

BC BIRDING

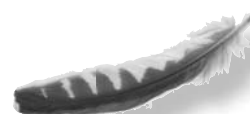
Newsletter of the British Columbia Field Ornithologists

ISSN 1206-1611

Volume 16 Number 2 / June 2006



Western Bluebird boxes along Beaver Lake Road near Kelowna (an AGM field trip option)



In This Issue

Bird Listers' Corner	1
BCFO Officers and Directors; BCFO Information	2
President's Report	3-4
Internet Sources.....	4
Editor's Notes and Notions.....	5
Proposed revisions to Section 3 of the BC Field Ornithologists' Policy Manual	6-7
16th Annual General Conference	8-9
Upcoming Meetings and Events, BC Birding News Briefs	10-11
Checklist Order	12-13
BCFO Grants / New Members.....	13
Changhua Wild Bird Society	14
Bird Listers' Corner	15-22
British Columbia Bird Records: Winter, 2005/2006.	23-24
Authors in this Issue	25
Advertisements	26-28

Bird Listers' Corner

A total of 48 people sent in one or more lists for this column. This is a bit of a decrease from the 54 who sent in lists last year, but perhaps this can be attributed to our *faux pas* in failing to include the listing report form with the December issue of BC BIRDING, and instead including it with the March issue, when people weren't expecting it. In any case, thanks to everyone who did send in some lists. We hope you do find this report interesting, and that even more of you will support us in future.

Once again, for the British Columbia list—and for that list only—I have included not only provincial lists that were submitted to BCFO, but also those that were published in the latest “ABA List Report” and “Canadian Listers' Corner” (see more about those publications below). There are 82 B.C. lists, of which 10 are a year old and indicated by an asterisk (*), and 7 are 2 years old and indicated by two asterisks (**). In future, I plan to drop any lists older than 2 years. However, I thought it would be

please see Listers Corner, page 15

BCFO Officers and Directors

PRESIDENT

Sandra Kinsey
9860 Alpine Drive, Prince George, BC V2N 5W7
250-963-8381 (phone/fax) / sjskinsey@direct.ca

PAST PRESIDENT

Ian Robertson
1525 - 200th St., Langley, BC V2Z 1W5
604-530-1080 / ian@robertsonenvironmental.com

VICE PRESIDENT

Richard (Dick) J. Cannings
S11, C96, RR1, Naramata, BC V0H 1N0
250-496-4019/250-496-4049 (fax) / dickcannings@shaw.ca

TREASURER (INTERIM)

Richard (Dick) J. Cannings
S11, C96, RR1, Naramata, BC V0H 1N0
250-496-4019/250-496-4049 (fax) / dickcannings@shaw.ca

RECORDING SECRETARY

Richard (Dick) J. Cannings
S11, C96, RR1, Naramata, BC V0H 1N0
250-496-4019/250-496-4049 (fax) / dickcannings@shaw.ca

DIRECTORS

Kevin Bell

1302 Sunnyside Drive, North Vancouver, BC V7R 1B1
604-980-9085

Wayne Diakow

9840 Waller Court, Richmond, BC V7E 5S9
604-275-2753 / wdiakow@shaw.ca

Jim Ginns

1970 Sutherland Road, Penticton, BC V2A 8T8
250-492-9610 / ginnsj@telus.net

Tony Greenfield

P.O. Box 319, Sechelt, BC V0N 3A0,
604-885-5539 / greenfieldtony@hotmail.com

Brian Self

3082 West 13th Avenue, Vancouver, BC V6K 2V2
604-732-7128 / brianself@telus.net

Andrew Stewart

3932 Telegraph Bay Road, Victoria, BC V8N 4H7
250-477-1328 / andy.stewart@shaw.ca

John Vooyo

3721 Nicola St., Abbotsford, BC V2T 4Z9
604-850-3757 / mvarts@shaw.ca

MEMBERSHIP

Rita Wege
718 Stanley St., Nelson, BC V1L 1N5
250-354-1685 / rwege@telus.net

ARCHIVIST

Hue MacKenzie
15341 - 21 st Ave, Surrey, BC V4A 6A8
604-538-1676 / motmot@telus.net

NEWSLETTER EDITOR

Phil Henderson
P.O. Box 615, Fort Langley, BC V1M 2R9
604-888-1571 / strix@uniserve.com

JOURNAL EDITOR

John Sprague
474 Old Scott Road
Salt Spring Island, BC
V8K 2L7
250-537-0760
sprague@saltspring.com

NEWSLETTER DISTRIBUTION

Ted Goshulak
9578 - 212 B St., Langley, BC V1M 1N4
604-888-0408 / tgosh@twu.ca

LIAISON, CHANGHWA WILD BIRD SOCIETY

Jo Ann MacKenzie
15341-21 Avenue, Surrey, BC V4A 6A8
604-538-1676 / j.a.mackenzie@telus.net

BC Birding, ISSN 1206-1611, is published four times a year by British Columbia Field Ornithologists (BCFO), P.O. Box 8059 Victoria, B.C. V8W 3R7

A subscription to this quarterly is a benefit of membership in the society. Members will also receive a copy of the annual journal, *British Columbia Birds*. Membership in BCFO is open to anyone interested in the study and enjoyment of wild birds in British Columbia.

BCFO objectives include fostering cooperation between amateur and professional ornithologists, promoting cooperative bird surveys and research projects, and supporting conservation organizations in their efforts to preserve birds and their habitats.

Since November, 2003, BCFO has maintained an official partnership with the Changhwa Wild Bird Society, Changhwa, Taiwan.

Membership Dues

Please send membership requests, or requests for further information, to

Membership
British Columbia Field Ornithologists
P.O. Box 8059, Victoria, BC V8W 3R7

Membership Dues:

Individual memberships	\$25.00
Library subscriptions.....	\$25.00
Junior memberships (age under 18).....	\$18.00
U.S. and foreign memberships.....	\$25.00 (\$US)

Memberships are for the calendar year.

Newsletter Submissions

Send material for publication in any format to the editor. Submissions may include bird finding information for our "Site Guide" series and any articles about birding experiences, preferably but not necessarily in British Columbia. A brief biographical sketch (5--100 words) should accompany the article if the editor does not have a recent version or you wish to change it.

Please send newsletter submissions to

Phil Henderson (Editor, BC Birding)
Box 615, Fort Langley, BC V1M 2R9
604-888-1571 / strix@uniserve.com

Deadline for the receipt of material for publication is the 15th of the month preceding the March, June, September, and December issues.

Advertising

Advertising rates are available upon request.

BCFO Website

<http://www.bcfo.ca>



President's Report

This will be my last President's Report. I have served six years on the BCFO board. The organization has wisely set a limit of six years as the maximum number of years a member can serve consecutively on the board. My term has been interesting and rewarding. I have gotten to know other birders from elsewhere in British Columbia during my term, and even from outside of BC. I have learned new skills, and I have learned new ways of doing familiar things. I do this for the birds.

Technology has changed the face of the BCFO. We have our own up-to-date website with past and current journal articles, list of current Board members, information on the Annual Conferences and the Vancouver Island Barn Owl Project, bird photos, people photos and other interesting and useful information. Do check it out.

The Board meets by telephone conference call most of the time now, making it easier for board members outside the Lower Mainland-southern Vancouver Island area to participate. Email has been an integral part of the functioning of the board for a number of years now. It has been a godsend for keeping me in touch whether I'm in northeastern BC or India or Africa.

Speaking of northeastern BC, I'm there now. We are camping in the middle of a young clearcut to be near our study sites. At this time of year, early June, the sun comes up about 4:30am so we are up early, even though the robins are up earlier. We start our bird surveys between 4:30 and 5:00 am. Today is another hot day, so the bird song started to taper off around 7:30 and by lunch time there's just the occasional energetic Alder Flycatcher or Clay-colored Sparrow singing once in a while. A strong breeze is keeping the mosquitoes and no-see-ums at bay; perhaps the breeze is also discouraging the birds from singing. I love it up here.

After my last report, where my head was in the Yucatan, Mexico, it was suggested I write about northern BC. I thought it was a wonderful idea. Then, as I thought about it, I realized it wasn't going to be such an easy task. I know mainly about the Northeast

(Peace) and the Prince George areas. I know a few naturalist clubs and individuals have produced valuable checklists for their local area. New checklists have come out recently for Tumbler Ridge and Dawson Creek. McBride has a draft ready. Crescent Spur, Prince George, Smithers have had checklists for a number of years. And from the Smithers area, Mel Coulson has made a CD of Bulkley Valley bird songs.

As many of you know, northeastern BC has a number of bird species not normally seen in the rest of BC. From the Jasper area, the Rocky Mountains cut northwest while the arbitrary political boundary separating BC and Alberta heads straight north, putting some prairie country into BC. Lake Williston is in the Rocky Mountain Trench on the western flanks of the Rockies in central BC. The lowest pass through the Rockies is the Pine Pass – which is located between Lake Williston and the prairie country of the BC Peace. Some birds migrate north-south. Some birds migrate east-west, even when it means crossing the Rocky Mountains! Tantalizing isn't it?

The Mackenzie Nature Observatory has operated a fall migration monitoring station near Mackenzie, on the shores of Lake Williston, for close to 15 years. The station bands passerines mainly. As well as the expected western species, they are getting some eastern species like Blue-headed Vireo, Canada Warbler, Black-and-white Warbler, and Philadelphia Vireo. Grey-cheeked Thrush is from northwestern BC. Where are these birds going to? Coming from? There's been some exciting recoveries, also, giving us a clue to the answer to these questions. A bird I banded was found in Michigan; it is even more exciting when it's a bird with which you had a moment. The station has captured local birds several times over the years; one American Restart was calculated to be 8 years old. There are endless possibilities for this station, including sub-stations in other habitats and spring banding. There are opportunities for volunteers to help out too.

Up until a few years ago, the observatory also conducted transect surveys for spring and fall migrants. These transects are not

being done anymore but the data is going to be analyzed this year. I'm sure something will be published in one of our publications to keep you informed.

2005 was Year 5 for the five-year South Peace Bird Atlas project, in the Dawson Creek area. A number of you helped out on this project either on your own or when you came up for the Dawson Creek and/or Tumbler Ridge BCFO Annual Conference. It focused on the distribution and breeding status of common birds, which is so important. In our search for rarities, we sometimes forget the importance of common species until they too are rarities!

