

# British Columbia (Mainly Vancouver Island)

July 30 - August 20, 1991.

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**How to go to ?** Charter flight Paris - London - Reykjavik - Vancouver (12 h !!).

**Locomotion :** we rented a camper.

The weather was fine, with numerous sunshine hours all the days but near Tofino were it rains all the day.

## Itinerary

July 31 : Richmond and Sea Island (Great Vancouver)  
August 1 : Surrey and Manning Park  
August 2 : Princeton, Keremoes, Osooyos, Gallagher Lake  
August 3 : Gallagher Lake, Vaseux Lake, Princeton  
August 4 : Manning Park, Hope  
August 5 : Hope, Horseshoe Bay (boat to Vancouver I.), Nanaimo, Port Alberni  
August 6 : Port Alberni, Pacific Rim National Parc (Long Beach), MacKenzie Beach (Tofino)  
August 7 : Tofino harbour (big storm !!)  
August 8 : MacKenzie Beach, Long Beach, Buckley Bay, Royston, Cumberland, Courtenay  
August 9 : Cumberland (Old Chinatown ponds), Nanaimo  
August 10 : Sooke (French Beach), Jordan River, Port Renfrew (harbour)  
August 11 : Port Renfrew (Botanical Beach, Marina)  
August 12 : Port Renfrew (Marina), Jordan River, Saanish (Saanichton Bay)  
August 13 : Saanish (Saanichton Bay, Swan Lake, Mount Douglas Park)  
August 14 : Saanichton Bay, boat to Vancouver, Iona Island  
August 15 : Reiffel Refuge, Iona Island  
August 16 : Vancouver (Stanley Park), Burnaby Lake  
August 17 : Burnaby Lake  
August 18 : Burnaby Lake  
August 19 : Richmond (Richmond Nature Park)  
August 20 : Richmond (city), Sea Island

## Principal sites description

### A) On the Mainland

- Richmond (Great Vancouver), site # 1 :
  - Uncultivated lands and suburbia along Bridgeport Road.
  - Richmond Nature Park, small forest patch with numerous footpaths and a pond with two aquatic turtle species.
- Sea Island (Great Vancouver), site # 2 :
  - Right bank of the Fraser River southern arm. Suburbia with main roads, industrial area ; narrow scrubby waterside forest.
- Surrey (Great Vancouver), site # 3 :
  - Suburbia in a coniferous forest on a hill and agricultural area (grassland and bluets) in lowlands.
- Manning Park, site # 4 :
  - On the Highway 3, between Hope and Princeton. Old coniferous forests with very big trees. Lakes, footpaths, ponds. Many flowers (Tiger Lily). Mammals are numerous.

-Princeton, site # 5 :

Similkameen River banks, near the town. Narrow waterside forest on contact with residential and industrial areas. Dry coniferous forest easily walking. Numerous squirrels.

-Keremeos, site # 6 :

Stop on a parking 3 or 4 km west of the town, near the Similkameen River. Agricultural areas, heaths, cliff.

-Gallagher Lake, in the Okanagan Valley, site # 7 :

We recommend the KOA campsite, at the foot of a cliff, in a forest and near the Gallagher Lake.

-Vaseux Lake, site # 8 :

It is an Hot Spot for twitchers (birders ). We walk in two areas

- Nord-East bank of the lake. Beautiful waterside forest, reed bed, mosquitoes...
- semidesertic hills East of the lake.

Warning : Poison Ivy is a very abundant plant.

-Sunshine Valley (Hope), site # 9 :

Wetlands near the road

-Hope (left bank of the Fraser River), site # 10 :

Narrow waterside forest. The river is wide with muddy islets. Agricultural lands (grassland). Resinous forest on hills with small cliffs.

-Iona Island (Great Vancouver), site # 11 :

mouth of the Fraser River, intertidal areas, sewage works ponds

-Reifel Refuge (Great Vancouver), site # 12 :

vast wetlands managed for birds and tourists.

-Stanley Park (Vancouver), site # 13 :

more than 500 ha of forest, lakes and ponds in the city. The sea borders the park on the 3/4 of the perimeter. Numerous footpaths.

-Burnaby Lake (Great Vancouver), site # 14 :

Faune refuge. Long lake with a footpath around ( $\pm$  10 km). varied forests, swamps, reed beds...

