



BCWF News



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You are Invited! The BC Wildlife Federation and the Canadian Wildlife Federation are Partnering in Launching National Wildlife Week April 4

BC Wildlife Federation is pleased to showcase its Wetlandkeepers Sea to Sky Series at the Whistler CWF National Wildlife Week Launch!

As a strong supporter of the BC Wildlife Federation, we are pleased to invite you to a special afternoon at the new Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre in Whistler where we will be showcasing our *Wetlandkeepers Sea to Sky Series workshops*.

Please join BCWF President, Mel Arnold, Executive Director, Patti MacAhonic, CWF Executive Vice President Wade Luzny and special friends for a National Wildlife Week launch celebrating "Our Home and Native Plants."

Learn about the *Wetlandkeepers Sea to Sky Series Workshops!* Bring the whole family to watch the latest Hinterland Who's Who webisode *Wetland Wonderland*, take part in an optional 15-minute guided forest walk to learn about indigenous plants and enjoy native plant inspired snacks and refreshments courtesy of CWF.

This invitation is open to the first 75 guests to RSVP and includes admission to tour the Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre's island, rock and tree exhibits, living roof and regalia museum. There will also be craft activities for children to learn about the traditions of birch bark weaving and rock painting.

** Please visit nationalwildlifeweek.ca for more information.*

When: Saturday, April 4 from 1 to 3 p.m.
Where: Istken Hall, Squamish Lil'wat Cultural Centre
Whistler, BC

RSVP to (and for more info on all BCWF's Wetlands Programs):

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BC Wildlife Federation Meets the New Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans the Hon. Ms. Gail Shea

On January 15th 2009, representatives of the B.C. Wildlife Federation Tidal Waters Fisheries Committee, (BCWF-TWFC) met with the new Federal Minister of Fisheries and Oceans, the Honourable Gail Shea. Ms. Shea was on her first trip to British Columbia. BCWF Executive Director, Patti MacAhonic, and BCWF-TWFC members Paul Rickard and Bill Otway, met with the minister and gave her briefings on four key issues of concern to our members.



The BCWF made presentations on four subjects:

- The Halibut allocation and management.
- The importance of the Salmonid Enhancement Program to the BC fishery.
- The impact on fish habitat through the removal of gravel from the Lower Fraser River.
- The failure of the current regulatory process to provide the needed fish management tools in a timely fashion.

As for a new Fisheries Act, while the BCWF representatives meeting with the Minister indicated the membership was strongly supportive of improving our fisheries management and the Fisheries Act, the BCWF would not support the previous proposals. The BCWF pointed out that the ministers' own party had voted against this proposed act when the Liberals had put it forward and so how could they propose it now. During this meeting there was discussion that there would be no support until and unless there was real consultation with the fishing community and recognition of their input.



The Minister then commented that it was obvious that they needed to consult with the public before they went to the House of Commons with a new Fisheries Act proposal.

Friends of Fur Has “Natural Fur” recognized by the Canadian Ecology Centre (CEC)

Friends of Fur (FoF) is an international organization aimed at helping the public become more involved in the fur trade. A non-profit association, Friends of Fur is attracting consumers, environmentalists, conservationists and trappers from throughout Canada and the United States.

It is a group of concerned citizens from all walks of life who want society to know that they enjoy wearing fur products and that good wildlife management will sustain North America's founding industry.

Keeping Cultures Alive



FoF will provide people, with the true facts and information about the North American Fur Trade, Canada's oldest industry, the reason this country was founded and the impetus for its exploration. Canadian furs, thick, silky and abundant, a legacy of our huge wilderness areas and cold climate-are the world's best. North America's first business still provides a living for thousands of people, most of whom learned their craft from their parents.

FoF will provide knowledge and understanding to fur consumers, recognizing their important contribution toward the many social, economic and wildlife management benefits. Eco-friendly, the fur trade does not destroy forests or deplete the ozone layer. In a society of mass-produced disposable and over-flowing landfills, fur garments are handcrafted, long lasting and ultimately, completely biodegradable. For two million years, cultures living in harmony with nature have survived by hunting, trapping and gathering nature's bounty. Today, the valued additional income the fur trade provides for thousands of people in urban, rural and remote areas of North America is relevant and crucial toward the ultimate goal of, "Keeping Cultures Alive".



Rick Janzen Helps the BCWF donating part of his proceeds from lures sold at the BC Hunting Show

Rick Janzen of Black Creek Fly and Tackle on Vancouver Island will be donating 10 cents from every Wigglewood lure sold at the BC Sportsmen's Show to the BC Wildlife Federation. These hand crafted and hand painted wooden plugs are not only effective fishing lures, they are also works of art worthy of a spot in every angler's tackle box. These plugs are currently available in three sizes and over twenty colours. There are two freshwater plugs, the standard and magnum sizes, and a five inch salmon plug. The fresh water plugs come with a bead and matching treble hook, and the salmon plugs come with a single hook. Crafted from yellow cedar (cypress) that is salvaged from logging operations, these beautiful lures add some essential value to BC forest resource. Thanks, Rick!



CORE News

The Conservation Outdoor Recreation Education (CORE) is a great program for anyone interested in outdoor recreation and wildlife. The program had a very successful 2008 year, graduating a record 6,305 students who passed the provincial examination requirements.

As the provincial designated agency to administer the CORE program on behalf of the Ministry of Environment, the BC Wildlife Federation is introducing two new improvements:

A new Examiner's Exam starting in March 2009 will increase the knowledge level of the examiners which will result in better trained graduates. CORE Examiners are trained and knowledgeable in all CORE subjects.

CORE Online is an addition to the very informative and popular CORE Manual. This is a recognized provincial resource about conservation and outdoor recreation. Stay tuned for the launch.



The New BCWF-FFSBC Angling Ambassador Program: Starts Spring / Summer 2009

This is an exciting new partnership project between the Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC (FFSBC) and the BC Wildlife Federation.

The Angling Ambassador objectives are:

- To educate the general public on the benefits of angling and to provide instruction on fishing regulations interpretation pertaining to angling and conservation
- BCWF members will offer fishing advice (where to and how to) at various lakes in the Thompson/Nicola Region
- The program will encourage the general public to participate in angling, providing the opportunity to have fun for individuals and families
- Provide information on BC Wildlife Federation, Report All Poachers and Polluters (RAPP), Freshwater Fisheries Society of BC (FFSBC), Habitat Conservation Trust Foundation (HCTF) and Ministry of Environment (MoE).
- The Thompson River watershed and the Nicola River watershed are designated sites including various lakes in the region and surrounding area.

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We want to hear from you



Send us your news, stories and items of interest. If your article is selected for an upcoming newsletter we will send you a T-Shirt:

The purpose of the BCWF Newsletter is to provide your club with news and information that you want to see. This is your Newsletter containing your news.

If you have any comments, questions or an article for future newsletters please contact Jorge at development@bcwf.bc.ca or 604-291-9990 Ext. 223 or feel free to contact any BCWF staff member.