Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region BioBlitz 2019: Summary Report







Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute



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Executive Summary

The Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region (MABR), located on the eastern coast of Vancouver Island, encompasses an ecologically diverse range of habitats and ecosystems within its watershed boundaries. These ecosystems hold special importance to the region culturally, environmentally, and economically. Our team at the Mount Arrowsmith Biosphere Region Research Institute (MABRRI) strives to embrace and celebrate these diverse values through research, education, and community outreach, promoting environmental conservation and awareness of this beautiful and extraordinary place that we all live and share.

A BioBlitz is a rapid biological survey of flora and fauna that embraces citizen science, connecting local community members, students,

faculty, knowledge holders, naturalists, and scientists to identify as many species as possible within the allocated time frame. One benefit of conducting a BioBlitz is that the data collected by participants can provide a snapshot of biodiversity and species richness within the region. Other benefits associated with a BioBlitz includes an increased regional knowledge of changes to species abundance, habitat for Species at Risk, as well as changes in invasive species distribution over time. The data collected during the annual event helps inform the management of sensitive habitats and ecosystems within the region.

The results of the participant data collected during the fourth annual BioBlitz at Milner Gardens & Woodland in Qualicum Beach include 14 different tree species, 18 shrub species, 32 species of herbs and wildflowers, 4 fern species, 2 sedge species, 6 moss species, 2 species of lichen, and 6 fungi species. Participants observed 3 species of invasive flora and 6 species of exotic flora at Milner Gardens. Furthermore, the



fauna species that were observed at Milner Gardens included 3 birds of prey, 3 shore bird, 11 different waterfowl species, 14 forest bird

species, 30 species of insects, and 3 other fauna species. Of the fauna species at Milner Gardens, 2 were Species at Risk and listed as Special Concern.

The data collected from conducting biogeographic flora and fauna surveys is important for gaining sound baseline knowledge of existing biodiversity in the region. Annual biological monitoring will allow researchers to observe trends and changes over time that can indicate the fluctuations in species at risk, invasive species, and overall species richness of a region (MABRRI, 2016). Changes in habitat health from long-term climate trends and local weather patterns can have a significant impact on the state of the environment, and these changes can be detected over time with community monitoring initiatives (MABRRI, 2016). The data collected at the first annual MABR BioBlitz at Milner Gardens on April 17, 2016 has been compared to the data collected at Milner Gardens during the second and third annual MABR BioBlitzes on April 22, 2017 and April 21, 2018, respectively, as well as the most recent event, which occurred on April 13, 2019. The data was compared in order to observe changes and counts of different flora and fauna species that were identified (Table 1 and 2).

Events such as the MABR BioBlitz have the capability to expand local knowledge of biodiversity and wildlife habitat within the region while contributing to a publically available and transparent data set that will be valuable and useful for future generations and long-term species trend analysis. This research aims to promote the health and resilience of our natural systems and all the intricate and unique characteristics and relationships within these ecosystems (MABRRI, 2016). We wish to promote knowledge sharing, environmental stewardship, and critical thinking in communities beyond the academic environment to promote the longevity and relationships between people and nature. With future BioBlitz events, the aim is to expand its boundaries of the event year after year to include a greater variety of ecosystems, habitats and microclimates within the MABR. This expansion will provide an opportunity to observe and monitor trends in species inventory over a greater geographic range on Vancouver Island. Additionally, the MABR BioBlitz strives to increase student research and participation in the event coordination and grow the citizen-science based participation each year (MABRRI, 2016).

Introduction

The 2019 MABR BioBlitz was developed by student researchers at Vancouver Island University (VIU) through the biosphere reserves research institute, MABRRI, with direction from one of MABRRI's Project Coordinators. The 2019 BioBlitz event is the fourth annual event held in collaboration with the Brant Wildlife Festival, the Nature's Trust of BC, and Milner Gardens & Woodland; the goal is to promote citizen science-based research while celebrating wildlife and biodiversity within the MABR.

The MABR is a UNESCO designated biosphere reserve located on mid-eastern Vancouver Island. The MABR spans a geographic area of 1,200 km² and is known as a place where people live and work together in hopes of creating a sustainable future where they can live in harmony with nature (MABRRI, 2016). The MABR BioBlitz event supports these values and is designed to connect people with nature through species identification and knowledge building. The last four years of blitzing have been successful, accomplishing the goals of providing an engaging platform for community members to connect with local experts and peers while learning about their

local environment. The event has successfully worked toward increasing participant's knowledge of biodiversity while equipping these individuals with basic stewardship field skills.

The Milner Gardens & Woodland BioBlitz site continued for its fourth year, hosting both the BioBlitz training session and the expert session. These sessions ran in tandem, offering individuals that are new to species identification and require some guidance from local experts, as well as local experts to participate at the same venue. The data collected annually at the Milner Gardens BioBlitz is compiled into a database for comparison over time (Table 1 and 2). The data collected is useful in analyzing trends and changes in our natural environment as well as evaluating human influences over time.



