivers through youth engagement.** Hannah Lucas will describe how this program is engaging youth across Canada to actively participate in ocean health and education. Hannah graduated from Plymouth University with a degree in marine biology and a passion for the natural environment. She also works at the Calgary Zoo.

**Wed Dec 20: Annual General Meeting,** Christmas quiz, members' photos, and refreshments! Attend to help keep your society's affairs in order. If you have a few photos you would like to show contact John McFaul at [info\\*@naturecalgary.com](mailto:info*@naturecalgary.com) or call 403-289-9517.

The board will be presenting a resolution, previously sent to all members, to increase membership dues effective January 1/19. Members in good standing, who attend the AGM, will be allowed to vote on the resolution. A simple majority is required for the resolution to pass.

A new Board of Directors will be elected. Available positions include banquet or bus trip coordinator and publicity director. Contact John McFaul if you are interested. Additionally, members will elect those who have volunteered to audit the financial statements for the fiscal period Oct 1/17 - Sep 30/18.

**Wed Jan 21: John Marriott presents: Tall Tales, Long Lenses** This book recounts many of Marriott's favourite stories and photos from his most memorable wildlife encounters in some of Canada's spectacular locales. It's a fascinating account of being in the right place at exactly the right times, from his one-day love affair with a pine marten to his lifelong quest to find monstrous male grizzly bears.

*Nature Calgary's monthly meetings are held at 7:30pm the 3rd Wednesday of the month at Cité des Rocheuses, 4800 Richard Rd SW. Free for members, \$5 for non-members. [View map | www.citedesrocheuses.com](http://www.citedesrocheuses.com)*

## Issues, Events & Updates

**Thanks to all who attended the Annual Fall Banquet.**

The Wardens, a folk group from Canmore were a great hit at the annual Nature Calgary banquet held at the Irish Cultural Centre. Many many thanks to the volunteers who helped set and take down the tables, as well as those who donated door prizes.

## Volunteer Opportunities

**A volunteer is required to do a presentation to the Airdrie Junior Forest Wardens** (mostly grades 1 -6 with some older kids) on Birds of the Wetlands. Location is in Airdrie, needed for Wednesday January 9, 2019 from 7 - 8pm. Presentation will be provided. If you are interested, please contact Melanie - melaniesene\*[\\*gmail.com](mailto:melaniesene@gmail.com)

**An additional volunteer is needed to audit** Nature Calgary's 2018 financial statements. Please send your expression of interest to treasurer\*[\\*naturecalgary.com](mailto:naturecalgary.com). Accounting experience and/or proficiency with Excel spreadsheets, while not a requirement, would be helpful.

## Bird Study Group

**Wed Dec 5: Getting down with Calgary area birds.** A tour of Calgary area birds as seen through the lens of amateur nature photographer Tony LePrieur. Tony will share bird pictures captured over the past couple of years, providing IDs, locations, tips and stories around individual pictures. He has been capturing wildlife memories in the Calgary area for the past 5 years. Shooting handheld, many of his shots are taken in the laying position where “getting down” helps stabilize his camera and gives an interesting POV. His pictures have been featured on the Birds Calgary site, City of Calgary Publications, Friends of Fish Creek, the Treehugger Blog and a co-worker's T-shirt.

**Wed Jan 9: Christmas Bird Count.** Phil Cram and others will present the results of the Calgary and area Christmas Bird Counts.

*Bird Study Group meetings are held at 7:30pm the first Wednesday of the month at Cardel Theatre (180 Quarry Park Boulevard SE), with the exception of January 2019, where the group will meet the 2nd Wednesday. Free for members, \$5 for non-members.*

[View map | www.cardeltheatre.com](http://www.cardeltheatre.com)



American Dipper (top) and Easter Kingbird with babies (bottom)  
© Tony LePrieur



## Happy Holidays

and a healthy 2019 to all of our members! Thank you to all the dedicated volunteers who have contributed to Nature Calgary over the past year - looking forward to another great year!



**Rare Bird Alert:**  
report rare bird sightings to Bird Alert Compiler, Terry Korolyk at 403-300-1067  
For latest sightings check: [Albertabird](http://Albertabird) or [BirdTrax](http://BirdTrax)



## City of Calgary Christmas Bird Count – Sunday, December 16, 2018

- Following the count (from 5 pm on) all participants including Feederwatchers, are warmly invited by Cindy and Dan Parliament to compile results and have supper at **116 Vantage Bay NW (note change of venue from 2017)**. Cindy and Dan would be pleased to hear from anyone who can contribute any side dishes, salads, or desserts (403-247-4987).
- Please count mammals as well as birds.
- New participants wanting to join Feederwatch, please contact Barb Coote at barbcote\*[\\*gmail.com](mailto:barbcote*@gmail.com).
- New participants should contact a Route Coordinator (North: John McFaul, 403-289-9517; East: Terry Korolyk, 403-254-1878; West: Jim Washbrook, 403-282-8849; South: Dan Arndt, 403-836-7405) .
- We encourage voluntary donations to cover the cost of the dinner, as well as contributing to Nature Calgary and Bird Studies Canada. (Bird Studies Canada no longer collects a \$5 fee for the count). To donate: before the count, please send a cheque to Nature Calgary, P.O. Box 981, Station M, Calgary AB T2P 2K4. Mark the cheque “Donation for Christmas Bird Count”. Donations over \$20 will receive an official CRA tax receipt. You may also donate online; please include in “Special Instructions for Seller” that it is for the Christmas Bird Count. You may also bring your donation to the supper.

