



# BCWF NEWS

2019 QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

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# BC Wildlife Federation President's Report

Submitted by Bill Bosch

We have seen successes and tribulations for B.C.'s natural resources during the course of the year. Throughout it all, the Federation has continued to hold the government accountable, because the government, and industry, must recognize that fish, wildlife and habitat need to be respected.

## Political Advocacy

The BCWF united with other fishing and hunting organizations across Canada to layout our unique and shared conservation issues for the Federal Election, is on October 21, 2019. The National Fishing and Hunting Collaborative is a group of non-partisan, non-profit fishing and hunting organizations that work collaboratively to provide national leadership on important conservation issues and a voice for more than 375,000 Canadians from coast-to-coast-to-coast.

Together we ranked the top priorities for the next federal government which are: The promotion of fishing, hunting and trapping as important heritage activities, transparent and evidence-based firearms policy, increased monitoring of Chronic Wasting Disease between provinces/territories and across international borders, increasing conservation funding and a rapid response effort to fight aquatic invasive species.

On a regional level the Federation will continue to push provincial and federal governments to allocate funding for salmon habitat restoration and enhancement in key watersheds where values are at risk, and

proactively provide funding for the protection of watershed functioning and resilience, particularly in light of climate change. In the same beat, we will maintain our stance that Interior Fraser Steelhead should be listed as endangered under the Species at Risk Act on the recommendation of the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC). We will also continue to advocate for more funding support for roundtable co-management of fish and wildlife with Indigenous, local, provincial, and federal government involvement, and that resource surcharges (particularly from carbon taxes) should go back into environmental sustainability and adaptation.

We asked all the major federal parties questions to identify and communicate alignment with our members' values over the federal election campaign. We will hold the parties to account for their answers and the commitments they made to us in their fish, wildlife, habitat and firearms platforms. We encourage you, our member, to continue to meet and speak with your elected officials and let them know why these issues and your outdoor heritage are important to you.

## Our Salmon Resource

The Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) produced a 2019 summary report on the state of B.C. Salmon. Climate change has been identified as a leading cause of the general decline of most of our salmon populations. Warmer northern Pacific waters combined with B.C.'s air and water increasing temperatures and precipitation patterns are also implicated in our declining salmon numbers. Marine and freshwater ecosystem changes are impacting Pacific salmon at every stage of their lifecycle. Chinook numbers are declining throughout their B.C. range, and Sockeye and Coho numbers are also declining, primarily at southern latitudes. Salmon that spend less time in freshwaters, such as Pink, Chum, river-type Sockeye, and ocean-type Chinook, are generally not exhibiting declines. These recent observations suggest that not all salmon are equally vulnerable to climate and habitat change.

There are other factors besides climate that are impacting our salmon. Salmon fisheries/hatcheries, freshwater habitat deterioration, disease and massive international Pink and Chum stocking programs that compete for the same food items in the ocean also contribute to the decline of our salmon. We are in a near-crisis situation with our salmon. Our members, along with the general public, need to support DFO in their research efforts to better understand how and if mitigative measures can be employed to slow down the decline and hopefully start to see increases soon.

## Heart of the Fraser

The BC Government denied an application for a permit to build a permanent fixed link access bridge to Herrling Island. The BCWF and conservation partners have called for this important sturgeon rearing area to be protected from development. Past-president Harvey Andrusak said, "this is a significant step in preserving the functioning of the gravel reach which is critical habitat for sturgeon and salmon on the lower Fraser River. We commend the provincial government for recognizing the unique fish habitat values of this area of the Fraser in turning down the bridge application." We continue to work with the coalition on this campaign to purchase the islands and conserve the Heart of the Fraser for future generations.



### Fraser River Slide

As most of the public know, an enormous slide near Big Bar west of Clinton blocked all salmon migrations during July and August. DFO and provincial officials worked on a variety of solutions for several months. Salmon had to be transported by helicopter and released upstream of the barrier. A road was constructed to permit tanker trucks to move salmon upstream. Rock manipulations were on-going to create side streams that fish can swim up and by-pass the barrier. By the beginning of September, the river had dropped considerably, and fish have been able to successfully navigate through the side channels and continue their migration to their spawning grounds. The federal and provincial government biologists and engineers should be congratulated for their dedication and persistence in ensuring fish passage beyond the barrier.