Mark Phinney, a biologist with Louisiana-Pacific in Dawson Creek, completed the field work on a "Ten Years Later" project of birds on a landscape level in the Dawson Creek area. Results should be interesting as the habitats had not been altered between the two sets of surveys. Mark is also conducting in-depth surveys of Connecticut Warbler and Black-throated Green Warbler. He had an article in a recent *BC Birds* issue on the latter species.

In nearby Chetwynd, Wayne Campbell has been conducting breeding bird surveys across a broad range of habitats.

Laird Law has put in over 100 hours each spring for the last six years monitoring migrating raptors at Stoner, 30 km south of Prince George. The site works well in the spring for a variety of raptors. He usually detects over 400 individual raptors during that time belonging to 12 species; primarily Bald Eagles. The site is also good for small landbirds. One morning this spring, he watched a Red-breasted Sapsucker fly into view and land in the shrub forest below him. A few hours later the bird began calling. It was there the next day also. A brief article was published in *BC Birding* several years ago.

In Oct, 1998, Peter Sherrington, of Canmore, Alberta, spent a couple of weeks in the Pine Pass scouting out locations for monitoring Golden Eagles making their way through to the Mt. Lorette observation station in the Rockies west of Calgary. You will remember Peter discovered Golden



President's Report cont.

Eagles *do* migrate; he gets over 4,000 passing by Mt. Lorette each year. Laird Law and I have gone into the Pine Pass for a week or so every year since then to search for migrating Golden Eagles. Our best day was 163 Golden Eagles. 2005 was our poorest year eagle-wise as the weather was so uncooperative. As a redeeming factor, we learned to check the small nearby lake every morning. We unexpectedly found Western and Horned Grebes forced down on this high mountain lake in the bad weather!

There are a number of other viewing locations to check out for eagle watching, but they need to be monitored at the same time so results can be compared. This takes manpower. Another opportunity for volunteers.

Forest breeding birds have been surveyed commercially in varying intensities in northern BC for a number of years. Most projects have been associated with resource extraction. They range from 5-day snapshots to 3 months, one year to multi-year. I don't know about many of them. Sometimes the data is shared locally. Sometimes the data is lost. At the very least, this information supplies necessary distribution data. Don't laugh. For years, I participated in land use planning processes. It kept coming up that we didn't know what species were out there! Sure, we knew generally on a broad scale, but that didn't help. Inventory! Inventory! And then there's monitoring, productivity studies, breeding and migration chronologies, post-breeding dispersal, and what about the resident species?

Some areas have received more coverage than others. We have a good grip on the South Peace, Mackenzie and Prince George regions. Vanderhoof, Smithers, McBride have volunteers updating work done over 10 years ago. I realize this is a very biased list. There have been other efforts I have not mentioned, either because I don't know about them or can't think of them right now. And I do have only so much space. So drop me a line. Maybe I have started something here.

Now back to BCFO business directly. The BCFO Board can have up to nine members. I hope you will consider volunteering your enthusiasm and/or skills to your organization. Yes, it is your organization. Each of you has something to contribute, whether you are an amateur or a professional. Review the purposes of BCFO. What do you see in the future for the BCFO? What would you like to see? How would you like to see the BCFO adapt to deal with the increasing pressures on our favourite birding spots? The decline in bird populations? Communications? The old adage "many hands make light work" is so true. The personalities on the board may change, and the emphasis of the organization's activities will fluctuate, but the vision stays the same: To Promote the Study and Enjoyment of Wild Birds in British Columbia.

Happy birding,

Sandra Kinsey, President

Internet Sources

BCFO

<http://www.bcfo.ca>

Alaska Bird Observatory

<http://www.alaskabird.org/>

Biodiversity Centre for Wildlife Studies

<http://www.wildlifebc.org>

Bird Studies Canada / Long Point Bird Observatory

<http://www.bsc-eoc.org/bscmmain.html>

Birding in British Columbia

General interest information including bulletin board, checklists, rare bird alerts, book reviews, etc.

<http://www.birding.bc.ca/>

BIRDNET

Site of the Ornithological Council.
<http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/>

Bird Source

Audubon's and Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology's interactive bird information site, featuring "eBird"

<http://www.birdsource.com/>

British Columbia Conservation Data Centre

Information on plants, animals and ecosystems at risk in British Columbia.
<http://www.env.gov.bc.ca/cdc/>

Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

<http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/birds/>

Point Reyes Bird Observatory

<http://www.prbo.org/cms/index.php>

The A.O.U. Check-list of North American Birds, Seventh Edition

<http://www.aou.org/checklist/index.php3>

SORA: Searchable Ornithological Research Archive

Search and retrieve online publications from The Auk (1884-1999), The Condor (1899-2000), Journal of Field Ornithology (1930-1999), North American Bird Bander (1976-2000), Pacific Coast Avifauna (1900-1974), Studies in Avian Biology (1978-1999), Wilson Bulletin (1889-1999). All articles are available as DjVu's and PDF's.

<http://elibrary.unm.edu/sora/>



Editor's Notes and Notions

June, the supreme bird month in Canada. It's engaged, engaging and soon to come to an end. Where is that newsletter? Here, dammit. But why so late? La dee da dee dum. Let's go birding! Okay.

The upcoming AGM is nearing. Avian insiders tell me that the birds of the Kelowna area have caught wind of this event and have already begun preening, have reduced singing to save their syrinxes for the grand event, and, in a display of extraordinary self discipline and vulgarity, have delayed fornication for second broods so as to give the birders a bit of excitement in July. It seems that the birds have not had "enough of this permissive society." I say blame it all on shopping malls. The House Sparrows, I am told, fervently disagree. When Band-tailed Pigeons, Palm Warblers and LeConte's Sparrows begin frequenting strip malls I'll abandon all things ornithological and declare the end of the world. Of course, these birds might not have a choice as strip malls are popping up like Ruby-crowned Kinglet crests, obliterating all that this good (or at least neutral) in this world. Until then I'll be watching with interest, even the ethologically deviant.

There are numerous interesting talks and walks planned for the AGM (see this issue and last). This is a great opportunity to explore that part of the Okanagan with people in the know. If you haven't registered, now's the time to do so; another registration form is included with this newsletter. The extension trip to Cathedral Park (see March issue for details) has stimulated a great rush of interest and no doubt it will not disappoint.

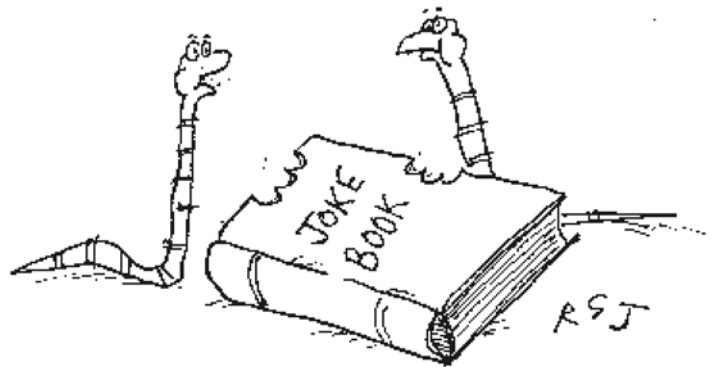
As usual I am indebted to all those who contribute to the newsletter. In this issue, Bird Listers' Corner, compiled by Wayne

Weber, is sure to arouse interest and possibly even suspicion. For the listing enthusiasts there are eight pages over which to drool or cry; this edition has been printed on special waterproof paper. Don Cecile has again compiled a list of unusual bird sightings for the winter. Martin McNicholl discusses the use of the checklist order for the new A.O.U. eighth edition, and provides his usual listings of upcoming meetings, events, and news briefs. Our Board of Directors has included an article outlining the proposed changes to the BCFO Policy Manual. Please review this as it will be an item for voting at the AGM. Jo Ann MacKenzie presents an update on events of the Changhua Wild Bird Society. Opportunities for an assortment of bird- and natural history-oriented vacations are presented in advertisements comprising the last three pages of the newsletter. Sandra Kinsey, BCFO's President for the last three years, is leaving that post and I would like to thank her for all of her hard work, for her newsletter contributions, and for her encouragement of my newsletter efforts.

June is more than half over and there is much information to gather. All of it is important. Unusual sightings can be

submitted to Don Cecile, and to two outlets listed in the web page listings in this publication (page 4): the British Columbia Conservation Data Centre and the Biodiversity Centre for Wildlife Studies. It is important that the information is recorded, kept secure and made available.

Phil Henderson, Editor



"Does this taste funny to you?"

From The Spectator, London; Courtesy CanWest News Service.



Proposed revisions to Section 3 of the BC Field Ornithologists' Policy Manual

Your Board of Directors has unanimously recommended the following revisions to Section 3 of the BCFO Policy Manual. This section, in its current form, does not allow Directors to claim any travel expenses incurred to attend meetings of the Board of Directors. However, in lieu of reimbursement, Directors are permitted to receive a tax deductible receipt. The revisions we propose below would allow Director's to recoup some of their travel costs while attending these meetings.

Your Board of Directors currently meet face to face about 3 times per year and the remaining 5-6 meetings per year are held via teleconference. Face to face meetings are generally held in a location where (typically the Lower Mainland), and at a time when, travel costs can be minimized. Meetings are frequently held to coincide with other travel which helps to defray costs, both to the Directors and to the Society. We believe these changes are necessary in order to attract and retain a geographically diverse Board of Directors. Please support these changes at our Annual Meeting in Kelowna this July.

BCFO Board of Directors

The following is the current policy with proposed deletions shown as struck through and additions shown as underlined:

3. FINANCIAL POLICIES,

A. ~~Directors~~ Reimbursement for Expenses

1. Directors and approved members shall be reimbursed for business expenses incurred to carry out the business of the Society by submitting an accounting for their expenditures with invoices, receipts or other documents supporting the amounts of their claim.

2. Normal business expenses include expenditures for:

- * organizing birding field trips;
- * organizing ornithological conferences;
- * organizing annual general meetings;
- * travel to attend meetings preapproved by the Board of Directors;
- * postage, printing, stationary, long distance telephone, and
- * other operating expenses which may arise.