Milner Gardens & Woodland

Milner Gardens and Woodland consists of 60 acres of coastal and upland forests, as well as, 10 acres of developed gardens. In 1996, VIU obtained the lands from Ray and Veronica Milner and thus was given the name "Milner Gardens"; VIU must preserve the garden for education and communal purposes (About Milner Gardens, n.d.). The Milner Woodland is comprised of Coastal Douglas-fir (*Pseudotsuga menziesii*) old-growth forests with an understory of Western red cedar (*Thuja plicata*), grand fir (*Abies grandis*), and red alder (*Alnus rubra*); it is perceived as a relatively productive ecosystem (MABRRI, 2016). Due to the geographic location of the Milner Woodland, it is considered to be a "rain shadow" forest, which consists of warm, dry summers and mild, wet winters (MacKinnon, 2013). This relatively rare, yet extremely productive ecosystem accounts for 0.2% of the province of British Columbia and contains the lowest volume of old growth trees, which raises considerable concern for conservation of these forests (About Milner Gardens, n.d.). Milner Gardens & Woodland staff and volunteers are dedicated to preserving these ecosystems and the species at risk that are found within them (MABRRI, 2016).

Milner Gardens consists of meadow lawns and many varieties of rhododendrons, as well as, trees and shrubs brought home from Ray

and Veronica Milner's Travels from around the world (About Milner Gardens, n.d.). Exotic species include the red Japanese maple (*Acer palmatum*), Spanish chestnut (*Castanea sativa*), a golden chain tree (*Laburnum x watereri 'Vossii*), Chinese dogwood (*Cornus kousa*), and a dove tree (*Davidia involucrate*) (About Milner Gardens, n.d.; MABRRI, 2016). Additionally, due to Milner Gardens possessing such rare species from around the globe, it is considered to be a place with important educational resources for research opportunities, as well as public outreach and enjoyment.

Why a BioBlitz at Milner Gardens?

Milner Gardens & Woodland has proven to be an excellent venue for the MABR BioBlitz over the past four years. There are many benefits to hosting the event at Milner Gardens, including the amazing staff and volunteers whom have been very helpful and accommodating with assisting in the organization and logistics of the event. The 2016 BioBlitz was the first ever pilot event and it was determined that Milner Gardens would be the perfect location for the MABRRI team of research assistants, experts, and volunteers to train community members to collect flora and fauna identification data. Accessibility, parking, washrooms, and other facilities that Milner Gardens have



make the location an ideal choice for community members to learn in a safe and comfortable environment. Milner Gardens is a VIU entity and has a strong relationship with the MABR and MABRRI through various collaborative student research projects. Milner Gardens will continue to be the designated training site for future MABR BioBlitz events.

Goals and Objectives

There were several key deliverables and objectives associated with the 2019 MABR BioBlitz, which built on the success of previous biological surveys. The goal is to continue to grow the event year after year, encouraging a larger group of community participants to take part in the event. The goals and objectives of the 2019 MABR BioBlitz are as follows:

- 1. Have MABRRI student researchers plan and host a BioBlitz at Milner Gardens and Woodland;
- 2. Promote VIU student research through outreach in the local community and spark interest in environmental stewardship while also increasing knowledge and understanding of the MABR;
- 3. Contribute to long-term monitoring of flora and fauna in the MABR;
- 4. Maintain Milner Gardens & Woodland as a training site for beginner BioBlitzers; and
- 5. Provide participants and the public with a finalized flora and fauna collection form, in report form, for species identified during the event.

Overall, the annual BioBlitz event aims to engage VIU students with the community, enhancing their research skills by bringing them together with VIU faculty, local experts, citizen scientists, and local participants to collaborate on a regional research project. While VIU students benefit from learning through teaching and engaging with the members of the community and local knowledge holders, there is a positive benefit to all participants through connections made with each other and the environment. Additionally, those participants that conducted an individual biological survey are able to contribute to the research and be part of a regional community initiative.

Methods, Tools, and Equipment Used

Local participants were self-selected by signing up for this event on the online BioBlitz Eventbrite registration page. Expert team leaders were contacted prior to the event by the MABRRI team based on their area of expertise (flora and/or fauna). On the day of the event participants joined the MABRRI team of volunteers at Milner Gardens & Woodland to participate. The day's events were separated into two sessions, one in the morning and another in the afternoon, for which participants can take part in one and/or the other. All participants were provided with clipboards and field forms for data collection of both plant and bird species. Groups were formed and separated

based on their interests, either bird or plant identification. The birding groups were able to use spotting scopes and binoculars. While the plant identification groups were provided with *Plants of Coastal British Columbia* by Jim Pojar and Andy MacKinnon, along with magnifying glasses. BioBlitz participants were initially sent to separate starting stations throughout Milner Gardens but were encouraged to branch out and navigate throughout the stations to identify a greater variety of species than one station could provide. This method appeared to work well as participants were able to Blitz in several different ecosystems around the property, increasing the number of species identified on site.

Findings

The data collected during the 2019 BioBlitz at Milner Gardens & Woodland contributes to baseline data that can be compared to data from the previous MABR BioBlitz events. The MABR BioBlitz event is a platform that allows participants to gain hands on experience and knowledge in species identification. The event aims to encourage these participants to continue to be environmental stewards in their own lives or at the very least connect them with nature within the MABR.