### Mount Polley

On June 14, 2019, the B.C. Wildlife Federation wrote to DFO Minister Wilkinson to inquire if the investigation into Mount Polley is still active and, if so, when the government of Canada will pursue charges under the Federal Fisheries Act for the operator Imperial Metals. A follow-up letter was sent, but a response from the Minister was not received. The BCWF is concerned, that in the long term, the mine will become an orphaned site and that future remediation will be funded from the public purse rather than having the “polluter pay”. We will continue to push the government to get information on Mount Polley, as the federal government is still able to hold them accountable and charge them. We have not lost sight of this important issue.

### Cariboo Moose Allocation

The running of the LEH authorization draw was delayed this year because the final decision on the number for moose authorization in the Cariboo region was not determined until well into June — the same thing was true for guide outfitter moose quotas. The director of wildlife and habitat has the responsibility for allocation and her decision was delayed because of considerations for First Nations’ treaty rights and concessions made by First Nations, more recent inventory data and the impacts of wildfires. As a result, the number of authorizations in some LEH zones in the Cariboo was decreased by up to 80%, and in some cases down to a single authorization for specific seasons.



The BCWF continues to advocate for an evidence-based and a multispecies approach to wildlife management, and this decision by the director is contrary to those principles. The director has recognized the recommendations out of the Moose Solutions roundtable including access management in areas that saw access increased as a result of wildfires and salvage logging, predator and habitat work, and a focus on better and more data — there has been no word on where these recommendations are going at this point.

### Chronic Wasting Disease

Over the summer, several cases of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) were detected in Montana, near the B.C. border. CWD has not been detected in B.C., but the proximity of the CWD cases put the B.C. Wildlife Health program on high alert during this year’s hunting season. Surveillance is key to understanding the disease risk of CWD in British Columbia, as such, hunters were and still are encouraged to submit their deer, elk or moose head for CWD testing. This is voluntary in most parts of B.C. but is **mandatory for all white-tailed and mule deer harvested September 1, 2019, to December 20, 2019**, in wildlife management units 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6 and 4-7.

To help this initiative, the B.C. Wildlife Federation purchased and donated ten freezers that were placed at the different drop-off locations throughout the Kootenay and Peace Region. I would personally like to thank the clubs: Courtenay & District Fish and Game Club, the Kelowna and District Fish and Game

Club, Creston Valley Rod and Gun Club, Mission & District Rod and Gun Club, the Sparwood Fish and Wildlife Association, and the Canal Flats Wilderness Club, and all those who donated towards our National Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Heritage Day campaign, which raised funds to support the initiative to keep B.C. CWD free!

### Caribou Recovery

Blair Lekstrom, who was appointed by Premier Horgan as community liaison on caribou recovery, completed and made public his report on what he heard from local government and stakeholders. Soon after, the premier announced a two-year moratorium on any new resource development in what has been identified as critical caribou habitat. The BCWF submitted a response through the official engage BC process related to the Section 11 and Partnership agreements for caribou recovery. The main concerns continue to be the lack of stakeholder involvement, especially in the “technical working group” that decides on objectives for habitat and wildlife, the single species approach to managing wildlife and the displacement of 300,000 m<sup>3</sup> of the annual allowable cut from caribou habitat to other parts of the timber supply areas and what the potential consequences might be.

In closing, I would like to thank the BCWF Board of Directors, our volunteers, Staff, experts and advisors for their outstanding work. Your support does not go unnoticed and is valued. Lastly, thank-you to our members who continue to support our goals and embrace our values for the future of B.C.’s fish, wildlife and their habitats.





# BCWF FOI Reveals Flawed Decision-Making Process for Endangered Steelhead

The iconic Interior Fraser steelhead face imminent extinction, their population has declined from over 8,000 to only a few hundred. On July 24, 2019, the Governor in Council decided not to list the Thompson and Chilcotin River Steelhead Trout under the Species At Risk Act (SARA). The independent Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) had recommended a SARA listing for the species after conducting an emergency assessment in 2018. Federal and provincial governments are instead collaborating on a steelhead recovery plan for the two runs now classified as an “extreme conservation concern.”

