2026

Go Wild! Youth for Conservation

BC WILDLIFE FEDERATION

FINAL REPORT

Go Wild

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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Our Go Wild camp location was intended to take place on the traditional and ancestral lands of the Syilx First Nations. We are grateful for the opportunity to learn, work, and connect with these lands, and we acknowledge and appreciate the First Nations' longstanding relationship with and care for the land.



B.C. WILDLIFE FEDERATION

The B.C. Wildlife Federation (BCWF) is B.C.'s oldest and longest lasting conservation group. Representing 43,000 members province-wide, including over a hundred hunting and angling clubs, BCWF members are on the front lines of B.C.'s wilderness. Education is a critical value for the BCWF. The BCWF aims to develop and support comprehensive educational programs, involving information that increases the British Columbians' awareness of the value of fish, wildlife, park, and outdoor recreational resources, and to stimulate respect and recognition of the place that fish, wildlife, and outdoor recreation have in the integrated and wise use of the province's natural resources. By providing scientific and fact-based information through presentations, games, and activities, Go Wild prepares its youth participants to not only understand but also to share and use the information they receive with their local communities. Go Wild is part of the BCWF's long-term mission to protect, enhance, and promote the wise use of the environment for the benefit of present and future generations.



GO WILD 2026

The summer of 2026 was planned to welcome youth aged 13–17 to our Go Wild leadership and conservation program. This 7 day overnight camp was designed to help participants build confidence, leadership skills, outdoor knowledge, and a deeper understanding of conservation and wildlife stewardship through hands-on activities and new challenges.

As part of the camp, youth were scheduled to participate in an overnight backpacking trip focused on bushcraft skills, navigation, and teamwork. The program was also planned to incorporate the Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Education (CORE) curriculum, which provides instruction in safe and ethical hunting, wildlife and habitat conservation, bird and animal identification, first aid, and firearms safety. CORE would give campers an opportunity to build practical knowledge, have fun, and develop the skills and confidence needed to take the CORE exam.

Unfortunately, the 2026 Go Wild camp was cancelled due to wildfire evacuations during an unprecedented wildfire season. While disappointing, the cancellation reflected our commitment to putting outdoor safety into practice and prioritizing the well-being of campers and staff. We look forward to offering Go Wild again in 2027.



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OVERVIEW

GO WILD CAMP HIGHLIGHTS

- 12 REGISTERED CAMPERS
- PEACHLAND, BC
- 6 BCWF STAFF
- ARCHERY, CONSERVATION, OUTDOOR EDUCATION & WILDLIFE STEWARDSHIP
- CAMP CANCELLED DUE TO WILDFIRE EVACUATIONS





GO WILD SCHEDULE

Go Wild is run as an overnight camp to provide more time for deeper learning, hands-on experiences, and meaningful connections with campers. The program is built around the CORE curriculum and is delivered through three key phases: Leadership and Teamwork, Outdoor Skills, and Conservation and Ethics. Each phase provides opportunities for youth to develop practical skills, build confidence, and gain knowledge they can carry into future outdoor experiences.

LEADERSHIP & TEAMWORK



Phase one of camp focused on facilitating team bonding and developing leadership skills amongst the campers. We participated in several icebreaker games, communication activities, and teamwork challenges.

OUTDOOR SKILLS



Go Wild provides campers with hands-on opportunities to develop and apply a variety of outdoor skills. The planned overnight backpacking trip would have provided campers with an opportunity to practice wilderness travel and camping skills, while separate activities such as shelter building, orienteering, and archery were designed to further develop their outdoor knowledge and abilities.

CONSERVATION & OUTDOOR RECREATION EDUCATION



This year's Go Wild was designed to focus on conservation knowledge through the delivery of the CORE curriculum. Campers would have received hands-on instruction covering topics such as wildlife identification, hunting knowledge, ethics, and responsible outdoor practices. The program also included the opportunity for campers to challenge the CORE examination and earn their certification.

