

Our Wild Home - Notes Document

Include:

Big Idea: The story of the relationship of wildlife with the 3 groups and how it has been vital to our community

b) Take Historical Perspective: How can we overcome our current concerns, beliefs, and values to understand those of people in the past?

Writing and Designing Text: Have I used writing and design processes to plan, develop, and create engaging and meaningful texts?

Using Resources: Have I found diverse sources and evaluated them for their relevance, accuracy, and reliability?

c) How can we include important perspectives when telling our communities histories?

d) Quotes

Echoes Across Seymour: (source - the book)

- “The residents of Maplewood worked with District staff to create a Maplewood Local Plan that incorporated the environmental, social and economic values of the District OCP while still addressing the expressed needs of the Maplewood community”
- “The residents carried on to explore the concept of community sustainability in a green project aimed at solving many of the environmental problems generated by earlier industrial development. The results of the study were published as *The Maplewood Project in 2004*”
- Martin Chesworth was first municipal planner of DNV - Asked federal gov to do environmental study of intertidal Lands - “judged to be vital wild bird habitat on the North American Pacific Flyway and also a very important rearing area for young pacific salmon”
- “A wild bird trust was created to take over management of the conservation areas, and it was open to public viewing under supervision”
- (Maplewood Conservation Area) - “For over twenty years public interest groups lobbied to preserve this prime site as a wildlife sanctuary”

- 1992 - Area leased for 49 years to Environment Canada as Wildlife Conservation Area
- Wild bird trusts runs the flats - turned it into a “haven for wildlife”
- 1936 - Mount Seymour Provincial Park Established (677 acres) it is now 9000 acres
- Salmon live in Mt. Seymour Glacial Runoff Streams
- Al Grass (park naturalist and member of Vancouver Natural History Society) “describes Mount Seymour Provincial Park as home to a wide variety of birds such as hawks, falcons, geese, owls, woodpeckers, tanagers and various types of crossbills.”
- Mt. Seymour is home to shrews, voles, chipmunks, Douglas and northern flying squirrels, hares, coyotes, American Black Bears, mountain lions, bobcats, mountain goats and deer
 - “Black bears come closer to the nearby residential area each year and many locals have reported bear visitors in their back-yards. See the Blueridge chapter for more details”
- 2011 marked 100 years of natural park protection in BC (starting with Starthcona Provincial Park on Vancouver Island)
- 1998 Say Nuth Khaw Yum/Indian Arm Provincial Park officially established
- Indian arm has same species as Seymour but also red fox + “over seventy species of birds have been identified within the Provincial park area”
- Marine life: Harbour seals, five salmon species, sea-run cutthroat, steelhead, anemones, nudibranches, tritons, shrimp, clams, crabs and other shellfish and mussels
- Protected area of Twin Islands is a breeding ground

- “An especially spectacular event in Indian Arm is the biannual pink salmon run that begins in July and runs into October”
- 1985 - “Brothers Strato and Jim Malamas lease fish farm located at Orломah Beach site from owner Tom Hopkins”
- This business expands - in 1989 500 chinook salmon smelts delivered to Their company (called Pacific Aquaculture Ltd.)
- But in the same year in October they are forced to move their farm due to complaining neighbours
- 1989 - In November The DNV passes bylaw that fish farming is no longer acceptable inside parks, recreation and open-space zoned lands. There are no longer fish farms in Indian Arm
- Local Nations relied on salmon, shellfish and game to survive (for food, clothing, blankets, fat, etc.)
- A saying from these ancestors is “When the tide goes out, the table is set”
- “The First Nations cultures of British Columbia recognized the black bear in various ways”
- Part of traditional ceremonies and mythology
- “Bear meat was eaten fresh, or dried for the winter. Bear fat was used as a cosmetic and for mixing with pigments to make paint. The skins made up into robes, blankets and hats. Some First Nations continue to use black bears for sustenance purposes”
- 1982 - 86 - “Approximately 60,000 coho salmon eggs transplanted into McCartney Creek from the Capilano Fish Hatchery”
- 1991 - 92 “North Vancouver School District releases coho salmon in McCartney Creek” - I find this interesting as I was a part of these releases throughout elementary school
- 1999-2000 “Blueridge Community Association undertakes five major projects to enhance fish passage in McCartney Creek”