Comparison of Data between 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 Milner Gardens BioBlitzes

The collection of the following data allows Milner Gardens to update their current species inventory and



contributes to long-term monitoring for the flora and fauna within the MABR, which is one of the projects main objectives. Table 1 is a complete list of flora identified within Milner Gardens & Woodland on April 17, 2016, April 22, 2017, April 21, 2018, and April 13, 2019 during the annual MABR BioBlitzes. The data was compiled into one table for ease of comparison between the four years. NOTE: invasive species are highlighted in RED, exotic species are highlighted in GREEN, and Species at Risk are highlighted in BLUE. Exotic Species identified included common foxglove (*Digitalis purpurea*), creeping buttercup (*Ranunculus repens*), English daisy (*Bellis perennis*), herb robert (*Geranium robertianum*), stinging nettle (*Urtica dioica*), and wall lettuce (*Lactuca muralis*). Invasive flora species

that were identified were English Holly (*Ilex aquifolium*), Himalayan Blackberry (*Rubus armeniacus*), and English Ivy (*Hedera helix*). None of the species identified were considered Species at Risk.

Table 1. Compiled Findings from 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 MABR BioBlitz Flora Species (both morning and afternoon sessions) at Milner Gardens & Woodland.

Trees						
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Arbutus	Arbutus menziesii		Х			
Big-Leaf Maple	Acer macrophyllum	X	Х	Х	X	
Bitter Cherry	Prunus emarginata	X		Х	X	
Cascara buckthorn	Rhamnus purshiana				X	
Douglas-fir	Pseudotsuga menziesii	Х	Х		Х	
Grand Fir	Abies grandis	X	Х	Х	Х	
Holly, English	Ilex aquifolium	Х	Х	Х	X	
Lodgepole Pine	Pinus contorta	X			X	
European Mountain Ash	Sorbus aucuparia		Х	Х		
Pacific Crab Apple	Malus fusca	X		Х	X	
Pacific Dogwood	Cornus nuttallii	Х			Х	
Pacific Willow	Salix lasiandra	Х				
Red Alder	Alnus rubra	Х	Х	Х	Х	
Sitka Willow	Salix sitchensis	Х				
Western Hemlock	Tsuga heterophylla	Х	Х	Х	Х	
Western Red Cedar	Thuja plicata	Х	Х	Х	Х	
Western Yew	Taxus brevifolia		Х	Х	Х	
Willow	Salix spp.			Х	Х	
Total Number of Species		13	10	11	14	
	Shrubs					

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
Baldhip Rose	Rosa gymnocarpa	Х	Х	Х	Х
Cascara	Rhamnus purshiana	X	Х	Х	X
Devils Club	Oplopanax horridus	X			
Dull Oregon Grape	Mahonia nervosa	Х	Х	Х	Х
Evergreen Huckleberry	Vaccinum ovatum	X		Х	Х
Falsebox	Pachistima myrsinites		Х	Х	Х
Hardhack	Spiraea douglasii ssp. douglasii	Х	Х	Х	Х
Himalayan Blackberry	Rubus armeniacus	Х	Х	Х	Х
Nootka Rose	Rosa nutkana	Х		Х	Х
Ocean Spray	Holodiscus discolor	Х	Х	Х	Х
Old Man's Beard	Clemantis vitalba				Х
Red Elderberry	Sambucus racemosa	Х	Х	Х	Х
Red Huckleberry	Vaccinium parvifolium	Х	Х	Х	Х
Red-Osier Dogwood	Cornus stolonifera	Х	Х	Х	Х
Salal	Gaultheria shallon	Х	Х	Х	Х
Salmonberry	Rubus spectabilis	Х	Х	Х	Х
Scoulers Willow	Salix scouleriana		Х	Х	
Sitka Mountain-ash	Sorbus sitchensis			Х	
Tall Oregon Grape	Mahonia aquifolium		Х		Х
Thimbleberry	Rubus parviflorus	X	Х	Х	Х
Trailing Blackberry	Rubus ursinus	X	Х	Х	Х
Western Trumpet Honeysuckle	Lonicera ciliosa		Х		
Total Number of Species		16	17	18	18
	Herbs & Wildflowe	rs			
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
Aniseed	Apiaceae spp.	X			

Arrow-Leaved Groundsel	Senecio triangularis		Х		
Bittercress	Cardamine spp.	Х	Х		Х
Broad-Leaf Shooting Star	Dodecatheon hendersonii		Х		
Broad-Leaved Starflower	Trientalis latifolia		Х	Х	Х
Buttercups	Ranunculus spp.		Х	Х	Х
Canadian Bunchberry	Cornus Canadensis		Х		Х
Chickweed	Stellaria spp.		Х	Х	Х
Cleavers	Gallium aparine	Х	Х	Х	Х
Common Foxglove	Digitalis purpurea	Х	Х	Х	Х
Creeping Buttercup	Ranunculus repens	Х	Х	Х	Х
Crisp Sandwort	Stellaria crispa	Х		Х	
Daffodil	Narcissus spp.		Х		Х
Duckweed	Lemnoideae spp.		Х		
English Daisy	Bellis perennis	Х	Х		Х
English Ivy	Hedera helix	Х		Х	Х
Few-Seeded Bitter-cress	Cardamine oligosperma			Х	Х
Field Chickweed	Cerastium arvense				Х
Forget-Me-Not	Myosotis spp.	Х		Х	Х
Geranium	Geranium spp.		Х		
Herb Robert	Geranium robertianum	Х	Х	Х	Х
Horsetail, Common	Equisetum arvense		Х		Х
Miner's Lettuce	Claytonia perfoliata	Х	Х	Х	Х
Northern Starwort	Cerastium arvense			Х	
One-Sided Wintergreen	Orthilia secunda	Х			
Ox-Eye Daisy	Leucanthemum vulgare		Х		
Pacific Bleeding Heart	Dicentra formosa	Х	Х		Х
Pacific Coralroot	Corallorhiza maculata sp. Mertensiana	Х			