A Freedom of Information (FOI) request submitted by the BC Wildlife Federation reveals the troubling correspondence between Fisheries and Oceans Canada and provincial Ministries of Environment, Forests and Agriculture before the final decision not to manage the steelhead under SARA. According to internal documents, the provincial and federal teams “spent the last six months working in a collaborative fashion in the emergency Species At Risk process, and the science teams came to consensus.” A peer-reviewed joint research paper on the recovery potential of the steelhead was developed to inform the process.

But the FOI reveals that wording in the final Scientific Advisory Report released to the public and government decision-makers did not reflect the consensus recommendations in the research document.

The research paper concluded that populations “have the potential of stabilizing, under a simulation where bycatch mortality and exploitation rates are zero.” COSEWIC had also identified eliminating bycatch as the major controllable factor for managing the threatened steelhead, concluding “the high levels of fisheries bycatch mortality are of particular concern in the context of persistently poor ocean survival.”

The correspondence showed that Jennifer Davis of the Fish and Aquatic Habitat Branch of the Forests Ministry disagreed with the wording changes in the final advisory report. She said, “moving off the transparent process has broken trust; the edits all boil down to two points – which appear to purposely marginalize the bycatch issue.”

President Bill Bosch said, “the BCWF is dismayed that the Government of Canada refused to list these fish despite the scientific evidence.” Bosch called the promise to protect steelhead without listing them “meaningless” considering that recent net-based fishery openings on the Fraser River are happening at the same time as the steelhead return.

“Fisheries and Oceans Canada is knowingly pushing these fish to extinction by contradicting the science,” he said.

The BCWF calls for a move to selective fisheries to protect the steelhead and the 33 COSEWIC-assessed salmonid populations found to be at risk of extinction in B.C. The Federation is deeply grateful to the University of Victoria’s Environmental Law Centre for their assistance with analyzing the 1,600-page FOI. “The process used to determine the fate of these fish on the brink of extinction is highly disturbing,” said Calvin Sandborn QC, Legal Director of the UVic Environmental Law Centre. “According to scientists involved, the only report made available to the public was skewed and failed to reflect the consensus of the scientists.”

Sandborn said this incident is just the latest example of an ongoing problem. “The bigger problem is that the federal government routinely withholds protection for endangered fish species if real protection would affect non-selective net-based fisheries. Protecting endangered species is not receiving the priority it deserves.”





# Let's Keep B.C. CWD Free!

Hunting season is in full swing, but before you pack your gear and head into the bush, there is something you should know. Over the summer, there were several cases of Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) detected in Montana, a hop and a skip away from the B.C. border. Currently, B.C. has maintained a CWD free status, but the proximity of the CWD cases has put the B.C. Wildlife Health program on high alert during this year's hunting season. The BC Wildlife Federation has been heavily invested in helping the B.C. Wildlife Health program monitor for CWD within B.C.'s borders and to spread awareness about this disease that affects cervids.

## What is Chronic Wasting Disease?

Chronic Wasting Disease (CWD) is a degenerative neurological disease that affects species in the deer family (cervids) and is caused by an abnormal protein called a prion. The origins of CWD are not known but the disease was first described in captive mule deer and elk in Colorado and Wyoming in the 1960s, followed by positive diagnoses in free-ranging deer and elk populations. The B.C. Wildlife Health program has been doing surveillance for CWD in free-ranging cervids since 2002. To date, over 3900 samples have been tested and there have been no CWD positive cases in B.C. Surveillance is key to understanding the disease risk of CWD in British Columbia. For this reason, hunters are encouraged to submit their deer, elk or moose head for CWD testing.

This is voluntary in most parts of B.C. but is mandatory for all white-tailed and mule deer harvested September 1, 2019, to December 20, 2019, in wildlife management units 4-1, 4-2, 4-3, 4-4, 4-5, 4-6 and 4-7.

**LET'S KEEP  
#BCCWDFREE**

**CUT AND TAG**

Hunters are encouraged to submit their deer, elk or moose head for CWD testing.

**BAG**

Remove antlers from head and remove the head from the body with at least 3 inches of neck attached.

