

# B<sub>C</sub> BIRDING

Newsletter of the British Columbia Field Ornithologists

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## British Columbia Field Ornithologists

P.O. Box 8059  
Victoria, British Columbia  
Canada  
V8W 3R7

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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

### Annual Membership Dues:

Canadian General Membership	\$30
Canadian Junior Membership	\$20
U.S. & International Membership	\$35

### 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

### *Please send newsletter submissions to*

Guy L. Monty (Editor, BC Birding)  
#305 – 155 Cheney Lane  
Parksville, B.C. V9P 1P2  
250-586-3838 / [guylmonty@gmail.com](mailto:guylmonty@gmail.com)

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

### Advertising

Advertising rates are available upon request

### BCFO Website

<http://www.bcfo.ca/>

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[www.bcfo.ca](http://www.bcfo.ca)



Cover photo and above photo by Penny Hall ©

## Cover Story – Eastern Bluebird in B.C.

Sechelt birder Penny Hall was visiting family in Fort Nelson on June 28, 2009, when she happened upon the type of sighting that most of us will only ever dream about. Upon being alerted by her grandchildren that there were some little birds with red heads in the backyard, she grabbed her camera, and headed out into the yard to see a Chipping Sparrow, and another bird with a "beautiful blue back" sitting on the neighbors fence. She was able to snap a few photos of this lovely bird, and netted herself the first documented record of an Eastern Bluebird in British Columbia!

Well done Penny!



## **B.C.F.O. President's Report**

Two of our directors stepped down this year as their six year terms of board membership were up. Tony Greenfield provided mammoth service in organizing, leading, and driving very successful extension field trips for our A.G.M.'s. These were a highlight of the A.G.M. meetings and his hard work on these will be missed. An added bonus for the organization was the financial return which we will handle with great care. Under Andy Stewart's tenure as Treasurer our economic position has been well shepherded, and his dedication and knowledge of that volunteer position has left the B.C.F.O. with a solid financial situation. Both Tony and Andy deserve a very big "Thank You" from all of us.

We welcome three new members to our board: June Ryder, Art Martell and Guy Monty. June takes over the Treasurers portfolio, Art is the new editor of our journal, "B.C.Birds", and Guy has taken over the editorship of our newsletter "B.C.Birding". After a long search for a new

Membership Coordinator, Gordon Neish has volunteered to take on this vital task. I would personally like to thank all of these people who have stepped forward to volunteer their time, expertise and energy to help keep B.C.F.O. a going concern. It is not easy to find new people to volunteer for any of the duties connected with running a volunteer society (our organization is not alone in this). That is why the board would like to receive the names of any members who feel they may be able to volunteer their time at some future date for specific duties. This would provide us with a list of potential volunteers for these duties whom we can contact when positions come vacant. We are looking at a time frame of one to three years in the future. At this time we need an Archivist as the individual now doing this is not really doing a top rate job. I would be delighted to hand this position over to a more competent Archivist. Please feel free to contact myself or any board member on this.

The Clearwater A.G.M., field trips and Atlasing in the surrounding country were well organized by Wayne and Brent Diakow, Les Gyug, Laure Neish, Dick Cannings, and Peter Davidson. We were very lucky to have remarkable help from a number of local naturalists, who took us to interesting sites, in many cases private property where they had arranged access for us. I would like to thank Jim Ginns for sending letters of thanks to these Clearwater naturalists on B.C.F.O.'s behalf.

I also must thank Jim for a very enjoyable day when we ended up by visiting Trevor Goward (our guest speaker) at his property. Here Trevor has been revitalizing an extensive marsh – pond ecosystem, which was most enlightening. One of the interesting items Trevor mentioned was the expansion into the Clearwater area in the past 25 years of White-tailed Deer and White-throated swifts. As aerial insectivore birds are suffering declines in the northern hemisphere it is good to hear of an expansion. This leads nicely into the need for input to both this newsletter and to the Journal.

Have you noticed the trend over the past twenty odd years for building maintenance people at shopping centers, public and private concrete buildings and bridges to remove the nests of Cliff swallows and Barn swallows? I recall very large Cliff swallow colonies at S.F.U. and the Vancouver Museum (and at UBC?) twenty years

ago. These colonies are now gone! The ongoing “battle” against Rock Pigeons at shopping centers, works yards, and warehouses, etc. seems also to have resulted in the removal and stopping of nesting sites for Barn swallows. My view of this is very geographically biased (Greater Vancouver), but is this attack on Cliff and Barn swallows nesting sites province wide? Common Nighthawks are another species which has undergone a marked decline in the Greater Vancouver area, but what has caused this is hard to say. Air pollution (exceptionally bad at this time), mountain biking and dog walking in nesting areas, pesticides, etc, etc.

Another topic which could be worth airing is the impact of exotic plant removal projects on our bird, insect and mammal species. Are we sure that all exotic naturalized plant species are in fact having negative impacts on the environment (in many cases an environment much altered by us in the past one to two hundred years)? I am sure there are many other topics you can think of, so do put “pen to paper” and drop our editors a line. Enjoy the heat; the rains are coming.

Kevin Bell  
August 2009

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## Letters to the Editor

Congratulations to Guy and Donna Monty on their first edition of *BC Birding*. They have taken on a role that is crucial to the BCFO and it looks like they will address some of the key and difficult issues that will generate discussion and thoughtful consideration, precursors to resolution. They have what it takes to do it right, which means, most importantly, that they have great passion for the birds that this organization serves.

Two other key assets which they bring to this role are knowledge and humour. I look forward to reading in this, their second edition, and in future editions more interesting and thought-provoking articles by the diverse and talented pool of BCFO members, facilitated by the new editors.

~Phil Henderson, Past Editor.





*Newsletter Editor Guy Monty, and birding archeologist Heather Pratt, scoping the Salish Sea for jaegers near Qualicum Beach, while they discuss the finer points of discovering native fish traps.*

## Editor's Notes



Hello fellow birders, and welcome to fall! As I sit here writing this, I can hear the chips of nocturnally migrating Savannah Sparrows through the open window as they rush south in the darkness. Most of the flycatchers, vireos, and warblers have already gone, and the winter waterfowl are streaming into local wetlands and estuaries. Where did the summer go? The feeling that the summer wasn't long enough, might be compounded by the fact that none of you received a June issue of BC Birding. We didn't forget you, and your copy wasn't lost in the mail. We simply were not able to publish one, for lack of articles. Rather than filling a very thin issue with "fluff", we decided to combine the June and September issue this year. While we absolutely cannot get into the habit of doing this, we also can't produce a newsletter without submissions from YOU! Please, if you have a few moments to jot down a quick story about an exemplary birding outing, an especially pleasing sighting, something humorous that happened down at the sewage lagoon, or anything else related to birds and birding, it would be most appreciated.

In this issue we are pleased to present a list of species seen at the AGM in Clearwater back in June. We are also fortunate to include some excellent photos taken by Mark Habdas during the AGM. For the first time in years I was able to attend the AGM, and was very glad that I did. It was a great time, with plenty of good birding, excellent presentations, gorgeous scenery, good food, and all the attendant socializing. The organizers of this years AGM and all of the volunteers involved are due a huge thank you!

If you haven't attended a BCFO AGM before, or, like me, it's been awhile since you attended one, I strongly encourage you to take part next year. Details are emerging, and next years AGM in Revelstoke sounds very exciting!

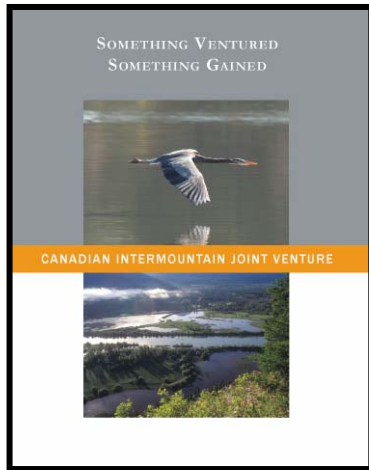
Guy and Donna Monty



# CANADIAN INTERMOUNTAIN JOINT VENTURE

DELEGATE REPORT TO BC NATURE---- MAY 2009

Submitted by Wayne C. Weber



The Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture is a bird habitat acquisition, enhancement, and stewardship program which operates in the interior of British Columbia and in the Rocky Mountain region of Alberta. It is similar to the

Pacific Coast Joint Venture, Prairie Joint Venture, and Eastern Joint Venture which operate in other parts of Canada.

The CIJV is a partnership of 18 government and non-government organizations, of which BC Nature is one. Administrative support is provided by the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada. Most of the organizations included in the CIJV carry on their activities somewhat independently, and some of them have done since well before the CIJV was formally established in 2003. However, the CIJV serves as a forum for assessing bird habitat acquisition/stewardship needs and for coordinating action among the partners.

The CIJV also allows for the expenditure of U.S. federal government money for bird habitat acquisition and management in Canada, under provisions of the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). NAWCA funds must be spent on wetland areas, with the aim of securing and improving habitat for waterfowl and other wetland species. However, funds from Canadian sources and from non-government U.S. sources may be and are spent on upland habitats to benefit upland bird species. The CIJV is the first “all-bird” Joint Venture, with efforts focused on all bird species whose habitat is at risk, not just waterbirds. Several other Joint Ventures are in the process of converting to the “all-bird” model.

