



**Fauna Species at Risk
in the Abbotsford Area**

Fauna Species at Risk:

This is a small selection of the endangered animals, birds and insects living in our region. The [BC Conservation Data Centre](#) has assigned them code **Red** (at risk of being wiped out). You probably won't see them when you visit Stoney Creek Trail, but **if you do please let me know!** (All photos courtesy of Wikipedia, except as noted)

Front Photo: **Northern Goshawk** (*Accipiter gentilis laingi*)



Oregon Forestsnail
(*Allogona townsendiana*)



Southern Red-backed Vole
(*Myodes gapperi occidentalis*)

The Oregon Forestsnail: a species of air-breathing land snail native to the Fraser Valley. Being very slow moving creatures, their small populations have become fragmented and isolated by urban development. Like other land snails, they play an important role in the decomposition of vegetation and are considered a critical indicator of the health of our ecosystem. The Forestsnail's shell is brown but can look bleached or weather beaten. Notable is the [creamy coloured, flared rim](#) of the shell opening. It hibernates in leaf litter from early November to mid-March, becoming

active through April and May. It reaches adulthood in 2 years and will live at least 5 years. Look for it in patches of stinging nettles in the shade of our Broadleaf maples.

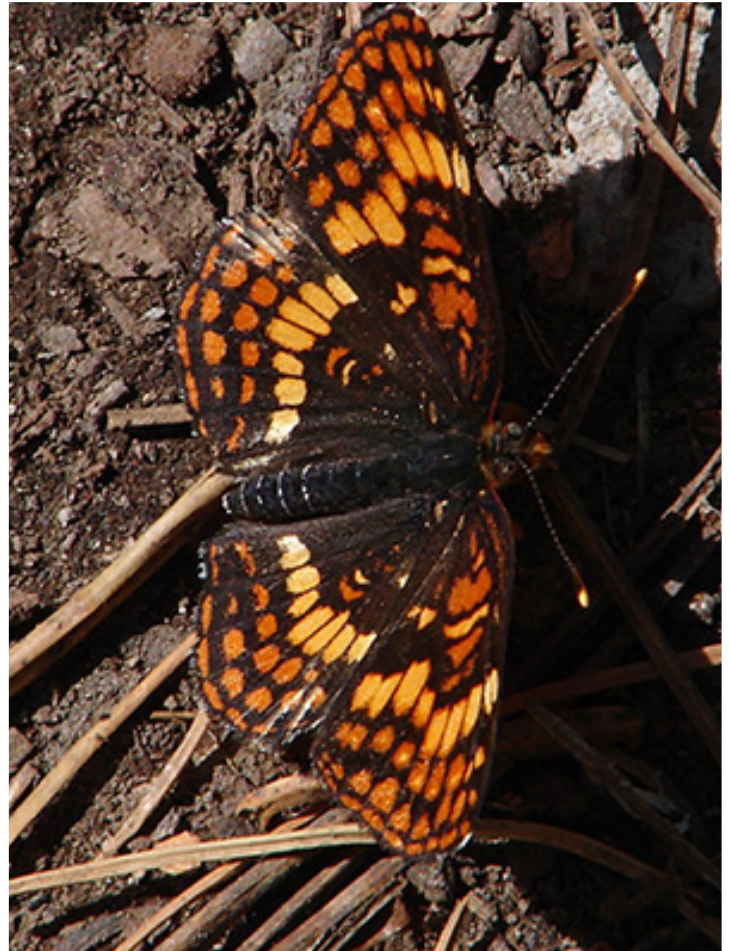
Southern Red-backed Vole: a small, slender vole found in Canada and the northern United States. These voles have short bodies with a reddish band along the back and a short tail. The sides of the body and head are grey, with paler underparts. Their body is 5 to 7 cm in length with a 4 cm tail. They are active year-round, mostly at night, making use of surface runways and burrows created by other small animals. They are found in mixed forests, often near wetlands. They are omnivorous, feeding on green plants, underground fungi, seeds, nuts and roots, but also insects, snails and berries. They store roots, bulbs and nuts for later use.

Fauna Species of Concern:



Common Wood-nymph
(*Cercyonis pegala, ssp. incana*)

Hoffman's Checkerspot: can be confused with the Northern Checkerspot and Sagebrush Checkerspot. This butterfly is associated with the Aster (Asteraceae) family (e.g. dandelion, hawkweed, pineapple weed). The adults feed on the nectar, while the larvae (caterpillars) will cluster in silk webs and feed on the leaves.



Hoffman's Checkerspot
(*Chlosyne hoffmanni*)



Pacific Silver-spotted skipper
(*Epargyreus clarus, ssp. californicus*)

Silver-Spotted Skipper: the subspecies *californica*, looks very similar to the main species. The larva, which can be found in late spring in a nest made of silk-bound leaflets, is distinctive, having an unusual large, purplish-brown head with two round orange eyespots.

Fauna Species of Concern:

Grappletail: this dragonfly had not been seen in BC for 40 years until one was spotted by a hiker in Davis Lake Provincial Park (near Mission) in July 2020.

Oregon spotted frog: large and reddish-brown with many irregular black blotches on the back, sides, and legs. They have relatively short hind legs and extensive webbing between the toes of the hind feet. A female's body length ranges from 6 to 10 cm, while males are between 4.5 cm and 7.5 cm. It has been adversely affected by urban expansion and the subsequent drainage of wetlands.

Pacific Water Shrew: largest in North America, up to 16 cm in total length. It lives in south west BC in marshy areas such as where skunk cabbages are found. It will dive for food and, with air trapped in its fur, can briefly run on the water surface as well. It eats invertebrates such as aquatic insects, snails and earthworms.



Grappletail
(*Octogomphus specularis*)



Oregon Spotted Frog
(*Rana pretiosa*)



Pacific Water Shrew
(*Sorex bendirii*)