

**WildResearch Annual General Meeting
November 22, 2013**



Location: 1432 Kingsway, Vancouver

Date: November 15, 2012

Time: 7:00-7:30pm

In attendance:

WildResearch Board of Directors:

Paul Levesque (President), Christine Rock (Vice President), Mike Boyd (Director at Large), Jay Brogan (Director at Large), Emily McAuley (Director at Large).

WildResearch Members:

Russell Cannings, Pablo Jost, Philina English, Kim Dohms, Charlotte Adamson, Renae Mackas, Sadia Ramirez, Erin Goodman, Andrew Huang, Virginia Noble, Marinde Out, Willow English, Murray Lashmar, Agathe LeBeau, Kristin Aldous, Michael Arbeider, Catherine Jardine, Ian Thomas, Katherine Loewen, Courtney Lahue, Gwyn Thomas, Donna McKenzie, Alan McKenzie, Sara Mimich, Mikaela Davis.

Regrets

Elly Knight (Secretary), Kala Harris (Treasurer), Rachel Field (Director at Large).

1. Welcome and Introductions

- The meeting was called to order at 19:09.

2. Adoption of Agenda

- No additions to the agenda.

3. Approval the minutes from the 2012 Annual General Meeting

- Available at http://www.wildresearch.ca/documents/WildResearch_Minutes_AGM_2012.pdf

Motion to approve the minutes from the 2012 WildResearch Annual General meeting.

Moved by: Mike Boyd

Seconded by: Emily McAuley

*Decision: **motion carried** unanimously*

4. Elections

4.1. Board of Directors

- The following are WildResearch members in good standing and are nominated for the positions listed:
 - Treasurer: Emily McAuley
 - Director at Large: Mike Boyd
 - Director at Large: Jay Brogan
 - Director at Large: Sarah Nathan
 - Director at Large: Catherine Jardine
- The executive positions of President, Vice President, and Secretary are two-year terms ending in 2014.
- No other nominations made.

Motion to accept the slate of WildResearch members nominated for 2013-2014 Board of Directors into

the acclaimed positions.

Moved by: Alan McKenzie

Seconded by: Russell Cannings

*Decision: **motion carried** with abstention from Emily McAuley, Mike Boyd, Jay Brogan, Catherine Jardine.*

4.2. Iona Island Bird Observatory Operations Committee

- The following are WildResearch members in good standing and are nominated for the positions listed:

- Chair: Catherine Jardine
- Secretary: Michael Arbeider
- Board of Directors Rep: Paul Levesque
- Board of Directors Rep: Mike Boyd
- Member: Alan McKenzie
- Member: Christopher DiCorrado
- Member: Anna Szeitz
- Member: Jeremiah Kennedy
- Member: Pablo Jost
- Member: Andrew Huang

- No other nominations made.

***Motion** to form the Iona Island Bird Observatory Operations Committee and accept the slate of WildResearch members nominated into the acclaimed positions on the committee.*

Moved by: Emily McAuley

Seconded by: Jay Brogan

*Decision: **motion carried** with abstention from Catherine Jardine, Michael Arbeider, Paul Levesque, Mike Boyd, Alan McKenzie, Pablo Jost, Andrew Huang.*

4.3. WildResearch Membership Services Committee

- The following are WildResearch members in good standing and are nominated for the positions listed:

- Chair: Renae Mackas
- Secretary: Mikaela Davis
- Board of Directors Rep: Christine Rock
- Member: Virginia Noble
- Member: Jenny Auxier
- Member: Courtney Lahue
- Member: Kristin Aldous

- No other nominations made.

***Motion** to form the WildResearch Membership Services Committee and accept the slate of WildResearch members nominated into the acclaimed positions on the committee.*

Moved by: Emily McAuley

Seconded by: Michael Arbeider

*Decision: **motion carried** with abstention from Renae Mackas, Mikaela Davis, Christine Rock, Virginia Noble, Courtney Lahue, Kristin Aldous.*

5. Consider an amendment to the bylaws of WildResearch:

- The purpose of the amendment is to add a Lifetime Membership class to the organization.

From:

“3. Classes of membership

(1) There shall be two classes of membership:

- a. Student – an individual membership with voting rights and who is engaged in a course of instruction at an accredited educational secondary or post-secondary institution in North America
- b. Regular – an individual membership with voting rights.

4. Membership shall be established on payment of the appropriate dues by persons eligible for membership. Memberships are valid until the end of the calendar month occurring one year after purchase.”

