



# Langley Field Naturalists

*To encourage nature appreciation, conservation and education*



Langley Field Naturalists acknowledge we are in the unseeded Indigenous lands of the Coast Salish (Stó:lo) people

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Newsletter

March 2023



Digging the new pond

Photo: Ryan Usenik

## FORSLUND-WATSON WILDLIFE AREA

There were two main developments at Forslund-Watson in 2022. One was the placement of an Albert Forslund Memorial Plaque at the base of a Douglas Fir tree, which was planted several years ago as a memorial tree. As most know, Albert Forslund and his family donated the property which today we know as Forslund-Watson Wildlife Area to the Province of BC, to be kept in perpetuity as a wildlife area. Today LFN manages the property for the Province.

The second major development was the creation of a third vernal (dries up in summer) pond. Like the second pond created in 2021, it was a field laboratory exercise for BCIT students. It provides the students with a hands-on opportunity to participate in the development of a vernal pond. The exercise involves everything from site selection to planting of appropriate natural vegetation.

The nest boxes that have been placed by LFN members on the property over the years saw good activity. Although the Barn Owl box still has not attracted a nesting pair, all four of the Wood Duck boxes were used. Roughly a third of the Tree Swallow boxes were used.

With the continued loss of forests, wetlands and other natural areas, LFN members can feel proud as we protect and enhance this wildlife area.

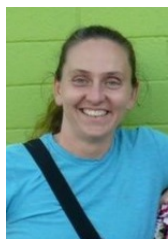
**Ryan Usenik**



## BC NATURE ANNUAL MEETING AND CONFERENCE

To register and for full details of the speakers, field trips etc., visit the BC Nature website - [https://bcnature.org/bc\\_nature\\_agm\\_2023/](https://bcnature.org/bc_nature_agm_2023/)

Don't forget to register - **EARLY BIRD DEADLINE MARCH 15<sup>TH</sup> !**



## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Al Grass, our first president and an all-round engaging guy, is famous for saying if we only look at birds we are only 1% naturalists, BUT getting out to watch and listen to birds is a huge step towards knowing nature and living our best lives.

We are a very well rounded group of naturalists; we have members interested in activism, conservation, trees, flowers, bats, soil, monitoring, and, yes, birds. All fabulous pursuits that are worthy of our precious time. However, "birding" and all of its facets are being touted for helping our mental well-being.

Studies are showing that seeing and hearing birds can improve mental well-being. Positive benefits can be found even in individuals diagnosed with depression. Taking the time to listen to bird songs also increases attention and decreases stress. Birding can even help reduce blood pressure (but I think the study might have missed tagging along on a bird count when some dang LBB won't move into better light...).

Birding in a group is a big positive, like so many activities with others that please our social human subconscious, but benefits can be found just getting out on your own. Looking at different studies you don't even need to get out! Bird watching from the comfort of your own home is filled with almost as many positives to our mental health. And if you are like me and get excited about being able to identify a Black-capped Chickadee or American Robin, then you might be happy to know you don't actually need to know the species of bird to benefit from birding! The important thing is to look and listen; work to connect with your surroundings.

I am working on my birding skills though! Firing up new neurons is exciting to me. I really enjoy learning; working on my bird songs, in my own time, brings me a lot of joy.

To practice my birding, I am heading out to a few of our parks and submitting my rather short bird lists on eBird. EBird has an app for your smartphone (which is pretty user friendly but our member, Eric Habisch, is offering workshops if you are interested) or you can enter your eBird data on your computer. Eric has been working hard over the last month to get eBird Hotspots created for many of our local parks. Hotspots help consolidate birding information so it is available for research purposes; it keeps all of the info together. If you head out to a park for birding with eBird, please use a Hotspot. If you have info for a personal location, please consider merging your info into a Hotspot.

Happy birding!