## **B) Vancouver Island**

-Nanaimo (avoid at times of ferries arrivals !!), site # 15 :

- Long Lake. Touristic area
- Buttertubs Marsch Bird Sanctuary. Marsh with birding installations.

-Port Alberni, site # 16 :

- campsite and surrounding area. Suburbia with forest patches.
- Marina Pond. Small pond near the road
- Port Alberni Refuge. Wetland in an industrial area

-Tofino, site # 17 :

- Long Beach. Long beach with rocky islets. Small pond.
- MacKenzie Beach. Small beach with rocky headlands and nice forest :

-Royston, site # 18 :

suburbia on the mouth of a small river. Muddy areas.

-Cumberland, site # 19 :

ponds in forest.

-Jordan River, site # 20 :

vast bay at the Jordan River mouth. Dry forest. One of the better sites.

-Sooke, site # 21 :

French Beach. Small beach with rocky headlands.

- Port Renfrew, site # 22 :
  - harbour.
  - The Marina. Mouth of a river. Quiet campsite with many fishermen. Dry forest.
  - Botanical Beach. Bay without beach with fossil trees.
- Saanish, site # 23 :
  - Saanichton Bay. Indian reservation. Beautiful beach, muddy areas, ponds, dry forest, large scrubby area.
  - Sawn Lake. Birds refuge, but there are a lot of people.
  - Mount Douglas Park. Hill near the town. Astonishing view at summit. Go on foot rather than in car.

**Sites selection** : Manning Park, Hope, Iona Island, Stanley Park, Tofino, Jordan River and Saanichton Bay.



## **Birds** (in order of *NGS Field Guide to the Birds of North America*, Third Edition)

**Common Loon** *Gavia immer* : Common on Vancouver Island coasts. August 10 : 8 in front of Jordan River.

**Pacific Loon** *Gavia pacifica* : 1 imm. August 10, in front of Jordan River.

**Red-necked Grebe** *Podiceps grisegena* : August 8, 27 together Saanichton Bay.

**Pied-billed Grebe** *Podilymbus podiceps* : Seen all over lakes and marshes. Pulli August 8 Cumberland, August 9 Nanaimo and August 17 Burnaby Lake.

**Brandt's Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax penicillatus* : Adult, August 8, Horseshoe Bay. Numerous other Cormorants not determined are probably this species.

**Double-crested Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax auritus* : Any data all over the coasts. Common in Vancouver area.

**Pelagic Cormorant** *Phalacrocorax pelagicus* : 40 more, August 12, Saanichton Bay. Colony with pulli, August 16, Stanley Park, Vancouver.

**Green Heron** *Butorides virescens* : 1, August 13, Swan Lake, Saanish.

**Great Blue Heron** *Ardea herodias* : Common all over.

**Canada Goose** *Branta canadensis* : Very common all over.

**Wood Duck** *Aix sponsa* : only in the parks of Vancouver. Very common Burnaby Lake.

**Mallard** *Anas platyrhynchos* : present in all wetlands.

**Gadwall** *Anas strepera* : common in Vancouver area. Iona Island, August 14, 6 + 7 pulli. 19 flying, August 8, Buckley Bay.

**Green-winged Teal** *Anas crecca carolinensis* : August 15 : 123, Iona Island. Also in Reiffel Refuge and Manning Park.

**Northern Pintail** *Anas acuta* : August 11 : 2 at sea, Botanical Beach.

**Northern Shoveler** *Anas clypeata* : August 14 : 2 Iona Island.

**Blue-winged Teal** *Anas discors* : August 15, 2 Reiffel refuge.

**Canvasback** *Aythya valisineria* : 1, Stanley Park, August 16.

**Greater Scaup** *Aythya marila* : male, August 10, Jordan River.

**Lesser Scaup** *Aythya affinis* : August 15, 8 Iona Island. August 16, 3 Stanley Park.

**Black Scoter** *Melanitta nigra* : August 8, 11 Buckley Bay. This species is rare in summer.

**White-winged Scoter** *Melanitta fusca* : Common at sea, Vancouver Island.

**Surf Scoter** *Melanitta perspicillata* : Common at sea, Vancouver Island. August 10, 25 Port Renfrew harbour.

**Harlequin Duck** *Histrionicus histrionicus* : August 3, 4 Similkameen River near Princeton (probably breeding). August 11, 1 at sea Botanical Beach.

