

2011 ANNUAL REPORT OF THE NORTH OKANAGAN NATURALISTS' CLUB



**North Okanagan
Naturalists' Club
(NONC)**
P.O. Box 473,
Vernon, BC V1T 6M4

Membership
117 members

Website www.nonc.ca : Updated and re-launched

Newspacket newsletter : five issues

E-mail News : Fifty-two weekly issues

2011-2012 Directors

Rod Drennan	President
Pam Jenkins	Past President
Harold Sellers	Vice-President
Kay Bartholomew	Secretary
Ruth Drennan	Treasurer

Directors: Aaron Deans, Norbert Maertens, Denis Seymour, Susan Spiller, Marnie Williamson, Fred Wisse

Activities

Every month there were several choices of hiking trips, field trips, nature camps and birding outings.

Several newspaper articles were published highlighting club activities.

The annual field day was held at Predator Ridge. Over 50 members and guests made nature observations and used GPS devices. This was followed by a dinner and guest speaker at Okanagan College, overlooking Kalamalka Lake.

James Grant Entomology Award

Through the Entomology Society of British Columbia a \$400 award was made to Tanya Stemberger of Burnaby.

Cools Pond

Volunteers removed weeds and invasive plants, cleaned up litter, pruned and trimmed trees and improved turtle nesting habitat. Three interpretive signs were re-designed, manufactured and installed thanks to a grant from BC Nature and assistance of the Regional District of the North Okanagan.

Swan Lake Nature Reserve

The Regional District of the North Okanagan constructed a new parking lot and 2 km loop trail, with signage. 100 willows and cottonwoods were planted. Volunteers removed invasive species, repaired bird nesting boxes, cleared stream blockages and watered trees and shrubs.

Bishop Wild Bird Sanctuary

Club members assisted with open houses, school tours and the creation of a native plant and xeriscape garden.

Bluebird Monitoring

16 trails with 399 nesting boxes were monitored. Bluebirds nested in 96 boxes and produced 296 fledglings.

Hummingbird Banding

Three species totaling 256 birds were banded between May and August. A bird banded 3 years ago was caught in Texas.

Young Naturalists' Club

Monthly field outings continued, attended by young people and parents. Sarah Liscombe of Armstrong received the Gold Level Action Award.

Swan and Eagle Count

In January 2011, 122 Bald Eagles and 144 Trumpeter Swans were observed.

Christmas Bird Count

In December 2011, 45 observers recorded 81 species and 16,709 individual birds.