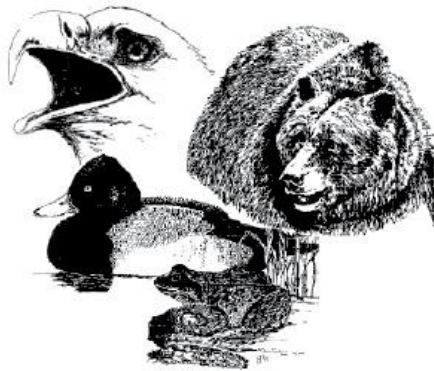




and other free nature walks,
talks and wildlife viewing!



2014 ANNUAL REPORT

Prepared by:
Scott Cameron



November 2015

**WILD DISCOVERIES:
WILDLIFE VIEWING PROGRAM ANNUAL REPORT ON
NATURE INTERPRETATION PROGRAMS AND ACTIVITIES,
2014**

**Yukon Department of Environment
Fish and Wildlife Branch
PR-15-04**

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Summary

Wild Discoveries is a series of wildlife interpretation and nature appreciation programs that provide opportunities for Yukoners to learn more about the natural world. The 2014 series was well attended: we hosted 32 different programs attended by 675 people. Through these programs, we are reaching more people on a greater variety of wildlife topics than in the past. The *Knee High Nature* children's series of programs continues to grow in popularity, with attendance doubling over 2013. The Wildlife Viewing Program looks forward to building on the successes of the 2014 season as we plan the upcoming interpretive season. This report provides an overview of programs that were offered from January to December 2014.

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Introduction

Wildlife Viewing Program events are delivered through interpretive walks, talks, and public presentations that focus on a specific wildlife topic. Most events are organised within the annual *Wild Discoveries* summer/fall series, and focus on a variety of issues related to wildlife, biology, wildlife management, and wildlife appreciation. The *Wild Discoveries* series is an ideal venue in which Environment Yukon biologists and other researchers can communicate their findings and knowledge of Yukon's wildlife to the public. The public is directly engaged with experts in the field who are able to answer questions and better inform Yukoners.

Scope

This report describes the *Wild Discoveries* interpretive series offered through the Wildlife Viewing Program from January through December, 2014. It includes programs that were directly part of the *Wild Discoveries* series, as well as additional interpretive programs that were hosted in the off-season under different banners including Yukon Biodiversity Awareness Month (YBAM) and Water Week.

Program Delivery

Wildlife Viewing Biologist: The Wildlife Viewing (WV) biologist assists in the planning and delivery of the interpretive programs. She supervises the WV technician and Biodiversity Programs assistant (STEP student

position), as well as delivering select programs to the public.

Wildlife Viewing Technician: The WV technician begins booking speakers, planning the summer calendar, and laying out the calendar of events in April. He supervises the Biodiversity Programs assistant as they finalize the summer events and organize how each event will run. The WV technician also delivers select programs to the public.

Biodiversity Programs Assistant: When available, a STEP position brings one student into the Wildlife Viewing Program to assist with the delivery of summer interpretive programs. The student hosts guest speakers, assists in designing and delivering programs with the biologist and technician, and delivers interpretive programs. The Biodiversity Programs assistant is an integral part of ensuring the *Wild Discoveries* can be delivered throughout the summer.

Contractors: Four contracts were issued to deliver programs on behalf of the Wildlife Viewing Program: Frog Walk, Orchid Acres, Real Raptors, and Mushroom Power Up. A staff member from the Wildlife Viewing Program was present as a host for these events.

Events

We delivered 32 events in 2014. We had planned to conduct an event to see the Fortymile Caribou herd during their fall migration, but the herd did not travel close enough to major roads for this to be possible.