**Common Goldeneye** *Bucephala clangula* : August 4, 1 Sunshine Valley (Hope) and 3 Manning Park.

**Common Merganser** *Mergus merganser* : Common. August 6, 21 Port Alberny. Pulli : August 5, 5 Hope ; August 10, 3 Jordan River.

**Hooded Merganser** *Lophodytes cucullatus* : August 4, female with 3 juv. Manning Park.

**Bald Eagle** *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* : common all over the coasts. August 5, adult feeding 2 flying youngs Horseshoe Bay.

**Northern Harrier** *Circus cyaneus* : August 14, 1 female Iona Island.

**Sharp-shinned Hawk** *Accipiter striatus* : August 8, Botanical Beach.

**Cooper's Hawk** *Accipiter cooperii* : fairly common. August 12, Saanichton Bay ; August 13 Sawn Lake ; August 15 Reiffel Refuge.

**Red-tailed Hawk** *Buteo jamaicensis* : the more common Hawk on mainland. Rarer in Vancouver Island.

**Osprey** *Pandion haliaetus* : Widespread. Nest, August 11, Port Renfrew.

**American Kestrel** *Falco sparverius* : fairly rare. Pair + 1 young, August 2, near Keremeos. August 14, 1 Iona Island.

**Merlin** *Falco columbarius* : Seen only near wetlands. August 6, 1 Port Alberny. August 9, pair near Nanaimo.

**Peregrine Falcon** *Falco peregrinus* : August 5, near Hope, an adult male feeding a young female (this species is rare in mainland interior). August 13, Saanichton bay, catching a Starling.

**Ruffed Grouse** *Bonasa umbellus* : August 9, 1 male alarming, Cumberland marshes.

**California Quail** *Callipepla californica* : August 2/3, 6 adults Gallagher Lake campsite. August 12, 3 adults + 4 pulli Jordan River.

**Ring-necked Pheasant** *Phasianus colchicus* : pair + 3 pulli, July 31, Richmond.

**Sora** *Porzana carolina* : August 8, adult Cumberland.

**American Coot** *Fulica americana* : Ever numerous but widespread.

**Sandhill Crane** *Grus canadensis* : 1 (domestic ?) in Reiffel Refuge.

**Black-bellied Plover** *Pluvialis squatarola* : August 8, 3 Long Beach and 1 Royston. August 13, 1 Saanichton Bay.

**Semipalmated Plover** *Charadrius semipalmatus* : Common along coasts. 2 youngs Long Beach, August 6.

**Killdeer** *Charadrius vociferus* : All over on beach and muddy coasts.

**Black Oystercatcher** *Haematopus bachmani* : August 6, 3 MacKenzie Bay. August 16, 1 Stanley Park.

**Greater Yellowlegs** *Tringa melanoleuca* : 20 more, August 15, Reiffel Refuge.

**Lesser Yellowlegs** *Tringa flavipes* : 50 more, August 15, Reiffel Refuge.

**Spotted Sandpiper** *Actitis macularia* : widespread but not common.

**Whimbrel** *Numenius phaeopus hudsonicus* : August 10, 1 Jordan River. August 12, 1 Saanichton

Bay.

**Black Turnstone** *Arenaria melanocephala* : August 6, 38 MacKenzie Beach.

**Surfbird** *Aphriza virgata* : August 6, 3 MacKenzie Beach with Turnstones.

**Semipalmated Sandpiper** *Calidris pusilla* : August 10, 1 more Jordan River.

**Dunlin** *Calidris alpina* : August 6, 6 Long Beach.

**Western Sandpiper** *Calidris mauri* : Common on the coasts. August 6, 60 more Long Beach. Difference with *C. pusilla* is not easy.

**Least Sandpiper** *Calidris minutilla* : very numerous. August 14, 1000 more Iona Island.

**Pectoral Sandpiper** *Calidris melanotos* : August 15, 1 Iona Island.

**Short-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus griseus* : 30 more, August 15, Reiffel Refuge.

**Long-billed Dowitcher** *Limnodromus scolopaceus* : 10 more, August 15, Reiffel Refuge. July 31, 1 Sea Island. August 10, 1 Jordan River.