During 2007, the last year with complete data, about \$3.9 million was spent on bird habitat programs in the CIJV area, of which \$515,000 came

from U.S. sources. Since the program began, total expenditures have been \$24.6 million, of which \$8.7 million were from U.S. sources. During 2007, 5200 acres of habitat were secured by purchase or easement, and enhancement activities took place on 8200 acres.

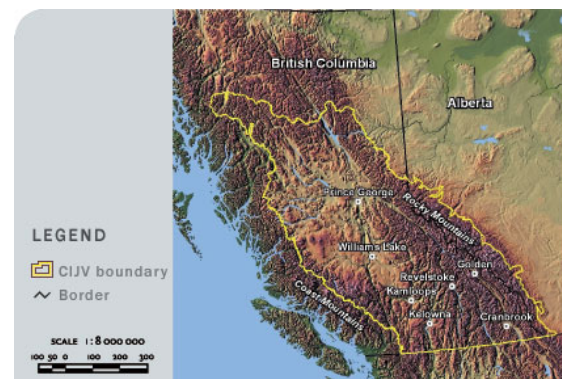
During 2008, two meetings of the CIJV board were held. The first was in Kamloops on May 27 and 28, and included a tour of habitat restoration activities on Teck-Cominco’s large Highland Valley Mine property, led by the company’s restoration manager, Bob Hamaguchi. Like other Board members, I was favourably impressed by the extent and success of this habitat restoration. The second Board meeting was held in Vancouver on November 25. The CIJV also has a Technical Committee, which meets occasionally as needed.

In mid-2008, Saul Schneider of Environment Canada, who had served effectively as Coordinator for both the CIJV and the Pacific Coast Joint Venture since 2004, transferred to another position. His replacement is Laura Maclean.

The next meeting of the CIJV Board will take place on May 20 and 21, 2009, at Williams Lake.

The CIJV is an extremely valuable, long-term habitat acquisition and management program which BC Nature should continue to support and be involved in.

The CIJV has a website at <http://www.cijv.ca>, with information about the program and links to the websites of the partner organizations.



## INTERNET SOURCES

### BCFO

<http://www.bcfo.ca/>

### BC Breeding Bird Atlas

<http://www.birdatlas.bc.ca/english/index.jsp>

### Biodiversity BC

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

### Biodiversity Centre for Wildlife Studies

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

### Birding in British Columbia (General Information)

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

### BIRDNET (Ornithological Council)

<http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/>

### Bird Source (Audubon & Cornell Lab of Ornithology)

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

### eBird Canada

<http://www.ebird.org/content/ebird/>

### Bird Studies Canada / Long Point Bird Observatory

<http://bsc-eoc.org/bscmain.html>

### Patuxent Wildlife Research Center

[http://www/\[wrc/isgs/gpv/birds/](http://www/[wrc/isgs/gpv/birds/)

### Point Reyes Bird Observatory

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

### Rocky Point Bird Observatory

<http://www.islandnet.com/rpbo/index.html>

### AOU Check-list of North American Birds, 7<sup>th</sup> Edition

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

### Bird Wing Image Database

<http://www.pugetsound.edu/x5662.xml>

### Michael Shephard's Bird Information Site

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

### Mike Yip's Vancouver Island Bird Photos Site

<http://vancouverislandbirds.com/>

### SORA: Searchable Ornithological Research Archive

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

### ABA Rare Bird Blog

<http://birding.typepad.com/peeps/>

### BC Interior Bird Chat Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcintbird/>

### Sunshine Coast Bird Chat Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/sunshinecoastbirding/>

### Vancouver and Lower Mainland Bird Chat Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/bcvanbirds/>

### Vancouver Island Bird Chat Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/BCVIBIRDS/>

### West Kootenay Bird Chat Group

<http://groups.yahoo.com/group/wkbirds/>



## BRITISH COLUMBIA BIRDS NEEDS SUBMISSIONS

... of original manuscripts on wild birds in British Columbia. This is the

journal of record for reporting rarities or range expansions, the general status of species, avian ecology and behaviour. We publish new observations on birds, or even a single bird. Suitable topics include distribution, abundance, extralimital occurrence or range expansion, reviews of status, banding, identification, plumage variation, moult, behaviour, feeding, breeding, habitat, ecological relationships, reviews, or history and biography of ornithology. Information for authors is available on the BCFO website at:

[www.bcfo.ca/journal-author-invitation.php](http://www.bcfo.ca/journal-author-invitation.php)

## 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 BCFO's Journal **British Columbia Birds**.
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 up to a \$1000 limit and within the financial strength of the organization will be considered, with any larger requests requiring approval at the AGM.
6. Applicants should obtain a copy of the grant policy and the application guidelines from a member of the executive before any submission.

**Welcome to new  
BCFO members**

**Tania Berladyn**  
(Coquitlam)

**Elizabeth Bredberg**  
(Kelowna)

**Catherine Craig**  
(Kelowna)

**Brent Diakow**  
(Vancouver)

**Karen Ferguson**  
(Salt Spring Island)

**Alexis C. Harrington**  
(Sechelt)

**Dennis Leonard**  
(Clearwater)

**Tom Marshall**  
(Salmon Arm)

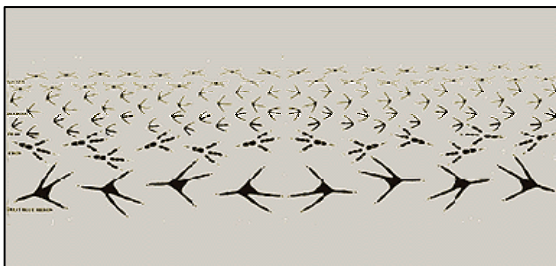
**Dustin Oaten**  
(Kamloops)

**Gy Ovenden**  
(Clearwater)

**Marc Sole**  
(North Vancouver)

**Christopher Stephens**  
(Parksville)

**Jennifer Tayes**  
(Maple Ridge)



## Membership Renewal for 2010

This year we are sending personalized membership renewal forms to those members whose memberships expire on 31 December 2009. This form will provide you with the information and instructions we have received from you. If this information is correct, you simply need to complete the annual fees section and return the form to BCFO with your cheque or money order. If you wish to correct or update the information, we ask that you indicate the changes directly on the form.

If your membership does not expire in 2009 you will not receive a membership renewal form this year. Should you wish to extend your membership regardless of the fact that it does not expire until 2010 or later, or should you wish to make a donation, please contact the Membership Coordinator for a form or complete and mail to BCFO the recently redesigned *Membership Application and Renewal Form* that is posted on the BCFO website at:

<http://www.bcfo.ca/membership.php>.

Please note that the BCFO By-Laws (Part 1, Section 4) state that “*The annual Membership dues shall be payable on the first day of January. A member shall be considered in arrears if dues are not received by the first day of March and is no longer considered to be a Member in good standing.*” We therefore greatly appreciate your thoughtfulness and consideration in sending us your dues by the end of the year; however, if we have not heard from you by the end of January, we will be sending you a gentle reminder to remit your dues no later than 1 March 2010 so that your membership doesn’t lapse.

Gordon Neish  
Membership Coordinator

## UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

*compiled by Martin K. McNicholl and Wayne C. Weber*



The following meetings and other events are those that take place in B.C. and immediately adjacent areas or that potentially include information on birds that occur in B.C. Information on additional meetings is listed in the bimonthly *Ornithological Newsletter* and, for readers with inter-net access, on BIRDNET at [www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/ornith/birdmeet.html](http://www.nmnh.si.edu/BIRDNET/ornith/birdmeet.html)

**October 4-10 2009 AMERICAN BIRDING ASSOCIATION INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE**, Xalapa, Mexico. Contact (no individual or mailing address indicated); phone 1-800-850-2473, local 230; e-mail: [aback&aba.org](mailto:aback&aba.org); website: <http://www.aba.org/mtgs/upcoming.html>

**October 10-11, 2009 10<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL BIRDFEST AND BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL** at Ridgefield National Wildlife Refuge, near Vancouver, WA. For information, check website at <http://www.ridgefieldfriends.org/birdfest.html>, or phone Friends of Ridgefield NWR at (360) 887-9495. You may also contact the Friends by email at [rfriends@pacifier.com](mailto:rfriends@pacifier.com), or by regular mail at PO Box 1022, Ridgefield, WA 98642.

