

# CDMC

# Trip Report

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Fri Apr 14 to Mon Apr 17, 2017

 Leader: **Juanita Wells**

 Co-Leader: **Janet Beggs**

Friday April 14th, 2017

Two vehicles left Courtenay at 1:15pm and headed towards the northern end of the island. After a brief fuel stop near Port McNeil at about 4pm, the group continued on into Holberg for an extremely pleasant dinner at the Scarlet Ibis. With tummies full we traveled on and reached our campsite near the trailhead at about 7:45pm. After setting up tents and a few rounds of dice most were in bed by 9:30 with dreams of clear skies and sunshine for the next morning.

Saturday April 15th

Rising just before 7am, the group packed up and donned their raingear and headed up the 17km trail just before 9am. Even with the relentless rain, slippery boardwalk, mud and blow down navigation the group was in high spirits. Arriving at Fisherman River just before 2pm the rain eased up and the sun poked through to warm us up as we had a much earned half hour break. Carrying on, the trail conditions were pretty much the same (icky!!) as the first half of the day but the rain finally eased up at about km 12 giving us some relief and we arrived at Hanson Lagoon at about 5pm. At Hanson Lagoon we were treated to the sight of a flock of Sandhill Cranes flying over. With only 2kms to go, the sky clearing overhead and bellies rumbling for dinner we hurried up the trail and arrived at Nels Bight about 6pm. Tents were put up in short order, dinner was eaten and after some socializing with the other CDMC group camped nearby, most headed for a much deserved rest by 9:30pm.

Sunday April 16th

After a leisurely morning sleep in, a visit from the Easter Bunny and goodbyes to the other group as they headed up the trail, we prepared for some beach and lighthouse exploring. With the group splitting into two, one group decided to spend the afternoon exploring the beaches only, while the other group headed up the trail to the lighthouse on the inland trail and then walked the beaches coming back. With the sun poking through and the skies eventually clearing off it was a lovely temperate day for soaking up the views and history. Everyone met up again at dinner time and shared tales of their day over dinner and campfire then turned in early, knowing that it would be a long day out the next day.

Monday April 17th

Getting up at 6am the next morning we were happy to see clear skies, but not so happy to pack up frozen tents!! Yes!, you read that correctly. With freezing fingers, we quickly packed up, ate breakfast and headed for the trail at about 8:30am. Even though most were quite tired, everyone buckled down and got to the business of getting it done and we reached our lunch stop at the river at 11:45am. With clouds starting to roll in above us, we carried on and reached the trailhead just in time at

5pm as the sky opened up. With anticipation, everyone quickly changed into clean, dry clothing and we all headed for a much deserved and anticipated dinner at the Scarlet Ibis in Holberg. Leaving Holberg with full bellies and fond memories of shared laughter, we drove back to Courtenay in pouring rain and arrived back at 11:30pm.

A huge thank you to all of you for your perservance and positive attitude on such a challenging trail!!

I had a splendid weekend and look forward to seeing you on future trips!! Juanita

(For information on the history of Cape Scott, please see the attachments below the photos)



*The deceptive beginning.....*  
[Juanita Wells photo]



*Obstacle Course (a.k.a the trail)*  
[Susan Osso photo]

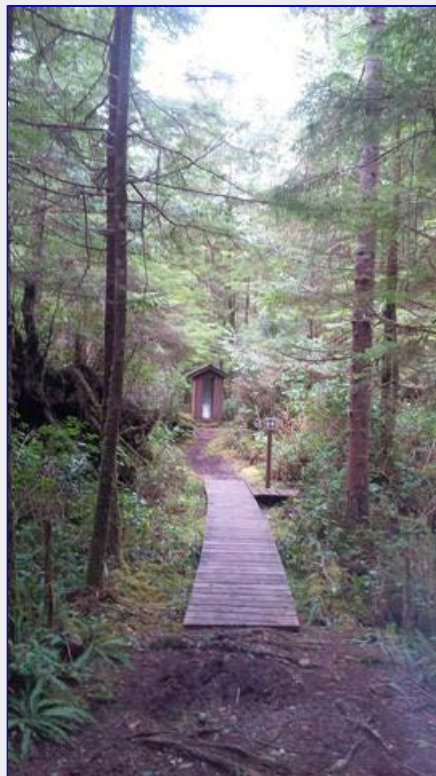


*Follow the Boardwalk*  
[Susan Osso photo]