*Lisa Dreves*

## LANGLEY FIELD NATURALISTS 2022-2023

### DIRECTORS

President: & webmaster	Lisa Dreves 604-532-0081 ~ lisabob2@yahoo.com
Vice President:	Gareth Pugh 606-649-1027 ~ gareth2@uniserve.com
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FBCN Director:	Kathy Masse 604-513-8927 ~ wmasse@telus.net
Member At Large:	Eric Habisch 778-231-0273 -eric.habisch@gmail.com

### REPRESENTATIVES & CONVENORS

Greeters:	Rebecca Tin Tun/Helen Thompson
Refreshments:	Lynda Lightfoot 604-856-6138 ~ ltlighfoot@shaw.ca
Forslund-Watson:	Ryan Usenik 604-530-3257 ~ jrusenik@telus.net
NatureKids:	Anthea Farr 604-576-7731 nicomekl@naturekidsbc.ca
Member Participation:	Joanne Rosenthal 604-455-0116 ~ jrrose77@yahoo.com

Meetings are held on the third Thursday of each month  
from September to June, starting at 7.15 pm

Executive meetings are held  
on the first Wednesday of each month Sept - June

## NEST BOXES RELOCATED



*Remounting the box*

*Photo: Tineke Goebertus*

Transport Canada regulations state that there can be no structures next to an airport that attract birds or animals that could be a safety factor for flying aircraft. With the expansion of the Langley Airport, the Bat boxes and the Barn Owl poles that LFN installed at Derek Doubleday Arboretum were in violation of the regulations, so they had to come down.

Fortunately, Langley Field Naturalists received permission from the Township of Langley to relocate them to Old Yale Road Park on the corner of 224th St and Old Yale Road. The park borders industrial, residential and ALR properties. On the property is an old barn that has been designated a heritage building and is scheduled to be repaired. It has been home to a breeding pair of Barn Owls for several years.

On Friday Nov 18th, Eric, Keith, Herman, Ryan, Tom and Wim installed a pole with two Bat boxes and another pole with the Barn Owl Nest box. Relocation was purposely delayed till the rains started so digging of the holes for the poles would be easier. The soil was moist but needed more rain to make for easy digging.

Hopefully aircraft will fly safely in and out of the Langley airport and the Barn Owls and Bats in the vicinity of Old Yale Road Park will be attracted to their new housing options.

***Ryan Usenik***

## WHITE ROCK/SURREY/LANGLEY CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

Despite a very disheartening forecast, the weather for the 123rd White Rock/Surrey/Langley Christmas Bird Count on December 29th was reasonable for the time of year, with the temperature rising from four degrees in the morning to six degrees in the afternoon. The ocean was very calm with good visibility but very few birds were seen on the bay at White Rock, while good numbers were reported from Drayton Harbour by our American colleagues. Despite the overcast sky, the rain held off until later in the day.

The overall results for this year's Count were most encouraging. Some areas reported less birds than last year while others had higher numbers, resulting in approximately 10,000 more birds being recorded and 113 species as compared to 112 last year. Almost certainly due to the recent very cold weather, some species that are recorded in most years were not found, while other species such as Varied Thrushes were more abundant than usual. The final tally of 113 species included five rarities: two White-throated Sparrows, one Bohemian Waxwing, three Townsend's Solitaires, four California Scrub Jays and a Black-crowned Night Heron.

The coverage by our community newspapers publicizing the event resulted in both a number of new birders joining in and several people calling me with counts taken at the feeders in their own yards. This is greatly appreciated. With so many people feeding birds in their own yards, it is very important to be able to add those birds to the total. I am hoping that more people will help with this in future.

***Gareth Pugh***

## BIRDS CANADA REPORT

The Christmas Bird Count (CBC) ran for the 123rd consecutive season between December 14<sup>th</sup>, 2022 and January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2023. As always, thank you to all the participants who counted birds at feeders and in the field, those who are compiling the results, and those who coordinated the effort.

Every CBC season is different! This time, many parts of Canada experienced an unusually early and persistent blast of winter weather. This was particularly challenging for participants living in typically milder parts of the country like the Lower

Mainland of British Columbia and Vancouver Island. One reason it's important to monitor the occurrence of wild birds year after year is to track how it changes with changing weather and climate patterns.



Despite the challenging weather this season, Canadians proved their resilience and made the best of it!

**Yousif Attia**  
**Canadian CBC Coordinator**

## **WHITE ROCK PIER FRIDAY, JANUARY 27<sup>TH</sup>**



*Black Turnstone*

*Photo: Eric Habisch*

We had 17 participants from LFN and other clubs come out on a cool calm Friday morning for our walk at White Rock Pier. The tide was at a peak high for that time of day which was in our favour to be able to see the waterfowl present. As a bonus, we had a number of people bring along scopes so there were opportunities for all to see those birds further away on the water.