Table 1. Interpretive walks and talks hosted by the Wildlife Viewing Program

| Count | Event | Date | Location | Description | Attendance |
|--------------|------------------------------|-------------|-----------------|---|-------------------|
| 1 | Wetlands in Winter | 22-Mar-14 | Whitehorse | A short walk at McIntyre Marsh. | 7 |
| 2 | Shorebirds of Swan Haven | 10-May-14 | Marsh Lake | A short walk and talk about shorebirds at Swan Haven. | 9 |
| 3 | Boreal Owl Spotting | 15-May-14 | Ibex Valley | A private resident invited us to see the nesting owls on his property. | 1 |
| 4 | Frog Walk | 16-May-14 | Whitehorse | Short walk to Rat Lake to hear Wood Frogs calling during mating season. | 8 |
| 5 | Paddling Down the Lewes | 24-May-14 | Marsh Lake | A guided canoe day-trip past through the M'Clintock mud flats to look for birds. | 7 |
| 6 | You're Kidding | 04-Jun-14 | Jake's Corner | A walk up the White Mountain interpretive trail to look for goat kids at a distance. | 5 |
| 7 | Ground Squirrel School | 10-Jun-14 | Whitehorse | A walk and talk in Takhini North with ground squirrel researchers in Yukon. | 27 |
| 8 | Orchid Acres | 18-Jun-14 | Dawson | A walk through the orchid patch in West Dawson. | 17 |
| 9 | Eagles New Home | 24-Jun-14 | Whitehorse | A trailside interpretive station describing Bald Eagles and their nesting behaviour. | 42 |
| 10 | Knee High nature #1 Public | 24-Jun-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for children aged four to six years. | 38 |
| 11 | Real Raptors | 27-Jun-14 | Whitehorse | Presentation by American Bald Eagle Foundation including live birds of prey. | 43 |
| 12 | Real Raptors | 28-Jun-14 | Whitehorse | Presentation by American Bald Eagle Foundation including live birds of prey. | 18 |
| 13 | Knee High Nature #2 Day Care | 02-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for daycare groups with children aged four to six years. | 19 |
| 14 | Knee High Nature #2 Public | 02-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for children aged four to six years. | 35 |
| 15 | Pika Palace | 06-Jul-14 | Keno City | Guided interpretive walk with regional biologist Mark O'Donoghue about alpine wildlife. | 8 |
| 16 | Knee High Nature #3 Day Care | 08-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for daycare groups with children aged four to six years. | 17 |

| | | | | | |
|------------|--------------------------------|-----------|-----------------|--|------------|
| 17 | Knee High Nature #3 Public | 08-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for children aged four to six years. | 41 |
| 18 | Knee High Nature #4 Day Care | 15-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for daycare groups with children aged four to six years. | 36 |
| 19 | Knee High Nature #4 Public | 15-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for children aged four to six years. | 54 |
| 20 | Liard Canyon Walk | 16-Jul-14 | Watson Lake | A guided walk to the Liard River focusing on wildlife at the northern limits of their ranges. | 6 |
| 21 | Knee High Nature #5 Day Care | 22-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for daycare groups with children aged four to six years. | 19 |
| 22 | Knee High Nature #5 Public | 22-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Nature appreciation activities for children aged four to six years. | 24 |
| 23 | One Fish, Two Fish | 25-Jul-14 | Haines Junction | Talk and learning game about the fish of Dezadeash Lake and its unique ecosystem. | 0 |
| 24 | King's Throne Alpine Adventure | 26-Jul-14 | Haines Junction | A guided hike looking for alpine wildlife. | 16 |
| 25 | Mushroom Power Up | 29-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Mushroom walk and talk. | 39 |
| 26 | Ahhhhhh Nuts! | 30-Jul-14 | Whitehorse | Walk and talk with Meghan Larivee about Red Squirrels. | 16 |
| 27 | Wandering for Wolves | 06-Aug-14 | Whitehorse | Short walk to an abandoned den site to talk about wolf ecology with wolf management program coordinator Peter Knamiller. | 32 |
| 28 | Going Batty | 08-Aug-14 | Whitehorse | Talk and bat trapping/banding demonstration. | 39 |
| 29 | Red Fish, Blue Fish! | 25-Aug-14 | Ibex Valley | Short walk with fisheries biologist Oliver Barker about the Kokanee Salmon and stocking program. | 11 |
| 30 | Yukon's Great Salt Lake | 27-Aug-14 | Whitehorse | A walk to the Takhini Salt Flats with biologist Bruce Bennett to talk about this unique ecosystem. | 12 |
| 31 | Busy Beavers | 09-Sep-14 | Whitehorse | Fall beaver behaviour and ecology. | 9 |
| 32 | Elk Bugling | 26-Sep-14 | Whitehorse | A guided walk to listen for the Takhini Elk herd and bugle for them. | 20 |
| Sum | | | | | 675 |

Advertising

Wild Discoveries events are advertised in numerous ways depending on the timing and location of the event.

Calendar of Events: This publication is released at the beginning of June and mailed to all Yukon households, including Atlin, British Columbia (Appendix A). Households that have signed up with Canada Post to block all non-addressed mail (flyers) will not receive a *Wild Discoveries* householder. The householders are also made available at Environment Yukon offices, the main YG building, rest stops, Visitor Information Centre and museums/visitor attractions across the territory. Events that are held in April and May are included in the YBAM householder.

