



MINUTES

WildResearch Annual General Meeting 2015

Date: November 20, 2015

Location: 1432 Kingsway, Vancouver

Time: 7:00-7:30 PM PST

In Attendance:

WildResearch Board of Directors: Christine Rock (President), Jay Brogan (Vice-President), Emily McAuley (Treasurer; via Google Hangouts), Elly Knight (Secretary; via Google Hangouts), Michael Arbeider (Director at Large), Virginia Noble-Dalton (Director at Large; via Google Hangouts), Renae Mackas (Director at Large)

WildResearch Members: Thomas Plath, Stephen Partington, Gail Kennar, Ildiko Szabo, Peter Faught, Aaron Ritchie, Seth Bennett, Wayne Weber, Rose Marie Leong, Vanessa Smith, Darren Irwin, Murray Lashmar, Angela Bond, Paul Preston, Faye d'Eon, Conny Bregman, Pablo Jost, Francisca Olaya, Jesse Kemp, Gwyn Thomas, Courtney Lahue, Maya Merch, Mikaela Davis, Paul Levesque, Wally Heldon, Alex Dalton (via Google Hangouts)

Regrets: Sarah Nathan (Director at Large)

1. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS – Christine Rock

- Meeting was called to order at 19:09 PST
- **Welcome:** Local and remote introductions of board members.
- Additions to agenda? – None.

2. ADOPTION OF AGENDA – Christine Rock

3. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE 2014 AGM – Christine Rock

- Available at <http://wildresearch.ca/wp-content/uploads/2013/06/WildResearch-AGM-Minutes-2014.pdf>

Motion: To accept the minutes from the WildResearch Annual General Meeting.

Moved by: Christine Rock

Seconded by: Pablo Jost



Decision: Motion carried unanimously

4. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

- Presented by President Christine Rock
- See Appendix A

Motion: To approve the 2015 WildResearch President's Report.

Moved by: Michael Arbeider

Seconded by: Ildiko Szabo

Decision: Motions carries unanimously

5. TREASURER'S REPORT

- Presented by Vice-President Jason Brogan
 - Note that the current Treasurer, Emily McAuley, attended via Google Hangouts
 - Jason Brogan presented the 2015 Treasurer's Report as he was physically present at the 2015 AGM
- See Appendix B

Motion: To approve the 2015 WildResearch Treasurer's Report.

Moved by: Stephen Partington

Seconded by: Gail Kennar

Decision: Motion carried unanimously

6. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Presented by President Christine Rock
- See Appendix C

Motion: To approve the 2015 WildResearch Committee Reports.

Moved by: Gail Kenner

Seconded by: Angela Bond

Decision: Motion carries unanimously

7. ELECTIONS

- The following are WildResearch members in good standing and are nominated for the positions listed on the Board of Directors:
 - Vice-President: Elly Knight
 - Treasurer: Jason Brogan
 - Secretary: Emily McAuley



- The position of President held by Christine Rock, and positions of Directors at Large held by Renae Mackas and Virginia Noble are two-year terms ending in 2016.
- No other nominations made

Motion: To accept the slate of WildResearch members nominated for Board of Directors into the acclaimed positions.

Moved by: Christine Rock

Seconded by: Pablo Jost

Decision: Motion carries with abstentions from Elly Knight, Jason Brogan, and Emily McAuley

8. ADJOURNMENT

Motion: To adjourn the 2015 WildResearch AGM at 19:25 PST.

Moved by: Christine Rock

Seconded by: Gail Kennar

Decision: Motion carries unanimously

**Please join us after the meeting for our 6th Annual Volunteer & Member
Appreciation Party from 7:30 – 11:00 PM!**



APPENDIX A

WildResearch President's Report 2015



President's Report
2015

by Christine Rock

WildResearch turned five this year! With this milestone comes considerable reflection about our achievements to-date, as well as gratitude towards the supporters, members, and volunteers that have helped make the organization what we are today. As a volunteer-run organization, WildResearch continues to achieve a great deal, with our fifth year showing continued growth and development.

