Tuesday, November 6th. Benediction Lutheran Church, 6th Avenue and 56th Street, Tsawwassen.
Meeting at 7:30, with our speaker shortly after 8:00. Plenty of parking spaces outside, and refreshments and friendly people inside!

PINK MOUNTAIN: A story of biodiversity, conflict and success

The Biodiversity on Pink Mountain seems to be unmatched in BC but is threatened by industrial development. The Pink Mountain Biodiversity Research Initiative was designed to quantify the diversity and eventually protect Pink Mountain.

The results of the surveys have exceeded all expectations and have identified more rare species than any in other location in BC.

This talk is a follow-up to one presented several years ago at the beginning of the Pink Mountain project. It will review the significance of Pink Mountain, the very interesting results of the surveys and the progress made towards preservation.
Ron Long worked as a professional photographer at Simon Fraser University for 36 years. For much of that time he photographed exclusively for the Biological Sciences Department and so has a great deal of biology in his background.

Now retired Ron travels regularly to interesting places around the world to, of course, take pictures. Nature photography in general and wildflowers in particular are his preferred subjects.

Closer to home Ron has worked for the last eight years to preserve one of his favorite wildflower locations in the far north of BC.

During his brief periods at home Ron enjoys giving talks about his experiences to interested groups.

Ron is past president of the Native Plant Society of BC, is active in the Vancouver Natural History Society and is on the board of the Alpine Garden Club.

Northern Jacob’s Ladder
Polemonium boreale

False Hellebore
Veratrum viride

Photos by Ron Long
SPEAKERS

- December 4 - Noreen Rudd and David Hoar - Falkland Islands, South Georgia
  - and Antarctica

NOTICES

Your Executive is still optimistic that a volunteer Secretary will join them soon, whether a new or a long-time member of the club. It could work well if two people would like to share the duties. Otherwise, current members will continue to be overworked.

As secretary, you will have a voice in the decision making of our society. Executive meetings are friendly and efficient. Additional benefits of volunteering, in addition to the friendships, are the warm fuzzies you get from contributing to a worthwhile organization!

DUES ARE DUE

August 31st was the year-end for the Delta Naturalists Society. If you are not going to renew, please let Jim know. And if you have not renewed yet, the annual dues for 2018-2019 may be paid at a meeting or mailed to:

Delta Naturalists Society  or to:  Jim Kneesch
PO Box No. 18044  DNS Membership
1215C 56th Street  4811 - 13 Ave
Delta, BC, V4L 2M4  Delta, BC, V4M 2B7
DELTA NATS CASUAL BIRDING OUTINGS

The schedule is tentative. Check for updates: https://dncb.wordpress.com/delta-naturalists/delta-naturalists-upcoming-events/#dncb

Tue Oct 30  Whidbey Island
Tue Nov  6  Iona
Tue Nov 13  Boundary Bay at 104th St.
Tue Nov 20  Reifel
Tue Nov 27  Blaine & Semiahmoo Spit

Tue Dec  4  Terra Nova
Wed Dec 12 Birds on the Bay in Boundary Bay Regional Park
Tue Dec 18  Burnaby Mtn
Tue Dec 25  CANCELLED

NOTE: Saturday, December 22 - Ladner Christmas Bird Count. Details to follow next month.

DNCB Outing No. 2018-44 to Whidby Island, Port Townsend/Fort Casey/Deception Pass and Rosario Beach

Photo by Roger Meyer
A curtain of rain across the valley of the Halfway river. A common sight from Pink Mountain

Ron Long

Two of the known 55 butterfly species on Pink Mountain
Following is the link to Metro Vancouver Regional Parks Stewardship Newsletter for fall 2018. There are interesting articles on the following topics, a couple of them in areas near and dear to many of us who live in Delta:

**Life returns to Burns Bog** – regeneration after the 2016 fire

**Beavers provide habitat and headaches in parks** – the pros and cons of having our favourite Canadian rodent taking up residence

**BCIT students throw some shade on reed canary grass** – an experiment in Boundary Bay Regional Park to see if native hardhack can keep this invasive species under control

There also a couple of nice photos of a bobcat and a cougar for those who like their cats on the wild side!