Online calendar: The most up-to-date information is available on the Wildlife Viewing webpage in a Google calendar (Appendix B). The calendar is posted as soon as events are confirmed and updates can be made in real time (such as change of location or cancellations). The public can also sign up for the calendar so that updates will be directly imported into their own Google calendars.

Posters: A *Wild Discoveries* poster template is used to advertise all events (Appendix C). Approximately 20

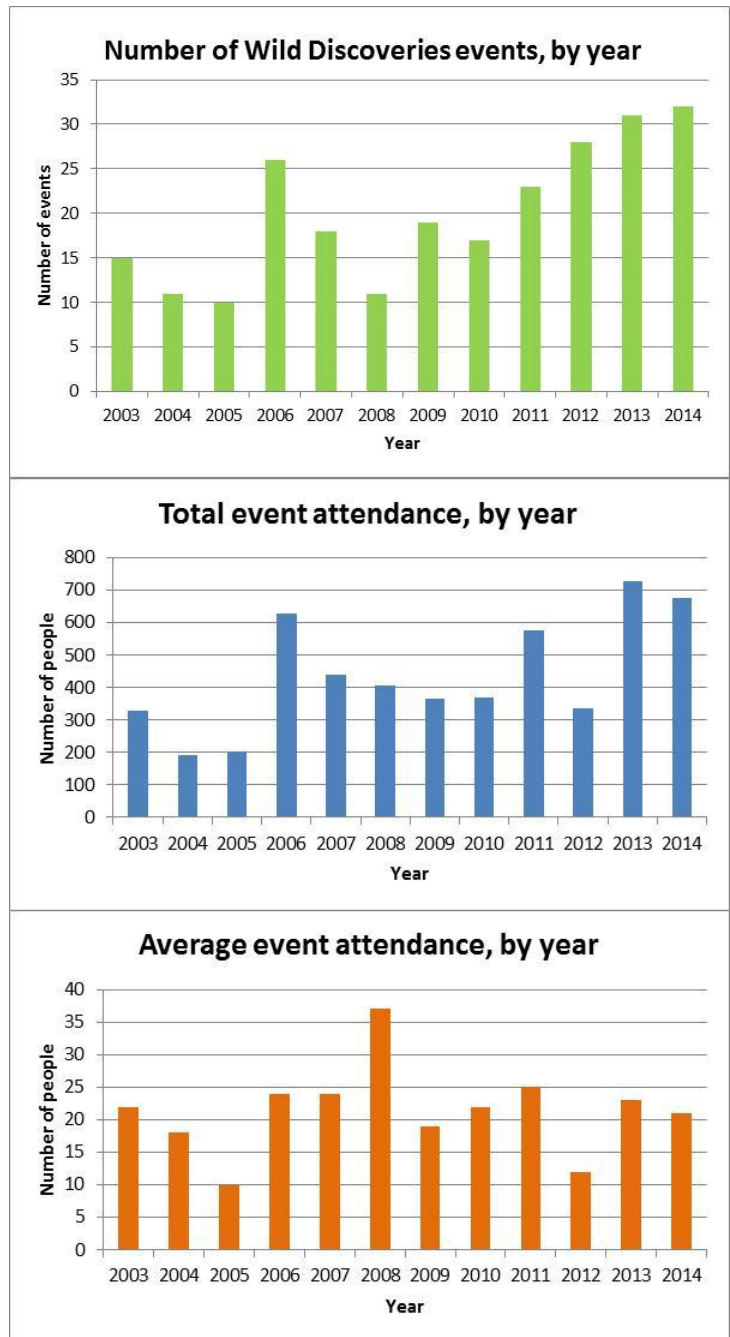


Figure 1. Number of Wild Discoveries events and attendance, 2003–14.

posters are printed and posted around Whitehorse in popular locations such as Main Street, coffee shops, Visitor Information Centres, and community notice boards. Posters are also printed and sent ahead of time to the community where an event will be held.

Paid advertisement: A print ad was placed in the Yukon News and Whitehorse Star at the beginning of the season reminding Yukoners to check their mailboxes for the householder (Appendix D). These ads were supported by radio ads the week of the release. Two more newspaper ads were placed in July and August to remind people about upcoming events. These were supported with a week of radio spots.

Twitter and Facebook: Facebook continues to be an effective tool for promoting our program. In November we surpassed 700 “Likes” on our Facebook page. This was the first year we used the Environment Yukon Twitter account to promote our events. We used a scheduling tool (Hootsuite) to program the “tweets” in advance. The Communications branch maintains overall control and responsibility of the Twitter account

and we consult with branch staff to ensure compliance with department policy regarding Twitter use.