**November 4-7 2009 33<sup>rd</sup> ANNUAL MEETING, WATERBIRD SOCIETY**, Cape May, NJ. Contact: David Mizrahi, NJAS/CMBO Center for Research & Ed, 600 Route 47 North, Cape May Court House, NJ; phone (609) 861-0700; e-mail: [david.mizrah@njudubon.org](mailto:david.mizrah@njudubon.org) OR Nellie Tsipoura, 301 Crestwood St., Piscataway, NJ 08854, NJ; phone (732) 748-1119; e-mail: [Nellie.tsipoura@njudubon.org](mailto:Nellie.tsipoura@njudubon.org)

### **December 14, 2009- January 5, 2010 CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT**

For more information contact your local naturalist club

The National Audubon Society <http://www.audubon.org/bird/cbc/index.html> OR Bird Studies Canada, <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/volunteer/cbc/index.jsp?targetpg=index&lang=EN>

### **EVENTS IN 2010 & 2012**

**January 2010** (dates to be determined) **BRACKENDALE EAGLE FESTIVAL**, Brackendale, BC (near Squamish). For information, check the festival website at [www.brackendaleartgallery.com/Festival.html](http://www.brackendaleartgallery.com/Festival.html)

**February 7-11 2010 128<sup>TH</sup> STATED MEETING, AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION, 80TH COOPER ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY MEETING & 28<sup>TH</sup> SOCIETY FOR CANADIAN ORNITHOLOGY MEETING**, San Diego, Calif. Contact: Barbara E. Kus, U.S.G.S. Western Ecological Research Center, San Diego Field Station, Suite 200, 4165 Spruance Road, San Diego, Calif. 92101; phone (619) 225-6421; website: <http://www.werc.usgs.gov/sandiego/>

**February 12-15, 2010 GREAT BACKYARD BIRD COUNT**, sponsored by National Audubon Society and Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology. For information, check the website at <http://www.birdsource.org/gbbc>

**March through April 2010 BRANT WILDLIFE FESTIVAL** Vancouver Island, B.C. Contact: The Nature Trust of B.C., 260 - 1000 Roosevelt Crescent, North Vancouver BC V7P 3R4; phone: 604 924 9771; website [www.brantfestival.bc.ca](http://www.brantfestival.bc.ca) or [www.naturetrust.bc.ca](http://www.naturetrust.bc.ca)

**April 15-19, 2010 HAWK MIGRATION ASSOCIATION OF NORTH AMERICA CONFERENCE**, Duluth, MN. Contact: HMANA Conference, Hawk Ridge Bird Observatory, Box 3006, Duluth, MN 55803; phone (218) 428-6209; e-mail: [mail@hawkridge.org](mailto:mail@hawkridge.org)

**August 22-28 2010 25<sup>TH</sup> INTERNATIONAL ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS**, Campos do Jordao, Brazil. Contact: Prof. Dr. Cristina Yumi Miyaki [no address or phone number announced]. e-mail: [ioc2010@ib.usp.br](mailto:ioc2010@ib.usp.br).

**August 14-18 2012 5<sup>TH</sup> NORTH AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGICAL CONGRESS**, Vancouver, B.C. Precise dates to be confirmed; contact information and participating organizations not yet announced.

## **B.C. BIRDING NEWS BRIEFS**

*Compiled by Martin K. McNicholl*

### **Chat Photographers Fined**

Two photographers who threatened the nest of a Yellow-billed Chat by removing a protective rosebush from its vicinity in the Okanagan were fined \$6,000 recently, with the fine going to help fund Canadian Wildlife Service research on this species. –based on L. Pym. Vancouver Sun 20 Feb./09, as reprinted in Wandering Tattler 32(7):12, 2009.

### **Jim Lunan**

James Bell Lunan died in Victoria on 16 February 2009. He was an active naturalist in the Comox Valley from 1947 until about 2005, whose contributions included bird inventories along the Trent River. –based on Anonymous. 2009. B. C. Nat. 47(1):23.

### **John Ireland Retires**

According to a 6 April 2009 e-mail from Len Jellicoe to an e-mail group forwarded by Jude Grass, long-time Reifel Refuge Manager John Ireland retired recently. According to the minutes of the 48th annual meeting of the B.C. Waterfowl Society, John was employed there for 22 years (R. Butler. 2009. Marshnotes spring 2009:7). He will be missed by many visitors to the sanctuary.

### **McNicholl Profiled**

The latest naturalist covered in the biographical profile series in Nature Vancouver's journal, Discovery, is the author of this column, a former B.C.F.O. director and former B.C. Birds editor. The article is by former B.C. Birding Editor, Phillip S. Henderson (Discovery 37(2):6-10, 2009).

### **Vancouver Area Observers Awarded**

As usual, birds featured at least incidentally among the contributions of most of this spring's recipients of awards by Nature Vancouver. B.C.F.O. Vice-President Jude Grass was awarded the society's premiere accolade, the Kaye and Charles Ney Award for Lifetime Service for her many contributions to all aspects of the society including chairing the birding section twice, founding and currently editing (for the second time) that section's newsletter, The Wandering Tattler, writing articles and notes on birds, co-ordinating raptor surveys and bird counts, organizing workshops, leading field trips and other Nature Vancouver activities while also performing similar tasks for several related groups and serving as a liaison among several of them –based on M. K. McNicholl. 2009. Vancouver Nat. 11(2):5-6. Rob Butler, formerly of the Canadian Wildlife Service and now co-ordinating the B.C. Breeding Bird Atlas was given the Davidson Award for Conservation in recognition of his research on Great Blue Herons and Western Sandpipers, various writings, his work on obtaining conservation designations for important bird areas and several public information endeavours. One of five Garibaldi Awards for Volunteer Service was given to Martin K. McNicholl for his contributions to the Birding Section and related activities. –based on Anonymous. 2009. Vancouver Nat. 11(2):6-7.

## Habitat Preservation Highlighted in B.C. Nature Awards

Two B.C.F.O. members received outstanding awards from B.C. Nature this spring for their efforts in preservation of habitats for birds and other natural features –Margaret Cuthbert received the B.C. Nature Education Award for her leadership in Boundary Bay Education and stewardship through Friends of Semiahmoo Bay, while Eva Durance received Nature B.C.'s premiere Elton Anderson Award for her many efforts on behalf of ecological reserves, heritage rivers, parks and other protected areas and areas that should be protected. Habitat preservation also featured in the B.C. Nature Recognition Award to Gail Ross for many years of parks advocacy and park interpretation and in the many contributions of Don Guild that led to his receiving a B.C. Nature Club Service Award. He was also successful in obtaining funding for a bird atlas project in the Okanagan. –based on Anonymous. 2009. B.C. Nature 47(2):9-10 & 13.



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## B.C. Breeding Bird Atlas Update

*BCFO is one of the partners in the BC Breeding Bird Atlas Project*

Year two of the atlas project really took off as atlasers have a year of practice under their belts and binoculars. Participants understand how easy atlassing is (it's just like regular "birding" but observing more behaviours); they've also figured out how to reach and complete the ever-important point-count stations. And data entry is simple once you've given it a few tries. It's only mid-September and we already have about the same number of atlassing records as all of last year. But it gets even better because we've tripled the amount of point-counts that were completed last year – 3796 point counts equal to 29,000 records!

Data entry for 2009 will be open until February 2010, so you have plenty of time to get records in while you watch the snow or rain fall over winter. We know some of you still have records tucked away from 2008 and we'd be happy to help you enter them – just give us a call (1-877-592-8527) and the Bird Studies Canada staff will get you started!

We're also very proud of the coverage we've completed in 2009. With financial help from the Baillie Fund, Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, and BC Conservation Foundation, we've been able to help get atlasers out across the whole province – have a look at the maps at: <http://www.birdatlas.bc.ca/bcdata/maps.jsp>

The data and maps are free to view even if you are not registered. Look to the atlas website next spring for more opportunities to get to remote areas of BC. Sandra Kinsey literally "took-off" this year for the atlas project! See her story below about float-plane adventures in northern BC, and if you have any ideas, give us a call and we'll see how we can help. Thanks to participants and supporters for a remarkable 2009!

Christopher Di Corrado



**[www.bsc-eoc.org](http://www.bsc-eoc.org)**

## 19th Annual BCFO Conference



*Photos by Mark Haldas & Guy L.Monty*

**19th Annual BCFO Conference  
Field Trip Species List  
(115 species total)**

	Species	Blackpool	DeKolver	Panton	Trophy
1	Canada Goose.	X		X	
2	Wood Duck.	X			
3	Mallard.	X		X	
4	Barrow's Goldeneye.	X			X
5	Common Merganser.			X	
6	Ruffed Grouse.			X	
7	Spruce Grouse				X
8	White-tailed Ptarmigan.				X
9	Common Loon.			X	
10	Turkey Vulture.	X	X	X	
11	Osprey.				X
12	Bald Eagle.			X	
13	Sharp-shinned Hawk.	X			
14	Cooper's Hawk.			X	
15	Red-tailed Hawk.	X		X	
16	American Kestrel.			X	
17	Merlin.	X		X	X
18	Peregrine Falcon.			X	
19	Virginia Rail.	X			
20	Sora.	X			
21	American Coot.	X			
22	Killdeer.	X			
23	Spotted Sandpiper.	X		X	
24	Long-billed Curlew.	X			
25	Wilson's Snipe.	X			X
26	California Gull.	X			
27	Mourning Dove.			X	
28	Barred Owl.		X		
29	Black Swift.		X	X	
30	White-throated Swift.			X	
31	Calliope Hummingbird.	X		X	
32	Rufous Hummingbird.	X	X	X	
33	Belted Kingfisher.		X		
34	Red-naped Sapsucker.	X	X	X	
35	Downy Woodpecker.	X			
36	Hairy Woodpecker.	X			
37	American Three-toed Woodpecker.				X
38	Northern Flicker.	X	X	X	
39	Pileated Woodpecker.	X		X	
40	Olive-sided Flycatcher.				X
41	Western Wood-Pewee.	X	X	X	
42	Willow Flycatcher.	X			
43	Least Flycatcher.	X	X	X	

