



The Step

22 November, 2012

BC Parks Volunteer Strategies

See the document on www.bcfloatplane.com/news & click to download the document.

Dear BC Parks Volunteers:

Since January, BC Parks has been reviewing and updating our volunteer program through the development of a Volunteer Strategy that has been directly informed by you, our valued volunteers.

Please find a copy of the BC Parks Volunteer Strategy attached. I assure you that we are committed to implementing the strategy in a timely and efficient manner. As components of the volunteer program are developed they will be available through our new online volunteer community (www.bcparksvolunteers.ca).

I am excited to report that based on your feedback, we have recently hired a Provincial Community Engagement Specialist to liaise with community partners, ensure consistency of our volunteer program and continue to engage with communities across the province. Ms. Becc Hoskins can be reached at Becc.Hoskins@gov.bc.ca or at 250 953-3428.

As promised, we are also continuing to work with Risk Management Branch on the development of a Group Insurance Program that we aim to launch in early 2013. In April 2012, BC Parks committed \$200,000 to support volunteer projects in parks and protected areas across the province. This funding has supported numerous community groups to carry out recreation and conservation projects over the past several months. From a historical trails project by UNBC Outdoor Recreation and Tourism Management students to a remote beach cleanup on Vargas Island with Surf rider Foundation, the projects have exemplified the diversity and impressive capacity of our volunteers.

Volunteers and other community partners are vital to the continued success of BC Parks. Thank you for all that you contribute to our world-class parks and protected areas system.

Sincerely,

Terry Lake

Minister of Environment

Parks Personnel flying with Volunteer Pilots (BCFA)

BC Parks has just confirmed that Parks Personnel are covered under their own liability insurance. This is not to be confused with (our) liability insurance. The document can be read on the website. www.bcfloatplane.com

Wanna be a BC Parks Project Volunteer?

If you think you may be interested in joining others in helping with Parks projects, please email logan@xplornet.com & let me know which Park(s) you live near. We will contact you with project dates & details when/if they come up. Thanks.

Parks lakes "End of season" reports

Go to: www.bcfloatplaneassociation.com to fill in your End Of Season report. First, you need to log in to get to the authorization button. Once logged in, click on the "Parks Authorization" button on the bottom left. You'll see the list of lakes you applied for... On the right side, click on "File Report". You'll see a text box for each lake... So just enter whatever info you have, even if it's "NONE".

Then click on "Submit" & you're done! Thanks. This is important to maintain our good relationship with BC Parks, & they really appreciate the info!

It's THAT time of year again

All memberships expire as of Dec. 31 so it is now time to renew. Log into www.bcfloatplane.com Once you log in you will see when your membership expires. Look for the button on the left "Pay membership dues" and follow the easy instructions.

New Membership Director is Mike Hirshfield hirshfield@shaw.ca

Also, it's a GoodThing to make sure your contact info is correct! Thanks.

Important Notice Re 2013 Membership Renewal

Remittance via PayPal is the smoothest and quickest.

Payment by cheque - until your cheque has cleared the bank, your renewal cannot be updated.

Should you need to remit by cheque, please mail to the new membership director -

Mike Hirshfield
PO Box 10109,
108 Mile Ranch, BC
VOK 2Z0

New BCFA Calendar Photos Needed!

We're close to selecting a new calendar printer/shipper, and need some good High Resolution photos to grace it this year. Please email your favorite floatplane pix to dave@airdave.com and from past experience, if you send one in, chances are great it will be on the new calendar! Thanks in advance ☺

Request for a volunteer

Our Membership Director is very busy this time of year, and could use some help with mailing out renewal forms/reminders to those who haven't renewed via the web site. Renewing is easy to forget, but important to keep our Member #'s strong. If you'd be willing to help with snail-mailouts this time of year, please reply to: membership@bcfloatplane.com You will be reimbursed for all exp's. Thank you!

Dease Lake - changes in aviation weather observing program

NOTICE OF CHANGE Dease Lake, British Columbia Change in Weather Observing Program

NAV CANADA, the country's provider of civil air navigation services, conducted an aeronautical study that reviewed the aviation weather requirements at Dease Lake, BC. The study concluded that customer aviation weather requirements at Dease Lake can best be met by closing the 7 hour per day, 5 day per week Dease Lake CWO and upgrading the limited Weather Information System (LWIS) to an Automated Weather Observation System (AWOS), retaining the VGSS and installing weather cameras. Weather observations will be increased to 24 hours per day, 7 days per week. Weather camera images will be viewable on the NAV CANADA Aviation Weather Website. Weather information will be available via the Voice Generator Sub-System (VGSS) which will broadcast the information on 128.7 MHz. Currently the hours of weather observations at Dease Lake are 7 hours per day (1500-2200Z†) Monday-Friday with TAF published for the period 1700-2200Z†. As a result of this study the hours of weather observation will be increased to 24 hours per day and the TAF will be published for the period 1700-0300Z†.

This change will take effect November 15, 2012 at 0901 Coordinated Universal Time (UTC). The appropriate aeronautical publications will be amended.

For further information please contact:

Brian Stockall Manager, Level of Service NAV CANADA Air Operations Centre
P.O.Box 9867

Edmonton International Airport, AB. T9E 0V4

Phone: 1-800-876-4693 Fax: 1-877-663-6656

Email: service@navcanada.ca

VFR Nav. Charts updates

Please provide feedback/comments to: langhaj@navcanada.ca

My name is James Langham and I am working with the Aeronautical Information Services unit at NAV CANADA. I am writing to inquire if you might be able to provide some contacts, within your organization, that may use the NAV CANADA VFR Navigational Charts. **We are particularly interested in getting feedback from Pilots who use these charts for float plane operations.**

Over the last year NAV CANADA has made changes to the terrain layer of its VFR Navigational chart series. The terrain layer includes contour relief, spot heights, water bodies, ice cap, and vegetation canopy. These layers are used to develop the composite background of a VFR chart as an accurate picture of the terrain as seen from the air. We are interested to know how our clients are making use of water elevation information on these charts. Any points of contact or assistance you could provide are greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

James Langham

langhaj@navcanada.ca

Quality & Safety Analyst

Aeronautical Information Services

NAV CANADA

613 248 6890

Heads up... Check your home insurance policy!

This from one of our Directors:

I recently had my house insurance cancelled because I kept my amphip Searey on my property. Fair enough that was their rules but what I was not ready for, was that my waterfront seasonal property on Sechelt inlet was also at risk. It was covered by a completely separate policy. Even though I might fly to my cabin less than half dozen times a year but if I tie up to my dock, at any time the insurance for my cabin would be invalid. Had my agent double check this as it just did not seem right that landing in the ocean or lake and then going to your dock, that your property insurance would be not valid. Their interpretation of this rule is that any airplane going to the owners dock at any time would render that insurance invalid. This would mean that if you flew to your house or cabin on the water whether in your own plane or commercially, that property insurance would be at risk. The insurance company that has this ridiculous rule is Canadian Northern Shield, so to prevent anyone getting stung check with your agent to make sure your insurance

company is not Canadian Northern Shield. I was able to find other insurance for the cabin and it even came out \$300.00 cheaper and they have no problems with any aircraft at the dock.

2013 PAMEA Symposium

(Pacific Aircraft Maintenance Engineers Ass'n.)

16-19 Jan. 2013, in Richmond

<http://www.pamea.com>

All Associations & individuals associated with aviation will be invited!

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