[http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks/ParksPublications/MVRPStewardshipNews2018-Fall.pdf](http://www.metrovancouver.org/services/parks/ParksPublications/MVRPStewardshipNews2018-Fall.pdf)

The Nature Conservancy of Canada says not raking up your leaves and instead leaving them on the ground is the 'environmentally friendly thing to do.'

Andrew Holland, a spokesman for the Nature Conservancy of Canada said the leaves provide a space for many small creatures to survive the winter.

"They provide habitat for butterflies, moths and different kinds of insects that can overwinter under the leaves. It's also good for frogs and toads. The insects that overwinter provide food for birds in the spring," he said.

Dan Kraus, the NCC's senior conservation biologist, said people can also help migratory and resident birds survive winter by not clearing up their gardens.

"Fruits and seeds that remain on flowers and shrubs are a crucial food source that sustains many songbirds, such as goldfinches, jays and chickadees," said Kraus.

"Overwintering insects in our yards also provide an important food source for birds. Providing winter habitats for our native birds and insects is just as important as providing food and shelter during the spring and summer."
Lawn care company, Scott's Canada, recommends using a lawn mower to mulch leaves into tiny pieces on your lawn and applying a fall fertilizer that's rich in nitrogen. "You want to reduce your leaf clutter to dime-size pieces. You'll know you're done when about half an inch of grass can be seen through the mulched leaf layer. Once the leaf bits settle in, microbes and worms get to work recycling them," the website states.

WHITE ROCK AND SOUTH SURREY NATURALISTS

WHITE ROCK AND SURREY NATURALISTS PRESENT
Marvels of Mongolia
With Anna Dean

Come and learn about living with the nomadic people and exploring the culture and traditions in this vast, remote land.

7:30 PM NOVEMBER 8, 2018
Sunnyside Community Hall, inside Bakerview Park
1845 – 154th Street, Surrey, BC

Free & All Welcome
DELTA NATURE
presents
PINK MOUNTAIN
AN UPDATE
with
RON LONG
Conservationist
& Photographer

On Tuesday 6th November 2018
7.30pm at Benediction Lutheran Church
5575 6th Ave, and 56th Street, Tsawwassen
Turtles are disappearing — and that could spell disaster

One of the world’s oldest surviving species is being driven to extinction, with profound ecological ramifications. Natalie Parletta reports. 17 September 2018

https://cosmosmagazine.com/

These slow, gentle creatures have inhabited the Earth and its oceans for more than two million years. They’ve outlived the dinosaurs. But turtles have met their match in modern humans – and a comprehensive review of the global situation reveals this could have far-reaching ecological consequences.

“Turtles contribute to the health of many environments, including desert, wetland, freshwater and marine ecosystems, and declines may lead to negative effects on other species, including humans, that may not be immediately apparent,” warns lead author Jeffrey Lovich of the US Geological Survey in Flagstaff, Arizona.

The paper shows that turtles are among the most threatened of the major groups of vertebrates on the planet – of the 356 species of turtles worldwide, approximately 61% are threatened or already extinct, victims of habitat destruction, over-exploitation for pets and food, disease and climate change.

Tens of millions of turtles were estimated in the Caribbean Sea just two centuries ago. They are now thought to number in the tens of thousands.

An endangered green sea turtle swims near El Puertuto Beach in the Island of Tenerife in the Canary Islands. Credit: James R.D. Scott/Getty Images
But, as the study points out, the disappearance of turtles will have disastrous effects on a range of systems.

Turtles’ diverse feeding habits contribute to their extensive role in ecosystem food webs. The animals can be herbivores, omnivores and carnivores, and either specialise in one or a few food sources, or feed on a wide variety of foods.