**DROP OFF**

Deposit harvested deer head within one week of harvest to one of the designated locations. Ear tags, zip straps and garbage bags will be supplied at the freezer locations.

To help this initiative, the B.C. Wildlife Federation purchased and donated ten freezers that were placed at the different drop-off locations throughout the Kootenay and Peace Region. The Federation also had a fundraising campaign during the week leading up to National Hunting, Trapping and Fishing Heritage Day to raise funds to support the efforts to keep B.C. CWD free!

## How can you help?

If you hunt in an area outside B.C. that is affected with CWD, please leave the high risk tissues (brain, spinal cord, lymph nodes and organs) where you harvest the animal and return only with the meat, antlers with cleaned skull plate and/or hide (in a sealed container) with all tissue removed.

Surveillance is key to confirm B.C.'s CWD-free status and to detect the disease as early as possible so we can respond in the most effective way possible. Hunters in B.C. are encouraged to submit their cervid heads to the BC CWD Surveillance Program at one of the drop-off locations.

A full list of these drop off locations and more information can be found on the government website under Chronic Wasting Disease.

**Please report any sick or unusually thin animals to the RAPP line at 1-877-952-72**

**STOP CHRONIC  
WASTING DISEASE**  
**Do Not Import  
Intact Deer Carcasses**  
**Keep B.C. Wildlife Healthy**







# The Future is Wetlands! Conservation Through Education

Submitted by Madyson Adams, Wetlands Education Program Assistant

Education is essential in equipping present and future generations with the tools necessary to tackle unforeseen challenges. It imparts knowledge through learning, experience, and dialogue which ultimately empowers those with that knowledge to make sound and informed decisions. This is especially important for our youth, as they are the ones who will be facing tomorrow's challenges. While the future may seem daunting—especially with the on-going climate crisis ever looming on the horizon—it is not an impossible obstacle to tackle. With adequate knowledge, guidance, and training, adversity is a challenge that can be overcome by anyone, at any age.

We have all heard the adage that knowledge is power. While that may be true, I personally prefer to say it in a slightly different way: knowledge is a method through which people are empowered to make the best decisions for themselves and their communities. In this way, education is a means to keep communities healthy. When youth are given the opportunity to be curious, to ask questions, and to gather knowledge through experiential learning, this forms a deeper connection with the subject matter. When it comes to wetlands, having a personal connection to these incredibly diverse habitats is the key to conserving them.

This then begs the question: if knowledge is power, then how are we empowering youth to handle future conservation challenges in and around wetlands?

We at BCWF hope we are contributing to the answer by collaborating with local schools to bring wetlands to their backyards, or in this case, playgrounds! In the past few years, the BCWF's Wetlands Education Program (WEP) team has had the opportunity to do just that. Two projects of note were at Morfee Elementary School in Mackenzie, BC and at Dewdney Elementary, in Dewdney, BC.

The WEP team visited Morfee Elementary this past June. With the help of over 348 students, a 130 m<sup>2</sup> wetland was created in a modest stand of trees behind the school. One of the goals of the project was to provide students with an outdoor learning lab for STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics) education, which would give them unparalleled opportunities to investigate animals, plants, soils, and water through hands-on, experiential learning. The students participated in the construction phase of the project by raking and seeding the soil with native seed to prevent invasive species from establishing, placing logs and large woody debris in the wetland for wildlife perches, building toad houses for amphibian refuges, and picking up garbage from the surrounding woods.

By including the students, they can take ownership for this small yet productive novel ecosystem and reconnect with the diverse habitats right in their own backyards.

Dewdney Elementary school provided us with another opportunity to impart knowledge, but in a slightly different way: maintenance post-construction. This school had a wetland constructed by BCWF in 2016. The wetland has unfortunately become overgrown and a large establishment of invasive species have taken root, such as Himalayan Blackberry and hybridized Reed Canary Grass. This problem presented the WEP team with a unique opportunity to show the students that wetland conservation is not something that you do once and then move on; the path towards restoration is one that requires monitoring and maintenance. With the help of 142 students, the WEP team spent the better part of a day in early September cutting back blackberry bushes, pulling weeds, and making room for native plants to take root. This, in turn, demonstrated a valuable lesson within the context of climate change: there is no single solution to the problem, and there is no one person or group that can do it all. It takes a community working together to make conservation goals a reality.



