



Tk'emlúps te Secwépemc

2019-2021 Pepí7se (Snake) Stewardship Project

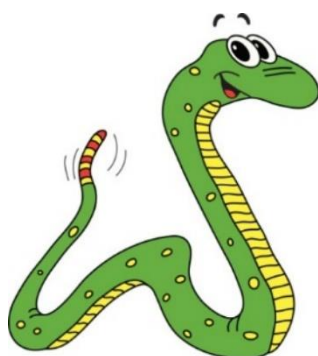
To All Community Members:

The TteS Lands, Leasing and Tax Department is conducting a snake stewardship project on the Great Basin Gophersnake, Western Rattlesnake, Northern Rubber Boa and Western Yellow-bellied Racer (see snake identification on back of this page). **We are asking for your assistance by reporting all snake sightings, and to share your stories/traditional knowledge about snakes.**

Why should you care about snakes?

- Snakes are FREE pest control. They eat large insects, rats and mice!
- Snakes are a food source for eagles, owls and coyotes.
- Due to miseducation, fear and habitat loss, snake populations are declining.

What to do if you see a snake:



- Stop.
- Allow the snake to move away.
- If the snake doesn't move OR if the snake is one body length away, move directly away from the snake.
- Be aware of your surroundings – you don't want to trip on a rock or a second snake.
- **DO NOT** pick up a dead rattlesnake. The biting reflex remains intact after death.

Please report snake sightings (dead or alive) to:

Jo-Anne Hales, Enviro Specialist
Phone: 250-314-1547 or (cell) 250-819-4277
Email: jo-anne.hales@kib.ca

Alicia Decock, Enviro Tech
Phone: 250-828-9750
Email: alicia.decock@kib.ca

***Killing or capturing snakes is illegal under British Columbia's Wildlife Act.
At risk species are protected under the Federal Species at Risk Act.***

Pepi7se (Snake) Identification



Great Basin Gophersnake

- size: ranges from 3 to 8 feet
- non-venomous
- dark, square-shaped blotches down the back
- background color is creamy yellow to greyish yellow
- black 'mask' – band of black from one corner of the mouth to the other and around eyes
- small vertical bands from bottom of each eye to mouth



Western Rattlesnake

- size: ranges from 2 to 5 feet
- venomous
- rattle on end of tail
- broad, triangular head
- quiet, non-aggressive
- long, dark cheek patches
- dark blotches surrounded by lighter-coloured halos running down the back



Northern Rubber Boa

- size: ranges from 1 to 2.5 feet
- non-venomous
- stout bodies; look and feel like rubber
- plain brown to olive green; cream to yellow on the belly
- non-aggressive, slow moving
- small eyes
- short, blunt tails that look similar to the head



Western Yellow-Bellied Racer

- size: ranges from 1.5 to 6.5 feet
- non-venomous
- long, slender snakes
- grey to olive green; white to yellow on the belly
- aggressive, fast snakes
- large eyes
- born with rusty, brown blotches on back and sides that fade as they mature