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Wed Jul 15, 2015

Leader: **Pam Munroe**

Co-Leader: **Don Munroe**

10 eager hikers gathered at the train station in Courtenay and set out for Royston beginning our journey on the Rotary Trail which goes south from the train station along the E railway. This Rotary trail is graveled from 5th street to 26th street. Brush has been cleared from 26th to the connector and is expected to be completed in 2016. With a careful crossing of the connector we continued along the railway tracks, down through Millard Piercy nature park, across the highway and down to the end of Millard Road. From there we followed a right of way along the high tide mark which connects with the recently completed trails near the Royston Wrecks. At the wrecks, because of the extremely low tide, we were able to walk out to the tiny island where the hulks of these old ships rest. There was some excellent, recently installed, interpretive signage along the developed portion of the trail about the history of this area in the days of coal and timber hauling by rail.

Just past the wrecks the developed trail ends and we were again walking on the beach into Royston. Our lunch stop was the Royston Roastery where we had a nice lunch sitting on their outdoor patio and enjoying the luscious blackberries on the property.

About 1/2 hour into our trek back the skies opened up and we were all pretty wet by the time we got to the Airpark walkway, although the rain slowed down considerably as we made our way back to the train station.



Sitting on a log at Royston

[Don Munroe photo]



Walking in the rain

[Don Munroe photo]



At the Royston wrecks
[Don Munroe photo]

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