**19th Annual BCFO Conference  
Field Trip Species List  
(cont'd)**

	Species	Blackpool	DeKolver	Panton	Trophy
44	Hammond's Flycatcher.	X	X	X	
45	Dusky Flycatcher.	X	X	X	
46	Pacific-slope Flycatcher.	X		X	X
47	Eastern Kingbird.	X			
48	Cassin's Vireo.	X	X	X	
49	Warbling Vireo.	X	X	X	X
50	Philadelphia Vireo.				
51	Red-eyed Vireo.	X	X	X	
52	Gray Jay.				X
53	American Crow.	X	X	X	
54	Common Raven.	X	X	X	X
55	Horned Lark.				X
56	Tree Swallow.	X		X	
57	Violet-green Swallow.	X		X	
58	Northern Rough-winged Swallow.	X		X	
59	Barn Swallow.			X	
60	Black-capped Chickadee.	X	X	X	
61	Mountain Chickadee.		X	X	X
62	Boreal Chickadee.				X
63	Red-breasted Nuthatch.	X	X	X	X
64	Winter Wren.				X
65	Marsh Wren.	X			
66	American Dipper.		X		
67	Golden-crowned Kinglet.		X		X
68	Ruby-crowned Kinglet.		X	X	X
69	Mountain Bluebird.	X			
70	Veery.	X	X	X	
71	Swainson's Thrush.	X	X	X	X
72	Hermit Thrush.				X
73	American Robin.	X	X	X	X
74	Varied Thrush.		X		X
75	Gray Catbird.	X	X		
76	European Starling.	X		X	
77	American Pipit.				X
78	Cedar Waxwing.	X	X	X	
79	Tennessee Warbler.			X	
80	Orange-crowned Warbler.	X	X	X	
81	Nashville Warbler.	X		X	
82	Yellow Warbler.	X	X	X	
83	Magnolia Warbler.		X		
84	Yellow-rumped Warbler.	X	X	X	X
85	Townsend's Warbler.		X		X
86	American Redstart.	X	X	X	

**19th Annual BCFO Conference  
Field Trip Species List  
(cont'd)**

	Species	Blackpool	DeKelver	Panton	Trophy
87	Northern Waterthrush.	X			
88	MacGillivray's Warbler.	X	X	X	
89	Common Yellowthroat.	X		X	
90	Wilson's Warbler.			X	X
91	Western Tanager.	X	X	X	
92	Spotted Towhee.		X	X	
93	Chipping Sparrow.	X		X	X
94	Savannah Sparrow.			X	X
95	Fox Sparrow.				X
96	Song Sparrow.	X	X	X	X
97	Lincoln's Sparrow.	X	X	X	X
98	White-crowned Sparrow.				X
99	Golden-crowned Sparrow.				X
100	Dark-eyed Junco.	X	X	X	X
101	Black-headed Grosbeak.	X			
102	Lazuli Bunting.	X		X	
103	Red-winged Blackbird.	X			
104	Western Meadowlark.	X			
105	Brewer's Blackbird.	X		X	
106	Brown-headed Cowbird.	X	X	X	
107	Bullock's Oriole.	X			
108	Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch.				X
109	Pine Grosbeak.				X
110	House Finch.	X			
111	Red Crossbill.	X	X	X	
112	White-winged Crossbill.		X		
113	Pine Siskin.	X	X	X	X
114	American Goldfinch.	X			
115	Evening Grosbeak.	X		X	
		<b>73</b>	<b>44</b>	<b>66</b>	<b>38</b>

**Blackpool Marshes: Ron & Tina Colborne's Property**

Habitat includes extensive cattail marshes along Lost Creek bordered by rocky cliffs and open fields. The trail, actually an old gated road to walk, ascends into mixed forest and clearcuts. Mixed forest above the marsh.

**Ida DeKelver's Property**

A Cedar-Hemlock zone with willows and other wetland vegetation covering the banks of Candle Creek. Bog and marsh land (80 acres). Some drier forested areas & shrubby grasslands. Local artifacts on display in old museum on the property.

**Dutch Lake and Clearwater River Trail**

In the center of the community with an island to canoe around. This small lake has a beautiful vista of Raft Mountain.

**Trophy Meadow Hike**

The Trophy Mountains rise 2,575 metres into the sky, with sub alpine meadows and nine peaks towering over the Shuswap Highlands of Southern Wells Gray Provincial Park.

**Val & Jim Panton's Property**

77 acres of very diverse habitat with a mix of grassland, brush, deciduous and coniferous forests, springs and an orchard.



## Special Thanks to Conference Speakers !

It takes a tremendous effort and commitment to ornithology to produce a presentation that educates & entertains a crusty bunch of birders. So hats off to the guest speakers at the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual BC Field Ornithologists Conference.

Thanks to:

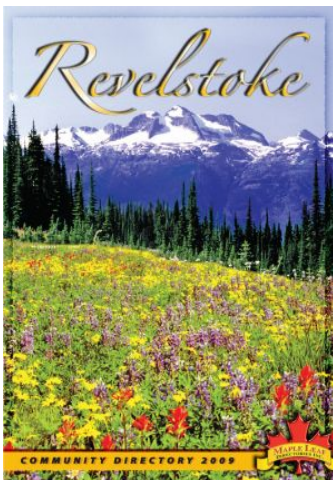
Trevor Goward - *"Introduction to Wells Gray"*

Bill Harrower - *"Northern Goshawks"*

Pete Davidson - *"Update on BC Breeding Bird Atlas: Achievements And Challenges in Year Two of Five"*

Walt Klenner - *"Cavity Nesters in Managed Forests"*

Rick Howie - *"Birds of a Minescape: Avian Response to Reclamation Initiatives in the Highland Valley"*



## 20<sup>th</sup> Annual BCFO Conference May 28 - May 30 2010

Location: Revelstoke  
Hosted by: Friends of Mt Revelstoke and Glacier National Parks  
(<http://www.friendsrevglacier.com/home.html>).

Post-conference Extension Tour with  
renowned bird guide Chris Charlesworth  
Rocky Mountain Trench, Mountain National Parks, Prairie foothills  
Embark from Revelstoke May 30<sup>th</sup> Return to Revelstoke June 2<sup>nd</sup>

Registration forms for both the conference and extension will be available in the December BC Birding newsletter, so stay tuned for more information.

# Floatplane Atlassing in Northwestern BC

July 2-10, 2009



When Laird and I were offered the opportunity to fly into northwestern British Columbia to atlas, we jumped at the chance. We would meet the pilot on July 2, and fly back out July 10 or 11 (depending on weather). Cold Fish Lake was our first target area. Denetiah Lake would be next.

We brought along another 15 or so atlas square maps for a third lake in case we had time to survey another square. We met Jim Munn, who now lives in Summerland but knows the northwest, at Fraser Lake. Jim has a Cessna 180 on floats.

From Fraser Lake, we flew into Cold Fish Lake Camp in Spatzizi Plateau Wilderness Provincial Park. This park was established, largely through the efforts of guide-outfitter Tommy Walker, in 1975 for its “true wilderness atmosphere, outstanding scenery and varied terrain.” Amenties at the camp include six small sleeping cabins, a cookhouse, and outhouses. A number of horse and walking trails branch out from the camp. Some lead to the alpine, one follows Cold Fish Lake and one leads to a couple of smaller lakes to the north of the camp. The alpine areas were continuous rolling ridges with fantastic views. The sub-alpine on both sides of the valley consisted of far-reaching wet meadows of bog birch and willow bushes.

One day, on a point count, we had a young grizzly bear supervising us from 80 metres away. Later that day, while watching some Horned Larks and Semi-palmated Plovers, a caribou walked up to within 20 metres of us.

After five days of conducting 40 point counts and walking 81 km, we deemed the two targeted squares completed. We documented 33 and 59 species respectively of birds for the two squares. Two singing Smith’s Longspurs were the highlight. The weather was also a highlight: no rain!

Denetiah Lake is about 130 km northeast of Cold Fish Lake and 15 km west of the Rocky Mountain Trench. It, also, is in a park: Denetiah Provincial Park. There is a public use cabin on this remote wilderness lake, but we slept in our tents and cooked over a fire. The mosquitoes, black flies and noseemus were much easier to manage in a small tent.

We were able to atlas along the lake using a rough horse trail even though parts of it were under water. The alpine was accessed by climbing a steep ridge behind the cabin. Once in the scrubby treed sub-alpine, we climbed some more to get above treeline, then climbed some more. We found rubber boots are excellent for rock climbing! The impressive views were hazy with smoke from a wildfire to the north. On the way up we saw three Stone Sheep on a far ridge.



We completed one atlas square here, conducting 21 point counts, and walking 24 km for 37 species of birds. The highlight was a pair of White-tailed Ptarmigan, a species that eluded us at Cold Fish Lake. We had scattered rain showers here.

Thank you for the opportunity to get into BC's remote wilderness!

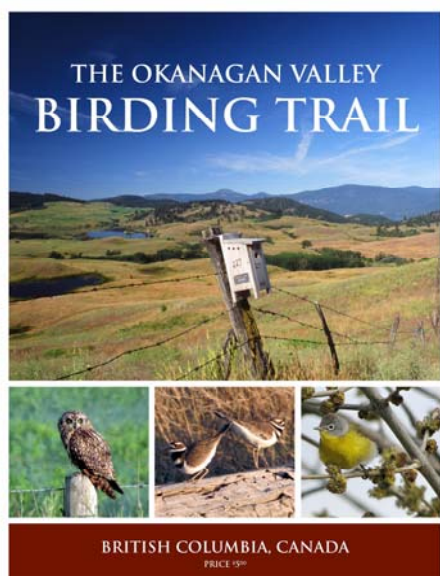
*Sandra Kinsey and Laird Law  
Prince George, BC*



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## The Okanagan Valley Birding Trail

by Jim Ginns



The South Okanagan Naturalists' Club, in cooperation with the North and Central Okanagan Naturalists' Clubs, and the Oliver-Osoyoos Naturalist's Club, has just published **The Okanagan Valley Birding Trail**. This 32 page, full colour guide treats 64 birding spots from Enderby in the north, south to the Canadian border. Each site description includes the best seasons for birding, its habitats, some of the uncommon birds or site specific species, viewing notes, and how to find the place (often with GPS coordinates).

