



NELSON DISTRICT ROD & GUN CLUB

Mailing Address: PO Box 16, Nelson, BC V1L 5P7

Indoor Range & Clubhouse: 801 Railway St, Nelson BC

Outdoor Range: 124 Porto Rico Rd (off of Hwy 6), Nelson BC

Website: www.nrgcbc.ca

Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/NelsonDistrictRodAndGunClub/?ref=br_rs

Newsletter April 2021



President's Message Howie Grant

Following our March Directors Meeting we have a couple of changes to our Board to announce:

Andrew Woodward has decided to step down as a Director with the Club, however, he has agreed to continue to coordinate Project Mapleseed events. Andrew has been a dedicated volunteer and a positive influence during his time on the Board and we certainly enjoyed working with him in that capacity. We are very fortunate to have long time member, **Derek Ludwar**, step forward to fill the position. Derek has dedicated many years of volunteer time with the Club and we are pleased to have him with us on the Board. On behalf of the BOD, we look forward to working with both Derek and Andrew in their new capacities.

Howie Grant
President NRGCB

Sheep Feeding Program Update:

Howie Grant

The warmer temperatures combined with the receding snow lines indicate the arrival of Spring and with that the sheep feeding program for 2020-2021 is entering its final few weeks.

Fortunately, this winter has been comparatively easier for the area wildlife, but our local sheep herd was still forced to face many challenges, including predators and traffic incidents.

The declining numbers of the mountain sheep in this herd is alarming. This year the count was 15, down 50% from the winter of 2017/2018. Between December 2020 and the first week of March 2021, three sheep were killed by cougars.

The lamb count was also extremely low this year which we believe is not only traffic related, but also because of the increased predator numbers.

On a happier note, we had more visitors to the feeding station than ever before. This not only helped raise awareness of the program, but it also resulted in unexpected donations from the public.

A kindergarten class and a subsequent group of grade one students from Salmo Elementary School attended the site recently. It was obvious that the children enjoyed the experience as evident by the continuous, interesting and challenging questions that were asked.

At this time, I want to recognize all those **volunteers** who brave the winter road conditions three times a week to place two bags of pellets, one bale of hay, ensure the salt blocks are suitable, patrol the area for predator tracks and ensure the mouse traps in the shed are set. Your efforts are greatly appreciated and the reason the program has been successful.

I also want to thank the **West Kootenay Big Game Trophy Association of Trail** for their partnership in this program and the **Salmo ATV Club** who make themselves available every fall to transport the hay and pellets to the site.

For those of us who have been there, it is a very special feeling when the sheep are casually feeding just a few feet away with the sun reflecting off the snow-covered hillsides. That feeling cannot be described.....you have to experience it.

See you next December when we start with another year of our sheep feeding program.



March 20, 2021. Fresh rub on tree at feeding station.

Photo submitted by: **Sarah Beaudoin**

BCWF 2021 Annual General Meeting:

All members of the BCWF are entitled to attend the annual BC Wildlife Federation Annual General Meeting. It will be a virtual (internet, Zoom type) meeting to be held on Saturday, April 24 and April 25 from 10 am to 2 pm on each day. There is no registration fee.

To 'attend' one must register. To do so your BCWF membership number and your email address are required. If you go to: <https://bcwf.bc.ca/2021aqm/>

You can register and the link to the meeting will be emailed to you.

A considerable part of the AGM will be devoted to debate of the draft resolutions. To view them go to: <https://bcwf.bc.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/02/2021-AGM-Proposed-DRAFT-Resolutions-Committee-Review-2021-02-13.pdf>

A Letter from the President, BCWF



Dear Board of Directors,

Given all of the pressure from the anti-hunting movement and the discussion about imminent changes to wolf hunting and trapping, we have a goal to get 25,000 completed letters by June. The letters can be found at: <https://bcwf.bc.ca/initiatives/protect-hunting/>

These letters will be delivered to the legislature to instill the importance of conservation, science- based decision making and hunting in British Columbia.

We are currently only at 5,465 letters out of a membership of well over 40,000; the Wild Sheep Society of BC is over 6,100 letters with only 1,000 members. We need to step it up.