We marked our five-year Anniversary date by announcing the launch of the WildResearch Foundation. The foundation provides a long-term legacy for our organization, and will increase our and financial capacity as the foundation grows. We are extremely grateful to Founding Funders of the WildResearch Foundation, Ildiko Szabo and Eve Szabo, for providing the opening donation to the Foundation.

To envision and define WildResearch's future success, the 2015 Board of Directors embarked on a formal 2-day strategic planning session this fall. This included a review of our core programs, long-term funding goals for operations and growth of the organization, succession planning, and steps to increase our organization profile within and beyond BC. As a result of the weekend session, we developed a three-year plan to take us to 2018, and crafted a new mission statement for WildResearch that clearly communicates our mandate and priorities: *"...to build, education, and train a community that contributes to conservation science"*. A huge thanks to Stephen Partington for the generous financial donation that made this strategic planning possible, Kala Harris for coordination of the strategic planning session, Doug Avery for website updates to formalize our progress, Kwela Leadership & Talent Management for facilitating the session, and the Fairmont Vancouver Airport for their generous donation of the Canvasback Boardroom and meeting services.

Now in its fifth year of operation, WildResearch's flagship program, the Iona Island Bird Observatory (IIBO), continued to run our annual spring and fall migration monitoring programs, and our winter survivorship monitoring program is currently underway. Through those programs, WildResearch provided training to over 60 volunteers that contributed over 2000 volunteer hours towards IIBO, and provided educational demonstrations to over 400 visitors from Girl Guides of Canada, Nature Kids, UBC, BCIT, Fraser Valley University, and Thompson Rivers University. Capture highlights for 2015 included a Black-chinned Hummingbird (6th occurrence record of this species in Vancouver since 1962, and first record for Iona Beach Regional Park) this spring and a Swamp Sparrow (station first for IIBO) this fall. A BIG thank you to the Sitka Foundation for significant financial contributions that funded the Fall Migration Monitoring Program and allowed contracting our seasonal staff, including extraordinarily hard working Banders-in-Charge, Anna Szeitz, Andrew Huang, Azim Shariff, and Paul Levesque, and Banding Assistant, Paul Preston. Thanks also to volunteer coordinators Renae Mackas and Mikaela Davis, and to Metro Vancouver Regional Park's for their role in making IIBO a success.

Our significant 2014 Nightjar Survey program expansion was sustained in 2015. Led by Secretary and Program Manager, Elly Knight, WildResearch enlisted the support from the over 100 volunteers that completed over 156 survey routes across BC. A 2015 pilot program, initiated under WildResearch in Alberta and Saskatchewan, saw the completion of an additional 7 and 5 routes, respectively. This program's data contributions and research focus continues to lead the way in

terms of our knowledge of Common Poorwill and Common Nighthawk in the province of BC. Results will be presented in the 2015 Nightjar Survey Annual Report and in peer-reviewed papers. This year WildResearch also participated in national meetings to discuss standardized nightjar protocols, began working with the Community Mapping Network to host an online data atlas, hosted six survey orientation sessions across BC, initiated a new partnership with University of Alberta's Bioacoustic Unit, and began regular correspondence with nightjar volunteers through production of a bi-monthly nightjar e-newsletter! Funding for running this program in 2015 was kindly provided by BC Nature and the BC Naturalists' Foundation, MEC Capacity Building Grant, TD Friends of the Environment, Environment Canada's Science Horizon's and Bird Studies Canada's Baillie Memorial Fund. We sincerely thank Bird Studies Canada, the South Okanagan Similkameen Conservation Program, and many naturalists groups across BC for their support in promoting and participating in our Nightjar Survey program.

WildResearch kicked off the start of its third year of the butterfly program by co-hosting a well-attended Butterfly Identification Workshop with the UBC Botanical Garden. The workshop was led by Treasurer and Program Manager, Emily McAuley, and attended by over 20 participants. WildResearch also contributed to the BC Butterfly Atlas project again this summer, 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.