Pacific Trillium	Trillium ovatum	Х	Х	X	Х
Pinedrops	Pterospora andromedea	Х			
Pinesap	Monotropa hypopitys	Х			
Pink Fawn Lily	Erythronium revolutum		Х		
Prunella	Lamiaceae spp.		Х		
Purple Dead Nettle	Lamium purpureum		Х		Х
Parsley-piert	Aphanes spp.	Х	X		
Ribwort Plantain	Plantago lanceolate				Х
Self-heal	Prunella spp.				Х
Sitka Columbine	Aquilegia formosa	Х			Х
Skunk Cabbage	Lysichiton americanus	Х	Х	Х	Х
Small Bedstraw	Galium trifidum			Х	Х
Snowberry	Symphoricarpos albus	Х			Х
Stinging Nettle	Urtica dioica	Х	Х	Х	Х
Sweet-Scented Bedstraw	Galium triflorum	Х	X	Х	
Three-Leafed Foamflower	Tiarella trifoliata	Х			
Trailing Yellow Violet	Viola sempervirens		Х		
Twin Flower	Linnaea borealis		Х	Х	Х
Vancouver Groundcone	Boschniakia hookeri		Х		
Vanilla Leaf	Achlys triphylla	Х	X	Х	Х
Wall Lettuce	Lactuca muralis	Х	X	Х	Х
Wall Speedwell	Veronica arvensis			Х	
Water Parsley	Oenanthe sarmentosa	Х	Х	Х	Х
Western Bitter-Cress	Cardamine occidentalis			Х	Х
Western Coralroot	Corallorhiza maculata ssp. Mertensiana		Х		
Western Dock	Rumex spp.	Х			
Wood Sorrel	Oxalis spp.		Х		
Yellow Flag Iris	Iris pseudacorus		X		

Total Number of Species		28	36	25	32
	Ferns				
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
Bracken Fern	Pteridium aquilinum	X	Х	Х	Х
Deer Fern	Blechnum spicant	X	Х		Х
Green Spleenwort	Asplenium viride		Х	Х	
Lady Fern	Athyrium filix-femina	X	Х	Х	Х
Licorice Fern	Polypodium glycyrrhiza	X			
Oak Fern	Gymnocarpium dryopteris	Х		Х	
Spiny Wood Fern	Dryopteris expansa	Х	Х	Х	
Sword Fern	Polystichum munitum	X	Х	Х	Х
Total Number of Species		7	6	6	4
	Sedges				
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
American Bulrush	Schoenoplectus americanus			Х	
Pale Sedge	Carex livida			Х	
Sedges	Cyperaceae spp.		Х	Х	Х
Slough Sedge	Carex obnupta	X	Х	Х	Х
Small-Flowered Sedge	Lipocarpha micrantha		Х		
Total Number of Species		1	3	4	2
	Grasses				
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
Bitter Grass	Calea ternifolia	X			
Reed Canary Grass	Phalaris arundinacea	X	Х		
Sweet Vernal Grass	Anthoxanthum odoratum	X			
Total Number of Species		3	1	0	0
	Mosses				

Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
Badge Moss	Plagiomnium insigne	Х	Х	Х	
Bent Leaf Moss	Rhytidiadelphus squarrosus	Х	Х		
Broom Moss	Dicranum scoparium	Х	Х		
Capillary Thread-Moss	Bryum capillare		Х		
Cat Tail Moss	Isothecium myosuroides	Х	X	Х	Х
Clear Moss	Hookeria lucens			Х	
Coastal Leafy Moss	Plagiomnium insigne	Х	Х		Х
Coiled Leaf Moss	Hypnum circinale		Х		
Common Witch's Hair	Alectona sarmentosa	Х			
Cord Moss	Leptobryum pyriforme		Х		
Crane's Bill Moss	Atrichum selwynii		X		
Curly Thatch Moss	Dicranoweisia cirrata	Х		Х	
Cylindric Beard-Moss	Didymodon insulanus		Х		
Douglas' Neckera Moss	Neckera douglasii	X			
Dusky Fork-Moss	Dicranum fuscescens	Х	Х	Х	
Electrified Cats-Tail Moss	Rhytidiadelphus triquetrus	Х	Х	Х	
Fan Moss	Rhizomnium glabrescens	Х	Х	Х	
Flat Moss	Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans (buckiella)	Х			
Fragile Fork Moss	Dicranum tauricum		X		
Golden Short-Capsuled Moss	Brachythecium frigidum			Х	
Green/Herzog's Pocket Moss	Fissidens viridulus/limbatus		Х		
Hairy Screw Moss	Tortula ruralis		Х		
Hanging Moss	Antitrichia curtipendula		Х		X
Juniper Haircap Moss	Polytrichum juniperinum		Х		
Lanky Moss	Rhytidiadelphus loreus	Х	X		