~~Travel to attend Directors' meetings is NOT eligible for reimbursement under Parts 1 & 2 of this policy—Parts 4,5,6 and 7 provide for travel claims to attend Directors' meetings.~~

3. Business expense claims and travel expense claims for attending Directors' meetings shall be submitted to the Treasurer for payment using an approved expense form.
4. Directors and members of the Society's working committees, who the Directors request be in attendance, shall be reimbursed for travel expenses to attend Directors' meetings and the Annual General Meeting upon the Treasurer receiving ~~equivalent cash donations from the Directors or working committee members making these travel claims. The cash donations shall be made payable to the Society. Tax receipts will be issued to claimants together with payments of their claims.~~(Rev. AGM June 23,2001)M:
5. Original receipts (e.g. ferry, highway tolls), invoices or other supporting documents must accompany travel expense claims for attending Directors' meetings except for meals and private vehicle usage. Meal and mileage allowances, based on Government of BC rates shown in Parts 6 & 7, shall be used to reimburse for meals purchased and vehicles driven.
6. Maximum claim allowable for meals purchased is:
 - * Breakfast \$10.00
 - * Lunch \$15.00
 - * Dinner \$20.00
7. Maximum claim allowable for vehicles driven is:
\$ 0.4025 per kilometer ~~as of July 1, 2000~~
8. Other modes of transportation to attend meetings, including public transit, taxi, bus, and aircraft, can be claimed (receipts required) to a maximum of the equivalent mileage (per Part 7) or actual cost, whichever is the lesser amount.



9. If over night stay is necessary for any Board of Directors meeting or the Annual General Meeting the following overnight accommodation expenses would apply:

- for Board of Directors meetings. Directors or an invited member may claim reasonable accommodation expenses to a maximum of \$75.00 plus taxes per night.
- for the Annual General Meeting. The officers of the society (president, treasurer, recording secretary) and the AGM organiser, may claim up to two nights accommodation to a maximum of \$75/night, plus taxes.

8. ~~Those claiming expenses shall use a claims form developed by the Treasurer for this purpose.~~

9. ~~Directors on an (Annual) Conference committee who must incur travel expense(s) due to their responsibility for planning the Annual Conference, should claim reimbursement for their "out-of-pocket" expenses.~~
Feb.3,2002(4g)A.



From The Spectator, London; Courtesy CanWest News Service.



16TH Annual Conference of the BCFO

Conference Schedule

(Please note all events will take place at UBC Okanagan Conference Centre, Kelowna)

FRIDAY, July 14, 2006

7:00 – 9:00 pm	Registration – UBC Okanagan Conference Centre
7:30 pm	Welcome
7:00 – 9:00 pm	Social Hour

SATURDAY, July 15, 2006

6:00 am	Field Trips – depart UBC Conference Centre, return by 11:00 am
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Catered Lunch for those who have ordered
1:00 – 2:00 pm	Technical Session – Monashee Room
Speaker A	<i>Rick Howie - Birds in reclaimed sites</i>
Speaker B	<i>Helen Davis - Western Screech-Owl</i>
2:00 – 2:30	Break
2:30 – 3:45	Technical Session – Monashee Room
Speaker C	<i>Christine Bishop: Yellow-breasted Chat conservation in the south Okanagan</i>
Speaker D	<i>Dick Cannings: eBird program</i>
3:45 – 5:30 pm	Annual General Meeting – Monashee Room
6:00 – 7:00 pm	Social Hour - Monashee Room
7:00 – 9:30 pm	Banquet - Monashee Room
	<i>Guest Speaker: Dr. Alton Harestad, Biodiversity Centre for Wildlife Studies</i>

SUNDAY, July 16, 2006

6:00 am	Field Trips – depart UBC Centre, return by 11:00 am
12:00 – 1:00 pm	Catered lunch for those who have ordered and adjournment



Conference Field Trips

White Lake:

We will drive south to White Lake through Ponderosa Pine forest to arid sage brush habitat.

Possible species include Say's Phoebe, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Western & Mountain Bluebirds, Lazuli Buntings, Brewer's and Grasshopper Sparrows, Golden Eagle, White-throated Swift, Sage Thrasher, and Canyon Wrens.

Predator Ridge and Silver Star Mountain near Vernon:

Predator Ridge is arid grassland with aspen grove and some ponds, on the road to Silver Star ski area we will be traversing pine & Douglas-fir forest.

Possible species may include Least and Willow Flycatcher, Lazuli Bunting, Clay- Colored Sparrow, Swainson's Hawk, and Pine Grosbeaks.

Beaver Lake Road and Robert Lake:

We will drive to Winfield which includes the Beaver Lake Road on through arid grassland, aspen forest and Ponderosa Pine and Douglas-fir forest.

Bird species possible are Western Meadowlark, Vesper and Clay-Colored Sparrows, House Wren, Western and Mountain Bluebirds, Lazuli Buntings, Red-Naped Sapsuckers, Varied Thrush, Hermit and Swainson's Thrush and back at Robert Lake possible nesting American Avocet.

Scenic Myra Canyons:

This route will enter pine and Douglas-fir forest with rock outcroppings.

Birds we may encounter include Pygmy Nuthatch, White-Throated, Vaux's and Black Swifts, Winter Wren, Flycatcher species Bullock's Oriole, Western Tanager, Veery and other thrushes.

Mission Creek:

Birders may want to hike sections of Mission Creek in a self-guided walk where they may find Least and Willow Flycatchers, Brown Creeper, Pileated Woodpecker, American Dipper, and Osprey.

Wayne Diakow



BCFO Conference Venue and Accommodations

The 2006 BCFO Annual Conference will be held at the UBC Okanagan Conference & Accommodation Centre in Kelowna, BC. In spite of the cost challenges (high summer season in the Okanagan) we think we have arranged very comfortable surroundings at extremely reasonable rates. There are four main types of rooms (see form insert) and there are options for people who want to have kitchen units.

We will be having a catered lunch on Saturday at noon after the morning field trips, a banquet on Saturday night and a catered lunch on the Sunday following the morning field trips. PLEASE CONTACT THE CENTRE TO MAKE YOUR OWN RESERVATIONS. Also we must know on your registration form whether you will be coming to the banquet and/or the Saturday & Sunday lunch.

Wayne Diakow

See last issue (March 2006) for extension trip details.



Upcoming Meetings & Events

compiled by *Martin K. McNicholl*

- July 6-9 2006 NATURE CANADA ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Red Deer, Alberta. Contact: Bill Heinsen, Red Deer River Naturalists, Box 785, Red Deer, Alta. T4N 0A1; phone (403) 347-8200; e-mail: rdrn@rttinc.com.
- July 14-16 2006 B. C. FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS' ANNUAL GENERAL CONFERENCE, Kelowna, B.C. Contact information elsewhere in this newsletter.
- August 12-15 2006 ANIMAL BEHAVIOR SOCIETY'S 43RD ANNUAL MEETING, Snowbird, Utah. Contact: Jill Mateo e-mail jmateo@uchicago.edu.
- August 13-19 2006 24TH INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS, Hamburg, Germany. Contact: IOC 2006, Institute of Avian Research, An der Volgelwarte 21, 26386, Wilmshaven, Germany.
- August 23-26 2006 4TH NORTH AMERICAN DUCK SYMPOSIUM AND WORKSHOP, Bismarck, North Dakota. Contact: Mike Johnson, phone (701) 328-6319; e-mail mjohnson@state.nd.u.s.
- August 26-30 2006 LIMNOLOGY AND WATERBIRDS 2006, Eger, Hungary. Contact: Sandor Andrikovics, Dept. Zool., Esterhazy College of Education, H-3300 Eger Leányok Str. 6, Hungary; phone 36(36)520-462; e-mail aquabird2006@aries.ektf.hu OR Joseph Kerekes, Environ. Canada, 45 Alderney Dr., Dartmouth, N.S. B2Y 2N6; phone (902) 426-6356; e-mail joe.kerekes@ec.gc.ca.
- September 1-3 2006 9TH SEABIRD GROUP INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE, Aberdeen, Scotland. contact details to be announced on internet at: www.seabirdgroup.org.uk.
- early September 2006 BIODIVERSITY CENTRE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING, location, exact date and contact details not yet announced.
- September 14-17 2006 WESTERN BIRD BANDING ASSOCIATION ANNUAL MEETING, Albuquerque, New Mexico. Contact: Steve Cox e-mail: swcox@spinn.net.
- September 28, 2006 FEDERATION OF B.C. NATURALISTS FALL GENERAL MEETING, October 1 2006 Coquitlam. Contact details not yet announced.
- October 3-7 2006 4TH NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS –JOINT MEETING OF AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, ASSOCIATION OF FIELD ORNITHOLOGISTS, COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY, RAPTOR RESEARCH FOUNDATION, SOCIETY OF CANADIAN ORNITHOLOGISTS, WATERBIRD SOCIETY & WILSON ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY WITH MEXICAN HOSTS, Veracruz, Mexico. Additional ornithological societies may also participate. Contact: Charles M. Francis, National Wildlife Research Centre, Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Ont. K1A 0H3; phone (613) 998-0332; e-mail charles.francis@ec.gc.ca OR Jose Luis Alcantara e-mail jlalcant@colpos.mx.
- October 13-17 2006 INTERNATIONAL WADER STUDY GROUP ANNUAL CONFERENCE, Hollviken, Falsterbo peninsula, Sweden. Contact: Dept. of Animal Ecology, Ecology Building, S-223 62 Lund, Sweden, phone Ake Lindstrom +46-46-2224968, Juliana Danhardt +46-46-2223795 OR Johanna Gronroos +46-46-2220574; e-mail Ake.lindstrom@zookol.lu.se, Juliana.danhardt@zookeol.lu.se OR Johanna.gronroos@zookeol.lu.se.
- November 12-19 2006 CARNIVORES 2006, St. Petersburg, Florida. Contact [no person named] phone(202) 789-2844 extension 315.



B.C. Birding News Briefs

Compiled by Martin K. McNicholl

Top Honours to Sylvia Pincott –A highlight of the Wild Bird Trust of British Columbia's annual general meeting of 19 November 2005 was the awarding of the 2005 President's Award to Sylvia Pincott, a B.C.F.O. member, for her outstanding leadership in developing and implementing the Naturescape Program. Sylvia's response to this well-deserved recognition was published in Wild Bird Trust of British Columbia Wingspan winter/spring 2006: wingbeats pp. 1-2.

