

**COLUMBIA  
CANOE &  
KAYAK  
CLUB**  
**Newsletter:**  
**June/July 2015**



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**BC and World Rivers Day: Sunday, September 27, 2015**  
**Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area sponsored paddle**  
**Meet at Creston Tim Horton's 10 am**  
**Cost: by donation**

**Memories of last season:**

**Kootenay River, Taghum Beach to Beasley**

**Saturday, August 23, 2014**

**Bobbie Maras**

A warm morning with fair skies greeted us on Taghum Beach, we were 9 paddlers in 2 canoes and 6 kayaks. This is a flatwater return-trip, if done before or after run-off and when the downstream hydro canal and Cora Linn dam are not drawing levels down. We set off about 10:30 am, the current and breeze up a bit from my recce a couple of weeks earlier, giving us a leisurely flatwater paddle downstream to a sandy beach lunch stop on the south shore, a short ways beyond the island near Beasley Bluffs. I've recently learned this island actually has a name, dubbed 'Pig Island' based on its history as summer graze for hogs by an early homesteader on adjacent River Farm. After lunch we paddled across the channel to a beautiful rock retaining wall along the railway tracks and followed the north shore back towards our put-in. Along the way we saw a family of Mergansers out for a swim, the only wildlife I noticed along this route that often has eagles, osprey and blue heron. The current and prevailing breeze gave us a bit of a work-out on the return paddle; everyone negotiated the narrows thru the old Taghum bridge columns to arrive back at the beach about 3 pm. It was a very good day. Thanks to George & Maurogo, Sarah & Greg, Elaine, Susan and guests Diane and David for joining me on one of my favorite paddling routes. .



photos by Diane Lines





Diane Lines' photos



photo by Bobbie Maras

### Moyie River

June 6, 2015

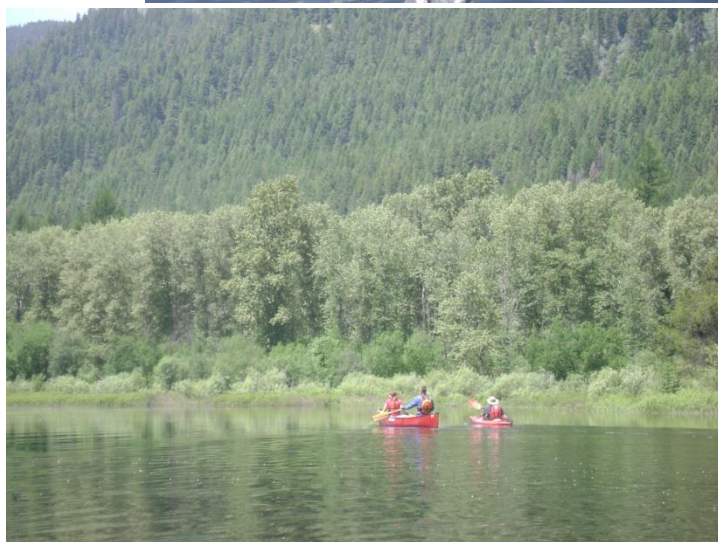
Lyn Gardner

After doing the 30 km shuttle, five paddlers in 2 canoes, 1 kayak set off from the south end of Moyie Lake heading for the take-out at Yahk Provincial Park. We saw a herd of 5 elk and two separate sightings of whitetail deer. At one point, a doe and fawn's bleats in the bush alerted trip leader, Kevin, to their presence, then the doe revealed herself

and swam the river to escape. The fragrance of wild roses was everywhere. Bunchberry flowers carpeted our lunch spot. Bird life included mergansers, Canada geese, mallards, red-winged black birds, dippers and one bald eagle on the riverbank that didn't move until Kevin got really close!

The placid sections of the river were interspersed with fast moving riffles. After km 15 (mile 9.4) where Irishman Creek enters on river right, there were a few logjams, blind corners, sweepers and debris—mostly collapsed cottonwoods. We lined the canoes in two spots. The water level was perfect—even in braided sections, there was just enough to paddle.

The most common time to take a swim is towards the end of a trip, when we're tired, in an easy section, when we pay less attention. Mel and Lyn rounded a corner and were side-swiped by a sweeper at head level. Fortunately, the water was warm and a grassy exit for self-rescue was handy. We estimated that the meandering Moyie was perhaps 45 km. + by river, resulting in 5 1/2 hours of paddling. Class 1+ (perhaps some class 2 due to sweepers). Paddlers were Lynne & Dave, Lyn & Mel and trip leader, Kevin.