Large Hair Moss	Oligotrichum parallelum			Х	
Lovers Moss	Aulacomnium androgynum	Х			
Lyell's Bristle Moss	Orthotrichum lyellii		Х		
Magnificent Moss	Plagiomnium venustum	X			
Menzies' Neckera	Metaneckera menziesii			Х	
Menzies' Tree Moss	Leucolepis acanthoneuron	X	Х	Х	
Moss	Dicranum spp.	X		Х	
Nocktooth Leafy Moss	Mnium spinulosum	X			
Nuttall's Homalothecium Moss	Homalothecium nuttallii		Х		
Oregon Beaked Moss	Kindbergia oregana	X	Х	Х	Х
Pale-Fruited Thread Moss	Pohlia annotina		Х		
Palm Tree Moss	Leucolepis acanthoneuron	X	Х		
Park Moss	Zygodon rupestris		Х		
Pipe Cleaner Moss	Rhytidiopsis robusta		Х	Х	
Plume Moss	Dendroalsia Abientina	X			
Red Mouthed Mnium	Mnium spinulosum		Х	Х	
Red Roof Moss	Ceratodon purpureus		Х		
Rough Moss	Claopodium crispifolium		Х		
Shaggy Moss	Rhytidiadelphus triquetrus		Х		
Silky Forklet-Moss	Dicranella heteromalla		Х		
Slender Beaked Moss	Kindbergia praelonga	X	Х	Х	
Small Leaf Moss	Pseudotaxiphyllum elegans		Х		
Soft-Tufted Beard-Moss	Didymodon vinealis		Х		
Spear Moss	Calliergonella custpidata		Х		
Step Moss	Hylocomium splendens	X	Х	Х	Х
Tall Clustered Thread Moss	Bryum pallescens			Х	
Tangled Moss	Heterocladium procurrens	Х			

Tree Moss	Climacium dendroides	X		X	Х
Wavy Leaved Cotton Moss	Plagiothecium undulatum	X	Х	Х	
Wet Rock Moss	Dichodontium pellucidum		Х	Х	
Yellow Moss	Homalothecium fulgescens		Х		
Total Number of Species		26	40	21	6
	Liverworts				
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
Blue Pouchwort	Calypogeia azurea		Х		
Crescent-Cup Liverwort	Lunularia cruciate		Х		
Hanging Millipede Liverwort	Frullania nisquallensis		Х		
Hard Scale Liverwort	Mylia taylorii		Х		
Ladle Liverwort	Scapania bolanderi		Х		
Lesser Featherwort	Plagiochila porelloides		Х		
Little Hands Liverwort	Lepidozia reptans		Х		
Lophocolea cuspidate	Lophocolea cuspidate		Х		
Snake Liverwort	Conocepalum conicum	X			
Tree Ruffle Liverwort	Porella navicularis	X	Х		
Two-Horned Pincerwort	Cephalozia bicuspidate		Х		
Yellow-Ladle Liverwort	Scapania bolanderi	X	Х		
Total Number of Species		3	11	0	0
	Lichens				
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
Antlered Perfume	Evernia prunastri	X	Х		
Bark Barnacle Lichen	Thelotrema lepadinum		Х		
Beaded Bone	Hynogymia enteromorpha			Х	
Bitter Wart Lichen	Pertusaria amara		Х		
Camouflage Lichen	Melanelia spp.		Х		

Cumberland Rock-Shield	Xanthoparmelia cumberlandia		Х		
Dotted Bush Lichen	Ramalina farinacea		Х		
Dust Lichens	Lepraria spp.	X	Х	Х	
Forking Bone	Hypogymnia inactiva			Х	
Frog Pelt	Peltigera neopolydactyla	X		Х	
Gold Dust Lichens	Chrysothrix spp.		Х		
Herringbone Beard	Usnea filipendula		Х		
Lichen	Cladina spp.	Х			
Lichen	Cladonia spp.	X			
Lichen	Usnea spp.	X			
Lipstick pixie	Cladonia macilenta		Х		
Lungwort Lichen	Lobaria pulmonaria	X	Х		Х
Membranous Dog Lichen	Peltigera membranacea		Х		
Methuselah's Beard	Usnea longissima			Х	
Nit Beard	Usnea subfloridana		Х		
Oak Moss Lichen	Evernia prunastri		Х		
Rag Bag Lichen	Platismatia glauca	X	Х	Х	Х
Rose-Bud Pert	Pertusaria subambigens		Х		
Sarea resinae	Sarea resinae		Х		
Saucer Lichen	Ochrolechia laevigata		Х		
Shield Lichen	Parmelia sulcate		Х		
Script Lichen	Graphis scripta		Х		
Speckled Horsehair	Bryoria fuscescens			Х	
Tattered Rag Lichen	Platismatia herrei	X	Х	Х	
Tree Lungwort	Lobaria pulmonaria		Х		
Tree Pelt	Peltigera collina		Х		
Trumpet Lichen	Cladonia fimbriata		Х		
Total Number of Species		9	24	8	2