Long Distance Calliope –A Calliope Hummingbird banded in the Quesnel area of B.C. by J. Cam Finlay on 2 July 2004 was recovered out of the species' normal range 3588 km. east southeast in New Orleans, Louisiana on 7 June 2005, setting a long-distance record for this usually western species-based on a copy of an e-mail of 21 March 2006 from Cam Finlay to "Dan," forwarded via Adrian Leather from Sandra Kinsey.

Blue Grouse Book Authors Awarded –After my Ph.D. supervisor, Fred C. Zwickel, retired to Cortez Island several years ago, he began a retirement project book on Blue Grouse, co-authored with his Ph.D. supervisor, James F. Bendell. As is usual with such projects, the book progressed at a slower pace than hoped, but finally appeared in 2004. Although a comprehensive account of the "biology and life history" of the species throughout its range, much of the book is based on long-term studies by Bendell and his students near Campbell River and by Zwickel and his students near Courtenay. The thoroughness of the book was recognized by the Wildlife Society by being awarded their 2005 prestigious Wildlife Publication Award for Outstanding Monograph –based partly on Anonymous. 2005. Wildlife Afield 2:123.

Tumbler Ridge Loses Ornithologist –The Tumbler Ridge Ornithology Group (TROG) lost its leader with the death of Brian Parker on 8 March 2004. His efforts in helping to establish the Bullmoose Marshes Wetland Area were commemorated in the naming of a floating island after him. Prior to moving to Tumbler Ridge in 2000, he contributed bird records from the Moberly Lake area to B.C.'s nest records scheme and other projects. –based on C. Helm. 2006. Wildlife Afield 2:128.



Checklist Order

One of the highlights of the 2005 annual general meeting of the B.C. Field Ornithologists in Parksville was the inclusion in the conference package of a new check-list of the birds of that portion of Vancouver Island (Monty2005). After compiling a list of the species encountered during the second Rathrevor/Nanoose Peninsula outing on 28 August, I sent copies of it to the other participants. Since I used the check-list order of the latest edition of the American Ornithologists' Union (A.O.U. 1998), I added a note to explain to participants why the order differed from that of the check-list distributed at the meeting. As lists of species encountered during previous B.C.F.O. meetings have been for the conference as a whole, rather than for each outing, I did not expect our list to appear in print with my article on that outing (McNicholl 2005).

If I had known that the list would be included, I would have expanded on the note to explain that the check-list distributed at the meeting was in the order that will be adopted in the next (eighth) edition of the A.O.U. check-list. My note as written could be construed as unintended criticism of the check-list distributed at the conference, whereas Guy Monty deserves praise for being at the vanguard of authors using the next official order.

This new check-list order, with waterfowl at the beginning of the B.C. version instead of loons, started to appear at some of the 2003-2004 Christmas bird counts, such as that at Ladner. As these changes have been expected for several years, I thought that they may appear in the seventh edition (initially chaired by the late Burt L. Monroe, Jr., one of the principal proponents of the new order), but caution delayed

its implementation. I have been expecting it in each subsequent supplement. The committee finally announced the decision to make the change in the introductory remarks to the 44th supplement (Banks *et al.* 2003:924) as planned for the forthcoming eighth edition of the checklist, but as being impractical to incorporate in the supplements. I presume that this is because the changes announced in each supplement are keyed to the relevant pages of the current [at present, seventh] edition. Thus, the changes announced in subsequent supplements (Banks *et al.* 2004, 2005), such as splitting Canada Goose into two species, remain in the order of the seventh edition and articles summarizing annual changes (e.g. Rising 2005) do not mention this significant shuffle.

Although not yet published, the new check-list order has been posted by the A.O.U. on the internet at <http://www.aou.org/checklist/index.php3>. Readers with access to the internet can thus view the entire list there, with all changes made since the seventh edition already incorporated. Readers without access to the internet can view the changes that apply to B.C. in a new provincial list (Preston *et al.* 2005), published subsequently to that of Monty (2005). As this shuffle is only one of the major changes in the order of major groups of birds proposed by Monroe, Charles G. Sibley and their colleagues, readers may expect additional significant changes in the future, changes that may or may not be incorporated into the eighth edition. A list of the families and sub-families of North American birds in the order proposed by Sibley and Monroe is included in the comprehensive tome of Leahy (2004:Appendix III). Yet another

check-list order, based on the latest edition of James F. Clements' World check-list, was used by Ricker and Baines (2005) in a recently updated list of birds of the Whistler area.

The latest changes to the check-list will appear in its 47th supplement, scheduled for publication in the July 2006 issue of *The Auk*, likely to appear in print in September. Watch *B.C. Birding News* for the latest changes that affect B.C. In addition to check-list order, various proposed "lumpings" and "splittings" are under discussion almost continuously. Some that affect B.C. birds that have been under consideration for several years include splitting of White-breasted Nuthatch into two species, splitting of Brewer's Sparrow into Brewer's and Timberline sparrows, splitting of Fox Sparrow into at least three species, and splitting of Red Crossbill into several species, not to mention several re-lumpings and/or re-splittings!

Martin K. McNicholl

American Ornithologists' Union. 1998. Check-list of North American birds. 7th edition. American Ornithologists' Union, Washington, D.C.

Banks, R. C., C. Cicero, J. L. Dunn, A. W. Kratter, P. C. Rasmussen, J. V. Remsen, Jr., J. D. Rising and D. F. Stotz. 2003. Forty-fourth supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 120:923-931.

Banks, R. C., C. Cicero, J. L. Dunn, A. W. Kratter, P. C. Rasmussen, J. V. Remsen, Jr., J. D. Rising and D. F. Stotz. 2004. Forty-fifth supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 121:985-995.

Banks, R. C., C. Cicero, J. L. Dunn, A. W. Kratter, P. C. Rasmussen, J. V. Remsen, Jr., J. D. Rising and D. F. Stotz. 2005. Forty-sixth supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union check-list of North American birds. *Auk* 122:1026-1031.

Leahy, C. W. 2004. The birdwatcher's companion to North American birdlife. Princeton Univ. Press, Princeton and Oxford.

McNicholl, M. K. 2005. Rathrevor/Nanoose Peninsula outing of 28 August 2005. *B.C. Birding* 15(3):1 & 8-9.



Monty, G. 2005. Parksville-Qualicum Beach area bird checklist. Arrowsmith Naturalists, Parksville, B.C. Preston, M. I., R. W. Campbell and L. M. Van Damme. 2005. British Columbia birds 2005 species list. Biodiversity Centre for Wildlife Studies Rept. No. 4.

Ricker, K. and H. Baines. 2005. Whistler birds 2005. Whistler Naturalists Society, Whistler.

Rising, J. 2005. 2005 changes to the AOU check-list of North American birds. OFO News 23(3):2-3.

BCFO RESEARCH GRANTS

BCFO encourages submissions of proposals for financial assistance for bird surveys and other ornithological research. It also wishes to foster greater connection between applicants and the society. Potential applicants are reminded that

1. requests for funding must be for planned, rather than completed, projects.
2. under normal circumstances, applicants should be, or be willing to become, members of BCFO.
3. projects and their results are to be reported in either BCFO's journal, *BC Birds*, or the BCFO Newsletter.
4. in order for BCFO directors to give a timely response to project proposals, deadlines for submission are January 1 and July 1.
5. all reasonable requests will be considered within the limits of the society's financial strength.

BCFO NEW MEMBERS SINCE LAST ISSUE

Micaele Maddison, Bowen Island

John Reynolds, Belcarra

Brian Churchill, Fort St. John

Samule Collins, Vancouver

Ron Dinsdale, Halfmoon Bay

Randal Erhardt, Abbotsford

Lynn Pollard, Surrey

Chris Albrecht, Langley

Mike Fung, Vancouver



Changhua Wild Bird Society news: Gray-faced Buzzard Bird Fair 2006

On the last two weekends in March, the Gray-faced Buzzard Bird Fair took place on Ba-gua (Pakua) Mountain in the Tri-Mountain National Scenic area, just southeast of Changhua city, Taiwan. It was the 15th annual Fair, which celebrates an impressive conservation effort by BCFO's partner organization, the Changhua Wild Bird Society.

For a very long time in 'old Taiwan', the Gray-faced Buzzard *Butastur indicus* was persecuted relentlessly as the birds migrated along the central mountains. That changed in the early 1990s, thanks to the efforts of Simon Liao and the Changhua Wild Bird Society (formed in 1991). Now, at the peak of the hawk's northward migration period in late March, thousands of visitors ascend the mountain to attend the Fair, enjoy displays, musical

performances, plays by children, bird arts and crafts, children's face (and body) painting, and related activities, but most of all, to observe the Gray-faced Buzzards and other raptors as they pass overhead.

During the entire migration period, volunteers on the mountain monitor the passage of the hawks. Between March 1 and April 4, the official count of Gray-faced Buzzards was 26,000.

Jo Ann MacKenzie



Gray-faced Buzzard

Wu Ten-Di



Body Paintings

Jo Ann MacKenzie



Simon Liao, Dr. Wen Chia-Szu, Lin Maw-Nan

Jo Ann MacKenzie



Simon Liao, Liu Pei-Yuan, Yang Chung-Tse, Wu Ten-Di (Pres. CHWBS)

Jo Ann MacKenzie



Bird Listers' Corner (continued from page 1)

unduly harsh to omit anything other than current lists, when some of our members may simply have forgotten to send in the form.

Mike Toochin continues to lead in the B.C. list category with 440 species. Many birders added between 3 and 7 species to their B.C. lists, but the biggest gain (13 species) was posted by Martin McNicholl as a result of some field work in the Peace River region - always a good bet to add some B.C. birds. For those in the lower echelons of this list (under 320 or so), there is a potential for some major gains, and I hope to see some by next year.

Some of our members are world travellers, and although Jo Ann and Hue MacKenzie continue to lead in the world lists, the biggest gains were tallied by others in 2005. Don Wilson added an astounding 479 species, and five others added more than 200 species each to their world lists: Hank Vanderpol (323 species), Val George (275), Rand Rudland (271), Keith Riding (240), and Eric Tull (208).

