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Piercy To Puntledge Urban/Nature Hike: "Pam'S Ramble" (hiking)

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Wed Oct 22, 2014

 Leader: **Krista Kaptein**

 Co-Leader: **Don Kulak**

A watery walk through several watersheds with water coming from all directions! The day started in an atmospheric mist as we head south from the train station along the Rotary Trail parallel to the railway tracks.

In the woods south of Cousins Ave a footbridge was washed away at Piercy Creek so we diverted through Cousins Park at Creekside. We still had several interesting creek crossings ! Otto told several stories from his youth as he had fished in the creeks here.

After more wet footwork but dry skies we reached the south end of Arden where we passed Otto's childhood home (once a farm) where he had a paper route. Then we headed into the woods again passing the property of Otto's cousin who we met.

Heading northwest on the Comox Logging Road we came to the first crossditch which was now a deep creek , so instead of going through Arden Woods, had to backtrack to another detour - a future road going through a development being built at Arden & Cumberland Roads.

At Morrison Nature Park we chose not to do a longer loop but head for lunch at Morrison Common. As it began to rain we had a dry lunch at Kulak's Kozy Kafe.

With the rain bucketing down Otto headed back to the train station & the remainder headed straight for the Puntledge River rather than going around to Powerhouse Road & Masters Greenway. The Puntledge was an impressive torrent with lots of salmon in the side channels.

At Puntledge Park Don headed back & the rain stopped but the playground was now a river inlet with fish just about swimming up the slides. Roger got a chance to try his wader boots! while the rest of us got wet feet. By the time we returned to the train station we were mostly dry again.

Here is a link to our route including the paths not taken <http://goo.gl/maps/n9EEem>
Total distance 13.6 km, about 4-3/4 hrs including lunch.



Misty Morning
[Krista Kaptein photo]



Swept Away
[Krista Kaptein photo]



One Creek Crossing
[Krista Kaptein photo]



Another Creek Crossing
[Jana Tomanek photo]



No Crossing Here
[Krista Kaptein photo]



Dry Lunch Spot
[Krista Kaptein photo]



The Soggy Crew
[Bev Kulak photo]



Raging River
[Krista Kaptein photo]



Puntledge Inlet
[Krista Kaptein photo]

Common Mergansers in the

Surf
[Krista Kaptein photo]

Report contributors: Krista K, Tim P,

Participant list (7 of 7): Derek G, Michele H, Krista K, Don K, Jana T, Roger V, Otto W,

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