We meandered along the pier to try and see all that we could and ended out at the end of the pier where we were fortunate to see a pair of Long-tailed Ducks on the other side of the breakwater. They gave us some really good looks and did stay there for a while. We also observed a few Black Turnstones popping up in different locations on the breakwater, and at times close enough for good looks as well.



*Long-tailed Duck*

*Photo: Eric Habisch*

It was getting cold so we headed back towards the shore and observed rafts of the Surf and White-winged Scoters, with a smattering of Buffleheads, Horned Grebes and the occasional Common Goldeneye, Red-breasted Mergansers and Lesser Scaup. We spent all our time primarily on the pier which turned out to be a rewarding walk for birding that morning. 20 species were recorded for our eBird list.

**Eric Habisch**

## **SURREY LAKE PARK SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 11<sup>TH</sup>**



*Photo: Keith Chrystall*

Although the weather was overcast for the most part, Surrey Lake Park still did not disappoint. Our group of 14 stopped first at the small lake and were treated to a wide variety of waterfowl. We observed at least 17 different species, including Common and Hooded Mergansers, Greater and Lesser Scaups, Ring-necked Ducks, Northern Shovelers, Pied-billed Grebes, a large group of American Wigeon, a couple of Eurasian Wigeon, a Double-crested Cormorant and a Canvasback.

We noted one of the Common Mergansers had caught a fish that looked to be as big as its head, maybe bigger. The Merganser spent a considerable amount of time and effort trying to find a way to swallow his meal. Hopefully he was successful at some point!



*Merganser's dinner time!*

*Photo: Perry Poulsen*

After scanning the lake for a time, we moved along the trail that loops around and through a small forest. It was good to see that there has been some maintenance done along the trail. Last year some of the trail sections along the low area to the south towards the Serpentine River were fairly muddy, but a new layer of crushed limestone has helped mitigate the problem. There were some early signs of spring: buds forming on many trees and pussy willows already coming out.

A group of three Bald Eagles were engaged in a scrap over a tasty morsel that one of them had managed to collect. A few crows were waiting nearby in case the eagles became so preoccupied with their squabble that the food was momentarily forgotten, giving the crows a chance. We also saw Golden-crowned Kinglets and a Brown Creeper moving among the trees.

A couple walking with us who regularly visit this park said that in the evenings there are owls, beavers and bats going about their business in the park. It was certainly not hard to see the beaver's activity along the tree line in the lower area of the park to the south.

All together, we identified 32 bird species on our walk through Surrey Lake Park. A nice little oasis for wildlife amidst all the hustle and bustle of Surrey.

**Keith Chrystall**

## **JACKMAN WETLANDS PARK SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 18<sup>TH</sup>**

The day started off rainy, but we had fourteen brave souls that came out, including some fairly new members and one guest. There were lots of small birds flitting around in the shrubbery, including Juncos, Black-capped Chickadees, Golden-crowned Sparrows, and Golden-crowned Kinglets. We were lucky to witness an aerial duel between a Merlin and a Kestrel, which was quite a highlight. There was not too much in the way of waterfowl, but a male Common Merganser and a Hooded Merganser made an appearance, plus there were a number of Buffleheads and a pair of Canada Geese. The larger lake at the south end was quite silty (creamy color) due to ongoing work by the training center for heavy duty equipment. I hope that doesn't continue to have a detrimental effect on the wildlife there.



*Photo: Perry Poulsen*

The only birds we saw on that lake were a few Mallards and Glaucous-winged Gulls. Towards the end of the walk we had a good view of the beaver lodge that has been built. The water table was quite high, though not nearly ready to flood the pathways. Overall we had a most enjoyable walk.

**Herman Vanderleest**



## PROGRAMMES

### MARCH - JUNE 2023

*Meeting at 7.30 pm at the Langley Community Music School, 4899 207th Street, Langley.*



PLEASE Bring your own coffee mug - we don't want to keep using disposable ones.

Our meetings are also online by Zoom: *The week before the program starts, a link will be sent out. Just click into this highlighted link and Lisa will accept you into the Zoom program.*

#### THURSDAY, MARCH 16<sup>TH</sup>

##### SEND A SIGHTING, SAVE A WHALE

**Jessica Scott, Senior Manager of Whales Initiative at Ocean Wise**

How citizen science can help protect whales from ship strike in our local waters. Our vision is a world in which oceans are healthy and flourishing.