In the ABA Area (Canada plus the USA, minus Hawaii), Mike Toochin leads again, although Roger Foxall and Mike Mulligan are not far behind. However, it's tough to add new species when you already have 750+, and the biggest gainers were farther down in the rankings. Adding the most species were Rand Rudland (77 species), John Vooy (55), our former listing editor Ken Morgan (42), and our long-time newsletter editors, Andy and Marilyn Buhler (37 species each). Andy and Marilyn, do you have some kind of a pact that neither of you will count a bird unless both of you see it? Otherwise, it's hard to imagine how all of your lists could be identical!

Roger Foxall maintains a slim lead over Hue and Jo Ann MacKenzie in the Canadian list

totals. However, the only big gainer in this category was Len Jellicoe, who added 32 species. There were few big movers in the Washington state list and Alberta provincial list, except for Hank Vanderpol, formerly of Victoria and Kelowna, now of Calgary, who added 49 to his Alberta list. Good work, Hank!

Somewhat apologetically (because it wasn't on the reporting form) I have added a category for the Yukon, with a threshold of 100 species. At least 7 of our members exceeded that threshold, and I will be sure to include the Yukon on the form next year.

I have added reports for several local areas based on requests from individuals: Clover Point & vicinity, Victoria; Parksville and Qualicum Beach; Blackie Spit, Surrey; the White Rock Christmas Count area; Colony Farm Regional Park; and the Bulkley and Kispiox Valleys, where Ray Sturney reported an impressive 209 species over more than 30 years - the only list he submitted. Because there is a potential for almost unlimited growth in the number of local areas that are included, I may have to impose a limit of 2 or 3 per person in future, beyond those already included on the form. I would like to encourage people to send in reports for such areas, but if we go too far down that road, this report could take up an entire issue of *BC Birding*.

At the same time, we have received very few reports for most of the National Parks and Provincial Parks listed on the form - which is mainly those which have had checklists published. Most of these are very good birding areas, and I would like to encourage people to submit more lists for parks. In fact, of the 6 National Parks in B.C., we received no lists for 2 of them, and lists that were all below the reporting thresholds for 2 others.

Finally, please remember that there are other places besides *BC Birding* which will publish listing totals. For members of the American Birding Association, there is the ABA List Report (<http://americanbirding.org/bigday>). They will accept lists for all Canadian provinces and U.S. states, as well as many regions of the world outside North America. Also, for \$6.00 per year, you can subscribe to and submit lists to the CANADIAN LISTERS' CORNER, edited formerly by Burke Korol and now by Larry Neily (<http://ca.geocities.com/neilyworld@rogers.com/listerscorner/listers-corner.htm>). This report (the 2006 edition is over 50 pages) publishes lists for all Canadian provinces and territories, and an almost unlimited variety of local lists where the observer has seen 150 or more species. "Winter lists" and Big Day lists are also accepted. We encourage you to support the ABA and Larry Neily; BCFO simply does not have room to publish all these kinds of lists, even if we wanted to.

Many thanks to everyone who sent in their listing totals, and we hope you have some great birding in the next year!

Wayne C. Weber



BIRD LISTING STATISTICS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2005

BRITISH COLUMBIA (482 species)

Mike Toochin	440	91.3%	+2	Len Jellicoe	350	72.6%	+5
Hue MacKenzie	429	89.0%	+5	Martin McNicholl	348	72.2%	+13
Jo Ann MacKenzie	428	88.8%	+3	Andy Buhler	347	72.0%	0
Rick Toochin**	427	88.6%	---	Laird Law*	347	72.0%	---
Dale Jensen	422	87.6%	+3	Marilyn Buhler	347	72.0%	0
Tom Plath**	416	86.3%	---	Gwynneth Wilson	344	71.4%	+1
David Stirling	415	86.1%	0	Peter Blokker	344	71.4%	+5
Wayne Weber	415	86.1%	+1	Dannie Carsen*	342	71.0%	---
Michael Force**	413	85.7%	---	David Mark	341	70.7%	0
Danny Tyson	412	85.5%	+6	Rand Rudland	340	70.5%	+4
Tony Greenfield	411	85.3%	+3	Eric Tull	337	69.9%	+1
John Luce	408	84.6%	+5	Brent Schmor*	332	68.9%	---
Brian Self	402	83.4%	+4	Marika Ainley	332	68.9%	+3
David Allinson	402	83.4%	+2	Ken Ward	329	68.3%	0
Lloyd Esralson	402	83.4%	+4	Roy Arlt	327	67.8%	---
Sharon Toochin	401	83.2%	0	Alex Gray	325	67.4%	0
Roger Foxall	396	82.2%	+3	John Sprague	324	67.2%	+1
Bryan Gates	394	81.7%	0	Suzanne Benoit	321	66.6%	0
Rick Tyson	394	81.7%	+6	Eva Durance**	318	66.0%	---
Dick Cannings	394	81.7%	+2	Kenneth Burden	318	66.0%	+3
Hank Vanderpol	393	81.5%	+1	Judy Latta	315	65.4%	+5
Russ Tkachuk	391	81.1%	+2	Laurie Rockwell	315	65.4%	+5
Keith Riding	389	80.7%	+5	Burke Korol	314	65.1%	0
Mike McGrenere	387	80.3%	+2	Ken Taylor*	314	65.1%	---
Barbara Begg	382	79.3%	+1	Paul Lehman	310	64.3%	---
Ken Klimko	380	78.8%	+4	Carolyn Schmor*	309	64.1%	---
Val George	380	78.8%	+6	Howard Braun	305	63.3%	---
Murray Brown	379	78.6%	+7	Kyle Elliott*	302	62.7%	---
Stefan Zarembo	377	78.2%	+4	Blake Maybank	301	62.4%	0
Brian Stech	376	78.0%	+4	Dorothy Copp	300	62.2%	0
Audrey Viken**	374	77.6%	---	Joan McDonald	300	62.2%	---
Larry Cowan	373	77.4%	+5	Malcolm McDonald	300	62.2%	---
Kevin MacPherson**	372	77.2%	---	Brooke Clibbon	290	60.2%	---
Don Wilson	364	75.5%	+1	Bill Wilson	289	60.0%	---
Chris Charlesworth*	360	74.7%	---	Bill Crins	287	59.5%	---
John Vooy	360	74.7%	+8	Gwen Nicol*	287	59.5%	---
Thor Manson	360	74.7%	---	Theo Hoffman	286	59.3%	---
Eric McAlary**	357	74.1%	---	Mabel Crocker*	285	59.1%	---
Ken Morgan	357	74.1%	0	Ted Goshulak	284	58.9%	---
Ron Walker*	357	74.1%	---	Laure Neish	276	57.3%	---
Bruce Whittington	356	73.9%	---	Mike Mulligan	257	53.3%	---



WORLD (9838 species)

OBSERVER	TOTAL	PERCENT	INCREASE
Jo Ann MacKenzie	4144	42.1%	+14
Hue MacKenzie	4099	41.7%	+10
John Cartwright*	3862	39.3%	---
Keith Riding	3858	39.2%	+240
David Stirling	3692	37.5%	+29
Roger Foxall	3365	34.2%	+33
Mike Toochin	3217	32.7%	+49
Mike Mulligan	3132	31.8%	+71
Stefan Zarembo	3107	31.6%	+7
Ron Walker*	2931	29.8%	---
Dick Cannings	2671	27.1%	+16
Barbara Begg	2474	25.1%	0
Dale Jensen	2322	23.6%	+12
Ken Taylor*	2136	21.7%	---
Eric Tull	2112	21.5%	+208
Brian Self	2019	20.5%	+88
Laird Law*	1977	20.1%	---
Sharon Toochin*	1970	20.0%	---
Hank Vanderpol	1730	17.6%	+323
Don Wilson	1630	16.6%	+479
Kyle Elliott*	1581	16.1%	---
Val George	1438	14.6%	+275
Bryan Gates	1346	13.7%	+1
Rand Rudland	1316	13.4%	+271
Ken Morgan	1207	12.3%	+27
Sandra Eadie*	1080	11.0%	---
George Innes*	1073	10.9%	---

ABA AREA (927 species)

OBSERVER	TOTAL	PERCENT	INCREASE
Mike Toochin	761	82.1%	+4
Roger Foxall	756	81.6%	+6
Mike Mulligan	752	81.1%	+2
Hank Vanderpol	735	79.3%	+10
Stefan Zarembo	731	78.9%	+17
Russ Tkachuk	724	78.1%	+11
Jo Ann MacKenzie	701	75.6%	+1
Hue MacKenzie	697	75.2%	+1
Dale Jensen	678	73.1%	+3
Wayne Weber	669	72.2%	+4
David Stirling	667	72.0%	+2
John Luce	657	70.9%	---
Sharon Toochin*	655	70.7%	---
Eric Tull	654	70.6%	+1
Dorothy Copp	643	69.4%	+16
Brian Self	635	68.5%	+16
David Allinson	614	66.2%	+1
Keith Riding	611	65.9%	+2
John Sprague	606	65.4%	+5
Don Wilson	602	64.9%	+9
Tony Greenfield	602	64.9%	+1
Gwynneth Wilson	599	64.6%	+6
Danny Tyson	596	64.3%	---
Barbara Begg	594	64.1%	+1
Andy Buhler	592	63.9%	+37
Lloyd Esralson	592	63.9%	+1
Marilyn Buhler	592	63.9%	+37
Marika Ainley	591	63.8%	+2
Mabel Crocker*	578	62.4%	---
Ken Klimko	577	62.2%	+1
Dick Cannings	570	61.5%	+3
Bryan Gates	563	60.7%	+2
Ken Morgan	563	60.7%	+42
Chris Charlesworth*	550	59.3%	---
Thor Manson	536	57.8%	---
Kyle Elliott*	532	57.4%	---
Brian Stech	522	56.3%	0
Martin McNicholl	520	56.1%	0
John Vooy	519	56.0%	+55
Mike McGrenere	509	54.9%	0
Sandra Eadie*	507	54.7%	---
Howard Braun	504	54.4%	---
Rand Rudland	501	54.0%	+77
Gwen Nicol*	497	53.6%	---
Laure Neish	485	52.3%	+23
Murray Brown	465	50.2%	+8
Ken Taylor*	464	50.1%	---
Larry Cowan	464	50.1%	+8
Laird Law*	461	49.7%	---
Brent Schmor*	447	48.2%	---
Dannie Carsen*	21	45.4%	---
Peter Blokker	402	43.4%	---