A number of naturalists and birders contributed significant time to the manual, e.g., each of the 15 write-ups that I prepared included a site visit. All contributors should be proud of the finished product. It is not only good looking but contains a lot of useful data.

The price for one copy is \$5.00 plus \$2.25 for postage.

In Canada mail a check for \$7.25 made out to SONC to **Birding Trail, SONC, P.O. Box 20017, Penticton, BC, V2A 8K3**. In the Okanagan Valley the manual is also available from the four naturalists' clubs mentioned above and from several Visitor Information Centres. If ordering more than one copy before sending a check ask [soncpres@telus.net](mailto:soncpres@telus.net) about postage.

In the United States contact Seattle Audubon at <https://www.seattleaudubon.org/sas/TheNatureShop.aspx>. In the Search box type "The Okanagan" or under "The Nature Shop" heading, scroll down to "Books, Maps, Multimedia" and click on "Maps – Birding Trail Loops."

## Human Response to Climate Change

### Can birders and birding be part of the solution?



Can birders and birding be part of the solution to our environmental problems and, in particular, global climate change? Janis Dickinson's recent paper, *The People Paradox: Self-Esteem Striving, Immortality Ideologies, and Human Response to Climate*

*Change*, which appears in the current issue of *Ecology and Society* (<http://www.ecologyandsociety.org/vol14/iss1/art34/>), suggests that possibility. As Dickinson notes:

"Birds provide important connections with nature, even if the only contact is with non-native birds common in cities. Such contact may be the primary hope for mobilizing urban populations to care about environmental issues (Dunn et al. 2006). Currently, more than half the world's population lives in cities, and this constitutes a large segment of humanity that is disconnected from the natural world (Louv 2005). This realization is the underlying basis of programs like *Celebrate Urban Birds* at The Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology and the Council for Environmental Education's *Flying Wild*, which propose that teaching about birds close to home will re-establish these missing connections, reduce fear of nature, and get people to spend more unstructured time outdoors.

By merging two ideas, i.e., the personal connection to nature through birds (Dunn 2006) and the denial of death (Becker 1973), the growing attachment to and projection-idealization of birds and other charismatic species may provide an important route to helping the public to recognize, care about, and act upon climate

change in a sustained way. It may be more effective than forecasting the impacts of climate change on human populations, because birds are external to self, and this appears to be an important characteristic of an immortality project. Birders may also prove more resilient to the stress associated with conservation work than their less bird-o-philic counterparts. These are testable ideas that may enhance the strategies of conservation organizations and improve the way in which we convey difficult and important information about global climate change.

Bird watching is not just a hobby, a labor of love, and a spiritual experience; it is also a culture of honor and a competitive sport with regional and national events like *Big Day* and *Big Year*. Birding conservation communities are stratified with status and leadership equivalent to birding prowess. They serve a social function worthy of study, and, as with any sport, bird watching provides a context for self-esteem. Interestingly, serious birding may have parallels with hunting, as opposed to gathering, because there appears to be a gender bias in which most of the top competitive bird watchers in the United States are male. Regardless, it is reasonable to hypothesize that bird watching communities provide the cultural context for the heroic enactments of competitive birders and the conservation efforts they support."

As birders, we all know there's a lot more to birding than simply watching and studying birds but I bet self-esteem and immortality-seeking didn't even enter our minds!

Neil K. Dawe  
July 2009

## Arctic Loon Sighting



My husband Robert Evans and I were sitting on our deck on the evening of Friday, June 5, 2009, enjoying the cool breeze when we heard a call that was definitely a loon's *voice* – we were about to regret not paying attention to the specific *type* of call. Our Bushnell 20x spotting scope was on the deck and as usual my husband saw something on the water and went to take a closer look. Seals, dolphins and otters are a common sight, along with numerous birds that he has been paying more attention to since I became a volunteer for the BC Breeding Bird Atlas. It didn't take long for him to call me over to have a look at a strange loon.

Its shape and size were very recognizable as a loon. Three Surf Scoters swam nearby confirming its much larger relative size. The top of its head, back of its neck and most of the back was a dull brown with no visible markings; and bright white was visible from its chin down front of throat, and on both sides of the body above the water line which was clearly visible during the 15-20 minutes it was observed. I looked very carefully to ensure I was not mistaken. The markings of an adult Common Loon were clearly absent – the head was not all dark, and there was no dark necklace nor were there white spots on its back. It also had neither the dark patch on the throat nor the vertical stripes on the side of the neck that would be expected in either an adult Pacific or Arctic Loon in breeding plumage. The most striking things about the bird were that it had white clearly visible at all times along its side above the water line (especially at the flanks), and that the throat was also bright white (from chin to water line).

The bird was in the southeast portion of Kanish Bay (northern Quadra Island). The bay is quite protected, narrowing into smaller Granite Bay to the east and opening into Discovery Passage to the west. The area is remote with a handful of dwellings in one corner. The shoreline is forested with rocky outcrops and a few stone beaches; some intertidal areas (in Granite Bay, Small Inlet and Bells Bay) are mudflats. There are several islands in the bay, ranging from forested to smaller un-treed rocky islets. The forest is mature second-growth Douglas-fir, hemlock and cedar. A scallop farm is situated in the bay on the east side of the Chained Islands.

The sky was clear and the sun was behind us and to our left as we faced the bird. The wind was from the SE at 10-15 knots, and the water was rippled. Our deck is about 150 feet above the water and roughly 100 feet in from shore, and given the location of the bird in the water we were observing it from a distance of approximately 400-500 feet. The bird appeared relaxed, mostly swimming but occasionally diving. I have no previous experience with Arctic Loons, but I have seen many Common Loons in this area, and earlier in the spring from the Quadra Island ferry I saw an adult Pacific Loon in breeding plumage. This was clearly neither. Consultations with the *National Geographic Field Guide to the Birds of North America* (5<sup>th</sup> edition, spring 2006) and the 2003 *Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Western North America* suggested Arctic Loon, and despite the time of year, it looked most like an adult still in winter plumage. I knew an Arctic Loon sighting here would be very unusual but not unprecedented, as during a visit in December 2007 my mother (experienced birder Jo Ann Mackenzie) saw an Arctic Loon in the same bay, so I phoned her to describe it and ask her opinion. She advised me to check that the bird wasn't just listing over when the white sides were visible; and after hearing my description confirmed the likelihood of Arctic Loon. She suggested I try to get photos by holding my digital camera up to the scope viewfinder, which I did.

Carol Murray  
June 15, 2009

## Bird Listers' Corner-- 2008 Lists

We received submissions from only 28 BCFO members for 2008 listing totals—far fewer than the usual 50 or so. I assume that this was because of the late publication of the 2007 totals, and the request for lists at an unusual time of year (June instead of the usual January). However, I am hopeful that the number of submissions will return to normal next year. This column has been a popular feature ever since BCFO began operations in 1991, and I am confident that it will remain so.

Luckily for those who forgot to send in their totals this time, we continue to publish one-year-old listing totals (marked \* below) and even two-year-old totals (marked \*\* ); however, our policy is to drop any statistics that are older than two years. This means that we have omitted totals from about 8 members who have not sent them in for two or more years. So please remember to send us your totals each year. We would like this column to be as comprehensive and up-to-date as possible.

The tabulations include B.C. lists for 88 birders who reached or exceeded the threshold of 250 species seen in B.C. This list (and only this list), as in the past, includes totals from some birders who are not BCFO members-- namely those published in the "ABA List Report (American Birding Association) and "Canadian Listers' Corner"—for the sake of completeness.

Mike Toochin continues to enjoy a comfortable lead in the B.C. list category, but second place is now held by Michael Bentley. Michael has long been one of the keenest birders in the province, but this is the first time he has sent in a total. Most of the top B.C. listers were able to add only a few species; the biggest gains were posted by Bill Wilson from Calgary (19 species) and Kevin Neill from Vancouver (13 species), both of whom are well down in the rankings.

In the highly competitive category of world lists, we have had three different leaders in the past three years. Vancouver birder Keith Riding, who added almost 500 species to his world list, rises to the top of the listing with a very impressive 4842 species-- nearly half of all the bird species in the world! Last year's leader, Nigel Matthews, did not send us an update, and drops from #1 to #3, having been passed by Jo Ann MacKenzie, who climbs to #2 again; Hue MacKenzie is only slightly behind Nigel at #4. Other than Keith, the biggest gains in world lists were posted by Eric Tull (465 species), Roger Foxall (371 species) and Bryan Gates (240 species), although some of these gains were over more than one year. Four other birders posted gains of 100 or more species in their world lists-- congratulations to all of you!