*Lunch at Fisherman River - 8.5 minutes to go!*  
[Andrew Ireson photo]



*Who left the lid up!?!*  
[Juanita Wells photo]



*Follow the stream*  
[Melanie Bagley photo]



*Singing in the rain*  
[Melanie Bagley photo]



*Main highway*  
[Melanie Bagley photo]





*Keeping it all under wraps*  
[Melanie Bagley photo]



*Sunset at Nels Bight*  
[Andrew Ireson photo]



*Amazing beaches!*  
*[Melanie Bagley photo]*



*Guise Bay*  
*[Andrew Ireson photo]*



*Tree outcrop at Experiment Bight*  
[Andrew Ireson photo]

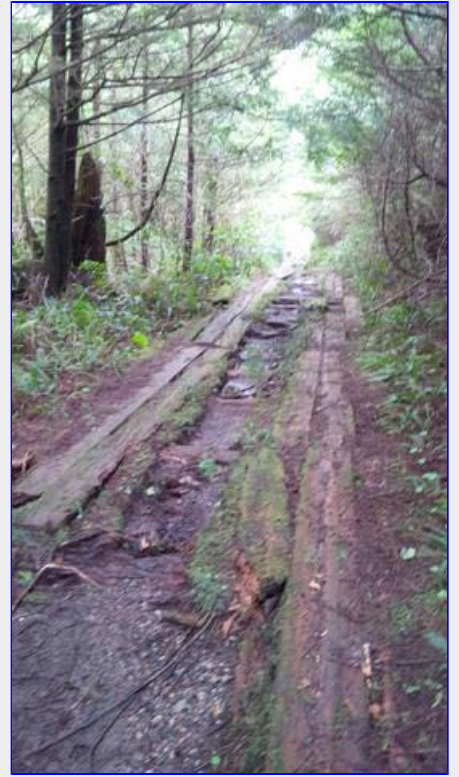


*Old telegraph pole on the way to  
the lighthouse.*  
[Juanita Wells photo]





*Crossing the Tombolo*  
[Juanita Wells photo]



*Remnants of the plank road to  
the lighthouse.*  
[Juanita Wells photo]



*Expansive Sky*  
[Susan Osso photo]



*So much fun to be had hiking!*  
[Melanie Bagley photo]



*Evening Splendour*  
[Susan Osso photo]



*Our camp*  
[Juanita Wells photo]





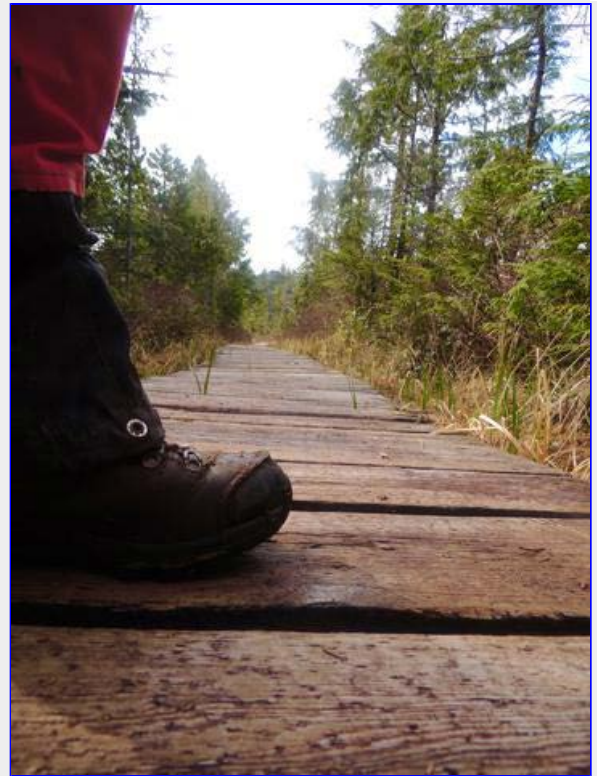
*One last look before we head for the mud! (Nels Bight)*  
[Juanita Wells photo]



*Hanson Lagoon*  
[Juanita Wells photo]



*A Frog's Oasis*  
[Susan Osso photo]



*Step by Step*  
[Susan Osso photo]



*Motley crew*  
[Melanie Bagley photo]

### **Attachments**

- [History of Cape Scott Provincial Park](#) (pdf, 295 Kb)
- [Radio Unit at Cape Scott During WWII](#) (pdf, 238 Kb)

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