Fungi						
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Artist Conk	Ganoderma applanatum		Х		Х	
Bird's Nest Fungus	Nidulariaceae spp.		Х			
Bitter Iodine Polypore	Albatrellus hirtus		X			
Cedar Needle Blight	Didymascella thujina		Х			
Coccomyces dentatus	Coccomyces dentatus		X			
Dasyscyphus bicolor	Dasyscyphus bicolor		Х			
Deer Mushroom	Pluteus cervinus s.l.		Х			
Dye Polypore	Phaeolus schweinitzii		Х			
Heterotextus luteus	Heterotextus luteus		Х			
Jelly fungus	Dacrymyces spp.		Х		Х	
Leaf Fungus	Stereum spp.		Х			
Lichen Agaric	Lichenomphalia umbellifera		Х			
Needle Rust	Pucciniastrum goeppertianum		Х			
Ochre Spreading Tooth	Steccherinum ochraceum		Х			
Panther Cap Mushroom	Amanita pantherina	Х				
Red Belt Conk	Fomitopsis pinicola		Х		Х	
Red Edge Bonnet	Mycena rubromarginata		Х			
Ringed Conocybe	Conocybe filaris		X			
Saprotrophic Mushrooms	Mycena spp.		Х			
Turkey Tail	Trametes versicolor		X		Х	
Western Varnished Conk	Ganoderma oregonense		Х	Х		
Witch's Butter	Tremella mesenterica			Х	Х	
White Green-Algae Coral	Multiclavula mucida		Х			
White Marasmius	Marasmiellus candidus		Х			
Wood Ear	Auricularia auricular-judae				Х	

Total Number of Species		1	22	2	6	
Slime Molds						
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Scrambled Egg Slime Mold	Fuligo septica		Х			
^			X			
Total Number of Species		0	1	1	0	
Total Number of Flora Species at	t Milner Gardens	107	171	96	84	

Table 2 is a complete list of fauna identified within Milner Gardens & Woodland on April 17, 2016, April 22, 2017, April 21, 2018, and April 13, 2019 during the annual MABR BioBlitzes. The data was compiled into one table for ease of comparison between the four years. NOTE: invasive species are highlighted in RED, exotic species are highlighted in GREEN, and Species at Risk are highlighted in BLUE. None of the fauna species found were considered invasive or exotic. However, there were 2 species identified that are considered Special Concern under the Species at Risk Act, including the Horned Grebe (*Podiceps auritus*) and the threatened Western Grebe (*Aechmophorus occidentalis*).

Table 2. Compiled Findings from 2016, 2017, 2018, and 2019 MABR BioBlitz Fauna Species (both morning and afternoon sessions) at Milner Gardens & Woodland.

Birds of Prey						
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	Х	Х	Х	Х	
Cooper's Hawk	Accipiter cooperii				Х	
Barred Owl	Strix varia		Х	Х		
Red-Tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis				X	
Sharp-Shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus		Х			
Total Number of Species		1	3	2	3	
	Shore Birds	<u> </u>			•	
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	

Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	X	X		Х
Black-Bellied Plover	Pluvialis squatarola	Х	Х	Х	Х
Black Turnstone	Arenaria melanocephala	X	Х		
Dunlin	Calidris alpina	X	Х		Х
Greater Yellow Legs	Tringa melanoleuca	X			
Total Number of Species		5	4	1	3
	Waterfowl				
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
Bonaparte's Gull	Chroicocephalus philadelphia	X	Х	Х	
Brant	Branta bernicla		Х	Х	
California Gull	Larus californicus	X		Х	Х
Common Loon	Gavia immer	X	Х	Х	Х
Common Merganser	Mergus merganser	X	Х	Х	
Common Murre	Uria aaige		Х		
Glaucous-Winged Gull	Larus glaucescens	X	Х	Х	Х
Greater Scaup	Aythya marila		Х		
Horned Grebe	Podiceps auritus	X	Х	Х	Х
Long-Tailed Duck	Clangula hyemalis				Х
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos		Х	Х	Х
Marbled Murrelet	Brachyramphus marmoratus	X	Х		
Mew Gull	Larus canus	Х	Х		Х
Pacific Loon	Gavia pacifica	Х	Х	Х	
Pelagic Cormorant	Phalacrocorax pelagicus		Х	Х	
Pidgeon Guillemot	Cepphus columba	Х	Х	Х	
Red-Breasted Merganser	Mergus serrator	X	Х		Х
Red-Necked Grebe	Podiceps grisegena	X	Х	Х	Х
Rhinoceros Auklet	Cerorhinca monocerata		Х		

Surf Scoter	Melanitta perspicillata	X	X	X	X
Western Grebe	Aechmophorus occidentalis	Х	Х	Х	Х
Western Gull	Larus occidentalis			Х	
White-Winged Scoter	Melanitta fusca		Х	Х	
Yellow-Billed Loon	Gavia adamsii			Х	
Total Number of Species		14	20	16	11
	Forest Bird	ds			
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	Х	Х	Х	Х
Anna's Hummingbird	Calypte anna	Х	Х	X	
Band-Tailed Pigeon	Patagioenas fasciata		X		
Bewick's Wren	Thryomanesbewickii				
Black-Capped Chickadee Poecile atricapillus		Х			
Black-Throated Blue Warbler	Setaphaga caerulescens		Х		
Black-Throated Gray Warbler	Setophaga nigrescens	Х	Х		
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana		Х		
Bushtit	Psaltriparus minimus		Х	Х	
Chestnut-Backed Chickadee	Poecile rufescens		Х	Х	Х
Common Raven	Corvus corax	Х	Х	Х	Х
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas				
Dark-Eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	X	Х	Х	
Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens	X			
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris		Х	Х	Х
Golden-Crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa		Х	Х	Х
Golden-Crowned Sparrow	Zonotrichia atricapilla		Х	Х	
Hammond's Flycatcher	Empidonax hammondii		X		