CANADA (638 species)

OBSERVER	TOTAL	PERCENT	INCREASE
Roger Foxall	520	81.5%	+4
Hue MacKenzie	514	80.6%	0
Jo Ann MacKenzie	512	80.3%	0
John Luce	493	77.3%	---
Mike Toochn	485	76.0%	+1
David Stirling	484	75.9%	0
Eric Tull	482	75.5%	0
Brian Self	480	75.2%	+3
Marika Ainley	473	74.1%	+3
Dale Jensen	470	73.7%	+6
Russ Tkachuk	469	73.5%	+6
Danny Tyson	462	72.4%	---
Wayne Weber	462	72.4%	+1
Dick Cannings	455	71.3%	+3
Stefan Zaremba	450	70.5%	+3
Sharon Toochn*	447	70.1%	---
Hank Vanderpol	443	69.4%	---
David Allinson	441	69.1%	+1
Keith Riding	440	69.0%	+3
Martin McNicholl	439	68.8%	+1
Mike McGrenere	439	68.8%	+2
Barbara Begg	438	68.7%	+5
John Cartwright*	436	68.3%	---
Lloyd Esralson	428	67.1%	+2
Larry Cowan	426	66.8%	+7
Ken Morgan	424	66.5%	0
Tony Greenfield	423	66.3%	+2
Bryan Gates	414	64.9%	+1
Len Jellicoe	410	64.3%	+32
Gwynneth Wilson	408	63.9%	0
Murray Brown	407	63.8%	+4
John Sprague	405	63.5%	+5
Mike Mulligan	404	63.3%	+5
Rick Tyson	404	63.3%	---
Don Wilson	402	63.0%	+4
John Vooy	397	62.2%	+5
Peter Blokker	397	62.2%	+3
Sandra Eadie*	397	62.2%	---
Brian Stech	385	60.3%	0
Rand Rudland	384	60.2%	+9
Andy Buhler*	382	59.9%	---
Marilyn Buhler*	382	59.9%	---
Ken Klimko	380	59.6%	+4
Ron Walker*	379	59.4%	---
Laird Law*	373	58.5%	---
Chris Charlesworth*	365	57.2%	---
Dannie Carsen*	355	55.6%	---
Brent Schmor*	353	55.3%	---
Mabel Crocker*	352	55.2%	---
Laure Neish*	323	50.6%	---

WASHINGTON STATE (476 spp)

Wayne Weber	374	78.6%	+4
Jo Ann MacKenzie	347	72.9%	+1
Hue MacKenzie	341	71.6%	+1
Mike Toochn	312	65.5%	0
Brian Self	272	57.1%	+1
Dick Cannings	267	56.1%	0
David Stirling	254	53.4%	0
Roger Foxall*	247	51.9%	---
John Vooy	245	51.5%	+1
Keith Riding	244	51.3%	0
Lloyd Esralson	234	49.2%	+3
Dale Jensen	230	48.3%	+1
Chris Charlesworth*	227	47.7%	---
Brent Schmor*	216	45.4%	---
Carolyn Schmor*	211	44.3%	---
Dorothy Copp	206	43.3%	---

ALBERTA (406 species)

Eric Tull	353	86.9%	+2
Mike Mulligan	334	82.3%	+7
Hank Vanderpol	288	70.9%	+49
David Stirling	284	70.0%	0
John Cartwright*	256	63.1%	---
Hue MacKenzie	244	60.1%	0
Martin McNicholl	241	59.4%	0
Roger Foxall	241	59.4%	0
Jo Ann MacKenzie	239	58.9%	0
Wayne Weber	235	57.9%	0
Bryan Gates	222	54.7%	0
Laure Neish*	222	54.7%	---
Dick Cannings	214	52.7%	+6

YUKON TERRITORY (292 spp)

Dick Cannings	172	58.9%	---
Eric Tull	155	53.1%	---
David Stirling	149	51.0%	---
Tony Greenfield	149	51.0%	---
Roger Foxall	132	45.2%	---
John Sprague	104	35.6%	---
Brian Self	102	34.9%	---



VANCOUVER ISLAND (387 spp)

OBSERVER	TOTAL	PERCENT	INCREASE
David Allinson	343	88.6%	+6
David Stirling	336	86.8%	0
Barbara Begg	328	84.8%	+1
Bryan Gates	326	84.2%	0
Hank Vanderpol	322	83.2%	---
Mike McGrenere	319	82.4%	+1
Dannie Carsen*	273	70.5%	---
Mike Toochn	273	70.5%	+3
Ken Morgan	266	68.7%	0
Wayne Weber	253	65.4%	0
Hue MacKenzie	251	64.9%	+2
Jo Ann MacKenzie	250	64.6%	+2
Danny Tyson	238	61.5%	---
Roger Foxall*	238	61.5%	+3
Brent Schmor*	233	60.2%	---

VICTORIA AREA (362 species)

David Allinson	327	90.3%	+5
David Stirling	320	88.4%	0
Barbara Begg	314	86.7%	0
Hank Vanderpol	313	86.5%	+1
Bryan Gates	312	86.2%	0
Mike McGrenere	305	84.3%	0
Bruce Whittington	300	82.9%	---
Dannie Carsen*	263	72.7%	---
Mike Toochn	243	67.1%	+1
Wayne Weber	234	64.6%	0
Brent Schmor*	229	63.3%	---

CLOVER POINT & DALLAS ROAD, VICTORIA

David Stirling	198	---
----------------	-----	-----

ROCKY POINT AREA (297 spp)

David Allinson	267	89.9%	+10
----------------	-----	-------	-----

PARKSVILLE & QUALICUM BEACH

David Allinson	177	---
----------------	-----	-----

SALT SPRING ISLAND (238 spp)

John Sprague	152	63.9%	+5
--------------	-----	-------	----

SATURNA ISLAND

Tony Greenfield*	102	---
------------------	-----	-----

QUEEN CHARLOTTE ISLANDS (250 species)

Ken Morgan	134	53.6%	0
Val George*	126	50.4%	---

VANCOUVER AREA (398 species)

Mike Toochn	355	89.2%	+2
Jo Ann MacKenzie	346	86.9%	+3
Hue MacKenzie	341	85.7%	+3
Wayne Weber	332	83.4%	+2
Brian Self	332	83.4%	+1
Danny Tyson	331	83.2%	---
John Luce	330	82.9%	---
Keith Riding	323	81.2%	+5
Lloyd Esralson	322	80.9%	+3
Rick Tyson	316	79.4%	---
Sharon Toochn*	312	78.4%	---
Stefan Zarembo	312	78.4%	+3
Ken Klimko	310	77.9%	+5
Larry Cowan	303	76.1%	+6
Roger Foxall*	291	73.1%	+3
Dick Cannings	285	71.6%	+1
David Allinson	279	70.1%	+1
John Vooy	272	68.3%	+10
Kyle Elliott*	270	67.8%	---
Brian Stech	262	65.8%	+22
David Stirling	242	60.8%	0
Bryan Gates	234	58.8%	0
Don Wilson	234	58.8%	+1
Brent Schmor*	230	57.8%	---



SEA & IONA ISLANDS (316 species)

Mike Tootchin	255	80.7%	---
Wayne Weber	230	72.8%	+4
Danny Tyson	210	66.5%	---
Lloyd Esralson	201	63.6%	+2
David Allinson	198	62.7%	---
Rick Tyson	171	54.1%	---

WESTHAM & REIFEL ISLANDS (260 species)

Wayne Weber	213	81.9%	+1
Danny Tyson	193	74.2%	---
Lloyd Esralson	184	70.8%	+1
Rick Tyson	171	65.8%	---

BLACKIE SPIT, SURREY

Jo Ann MacKenzie	189	---
Hue MacKenzie	186	---
Wayne Weber	174	---
Danny Tyson	156	---

WHITE ROCK CHRISTMAS COUNT AREA

Hue MacKenzie	262	---
---------------	-----	-----

COLONY FARM REGIONAL PARK (187 species)

Larry Cowan	154	82.4%	---
-------------	-----	-------	-----

SUNSHINE COAST (292 species)

Tony Greenfield	266	91.1%	+2
Russ Tkachuk	241	82.5%	+1
Rand Rudland	221	75.7%	+3
Danny Tyson	165	56.5%	---

KAMLOOPS AREA (295 species)

Wayne Weber	253	85.8%	0
David Stirling	198	67.1%	0

OKANAGAN VALLEY (329 species)

Chris Charlesworth*	295	89.7%	---
Gwynneth Wilson	287	87.2%	0
Dick Cannings	287	87.2%	+2
Don Wilson	285	86.6%	+2
Judy Latta	284	86.3%	+1
Laurie Rockwell	277	84.2%	+9
Peter Blokker	268	81.5%	+1
Howard Braun	266	80.9%	---
Mike Tootchin	262	79.6%	+1
Hank Vanderpol	259	78.7%	---
Laure Neish	259	78.7%	+2
Eva Durance*	257	78.1%	---
Wayne Weber	257	78.1%	0
Danny Tyson	246	74.8%	---
David Stirling	242	73.6%	0
Hue MacKenzie	236	71.7%	0
Jo Ann MacKenzie	233	70.8%	0
John Luce	231	70.2%	---
Tony Greenfield	230	69.9%	0
Ken Klimko	228	69.3%	+1
Laird Law	217	66.0%	+1
Keith Riding*	208	63.2%	---
John Vooy	206	62.6%	+12
Lloyd Esralson	205	62.3%	0
Bryan Gates	192	58.4%	0
Russ Tkachuk*	189	57.4%	---
Rick Tyson	188	57.1%	---
Brent Schmor*	185	56.2%	---
Dannie Carsen*	175	53.2%	---
Brian Stech	170	51.7%	---

NORTH OKANAGAN (278 species)

Peter Blokker	245	88.1%	+8
---------------	-----	-------	----



WEST KOOTENAY (313 species)

