



The GUMBOOT GAZETTE



Volume 10, Number 5

Summer 2020

Join the Fun!
A Virtual Wetland Keepers Workshop will be held July 11th and 12th. Register and learn about wetland stewardship!



Learn About Bear Safety!

Make enjoying the great outdoors fun for both you and the bears!

LWSS has installed interpretive signage at the Clearwater Lakes Trail, and at the Twin Spruce Trail (Furlong Bay Campground).

Enjoy a walk while learning about local flora and fauna!



It's Summer!

The time for sunscreen and bug spray is here!

However let's not forget to wash our hands. With everyone outdoors, learn how you can make your own hand sanitizer to have while you are on the go!

Follow us on Social Media!



@ Lakelse Watershed Stewards Society



@ lwss.coordinator

The Team!



Keegan just graduated with a Bachelors in Environmental Science from the University of Northern British Columbia! She has volunteered with us many times.



Tianna, our old summer student, is back! She continues her education at the University of Northern British Columbia!



Tianna and Keegan have already been hard at work maintaining the signage at Clearwater Lakes, and installing signage at Furlong Bay Campground along the Twin Spruce Trail!



Wildflower Seed Grant Program

Wildlife Preservation Canada is providing wildflower seed grants to restore and build important pollinator habitat across Canada. LWSS applied for the grant to potentially grow wildflower gardens within the Lakelse Watershed to promote pollinator species!



Clearwater Lakes Trail Improvements!



We spent time getting ready for the hiking season!

The interpretive signage along the trail was maintained and cleaned! Sections of the trail are being rerouted!

Thank you to Terrace Community Forest for your funding support and help making this project possible.



CLEAN, DRAIN, DRY INITIATIVE

We are installing more invasive species signs throughout the Lakelse watershed! Our new locations include Waterlily Bay, Herman's Hole and Scully Creek boat launch.



ATTENTION
Invasive species impact our waters

Once you leave the water...

CLEAN
plants, animals and mud from boat and gear

DRAIN
all water from boat and gear onto land

DRY
all parts of your boat and gear completely

Report Zebra or Quagga mussel sightings to the R.A.P.P. Hotline 1-877-952-7277
For more information: CleanDrainDry.ca

Know of any other places that should have an a sign?

Let us know!

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Scully Creek



The Scully Camera has a new, custom made protective box! This aluminum casing will protect the camera from debris that might float downstream and damage the camera as it is monitoring. The attached stakes make it easy for us to position the camera in the water column! Thank you Neid Enterprises Ltd for your amazing work!

We are also expanding the Scully Creek fencing to help it withstand flooding and the pesky beavers!



FURLONG BAY: TWIN SPRUCE TRAIL INTREPRETIVE SIGNAGE

The Furlong signage is finished and has been placed along the Twin Spruce Trail!

There are seven interpretive signs that contain information on sockeye, skunk cabbage, grizzly bears, devils club, amphibians, fungi and cedar trees!

Come check it out!



Interpretive Program

at

Furlong Bay

Meet at the
Amphitheatre!



Come walk along the Twin Spruce Trail and learn about **fish** species, local **vegetation**, **birds**, and **invertebrates**! All ages are welcome!

Events will also be hosted, such as presentations by a local biologist, and Skeena Wild. Topics includes **birds**, **bees**, the **Skeena watershed** and **salmon**.

** Due to COVID-19, social distancing protocols will be followed during these walks and a maximum of eight people will be allowed.

Sign up for the walks and events at the visitor centre!

Our next event will be hosted on July 10th at 11:30 am. Join a biologist and learn about local birds!

Our next interpretive walk will be hosted on July 11th at 10 am!



Check Out These Critters!

Did you know the fisher is one of the few animals that eat porcupine? The fisher is a carnivore and an excellent predator. Fishers attack their prey from behind and like to eat mice, squirrels, snowshoe hares and fawns.

The fisher is a member of the weasel family and a close relative of the marten but is virtually twice as large as the marten.

The name 'fisher' has no relation to fish but is derived from 'fiche' an old English word for the European polecat (also known as the common ferret in Europe) and its pelt.