**Pomarine Jaeger** *Stercorarius pomarinus* : August 5, 1 at sea between Horseshoe Bay and Nanaimo. Rare here.

**Heermann's Gull** *Larus heermanni* : August 8, adult Botanical Beach.

**Franklin's Gull** *Larus pipixcan* : Iona Island, August 14, 1 first summer and 2 August 15.

**Bonaparte's Gull** *Larus philadelphia* : common on the coasts.

**Ring-billed Gull** *Larus delawarensis* : only in Vancouver area.

**Mew Gull** *Larus canus* : Only in Saanichton Bay, August 13 : 17.

**Herring Gull** *Larus smithsonianus* : apparently rare. August 6, 6 Long Beach.

**California Gull** *Larus californicus* : common on Vancouver Island coasts.

**Western Gull** *Larus occidentalis* : 2 adults : August 6, MacKenzie Beach and August 7, Tofino harbour. Hybrids with the following species are numerous.

**Glaucous-winged Gull** *Larus glaucescens* : very common.

**Common Tern** *Sterna hirundo* : only 1, August 12 Saanichton Bay.

**Caspian Tern** *Sterna caspia* : August 14, adult feeding 2 flying young.

**Common Murre** *Uria aalge* : August 10, 1 French Beach (Sooke).

**Pigeon Guillemot** *Cepphus columba* : common in front of Jordan River and in Saanichton Bay.

**Marbled Murrelet** *Brachyramphus marmoratus* : common in front of Jordan River, less in Saanichton Bay.

**Ancient Murrelet** *Synthliboramphus antiquus* : August 11, 3/4 Botanical Beach.

**Rhinoceros Auklet** *Cerorhinca monocerata* : August 10, 2 Jordan River. August 11, 1 Botanical Beach. Alcidae are very common, but determination is difficult because are often far for the coast.

**Band-tailed Pigeon** *Columba fasciata* : common Port Alberny and Burnaby.

**Rock Dove** *Columba livia* : rock breeding Gallagher Lake.

**Mourning Dove** *Zenaida macroura* : not common. 2, August 1, Surrey.

**Common Nighthawk** *Chordeiles minor* : August 11, Port Renfrew. August 18, Burnaby.

**Black Swift** *Cypseloides niger* : August 5, Port Alberny.

**Vaux's Swift** *Chaetura vauxi* : widespread in small number.

**White-throated Swift** *Aeronautes saxatilis* : colonies at Gallagher Lake ( $\pm$  15 birds) and Vaseux

Lake ( $\pm$  10). 1 vagrant, August 13, Mount Douglas Park (Saanish) is the second for Vancouver Island.

**Anna's Hummingbird** *Calypte anna* : August 12, Saanichton Bay campsite on bramble flowers.

**Rufous Hummingbird** *Selasphorus rufus* : 2, very aggressive, August 4, at a feeding site, Manning Park.

**Belted Kingfisher** *Ceryle alcyon* : widespread at sea and on rivers and lakes.

**Northern Flicker** *Colaptes auratus cafer* : widespread.

**Lewis' Woodpecker** *Melanerpes lewis* : August 2, Gallagher Lake campsite, 2 adults feeding 1 flying young. Catch flying insects.

**Downy Woodpecker** *Picoides pubescens* : widespread.

**Hairy Woodpecker** *Picoides villosus* : 2, Port Alberni, August 5.

**Three-toed Woodpecker** *Picoides tridactylus* : 1, Princeton, August 2 at very low altitude.

**Pileated Woodpecker** *Dryocopus pileatus* : 2, flying, Botanical Beach, August 11 and 2, feeding, Mount Douglas Park, August 13. The late seen 10 minutes, very nice.