Projects like these reinforce connections with nature and help foster a deep-seated respect for the services that these highly productive ecosystems provide. While the overall scope of these projects was to facilitate productive wildlife habitat, clean local runoff water, and help control mosquito populations by attracting insectivores, the main goal was engagement with youth.

Engagement creates connection, and connection provides a platform on which respect can be built; respect for the ecosystems that support us, respect for the wildlife that we share the land with, and respect for the ways in which all of us are connected. Through wetlands education, we can communicate these lessons. We can communicate that wetlands have multiple functions, and that they are important for the health of our local ecosystems, for the quality of our local water sources, for mitigating droughts and slowing down flood waters, and for the diversity of the plants and animals that we share this beautiful province with. Through this engagement we can teach youth that wetlands are connected to all levels of the landscape, from the snow that falls on high mountain slopes, the glaciers that slowly melt as the seasons pass, the creeks that trickle down to the rivers that carve canyons through the mountains, and to the untamed ocean where all rivers end.

It is only through sound education that valuable knowledge is imparted on our youth. Through this sharing of knowledge, we empower youth to get excited about conservation, because they are the land stewards of tomorrow. Through inspiration, connection, and collaboration with youth, BCWF hopes to help plant the seeds for future pioneers in wildlife conservation.



## THESE PROJECTS WERE UNDERTAKEN WITH THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF:



Environment and  
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et  
Changement climatique Canada







# Summer Youth Camps

Submitted by Chris Lim, Youth Program Coordinator

Fishing, boat rides, owls, horseback riding, canoeing, camping, archery, and range days! Doesn't that sound fun? That was the summer of 2019 in a nutshell for the BCWF summer camps.

Between Wild Kidz and Go Wild, the BCWF Youth Team ran 6 camps this summer, impacting over 150 campers! Camps were held in Kamloops (twice), Castlegar, Radium Hot Springs, Abbotsford and Rock Creek. Activities included those previously mentioned as well as learning about pollinators, the geology of BC, plastic waste, wildlife rehabilitation, animal migration, cervids, fire building and safety, shelter building, how to use a compass and map, how to use different camp stoves and when, first aid and what to do should you ever get lost in the woods (answer: Hug-a-Tree). This year conservation projects had campers' attention focused on pollinators. Campers learned about the diversity of bees and other pollinators in BC and what we can do to help them in their critical role of pollinating plants and crops. Together, campers made individual mason bee habitats, also known as bee hotels. Campers also constructed a commercial beehive at every camp location that was then donated to a local beekeeper or farmer!

We partnered with the Borrowing Owl Society and the Abbotsford Nature Club to do two other conservation projects. In Kamloops, with the Borrowing Owl Society, campers cleaned out borrowing owl borrows and created perch points for the endangered raptors. In Rock Creek, campers alongside Kettle Wildlife Association volunteers created swallow boxes for the Abbotsford Nature Club as part of their Tree Swallow monitoring efforts. This was our biggest and most successful summer ever! Running 6 camps rather than our usual 4 was well received from campers and parents alike!

The amazing summer of 2019 cannot have happened without our partners, volunteers, and sponsors. This year, our camp partners were the Castlegar and District Wildlife Association, Trail Wildlife Association, Silver City Trap Club, Lake Windermere and District Rod and Gun Club, Ridgedale Rod and Gun Club, Kettle Wildlife Association, and the Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc First Nation who hosted both a Wild Kidz and Go Wild camp in Kamloops! These camps rely heavily on volunteers. From the summer alone we have recorded over 770 volunteer hours.