I would like each of the regional presidents to personally contact their clubs electronically and over the phone to have their clubs share the letter with their membership and get it out on their social media.

I would like this completed by March 30, 2021. Please keep track of the clubs you contact and the date and report back to me.

If you need any support, please let me know and the communications staff will be able to assist.

In Conservation,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Bosch".

Bill Bosch



Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund

P.O. Box 100, Kimberley, BC
Canada V1A 2Y5

Dear Editor:

I'm sure your readers have noticed how out of whack wildlife populations are today. Increasingly, there are more predators than anything else. Ranchers in the Creston Flats report seeing as many as 20 grizzlies in their fields at one time. Other farmers report a dozen grizzlies on one small area. Some bears saw no need to hibernate this winter because food was available. If the government's decision to end the GB hunt was to multiply these predators, the strategy has worked! Every year for 20 years, they've told us there are 15,000 GB's in BC. This is of course, nonsense. And as spring approaches, we know the huge number of grizzly & black bears, wolves, coyotes and cougars will feast on our elk, big horn sheep, moose and deer. Dr. Vince Crighton, one of the world's most respected moose biologists, has a trail cam video showing two coyotes dragging 19 mule deer fawns to the den in just 29 days. Dr. Charles Kay, another senior wildlife biologist, tells of one grizzly bear killing 44 moose calves in a month. Government does not appreciate the impact of predators on young wildlife.

It is politically incorrect to say out loud there are too many predators. Some urban-based groups are calling for the end of wolf culls, the black bear hunt and for the protection of predators generally. These people are either ignorant or willfully blind. We've lost our woodland caribou. We're going to lose our moose, elk, deer and sheep, unless the politicians wake up to the reality us locals know all too well. It isn't roads that reduce wildlife populations and it isn't hunters or trappers. It is an imbalance of too many predators. We need access to hunt and trap these predators. We need wildlife management policy that stops the current direction towards predator pits. For goodness sakes, do not create more AMA's, VAC's and WMA's. The issue is not people and roads. The issue is predators. This has been proven in NE BC with wolf culls improving caribou populations and wolf reduction in Muskwa Kechika saving mountain sheep and moose. It can easily be proven here in the Kootenays, if politicians listen to people on the ground to do what is right, rather than what is politically correct. Please call the Honourable Katrine Conroy in Castlegar and ask her to help. She is Minister of FLNRO. She is a rural person and we need Minister Conroy to carry this forward.

Sincerely yours,

Carmen C. Purdy

*President KWHF
Director Emeritus The Nature Trust
Past President the BC Wildlife Federation
Past Chair the BC Conservation Foundation
Founding director The Habitat Conservation Fund*

Thanks for your support!



BECOME A CONSERVATION PARTNER!

The Annual Fee is Fifty Dollars (\$50). *This includes the 2022 KWHF Calendar to be mailed this fall along with a "Land for Wildlife" decal.*

Please make cheques payable to: Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund

BY Mail

Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund
PO BOX 100
Kimberley, BC V1A 2Y5

BY e-Transfer

You can send via e-Transfer
to this email:
KootenayWildlifeHeritageFund
@gmail.com

BY website

Apply online
via our website:
www.kwhf.ca



Name

Address

City

Province

Postal Cod

Phone


Email


Update PAL, RPAL CORE:

The PAL/RPAL/CORE courses are going ahead following the Covid - 19 Safety Plan. The March 6 + 7 PAL courses were successfully completed and the March 27 PAL and April 17/18 CORE are full. March 28 RPAL has a few seats remaining but any applicants will need to have a PAL already to apply.

The May 8 and June 6 PAL courses and June 12/13 CORE course all have room for more students. If these dates just don't work for you, there is a list for interest in future courses kept.

If interested in the currently scheduled or future courses please call, **Alan Bond** at 250 352-2289.