Partners

Many individuals and organizations offered time, resources, staff, or a location to host a *Wild Discoveries* event (Table 2). We often call on experts from these areas to offer variety and new programs.

Table 2. Contributing individuals and organizations.

| Organisation | Contribution |
|--|---|
| American Bald Eagle Foundation | Brought birds from Haines, Alaska for Real Raptors. |
| Jeff Werner and Keenan Peddie | Led the ground squirrel event. |
| Faye Cable | Assisted with Knee High Nature. |
| Lee Mennell | Led the Frog Walk. |
| Rene Rivard | Led Boreal Owl event. |
| Sam Skinner | Led mushroom walk. |
| Sebastian Jones | Led the orchid walk in Dawson. |
| Susan Drury | Assisted with the Lucky Lake/Liard Canyon walk. |
| Animal Health Unit, Environment Yukon | Led the Red Squirrel walk. |
| Biodiversity Programs, Environment Yukon | Hosted Bat Research revealed night. |
| Conservation Education Youth Programs, Environment Yukon | Provided canoes for YG staff for Paddling the Lewes trip. |
| Regional Programs (Mayo), Environment Yukon | Led Pika Palace event. |
| Species Programs, Environment Yukon | Led the wolf, fish and beaver events. |
| Yukon Conservation Data Centre, Environment Yukon | Lead the Carcross Dunes, and Salt Lake walk. |

Table 3. Average event attendance by community grouping.

| Community Grouping | Average Event Attendance |
|--|--------------------------|
| Ibex Valley, Jake’s Corner, Marsh Lake, Whitehorse | 23.3 |
| Dawson, Haines Junction, Keno City, Watson Lake | 9.4 |

Discussion

The 2014 Wild Discoveries program was a success. Total event attendance was 675 participants, 54 per cent above average. We hosted 32 events, our highest amount in the past 12 years. Average audience size was 21 people. Given our typical event style (one presenter, unamplified voice) 20 is generally an appropriate audience size.

The success story of 2014 was our children’s program *Knee High Nature*. A total of 283 people participated in five events this summer, doubling the 2013 attendance. A new feature this year was offering two sessions of each event: one for the public and one for day care programs. This approach worked well and was popular with day care providers. Given the size and popularity of *Knee High Nature* this year, two staff members should be available to lead the events in 2015.

Event participation from communities other than Whitehorse continues to be lower than average (Table 3).

Whitehorse tends to host more events in which people are guaranteed to see wildlife (e.g., Going Batty, Real

Raptors, Eagles New Home). This may contribute to larger audiences for Whitehorse events. The popularity of *Knee High Nature* also increased the average event attendance in Whitehorse.

In 2015 we will attempt to hold more events in the communities that have a higher probability of seeing wildlife. These opportunities will be built into localized, focussed advertising to attract more community participants. For example, the American Bald Eagle Foundation may be able to offer ‘Real Raptors’ in Haines Junction as well as in Whitehorse.

We received a suggestion to better describe the “physical requirements” of our events so that people with a disability or challenge could better decide if they could attend. We will explore options to communicate this information in 2015.

In general, event attendance can be predicted by the following factors:

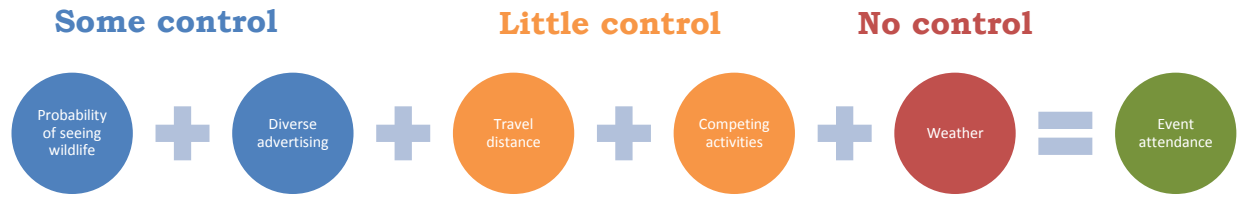


Figure 2. Factors affecting event attendance.

As described above, events which have a high probability of actually seeing wildlife tend to have higher attendance. Bat programs, live-bird displays, and elk bugling walks usually produce high attendance.

Our advertising approach has been broad and diverse to attract a wide range of participants. For Yukon residents, the annual hardcopy events calendar and posters around town are usually cited by event participants. Visitors often mention seeing posters in Visitor Information Centres or ads in What's Up Yukon. Currently, the impact of social media advertising and promotion is not well understood. However, with increasing traffic to the Wildlife Viewing Facebook page, we think there is positive exposure and promotion occurring.

