



Spring into Adventure for Wilderness!



We have had a wealth of adventures over the past month and there are many more exciting ones to come in June. Last weekend participants wandered the

foothills both in the Whaleback with Kevin Van Tighem and along Lesueur Ridge with Heinz Unger. I was along on the Whaleback trip and the weather was absolutely stellar and the wildflowers streaking the hillsides made for an exceptional day. I have posted a video of the highlights of the day on Instagram [here](#) (don't forget to give us a follow while you're there!). It was so valuable to have the expertise of Kevin Van Tighem along for the hike. Along with a ridge-top reading from his book "Our Place," he shared the conservation success story (unfortunately a rare one here in Alberta) of the landscape we hiked through and how it was very close to becoming another area of the foothills crisscrossed with industry access roads and pockmarked by wells. Thanks to the dedication of a number of individuals and organizations it was protected and today we are lucky to be able to look across miles of intact montane wilderness. There are just three spaces left for the Adventure June 24 with Kevin up the [Cascade Valley](#) -- a chance to hear about the changes the area has gone through, including stories from Kevin's youthful wanderings in the valley.

On Sunday Heinz led a trip up Lesueur Ridge. He writes, "Although spring is coming late this year, the aspens were just leafing out in the brightest possible green, and the fescue meadows were greening up, too. There were still lots of prairie crocus in the shade and many bright Goldenbeans. Lots of short-stemmed shooting stars grew in abundance and we also saw some small mountain avens and a few yellow locoweeds." Read the full story from Heinz and see his photos on our [website](#).

Scroll down to see our upcoming adventures for June. There is everything from online learning about linnii (bison) to fossil-hunting in downtown Calgary to hiking up remote coulees in eastern Alberta to an overnight bike-packing trip! An adventure for everyone.

Happy adventuring!
Lindsey

P.S. To see all of the great adventures from this year give us a follow on your favourite social media channel [@adventures4wild](#). The links are also at the end of this newsletter.



Balsam Root on the Whaleback



Ice, Glaciers, Gravel and Oil!

June 4, 2022 - With Tako Koning - it's a road trip from Cochrane to Big Hill Springs Provincial Park and onwards into the northwest Lochend area. You will see various forms of magnificent glacial geology, a rapidly developing program of hydraulic fracking for oil, deeply incised glacial melt water channels, areas covered by glacial moraines characterized by knob & kettle topography and glacial drumlins. Small creeks and ponds occur in these channels and provide habitat for abundant waterfowl.

[Last chance to register!](#)

Discover 450 Million Year Old Fossils!

June 18, 2022 - With Tako Koning - This is a half day urban field trip where we will look at buildings clad in fossils-rich limestones of the Tyndall Formation which is quarried at Tyndall, Manitoba. The field trip begins downtown Calgary and we will make our way to Kensington and finally SAIT where a wide variety of fossils (corals, sponges, nautiloids, algae, pelecypods, brachiopods) are exquisitely preserved in the limestone of the Senator Patrick Burns building. This field trip is family friendly, kids are welcome!



*Fossils hunters and
budding paleontologists welcome!*



Kids' Citizen Science (June): linnii "Bison" with Christyann and Alvin

June 18, 2022 - "*linnii*" (which you may know as Bison) is the sixth and final Adventure being offered in the Kids' Citizen Science Adventure series for 2022. Our June adventure is about linnii. We often refer to linnii as bison or buffalo and for this Adventure we are calling them linnii. Once almost completely gone, we will learn about bringing linnii back to the land in Alberta. Your kit for this Adventure includes a wonderful story book, and a beading craft. Early registrants qualify for an excellent gift celebrating another important Alberta animal - caribou!

*Register now for the chance to win a
prize and to receive your kit in time*

Banff's Cascade Valley

June 24, 2022 - With Kevin Van Tighem - Stories of Kevin's past adventures in Alberta's mountain parks and thoughts on the future of Alberta's wild places are on the agenda. Join the acclaimed author of "Wild Roses are Worth It" on an easy wander along this old fire road in Canada's oldest "protected" area.





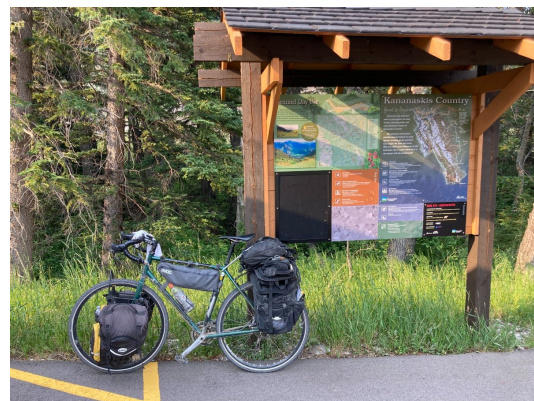
Hiking White Rock Coulee

June 25, 2022 - With Heinz and Kris Unger. Join us on a unique opportunity to access and see a remote, rarely visited Provincial Natural Area, with beautiful rock formations. A trip to Medicine Hat in the spring, probably with an overnight stay, is an extra bonus. The hike leads down one branch of the White Rock coulee, then along the South Saskatchewan River across from the Suffield National Wildlife Area and back up through a different coulee. We will return to the vehicles hiking across the prairie.

Coulee Hiking to Reveal Nature's Treasures

Bikepacking the Cowboy Trail

July 2 & 3, 2022 - With Sean Nichols, AWA Program Specialist. This weekend-long bikepacking trip will take us from Calgary south to the Porcupine Hills along the Cowboy Trail. In this two-day adventure we will spend a day taking in the fantastic views and history of Alberta's front ranges. Then we'll camp overnight among the



wildflowers of the Porcupine Hills before returning to town the second day. The adventure will be led by an experienced bikepacker and we will have support on-hand to cover any eventuality.

[Are you up for the challenge?](#)

What is Adventures for Wilderness?

Adventures for Wilderness is AWA's annual program to engage Albertans in wilderness conservation. We believe an Adventure can be anything from climbing a mountain, to walking by the river, to enjoying the beauty of nature in your own backyard! Visit our website to learn about the Adventures this season and how you can support Alberta Wilderness Association.



[Learn more](#)



We live and work across the traditional lands of the First Nations and Métis peoples of Alberta, including Treaties 4, 6, 7, 8 and 10. We express gratitude and respect for these lands and commit to advancing reconciliation with Indigenous peoples to ensure justice, equality, and sustainability for all people and the natural world we rely on.

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