And without them, things can quickly go horribly wrong.

The small diamond-back terrapin (*Malaclemys terrapin*), for example, feeds on periwinkle snails (*Littorina irrorata*). Experimental evidence shows that without these predators, periwinkle snails could reduce productive grasslands to “barren mudflats” in just eight months.

Together with their eggs, turtles in turn provide a major food source for an assorted array of predators including vertebrates and invertebrates.

Their scavenging, meanwhile, cleans up waste, a major contributor to the flow of energy through an ecosystem.

The review highlights three Australian turtle species, for example, which consume an estimated 430 tonnes of carrion per day over 358,000 hectares during summer.

Turtles also spread seeds for dozens of plant species. For some plants, turtles may be the only means of seed dispersal. In other species, seeds germinate faster after passing through turtles’ digestive tracts.

Many turtles are diggers and burrowers, vital for soil dynamics, and increasing plant diversity that provides habitats for hundreds of other species.

Any animal with a bony shell and backbone identifies as a turtle, and no vertebrate animal has ever had such a unique structure. “If they were known only from fossils, they would be cause for wonder,” write the authors.

The report catalogues the lost species and those about to vanish.

The Pinta giant tortoise (*Chelonoidis abingdonii*), for example, became extinct in 2012 when its last surviving member, “Lonesome George”, died in the Galápagos Islands.

Only four surviving Yangtze giant softshell turtles (*Rafetus swinhoei*) are known to exist – and that’s in captivity.

The “beautiful Burmese star tortoise (*Geochelone platynota*) and the less charismatic western swamp turtle (*Pseudemydura umbrina*), Australia’s rarest reptile,” are two more of the world’s 25 most endangered turtle species, the authors report.

The authors say urgent action is needed. Global conservation programs focus on protecting birds and mammals, but there has been less focus on turtles.

“The alarming rate of turtle disappearance could profoundly affect how ecosystems function and the structure of biological communities around the globe,” says coauthor Josh Ennen.

“We must take the time to understand turtles, their natural history, and their importance to the environment,” urges UC Davis scientist Mickey Agha, “or risk losing them to a new reality where they don’t exist.”

From: *COSMOS — The Science of Everything*
'A really, really significant sighting': Vancouver Island birdwatchers aflutter over unusual arrival

Sighting of pine bunting believed to be first time bird spotted south of Alaska

Roshini Nair · CBC News · Posted: Oct 18, 2018 6:12 PM PT | Last Updated: October 18

The bird was first found on the grass at the south end of Uplands Park along Beach Drive (where Beach Drive bisects Uplands Park). (Maury Swoveland/BC Rare Bird Alert)

The B.C. birding community — in fact, the North American birding community — is aflutter over a sighting so rare it's sending birders flocking to Vancouver Island.

As birder and Rocky Point Bird Observatory volunteer Ann Nightingale puts it: "On a scale of 1 to 10, this is like a 100."

The cause of all the excitement is the rare sighting of a pine bunting.

The bird, which is native to temperate regions across Asia, was spotted in Uplands Park in Oak Bay in the Greater Victoria area. It's thought to be the first sighting in B.C.

It also marks the first time the bird has been spotted south of Alaska, Nightingale said.

Delay in identification

Nightingale says the bird was spotted on Monday afternoon but wasn't properly identified until a day later.

"An Oak Bay birder, who is fairly new at this, but is getting out a lot and getting lots of pictures posted a picture of a bird that he
thought was a Lapland longspur [a bird regularly found in Victoria]," she said.

Nightingale said when Blair Dudeck, also with the Rocky Point Bird Observatory, looked at the photograph, he realized it wasn't a Lapland longspur.

Dudeck sent the photo to the American Birding Association's Facebook page, which identified the bird as a pine bunting.

"We [got] the world involved in identifying this bird," she said.

Unfortunately for keen birders, the delay in identification meant a delay for birders to actively look for the bird again.

"It hasn't been found again yet. They're still looking." And Nightingale said birders will definitely be on the lookout for some time.