**Eastern Kingbird** *Tyrannus tyrannus* : 5/6, Vaseux Lake, August 3 and 1, Burnaby Lake, August 17.

**Western Kingbird** *Tyrannus verticalis* : rare.

**Olive-sided Flycatcher** *Contopus borealis* : August 5, Port Alberni.

**Western Wood-Pewee** *Contopus sordidulus* : widespread and easy to determine.

**Hammond's Flycatcher** *Empidonax hammondi* : August 11, Botanical Beach.

**Western Flycatcher** *Empidonax difficilis* : 1 more, August 18, Burnaby Lake.

**Warbling Vireo** *Vireo gilvus* : very common. 5 more singers, Burnaby Lake, August 17.

**Steller's Jay** *Cyanocitta stelleri* : common and widespread.

**Gray Jay** *Perisoreus canadensis* : 1, Port Renfrew, August 10.

**Clark's Nutcracker** *Nucifraga columbiana* : Keremeos, Gallagher Lake, Manning Park. Very noisy.

**Black-billed Magpie** *Pica pica* : rare. 1, Gallagher Lake, August 3.

**American Crow** *Corvus brachyrhynchos* : not common. Not present at coast.

**Northwestern Crow** *Corvus caurinus* : only at coast. Very common, also in the towns. 500 more, August 18, Burnaby.

**Common Raven** *Corvus corax* : widespread. Very common Manning Park and Princeton area.

**Tree Swallow** *Tachycineta bicolor* : only Vancouver and South Vancouver island.

**Violet-green Swallow** *Tachycineta thalassina* : widespread and common.

**Bank Swallow** *Riparia riparia* : rarely seen.

**Northern Rough-winged Swallow** *Stelgidopteryx serripennis* : only Vancouver Island. Nest as Bank Swallow near Courtenay.

**Cliff Swallow** *Hirundo pyrrhonota* : August 2, Osooyos, nest with pulli under a roof cornice.

**Barn Swallow** *Hirundo rustica* : common and widespread.

**Black-capped Chickadee** *Poecile atricapillus* : very common on mainland. 100 more along 10 km footpath, August 17, Burnaby Lake.

**Chestnut-backed Chickadee** *Poecile rufescens* : very common on Vancouver Island.

**Bushtit** *Psaltriparus minimus* : common, moving in great parties. 30 more, Cumberland, August 9. 27 Burnaby, August 18.

**Brown Creeper** *Certhia americana* : only Mount Douglas Park.

**Red-breasted Nuthatch** *Sitta canadensis* : widespread. Common in Mount Douglas Park.

**Pygmy Nuthatch** *Sitta pygmaea* : Gallagher Lake, August 2.

**House Wren** *Troglodytes aedon* : widespread on mainland.

**Winter Wren** *Troglodytes troglodytes* : common in forests.

**Bewick's Wren** *Thryomanes bewickii* : only at the contact between forests and marshes. Family, August 17, Burnaby Lake.

**Marsh Wren** *Cistothorus palustris* : widespread in wetlands.

**Canyon Wren** *Catherpes mexicanus* : Okanagan Valley cliffs.

**Ruby-crowned Kinglet** *Regulus calendula* : Richmond Nature Park.

**American Robin** *Turdus migratorius* : common all over.

**Gray Catbird** *Dumetella carolinensis* : only Vaseux Lake.

**Sage Thrasher** *Oreoscoptes montanus* : a vagrant, Surrey near campsite OKA , August 1.

**Crested Myna** *Acridotheres cristatus* : 2 adults + 2 young, Sea Island, August 20.

**European Starling** *Sturnus vulgaris* : common in towns.

**Cedar Waxwing** *Bombycilla cedrorum* : common all over.

**Orange-crowned Warbler** *Vermivora celata* : common in bushy area.

**Yellow-rumped Warbler** *Dendroica coronata* : 4, MacKenzie Beach, August 6.

**Black-throated Grey Warbler** *Dendroica nigrescens* : in bushes near Hope (riparian forest) and Port Alberni (gardens).

**Townsend's Warbler** *Dendroica townsendi* : coniferous forests of Vancouver Island.

**Yellow Warbler** *Debdroica petechia* : widespread.

**MacGillivray's Warbler** *Oporornis tolmiei* : very common.

**Wilson's Warbler** *Wilsonia pusilla* : rare.

**Northern Waterthrush** *Seiurus noveboracensis* : only Vaseux Lake.

**Common Yellowthroat** *Geothlypis trichas* : common in wetlands.

**Black-headed Grosbeak** *Pheucticus melanocephalus* : not common.

**Lazuli Bunting** *Passerina amoena* : dry hills around Vaseux Lake.

**Rufous-sided Towhee** *Pipilo erythrophthalmus* : very common.

**Savannah Sparrow** *Passerculus sandwichensis* : rarely seen.

**Song Sparrow** *Melospiza melodia* : common in all the wetlands.

**Chipping Sparrow** *Spizella passerina* : male singing, Port Renfrew, August 11.

**Dark-eyed Junco** *Junco hyemalis* : widespread but not very common.

**White-crowned Sparrow** *Zonotrichia leucophrys* : very common, especially in suburbia.

**Fox Sparrow** *Passerella iliaca* : this birds are very dark.

**Western Meadowlark** *Sturnella neglecta* : 1, feeding, near Keremeos, August 2.

**Red-winged Blackbird** *Agelaius phoeniceus* : especially in wetlands.

**Brewer's Blackbird** *Euphagus cyanocephalus* : Nanaimo and Reiffel Refuge.

**Brown-headed Cowbird** *Molothrus ater* : young fed by a pair of Song Sparrow, Reiffel refuge, August 19.

**Western Tanager** *Piranga ludoviciana* : only in the parks of Great Vancouver.

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* : common only in the great towns.