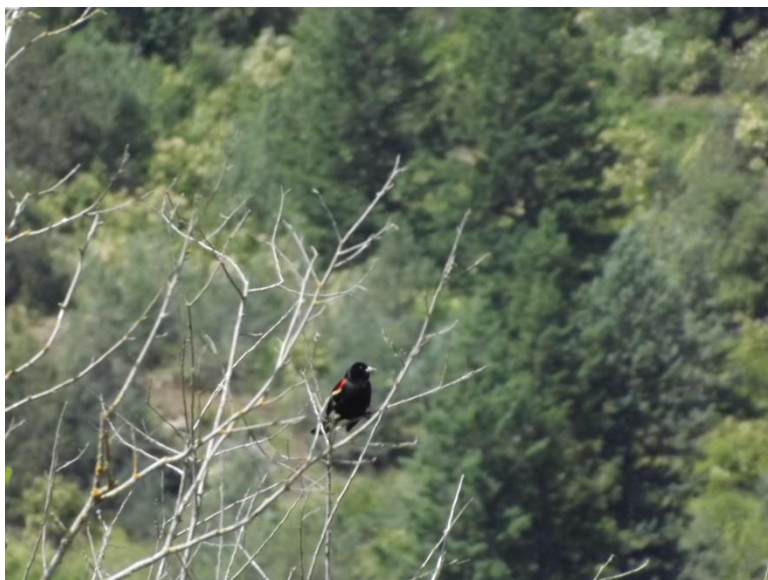
photos by Lyn Gardner

Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area, Summit Creek, Kootenay River June 14, 2015 Denise Wardle

Our **Canada Rivers Day** trip through the Creston marshes began with a 9am meeting near the wildlife centre. There were a total of 13 people in 2 canoes and 8 kayaks. Once all of the vehicles were shuttled to the take-out point we began. The weather was sunny and warm but had cooled off from the earlier hot temps. The water level was low at the put-in which made for an interesting launch. With only one mishap everyone was on the water. We snaked our way through the marsh, seeing lots of duckweed this year, passed underneath the highway and continued north. We soon came to our first portage and stopped to climb a bird watching tower.



There were a total of two portages which allowed us to practice getting in and out of our boats and there were many helping hands. With only a couple more slight wettings most of the group stayed dry. After a few hours we neared the end of the marshes and stopped for lunch. Everyone stretched their legs and found a spot to sit down. We enjoyed visiting and getting acquainted. Back in our boats we were soon on the river and more spread out. Some of the wildlife we enjoyed seeing were bald eagles, osprey, herons, and a cormorant colony.



photos by Pat West



Also seen was a deer running on the bank of the river and just as we finished our trip a moose was swimming across the river just past our take-out spot. It was a nice ending to a pleasant trip with beautiful scenery and great company.

Lower Arrow Lake – Syringa Boat Launch to Labarthe Tunnel Loop      June 27<sup>th</sup>, 2015      Cordie Moir



My first trip with the club, and I decide... unexpectedly...to do a wet re-entry...so you get my version of the trip!

Four of us launched our kayaks from the Syringa boat launch at around 10:30, in the morning. It was looking like a great way to be beating the heat (it hit 41 that day!). We had a pretty flat-water paddle down to the Labarthe tunnel and were privileged to see the pair of Osprey nesting, and one coming in for a landing on the nest, on the way down.

The tunnel offered some nice shade, and the water was high enough that we could paddle through without playing dodge-rocks.

The Arrow Lake breeze picked up as we crossed the lake, so we were all too busy paddling to chat much as we crossed and headed up stream to the beach. We landed and had lunch in the sand. Re-entry after lunch, I got to demonstrate my not so graceful wet exit and re-entry.... with the heat it was actually quite refreshing, and welcomed after the fact!

The breeze died down a bit for the last of our paddle back to the Syringa boat launch. Overall a great way to keep cool and get some exercise on a hot summer day ☺

Deer Park to Renata and natural arch

July 18, 2015

Pat West

Three kayakers braved the new adventure along the Lower Arrow Lakes. Dennis Holden, the expert on the area, and Lin Norton joined me to paddle and hike the shores of the Arrow Lakes. At Anderson Point, the Lighthouse remains



the same, while the boat launch has been extended and more parking added.

Paddling to Renata, the water level was very low.