Gwen Nicol*	230	73.5%	---
Jo Ann MacKenzie	179	57.2%	0
Wayne Weber	177	56.5%	0
Hue MacKenzie	168	53.7%	0

CRESTON VALLEY (283 spp)

Gwen Nicol*	148	47.4%	---
-------------	-----	-------	-----

REVELSTOKE AREA (242 spp)

Wayne Weber	145	59.9%	0
-------------	-----	-------	---

100 MILE HOUSE

Laurie Rockwell	175		0
-----------------	-----	--	---

WILLIAMS LAKE AREA (248 species)

Bryan Gates	138	55.6%	0
-------------	-----	-------	---

PRINCE GEORGE AREA (283 species)

Laird Law*	255	90.1%	0
Don Wilson	190	67.1%	0
Danny Tyson	166	58.7%	---
Peter Blokker	151	53.4%	0

BULKLEY AND KISPIOX VALLEYS (237 species)

Ray Sturney	209	88.2%	---
-------------	-----	-------	-----

PEACE RIVER AREA (272 species)

Tony Greenfield	207	76.1%	0
Laird Law*	206	75.7%	---
Jo Ann MacKenzie	191	70.2%	0
Bryan Gates	184	67.6%	0
Wayne Weber	164	60.3%	0
David Stirling	158	58.1%	0
Larry Cowan	150	55.1%	0

PACIFIC RIM NATIONAL PARK (254 species)

David Stirling	175	68.9%	0
David Allinson	169	66.5%	0

YOHO NATIONAL PARK (208 species)

Wayne Weber	125	60.1%	0
-------------	-----	-------	---

MIRACLE BEACH PROVINCIAL PARK (160 species)

David Stirling	159	99.4%	0
----------------	-----	-------	---

MITLENATCH ISLAND PROVINCIAL PARK (160 species)

David Stirling	110	68.8%	0
----------------	-----	-------	---

MOUNT SEYMOUR PROVINCIAL PARK (120 species)

Wayne Weber	85	70.8%	0
-------------	----	-------	---



MANNING PROVINCIAL PARK (206 species)

Mike McGrenere	139	67.5%	0
Wayne Weber	125	60.7%	0
Jo Ann MacKenzie	109	52.9%	0
David Stirling	103	50.0%	---

MOUNT ROBSON PROVINCIAL PARK (168 species)

Laird Law	133	79.2%	---
David Stirling	120	71.4%	0

HAINES TRIANGLE

David Stirling	88	0
----------------	----	---

NORTH PACIFIC PELAGIC WATERS

David Allinson*	75	---
Bruce Whittington	67	---
Lloyd Esralson	63	0
David Stirling	62	+2
Ken Morgan	58	0
Val George	59	+1
Mike Toochn	52	0
Jo Ann MacKenzie	51	0



British Columbia Bird Records: Winter 2005/2006

The season began and ended with cold snaps but the bulk of the winter was yet another mild one. The most notable event was the month long spate of rain for the South Coastal sections beginning mid-December. Valley snowfall was meager everywhere in the interior. It was a stormy season for the outer coast with Solander Island off NW Vancouver Island recording peak gusts exceeding 130 km/h on 14 days between Dec 1 and Feb 4, topping out at a wild 172 km/h on Jan 31st. The generally mild weather allowed for many species to remain farther north than usual. Most notable this winter however, was the absence of forest finches.

Abbreviations and symbols: †: field notes received; CBC: Christmas Bird Count; ph.: photographed; vt.: videotaped.

Swans through Doves

Hanging out with both Trumpeter and Tundra Swans, an ad. **Bewick's Swan** was in Delta 20 Jan – 21 Feb (ph. RTo, et al.). A male Gadwall was late in Williams L. 2 Dec (PR). Northern Pintail remained unusually north and late this winter with singles: in Prince George 10 Dec (SL, CA) later joined by a female 7 Jan (SL, NK) for a first winter checklist record; at the north end of Kootenay L. 6 Jan (MJ); and 3 overwintered at Williams L. for the first time ever (PR). Long-tailed Ducks are rare in the southern interior with a female at Robson 16 Dec (MMc). Few Scoters were reported from the interior this winter but a White-winged Scoter was late in Williams L. 2 Dec (PR). Several Red-breasted Mergansers were found this winter at scattered locations in the interior with some remaining well into Feb such as the individual at Lardeau (MJ). Interior Yellow-billed Loons are very rare, especially in winter, yet an imm. was on Woods Lake 14 Dec (CC, GW, CS).

Clark's Grebes were more numerous along the coast this winter, one offshore from Esquimalt Lagoon furnished a first Victoria record in 20 years (fide DA) and yet another was at the Little Qualicum Estuary 13 Dec (GLM and Donna) and probably the same individual at the mouth of the Englishman R. Estuary 4 Jan (GLM). Turkey Vultures returned to the interior tying last year's record-early date with a single bird in Naramata 10 Feb (JT). Gyrfalcons were more prevalent in the southern interior this winter with at least 3 different individuals present, one was just n. of Vernon 3 Dec (DGC). Dunlin are very rare winter visitors to the interior with a single at Castlegar 30 Dec–3 Jan (MJ, JA). In a flooded corn stubble field near Parksville, a Ruff was discovered 23 Dec (†GLM). Winter sightings of this species are extremely rare, this may represent the first winter record for the province.

Winter coastal storms in mid-late Dec resulted in starving Red Phalaropes washing ashore. At least 10 birds were found in such condition 23 Dec (JE).

Observers also found flocks of live birds with 54 at Jordan R. and 19 at Wiffin Spit 30 Dec (GD et al.). This was a record year for coastal Slaty-backed Gulls with at least 3 individuals involved: an adult near Courtenay 4–5 Dec (JB, GLM); an adult in Chilliwack 22 Jan (ph. GG). Vernon's **Lesser Black-backed Gull** re-appeared 2 Dec, 14 Jan (ph. DGC) at the mouth of Vernon Creek it later appeared along the Penticton waterfront 2–3 Feb (ph. LN) and was sporadically seen back in Vernon to end of period (DGC). The small Cawston resident population of Eurasian Collared-Doves was censused at a record-high 174 on 29 Dec (fide DB).

Owls through Finches

Snowy Owls had a good showing this winter throughout the interior but were particularly prevalent in the Boundary Bay area. Northern Hawk-Owls were reported in singles from around the interior in average numbers, whereas Northern Pygmy-Owls were very scarce. Northern Saw-whet Owls, on the other hand were prevalent this winter and nowhere more so than in the s. Okanagan where a stunning 52 were tallied 27 Dec (RJC, RCa, CD, BS) during the Vaseux L. CBC. While this doubles the previous Canadian winter record, it is just shy of the world record of 61 (fide RJC). Surprisingly, Anna's Hummingbirds wander as far north as Prince George almost annually yet they rarely survive. One individual appeared in P.G. 16 Dec (fide EL). A Rufous Hummingbird was very late in Victoria 3 Dec (DA). A hybrid male Northern Flicker would not have survived the winter north of Dawson Creek had it not learned to feed on suet (MD). Two exceptionally late Say's Phoebes were found along the w. side of Osoyoos 1 Jan (DH). Indicating an increase in numbers in the Kootenays, 9 Blue Jays were tallied on the Creston CBC 29 Dec (m.obs.). American Crows rarely stay the winter in the Peace R. area yet 6 were still in Chetwynd 2 Dec (MP). Common Ravens tallied at a roost near Bessborough



furnished an astounding 2697, 25 Feb (MP) by far the largest roost ever recorded in the province.

Rough-winged Swallows have occasionally participated in the late winter invasion and this year only 2 were found: at the Carmanah Point Lightstation 15 Feb (JE). Although Barn Swallows have not been re-occurring in mid-late winter in the numbers they had been 2 were found hawking insects over Swan L., Victoria 23 Jan (CSa). Another 3 were reported along the S. Thompson R. east of Kamloops 26 Jan (JBr) and a single was enduring -4°C weather in Fort St. James 12 Feb (RR). Ruby-crowned Kinglets were present in unprecedented numbers in the southern interior with a high count of 7 along Mission Creek, Kelowna 7 Jan (RyT). An American Robin that probably stayed the winter in Dawson Creek, where very rare, was found 22 Feb (MP). An exceptionally late Gray Catbird was hiding out in one of the oxbows just n. of Osoyoos 8 Dec (†LN). A rather stunning find was a Northern Mockingbird on the Merritt CBC 3 Jan (ph. MoMc, et al.) which had been in the area in late Dec feeding on mountain ash berries and yet another was in Cranbrook 7 Jan (GR). American Pipits are very rare in winter in the interior yet 5 were found along the Okanagan River Channel just north of Osoyoos (LN) 8 Dec and at an even less-likely winter location a single was long the Nechako R. 18 Dec (ph DD, TH, HA) for a first local winter record. A Cape May Warbler was a terrific winter find in Nakusp 2 Jan (CC, KS) and remained present until 27 Jan (ph GSD). Also late in Nakusp was a Myrtle Warbler 2 Jan (CC, KS). The province's first Pine Warbler, found at the tail end of the fall season, was last seen 2 Dec (vt. IR) Lillooet. A Western Meadowlark spent mid-Dec to mid-Jan at Cluculz L. (ph. DW et. al.) for a first Cariboo winter record and another 5 were wintering in Quesnel (fide PR). Although Common Grackles are a relatively common sight in the Peace R. area in summer, they are extremely rare in winter yet one spent 1-7 Jan in Arras (MP). Despite the lack of winter finches across the province, American Goldfinches were still found in relatively good numbers with 46 at Milburn L. 26 Feb (fide CA) and 5-6 birds present at a Buckhorn feeder 11 Feb (ph. MK) furnished a first winter record for the Prince George area. Casual in the province, a Brambling was discovered in Duncan 28 Jan – end of period (DM).