#### THURSDAY, APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>

##### BAT WHITE-NOSE SYNDROME

##### PROBIOTIC PROJECT

**Amie Mitchel and Chris Currey**

Amie is with the Wildlife Conservation Society Canada and working on Bat White-nose Syndrome Probiotic Project. It should be a very interesting topic so come and join us.

#### THURSDAY, MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>

##### WEST PAPUA, INDONESIA ON THE ISLAND OF NEW GUINEA!

**Wim Vesseur**

Come join Wim Vesseur for an impression of the birds, flora and fauna seen on a fascinating birding trip by Wim and his brother, to one of the most interesting and unexplored countries in the world – Papua New Guinea, Indonesia! The exploration of Papua New Guinea is a continuing process! As of October 2017, new tribes occasionally are still discovered!

#### THURSDAY, JUNE 15<sup>TH</sup>

##### ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING AND SOCIAL TIME

A short meeting, the LFN Annual General Meeting, followed by a social gathering.

## FUNDRAISER FOR CLUB PROJECTS



Fraser Valley Bottle & Express Return-It Depot  
108 - 22575 Fraser Hwy  
(beside Big Box, Murrayville)

OR

Willowbrook Express Return-It Depot  
19641 60 Ave  
Langley  
Account number 222 222 3333 for Nora Truman, Ifnsecretary (had to be a person's name)



## THE GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT

Half a million people from 199 countries were out birding (or watching from their windows!) from February 17th to 20th, 2023. Birds truly brought the world together for the Great Backyard Bird Count.

Birders in Canada counted 252 species with 27,239 people taking part. With the worldwide count, in the 199 participating countries, over 500,000 people took part and identified 7415 species.

The Cornell Lab have posted a video of a few of the images taken this year -as well as some other neat bird count videos. They can be viewed at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=FtxXey8LM7Y>

Next year's Great Backyard Bird Count is February 16th to 19th, 2024. More information and instructions, including the full worldwide data, can be found at <https://www.birdcount.org/>

## LANGLEY FIELD NATURALISTS, FIELD TRIPS SCHEDULE, MARCH - JUNE 2023

Please Note: anyone wishing to carpool should phone in to make arrangements beforehand, otherwise please meet at the designated meeting place.

Please call to let the leader know to expect you. The walks are generally about two to three hours long and are open to all Naturalist Clubs & members of the public (adults & children, but no pets please). Please dress for the weather and bring water, binoculars and a snack (plus bug spray in *summer*).

***Note these walks are weather dependent so if the weather is bad and no calls are received then the leader will not show up.***

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 4<sup>TH</sup> FORT TO FORT TRAIL, DERBY REACH REGIONAL PARK. BIRDS & BRYOPHYTES!**

**Leader:** *Phil Henderson*

**Time:** 9:00 am at the Edgewater Bar parking lot on Allard Crescent

Join biologist Phil Henderson to learn about bryophytes which include mosses and their relatives. We will head east through the forest along Edge Trail, then along Edge Farm Trail through fields and forest no farther than the Heritage Area. The main focus will be on the forest walk along Edge Trail, then some of the field and forest east of that. Bring binoculars and hand lenses (loupes) if you have them. Meet at the main parking lot on the left as you first enter Edgewater Bar. We'll finish about 12:00. **Phone 604-888-1571 or e-mail [strix@uniserve.com](mailto:strix@uniserve.com) to register.**

The link to the park map is:

<http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks/ParksPublications/DerbyReachParkMap.pdf>.