17 September 2018

She says there are already plenty of people combing through Uplands Park looking for the tiny visitor.

"Already, people have come from Vancouver and had it been seen again today, I guarantee you that there would be people flying in from all over North America tomorrow," she said.

In previous years, she said birders from Florida, New England, and Texas all flew in to see a redwing, which showed up in the Strawberry Vale area of Saanich. It was the same when a citrine wagtail appeared in the Comox area.

"This is a really, really significant sighting, therefore people are going to go above and beyond to try and see this bird," Nightingale said.

The pine bunting, which has brown and white plumage, can grow up to 17.5 cm.
Boloria eunomia  
Ron Long

Aglais milberti  
Ron Long
60% of world's wildlife has been wiped out since 1970

Problem more dire in Central, South America and Caribbean, study finds

Emily Chung · CBC News · Posted: Oct 29, 2018 8:00 PM ET | Last Updated: October 30, 2018

The yellow-throated tanager inhabits high elevations in Peru, where many high-elevation species are declining, a new study has found. (Graham Montgomery/University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT)

Well over half the world’s population of vertebrates, from fish to birds to mammals, have been wiped out in the past four decades, says a new report from the World Wildlife Fund.
Between 1970 and 2014, there was 60 per cent decline, on average, among 16,700 wildlife populations around the world according to the 2018 edition of the Living Planet Report released Monday.
"We've had a loss of nearly two-thirds, on average, of our wild species," said James Snider, vice-president of science, research and innovation for WWF-Canada.

"The magnitude of that should be eye opening... We really are reaching a point where we're likely to see species go extinct. That's true in Canada and abroad."

The situation is most dire in the:

- "Neotropical realm" made up of Central and South America and the Caribbean, where wildlife populations have declined by 89 per cent.
- Freshwater ecosystems, which are plentiful in Canada, where populations have declined by 83 per cent worldwide.
Species in decline include Canadian species such as barren-ground caribou and North Atlantic right whales as well as many migratory species such as songbirds and monarch butterflies that breed in Canada.

Populations of vertebrates worldwide have declined 60 per cent on average, says the 2018 Living Planet report from the World Wildlife Fund. Barren-ground caribou are among the species that have seen dramatic declines in Canada. (WWF-Canada)

The WWF says the biggest drivers of the declines are habitat loss and overexploitation, but says climate change is a growing threat. In Canada, habitat fragmentation due to human-built structures like roads, pollution and invasive species are all taking their toll, Snider said.

The Living Planet report, issued every two years to track global biodiversity, is based on the Living Planet Index, put out every two years since 1998 in collaboration with the Zoological Society of London and based on international databases of wildlife populations.

The two previous reports, in 2014 and 2016, found wildlife population declines of 50 per cent and 58 per cent, respectively, since 1970. Snider said the results of the new report shows a trend in the wrong direction, and "there's a real urgency" to take action to protect wildlife.

In Canada, he says, political leaders have committed to do that via the UN Convention of Biological Diversity, by protecting 10 per cent of marine areas and 17 per cent of its land, though we are not close to meeting those goals.

"We're quite far behind," he added. Protecting forests, wetlands and coastal areas to preserve wildlife can also have a side benefit, as those types of ecosystems also store carbon and prevent it from being released into the atmosphere, Snider said. "There can be a real benefit in terms of greenhouse gas emissions."

The release of the report came just hours after two new studies in the U.S.-based journal Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences that appear to underline the findings...
A lake sturgeon swims in the Great Lakes. Freshwater ecosystems have seen some of the highest declines in wildlife populations globally, the WWF reports. (Engbretson Underwater Photography)

'Escalator to extinction'

One, led by S. Blair Hedges at the Center for Biodiversity at Temple University in the U.S., found that less than one per cent of the primary forest in Haiti remains, and that many endemic species, especially amphibians and reptiles, have been wiped out with the trees.