We want to thank all our volunteers and an extra thanks to our partner liaisons: Anne Keith, Rick Miller, Lawrence Redfern, Rick Hoar, David Oliver, Les Best, Scott Douglas, and Julian Willsey. New to this year, we partnered with the Canadian Wildlife Association's Canadian Conservation Corp (CCC) program, which provided us with two volunteers, Collin Spence and Marlee Dickison, to help plan and deliver our camps. They volunteered with us for 4 months and we want to thank them for their service. We also want to thank a special youth volunteer: Luca Sekela. Luca, just having graduated high school, spent 3 weeks of his summer volunteering with the BCWF Youth Team to deliver 2 camps in Kamloops and 1 in Abbotsford. Luca did this in preparation for his future career as a Conservation Officer (which we have no doubts that he will be a great addition to the service). Last but not least, we would like to thank our many in-kind sponsors and grant funders:





### Grant Funders

- Government of British Columbia
- Canada Summer Job
- Wildlife Habitat Canada
- Aviva Community Fund
- CapriCMW Insurance
- Cabela's Outdoor Fund
- BC Hydro
- BC Conservation Foundation
- West Boundary Community Forest
- KEEN Effect Small Grants
- FWCP Community Engagement
- Centra Windows Inc
- Ridgedale Rod and Gun Club

### In-Kind Sponsors

- Tk'emlúps te Secwepemc First Nation
- Castlegar and District Wildlife Association
- Trail Wildlife Association
- Silver City Trap Club
- Lake Windermere and District Rod and Gun Club
- Ridgedale Rod and Gun Club
- Kettle Wildlife Association
- Canadian Wildlife Federation (Canadian Conservation Corp)
- Fresh Water Fisheries Society
- BCWF Region 2
- BC Conservation Office
- 4H
- Andrew Sheret Limited (Castlegar)
- Sun Hang Do (Abbotsford)
- Paul Bogel (Abbotsford)
- Sprouted Oven (Abbotsford)
- BC Ministry of Transportation
- Happy Yak
- SilverCore
- Burrowing Owl Society
- Orphan Wildlife Rehabilitation Society
- Home Hardware (Kamloops)
- Boston Pizza (Kamloops)
- Rona (Invermere)
- Wildside Pizza (Radium Hot Springs)
- Conrad's Kitchen and Grill (Radium Hot Springs)
- Freeman's Country Supplies (Rock Creek)
- Canadian Tire (Castlegar)
- Dairy Queen (Castlegar)
- Shoppers Drug Mart (Castlegar)
- CJ Brookes Enterprises Ltd (Abbotsford)

If you think 2019 was big, things are just going to get bigger for 2020. Wild Kidz will be heavily expanded so the program can reach more communities and more kids. Go Wild will undergo a complete restructure. Go Wild will become a live-in, overnight camp where campers will leave conservation leaders as soon as the camp ends. They will be ready to lead conservation projects all over BC with support from the BCWF. We are aiming to have camp dates, locations, and registration out by the end of the year. Tentative locations for 2020 camps include: Prince Rupert, Atlin, Dawson Creek / Fort St. John, Rock Creek, Abbotsford, Castlegar and Kelowna.







# Fall Events & Updates

## Programs

### Reel Fishing

Reel Fishing is a unique fishing workshop in BC that combines fishing practices with conservation and habitat restoration experience. Reel Fishing is BC Wildlife Federation's unique approach to providing an informative fishing workshop, while keeping conservation in its core. During this workshop you will gain valuable knowledge that will make you a stronger and more confident angler. All fishing and restoration equipment will be provided during this 2-day workshop; all you need is a packed lunch. The fall Reel Fishing workshops will take place on:

**October 19 -20, 2019**

**November 16 - 17, 2019**

Visit our website for more information and to register!

### Other exciting programs to keep an eye out for:

#### Bear Aware Course

Silvercore's online Bear and Wildlife Defense Course will help you avoid dangerous encounters and provide you with strategies to survive aggressive run ins with predatory wildlife. Students will receive an introduction to bear psychology, bear sign identification, and wildlife avoidance and encounter strategies.

As hunters, anglers and outdoor enthusiasts, it is essential to be knowledgeable in bear defense in order to be safe when enjoying the outdoors. Silvercore will donate \$5 to the BC Wildlife Federation for every course taken.

**Wilderness Survival / First Aid - offered by Be Prepared**

Trainers in First Aid Inc. in partnership with the BCWF (this is a non-accredited course). Are you prepared if something goes awry on your hike into the backcountry, on your hunting trip in the bush, or a paddle down a notorious river? Here's a program that will show you how to survive in the wild.

