Increasing Wetland Biodiversity at Mill Lake Park through Habitat Restoration and Community Stewardship

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Purpose

The purpose of our presentation is to in-cooperate the research carried out by the Summer 2018 Biology Conservation class at UFV, in the investigation of wetland and forest biodiversity at Mill Lake Park, in Abbotsford, BC.

Why should we improve Wetland and Forest Biodiversity at Mill Lake Park?

Mill Lake Park is an urban park, and highly used in central Abbotsford. There are invasive and introduced horticultural species encroaching on the native species in the park.

Improvement of wetland and forest habitats will increase wildlife biodiversity.

To reduce fragmentation and enhance the visual aesthetics of the Park.

To create a mental escape from city life and to provide an educational experience.

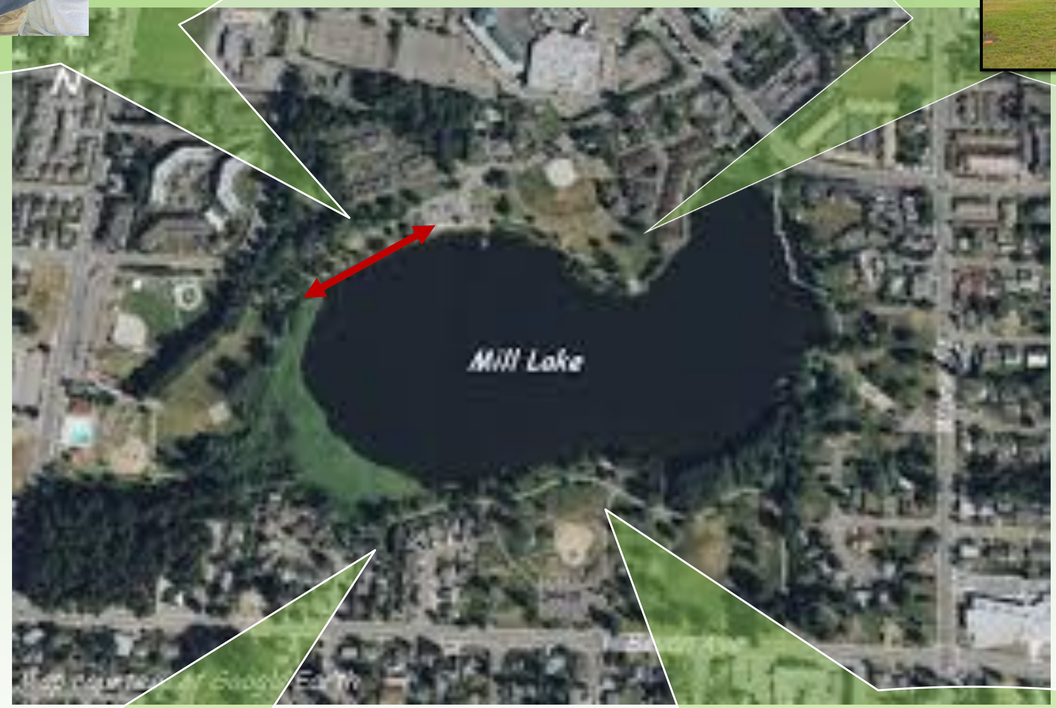
Supporting wetland biodiversity by the removal of invasive species through community stewardship

Invasive plant Species at Mill lake Park:

1. Himalayan Blackberry
2. Yellow Flag Iris
3. Creeping Buttercup
4. Meadow Buttercup
5. Reed Canary Grass
6. Morning Glory
7. English Ivy

Some understory plants:

1. Sword Fern
2. Salal
3. Salmon-berry
4. False lily of the Valley



Improving forest diversity by introducing native tree species and growing understory plants

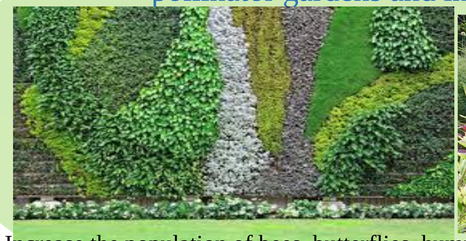
Some native tree species include:

1. Red, White & Black Spruce
2. Balsam Fir
3. Tamarack
4. Western Red Cedar
5. Paper Birch

Public Awareness through Signage and Advertisement

- In-operating signage at Mill Lake Park to enhance the outdoor educational experience.
- Providing species' descriptions on the Mill Lake Park website.

Enhancing unused areas of the park to introduce pollinator gardens and increase human interaction.



- Increase the population of bees, butterflies, humming birds etc. by adding pollinator gardens.
- Reduce maintenance of park by using native grasses.

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