### **SATURDAY MARCH 11<sup>TH</sup> BRYDON LAGOON & HI-KNOLL PARK**

**Leader:** *Gareth Pugh*

**Time:** 9:00 am at the 53rd Avenue parking lot near 198A Street, Langley.

Join Gareth to walk around the lagoon and see the restoration work being carried out by LEPS then walk through the floodplain and up into Hi-Knoll Park to look for the lilies of spring. **Phone 604-649-1027 to register.**

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 18<sup>TH</sup> TYNEHEAD REGIONAL PARK**

**Leader:** *Anthea Farr*

**Time:** 9:30 am in the parking lot at the Tynehead Hatchery in the 16700 block of 96th Avenue

Join Anthea to walk the trails in this popular park with its great variety of trees, birds, mammals and shrubs. Walking distance is approximately 3.5 km on undulating trails so please wear appropriate footwear. **Phone 604-576-7731 to register.**

### **SATURDAY, MARCH 25<sup>TH</sup> SEEDY SATURDAY AT THE ARBORETUM**

**Leaders:** *Nora Truman and Diana Munday*

**Time:** 11:00 am in the parking lot in the 21200 Block Fraser Highway

Come out to the annual Seedy Saturday event (runs from 10:00 – 2:00) at Derek Doubleday Arboretum and for an added bonus head out with our leaders, Nora and Diana, to enjoy the solitude of the end of winter. We'll explore the gardens while discussing the need to practice "lazy gardening", where we leave the seed heads of perennials and annuals through the winter to feed our local birds and wildlife. Let's see if we can find any remaining seed heads and marvel at their beauty! **Phone 604-533-4585 to register.**

### **THURSDAY, MARCH 30<sup>TH</sup> CAMPBELL HEIGHTS FOREST**

**Leader:** *Ted Goshulak*

**Time:** 8:00 am at A Rocha, 1620 – 192nd Street

Join Ted to walk the trails in this forest which is adjacent to Stokes Pit and has been the centre of

controversy over the past few years as attempts have been made to turn it into an industrial estate. It is owned by the City of Surrey and the one edge includes an area of restored salmon habitat.  
**Phone 604-888-0408 to register.**

## **SATURDAY, APRIL 8<sup>TH</sup>**

### **ALDERGROVE REGIONAL PARK**

**Leader:** *Tom Wildeboer*

**Time:** 9:00 am at the main parking lot at the end of the access road off 8th Avenue

Join Tom for a walk along the Pepin Brook trail, a 3.7 km loop which is rated as moderate.

**Phone 604-530-2633 to register.**

## **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>**

### **SERPENTINE FEN**

### **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA**

**Leader:** *Viveka Ohman*

**Time:** 9:00 am at the parking lot behind Art Knapps, 4391 King George Boulevard

Join Viveka for a walk around this wetland (jointly managed by Ducks Unlimited and the Ministry of the Environment) and along the Serpentine River dyke trail. Note the gate will be opened to allow participants to drive into the reserve but will be closed after 9 am. **Phone 604-531-3401 to register.**

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 20<sup>TH</sup>**

### **HILLKEEP REGIONAL PARK, CHILLIWACK**

**Leader:** *John Gordon*

**Time:** 8:30 am at John's house, 6027-195A Street

Join John for a 2 hour walk around Hillkeep Regional Park which is located on the top of Chilliwack Mountain and offers two sections, one that goes to a viewpoint overlooking the Fraser Valley and another that meanders through a meadow. If we are lucky we may see a good selection of forest birds. An elevation gain of 30 m on a 2 km trail. Bring snacks and drinks.  
**Phone 604-533-7171 to register and arrange carpooling.**

## **THURSDAY, APRIL 27<sup>TH</sup>**

### **COLONY FARM REGIONAL PARK**

**Leader:** *Wim Vesseur*

**Time:** 9:00 am in the parking lot at the end of

the road by the community gardens in Colony Farm Regional Park off the Lougheed Highway

Join Wim to walk the dikes and woodlands of this popular Metro Vancouver Park to see the new spring growth and find some of the birds that can be found there. **Phone 604-534-3447 to register.**

## **SATURDAY, MAY 13<sup>TH</sup>**

### **MARINE LIFE TOUR**

**Leader:** *Ryan Usenik*

**Time:** 9:00 am Depart Crescent Beach Marina

A 12 passenger boat has been booked for LFN members and guests. This 5 hour tour permits guests to see a wide range of sea life. Book directly with Whiterockseatours@gmail.com on the whale watching tour on May 13th, 9:00. When registering, print LFN after your surname so the tour company knows what boat to place you on. Visit their website to see details of the trip. Cost of the tour is \$175 but after including fuel surcharge, taxes and gratuity the total cost is \$247. While a lunch stop is planned, bring a light snack because if traveling in US waters, the lunch stop may be well after normal lunch hour. Boat space held until April 15th for LFN passengers. **Call Ryan at 604-530-3257** to let him know that you have registered or for more information.