 A graphic featuring two speech bubbles. The top one is green and contains the word 'BUY' in white capital letters. The bottom one is blue and contains the word 'SELL' in white capital letters. The background is light gray with faint, repeating text '© 2019' and 'iStock'.	<p>HERITAGE MATCH .303 FOR SALE</p> <p>No. 3 Mk 1 "Sporterized" .303 rifle with standard military open sights. Ideal for the Heritage March Competition or as a back up hunting rifle. \$300 O.B.O.</p> <p>Contact Howie @ 250 551-1077</p>
---	--

 A photograph of a recurve bow with a wooden frame and a dark grip, resting on a light-colored wooden plank floor.	<p>Ben Pearson Cougar 64" Recurve 50# @ 28" Fast and Smooth \$125.00 OBO All offers considered Call: 250-304-7521. Days</p>
---	---



Martin Camo
60" Takedown Recurve
55# @ 28"
Solid Bow
\$150.00 OBO All offers considered
Call: 250-304-7521. Days

Archery News:

Range Officers:

Some of our indoor range officers are relocating away from Nelson. Thank you to **Jason Harmon**, **Sharon Woloshen**, and **Shawn Jezerinac**. Thank you for volunteering. You gave archers more flexibility in choosing days and times for the indoor range. We wish you well. However, we do have a new range officer stepping, **Matt Hawkins**. Thank you to **Greg Seidelin** whose dedication keeps the indoor range going successfully.

Archery Spring Fundraiser:



Mossy Oak Cap: Thank you to all of you who ordered our Spring Fundraiser baseball cap. Funds go toward finishing the outdoor archery range, replacing 3D targets, and the upkeep of the indoor range. The cap is made by the popular company, Pukka. It features our logo, BYOB, Bring Your Own Bow. We are selling this cap for only \$25. The metal slider in the back makes for a perfect fit.

It would make a great Easter surprise for your favourite archer.

Etransfer payment to Annette Smith

annette.spanky.smith@gmail.com

We really appreciate all the support.

3D Shoot, June 5 and 6, 2021. We have been optimistically planning for a shoot this summer. New targets have been purchased. A second moving target is being worked on and we are conspiring to create fun scenarios. Of course, this depends on our Public Health Officer's recommendations.

Some Club history: Did you know?



I've walked by this sign many times and wondered what our club's involvement was with this project. I found the following on our website: Here's the post from our **NRGC Website**.

Location: Lower reach of Cottonwood Creek in Nelson, BC

Client: Nelson Rod & Gun Club/Nelson Cottonwood Creek Restoration Committee

Objective: Establish native shrubs along banks of Cottonwood Creek. Stabilize eroding sections of creek bank using vegetated rip rap applications and create fish habitat.

Prior to this project, the banks along the lower reach of Cottonwood Creek were dominated by invasive weeds and grasses, especially Common Tansy, combined with areas of native brush cover.

In order to improve fish and wildlife habitat in this area, Adam Kowalyshyn of the Nelson Rod & Gun club contacted Terra Erosion Control Ltd. (TEC) to develop a native shrub planting prescription, excluding trees, due to proximity of the airport.

In the spring of 2006, a TEC representative visited the site and determined a list of suitable native shrubs and located suitable areas for planting along the creek. A total of 10 species of native seedlings were selected and obtained from local nurseries. The volunteers were instructed on correct planting procedures and micro-site selection. TEC supervised and coordinated the planting of these shrubs during the spring, with a group of volunteers from the Rod & Gun Club.

TEC also provided input and assistance to the volunteers with weeding and watering/fertilization of the planted seedlings during the season of 2007.

In the early spring of 2008, a vegetated riprap application was installed to stabilize two sections of bank erosion along the creek. A small section was installed below a storm water outlet and the other adjacent to a pedestrian bridge. TEC designed the treatments and supervised the work, which was carried out using TEC personnel as labour. The City of Nelson donated a backhoe and operator and the Rod and Gun Club provided a volunteer to direct traffic. In addition to the vegetated riprap applications, long live stakes of willow and red osier dogwood were planted on a sand bar within the creek channel to create "live shade" and further improve fish habitat. Adam Kowalyshyn from the Rod & Gun Club was instrumental in co-ordinating the logistics of this work.

