



## **Getting to know Chilliwack's Species at Risk**

**Species at risk profile:** Pacific Water Shrew, *Sorex bendirii*

**What it looks like:**

A large shrew (up to 17.9 cm including the tail) with velvet-like dark brown to black fur, a dark brown tail, and fringe-like hairs on its feet. [Click here for more identification details.](#)

**Where it lives:**

Found in and around low elevation streams, marshes and wetlands. On land it prefers forests with an abundance of rotting logs in which to nest. [Visit this map for location details.](#)

**What it eats:**

It is a predator who hunts for aquatic insects, worms, and snails both on land and in water.

**What are its main threats in the Fraser Valley?**

Disturbances to streams, wetlands and adjacent habitat that result in habitat loss.

**Did you know?**

- Can run quickly across the surface of water by trapping air bubbles in the fringe hairs of its feet.
- Is an excellent swimmer that can stay underwater for up to 3.5 minutes.
- Click [here for more facts.](#)

**How you can help:**

Create buffer areas with native vegetation next to streams, marshes and wetlands.

Check out this guide for recommendations about managing [lands near water.](#)

Join the [Nature Stewards](#) program for personalized property advice.

Spot a Pacific Water Shrew? – take a photo, record the location, and send it to [outreach@fraservalleyconservancy.ca](mailto:outreach@fraservalleyconservancy.ca).

For any questions about this or other species at risk, contact the [Fraser Valley Conservancy.](#)