To:

“3. Classes of membership

(1) There shall be three classes of membership:

- a. Student – an individual membership with voting rights and who is engaged in a course of instruction at an accredited educational secondary or post-secondary institution in North America
- b. Regular – an individual membership with voting rights
- c. Lifetime – an individual membership with voting rights that is valid for the lifetime of the member and is non-transferable

4. Membership shall be established on payment of the appropriate dues by persons eligible for membership. Memberships are valid until the end of the calendar month occurring one year after purchase, with the exception of the Lifetime membership, which is valid for the lifetime of the holder and is non-transferable.”

Motion to accept the proposed changes to the bylaws of WildResearch in order to add a Lifetime Membership class to the organization.

Moved by: Murray Lashmar

Seconded by: Russell Cannings

*Decision: **motion carried unanimously***

6. President’s Report (hard copies presented at the meeting)

- WildResearch continuing to grow & expand our programs
- Now in our 4th year
- 230+ annual members
- Added two committees to help with administration:
 - IIBO Operations Committee:
 - Built & installed the new banding hut with financial assistance from the Public Conservation Assistance Fund
 - Membership Services committee:
 - Volunteer scheduling, membership organization & communication
- Received over \$12,000 from the Sitka Foundation for the Iona Island Bird Observatory
- Received \$5,600 from the Public Conservation Assistance Fund to support the 2014 Nightjar Services
- Applied for Charitable Status with the Canadian Revenue Agency
- Daily Spring Migration Monitoring Program:
 - 42 volunteers
 - 2,700 birds caught
 - Thanks to Dan & Leena
- Nightjar Surveys for the 3rd season
 - Training workshop
 - 20 survey routes completed

- BC Butterfly Atlas
 - Cohosted a BC Butterfly Atlas training workshop with the UBC Botanical Gardens
 - Surveys
 - Attendance at Metro Vancouver's Butterfly Tea Party
- 3rd Pelagic Seabird Trip
 - 96 participants
 - Thanks to Russell Cannings and Mike Boyd for guiding.
 - Thanks to Pablo Jost and Alan McKenzie for trip logistics.
- Fall Migration Monitoring Program:
 - 24 monitoring days
 - 2,300 birds caught
 - Banding demonstrations for BCIT Conservation Class
 - Education workshops for two girl guide groups
- Restoration of native sand dunes
 - Assisted MetroParks with the planting of wild dune rye plugs
- Upcoming in 2014:
 - Winter Songbird Survival Monitoring
 - Identification workshops
 - Social nights
 - Indoor workshops
 - Butterfly monitoring
 - Nightjar surveys
 - Spring and Fall migration monitoring
 - Pelagic trips
 - Website redevelopment
 - Special thanks to Kala Harris and Doug Avery

Motion to accept the 2013 WildResearch President's Report.

Moved by: Catherine Jardine

Seconded by: Emily McAuley

*Decision: **motion carried unanimously***

7. Treasurer's Report (hard copies presented at the meeting)

- 2013 total income: \$43,788.71
 - Grants, donations, fundraising, interest, membership dues
- **Total expenses:** \$26,721.32
 - Administration, travel, programs, other
- Net income: \$17,067.39
- Total assets: \$41,501.77 (much of which is locked in grants dedicated to specific programs.)

Motion to accept the 2013 WildResearch Treasurer's Report.

Moved by: Alan McKenzie

Seconded by: Christine Rock

*Decision: **motion carried unanimously***

8. Iona Island Bird Observatory Operations Committee Report (hard copies presented at the meeting)

- Responsible for maintenance & upkeep of IIBO

- Installed the banding hut
- Installed a safety plan
- Generated an operating budget
- Improvements to the netlands & nets
- Upcoming in 2014:
 - Solar panels
 - Vegetation surveys

Motion to accept the 2013 Iona Island Bird Observatory Operations Committee Report

Moved by: Emily McAuley

Seconded by: Mikaela Davis

Decision: motion carried unanimously

9. WildResearch Membership Services Committee Report (hard copies presented at the meeting)

- Helping with membership contact & volunteer coordination

Motion to accept the 2013 Iona Island Bird Observatory Operations Committee Report

Moved by: Donna McKenzie

Seconded by: Murray Lashmar

Decision: motion carried unanimously

10. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn the 2013 WildResearch Annual General Meeting at 19:29.

Moved by: Alan McKenzie

Seconded by: Russell Cannings

Decision: motion carried unanimously



WildResearch President's Report 2013
by Paul Levesque

WildResearch has continued to grow in capacity and expand its programs this year. Now in its fourth year, WildResearch has 230 annual members and we have had to expand our administrative capacity by forming committees. In mid March, the Iona Island Operations Committee (OC) was formed to help with running WildResearch's Iona Island Bird Observatory (IIBO) in Richmond BC. In April and May, the OC built our new banding hut at the banding station, which was purchased with a grant from the Public Conservation Assistance Fund. If you haven't seen the new banding hut, drop by IIBO and take a look - it is very nice. In June WildResearch also formed the Membership Services Committee (MSC). Both committees are highly motivated and committed to their supporting role within WildResearch!