As of the summer of 2008 many of the planted shrubs were doing well, although a portion of them had died. Overall the treatment has substantially improved shrub density along the lower reach of Cottonwood Creek and will provide additional riparian cover in the future.

And now you know...

Nelson District Rod & Gun Club

Ongoing Events:

Events could change depending on recommendations by the PHO.



Indoor Archery:
Refer to "Shared Calendar" for dates and times.



Social Gaming:
Sunday 4-9pm
Thursday 5-10pm



Ladies' Target Shooting:
Thursday at 6:00pm
Contact: Anita Bowers



Board of Directors
6:30pm

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1  SOCIAL GAMING	2	3
4  SOCIAL GAMING	5	6  6:30pm ZOOM	7	8  SOCIAL GAMING	9	10
11 SOCIAL GAMING	12	13	14	15  SOCIAL GAMING	16	17 CORE Course
18 SOCIAL GAMING CORE Course	19	20	21	22  SOCIAL GAMING Earth Day	23	24
25 SOCIAL GAMING	26	27	28	29  SOCIAL GAMING	30	

Ladies' Target Shooting: ladiestargetshooting.nrgc@gmail.com

Indoor Gun Range: <http://www.nrgcbc.ca/indoorange/>

Indoor Archery Range:

<https://calendar.google.com/calendar/u/0?cid=ZWw2Y3JuZWxsZTA0dnJraGYwdnE0MnQ0NThAZ3JvdXAuY2FsZW5kYXluZ29vZ2xiLmNvbQ>

Who Can Help?

EXECUTIVE	PRESIDENT Howie Grant 250-551-1077 hhgrant@telus.net	VICE PRESIDENT Richard Green 250-352-5609 scaler4@telus.net	PAST PRESIDENT Wally Kampen 250-354-4349 wally.k@shaw.ca	TREASURER Yolanda Manalo-Stewart Contact: Richard Green
------------------	--	---	--	---

DIRECTORS	Marvin Paisner Cottonwood Creek Indoor Firearm Range 250-229-5710 paisners@shaw.ca	Glen Mcken Fishing Forever/Cook 250-505-5006	Howie Grant Police Liason/Bighorn Sheep Volunteer Co. 250-551-1077 hhgrant@telus.net	Melissa Townsend 250-551-8207 mtownsend811@gmail.com
	Wally Kampen Conservation: Environment/Fish & Wildlife/Website/Hall Maintenance/Edward Jones Acct. 250-354-4349 wally.k@shaw.ca	Richard Green Fishing Forever/Key Master/Corresponden ce/ Edward Jones 250-352-5609 scaler4@telus.net	Alan Bond Nelson Italian Cdn. Society/Hall Rental/Club Historian/Edward Jones Acct. 250-352-2289 hallrental@nrgcbc.ca	Derek Ludwar Recording Secretary 250-505-4433 derekludwar@gmail.com
	Brian Beaudoin Trap Range/Ladies Shooting 250-551-4549 brian.kootrac@gmail.com	Naz King Outdoor Range 250-354-3335 nazyking@gmail.com	Warren Russell Outdoor Archery 250-551-7562 warren@WSRussell.ca	

COORDINATORS

Anita Bowers	Ladies' Shooting	250-354-2998	ladiestargetshooting.nrgc@gmail.com
Erin Franklin	Membership	250-551-7414	membership@nrgcbc.ca
Annette Smith	Newsletter/3D Archery Shoot Communication	250-505-2912	newsletter@nrgcbc.ca
Wes Smith	Indoor Archery/3D Archery Shoot	250-304-7521	wes.smith@shaw.ca
Alan Thompson	Cottonwood Creek	250-505-5376	alant2@telus.net
Al Walker	Security	250-352-9752	arwalker@telus.net
Jim Brown	Trap	250-608-9332	Jrb2740@yahoo.com
Vacant	Gun Show		
Calvin Hacking	Social Gaming		calvin.hacking@gmail.com
Andrew Woodward	Project Mapleseed	250-551-5050	nelsonmapleseed@pm.me
Frances Brown	Bylaws/Constitution/Policies Edward Jones Acct.		