## **THURSDAY, MAY 18<sup>TH</sup>**

### **GEORGE C. REIFEL MIGRATORY**

### **BIRD SANCTUARY – DELTA**

**Leader:** *Anne Gosse*

**Time:** 9:00 am at Reifel

Join the Langley Field Naturalists to walk the trails in this well-known nature reserve. Expect to see and hear lots of birds in the middle of the breeding season and a great variety of trees and shrubs. Please dress for the weather and wear proper footwear. There is a small admission fee. Bring lunch, snacks and refreshments. Meet at the Reifel Sanctuary. **Phone 604-888-1787 to register.**

## **TUESDAY, MAY 23<sup>RD</sup> TO FRIDAY, MAY 26<sup>TH</sup>**

### **SPRING TRIP TO CLINTON, BC**

### **MAY 23<sup>RD</sup>, 24<sup>TH</sup> & 25<sup>TH</sup> NIGHTS**

**Leader:** *Gareth Pugh*

Join us for a three night visit to Clinton in the Southern Cariboo to explore this dry Interior

landscape. Call 604-649-1027 for more information and to register.

## **THURSDAY, JUNE 1<sup>ST</sup>**

### **CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK**

**Leader:** Josh Inman

**Time:** 9:00 am at 16th Avenue parking lot

Join Josh to walk the trails through this popular park with its great variety of trees, flowers and shrubs and enjoy the songs and sights of the birds that have arrived for their short breeding season. Walking distance is approximately 5 km so please wear appropriate footwear. Bring a packed lunch to eat at a suitable spot at the end of the walk. **Phone 604-356-3501 to register.**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 3<sup>RD</sup>**

### **GLEN VALLEY SPRING BIRD COUNT**

**Leader:** Lisa Dreves

**Phone 604-532-0081** or email [stewardship@leps.bc.ca](mailto:stewardship@leps.bc.ca) to register

## **FRIDAY, JUNE 9<sup>TH</sup>**

### **NATHAN CREEK**

**Leader:** Herman Vanderleest

**Time:** 9:00 am at the bridge on River Road (88th Avenue), one block east of 264th Street

Join Herman to walk along the Nathan Creek dike. **Phone 604-856-1179 to register.**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 17<sup>TH</sup>**

### **GRANT NARROWS PROVINCIAL PARK/ ADDINGTON MARSH**

#### **WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA**

**Leader:** Eric Habisch

**Time:** 9:00 am at Grant Narrows Provincial Park parking lot.

Join Eric to look for the birds that use this large dyked marsh area, with its several viewing towers. It is on a major migration route for bird life and has the largest tidal lake in the world. Dress for the weather and bring a packed lunch. **Phone 778-231-0273 to register.**

## **SATURDAY, JUNE 24<sup>TH</sup>**

### **IRENE PEARCE TRAIL**

**Leader:** Anthea Farr

**Time:** 9:30 am in the parking lot on 224th at 5th Avenue

Join Anthea to walk the trails in this rural park that was turned into a park after pressure was exerted by the Council of Ratepayers and LFN. It is part of the Municipal Natural Park with the Little Campbell River flowing through it and has stands of mature Douglas Fir. **Phone 604-576-7731 to register.**

## **FRIDAY, JUNE 30<sup>TH</sup>**

### **BRAE ISLAND REGIONAL PARK**

**Leader:** Keith Chrystall

**Time:** 6:30 pm in the parking lot at 9451 Glover Road, Fort Langley

Join Keith to walk the trails along the river out to Tavistock Point in Brae Island Regional Park. **Phone 604-427-3725 to register.**

## **COUNTING CROWS**



*Counting crows, February 2023*

*Photo: Bob Puls*

2020 was our inaugural year to count the crows at their roost at 16<sup>th</sup> Avenue/256th Street. One night we counted 48,000 crows! Over the three nights we averaged about 36,000 crows using the roost. We didn't do a count in 2021, then in March 2022 we averaged the counts and came up with 52,902 crows heading into the site. This year, with fewer counters, over two nights in February we counted an average of 30,783 crows with one night of counting still to go.

*(Figures from Lisa Dreves)*