In the ABA area (basically North America north of Mexico), there were few significant changes among the leaders; Roger Foxall continues to top this list with 766. The biggest increases were posted by Howard Braun (72 species), Dan Tyson (40 species), John Vooys (39 species), Brent Schmor (27 species) and Brian Stech (26 species). In the Canada list, however, Michael Bentley edged out Roger Foxall by one species (529 to 528). The biggest climbers in the Canada listings were Thor Manson (33 species) and Brent Schmor (32 species).

There were few noteworthy changes in the listing totals from adjacent states and provinces (Washington, Alberta, Yukon Territory). By and large, the same could be said for local and regional listing areas. We now have listings for 37 such areas. However, a couple of them have disappeared from the report because the only reports from those area were more than two years old, and 2 or 3 more will disappear next year unless we get some new reports! The only gains of more than 10 species in local lists were for Dan Tyson on the Sunshine Coast (11 species); Gary Davidson in the Okanagan Valley (11 species); and Laird Law in the Peace River Area (16 species), although once more, some of these gains were over more than one year.

Laird's increase for the Peace River list was particularly impressive because he was already the leader on that list, and he has now tallied 89% of the species in that area.

We welcome first-time contributors Peter McIver from Castlegar, who sent in 6 lists including an impressive world list of 3382, and Karen Ferguson from Saltspring Island, whose only list was from her home island. We would love to see list totals from some of you who have not contributed yet, and we remind everyone that totals for local areas that are not on the list form are welcome, although we would like to get a definition of new areas (e.g. an outline on a map), and if possible a checklist of ALL species recorded in that area, if one exists.

A reminder: BCFO accepts mainly list totals for areas within or immediately adjacent to B.C., and there are other outlets for listing totals from other areas. For members of the American Birding Association, there is the annual ABA BIG DAY AND 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 send lists to the CANADIAN LISTERS' CORNER, edited by Larry Neily of Ottawa (<http://ca.geocities.com/neilyworld3@rogers.com/listerscorner/listers-corner.htm>). This report publishes lists for all Canadian provinces and territories, for any local areas where you have seen 150 or more species, and also for "Big Days" and winter lists. We encourage you to support the ABA and Larry Neily; BCFO does not have the space to publish all these kinds of lists from outside BC.

Many thanks to everyone who sent in their list totals for this compilation, and good birding to you all!

Wayne C. Weber

51-6712 Baker Road, Delta, BC V4E 2V3 ([contopus@telus.net](mailto:contopus@telus.net))



# BCFO BIRD LISTING STATISTICS AS OF DECEMBER 31, 2008

## BRITISH COLUMBIA (500 species)

Mike Tootchin	447	89.4%	+3	Eric Tull	344	68.8%	+2
Michael Bentley	436	87.2%	---	David Mark	342	68.4%	0
Hue MacKenzie	433	86.6%	+1	Marika Ainley*	338	67.6%	0
Jo Ann				Alex Gray	332	66.4%	+7
MacKenzie	431	86.2%	0	Carolynn Schmor	330	66.0%	0
Tom Plath	431	86.2%	---	Eva Durance*	329	65.8%	0
Dale Jensen**	426	85.2%	0	Ken Ward	329	65.8%	0
Wayne Weber	421	84.2%	+1	John Sprague	326	65.2%	0
David Stirling	420	84.0%	+1	Kevin Neill	324	64.8%	+13
Dan Tyson	418	83.6%	+6	Suzanne Benoit	321	64.2%	0
Tony Greenfield*	414	82.8%	0	Ken Taylor*	320	64.0%	0
John Luce	412	82.4%	+4	Kenneth Burden	320	64.0%	0
Roger Foxall	410	82.0%	+3	Jerry Pilny	318	63.6%	+2
Lloyd Esralson	408	81.6%	+3	Judy Latta*	318	63.6%	0
Sharon Tootchin	406	81.2%	+1	Laurie Rockwell	317	63.4%	0
David Allinson*	405	81.0%	0	Burke Korol	314	62.8%	0
Dick Cannings	402	80.4%	+4	Howard Braun	312	62.4%	+3
Rick Tyson	400	80.0%	+6	Bill Wilson (AB)	308	61.6%	+19
Bryan Gates	397	79.4%	0	Dorothy Copp	308	61.6%	+4
Keith Riding	397	79.4%	+1	Gwen Nicol	308	61.6%	+1
Russ Tkachuk	396	79.2%	+1	Brooke Clibbon	307	61.4%	+8
Brian Stech	395	79.0%	+6	Joan McDonald	306	61.2%	+3
Hank Vanderpol**	394	78.8%	0	Malcolm			
Val George	394	78.8%	+4	McDonald	306	61.2%	+6
Murray Brown*	390	78.0%	0	Kirsten Mills	305	61.0%	---
Thor Manson	390	78.0%	+6	Mabel Crocker	305	61.0%	+5
Ken Klimko	387	77.4%	+2	Blake Maybank	301	60.2%	0
Barbara Begg	386	77.2%	0	Ted Goshulak*	300	60.0%	0
Guy Monty**	384	76.8%	0	Bill Crins	288	57.6%	+1
Larry Cowan	381	76.2%	+2	Theo Hoffman	286	57.2%	0
Stefan Zaremba	380	76.0%	+1	Peter McIver	284	56.8%	---
Gary Davidson	377	75.4%	+5	Ken Knittle	278	55.6%	0
John Vooy	373	74.6%	+4	Laure Neish*	278	55.6%	0
Len Jellicoe*	370	74.0%	0	Janice Arndt*	277	55.4%	0
Chris				Wayne Neily	276	55.2%	0
Charlesworth*	369	73.8%	0	Gordon Tufts	272	54.4%	0
Don Wilson**	364	72.8%	0	Mike Mulligan	268	53.6%	+7
Ken Morgan	364	72.8%	+3	Christopher			
Ron Walker**	362	72.4%	0	Escott	265	53.0%	0
Bruce				Larry Neily	264	52.8%	0
Whittington*	360	72.0%	0	Paul Mackenzie	264	52.8%	0
Laird Law	353	70.6%	+3	Peter Mitchell	264	52.8%	---
Brent Schmor	350	70.0%	0	Bill Wilson (ON)**	263	52.6%	0
Martin McNicholl**	350	70.0%	0	Fred Peters	260	52.0%	+3
Gwynneth Wilson	348	69.6%	0	Rudolf Koes	259	51.8%	---
Peter Blokker*	345	69.0%	0	Deuane Hoffman*	250	50.0%	0
Rand Rudland**	345	69.0%	0				

**WORLD**  
**(9838? species)**

Keith Riding	4842	49.2%	+483
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	4526	46.0%	+109
Nigel Mathews*	4454	45.3%	0
Hue MacKenzie	4425	45.0%	+74
Mike Tootchin	4089	41.6%	0
Roger Foxall	4008	40.7%	+371
David Stirling	3936	40.0%	0
Peter McIver	3382	34.4%	---
Stefan Zaremba	3269	33.2%	+37
Sharon Tootchin	3268	33.2%	0
Mike Mulligan	3265	33.2%	+121
Ken Taylor*	3171	32.2%	0
Ron Walker**	3100	31.5%	0
Eric Tull	3015	30.6%	+465
Barbara Begg	3000	30.5%	+4
Dick Cannings	2819	28.7%	+56
Laird Law	2460	25.0%	+2
Dale Jensen**	2390	24.3%	0
Hank Vanderpol**	2026	20.6%	0
Val George	1833	18.6%	+113
Ken Morgan	1698	17.3%	+181
Don Wilson**	1631	16.6%	0
Bryan Gates	1586	16.1%	+240
Sandra Eadie*	1491	15.2%	0
Lee Harding*	1427	14.5%	0
Tony Greenfield**	1425	14.5%	0
Rand Rudland**	1366	13.9%	0
Gary Davidson**	1285	13.1%	0
Dorothy Copp*	1057	10.7%	0
Brian Stech*	1045	10.6%	0
Howard Braun	1018	10.3%	---

**ABA AREA**  
**(957 species)**

Roger Foxall	766	80.0%	0
Mike Tootchin	761	79.5%	0
Mike Mulligan	754	78.8%	+2
Stefan Zaremba	742	77.5%	+2
Hank Vanderpol**	738	77.1%	0
Russ Tkachuk	730	76.3%	+1
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	705	73.7%	+3
Hue MacKenzie	698	72.9%	0

**ABA AREA**  
**(cont'd)**

Dorothy Copp	688	71.9%	+12
Dale Jensen**	679	71.0%	0
David Stirling	678	70.8%	+7
Brian Stech	673	70.3%	+26
Wayne Weber	672	70.2%	0
John Luce	668	69.8%	+11
John Vooy	660	69.0%	+39
Eric Tull	658	68.8%	0
Sharon Tootchin	657	68.7%	+2
Dan Tyson	636	66.5%	+40
Gary Davidson	632	66.0%	+16
Chris			
Charlesworth*	624	65.2%	0
John Sprague	623	65.1%	+9
David Allinson*	622	65.0%	0
Gwynneth Wilson	618	64.6%	+6
Keith Riding*	615	64.3%	+1
Ken Klimko	609	63.6%	+7
Barbara Begg	604	63.1%	+5
Tony Greenfield*	604	63.1%	0
Don Wilson**	602	62.9%	0
Lloyd Esralson	594	62.1%	+2
Marika Ainley*	593	62.0%	0
Thor Manson	590	61.7%	+20
Sandra Eadie*	584	61.0%	0
Howard Braun	582	60.8%	+72
Mabel Crocker	581	60.7%	+1
Ken Morgan	580	60.6%	+14
Dick Cannings	574	60.0%	+1
Peter McIver	573	59.9%	---
Bryan Gates	565	59.0%	0
Kevin Neill	560	58.5%	+6
Brent Schmor	550	57.5%	+27
Rand Rudland**	531	55.5%	0
Martin McNicholl**	522	54.5%	0
Gwen Nicol	517	54.0%	+1
Carolynn Schmor	514	53.7%	+11
Murray Brown*	488	51.0%	0
Laure Neish*	486	50.8%	0
Larry Cowan	469	49.0%	+3
Ken Taylor*	468	48.9%	0
Laird Law	466	48.7%	+2
Eva Durance*	457	47.8%	0
Ted Goshulak*	449	46.9%	0
Peter Blokker*	411	42.9%	0

