



Weekender

March 19, 2010

TENTATIVE AGENDA

Regular Board Meeting

March 20, 2010 – 9:00 a.m.

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Note: The Board Room will open at 8:00 am to allow time for Board members to review and discuss agenda items and materials among themselves as needed prior to the start of the meeting.

Call to Order - Regular Board Meeting – Flood

Safety in the Workplace – Flood

Floor Comments (20 Minutes)

Adopt Agenda – Flood*

Approval of Minutes of the February 20, 2010 Regular Board Meeting– Flood*

Old Business

Operations Manual – Approval of revision request from 2/20/2010 meeting

Resolution – Surfside Pension Plan Renewal*

Update on 2010 Board Goals - Robinson

New Business

Waterway Treatment Discussion – Murrell

Pedestrian Bridge Approach Improvements

Communications

Incoming Correspondence

Outgoing Correspondence

Meetings & Contacts

Staff & Committee Reports

Receipt of Committee Reports*

Comments (10 minutes)

Recess to Closed Session on Personnel, Legal, & Contract Issues or Employee Matters (If necessary)

Reconvene to Open Session for Action Items (If necessary)

Floor Topics for the Good of the Order

Adjourn*

- **Requires Board Action**

SHOA MEMBERS: This is your organization, your investment and your lifestyle. In your own interests, please consider attending the meetings.'

100 DAYS OF COLOR PROGRESS



January 7, 2010 peeking thru.

March 12, 2010

March 18, 2010

FISHING DERBY CHAIRPERSON

The date for the annual Fishing Derby is fast approaching. This is a great activity for the children and grandchildren of Surfside members. As of this date we do not have anyone to organize this event, which could mean the derby will be cancelled for this year. If you would like to see this event continue, please think about helping. If you would chair the committee, or be an active participant with this committee for this event please call the Surfside Office. Traditionally this event is held Memorial Day Weekend. This event has always been well received.



Last year's proud winner!

NOTES FROM THE COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE

The Community Relations Committee is working on the upcoming events:

1. A spring Planting Demonstration for late April, in preparation for Mother's Day.
2. The 3rd Annual Memorial Day Weekend Garage Sale....May 28, 29 from 10:00 AM to 3:00 PM
3. Dedication of the Surfside Veterans Memorial at the 306th Place bridge mid June (hopefully for Flag Day)

PENINSULA QUILT GUILD SHOW

March 19-21, is the annual Peninsula Quilt Guild Show at the Columbia Heritage Museum in Ilwaco. The prize quilt is called "Oh My Stars" and is beautiful a \$1.00 raffle ticket might make it yours!

Janet King, last year's featured quilter at this event, will be unveiling her newest work of art, "Chinook Winds"; there will be other Surfsiders exhibiting their designs and handiwork as well. We would love to know more about all of you..why not send some updates to the Weekender?



"OH MY STARS"

Lost Cat



"GEORGIA" is MISSING
Lost Sun am, March 7th
From 1200 Block of 310th Place,
Ocean Park/Surfside

Georgia is a 13 year old spayed female, tortie-tabby. Her front paws are de-clawed. She needs medication administered twice daily. If you see Georgia please contact: (360) 465-2368! *(Goske-Calewitz)*

\$100 REWARD

COMMUNITY RELATIONS STORAGE SHED

The long awaited storage shed for the Community Relations Committee has been delivered, and set up at the RV Storage Lot. Yeah!



Being delivered.



Getting set into place.



In place and ready to use!

AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL

American Red Squirrel



The **American Red Squirrel** (*Tamiasciurus hudsonicus*) is one of two species of tree squirrel currently classified in the genus *Tamiasciurus* and known as pine squirrels (the other is the Douglas Squirrel *T. douglasii*). It is a medium sized (200–250 g) diurnal mammal that defends a year-round exclusive territory. The diet of these tree squirrels is specialized on the seeds of conifer cones. As such, they are widely distributed across North America wherever conifers are common, except on the Pacific coasts where they are replaced by Douglas Squirrels. Recently American Red Squirrel have been expanding their range to include primarily hardwood areas.

Binomial Nomenclature and identification



Front view, Gatineau Park, Quebec

American Red Squirrels are also referred to as **Pine Squirrels**, **North American Red Squirrels** and **Chickarees**. They should not be confused with Eurasian Red Squirrels (*Sciurus vulgaris*); since the ranges of these species do not overlap, they are both commonly referred to as "red squirrels" in the areas where they are native. The specific epithet *hudsonicus* refers to Hudson Bay, Canada, where the species was first catalogued by Erxleben in 1771. Red squirrels can be easily identified from other North American tree squirrels by their smaller size, territorial behavior and reddish fur with a white venter (under-belly). Red squirrels are also somewhat larger than chipmunks. The Douglas Squirrel is morphologically similar to the American Red Squirrels but has a rust venter and is restricted to the southwestern coast of British Columbia and in the Pacific Northwest of the United States. These two species do not co-occur.

AMERICAN RED SQUIRREL

Evolution/Systematics

American Red Squirrels are widely distributed across North America. Their range includes most of Canada, and extends into the United States in the Rocky Mountains, the North Central and North East. There are 25 recognized sub-species of red squirrels. The sub-species of red squirrel found in the southwest Yukon is *T. hudsonicus petulans*. A recent phylogeny suggests that squirrels as a family can be divided into five major lineages. Two of these clades are monotypic. Red squirrels (*Tamiasciurus*) fall within one of three remaining clades that includes flying squirrels and other tree squirrels (e.g., *Sciurus*). This clade is thought to have diverged from ground squirrels, chipmunks and marmots. See Mercer and Roth for details and interesting discussion of the climatic and tectonic events associated with these diversifications.