**If you would like more information on hosting a BCWF Be Prepared Wilderness First Aid workshop please contact: [Programs@bcwf.bc.ca](mailto:Programs@bcwf.bc.ca)**

#### Hunter 101

A BCWF workshop for the new hunter. Thinking about getting into hunting? Here's all you need to know to get started.

**We want to wish everyone a successful hunting season and thank-you for your dedication and support. Without you, our programs would not be possible!**



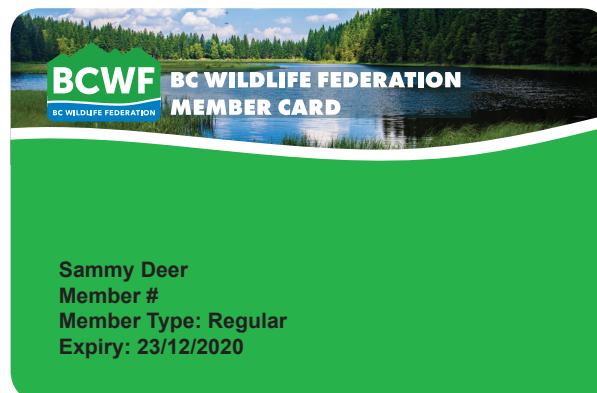
## IMPORTANT MEMBERSHIP UPDATES

### 2020 Renewal Information

Renewal information for 2020 will be sent to members of your club's executive by email. If you require a paper copy, please contact the Membership Department. For clubs that submit their renewal information before January 1st, 2020, you will be able to select a \$100 credit off of your first invoice for 2020. Once your club's renewal is received, you will then need to submit your 2020 Membership List (preferably by email) to **[membership@bcwf.bc.ca](mailto:membership@bcwf.bc.ca)** or send a copy to the BCWF office at:

**BCWF Membership**  
**101-9706 188 Street**  
**Surrey, BC**  
**V4N 3M2**

### Your 2020 BCWF Membership Card is Getting a New Look!



**Look Out for Your New Member Card in the Mail!**



# 3 EASY STEPS

## FOR LEAVING A GIFT TO THE BCWF IN YOUR WILL



### Step 1:

Contact the BC Wildlife Federation and inquire about the Canadian Free Wills Program. We will then provide you with a list of participating lawyers in your local area.



### Step 2:

Contact the lawyer and your financial planner to get advice for creating or updating your Will. With their advice, depending on the type of gift you make, your estate can benefit from certain tax advantages.



### Step 3:

Provide your lawyer with the correct details for the BCWF:  
**BC Wildlife Federation**  
**Attn: Development Coordinator**  
**#101 – 9706 188th Street**  
**Surrey, BC V4N 3M2**  
**Charitable Business Number:**  
**11880 1315 RR0001**

To find out more about this limited time offer, contact Jessica Vestergaard at [giving@bcwf.bc.ca](mailto:giving@bcwf.bc.ca) or call 1-888-881-2293.

## FREE WILLS.... REALLY?

It's true! The BC Wildlife Federation is offering our members and valued donors aged 55 or older the opportunity to have a sample Will prepared or updated by a local, qualified lawyer for FREE!

**M**aking a planned gift is one of the most generous ways a supporter can show their dedication to their favorite charity. You can make a profound difference in the conservation of British Columbia's fish, wildlife and habitat by supporting the future work of the B.C. Wildlife Federation.

While there's no obligation to include the BC Wildlife Federation in your Will, please consider the impact your gift will make in protecting and conserving British Columbia's fragile wildlife and habitat. You will never make a more important investment in the future of our province!





## Upcoming Events

### Events

- October 19 - 20, 2019 - Reel Fishing Workshop
- November 9, 2019 - Salmon Science Expo
- November 16 - 17 - Fraser Valley Bald Eagle Festival
- November 16 - 17 - Reel Fishing Workshop

***If your club has any events coming up, we would like to hear about it! Please email us at [communications@bcwf.bc.ca](mailto:communications@bcwf.bc.ca) with any stories or event information. Thank you!***



### CONTACT US

**BC Wildlife Federation**

**[www.bcwf.bc.ca](http://www.bcwf.bc.ca)  
[communications@bcwf.bc.ca](mailto:communications@bcwf.bc.ca)  
604-882-9988**



BC Wildlife Federation



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