Compiled by Donald G. Cecile

7995 Wilson-Jackson Rd., Vernon, British Columbia V1B 3N5 (dcecile@telus.net)

Contributors (subregional editors in bold-face):

David Allinson, Janice Arndt, **Cathy Antoniazzi** (Prince George), Helen Antoniazzi, Jack Bowling (weather summary), Jan Bradshaw, John Brighton, Doug Brown, Richard J. Cannings, Russell Cannings, Chris Charlesworth, Chris Dale, Gabe David, **Gary Davidson** (Kootenays), Molly Donaldson, Dan Dunlop, Jerry Etzkorn, Gordie Gadsden, Todd Heakes, Donna Heard, Marlene Johnson, Elsie Lafreniere, Marilyn Kamp, Nancy Krueger, Steve Lawrence, Derrick Marven, Morva McMahon, Mike McMann, Guy L. Monty, Laure Neish, **Mark Phinney** (Peace River), **Phil Ranson** (Cariboo-Chilcotin), Randy Rawluk, Greg Ross, Ian Routley, Bill Sampson, Chris Saunders, Chris Siddle, Kathy Smith, **Rick Toochn** (Vancouver), Jim Turnbull, Dick Webster, Gwyneth Wilson.



Authors in this Issue

Jo Ann MacKenzie

Jo Ann's interest in creatures of the wild began in very early childhood in Indianapolis, Indiana, U.S.A. Some 30 years later, her interest focused on birds. She became active in the birding section of the Toronto Field Naturalists and the Ontario Bird Banding Association. Jo Ann and husband Hue moved to the Vancouver area in 1983, and were soon leading field trips for the Vancouver Natural History Society and the White Rock and Surrey Naturalists. They were founding members of BCFO in 1991. Jo Ann was elected to the Board of Directors in 1999, serving as Secretary for 3 years, and President for 1 year, retiring in June, 2003.

She was a signatory to the partnering agreement between BCFO and the Chang Hua Wild Bird Society in November, 2003. She is Executive Secretary of the International Taiwan Birding Association (Canada) and Advisor to the Taiwan International Birding Association (Taiwan)

Martin K. McNicholl

Martin K. McNicholl's first list of birds included two kinds of "wild canary:" those that bounced through the air over the prairie behind his Winnipeg home and those that frequented trees in parks. In later lists, these were named goldfinches and warblers respectively. He has followed the deliberations and debates of those who classify birds ever since attending his first A.O.U. meeting in Duluth in 1966. He became a member of the A.O.U. through a student membership in 1967 and was elevated to an Elective Member in 1986.

Wayne Weber

Wayne is a native British Columbian, and started birding in Penticton in the early 1960s under the mentorship of Steve Cannings. He is a serious ornithologist as well as a birder, and earned B.Sc. and M.Sc. degrees at the University of B.C., and a Ph.D. at Mississippi State University. He has spent most of his working life as a wildlife and fisheries biologist with the B.C. Government. Wayne has lived most of his life in the Vancouver area, and his credits include 18 years as organizer/compiler of the Vancouver Christmas Bird Count, and terms as a Board member of the Vancouver Natural History Society, Pacific Northwest Bird & Mammal Society, and BCFO. He was one of the founding directors of BCFO, and remains a strong supporter of the society. 1990-2001).



Western Bluebird along Beaver Lake Road near Kelowna (an AGM field trip option).



TOURS FOR NATURALISTS

YUKON & DEMPSTER HIGHWAY

19-28 June 2006 (10 days) SOLD OUT Cost \$2400 (dbl occup) from Whitehorse
30th June-9th July 2006 (2 spaces available)

The Yukon is a fabled land whose very name evokes images of wilderness and a frontier populated by colourful characters. The heart of our adventure is the drive up the Dempster Highway from Dawson City to Inuvik, and a flight to Tuktoyaktuk on the Arctic Ocean. The Dempster is the only road in Canada extending north of the Arctic Circle. Along its route we cross two mountain ranges, traverse wild river valleys, muskeg, tundra and the mighty Mackenzie River. At latitude 66N we cross the Arctic Circle, and enter the Land of the Midnight Sun.

THE SUNSHINE COAST FOR NATURALISTS

17-21 July 2006 (5 days) Cost \$1520 (dbl occup) from Vancouver

The Sunshine Coast exemplifies the best of coastal BC, where the temperate rainforest meets the blue of the Salish Sea in a confusion of magnificent fjords and green islands. Our base is the stunning West Coast Wilderness Lodge (all meals included). Four separate cruises include Princess Louisa Inlet, Jedediah Island & a sunset cruise.

SOUTHERN UTAH

20-29 September 2006 (10 days) Cost \$1990 (dbl occup) from Las Vegas

Planet Earth contains an infinite variety of landscapes, but in southern Utah random geologic events have conspired to create rare, unexpected and beautiful consequences. The mighty Colorado River, aided by the arid erosion cycle, has waged battle across the eons with the sandstone strata and fashioned landscapes so unique and bizarre that they are more redolent of an extra-terrestrial origin. We visit The Grand Canyon, Bryce Canyon, Capitol Reef NP, Valley of the Gods, Arches National Park, Canyonlands NP, Monument Valley, Zion Canyon and more .

For info on other tours offered please visit our website

Leader : TONY GREENFIELD

WHISKEYJACK NATURE TOURS

BOX 319, SECHELT, BC, V0N 3A0

Tel: 604-885-5539, E-m: tony@whiskeyjacknaturetours.com

Full details & itineraries at website: www.whiskeyjacknaturetours.com

BC reg#34425



BIRDS OF PANAMA

24th Oct – 4th Nov 2006: Migration Season
WHISKEYJACK NATURE TOURS
 BC reg#34425

Little Cuckoo

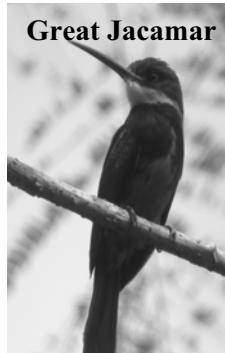


Panama is one of the most famous birding destinations in the world. In an area one twelfth the size of British Columbia can be found over 900 species of birds. There are legendary birding destinations such as Pipeline Road & Achioté Road (both of which we visit).

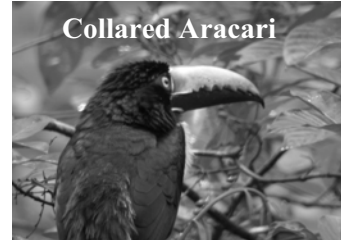
This fully escorted tour, with leader Dr. Rand Rudland, is based at the Canopy Tower Ecolodge in Soberania National Park, and in El Valle de Anton at the magical Canopy Lodge, located in an extinct caldera and designed by birders for birders. Local guides such as Carlos & Danilo can “whistle in” most of the local species.

COST: From Panama City CAD \$3875 (sharing)
 Single Rooms - limited availability CAD \$3475
GROUP SIZE: Maximum 10 guests
MEALS: all included
FULLY ESCORTED: Leader - Dr. Rand Rudland
CONTACT: Whiskeyjack Nature Tours
 P.O. Box 319, Sechelt, BC, V0N 3A0
 Phone: 604-885-5539 Fax: 604-885-2904
 E-mail: tony@whiskeyjacknaturetours.com
 Website: www.whiskeyjacknaturetours.com
 (All photos by R. Rudland, Panama 2005)

Great Jacamar



Collared Aracari



Long-tailed Tyrant



Slaty-tailed Trogon



Blue-grey Tanager



Up to 300 species of birds are possible, as well as many monkeys, sloths and other rainforest mammals. Blue Morpho butterflies, and others, abound. Frogs and toads can be heard, and often seen with a little searching. Snakes are occasionally seen, but encounters are extremely rare. Rainforest flora is vibrant and varied.

Some of the species we expect to see include **Blue Cotinga, Great Potoo, Bare-crowned Antbird, Black-crowned Antpitta, Lance-tailed Manakin, White-headed Wren, Long-billed Starthroat, White-throated Crane, White Hawk, Orange-chinned Parakeet, Orange-bellied Trogon, Golden-hooded Tanager** & a variety of **motmots, toucans, woodcreepers & puffbirds**. The multitudes of colour & song will keep your eyes & ears on edge for the entire tour.

For mammal enthusiasts, **Howler & White-faced Capuchin Monkeys, Agouti, 3-Toed Sloth, White-nosed Coati, and Anteater** are likely.





Swinhoe's Pheasant

Birding in TAIWAN

To Portuguese sailors in the 16th century, it was *Ilha Formosa*, "Beautiful Island," because of its forested beauty. Taiwan still has beautiful forested mountains. Taiwan could also be called a "land of smiles", because of its friendly people.

Collared Bush Robin, Formosan Whistling-Thrush, Steere's Liocichla, Taiwan Barwing, White-eared Sibia, Taiwan Yuhina, Yellow Tit, Flamecrest, Formosan Magpie, White-whiskered Laughingthrush, and the elegant Swinhoe's and Mikado Pheasants are 12 of Taiwan's 15 generally recognized endemics. There are also many endemic subspecies such as Black-browed Barbet and [Taiwan] Hwamei. Other birds include Malayan Night-Heron, Pheasant-tailed Jacana and Collared Finchbill. On our November trips, we see the globally threatened **Black-faced Spoonbill**. **Fairy Pitta** is present only during the breeding season. We also visit Lanyu Island, with 6 bird specialties of its own, including an endemic subspecies of Ryukyu Scops-Owl.

Taiwan is a safe country, with good infrastructure, a strong conservation movement, classic mountain scenery, friendly people, wonderful food, and much to offer visitors.

Come with us to enjoy the birds and culture of Taiwan!



Taiwan Yuhina



Taiwan Barwing



Fairy Pitta



Black-faced Spoonbill

NEXT TRIPS:

2006: November 6–19, for endemics, Black-faced Spoonbill and Lanyu Island

2007: May 7–20, for endemics, Fairy Pitta and Lanyu Island

PRICE: 14 days: From Vancouver: \$5100 (sharing); \$5600 (single)
From Taipei, Taiwan: \$4000 (sharing); \$4500 (single)

GROUP SIZE: 6–10, with 3 leaders; Simon Liao, Ten-Di Wu and Jo Ann MacKenzie

CONTACT: Jo Ann MacKenzie, 15341 – 21 Avenue, Surrey, BC, V4A 6A8,
j.a.mackenzie@telus.net tel: 604-538-1676, or
Simon Liao, birdsimon0624@yahoo.com.tw, in Taiwan

INTERNATIONAL TAIWAN BIRDING ASSOCIATION



Yellow [Taiwan] Tit

www.birdingintaiwan.com



**Good birds, good food,
good friends!**



Golden-headed Cisticola

