

NATURE BAY



SALMON ARM BAY  
**NATURE  
ENHANCEMENT  
SOCIETY**

**Cops check Chops in the Copse:** In the Official Community Plan the trees near Lakeside Manor are protected by being designated Wildlife Trees. These cottonwoods and willows are a favourite lookout perch for the Red-tailed Hawk, the Bald Eagle, and for one glorious winter for a juvenile golden Eagle. Nearby residents were alarmed when they heard chopping and sawing and discovered tenters among the trees. A call to the Nature Bay Society, conscientious work by the RCMP and the city planning department resulted in the owners Messrs. Magnien and Cote assuring the community that they do not contemplate removal of any of these important trees. The Nature Bay Society appreciates their commitment to "enhancing and preserving the quality of the trees." TB

# NATURE BAY NEWS

Newsletter of the Salmon Arm Bay Nature Enhancement Society  
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FALL  
2007

## NATURE BAY SOCIETY

**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING WILL BE HELD ON FRIDAY  
NOVEMBER 16TH, 7:30PM AT THE ART GALLERY  
70 HUDSON AVE NE, SALMON ARM**

**FOLLOWING THE MEETING RICK HOWIE WILL PRESENT  
"BIRDS AND WILDLIFE OF A RECLAIMED MINE SITE"**

**Rick is a former Ministry of Environment Wildlife Biologist who is currently doing consulting work. He has been an active SABNES Board member and maintains a keen interest this area. Rick's slide presentation will cover the issue of reclaiming a mine site at Logan Lake and how birds and wildlife return to these sites and what the challenges are in doing this work.**



### BAY WATCH EXTRAORDINAIRE:

One very keen person currently monitoring bird species and numbers is **Ted Hillary** of Salmon Arm. Ted goes out every day and identifies bird species and numbers in the Salmon Arm Bay. This is no small task. Try identifying as many as 40 different bird species that can total up to several thousands of individual birds in the bay at any one time — daily!! This information is being relayed to the **Biodiversity Center for Wildlife Studies** in Victoria BC ([www.wildlifebc.org](http://www.wildlifebc.org)) for further research information that illustrates how important our Bay is for the birds.

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

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Tom Brighthouse, Secretary	832-3951

**Salmon Arm Bay as an "Important Bird Area":  
by Joyce Henderson:**

SABNES and the Shuswap Naturalists are submitting an application to have the Salmon Arm foreshore designated an Important Bird Area (IBA). IBAs are sites deemed essential in ensuring the long-term viability of naturally occurring bird populations. The IBA programme began in Canada, Mexico and the United States in 1996. The 84 designated IBA sites in BC include the South Thompson and the Douglas Lake plateau.

*Why should Salmon Arm Bay be added to this list?*

Every August to October thousands of juvenile shorebirds, as they migrate south, feed on our mud flats. When the water is low the mud flats provide feeding grounds similar to those of coastal estuaries. Nowhere else in the interior of BC has such a wide expanse of nutrient rich mud. 32 species of shore birds have been seen in our bay, 23 in one single day. We have data to argue our case thanks to several volunteers who have been counting the birds for several years. As well as Salmon Arm birders, Don Cecile, a shore bird expert from Vernon, has been counting the birds.

The nesting colony of Western Grebes is another argument for declaring the Bay an IBA. Each year Frank and Doris Kime count the numbers of adult and young grebes.

*What is the value of having the area be an IBA?*

There are several: recognition of the importance of the area and the need to protect it from pollution, the availability of funds to do research, and the added clout with politicians and developers re the importance of protecting the area.

*What are the responsibilities of SABNES and the Shuswap Naturalists?* Responsibilities include monitoring the bird species and what is happening to the area from a conservation perspective then sending the data to the national IBA centre.

We anticipate submitting the application this fall.

**What's New? by Ron Wedman:**

Plans are in the works to remodel the interior of our Interpretive Center and replace the trail entrance gate (Funding by **Salmon Arm Rotary Club**) at the west end. In addition to the maintaining of various signage along the trail look for some new signs on the concrete boardwalks in the coming months. Many thanks to the hard working volunteers that have ensured the trail ways are clear of obstructions during this last season. **Funding remains our main challenge every year.** We are 100% funding dependent on your membership dues and grants from various organizations.

Please renew your membership and help us protect and promote the Salmon Arm Bay.