Hutton's Vireo	Vireo huttoni	X	Х	Х	
Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	Х	Х	Х	
Northwestern Crow	Corvus caurinus	Х	Х	Х	Х
Nuthatch	Sittidae spp.	Х			
Orange-Crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa		Х		
Orange-Crowned Warbler	Oreothlypis celata		Х	Х	
Pacific-Slope Flycatcher	Empidonax difficilis		X		
Pacific Wren	Troglodytes pacificus	Х	Х	Х	Х
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus		Х	Х	
Pine Siskin	Spinus pinus		Х	Х	Х
Purple Finch	Haemorhous purpureus		Х	Х	
Red-Breasted Nuthatch	Sitta Canadensis		Х	Х	Х
Red-Breasted Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus ruber		Х	Х	
Ruby-Crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula			Х	
Rufous Hummingbird	Selasphorus rufus	Х	X	Х	Х
Rufous-Sided Towhee	Pipilo erythrophthalmus	Х	Х		Х
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia		Х		
Spotted Towhee	Pipilo maculatus	Х		X	Х
Townsend's Warbler	Setaphaga townsendi		Х		
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor			Х	
Varied Thrush	Ixoreus naevius			Х	
Western Tanager	Piranga ludoviciana		Х		Х
Winter Wren	Troglodytes hiemalis	Х			
Yellow Warbler	Setaphaga petechial		Х		
Yellow Rumped Warbler	Setaphaga coronata		Х	Х	Х
Total Number of Species		16	33	26	14

Insects						
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Beetle	Dyslobus granicollis				Х	
Boreal Lady Beetle	Coccinellidae spp.				Х	
Bristletail	Archaeognatha spp.				Х	
Brown Lined Looper	Neoalcis californiaria				Х	
Bumblebee, Fuzzy Horn	Bombus mixtus				Х	
Chironomid Midge	Chironomidae spp.				Х	
Click Beetle	Elateridae spp.				Х	
Damsel Bug	Nabidae spp.				Х	
Earthworm	Lumbricina spp.				Х	
Elongated Springtail	Collembola spp.				Х	
Geometer Caterpillar	Geometridae spp.				Х	
Globular Springtail	Sminthuridae spp.				Х	
Jumping Spider	Salticidae spp.				Х	
Leaf Hopper	Cicadellidae spp.				Х	
Millipede	Diplopoda spp.				Х	
Mothfly	Psychodidae spp.				Х	
Nut Leaf Weevil	Curculio nucum				Х	
Obscure Root Weevil	Sciopithes obscurus				Х	
Oribatid Mite	Oribatida spp.				Х	
Painted Lady Beetle	Coleomegilla maculata				Х	
Red-cross Shield Bug	Elasmostethus cruciatus				Х	
Roly-poly	Armadillidium vulgare				Х	
Rove Beetle	Staphylinidae spp.				Х	
Salal Leaf Miner Moth	Gaultheria shallon				Х	
Skunk Cabbage Rove Beetle	Pelecomalium spp.				Х	

Strawberry Root Weevil	Otiorhynchus ovatus				Х	
Twenty Spotted Lady Beetle	Psyllobora vigintimaculata			X		
Waterstrider	Gerridae spp.				Х	
White micromoth	Microlepidoptera spp.				Х	
Wrinkled Snail	Xeroplexa intersecta				Х	
Total Number of Species		0	0	0	30	
	Other Species					
Species Common Name	Species Scientific Name	2016	2017	2018	2019	
Banana Slug	Ariolimax spp.		Х	Х	Х	
Black-Tailed Deer	Odocoileus hemionug columbianus			Х	Х	
Harbour Seal	Phoca vitulina			Х		
Red-Backed Salamander	Plethodon cinereus		Х			
Red Squirrel	Tamiasciurus hudsonicus X		Х	Х		
Total Number of Species		0	2	4	3	
Total Number of Fauna Specie	s at Milner Gardens	36	62	49	64	

Participant Feedback and Recommendations

Without the assistance, participation, and support of VIU students, local experts, citizen scientists and community members, the MABR

BioBlitz would not have been such a great success. Through participant feedback and recommendations, the event and coordination is able to improve each year. With continued improvement and increased interest, the event is able to welcome and support more public participation and knowledge sharing within the MABR. Feedback from participants at Milner Gardens & Woodland showed that the event was unanimously a positive experience. Some stated that they enjoyed the tranquility of the outdoor forested environment, while others enjoyed learning from the knowledgeable experts. Many expressed their excitement due to having an insect expert at the event this year. Several participants felt that the event was well organized. Further, many found it very engaging because of the small group sizes. Overall, the feedback from the 2019 MABR BioBlitz was positive and constructive.