GO WILD SCHEDULE

7:00		Breakfast team Wake Up	Breakfast team Wake Up	
7:15				
7:30		**Wake Up/Polar Dip**	**Wake Up/Polar Dip**	**Wake Up / Packing**
7:45		**Morning Prep**	**Morning Prep**	
8:00				Breakfast
8:15		**Breakfast and Briefing**	**Breakfast and Briefing**	
8:30				Final Prep
8:45				
9:00		Transition Time/DishTeam	Transition Time / Dish Team	Leave for Hike Hiking
9:15				
9:30		FirearmsIII - Practice (1 hr)	Laws and Regs - Part I (1.5 hr)	
9:45				
10:00				Bird ID II- Theory, Part 2(1hr)
10:15				
10:30		Prep toLeave		
10:45		Leave forRange		
11:00		Travel toRange	Transition Time	Hiking
11:15		Arrive atRange	Outdoor Survival II - Tent and Camp Set up (1hr)	
11:30	**Arrival, Registration, Move in, and Pre Quiz**	Range Overview		Outdoor Survival VI - Camp Set Up (1 hr)
11:45				
12:00		Firearm IV - Range Rotation 1 (0.5)		
12:15			Transition Time	
12:30	**Intro, Overview, Contract, and Sorting**	Transition Time	**Lunch***	**Lunch***
12:45		**Lunch****		
13:00	**Lunch***			Transition Time / Dish Team
13:15				
13:30	Icebreakers	Firearm IV - Range Rotation 2 (0.5)	Bird IDI- Theory (1hr)	Hiking
13:45				
14:00		Transition Time		
14:15	Conservation (1 hr)	Firearm IV - Range Rotation 3 (0.5)		Animal/Bird ID III - Habitat Identification (1 hr)
14:30			Transition Time	
14:45		Transition Time	Outdoor Survival III- Tarp Shelters or Wilderness Shelters (1 hr)	
15:00		Pack Up		Hiking
15:15	Ethics - Theory (1 hr)	Travelto Fishing Spot		
15:30				Ethics/Laws & Regulations II - Identification, Taking the Shot, and more (1 hr)
15:45			Transition Time	
16:00	Transition Time	Fishing	Outdoor Survival IV - Trip Planning &Gear Prep(1hr)	
16:15	Firearms I - Archery [String Bows and Safety Orientation] (0.75 hr)			
16:30				Hiking
16:45		Travel to Park for PicnicDinner		
17:00	**Personal/Prep Time**		**Personal/Prep Time***	**Personal/Prep Time**
17:15		**Dinner****		
17:30	**Dinner**		**Dinner**	**Dinner**
17:45		Travel to Camp		
18:00	TransitionTime/DishTeam		Transition Time/DishTeam*	Transition Time / Dish Team
18:15				
18:30		Transition Time	Outdoor SurvivalV- Group Packing (0.5)	
18:45	FirearmsII - Theory (1 hr)	Outdoor Survival I - Theory (1 hr)		Outdoor Survival VII - Survival Shelter Practice (1 hr)
19:00			Animal ID I - Theory (1 hr)	
19:15				
19:30	CommunicationGames- CaterpillarWalk, Life Raft, Electric Maze			Outdoor Survival VIII - First Aid (1 hr)
19:45		Communication Games - Incredible Machine and Silent Opera	**Snack**	
20:00				
20:15			Game - Camp Jeopardy	
20:30	Transition Time			
20:45	**Campfire/Smores-**	**Debrief**		**Campfire/Smores -**
21:00	Debrief and JourneyReflection			Debrief and JourneyReflection
21:15	**Bed Prep**	**Bed Prep**	**Bed Prep**	**Bed Prep**
21:30	**Bed Time**	**Bed Time**	**Bed Time**	**Bed Time**