A new study shows that less than one per cent of the primary forest in Haiti remains, as illustrated by deforested hills in the Massif de la Hotte. Many endemic species, especially amphibians and reptiles, have been wiped out with the trees. (Eladio Fernandez)
The other, led by Benjamin Freeman, a postdoctoral researcher at the University of British Columbia's Biodiversity Research Centre, says climate change is an "escalator to extinction" for tropical birds that live at high elevations. The study surveyed bird species that live on the mountaintops in a remote part of Peru, where humans haven't caused any habitat loss, and compared the results to a survey in 1985. "Nearly all the high elevation birds are declining dramatically in abundance," Freeman said. Eight species from the previous survey couldn't be found at all, and Freeman says for five of those, "we're confident they're gone." The study confirms predictions that climate change will cause population declines in such habitats. "It's a wake-up call," Freeman added.

The russet-crowned warbler also inhabits high elevations in Peru. Eight other species found in a previous survey in 1985 could not be found during the more recent survey. (Graham Montgomery (University of Connecticut, Storrs, CT)

While his study looked at biodiversity in a small area, he said global measurements like the Living Planet Index are valuable, as they show the loss of biodiversity more clearly than measuring extinctions. "Calling attention to the decline in abundance is an important thing," he said. "That really is the main way humans are impacting plants and animals. We're changing the landscape so there's many fewer of them."
Nature Vancouver offers a variety of field trips, including birding outings, nature walks, boat trips, day hikes, short backpacking trips and snowshoe trips. Non-members are welcome to join field trips to become familiar with the activities of the Society but are asked to limit their participation to a maximum of three events.

For more information about Nature Vancouver field trips, contact the Field Trip Coordinator billkinkaid@gmail.com.

Nature Vancouver field trips are scheduled on most weekends and some weekdays. The complete schedule is available at EVENTS CALENDAR.

**Evening programs:** Nature Vancouver holds programs every Thursday evening January to April and September to December. These programs are open Nature Vancouver members and to the public. The complete schedule of upcoming botany, marine biology and birding programs is available on EVENTS CALENDAR.

**Birding**

Birders’ evening programs start at 7:30 p.m. with introductions and items of general interest. The main presentation begins after a short break for light refreshments. For more information, please contact Jude Grass.

**WHEN:** First Thursday of each month from September to May at 7:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** Parish Hall of St. Mary’s Anglican Church (Kerrisdale) (2490 West 37th Avenue (at Larch Street), Vancouver.

A beautiful mandarin duck is causing great excitement in Central Park, New York City, while another has been hanging around in Burnaby Lake since May of this year.

Photo PNG
Great blue heron searching for a meal in Jim Ronback’s pool.
FIELD TRIPS. Please call to let the leader know to expect you. The walks are generally about two to three hours long and are open to all Naturalist Clubs & members of the public (adults & children, but no pets please). Dress for the weather and bring water, binoculars and a snack, plus bug spray in the summer. Note these walks are weather dependent so if the weather is bad and no calls are received the leader will not show up.

SATURDAY OCTOBER 6TH WONDERFUL WETLANDS TOUR (AGES 14+) Leader: Lisa Dreves 9:30 am - noon Enjoy a guided walk through West Creek Wetlands, Glen Valley Regional Park, an ecological reserve normally off limits to the public and home to an incredible variety of plants and wildlife. Presented with Metro Vancouver Parks and Langley Environmental Partners Society. FREE: Registration required, call or online: www.metrovancouveronline.org (use four-digit barcode 7457) Call: 604-432-6359