Generally, the farther the travel distance to an event, the lower the attendance. We try to balance the distance traveled with the opportunity to see wildlife. Exceptional viewing opportunities (e.g., Fortymile caribou, October 2013) can lessen the importance of distance. People are willing to travel for these types of events.

We attempt to schedule wildlife viewing events around other popular community events in Yukon. This is relatively manageable in spring, but summer is a busy time for festivals and events in the territory. We are inevitably competing for attendance, especially on weekends.

Weather can have an interesting effect on attendance. Not surprisingly cold, wet weather tends to decrease attendance. However, hot, sunny weather can have the same result as people chose traditional summer activities over wildlife viewing.

Knee High Nature, as a recurring children's program, is not well described by the above equation. Parents and caregivers came to rely on the program as a weekly activity, occurring at the same time and place. Poor weather did not tend deter the participants.

This year we began using an Access database to track event details. This has created a more reliable data set on which to base programming decisions. We also began tracking the residency of our participants (Yukon vs. non-Yukon). In 2014, 87 per cent of Wild

Discoveries participants lived in Yukon.

We will continue to fine-tune the Wild Discoveries program to provide meaningful, enjoyable wildlife viewing opportunities for Yukoners and visitors.

APPENDIX A – WILD DISCOVERIES CALENDAR OF EVENTS

[See next page]

Ongoing Wildlife Walks and Talks

WHITEHORSE

Yukon Conservation Society, Guided Hikes to Canyon City

Bring your own food and water, dress for the weather. Transportation not provided.

**Twice daily, 10:00 AM & 2:00 PM
Tuesday – Saturday
June 14 – August 23**

Meet at the Miles Canyon suspension bridge. Join our interpreters as they follow what's left of the Whitehorse Rapids Tramway through picturesque Miles Canyon (approximately 3.5 KM and 1.5 to 2 hours long). Additional hikes available by request.

Contact: (867) 668-5678
www.yukonconservation.org
Cost: FREE

Whitehorse Fishway

Learn about Yukon First Nations' culture by talking to local Elders.

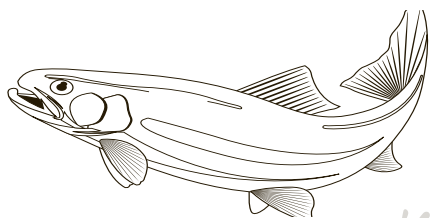
July and August in the First Nations tent at the Whitehorse Fishway. Check with staff for specific days/hours.

Contact: (867) 633-5965
Cost: FREE (for tent entrance)

Yukon Wildlife Preserve Nature Camp

Children aged 7-12 are invited to spend their summer days at the preserve exploring, playing and connecting with wildlife and the outdoors. For more information and registration visit: www.yukonwildlife.ca/naturecamp

Contact: (867) 456-7400
Cost: call for details



MacBride Museum Natural History Tours

Daily tours through the wildlife exhibit throughout the summer. Participate at 4:00 PM daily in the Animal Crackers program where the public has access to animal furs and bones. Play the 'Who Dung It' game.

Contact: (867) 667-2709 ext. 4
www.macbridemuseum.com
Cost: Regular museum admission

KLUANE NATIONAL PARK & RESERVE

Campfire talks and interpretive walks on Fridays, Saturdays and Sundays from late June to mid August.

Contact: (867) 634-7207
Cost: call for details

TESLIN

Teslin Lake Bird Observatory

**July 23 – October 10
Daily from sunrise until 6 hours later**
Get up close and personal with a variety of migrating birds while watching the bird banders at work.

Contact: teslin.bird.banding@gmail.com
www.yukonbirdobservatories.org
Cost: FREE

WATSON LAKE

Albert Creek Bird Observatory

**April 23 to June 8
Daily from sunrise until 6 hours later**
Get up close and personal with a variety of migrating birds while watching the bird banders at work.

Contact: tedmurphykelly@northwestel.net
www.yukonbirdobservatories.org
Cost: FREE

FARO

Campbell Region Interpretive Centre

Various guided hikes are available throughout the summer, upon request. Fire Side Chats every 2nd Thursday, starting June 26.

Contact: (867) 994-2288
Cost: FREE

TOMBSTONE TERRITORIAL PARK

KM 71.5 Dempster Highway
Discover what makes Ddhäl Ch'èl Cha Nän "ragged mountain land" such a special place. Learn about the park on an interpreted hike or campfire program.