**Pine Siskin** *Carduelis pinus* : common in Manning Park.

**American Goldfinch** *Carduelis tristis* : widespread in open areas.

**Red Crossbill** *Loxia curvirostra* : widespread in small numbers.

**Purple Finch** *Carpodacus purpureus* : not common.

**House Finch** *Carpodacus mexicanus*. common in towns. Sometimes in great parties : 42, Saanichton Bay, August 13.

Mammals (A *Field Guide to the mammals*, by William H. Burt and Richard P. Grossenheider)

**Dusky Shrew** *Suncus obscurus* : 1, Burnaby Lake, August 17.

**Black Bear** *Ursus americanus* : Marina of Port Renfrew, August 12, 1 adult eating berries.

**Marten** *Martes americana* : Vaseux Lake (August 3), 1 hunting Yellowbelly Marmots.

**River Otter** *Lutra canadensis* : very nice observations of a family (2 adults + 4 young) playing and fishing in Port Renfrew Marina harbour, August 11 and 12.

**Sea Otter** *Enhydra lutris* : a party of 5 in front of Jordan River, August 10.

**Red Fox** *Vulpes fulva* : August 2, between Manning Park and Princeton.

**Northern Sea Lion** *Eumetopias jubatus* : numerous on rocky islets in front of Long Beach (Pacific Rim National Park).

**Harbor Seal** *Phoca vitulina* : Jordan River and Saanichton Bay.

**Yellowbelly Marmot** *Marmota flaviventris* : small party, dry hills near Vaseux Lake.

**Columbian Ground Squirrel** *Citellus columbianus* : numerous in Manning Park. Very tame !

**Yellow Pine Chipmunk** *Eutamias amoenus* : widespread on mainland.

**Eastern Grey Squirrel** *Sciurus carolinensis* : Stanley Park (Vancouver) where it was introduced.

**Red Squirrel** *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus* : common on Vancouver Island.

**Chickaree** *Tamiasciurus douglasi* : Common and tame. Swims very well. His call is very similar that the one of an European Black Swift.

**Beaver** *Castor canadensis* : only footprints and cut down trees...

**Townsend Vole** *Microtus townsendi* : 1, spited out by a snake, Saanichton Bay.

**Muskrat** *Ondatra zibethicus* : only in Vaseux Lake.

**Norway Rat** *Rattus norvegicus* : widespread. In Richmond Nature Park, we seen a cream-coloured.

**Snowshoe Hare** *Lepus americanus* : also in Vancouver Island (introduced ?).

**Mule Deer** *Odocoileus hemionus* : Manning Park.

**Moose** *Alces alces* : 1 young killed by a car near Princeton.

**Mountain Goat** *Oreamnos americanus* : In a cliff near Keremeos, 1 adult + 1 kid, August 2.

**Bighorn Sheep** *Ovis canadensis* : several in two parties near Vaseux Lake, August 3.



**Gray Whale** *Eschrichtius gibbosus* : 1, near the coast, Botanical Beach, August 11.

**Amphibians** (*A Field Guide to western Reptiles and Amphibians*, by Robert C. Stebbins)

**Spotted Frog** *Rana pretiosa* : Manning Park.

**Bullfrog** *Rana catesbeiana* : Burnaby Lake.

**Reptiles** (*A Field Guide to western Reptiles and Amphibians*, by Robert C. Stebbins)

**Painted Turtle** *Chrysemys picta* : Stanley Park and Richmond Nature Park..

**Red-bellied Turtle** *Chrysemys rubriventris* : Richmond Nature Park (introduced).

**Common Garter Snake** *Thamnophis sirtalis* : widespread in wetlands.

**Western Terrestrial Garter Snake** *Thamnophis elegans* : widespread in wetlands.

References

A birders guide to Vancouver Island (K. Taylor, 1990)

Let's look at Canada: Vancouver to the Rockies (An Ornitholidays Guide, n° 8)