## CANADA (643 species)

Michael Bentley	529	82.3%	---
Roger Foxall	528	82.1%	+3
Hue MacKenzie	519	80.7%	+1
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	515	80.1%	0
Tom Plath	511	79.5%	---
John Luce	498	77.4%	+5
Mike Toochin	490	76.2%	+2
David Stirling	487	75.7%	+1
Eric Tull	484	75.3%	0
Marika Ainley*	476	74.0%	0
Dan Tyson	475	73.9%	+13
Russ Tkachuk	474	73.7%	+1
Dale Jensen**	472	73.4%	0
Wayne Weber	466	72.5%	+1
Dick Cannings	462	71.9%	+5
Sharon Toochin	455	70.8%	+2
Stefan Zaremba	453	70.5%	+1
Barbara Begg	448	69.7%	0
Keith Riding	446	69.4%	+1
David Allinson*	444	69.1%	0
Hank Vanderpol**	444	69.1%	0
Thor Manson	442	68.7%	+33
Martin McNicholl**	439	68.3%	0
Larry Cowan	434	67.5%	+5
Lloyd Esralson	432	67.2%	+3
Mike Mulligan	432	67.2%	+3
Ken Morgan	429	66.7%	+2
Len Jellicoe*	426	66.3%	0
Tony Greenfield*	426	66.3%	0
John Vooy	425	66.1%	+11
Kevin Neill	425	66.1%	+15
Bryan Gates	416	64.7%	0
Murray Brown*	414	64.4%	0
Eva Durance*	413	64.2%	0
Gwynneth Wilson	410	63.8%	0
Rick Tyson	410	63.8%	+6
Peter Blokker*	408	63.5%	0
Sandra Eadie*	408	63.5%	0
Gary Davidson	406	63.1%	+6
John Sprague	406	63.1%	0
Brian Stech	402	62.5%	+6
Don Wilson**	402	62.5%	0
Brent Schmor	394	61.3%	+32
Rand Rudland**	394	61.3%	0
Ken Klimko	393	61.1%	+2
Ron Walker**	380	59.1%	0
Laird Law	379	58.9%	+3

## CANADA (cont'd)

Janice Arndt*	376	58.5%	0
Ted Goshulak*	366	56.9%	0
Gwen Nicol	358	55.7%	+1
Mabel Crocker	358	55.7%	0
Peter McIver	356	55.4%	---
Carolynn Schmor	352	54.7%	+7

## WASHINGTON STATE (484 species)

Wayne Weber	387	80.0%	0
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	349	72.1%	0
Hue MacKenzie	343	70.9%	0
Mike Toochin	313	64.7%	0
Guy Monty**	285	58.9%	0
Hank Vanderpol**	272	56.2%	0
Dick Cannings**	267	55.2%	0
John Vooy	257	53.1%	+3
Roger Foxall	257	53.1%	0
David Stirling	254	52.5%	0
Keith Riding*	249	51.4%	0
Lloyd Esralson	235	48.6%	0
Dale Jensen**	231	47.7%	0
Brent Schmor**	223	46.1%	0
Carolynn Schmor**	219	45.2%	0
Dorothy Copp	210	43.4%	+1
Brian Stech	202	41.7%	0
Eric Tull**	201	41.5%	0

## ALBERTA (406 species)

Eric Tull	358	88.2%	+2
Mike Mulligan	344	84.7%	+4
Hank Vanderpol**	288	70.9%	0
David Stirling	285	70.2%	0
Tom Plath	269	66.3%	---
John Luce	246	60.6%	---
Hue MacKenzie	244	60.1%	0
Martin McNicholl**	241	59.4%	0
Roger Foxall	241	59.4%	0
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	240	59.1%	0
Wayne Weber	235	57.9%	0
Bryan Gates**	222	54.7%	0
Laure Neish*	222	54.7%	0
Gary Davidson	215	53.0%	0
Dick Cannings	214	52.7%	0

### YUKON TERRITORY (296 species)

Dick Cannings	172	58.1%	0
Eric Tull	155	52.4%	0
Tony Greenfield*	153	51.7%	0
David Stirling	150	50.7%	+1
Roger Foxall	142	48.0%	+3
Gary Davidson	123	41.6%	---
John Sprague	104	35.1%	0

### VANCOUVER ISLAND (387 species)

David Allinson*	345	89.1%	0
David Stirling	342	88.4%	+1
Barbara Begg	332	85.8%	0
Bryan Gates*	330	85.3%	0
Hank Vanderpol**	322	83.2%	0
Bruce			
Whittington*	312	80.6%	0
Guy Monty**	311	80.4%	0
Brian Stech	283	73.1%	---
Mike Tootchin	280	72.4%	+1
Ken Morgan	276	71.3%	+6
Wayne Weber	254	65.6%	0
Hue MacKenzie	253	65.4%	+1
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	250	64.6%	0
Roger Foxall	247	63.8%	+1
Dan Tyson	244	63.0%	+6
Brent Schmor**	234	60.5%	0
Eric Tull	197	50.9%	---

### VICTORIA AREA (362 species)

David Allinson*	330	91.2%	0
David Stirling	326	90.1%	+1
Barbara Begg	317	87.6%	0
Bryan Gates	315	87.0%	0
Hank Vanderpol**	313	86.5%	0
Bruce			
Whittington*	301	83.1%	0
Mike Tootchin	246	68.0%	0
Guy Monty**	238	65.7%	0
Wayne Weber	235	64.9%	0
Brent Schmor**	230	63.5%	0
Dan Tyson	180	49.7%	---

### CLOVER POINT & DALLAS ROAD VICTORIA

David Stirling	199		0
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### ROCKY POINT AREA ( 299 species)

David Allinson*	268	89.6%	0
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### NANAIMO AREA (292 species)

Guy Monty**	261	89.4%	0
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### PARKSVILLE / QUALICUM (292 species)

Guy Monty**	256	87.7%	0
David Allinson*	177	60.6%	0

### SALT SPRING ISLAND (238 species)

John Sprague	154	64.7%	0
Karen Ferguson	138	58.0%	---

### SATURNA ISLAND (175 species)

Tony Greenfield*	102	58.3%	0
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### CAMPBELL RIVER (266 species)

Guy Monty**	170	63.9%	0
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### VANCOUVER AREA (397 species)

Mike Tootchin	358	90.2%	0
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	347	87.4%	0
Hue MacKenzie	342	86.1%	0
Dan Tyson	339	85.4%	+8
Wayne Weber	337	84.9%	+1
John Luce	333	83.9%	+3
Keith Riding*	330	83.1%	0
Lloyd Esralson	329	82.9%	+3
Rick Tyson	322	81.1%	+6
Ken Klimko	315	79.3%	+2
Stefan Zaremba*	313	78.8%	0
Larry Cowan*	309	77.8%	+4
Roger Foxall	307	77.3%	+1
John Vooys	286	72.0%	+4
Dick Cannings	285	71.8%	0
Brian Stech*	280	70.5%	0
David Allinson*	279	70.3%	0
David Stirling	242	61.0%	0
Brent Schmor**	241	60.7%	0
Bryan Gates	234	58.9%	0
Don Wilson**	234	58.9%	0
Eric Tull	201	50.6%	---

### SEA & IONA ISLANDS (316 species)

Mike Tootchin	269	85.1%	+1
Keith Riding*	240	75.9%	0
Wayne Weber	232	73.4%	0
Dan Tyson	211	66.8%	+1
Lloyd Esralson	203	64.2%	0
David Allinson**	198	62.7%	0
Rick Tyson	172	54.4%	+1

### WESTHAM & REIFEL ISLANDS (260 species)

Wayne Weber	217	83.5%	+2
Dan Tyson	197	75.8%	+4
Lloyd Esralson	190	73.1%	+4
Rick Tyson	171	65.8%	0
Keith Riding*	169	65.0%	0

### BLACKIE SPIT, SURREY

Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	189		0
Hue MacKenzie	186		0
Wayne Weber	182		+6
Dan Tyson	158		+2

### COLONY FARM REGIONAL PARK (187 species)

Larry Cowan**	154	82.4%	0
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### LANGLEY TOWNSHIP AND CITY

Ted Goshulak*	161		0
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### TRINITY WESTERN UNIVERSITY CAMPUS, LANGLEY

Ted Goshulak*	146		0
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### SUNSHINE COAST (301 species)

Tony Greenfield*	268	89.0%	0
Russ Tkachuk*	246	81.7%	0
Rand Rudland**	221	73.4%	0
Dan Tyson	176	58.5%	+11