Contact: (778) 786-8908, (867) 993-7714
tombstonecentre@gmail.com

TOMBSTONE EVENTS

For more details visit www.yukonparks.ca

- Weekend on the Wing (June 6-8)
- Solstice Music Coffee House (June 20)
- Botany Days (June 27-29)
- Parks Day hike, potluck, music (July 21)
- Weekend on the Rocks (August 8-10)
- Lichen & Fungi Weekend (August 23-25)
- Fall Colours Music Coffeehouse (August 29)

Environment Yukon, Wildlife Viewing Program: (867) 667-8291, Toll free: 1-800-661-0408, ext. 8291, email: wildlife.viewing@gov.yk.ca

Wildlife Interpretive Centres

Whitehorse Fishway (Fish Ladder) Nisutlin Drive by the Whitehorse Dam Open June 1 to September 1

Check with fish ladder for hours of operation.
Cost: suggested donation of \$3 per person.
Contact: (867) 633-5965

Yukon Wildlife Preserve KM-8 Takhini Hot Springs Road

Daily, 9:30 AM – 6:00 PM, to September 2
Cost: Guided bus tours: \$22 Adults, \$10 Youth, \$20 Seniors, \$50 Family, \$7 Children (4-12), free for kids under 4. Walking tours: \$15 Adults, \$8 Youth, \$12 Seniors, \$35 Family, \$5 Children (4-12), free for kids under 4. Free for members.
Contact: (867) 456-7300
www.yukonwildlife.ca

Yukon Beringia Interpretive Centre By the airport on the Alaska Highway, Whitehorse

Daily, 9:00 AM – 6:00 PM, to September 19.
Cost: \$6 Adults, \$4 Students, \$5 Seniors (55+), \$25 Family, \$4 (each) for Groups (8 people minimum), free for children under 5.
Contact: (867) 667-8855

MacBride Museum 1124 First Avenue, Whitehorse

Daily, 9:30 AM – 5:00 PM, through August.
Cost: admission charges apply
Contact: (867) 667-2709 ext. 4

Keno City Alpine Interpretive Centre (near Mayo)

10:00 AM – 6:00 PM, Daily, to September 1
Contact: (867) 995-3103

Kluane Museum of Natural History Burwash Landing

Daily, 9:00 AM – 6:30 PM, to September 15
Cost: \$5.00 Adults, \$4.00 Seniors (60+), \$3.00 Student (ages 5-17), \$3.00 (each) for Groups (8 people minimum), free for children and under 5.
Contact: (867) 841-5561

Kluane National Park and Reserve Visitor Centre Da Kų Cultural Centre Haines Junction

May 16 to June 1st, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
June 2 to September 1, 9:00 AM – 7:00 PM
Contact: (867) 634-7207

Tachäl Dhäl Visitor Centre Kluane Lake, Km 1706 Alaska Highway

May 16 to September 1, 9:00 AM – 4:00 PM
Contact: (867) 841-4500

Campbell Region Interpretive Centre (Faro)

9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, May 15 – May 31
8:00 AM – 6:00 PM, June 1 – August 31
9:00 AM – 5:00 PM, September 1–15
Contact: (867) 994-2288

Tombstone Interpretive Centre KM-71.5 Dempster Highway

June 1 to September 14, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Contact: (778) 786-8908, (867) 993-7714

Yukon Motel Wildlife Gallery

KM-1273 Alaska Highway, Teslin
Daily, 9:00 AM – 5:00 PM
Contact: (867) 390-2575

WILDLIFE



VIEWING



and other free nature walks,
talks and wildlife viewing!



Summer 2014

www.env.gov.yk.ca/events

for up-to-date information and LIKE us on **facebook**

Wildlife Viewing Special Events



You're Kidding

June 4, 6:00 PM (3.5 hrs)

Meet at South Access reststop, Alaska Highway

Did you know a baby goat is called a kid? Join us at the viewing area on White Mountain to view the goats at a safe distance. The drive to White Mountain from the meeting place is approximately 1 hour. Carpooling is encouraged.



Ground Squirrel School

June 10, 7:00 PM (1.5 hrs)

Meet at Takhini broomball arena

Join us for a fascinating look at these subterranean dwellers. We'll observe the squirrels through scopes and learn about recent Yukon research on the species. Involves a walk to the squirrel site (600 metres).



Orchid Acres

June 18, 7:00 PM (1.5 hrs)

Meet at the entrance to the Yukon River Campground (Dawson)

Sebastian Jones will lead us through the beautiful patches of Spotted Lady's-slipper orchids and describe this showy flower.



Bat Research Revealed

Week of June 23, 11:00 PM (3 hrs)

Squanga Lake Campground

Environment Yukon biologists are monitoring bat populations in the territory. Come chat with the researchers and watch them work! Call Wildlife Viewing or check our website for final details.