SATURDAY OCTOBER 13TH GORDON’S BROOK ALDERGROVE REGIONAL PARK A day of celebration at Gordon's Brook in Aldergrove Regional Park for all the partner groups and it will be open to the public. There will be tours of the restoration area. Dr. Mike Pearson will be talking about the creeks and fish. There will be a ceremonial tree planting.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 12TH SKAGIT VALLEY PROVINCIAL PARK Leader: Al & Jude Grass 8:45 am at Exit 168, Hwy 1 East Meet at 8:45 am at the junction of the Flood Hope Road and Silver Skagit Road. Birding, fungi and more. We will head down to the Day Use Area on Ross Lake at the border, have lunch, explore and then walk the trail to Curley’s meadow. Phone 604-219-2043 for info and to let us know to expect you or for more information. Note: please make sure you have enough gas as it is 130 km round trip to Ross Lake and back to the highway. This is a full day trip, so please bring lunch, snacks, water, (sunscreen and bug repellent) and a variety of clothing and footwear for the weather plus a mushroom book (if you have one).

SATURDAY OCTOBER 20TH IRENE PEARCE TRAIL Leader: Anthea Farr & Ryan Usenik 9:00 am in the parking lot on 224th at 5th Avenue Join us as we walk the gentle trails in this rural park looking for fabulous fall fungi and other signs of Fall. We will also be checking the Flying Squirrel boxes that were installed earlier this year. It is part of the Municipal Nature Park with the Little Campbell River flowing through it and has stands of mature Douglas Fir. Phone 604-530-3257 to let us know to expect you.

FRIDAY OCTOBER 26TH GEORGE REIFEL BIRD SANCTUARY Leader: Al Grass 9:30 am at the Sanctuary Gift Shop. Fine Fall birding - waterfowl (Snow Geese) will have begun returning, shorebirds and more. Always a good chance to find owls like the Great Horned. Bring lunch and water. Small entrance fee ($5.00) for non-members of BC Waterfowl Society. Bring an extra sweater and hat; it can be chilly out there. Phone 604-219-2043 for info and to let us know to expect you.

SATURDAY NOVEMBER 3RD JACKMAN PIT (WETLANDS) PARK, LANGLEY Leader: Lisa Dreves 9:00 am at 272nd street and 10th avenue across from the Transfer Station. We will walk the trails in this rural park which is the site of a former Township gravel pit and dump. After the dump was declared full in the 1980's and capped, it was designated as a park
and LFN helped with the restoration tree planting that took place there. Phone: 604-729-3815 to let us know to expect you.

**THURSDAY NOVEMBER 8TH BLACKIE SPIT - CRESCENT BEACH** Leader: Gareth Pugh 9:00 am Meet at Crescent Beach Pier, (across from the parking lot by the outdoor swimming pool). Join Gareth as he takes us on his volunteer bird survey for "Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society" (Birds on the Bay) and he will tell you how you can participate in "citizen science" to which anyone can contribute. Phone 604-576-6831 to let us know to expect you.

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 17TH GRANT NARROWS PROVINCIAL PARK / ADDINGTON MARSH WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA.** Leader: Viveka Ohman 9:00 am at Grant Narrows Provincial Park parking lot. We will walk around this large dyke/marsh area, with several viewing towers which is a major migration route for bird life and has the largest tidal lake in the world. It can be very windy and cold at this time of year so please wear winter clothes and bring a hat and a pair of gloves. Phone: 604-576-6831 to let us know to expect you.

**SATURDAY NOVEMBER 24TH IONA BEACH REGIONAL PARK AND SEWAGE LAGOONS** Leader: Wim Vesseur 9:00 am at Iona Beach Regional Park Join us to explore this amazingly rich and varied bird life area. We will be hoping to welcome back the Snow Geese and other returning winter visitors and may even see some birds using the area as a stopover on their southward migration. Phone 604-534-3447 to let us know to expect you.