- Eagles and owls are also prominent wildlife of the North Shore
- “Roche Point Forest was a unique habitat, home to the largest diversity of trees, plants and shrubs” in the lower mainland for a location of its size.
- Roche point forest has Douglas fir and western red cedar. This habitat provides home for endangered species marbled murrelet and the Pacific water shrew
- Giant bald eagles nest in Roche point at end of Dollar road. Nest thought to have been used up to 60 years prior to being discovered (by Environmentalists).
- “Girl Guides set about lobbying the DNV council to agree to a 10-m (33-ft) buffer zone to protect the eagles’ nest”
- Eagles eventually got 40 m buffer zone
- “Even though the eagles’ nest survived the residential development of Roche Point some eagles were less fortunate. In February 2005 a mass culling of bald eagles occurred in the North Vancouver/Squamish Corridor”
- In deep cove “Bear sightings are common and regular”
- “Bear watch programs attempt to educate us on how to live alongside one another”

2005 Eagle Slaughter (source: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/hundreds-of-eagles-slaughtered-annually-1.565234>)

- “As many as 500 bald eagles are being killed every year in southwestern B.C. by a poaching and smuggling ring, says TIME magazine”
- Bald eagles are on Canada protected species list with 20,000 estimated in BC
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- Mutilated eagles found across NV

- Eagles smuggled to the US as birds are worth up to \$1,000
- \$50,000 Provincial fine for first offence
- Bald eagles are on Canada protected species list with 20,000 estimated in BC

Echoes Across the Inlet (source: see book)

- The Tsleil-Waututh have always respected the Wolf. There is a legend that a man raised by wolves who met a woman in the canyon of the Fraser River who returned to the Inlet and started the Tsleil-Waututh
- Chief Dan George claims that his “great great grandfather Watsukl always walked with a wolf”
- “Fish was an essential part of their daily diet”
- They ate salmon, halibut, herring, trout, oolichan, perch, sole, smelt, cod and sturgeon
- They also ate shellfish and birds
- Meat and bone marrow eaten
- Stomach used as container for fat
- Bones used for tools like awls
- Hooves used to make leg rattles
- Skin and fur made blankets and clothing
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- “The Indians felt close to the animal world and had many beliefs and legends about all creatures”
- Legend about after the great flood an eagle caught a fish for the only survivor so the First Nations had “a strong bond with the eagle and it was never harmed”
- Loons and ravens seen as magical
- Wolves and beavers never killed because thought to be like people
- Meat and bone marrow eaten
- Stomach used as container for fat
- Bones used for tools like awls
- Hooves used to make leg rattles
- Skin and fur made blankets and clothing
- “Only men who received special power while training and were able to speak to the “animal spirit” could hunt the black bear”

Black Bear Shooting - (see source: <https://www.nsnews.com/news/black-bear-shot-in-deep-cove-1.24196836>)

- Fifth north shore bear killed in 2020
- Conservation Officer Simon Gravel said the bear had a long history of conflict with the neighbourhood and it was damaging property and eating garbage
- Plum fifth bear to be killed in 2020
- “It was extremely concerning in terms of public safety”
- “Unfortunately for such behaviour and level of conflict, relocating a bear like this is not an option for us”
- Community member Nancy Bleck said “She was a good bear. She was a really good bear. She wasn’t at all aggressive”
- She blames the problem on people who are putting up easy meals for bears and who don’t scare them off

Black Bear Taps Runner: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/black-bear-coquitlam-runner-1.5705377>