Our fifth pelagic seabird fundraiser was held on September 20th, 2015, with 93 birders aboard the trip from BC, AB, SK, QC, and WA. This year's trip offered great looks at species usually seen at a distance. In addition to the usual Black-footed Albatrosses and petrels, everyone had a chance to see at least one Sabine's Gull, several Northern Fulmars, and a very co-operative Pomarine Jaeger off the stern that everyone could study in detail. In addition to avian species, a large Ocean Sunfish (*Mola mola*) was spotted loafing on the starboard side of the ship. Many people are to thank for organizing the pelagic trip logistics. Big thanks to Azim Shariff for chumming in the birds, Dan Froehlich for spotting and calling out birds, Roger Clapham for helping load the chum, Mikaela Davis for caring for the seasick, and the Captain and Crew of the MV Francis Barkley, for keeping us safe and going the extra mile to help us spot great seabirds. Thanks also to everyone that braved the rough seas to participate in our fundraiser! The trip has served as an important source of unrestricted funding source, contributing to wages for hiring our Nightjar Survey program coordinator over the last two years.

The strong community within WildResearch has been developed through 2015 pilot projects, events and workshops. In 2015 we initiated an Adopt-a-(Cooper's) hawk nest monitoring pilot projects. A total of 15 volunteers assisted with monitoring six Cooper's Hawk nests in the Lower Mainland, under the guidance of project lead, Vice President, Jay Brogan. We also ran several workshops for our membership including a fish identification led by Director at Large, Renae Mackas with assistance from Hemmera Biologists; bird identification field trips led by Jay Brogan with assistance from the key birders, a resume writing for biologists workshop with support from working professionals in non-profit, government, and private sectors. WildResearch also assisted with restoration events organized in partnership with Metro Vancouver Regional Parks to help restore the native sand dune habitat at Iona Island Regional Park. IIBO work parties led by Director at Large, Michael Arbeider and the IIBO Operations Committee offered more social time amongst members, as did the annual volunteer appreciation party; and quarterly social evenings organized by the Members' Services Committee. Our weekly e-newsletter, led by Director at Large, Virginia Noble, brings the organization together and gives our members a voice to share their research experiences. We have a lot of fun building, educating, and training a community that contributes to conservation science and are excited about continuing to find ways to foster an appreciation of nature!

It is with great admiration and appreciation that I, on behalf of the entire WildResearch Board of Directors, extend a heartfelt thank you to our membership and supporters in 2015, and over the last five years. I know that we are all excited to continue building this incredible organization and to remain a leader in conservation research, monitoring, and education.



APPENDIX B

WildResearch Treasurer's Report 2015

2015 WildResearch Annual General Meeting
Treasurer's Report 2015

	<u>FY 2013</u>	<u>FY 2014</u>	<u>FY 2015*</u>
Revenue			
Grants	17,779.80	14,655.00	59,791.50
Donations			
Regular	688.00	6,490.00	17,156.98
Foundation	-	-	30,000.00
Fundraising			
Pelagic Trip	18,200.00	16,000.00	18,961.00
Other	1,735.00	1,923.85	2,055.00
Membership Dues	6,845.00	8,693.00	8,120.00
Program Services Fees	1,380.00	200.00	1,652.85
Interest Income			
Regular	34.20	33.17	31.98
Foundation	-	-	487.11
Miscellaneous Income	-	-	75.70
Total Income	<u>46,662.00</u>	<u>47,995.02</u>	<u>138,332.12</u>
Expense			
Payroll Expenses			
Salary/Wages Expense	-	15,000.00	15,000.00
CPP - Company Expense	-	765.17	655.86
EI - Company Expense	-	460.60	394.80
Payroll Expenses - Other	-	0.00	100.00
Program Costs			
Field Supplies	6,301.94	9,526.96	11,598.48
Contract - IIBO	8,200.00	12,205.00	8,400.00
General & Administrative			
Office Supplies	540.62	1,040.28	934.88
Phone, Internet & Fax	-	154.58	496.02
Postage, Mailing Service	11.16	741.25	1,365.01
Printing and Copying	36.94	-	1,028.26
Computer, Web & IT	331.02	3,559.97	3,850.09
Books, Subscriptions, Ref	6.97	-	0.00
Bank Fees	-	-	5.40
PayPal Fees	554.21	569.07	621.05
Canada Helps Fees	-	3.90	30.21
Travel & Meetings			
Travel	1,323.97	2,953.35	2,323.84
Conferences & Meetings	-	0.00	1,427.32
Other Expenses			
Membership Dues - Org	2,366.75	2,778.50	3,283.50
Staff Development	-	-	13,104.12
Fundraising Expenses	9,552.84	12,887.16	10,128.41
Other Expenses	1,055.15	85.18	752.57
Business Registration Fees	75.00	150.00	0.00
Total Expense	<u>30,356.57</u>	<u>62,880.97</u>	<u>75,499.82</u>
Net Income	<u>16,305.43</u>	<u>-14,885.95</u>	<u>62,832.30</u>
	<u>41,148.10</u>	<u>26,262.15</u>	<u>89,094.45</u>