Knee High Nature #1

June 24, 10:30 AM (1 hr)

Middle McIntyre Creek, Whitehorse

Bring your youngster out for a different nature-based activity each week. Activities and games are designed for kids. Head up College Drive and follow the signs.



Eagles New Home

June 24, 7:00 PM (1 hr)

Robert Service Way, Eagle Nest

Our web cam couple from last year seem camera shy. Come see the new home and family, and learn more about Bald Eagles. Co-hosted with Yukon Electrical.

Real Raptors

June 27, 5:00 PM (1.5 hrs)

June 28, 9:30 AM (1.5 hrs)

Fireplace Room at Shipyards Park, Whitehorse

The American Bald Eagle Foundation will display live birds of prey. Learn more about these raptors and the foundation.

Knee High Nature #2

July 2, 10:30 AM (1 hr)

Middle McIntyre Creek, Whitehorse

Bring your youngster out for a different nature-based activity each week. Activities and games are designed for kids. Head up College Drive and follow the signs.



Carcross Dune Walk

July 3, 2:00 PM (2 hrs)

Meet at the Carcross Visitor Information Centre

Where did all this sand come from? Environment Yukon biologist Bruce Bennett will walk you through this unique ecosystem, sharing the story of its origins. Please bring a water bottle and appropriate footwear.



Pika Palace

July 6, 10:00 AM (2 hrs)

Meet at the Keno Alpine Interpretive Centre, Keno City

Join Environment Yukon biologist Mark O'Donoghue to look for pikas, marmots, alpine flowers, and arctic butterflies on Keno Hill. Bring a water bottle, lunch, and warm clothing. Wear sturdy hiking boots.



Knee High Nature #3

July 8, 10:30 AM (1 hr)

Middle McIntyre Creek, Whitehorse

Bring your youngster out for a different nature-based activity each week. Activities and games are designed for kids. Head up College Drive and follow the signs.



Knee High Nature #4

July 15, 10:30 AM (1 hr)

Middle McIntyre Creek, Whitehorse

Bring your youngster out for a different nature-based activity each week. Activities and games are designed for kids. Head up College Drive and follow the signs.



Liard Canyon Walk

July 16, 7:00 PM (2 hrs)

Lucky Lake Rec. Site (Watson Lake) Alaska Highway KM-971

This trail is at the northern limit of many plant and animal ranges. Take a stroll down this trail to look for creatures found nowhere else in Yukon.



Knee High Nature #5

July 22, 10:30 AM (1 hr)

Middle McIntyre Creek, Whitehorse

Bring your youngster out for a different nature-based activity each week. Activities and games are designed for kids. Head up College Drive and follow the signs.



One Fish, Two Fish!

July 25, 7:00 PM (2 hrs)

Meet at Rock Glacier Trail parking lot (50 KM south of Haines Junction on the Haines Highway)

How do the Lake Trout survive in such a shallow, warm lake? Learn about the unique habitats found in Dezadeash Lake and how they affect the fish that live there. This is a great activity for families.



King's Throne

Alpine Adventure

July 26, 9:30 AM (6 hrs)

Meet at Kathleen Lake Day Use Area

We'll go up, up, up into the alpine, looking for wildlife in this special habitat. This is a strenuous hike and pre-registering with Wildlife Viewing is strongly recommended. Bring food, water and hiking boots.



Mushroom Power Up

July 29, 7:00 PM (2 hrs)

Meet at gazebo at the end of Chadburn Lake Road

Local mushroom man Sam Skinner will lead this walk and talk about the biology and identification of Yukon mushrooms.



Ahhhhh Nuts!

July 30, 7:00 PM (1.5 hrs)

Meet at Robert Service Campground

Join Meghan Larivee, biologist and squirrel enthusiast, for an evening stroll to learn about the small critters (squirrels!) that many people ignore.



Wandering for Wolves

August 6, 7:00 PM (3 hrs)

Meet at Takhini Arena parking lot

Join the Wolf Management Program Coordinator, Peter Knamiller, for an evening of wolf discovery. We will carpool to a nearby location and try our voices at wolf howling!



Going Batty!

August 8, 9:30 PM (2.5 hrs)

Meet at gazebo at the end of Chadburn Lake Road

Turn on your sonar for an evening of bat viewing! Learn about bat biology, habitat and conservation with Environment Yukon biologists. Involves a 20 minute walk over uneven terrain. Bring flashlights for the return walk in the dark.



Red Fish, Blue Fish!