"It appears the bear had little or no fear of the runner," he said. "It wasn't like the bear was startled by the runner and reached out and contacted them. In this case, the runner stopped, and the bear approached the runner and then the bear hit the person's leg, so it's very concerning." Says conservation officer Murray Smith

“There are regular sightings of bears in and around the Coquitlam Crunch, he said, but this type of encounter with a bear is rare. His concern is that if the bear is losing its fear of humans, it could become more of a danger.” - NS. News

North Shore Black Bear Society: <https://northshorebears.com>

“We spend so much time enjoying their home, yet many have no tolerance for a bear being close to ours.”

- They advocate for people taking steps to not attract bears into dangerous situations
- Their about us says their aim is to collect data on black bears, cougars and coyotes in the neighbourhood and educate the community about what they can do to prevent negative situations
- A black bear was recently poached for it's organs (likley gallbladders and paws as their are believed to have medicinal benefits by some) (In Cypress Bowl)
- "They're part of our culture, our life here. They were here first and we need to show them respect and learn to co-exist with them." - North Shore Black Bear Societies' Christine Miller (executive director)

Cougar shot in 2015 in Edgemont Village: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/cougar-shot-in-north-vancouver-was-close-to-school-1.3114321>

- Cougar was killing cats and raccoons near edgemont village and was killed
- Michelle Ellison said she was afraid to go out with her two young children because of the cougar
- Conservation officer considered this very threatening

Coyotes Killing Dogs: <https://www.nsnews.com/news/coyotes-kill-another-small-dog-on-the-north-shore-1.23274216>

- Roche point park a woman was walking Miniature Pinscher named Rolo and was killed

“You’re going to have wildlife in those mountains. There are cougars. There are coyotes. There are black bears. When you’re walking with a pet, you must remain extremely vigilant with that pet and keep it on a short leash at all times,” - Conservation officer Lonnie Schoenthal

Government Perspective on Wildlife: <https://www.dnv.org/city-services/garbage-recycling-and-green-can/zero-waste-programs/wildlife-awareness>

<https://www.dnv.org/programs-and-services/living-safely-wildlife>

- They say for protection of our wildlife “The best way to do that is by managing attractants”
- They believe protection of wildlife is important
- They believe education is crucial and provide many resources on how to coexist with animals

Hunting Crimes: <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/british-columbia/hunting-grizzly-bear-liu-guns-1.4974005>

- Illegal hunting procedures killing wildlife

Notes of how to write Good Text

- Every exhibition must have a big idea
- Need to consider the knowledge, age and interest of the audience
- Information must connect to something tangible (e.g. something reader can see, touch, listen to, etc.)
- The text must be clear and simple
- Mental overload prevents retaining of meaningful takeaway
- If the reader can relate to the information, it will take on greater meaning for them

- A meaningful text must reveal something instead of just stating the obvious
- A meaningful and engaging text will tell a story and why something matters; not just give facts

<https://www.inspiringquotes.us/author/3730-chief-dan-george>

<http://content.time.com/time/world/article/0,8599,1044649,00.html>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Maplewood_Flats_Conservation_Area

<https://www2.gov.bc.ca/gov/content/tourism-immigration/tourism-resources/value-of-tourism>

3. Paragraph

“If you talk to the animals they will talk with you and you will know each other. If you do not talk to them you will not know them, and what you do not know you will fear. What one fears one destroys.”

This poem written by Tsiel-Waututh Chief Dan George well encapsulates the complex relationship between North Shore communities and the local wildlife. The vast temperate rainforest surrounding us is home to a diverse number of land and marine animals, including American black bears, cougars, deer, harbour seals, five species of salmon and over seventy species of birds. These creatures have co-existed with humans for hundreds of years, and throughout this time many different perspectives have formed on how this this relationship should be managed.