DATE	LOCATION	CONTACT	EMAIL
Dec 15, 2018	Banff/Canmore	Heather Dempsey	<a href="mailto:hjdempsey*@shaw.ca">hjdempsey*@shaw.ca</a>
Dec 16, 2018	Calgary	Phil Cram	<a href="mailto:crampj*@telusplanet.net">crampj*@telusplanet.net</a>
Dec 18, 2018	High River	Greg Wagner	<a href="mailto:greg.wagner*@athene.ca">greg.wagner*@athene.ca</a>
Dec 22, 2018	Horseshoe Canyon	Michael Harrison	<a href="mailto:tringa*@telus.net">tringa*@telus.net</a>
Dec 27, 2018	Sheep River	Doug Collister	<a href="mailto:collistr*@gmail.com">collistr*@gmail.com</a>
Dec 29, 2018	Cochrane Wildlife Reserve	Jamey Podlubny	<a href="mailto:svisser*@ucalgary.ca">svisser*@ucalgary.ca</a>
Jan 1, 2019	Fish Creek Provincial Park	Jim Washbrook	<a href="mailto:jwashbrook1*@gmail.com">jwashbrook1*@gmail.com</a>
Jan 3, 2019	The Snake's Head (Sundre)	Doug Collister	<a href="mailto:collistr*@gmail.com">collistr*@gmail.com</a>
Jan 5, 2019	Bowkan Birders (Exshaw)	Cliff Hansen	<a href="mailto:cm_hansen*@shaw.ca">cm_hansen*@shaw.ca</a>

## Field Trips

Participants are responsible for bringing their own food, water, sunscreen, bug spray and any other equipment or supplies the duration and location of the trip may require. Field Trips involving car pools will require registration to ensure that a reasonable number of people are able to attend with a limited number of cars for safety and enhanced birding experiences.

**Sat Nov 24, 9:00am to noon: Bird North Glenmore Park.** Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. Leader Penny Smith, 403-249-5997.

**Sun Nov 25, 9:00am: Bebo Grove in Fish Creek PP.** Take Glenmore Tr SW to 14 St SW. Go S on 14 St to Anderson Rd. Turn right (West) and go to 24 St SW. Turn left (South) and follow it to its end in the parking lot. Leader Howard Heffler, 403-284-2961.

**Sat Dec 1, 8:30am to noon: 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 leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

**Fri Dec 7, 10am to noon: Inglewood Bird Sanctuary.** The sanctuary is located at 2425 - 9 Av SE. To get there from Deerfoot Tr take Blackfoot Tr west, turning left onto 19 St SE then left again onto 9 Av SE & drive 1 km east to sanctuary entrance. Leader John McFaul, 403-289-9517.

**Sun Dec 9, 8am: Scouting Xmas Bird Count territory** in Elboya-Stanley Park, Rideau, Roxboro. Meet at 420 Brunswick Av SW. Return for hot lunch at noon. Advance registration required. Leader: Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248.

**Sat Dec 29, 9:00am to noon: Bird North Glenmore Park.** Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. (No 37 St access). Leader Penny Smith, 403-249-5997.

**Thu Jan 2, 8:30am to noon: Monthly Elbow River Birding Survey.** Meet Stanley Park, 42 Ave SW, just W of Macleod Tr. Walk to Glenmore Reservoir, ride back (3.5 hours). Call leader Gus Yaki, 403-243-2248, to ensure vehicle space for return.

**Fri Jan 11, 8:30am to noon: Bird Shannon Terrace.** Look for winter birds. Meet at parking lot. Travel to W end of Anderson Rd, S on 37 St S, left (east) on 130 Av, right on Wood Path Rd. Please register with leader Andrew Hart (andrewhart\*@\*shaw.ca or 403-279-5209) to ensure notification in the event of a weather related cancellation or rescheduling.

**Sat Jan 12, 9:30am to late afternoon: Snowy Owl Pre-Prowl.** Go east of Calgary in search of the Legendary Snowy Owl. A precursor to the annual February Snowy Owl Prowl. Chances also for Gyr and Prairie Falcon, Great Horned Owl, Snow Buntings, Horned Larks, Common and Hoary Redpolls. Bring lunch. A mid-trip break in a nearby town. Registration required, details to follow in the near future. Leader, Terry Korolyk.

**Sat Jan 26, 9:00am to noon: Bird North Glenmore Park.** Meet in parking lot C just W of Rowing Club, accessed from S end of Crowchild Tr SW. (No 37st access). Leader Penny Smith, 403-249-5997.

**Be sure to visit [NatureCalgary.com](http://NatureCalgary.com) for updates and additional trips**

 = registration required

## General Interest

**Being responsible and realistic; a vision for Alberta East Slope Trout streams** - part of the Alberta Wildlife Association's Martha Kostuch Wilderness and Wildlife Trust Lecture. Presented by Dr. Michael G. Sullivan. November 23, reception at 6pm, Wilderness Defenders Awards presentation and lecture at 7pm. Tickets are \$50 for members and \$75 for non-members and are available online. Event takes place at AWA Cottage School, 455-12 ST NW.

**Mushroom Cultivation 101** - Tara Stephens of Fungi Akuafo will give a talk outlining the cultivation process and some common species and techniques for growing mushrooms at home. November 29, 7pm at Nose Hill Library, 1530 Northmount Dr NW. This is a free event.



Cascade Mountain  
© Vincent Piotrowski