Future Blitzing

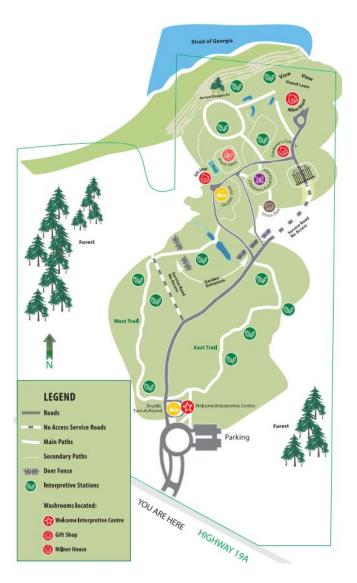
Our future goals are to expand the MABR BioBlitz further across the MABR to include core areas such as Wildlife Management Areas, and Provincial, Regional and Municipal parks; these areas maintain some level of protection and may be able to be consistently surveyed year after year to allow for a proper comparison between species data. The marine survey that was conducted during the 2017 MABR BioBlitz at Oak Leaf Drive Park was a success and could be implemented again for future BioBlitz

The MABR is a stunningly beautiful and diverse region with countless species to discover and steward. The incredible vertical range of the MABR allows for 2100m of discovery from the highest peak of Mount Arrowsmith to the depths of the Salish Sea. The MABRRI team is inspired and eager to explore, engage, and educate one another and the community about these important ecosystems and habitats that we all live in and share. The MABR BioBlitz has proven to be a success within the community and our team at MABRRI looks forward to expanding the event throughout the MABR for future years to come.

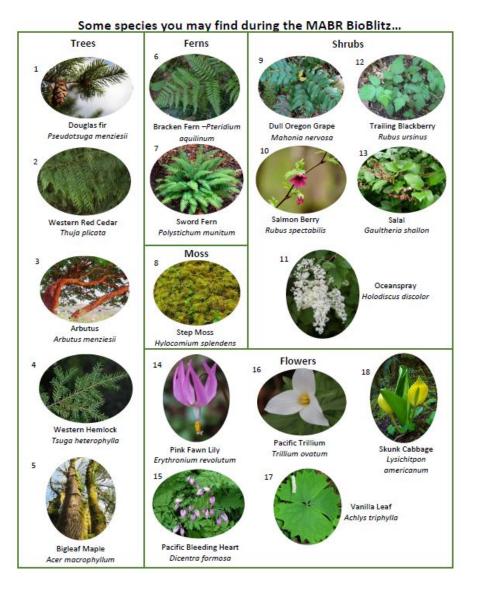
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Appendix A: Map of BioBlitz Sites for the Milner Gardens BioBlitz



Appendix B: Common Species-BioBlitz Handout



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Appendix C: Birds You May Expect to Find at Milner Gardens



Most Likely Birds Seen and Heard at Milner Gardens and Woodland by Sandra Gray

Listed below are predominantly forest dwelling birds that can be seen or heard during your visit to Milner Gardens and Woodland throughout the seasons. In addition, many species of ducks, shorebirds, and gulls visit the shoreline of MGW during migration or may winter over along the East Coast of Vancouver Island. With binoculars or spotting scope you may be able to add quite a few to 'your list' while on site. Over 250 species of birds have been recorded in the Parksville Qualicum Beach Checklist Area.

- S Usually a seasonal visitor; may be seen during migration; may nest locally or on site.
- C Common visitor or resident; can be seen most of the
- year but may be migratory; may nest locally or on site.

The following list is in the scientific order used by most field guides.

Mallard	S		S
California Quail	C	Belted Kingfisher	C
Great Blue Heron	С	Red-breasted Sapsucker	С
Turkey Vulture	S	Downy Woodpecker	С
Bald Eagle	C	Hairy Woodpecker	C
Sharp-shinned Hawk	С	Northern Flicker	С
Cooper's Hawk	С	Pileated Woodpecker	C
Red-tailed Hawk	S	Pacific-slope Flycatcher	S
Merlin	С	Hutton's Vireo	C
Peregrine Falcon	S	Warbling Vireo	S
Killdeer	С	Steller's Jay	С
Band-tailed Pigeon	С	Northwestern Crow	С
Great Horned Owl	С	Common Raven	C
Barred Owl	С	Tree Swallow	S
A		*	0



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- Most Likely Birds Seen and Heard at Milner Gardens and Woodland
 - S Usually a seasonal visitor; may be seen during
 - migration; may nest locally or on site.
 Common visitor or resident; can be seen most of the
 - year but may be migratory; may nest locally or on site.

The following list is in the scientific order used by most field guides.

	Violet-green Swallow	S	Black-throated Gray Warbler	S
	Northern Rough-winged Swallow	S	Townsend's Warbler	S
	Chestnut-backed Chickadee	C	Western Tanager	S
	Bushtit	C	Spotted Towhee	С
	Red-breasted Nuthatch	C	Chipping Sparrow	S
	Brown Creeper	C	Fox Sparrow	C
	Bewick's Wren	С	Song Sparrow	С
	Pacific (Winter) Wren	C	White-crowned Sparrow	С
	Golden-crowned Kinglet	C	Dark-eyed Junco	C
	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	C	Black-headed Grosbeak	S
	Swainson's Thrush	S	Red-winged Blackbird	С
	Hermit Thrush	С	Brown-headed Cowbird	S
	American Robin	C	Purple Finch	С
	Varied Thrush	C	House Finch	C
	European Starling	C	Red Crossbill	S
	Cedar Waxwing	S	Pine Siskin	S
	Orange-crowned Warbler	S	American Goldfinch	S
	Yellow-rumped Warbler	S	-	*



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