Before colonists settled these lands they were the home of the Tsiel-Waututh people. In their perspective, wildlife was to be valued and respected with some creatures even believed to be the equals of humans. Animals such as ravens, eagles, beavers and wolves were considered sacred and not hunted. Wildlife was also highly valued for the necessary role it played in Tsleil-

Waututh life. An ancient saying goes “when the tide goes out, the table is set”, which demonstrates the importance fish and shellfish in this traditional diet. Animals such as deer and bears were also hunted; not just for their meat but for their furs, organs, bones and fat. Despite their heavy reliance on hunting, the Tsleil-Waututh only took what they needed allowing an era of peace to be shared between humans and animals.

Things began to change however with the arrival of settlers. The perspectives on wildlife shifted to focus heavily on its value as a resource with the introduction of trade and later industry. Fish farms such as the one operated by brothers Strato and Jim Malamas brought business and growth to Indian Arm, and concerns of environmental respect and preservation became less prominent. This perspective once again shifted however in the 1900’s as this unchecked industry spurred concern over sustainability. In 1989, a law was passed to ban fish farming in Provincial Parks, ending the business of the Malamas brothers. Other wildlife protection initiatives sprung up soon after including the establishment of the Maplewood Flats Conservation Area in 1992, the creation of Indian Arm Provincial Park in 1995 and the Blueridge Community Association’s projects to enhance fish passage in McCartney Creek.

Today, the relationship with wildlife and the perspectives surrounding this are still quite mixed, with a contentious point being the legal and illegal killing of animals. In 2005 a large slaughter of bald eagles occurred in the North Vancouver and Squamish Area. According to TIME magazine, annual eagle killings from a smuggling and poaching ring can reach over “500 of the protected animals on British Columbia's southwestern coast alone”. Another issue stems from the euthanization of dangerous predators. A number of cougars and bears have been shot in response to their interference with human activities and these

events have been met with intense debate. Some community members are upset over the low value placed on animal life while others believe it to be a necessary action of public safety. Officials can often stand closer to the middle, searching for ways to move forward with predators. The North Shore Black Bear Society is one of these organizations, with executive director Christine Miller stating quote

“The North Shore Black Bear's aim is to continue to reduce the accessible unnatural food sources (with the support of an enhanced attractant Bylaw that is enforced) so that bears will not STOP in residential areas, but just pass through. We will continue to educate residents about attractants, bear behaviour and bear safety so that any exaggerated fear is reduced while understanding and tolerance are increased. This will result in fewer preventable bear deaths.” end quote

The North Vancouver District Environmental Protection Officer Erika Nassichuk agrees with these aims, stating quote “I’d like to see the public’s awareness improve, I’d like to see people more willing to do things that might be a little bit harder to keep wildlife safe”. end quote.

With new sustainability and conservation measures being regularly put in place, North Vancouver has a bright future in reinstating a harmonious relationship with its wildlife.

Now and our Future

- Giant bald eagles nest in Roche point at end of Dollar road. Nest thought to have been used up to 60 years prior to being discovered (by Environmentalists).
- “Even though the eagles’ nest survived the residential development of Roche Point some eagles were less fortunate.

In February 2005 a mass culling of bald eagles occurred in the North Vancouver/Squamish Corridor”

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- Cougar was killing cats and raccoons near Edgemont village and was killed
- Michelle Ellison said she was afraid to go out with her two young children because of the cougar
- Conservation officer considered this very threatening

- Split perspectives - some residents very upset over the killings as they value the animal diversity, others believe it is necessary for safety or simply are not concerned, and authorities often have to keep a middling perspective to appease both sides

- In deep cove “Bear sightings are common and regular”

- “Bear watch programs attempt to educate us on how to live alongside one another”
- Plum fifth bear to be killed in 2020

- Conservation officers believed this was necessary. In their perspective an extremely important concern of public safety

- “It was extremely concerning in terms of public safety”
- “Unfortunately for such behaviour and level of conflict, relocating a bear like this is not an option for us”

