

Press Release June 22,2005

What's New at Road Watch??

Road Watch in the Crowsnest Pass continues to gain momentum, new users, and new functionality. To date, there are 46 participants with a total of 460 wildlife observations reported. Click on www.rockies.ca/roadwatch to enter your own wildlife observations along Highway 3 between Lundbreck and the B.C./AB border, or call 564-4833.

The interactive mapping tool on the website has exciting new functionality. It is now possible to view your own observations entered into Road Watch by using your personal login. Each time you add observations they are automatically added to your own spatial layer. You can see where you observed specific species along the highway. In addition, another new spatial layer displays the total observations for each wildlife species entered into Road Watch. All users can view this. Feedback from local participants has helped identify ways to change and improve the website and Road Watch project and is always welcome!

The newest addition to the Road Watch project is a STORIES PAGE. All Crowsnest Pass citizens young and old are invited to share their wildlife stories. These can be **any** stories related to wildlife experiences in the Crowsnest Pass! These stories can be sent to the project coordinator Janet Quinn at jqquin@telus.net, or call Janet at 564-4833 to arrange to have stories picked up. The stories will then be shared on the Road Watch website: www.rockies.ca/roadwatch.

Tracy Lee, a Graduate student from University of Calgary assisting in the Road Watch project, will be in the Crowsnest Pass for the month of July interviewing local residents about wildlife and Highway 3. Your information will assist in the creation of a local knowledge dataset about where and when wildlife is commonly seen along Highway 3. The interviews will be informal, if you are interested in meeting with Tracy and sharing wildlife information and background please let Janet know.

Everyone is encouraged to continue entering wildlife sightings throughout the summer months! Thanks to all our participants whom have made Road Watch a success.