



## SCOUT ISLAND NATURE CENTRE

[www.scoutisland.ca](http://www.scoutisland.ca)

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April 19 2022

Attention Ross Coupe  
Scout Island Fee for Service Report- Trail System for 2021  
Central Cariboo Recreation and Leisure Services  
Central Cariboo /City of Williams Lake Joint Committee

The year, 2021, again presented challenges related to flooding. Volunteers spent some time in the spring protecting infrastructure and cleaning up after the water went down. The flooding and damage was much less, so attention could turn to repairs from 2020 flooding and other trail maintenance, habitat enhancement and habitat restoration.

- The beautiful, functional wheelchair accessible front entrance of the Scout Island Nature House was completed with the electric door becoming serviceable. The next goal is to have the ramp to the Nature House built to replace the stairs.
- The broken parts of the Willow Trail and the Bull Rush Trail were taken apart and removed
- The volunteer team worked with engineer Ray Getzlaff (also working as a volunteer) to assess and design the new boardwalks. It was decided to replace the Willow Trail and Otter Point boardwalks first with a system that uses metal screw piles as the foundation, widen the boardwalks, and add rails for safety. This will cost considerably more than previous boardwalks as the screw pile foundations must be installed by a professional company. The total cost to do these two trails is \$138 000 cash and \$38000 volunteer time. Fundraising is ongoing and we are close to our goal so that work can begin in 2022. The Bull Rush Trail will be cleaned up and surfaced for seasonal use.
- Volunteer supervisor for the boardwalk repairs, Sean Donahue, has spent considerable effort getting permits in place for the work.
- The hardworking "Weed Warriors" have removed large areas of unwanted vegetation, especially near the lakeshore. This required 460 hours of Field Naturalists volunteer time. In addition, Ducks Unlimited and the Regional Invasive Weed Crew worked 156 hours- mostly on the west side of the Nekw7usem pedestrian bridge. We continued to encourage and work with others to avoid the spread of knapweed from the RC Cotton site to Scout Island (where currently there is no knapweed).
- A new kiosk was installed on the east side of the Nekw7usem pedestrian bridge. One information sign is installed on it. We are waiting for another one that the Williams Lake First Nations are producing.
- Ongoing habitat enhancement through tree planting and tree maintenance and irrigation. Extra efforts were made this year purchasing trees and shrubs that were planted at the pedestrian bridge. Additional plants were purchased for delivery this spring and others maintained in our nursery. The area to the east of the bridge was also seeded with a native

plant mix of grasses and herbs. Despite the heat the plants have established well (lots of watering was necessary).

We, again, employed a general maintenance person, Arnold Lucier, who worked with the volunteers to maintain trails, fix boardwalks, control garbage, and restore natural habitat.

Note the in-kind donations of volunteer time and materials for trails, habitat enhancement and restoration in 2021 totaled \$57,247 in value covering 1854 volunteer hours. In-kind donation of worker time from Ducks Unlimited and the Regional Invasive Weed Crew is valued at \$3420. See the attached budget for details of in-kind and volunteer time.

We are very grateful for the ongoing support from the Central Cariboo Recreation and Leisure Services funding. It allows the Williams Lake Field Naturalists to pay staff to help volunteers maintain the Nature Centre for nature and people. You will see from the attached budget that cash costs were more than the fee for service. Therefore, we are very pleased for the increase in support that is coming in 2022 through this fee for service.

Sincerely

Sue Hemphill  
Scout Island Nature Centre Executive Director

**Trails, Signage and Habitat Restoration Costs 2021**

Fee for Service Contract Trails System

**Who Was Paid**

Projects included: misc. repairs to boardwalks, weed management, restoration planting, new kiosk, flooding protection.

				Hours			
	Service or Materials	Cash costs	in-kind Donations		Value		
			note: value for hours ranges from 10/hour (student workers)-80/hour for professional or machine work				
			Project	Volunteer Hours	Inkind Value	Other inkind	value
						Ducks Unlimited and Regional Invasive Weed Crews Total of 156 hours @ \$20/hour	
Rona	bluebird houses plywood	321.62	invasive weed control	460	9360		3120
Grosso PreCast	kiosk	224.00	general outside help	60	1420		
United Concrete	half blocks	95.00					
Rona	lumber	147.88	information sign design and update	15	1200		
Smith Timber for kiosk	Kiosk	5,250.00	misc. jobs includes machine work front of nature house benches etc.	73	2582		
Don Lawrence	supplies for blind and floating sign	700.88	Includes machine work	119.5	4347		
Rona	lumber	40.07	kiosk includes machine work	56.5	1620		
Sean Donahue	MOForest - changes in/about a stream license	250.00	irrigation of plant sites	40	400		
Total for materials		7,029.45	habitat restoration assessment, id of plant species...	438	8800		
			Trail restoration projects-assessment				
Staff			clean up, includes machine work	139.5	3868		
			applying for licenses	18	720		
Arnold Lucier	grounds keeper	8949	engineer assessing, designing and finding contractors	50	7500		
<b>Total spent</b>		<b>15,978.45</b>	Planning meetings	46	1150		
			coordination, supervision of volunteers, report writing, fundraising for projects	300	9000		
<b>Income</b>			coordination of projects working with first nations	18	1440		
City/CRD Trails funding		12500	nursery native plant work	21	420	plants and seeds donated	300
SINC contingency funds		3478.45					
<b>Notes</b>			<b>Totals</b>	<b>1854 hours</b>	<b>\$53 827</b>		<b>\$3 420</b>
Total of inkind contributions		<b>\$57,247</b>					

Additional funding of \$2500 from Covid emergency funding and \$2000 from the CRD which was spent to purchase native shrubs and trees for restoration and enhancement