- Many community members were concerned over how little value was placed on the bear's life. In their perspective a senseless killing

- Community member Nancy Bleck said "She was a good bear. She was a really good bear. She wasn't at all aggressive"

- She blames the problem on people who are putting up easy meals for bears and who don't scare them off

"We spend so much time enjoying their home, yet many have no tolerance for a bear being close to ours." - NS Black Bear Society in a news article

- "They're part of our culture, our life here. They were here first and we need to show them respect and learn to co-exist with them." - North Shore Black Bear Societies' Christine Miller (executive director)

- They say for protection of our wildlife "The best way to do that is by managing attractants"

- They believe protection of wildlife is important

- They believe education is crucial and provide many resources on how to coexist with animals in the future

- Our rocky relationship will hopefully be solved to return to harmony once known in these lands

2. Outline - Big Idea: The Story of our Relationship with Wildlife

a) Intro

- "If you talk to the animals they will talk with you and you will know each other. If you do not talk to them you will not know them, and what you do not know you will fear. What one fears one destroys."

- Mt. Seymour is home to shrews, voles, chipmunks, Douglas and northern flying squirrels, hares, coyotes, American Black Bears, mountain lions, bobcats, mountain goats and deer
- Indian arm has same species as Seymour but also red fox + “over seventy species of birds have been identified within the Provincial park area”
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- Marine life: Harbour seals, five salmon species, sea-run cutthroat, steelhead, anemones, nudibranches, tritons, shrimp, clams, crabs and other shellfish and mussels
- Roche point forest has Douglas fir and western red cedar. This habitat provides home for endangered species marbled murrelet and the Pacific water shrew
- Have co-existed with humans for hundreds of years, sometimes in harmony and sometimes not. Many different perspectives in what our role is in protecting and living with nature

b) Ancient Relationships

- “The Indians felt close to the animal world and had many beliefs and legends about all creatures”
- In their perspective, all animals were valued and respected and some were believed to be equal to humans
- Legend about after the great flood an eagle caught a fish for the only survivor so the First Nations had “a strong bond with the eagle and it was never harmed”
- Loons and ravens seen as magical
- Wolves and beavers never killed because thought to be like people - The same value placed on these wild animals as we place on our pets today

- A saying from these ancestors is “When the tide goes out, the table is set”
- Fish was an essential part of their daily diet”
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- “Bear meat was eaten fresh, or dried for the winter. Bear fat was used as a cosmetic and for mixing with pigments to make paint. The skins made up into robes, blankets and hats. Some First Nations continue to use black bears for sustenance purposes”
- They believed what they were given by the Great Provider was sacred, and so nothing was wasted, no environmental concerns and thus animals and humans lived mainly in harmony

c) Historic Relationships

- 1936 - Mount Seymour Provincial Park Established (677 acres) it is now 9000 acres
- 1985 - “Brothers Strato and Jim Malamas lease fish farm located at Orломah Beach site from owner Tom Hopkins” - First perspective of settlers belief that wildlife was an excellent resource
- This perspective slowly shifted to value conservation and address environmental concerns (relationship growing)
- 1989 - In November The DNV passes bylaw that fish farming is no longer acceptable inside parks, recreation and open-space zoned lands. There are no longer fish farms in Indian Arm

- “The residents of Maplewood worked with District staff to create a Maplewood Local Plan that incorporated the environmental, social and economic values of the District OCP while still addressing the expressed needs of the Maplewood community”
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d) Now and our Future

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“We spend so much time enjoying their home, yet many have no tolerance for a bear being close to ours.” - NS Black Bear Society in a news article

- “They’re part of our culture, our life here. They were here first and we need to show them respect and learn to co-exist with them.” - North Shore Black Bear Societies’ Christine Miller (executive director)
- They say for protection of our wildlife “The best way to do that is by managing attractants”
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