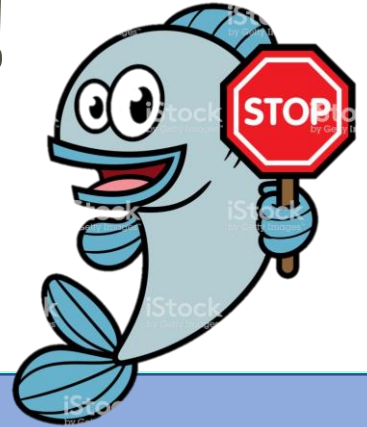


Fishers

The fisher is only seen in North America. In Canada they are found in the northwest coast of British Columbia, in northern Alberta and from Saskatchewan to Newfoundland.

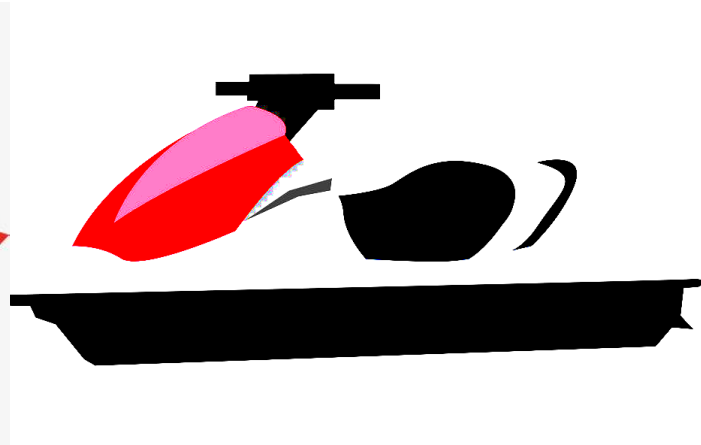


Protect the Lakelse Wetlands!



Lakelse Lake's ecosystem is a sensitive area. When boats and other watercrafts are operated in streams and wetlands, the disturbance can cause damage to the vegetation, aquatic plants, and fish habitat. It can even negatively impact nesting waterfowl. Operating a watercraft in these sensitive zones can also pollute the water, disturb sediment, and cause shoreline erosion.

Please stay out of the streams and wetlands when operating your watercraft!





Bear Safety



Bears are out of hibernation and it is important to stay safe when walking in the woods!

Tips for Bear Safety:

- Walk in groups
- Make lots of noise to reduce the chance of surprising a bear
 - Keep your pets on a leash
 - Watch for bear signs
- Bring bear spray and/or bear bangers (and know how to use them!)

KNOW THE DIFFERENCE!

Black Bear
Straight
Face Profile



No Hump



Round
Front Track

Grizzly Bear
Dish Face
Profile



Hump



Straight
Front Track



BCWF

BC WILDLIFE FEDERATION
WETLANDS EDUCATION PROGRAM

BC WILDLIFE FEDERATION PRESENTS

Terrace Map our Marshes Virtual Workshop

July 11-12 from 9am to 2pm



JOIN THE BC WILDLIFE FEDERATION OVER 2 DAYS FOR THIS VIRTUAL WORKSHOP. LEARN ABOUT WETLAND CLASSIFICATION, WETLAND MAPPING, CONSERVATION, AND MORE!

Where: Hosted virtually through Zoom

Cost: **NO CHARGE** (\$100 value)

Contact: Alyssa Purse, Wetland Education Program Coordinator

(By email: alysa.purse@bcwf.bc.ca or phone: 604-882-9988 ext. 239)

For more information & registration, see <https://bit.ly/3cOnSjy>

This workshop is held in partnership with:



This workshop is made possible with the financial support from the following organizations:



Environment and
Climate Change Canada

Environnement et
Changement climatique Canada



Natural Antiseptics



Witch hazel, thyme, tea tree and lavender all have natural antiseptic properties.



Making your own hand sanitizer is easy to do and only requires a few ingredients:

- ❖ Isopropyl or rubbing alcohol (99 percent alcohol volume)
- ❖ Aloe vera gel
- ❖ An essential oil, such as tea tree oil, lavender oil, or lemon juice

Tips:

Use a 2:1 proportion of alcohol to aloe vera. This keeps the alcohol content around 60 percent, which is the minimum amount needed to kill most germs.



Due to COVID 19, volunteer opportunities have currently be put on hold. However, stay up to date on events by checking out our website and by following us on Facebook and Instagram.

We look forward to offering volunteer opportunities in the future! We hope everyone is staying healthy, happy, and safe out there!

If you have questions or wish to get into contact with a member, feel free to email Summer at sschulte@westlandresources.ca.