This spring WildResearch had great success with securing funding. In May, we received over \$12,000 from the Sitka Foundation to help fund IIBO for the next year and in June we received \$5300 from the Public Conservation Assistance Fund for use towards running our BC Nightjar surveys in 2014. Our Charitable Status application to the Canadian Revenue Agency has also been prepared submitted. Attaining Charitable Status is going to allow us to pursue many more funding sources- it will be a game changer.

Between 15 April and 31 May 2013, WildResearch conducted daily spring migration monitoring at Iona Island Bird Observatory. This spring an impressive 42 volunteers assisted with banding 2718 birds (2216 new birds and 474 recaptures). Special thanks to Dan Froehlich and Leena Tirrul for their efforts working as WildResearch's banders-in-charge this spring.

This summer, WildResearch conducted Nightjar surveys in the interior of BC for the third season. In May, we held a training workshop for the Nightjar Project in Oliver. There were a lot of motivated WildResearch volunteers in attendance, and they were all excited about getting involved and collecting data on nightjars. Despite uncooperative weather during the two survey periods, a total of 20 survey routes were assigned to volunteers this year for a total of 320kms to be surveyed across BC, as far west as Vancouver Island and as far east as the Kootenays.

WildResearch also contributed to the BC Butterfly Atlas project again this summer by co-hosting a BC Butterfly Atlas Training Workshop with the UBC Botanical Garden in June, organizing group butterfly surveys in Vancouver and Richmond

during May and August survey periods, and by attending Metro Vancouver's Butterfly Tea Party at Campbell Valley Regional Park in July.

WildResearch hosted its third Pelagic Seabird trip on Sept 15 for 96 participants from 4 provinces that joined the trip to sail to La Perouse Bank aboard the M.V. Francis Barkley. Highlights included Flesh-footed Shearwater, Manx Shearwater, and surprisingly, a Chestnut-sided Warbler! A special thanks to Pablo Jost, Russell Cannings, Mike Boyd, and Alan McKenzie for handling for logistics during the trip. Proceeds raised go towards running WildResearch's programs. The WildResearch board looks forward to offering the trip again next year.

This fall, WildResearch's IIBO fall migration monitoring program ran for 24 days between mid-Aug to the end-Oct. Forty-seven volunteers contributed 1093 volunteer hours to band 2339 birds (1981 new and 358 recaptured birds) of 48 species this fall. We also hosted banding demonstrations for BCIT's Conservation Biology class and two Girl Guide Units. A special thanks to Bander-in-Charge, Leena Tirrul, Director Paul Levesque, Volunteer Coordinator, Mikaela Davis, and all volunteers for their commitment to IIBO this fall.

Also this fall, WildResearch assisted Metro Vancouver with restoration work that involved planting 5000 native dune wildrye plugs at Iona Regional Park in areas where invasive Scotch Broom was removed. Thanks to the 17 members that helped with the planting and to Peter deKoning (Metro Vancouver), for inviting WildResearch to participate.

Looking forward into the winter, WildResearch will offer our membership events that include a Social Pub Night, Annual General Meeting, 4th Annual Volunteer Appreciation Party, Wildlife Identification Workshops, and a work party to prepare Iona Island Bird Observatory (IIBO) for the winter program. WildResearch members can stay informed about upcoming events by consulting their e-newsletter, which is prepared weekly by Director Elly Knight.

The WildResearch board is currently re-developing the website. Thanks to Director Kala Harris and web designer, Doug Avery, for their efforts in making the website more user friendly. We look forward to reaching a larger audience with the new website.

WildResearch Directors look forward to coming year and future opportunities to provide training opportunities and conservation projects to our dedicated membership. Thanks for a great 2013!

Members' Services Committee
Report to the WildResearch Board of Directors
2013

Prepared by Christine Rock

Background

The Members' Services Committee (MSC) was created in the spring of 2013 after discussions with the board about delegating tasks to subcommittees. The committee was formed with the goal of providing services to the membership at large and initially consisted of three members. We held our first official meeting on Sept 30, 2013 and have had one subsequent meeting. The committee has recently expanded to seven members. The expanded committee will meet in early December to divide up additional tasks to new members.

Projects

The committee has been tasked with communicating to WildResearch members and helping to facilitate membership participation in WildResearch programs and events through several mediums including:

- newsletter,
- FB, twitter,
- BC Nature magazine,
- email,
- volunteer sign-up software,
- thank you letters/cards, and
- in person at events and programs

The primary tasks completed by the committee in 2013 included managing the WildResearch email accounts (info@wildresearch.ca and iibo@wildresearch.ca), processing memberships and renewals, and organizing/scheduling volunteers to participate at WildResearch programs and events. Recently, MSC has also successfully organized its first social evening at SunRise Pizza and has assisted with organizing the 2013 Volunteer Appreciation Party.