### KAMLOOPS AREA (306 species)

Rick Howie**	277	90.5%	0
Wayne Weber	254	83.0%	0
David Stirling	198	64.7%	0
Gary Davidson	192	62.7%	+9

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**OKANAGAN VALLEY (333 species)**

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Chris			
Charlesworth*	299	89.8%	0
Dick Cannings	291	87.4%	+4
Gwynneth Wilson	289	86.8%	0
Judy Latta*	287	86.2%	0
Don Wilson**	286	85.9%	0
Eva Durance*	281	84.4%	0
Laurie Rockwell	280	84.1%	0
Howard Braun	274	82.3%	+3
Peter Blokker*	270	81.1%	0
Gary Davidson	265	79.6%	+11
Laure Neish*	264	79.3%	0
Mike Tootchin	263	79.0%	+1
Hank Vanderpol**	259	77.8%	0
Wayne Weber	257	77.2%	0
Dan Tyson	248	74.5%	+2
David Stirling	242	72.7%	0
Hue MacKenzie	236	70.9%	0
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	234	70.3%	0
John Luce	231	69.4%	0
Tony Greenfield*	230	69.1%	0
Ken Klimko	228	68.5%	0
Laird Law	217	65.2%	0
John Vooy	212	63.7%	+1
Keith Riding	208	62.5%	0
Lloyd Esralson	207	62.2%	0
Bryan Gates	193	58.0%	0
Rick Tyson	190	57.1%	+2
Brent Schmor	185	55.6%	0
Gwen Nicol	181	54.4%	0
Brian Stech	171	51.4%	0
Larry Cowan	165	49.5%	0

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**NORTH OKANAGAN (278 species)**

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Peter Blokker*	248	89.2%	0
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**WEST KOOTENAY ( 313 species)**

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Gary Davidson	274	87.5%	+4
Peter McIver	241	77.0%	---
Gwen Nicol	237	75.7%	0
Janice Arndt*	226	72.2%	0
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie	180	57.5%	0
Wayne Weber	180	57.5%	+3
Hue MacKenzie	168	53.7%	0

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**CRESTON VALLEY (283 species)**

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Peter McIver	210	74.2%	---
Gwen Nicol	172	60.8%	0
Gary Davidson	169	59.7%	0
Wayne Weber	142	50.2%	---

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**REVELSTOKE AREA (242 species)**

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Wayne Weber	145	59.9%	0
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**WILLIAMS LAKE AREA  
(248 species)**

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Laurie Rockwell*	175	70.6%	0
Bryan Gates*	138	55.6%	0

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**PRINCE GEORGE AREA  
(283 species)**

---

Laird Law	266	94.0%	+4
Don Wilson**	190	67.1%	0
Dan Tyson	168	59.4%	+2
Peter Blokker*	151	53.4%	0

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**PEACE RIVER AREA (272 species)**

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Laird Law	241	88.6%	+16
Tony Greenfield**	207	76.1%	0
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**	151	55.5%	0

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**PACIFIC RIM NATIONAL PARK  
(254 species)**

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

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**YOHO NATIONAL PARK  
(208 species)**

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Wayne Weber	125	60.1%	0
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## **GWAIL HAANAS NATIONAL PARK**

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Laurie Rockwell*	69	0
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## **MIRACLE BEACH PROVINCIAL PARK (160 species)**

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David Stirling	159	99.4%	0
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## **MITLENATCH ISLAND PROV. PARK (160 species)**

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David Stirling	110	68.8%	0
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## **STRATHCONA PROV. PARK (136 species)**

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Guy Monty**	105	77.2%	0
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## **HAINES TRIANGLE**

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David Stirling	88	0
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## **MANNING PROVINCIAL PARK (206 species)**

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Hue MacKenzie**	129	62.6%	0
Wayne Weber	125	60.7%	0
Jo Ann			
MacKenzie*	110	53.4%	0
David Stirling	103	50.0%	0
Brent Schmor**	103	50.0%	0

## **MOUNT ROBSON PROVINCIAL PARK (168 species)**

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

## **RATHTREVOR BEACH PROVINCIAL PARK**

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Guy Monty**	170	0
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## **NORTH PACIFIC PELAGIC WATERS**

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Ken Morgan	94	+4
Bruce		
Whittington*	77	0
David Allinson**	75	0
Mike Toochn*	67	0
Lloyd Esralson	63	0
David Stirling	67	+5
Val George	59	0
Jo Ann		
MacKenzie	57	+6

## TOURS FOR NATURALISTS

### \*\*\*COSTA RICA BIRDING\*\*\*

22 January-2 February 2010 (12 days)

Cost \$3900(dbl occup) from San Jose, Costa Rica

Costa Rica is one of the birdiest regions of the world with 830 species recorded in the tiny country. The tour offers a classic tropical birding experience with parrots, macaws, hummingbirds, trogons, motmots, toucans, antbirds, cotingas, manikins, tanagers & many others.

The tour is led by our own tour manager and an expert local bird guide.

Birds: Resplendent Quetzal, Scarlet Macaw, Chestnut-mandibled Toucan, Long-tailed Silky Flycatcher.

### \*\*\*ARIZONA IN FEBRUARY\*\*\*

17-28 February 2010 (12 days)

Cost \$2650(dbl occup) from Phoenix

Arizona is home to some of the most unique, famous and unforgettable landscapes in the world.

The Grand Canyon, the mesas and buttes of Monument Valley and the silhouette of a saguaro against a golden sunset are images so famous that we have grown up with them since childhood. The tour incorporates all of the elements that make Arizona such a memorable

destination and in 12 days we will experience many of its most beautiful and famous landscapes including The Grand Canyon, Monument Valley, Canyon de Chelly, Sedona, and the Sonoran and Chihuahuan Deserts. Join us for a midwinter tour to the blue skies and fascinating deserts of this famous state.

Birds: Greater Roadrunner, Cactus Wren, Phainopepla, Pyrrhuloxia

### \*\*\*YUKON & DEMPSTER HIGHWAY\*\*\*

Land of the Midnight Sun

Tour I, 18-29 June 2010 (12 days)

Tour II, 1-12 July 2010 (12 days)

Cost \$3450 (dbl occup)+GST, from Whitehorse

The Yukon is a fabled land whose very name evokes archetypal images of wilderness and a frontier populated by colourful characters. On this tour we will experience both the natural and human landscapes of this fascinating and beautiful land, visiting the Klondike, Dempster Highway, & the Mackenzie Delta. The heart of our adventure is the drive up the Dempster Highway from Dawson City to Inuvik. The Dempster, 750 kms of good gravel, is the only public road in North America that extends north of the Arctic Circle. Along its route we traverse two mountain ranges, wild river valleys, muskeg and tundra & cross the mighty Mackenzie River on a ferry. At latitude 66N, at the Arctic Circle, we enter the Land of the Midnight Sun. The Dempster is renowned as a naturalist's paradise with its varied and beautiful landscapes, sought-after bird species, large mammals and myriad wildflowers. Join us on this adventure to the Land of the Midnight Sun, the big country immortalized by Robert Service.....the Yukon.

Birds: Gyrfalcon, Willow Ptarmigan, Long-tailed Jaeger, Northern Hawk Owl.

Flowers: Arctic Poppy, Yukon Bellflower.



Leaders: Tony Greenfield & Dr. Rand Rudland

WHISKEYJACK NATURE TOURS

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Full details & itineraries at website: [www.whiskeyjacknaturetours.com](http://www.whiskeyjacknaturetours.com)



# BIRDING IN TAIWAN

## NEXT TRIPS:

**2009: Nov. 10-22:** Endemics, Black-faced Spoonbill

**2010: March 18-31: *SPECIAL TOUR FOR BCFO MEMBERS.***

BCFO has been invited to Taiwan again. Visit the home area of BCFO's partner society in Changhua, Taiwan, and the very popular Bagua Mountain Bird Fair. The rest of the tour will focus on endemic species (good chances for all 15 in March plus the next endemics-to-be) and subspecies, as well as Lanyu Island; 14 day tour, **FROM VANCOUVER**, INCLUDING AIR, \$4590 (sharing), \$5090 (single). Ask for a detailed itinerary.

**2010: November 9-21: Endemics, Black-faced Spoonbill**

**REGULAR PRICE: 13 days:** From Taipei, Taiwan: \$4000 (sharing); \$4500 (single)

**July, 9 days:** Contact us for details and price

**EARLY BOOKING DISCOUNT for regularly scheduled tours:** Register at least 60 days before tour start date; get 5% off tour price.

## [www.birdingintaiwan.org](http://www.birdingintaiwan.org)

Collared Bush Robin, Formosan Whistling-Thrush, Steere's Liocichla, Taiwan Barwing, White-eared Siberia, Taiwan Yuhina, Yellow Tit, Flamecrest, Formosan Magpie, White-whiskered Laughingthrush, Styan's Bulbul, Taiwan Partridge, Taiwan Bush-Warbler, Swinhoe's and Mikado Pheasants are Taiwan's 15 generally recognized endemics--the new Birds of East Asia recognizes 24. There are over 60 endemic sub-species. In spring, visit Lanyu Island with 6 bird specialties of its own, including an endemic subspecies of Ryukyu Scops-Owl. The Black-faced Spoonbill will still be at its wintering site in the Tsengwen Estuary.

Want to see one of the rarest birds in the world? Chinese Crested Tern, *Thalasseus bernsteini* nests in very small numbers in the tern reserve in the Matsu Archipelago.

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