* As of Nov 18, 2015

Prepared by:

Emily Missyabit McAuley

Reviewed by:

Jason Brogan



APPENDIX C

WildResearch Committee Reports 2015



**Committee Reports
2015**

Members' Services Committee

by Renae Mackas,, WildResearch Board Representative

Now in its third year, the Members' Services Committee (MSC) is thriving with seven members that continue to make significant contributions towards building the WildResearch community. In 2015, the committee made great progress with communicating to the WildResearch members and helping to facilitate membership participation in our programs and events through several mediums including:

- WildResearch e-newsletter,
- WildResearch FaceBook, Twitter, LinkedIn,
- BC Nature magazine,
- WildResearch email,
- Volunteer sign-up software (Better Impact),
- Thank you letters/cards to donors and supports, and
- In person at events and programs

Highlighted tasks completed by the Committee in 2015 included managing the WildResearch email accounts (info@wildresearch.ca and iibo@wildresearch.ca) and processing of new/renewing members, providing input for weekly e-newsletters sent to our members, organizing regular social evenings, development of online resources and tools for our website, and assisting with organizing the 2015 Volunteer and Membership Appreciation Party. Other ongoing projects in 2015 included:

- Soliciting new members and volunteers
- Reporting current membership information BC Nature membership
- Polling/surveying about membership satisfaction
- Tracking MSC financials
- Drafting MSC and Better Impact software manuals (guide/training document)
- Organizing WildResearch social events
- Selling WildResearch merchandise
- Seeking employment and volunteer content for the weekly newsletter
- Organizing the "Where's WildResearch?" photo compilation
- Processing membership and volunteer participants in our volunteer management software (Better Impact)
- Thanking volunteers, donators, and supporters
- Managing email accounts

The WildResearch Members' Services Committee looks forward to continuing our ongoing projects, as well as implementing some fresh new projects in 2016. Stay tuned for more details!



**Committee Reports
2015**

Operations Committee

by Christine Rock, WildResearch Board Representative

The Iona Island Bird Observatory (IIBO) Operations Committee was once again instrumental to the operation of the Iona Island Bird Observatory (IIBO) in 2015. This year the Committee organized three work parties: two to prepare IIBO for spring and fall banding, and one to make and silk screen new bird bags. All three events were successful in bringing together groups to accomplish much work.

Ongoing projects in 2015 included:

- Maintenance and inventory of IIBO equipment;
- Ongoing maintenance and clearing of the net lanes, and trails;
- Interior repairs and improvements to the banding hut;
- Painting the exterior of the banding hut;
- Assisting with day to day operations of IIBO
- Compiling a list of tasks to be completed at the beginning of the work day
- Preparing an updated map showing IIBO net lanes
- Data quality control and quality assurance

Many hands do indeed make light work, and when people come together for a common goal, much progress can be made. We thank our supportive and dedicated members that volunteered their time to assist the IIBO Operations Committee with work parties!