Status

American Red Squirrels are abundant and not of conservation concern throughout much of their range. However, an isolated population of red squirrels in Arizona has experienced considerable declines in population size. In 1987, this portion of the population was listed as endangered.^[citation needed]

Food habits



Eating nut

American Red Squirrels are primarily granivores, but incorporate other food items into their diet opportunistically. In the Yukon, extensive behavioral observations suggest that white spruce seeds (*Picea glauca*) comprise over 50% of a red squirrel's diet (McAdam & Boutin unpub. data), but squirrels have also been observed eating the following: spruce buds and needles, mushrooms, willow (*Salix sp.*) leaves, poplar (*Populus sp.*) buds and catkins, bearberry (*Arctostaphylos sp.*) flowers and berries, and animal material such as bird eggs. White spruce cones mature in late July and are harvested by red squirrels in August and September. These harvested cones are stored in a central cache and provide energy and nutrients for survival over the winter and reproduction the following spring. The fallen scales from consumed seed cones can collect in piles, called middens, more than a meter across. White spruce exhibits 2–6 year mast cycles, where a year of superabundant cone production (mast year) is followed by several years in which few cones are produced. American Red Squirrel territories may contain only one or several middens.

Red squirrels clip and gather truffles/mushrooms and place them amongst the branches of trees to dry them in the sun.

Nesting behavior

Nests are most commonly constructed of grass in the branches of spruce trees. Nests are also excavated from witches' broom—abnormally dense vegetative growth resulting from a rust disease—or cavities in the trunks of spruce, poplar trees, and walnut. Kluane red squirrels rarely nest below ground. Each individual squirrel has several nests within its territory and females with young move offspring between nests. Some behavior has been reported within human dwellings using insulation as nesting fodder.

American Red Squirrel

Reproduction

American Red Squirrels are spontaneous ovulators. Females enter estrus for only one day, but venture from their territory prior to ovulation and these exploratory forays may serve to advertise their upcoming estrus. On the day of estrus, females are chased by several males in an extended mating chase. Males compete with one another for the opportunity to mate with the estrous female. Estrous females will mate with 4–16 males. Gestation has been reported to range from 31 to 35 days. Females can breed for the first time at one year of age but some females delay breeding until two years of age or older. Most females produce only one litter, but in some years reproduction is skipped while in other years some females attempted to breed twice. Litter sizes typically range from 1 to 5, but most litters contain 3 or 4 offspring. Offspring are pink and hairless at birth and weigh approximately 10 g. Offspring grow at approximately 1.8 g/day while nursing but do not reach adult body size until 125 days of age. Offspring first emerge from their natal nest at around 42 days of age but continue to nurse until approximately 70 days.

In the June 2008 issue of *Animal Behavior*, researchers, studying a population of red squirrels over a period of three years in south-west Yukon, reported that female red squirrels showed high levels of multi-male mating and would even mate with males that had similar genetic relatedness, basically mating with their relatives. While males mating with multiple females is quite common in the animal kingdom, females that multi-mate is much harder to explain. Through their observations, it was noted that when female red squirrels chose a mate to copulate with, genetic relatedness did not play a factor. The researchers also found that the relatedness of parents had no effect on the neonatal mass and growth rate of their offspring, nor did it affect the survival rate of offspring to one year of age.

Dispersal

Juvenile American Red Squirrels must acquire a territory and midden prior to their first winter. Juveniles without a midden do not survive their first winter. Offspring can acquire a territory by competing for a vacant territory, creating a new territory or by receiving all or part of a territory from their mother. This somewhat rare (15% of litters) female behavior is referred to as breeding dispersal or bequeathal and is a form of maternal investment in offspring. The prevalence of this behavior is related to the abundance of food resources and the age of the mother. In some cases females will acquire additional middens prior to reproduction, which they later bequeath to their offspring. Offspring that do not receive a midden from their mother typically settle within 150 m (3 territory diameters) from their natal territory.

Survival

American Red Squirrels experience severe early mortality (on average only 22% survive to one year of age). The survival probability, however, increases to age three at which point it begins to decrease again. Females that survive to one year of age have a life expectancy of 2.3 years and a maximum lifespan of eight years.

Predators

American Red Squirrels are preyed upon by Canadian Lynx (*Lynx canadensis*), Bobcat (*Lynx rufus*), Coyote (*Canis latrans*), Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*), Northern Goshawk (*Accipiter gentilis*), Red-tailed Hawk (*Buteo jamaicensis*), American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*), American Marten (*Martes americana*), Red Fox (*Vulpes vulpes*), Gray Fox (*Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), Wolf (*Canis lupus*) and weasel (*Mustela sp.*). However, predation on adult American Red Squirrels is thought to be relatively low compared to other mammals living in the North (e.g., snowshoe hares).

March 2010

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
14 Daylight Savings Set your clocks ahead one hour.	15 Land and Buildings Meeting 1:00 PM	16 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM	17 	18	19 Annual Quilt Show at Columbia Heritage Museum	20 Board Meeting 9:00 AM Annual Quilt Show at Columbia Heritage Museum
21 Annual Quilt Show at Columbia Heritage Museum	22	23 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM Community Relations Fourth of July Float Meeting 1:00 PM	24	25	26	27
28	29	30 Architectural Meeting 9:00 AM	31			
APRIL 2010				1	2 Water and Field Ser- vices 1:00 PM	3
				4 	5	6
			7	8 Lands and Buildings Committee Meeting 1:00 PM	9	10