August 25, 7:00 PM (2.5 hrs)

Meet at Takhini arena parking lot

Environment Yukon fisheries biologist Oliver Barker will be leading an evening walk to check out Kokanee Salmon in their spawning colours. We will carpool to either Chadden or Scout Lake, depending on the fish.



Yukon's Great Salt Lake

August 27, 6:00 PM (3 hrs)

Meet at the Beringia Centre parking lot

This is the place to see rare plants and unique mineralization. Join plant enthusiast and Environment Yukon biologist Bruce Bennett for a walk around this little-known gem of the Takhini Valley. Bring your boots. Carpooling is encouraged.



Busy Beavers

September 9, 6:30 PM (2 hrs)

Meet at Alaska Highway / South Access rest stop

Environment Yukon biologist Heather Milligan has been searching for active beavers, and we'll carpool to the most promising location. See our furry neighbours preparing for winter.



Elk Bugling

September 26, 6:00 PM (3 hrs)

Meet at North Klondike Rest stop

Join us to view Elk in rut and hear them bugling. We'll carpool up the highway to the Takhini Burn and try to spot the Elk on the slopes. Be sure to dress for falling temperatures and bring a warm drink for after the walk.



Caribou Crossing

A weekend in Fall

Last year the Fortymile caribou herd entered Yukon in large numbers for the first time in decades. It was spectacular.

Depending on herd movements this year, we will plan a viewing event, likely in September or October.

Contact the Wildlife Viewing Program or check our online events calendar as fall approaches.

All events are free and open to the public



= activities just for kids!
All welcome, designed
for ages 4-6 years



= event requires walking
over uneven terrain

For Yukon Bird Club events, visit our online events calendar or email yukonbirdclub@gmail.com

Wildlife Viewing Program: (867) 667-8291, Toll free: 1-800-661-0408, ext. 8291, email: wildlife.viewing@gov.yk.ca

Find
"Yukon Wildlife Viewing"
on

facebook

www.env.gov.yk.ca/events
for up-to-date information

Yukon
Environment

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APPENDIX B – GOOGLE CALENDAR SCREEN SHOT

Wildlife Viewing Events



Check out the calendar listings below for the most up-to-date information on our free walks and talks.

Google Maps (linked to from events below) does not always recognise Yukon place names and therefore is sometimes inaccurate. Don't trust the automatic map that is provided. If you need directions, please contact Wildlife Viewing and we'd be happy to help you get there.



[2014 Wild Discoveries brochure](#) 📄 1 MB
(summer and fall wildlife viewing events)



Today ◀ ▶ Print Week Month Agenda

| | |
|--|---|
| Friday, June 6, 2014 | |
| Weekend on the Wing | |
| 18:30 | Forest and Ponds along McIntyre Creek |
| Saturday, June 7, 2014 | |
| Weekend on the Wing | |
| Sunday, June 8, 2014 | |
| Weekend on the Wing | |
| 07:30 | Summer songbirds at Albert Creek with Ted Murphy-Kelly |
| 09:00 | Wetlands of Mary Lake |
| 19:30 | Life Before Snowball Earth: The Fossil Record of a Changing V |
| Tuesday, June 10, 2014 | |
| 19:00 | Ground Squirrel School |
| Wednesday, June 11, 2014 | |
| 18:30 | Riverside stroll |
| Sunday, June 15, 2014 | |
| 10:30 | Guided Hike on Grizzly Trail |
| Tuesday, June 17, 2014 | |
| 19:30 | Ione Christensen's "Birds of Spring!" |
| Wednesday, June 18, 2014 page is intentionally blank | |
| 19:00 | Orchid Acres |

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APPENDIX C – WILD DISCOVERIES POSTER SAMPLE

[See next page]

**WILD
DISCOVERIES**

One Fish, Two Fish

How do Lake Trout survive in such a shallow, warm lake? Learn about the unique habitats found in Dezadeash Lake and how they affect the fish that live there. Great for families!

Friday, July 25, 7:00 to 9:00 PM

***Meet at Rock Glacier Trail Parking Lot,
50 KM south of Haines Junction on the Haines Highway***



For more information, call (867) 667-8291,
toll free 1-800-661-0408, ext. 8291. Check for updates and new events at
www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca/viewing

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APPENDIX D – NEWSPRINT AD

Get to know your neighbours



It's time to get outside and learn about Yukon's wildlife. We are offering **free** wildlife viewing events this spring and summer. From bats and bison, to bugs and birds, there's something for everyone. For details call 667-8291.

Join us for exciting Wild Discoveries.

For more information, visit:
www.env.gov.yk.ca/events