Ongoing projects include:

- Soliciting new members and volunteers
- Processing membership and volunteer participants
- Reporting progress to BC Nature membership, WildResearch Membership
- Improving membership process
- Polling/surveying about membership satisfaction
- Tracking MSC financials
- Thanking volunteers, donators, and supporters
- Managing email accounts:

- Scheduling volunteers
- Drafting MSC manual (guide/training document)
- Organizing WR social events
- Selling WildResearch merchandise

Committee Members

The committee consists of a Chair, Secretary, WildResearch's Vice President and up to 10 additional members.

Current membership includes:

Rena Mackas: Chair

Mikaela Davis: Secretary

Christine Rock: WildResearch Vice President

Virginia Noble

Jenny Auxier

Courtney Lahue

Kristin Aldous

Iona Island Bird Observatory Operations Committee
Report to the WildResearch Board of Directors
2013

Catherine Jardine

Background

The operations committee was created following a call from the Board of Directors in the Spring of 2013. The committee was formed with the goal of overseeing and organizing the maintenance, upkeep and improvement of the Iona Island Bird Observatory. We held our first meeting on March 28, 2013 and have had three subsequent meetings.

Projects

The committee has been tasked to conduct ongoing maintenance of the net lanes, trails and banding hut, maintain and track station equipment and organize volunteer work parties where needed.

The primary task completed by the committee in 2013 was the installation of the pre-fabricated Banding Hut. This occurred over three weekends in May. The hut is currently in use at the station and the committee has plans for continuing hut improvements (closet, shelves, signage, bird shoot).

The committee successfully organized a volunteer party in August to clear net lanes prior to banding; these work parties will be held prior to the spring and fall seasons annually.

Ongoing projects include:

- Generating a calendar of yearly events and tasks the committee will oversee/complete (work parties, meetings, funding proposal dates etc.)
- Finalizing a safety procedures manual
- Generating a list of best practices when using the banding hut
- Creating a yearly operating budget for the station
- Updating and troubleshooting the stations data management system
- Altering how the net poll supports are affixed to the ground so the net lanes can be mowed
- Completing construction of hut improvements.

Long term interest has been expressed to develop a vegetation monitoring protocol for the station and a funding proposal for the installation of a solar energy system for the banding hut.

Committee Members

The committee consists of a Chair, Secretary, WildResearch's president and up to 10 additional members. We would like a call for interest in committee membership at this year's AGM.

Current membership includes:

Catherine Jardine: Chair

Michel Arbieder: Secretary

Paul Levesque: WildReseach President

Mike Boyd: WildReseach Director

Alan McKenzie

Christopher DiCorrado

Anna Szeitz

Jeremiah Kennedy

Pablo Jost

Retiring Committee Members

Jason Currier



**2013 WildResearch Annual General Meeting
Treasurer's Report**

	<u>FY 2011</u>	<u>FY 2012</u>	<u>FY 2013*</u>
<u>Income</u>			
Grants	10,000.00	4,600.00	17,779.80
Donations	1,220.00	413.50	265.00
Fundraising			
Pelagic Trip	19,591.17	16,325.00	17,800.00
Other	-	400.00	2,125.00
Membership Dues	3,260.00	3,545.82	5,795.00
Savings Interest	-	24.20	23.91
Total Income	<u>34,071.17</u>	<u>25,308.52</u>	<u>43,788.71</u>
<u>Expense</u>			
Program Costs			
Field Supplies	4,617.50	239.44	6,287.39
Contract - IIBO	-	5,070.00	5,560.00
General & Administrative			
Office Supplies	-	116.68	498.36
Postage, Mailing Service	-	-	6.62
Printing and Copying	-	-	36.94
Computer, Web & IT	-	200.33	182.67
Books, Subscriptions, Ref	-	-	6.97
PayPal Fees	-	422.57	524.67
Travel & Meetings			
Travel	-	1,071.38	1,323.97
Other Expenses			
Membership Dues - Org	-	1,893.00	2,366.75
Fundraising Expenses	11,388.65	9,038.40	9,552.84
Other Expenses	-	857.36	324.14
Business Registration Fees	-	30.00	50.00
Total Expense	<u>16,006.15</u>	<u>18,939.16</u>	<u>26,721.32</u>
Net Income	<u>18,065.02</u>	<u>6,369.36</u>	<u>17,067.39</u>
*Current Financial Position as of 30 September 2013		<u>24,434.38</u>	<u>41,501.77</u>

Report Prepared By: Kala Harris