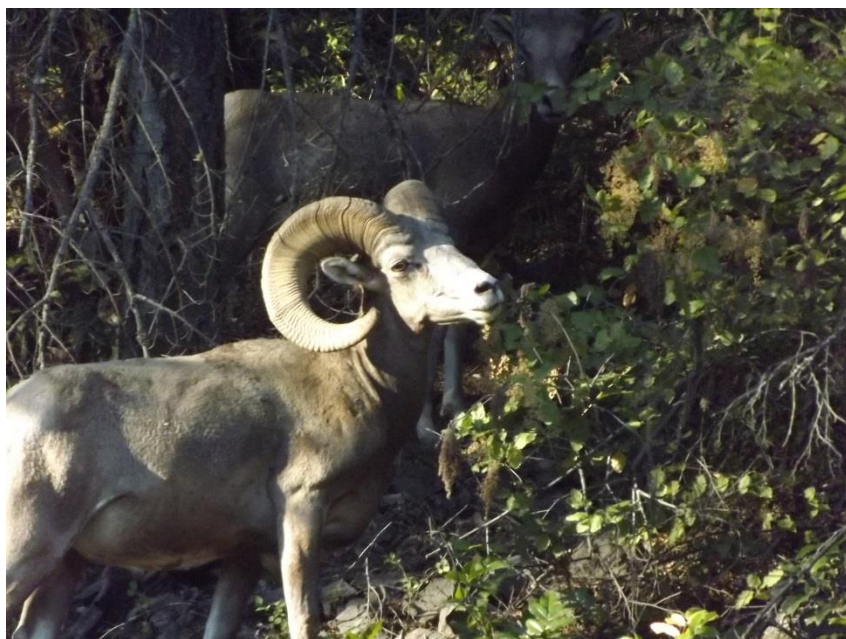
In fact, the birds look like they are standing out in the middle of the lake.



We paddled down the lake to the Natural Arch Trail Head. From there, we hiked to the Natural Arch.



Eventually, we paddled back to Deer Park with a bit of wind and waves. Dennis provided us with a cold drink to wet our thirst and some appetizers at his beautiful log cabin near the beach. While we were driving back to civilization, who should we meet on the road, but *Ovis canadensis* or Big Horn Sheep.



Photos by Pat West

A great day with fellow paddlers and delightful ending to our adventure.

## Columbia Canoe and Kayak Club Trip Schedule 2015

Please remember to contact the trip leader a couple of days beforehand for information and meeting place. If you have a last minute change of plans, please PHONE the trip leader as e-mails are not always read promptly. If you have suggestions for additional trips or if you can lead one of the trips with **no leader thus far**, please call one of the executive.

July 26 (Sun.) Slocan River. Kevin Forsyth 229-4938.

**August 8-17 East Kootenay Rivers week. Group camp and paddle on Kootenay, White and Bull Rivers. Grade 2+ to 3+. Come for all or part and enjoy the beauty of the Rocky Mountains. We need a trip leader for this week of adventures; contact executive.**

August 22 ( Sat.) Slocan River most likely the upper section from Slocan Lake; about 3.5 hour paddle. Henry Hutter 226-6994.

**Sept. 6 (Sun.) Kootenay Lake. west shore of south end of Kootenay Lake, put in at Balfour, paddle across the west arm entrance and explore the beautiful beaches of the west side of the main lake; looking for a trip leader.**

Sept. 18-20 (Fri-Sun) Garland Bay, Kootenay Lake. paddle the east shore of the north arm of Kootenay Lake; flat water, explore pictographs and Powder Creek, car camping at Garland Bay NORTH Rec. site (11kms north of Riindel). Come for the weekend or day excursions. Mel & Lyn Gardner 428-2854.

Sept. 26 (Sat.) Slocan Lake Boat Launch to Lemon Creek. Tour the Walter Clough Wildlife Sanctuary. Pat West 304-2656.

Oct. 3 (Sat.) Lardeau River. class 2+, spawning kokanee, eagles, and grizzly bears; to experience this river is why you learn to paddle. Dave Knox 354-3954.

TBA CCKC Fall Wind-up.

### CCKC Executive 2015

President: Dave Knox (250) 354-3954 [davidknox@usa.net](mailto:davidknox@usa.net)

Treasurer: Kevin Forsyth (250) 229-4938 [kf4syth@telus.net](mailto:kf4syth@telus.net)

Trip Coordinator: David Knox (250) 354-3954 [davidknox@usa.net](mailto:davidknox@usa.net)

Membership: Sue Port (250) 365-6056 [sbport@telus.net](mailto:sbport@telus.net)

Publicity: **VOLUNTEER NEEDED**

Newsletter: Lyn Gardner (250) 428-2854 [mgardner589@gmail.com](mailto:mgardner589@gmail.com)

RCABC Zone Rep: Allyson Phillips (250) 427-0210 [gorylla@yahoo.com](mailto:gorylla@yahoo.com)

Kootenay Zone rep. (alt.): **position available**