



NAME

NORTHWEST AQUATIC & MARINE EDUCATORS

One World—United by Water

August 14 – 18, 2016 • Metchosin, BC

Conference Field Trips



Join us this summer to explore this spectacular region of Vancouver Island!

For more information or to register, please see our conference website: <http://pacname.org/conferences/>

Connecting School Yards to Estuaries—A brief visit to the adventurous schoolyard of Strawberry Vale Elementary School in Victoria will enchant participants as they explore the site of a pond and native plantings. *Lenny Ross* will show how he imagined this area could be “undeveloped” to provide a safe and magical secret garden. *Nikki Wright* will then lead participants through the forests, creek and brackish waters of Tod Inlet (SNIDCEL—or Place of Blue Grouse). As the edge of the estuary we will form several smaller groups to canoe, play with the watershed model and marine science equipment, and handle artifacts made from plants with an Elder from a local W SÁNEĆ (Saanich) First Nations community.

Race Rocks Tour—Located just off the shores of Pearson College, Race Rocks Ecological Reserve boasts a rich and diverse ecosystem, home to hundreds of local marine species. Your field trip will begin with a short boat ride from the docks of Pearson College to Race Rocks, where you will enjoy a guided tour of the reserve and learn about the conservation, education and research projects which take place at this unique ecological preserve.

Fossils, the Marine Environment and Earth History—Join *Eileen van der Flier Keller* and *Cathy Carolsfeld* to discover a west coast treasure of ancient and modern intertidal life at Muir Creek, near Sooke. The sandstones and conglomerates exposed in these cliffs contain a rich assemblage of fossils, telling stories of the environment 20-25 million years ago. Through hands-on activities, we will highlight the educational value of combining life and earth

science activities in our classrooms and community. Explorations will combine biology, geology, and paleontology; model investigative skills; and allow participants to interact with the wonderful world of marine organisms - both living and fossil. Participants will take home a toolkit of teaching resources.

Pedder Bay Kayak Tour—Enjoy a morning kayak trip in Pedder Bay, led by the Pearson College staff. They will provide everything you need to explore the natural beauty of the inlet against a backdrop of the Olympic Mountains and maybe even catch a glimpse of the local wildlife! All levels of kayak experience welcome.

Tour of Bird Banding Station at Pedder Bay—Rocky Point Bird Observatory (RPBO) operates a Migration Bird Banding program daily on the property of Pedder Bay Marina, a 15-20 minute walk from Pearson College. We will begin with a short bird walk led by naturalist *Anne Scarfe*, and follow that with a visit to the banding station where you will observe the careful process of collecting birds from mist nets, and taking birds back to the banding station, where the banding and pertinent bird information is taken.

Wondrous Wetland Walk—Enjoy a leisurely stroll around Swan Lake while taking in the wonders of the land, water and its inhabitants. Meet Site Manager, *Jay Rastogi* and Executive Director, *Kathleen Burton*, learn about their excellent wetlands school programs, and explore this urban watershed that sees over 65,000 visitors every year.