GO WILD SCHEDULE

Wake Up / Packing	Breakfast team Wake Up		
Personal/Prep Time	**Wake Up/Polar Dip**		**Wake Up/Polar Dip**
Breakfast and Briefing	**Morning Prep**		**Morning Prep/Packing**
Transition Time / Dish Team	**Breakfast and Briefing**		Breakfast
Final Packing			
Hike back to Camp	Transition Time / Dish Team (Staff)		Transition Time
		Free Time	Post Quiz
Unpack and clean group gear		Written Exam	Packing or Re-Writing
Personal Time (Unpacking)			
Indigenous Peoples and Hunting in BC (1 hr)		Extra Exam Time	Go Wild Relay? Or Re-Writing
	Personal/Prep Time		
Lunch**	Lunch*		**Lunch***
Hunger Games Prep	Firearms VI - Archery Practice (0.5hr)	Practical (Firearm) Examination	**Departure & Pickup**
Hunger Games Explanation	Bullseye Tournament		
Hunger Games	Break		
Hunger Games Clean Up Transition Time	3D Tournament		
Canoe, swimming, or fishing or Firearms IV - Practice Personal/Prep Time	Canoeing, Fishing, or Lake time?		
	Personal/Prep Time		
Dinner** Transition Time / Personal Time	**Dinner**		
	Transition Time / Dish Team		
Firearms V- Archery Practice(1hr)	**Clean Up**		
Communication Games - Remix of Communication Games			
Campfire	Campfire - Final JourneyReflection/HouseCup (w leader awards)		
Bed Prep	**Bed Prep**		
Bed Time	**Bed Time**		







GO WILD CAMP PROGRAMS

Go Wild activities are organized into three main categories: leadership and teamwork, outdoor skills, and conservation knowledge. Below are some of the activities we planned to facilitate for our campers throughout the summer.

CAMP ACTIVITIES

- Firearms & Range Safety
  - Firearm safety and handling
  - Firearms and ammunition
  - Safe storage and transportation
- Wildlife & Bird Identification
  - BC wildlife and big game
  - Bird identification
  - Tracks and signs
- Conservation & Hunting Ethics
  - Conservation principles
  - Hunting ethics and fair chase
  - Hunter heritage
- Hunting Laws & Regulations
  - BC hunting regulations
  - Licences and seasons
  - Bag limits
- Outdoor Safety & Survival
  - Shelter Building
  - Navigation
  - How To Pack A Bag
- Indigenous Peoples & Hunting
  - Indigenous hunting rights
  - History & traditions
  - Relationship with wildlife and land
- Teamwork & Leadership
  - Silent opera
  - Amazing race
  - Leadership styles
- Outdoor Recreation
  - Fishing
  - Canoeing
  - Camp cooking

GO WILD CAMP CANCELLATION

The 2026 Go Wild Camp at Silver Lake Camp was unfortunately cancelled due to the Bald Range Wildfire (K51490), located between Summerland and Peachland. Prior to the cancellation, the wildfire was classified as “Out of Control,” and the program team closely monitored the situation in coordination with the Silver Lake Camp team and regional emergency responders. At the time, the wildfire was initially more than 20 kilometres from camp, and Go Wild was expected to proceed with modified programming and enhanced safety precautions.

As conditions changed, an evacuation alert was expanded to include the Silver Lake Forest Service Road, while evacuation orders were issued for sections of Princeton Avenue and Highway 97, which provide access routes to Silver Lake Camp. Given the increasing wildfire risk and the importance of camper and staff safety, the decision was made to cancel the camp before campers arrived.

The cancellation resulted in the loss of the full Go Wild program for 2026. Families were notified directly and were provided with full refunds for their registrations. As this was the first time Go Wild had been cancelled due to wildfire conditions, families who were unable to attend in 2026 were also offered priority registration for the 2027 Go Wild Camp.

While the cancellation was disappointing for campers, families, and staff, the decision ensured that safety remained the program’s highest priority.



THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS

Our programs would not be possible without the help and support of these organizations. Thank you for inspiring the next generation of outdoor enthusiasts and conservationists!









