

Burns Bog Field Trip Assignment.

Charles Menzies

Field Trip Write-up Instructions

Working in groups of three:

- Select a plant that has growth forms/portions that are available for harvesting in the fall (one found growing locally would make your task easier. Think about harvesting some samples on our up-coming field trip).
- Write up a botanical description of the plant that includes its historical and contemporary use. Research how this plant has been classified by indigenous peoples and/or contemporary harvesters/users. Please be sure to describe how your plant is classified with and against other growth forms. That is, how does the indigenous method of classification differ or correspond to the taxonomic description of your plant? If you are not sure how to do this consult the following (I will place a pdf of both online this week):
 - Turner, Nancy J. (2000). "General Plant Categories in Thompson (Nlaka'pamux) and Lillooet (Stl'atl'imx), Two Interior Salish Languages of British Columbia." In **Ethnobotany: A Reader**, ed. Paul E. Minnis. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, pp. 88-117
 - Berlin, Brent (1992). **Ethnobiological Classification: Principles of Categorization of Plants and Animals in Traditional Societies**. Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press. Chapter 1: "On the Making of a Comparative Ethnobiology," pp. 3-51.

Due date: October 13, 2009.

Length: 6 pages double spaced. Your report should include images of and/or sample of the plant your report is about.

Marks: this is one of the required assignments.

Suggested Outline:

paragraph 1: a description of the plant

paragraph 2, 3, and 4: indigenous use (historical and contemporary)

paragraph 5: indigenous classification and/or contemporary harvesters use

paragraph 6, 7, and 8: comparison of classifications

paragraph 9: conclusions, consequences and implications

Note, these are only suggestions, please feel free to organize this assignment in a manner that best communicates your learning and understanding of the information.

Hints:

Do not start your assignment with a description of the Latin/scientific name, rather if you had to describe the plant to someone over the phone what would you say. Include a dried and labeled sample of your plant with your write up.

Why are we doing this?

I want you to gain first hand knowledge working with plants and thus to gain an opportunity to understand the practical and experiential aspects of local ecological knowledge.

Field Trip Information:

Date: Saturday, September 26, 2009

Time: Burns Bog at 10:00 am – leaving the bog by 2:00 pm

You will need to make your own way to the Bog. Directions listed below. You will find it useful to try and coordinate travel with classmates. Time will be provided during this evening's class to make arrangements

Directions to the Bog:

- From Vancouver, head South towards Delta via the Oak Street Bridge.
- Follow the directions to and through the Dease Island Tunnel ,
- After the tunnel, take Exit 28 – labeled River Road North. Do not be confused by the River Road South Exit sign.
- After exiting, keep to the far left, and at the top of the overpass (there is a light) make a Left Hand Turn.
- Follow this route and take a Right Hand Turn onto 60th Avenue (60th avenue is the first avenue you will come to). Look for the Greater Vancouver Landfill Sign.
- Take a Right Hand Turn onto 64th street. This route turns into Burns Drive. Follow this route for approximately 10 minutes.
- This route leads to the Vancouver Landfill and one of the trail-heads into the Bog.
- Parking at the Bog: A parking area is available along the road-side. Obey these signs, since parking is enforced.

What to bring:

Comfortable footwear: If you do not mind wet feet, hiking sandals will be the most comfortable since the trail is soft and very muddy in places. Sneakers or boots are another option. Remember, foot wear that does not cause blisters are what is ultimately is best.

Rainwear (in the event of rain): A light-weight rain jacket with a hood will keep you dry. The hike into the area we well be visiting will take about 45 minutes (moderate walking pace). The terrain is level.

Writing equipment/collecting bags: Notebook and pencils (preferably water-proof paper). Paper and plastic bags to hold your plant samples; containers for berries. If you plan on collecting water plants a tray and dip-net would be useful

First aid equipment: mole-skin and band-aids, Kleenex etc.

Cell Phone:

Lunch: Include approximately 2 liters of water.

Note: there are no toilet facilities in this part of the bog. Use the toilet before we leave.