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 8TH BLAINE & DRAYTON HARBOUR** Leader: Gareth Pugh 9:00 am at Blaine Marine Park (see web site below for directions) Join us to visit Blaine and Drayton Harbour which is an important overwintering area for shorebirds and waterfowl. We will also drive around to the West side of the Harbour to visit Semiahmoo Park for lunch at the cafe in the Semiahmoo Resort. Please dress warmly and wear proper footwear. Bring snacks, water and, of course, your passports. Phone 604-576-6831 to let us know to expect you.

https://www.google.ca/maps/place/Blaine+Harbor/@48.9947109,122.7592769,15z/data=!4m2!3m1!1s0x0:0x6757baa2c+029fcaf

**SATURDAY DECEMBER 29TH SURREY/WHITE ROCK/LANGLEY CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT** Details TBA - for more information contact Gareth Pugh, 604-576-6831

**FRIDAY JANUARY 18TH, 2019 WHOOO’S HOOT OWL PROWL (Aged 8+) CAMPBELL VALLEY REGIONAL PARK** Leader: Al Grass 7-9 pm Cost: $8.50 adult, $4.50 child/youth/65+ Join naturalists on a night prowl and discover why owls are such great hunters of the night. Presented by LFN and Metro Vancouver Parks. Registration required, call or online: www.metrovancouveronline.org
Call: 604-432-6359
From: Bird Studies Canada <BirdStudiesCanada@bsc-eoc.org>
Date: November 2, 2018 at 4:04:14 AM GMT+8
To: "tom.bearss@dccnet.com"
Subject: Please Join Project FeederWatch!

Dear Naturalist Club,

We hope that you will help us spread the word about Project FeederWatch with your members. FeederWatch is a fun way to learn about and help birds. For more than 32 years, people who feed wild birds have been reporting their observations to Project FeederWatch to track trends in bird populations. This helps scientists better understand what happens to birds facing challenges such as climate change, disease, and habitat loss.

Please see Bird Studies Canada’s press release about the upcoming season of FeederWatch below.

All the best

Kerrie

Interested in birds? Want to learn more? Join Project FeederWatch!

1 November 2018 (Port Rowan, ON) – If you have access to a birdfeeder and the internet, you can help Canada’s birds. As little as 15 minutes of your time between November and April will help scientists at Bird Studies Canada and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology learn more about the status of bird populations in North America through the Project FeederWatch Citizen Science program.

“Birds are an important indicator of environmental health and the results of Project FeederWatch each year inform conservation efforts,” said Kerrie Wilcox, Project FeederWatch Coordinator for Bird Studies Canada. “Last year, Canadians reported an average of 42 individual birds per count, down from the long-term average of 49. A bumper crop of natural food in the forests may have drawn birds away from feeders. Will bird numbers return to normal this year? We need data from backyards across the country!”
Project FeederWatch is not only a great way to support research and conservation, it’s also a chance for families and friends to learn more about birds, have fun, and connect with nature.

No experience is necessary to take part. Bird Studies Canada provides material to help with bird identification. “FeederWatchers” are asked to select periodic two-day intervals throughout the winter and count birds for at least 15 minutes on those days. They then submit their sightings online.

Anyone can join Project FeederWatch in Canada by donating any amount to Bird Studies Canada. Visit birdscanada.org/feederwatch, call 1-888-448-2473, or email pfw@birdscanada.org. In the United States, call 1-866-989-2473. The 2018-19 Project FeederWatch season runs from 10 November 2018 to 5 April 2019.

FeederWatchers in Canada will receive a poster of common feeder birds, a calendar, last season’s results, and access to online data tools. Those making a minimum donation of $35 will receive a subscription to Bird Studies Canada’s magazine, BirdWatch Canada.

About Bird Studies Canada
Bird Studies Canada (birdscanada.org) is Canada’s leading national charitable organization dedicated to bird science and conservation. Founded in 1960, Bird Studies Canada operates scientific programs in all 13 Canadian provinces and territories as well as international research programs. The work of 79 Bird Studies Canada staff is supported by 49,000 Citizen Science volunteers.

About Project FeederWatch
Project FeederWatch is a joint research and education project of Bird Studies Canada and the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Armstrong Bird Food and Wild Birds Unlimited are national sponsors of Project FeederWatch in Canada. The conversation continues year-round on Facebook.com/groups/FeederWatchCanada/

Photo by Project FeederWatch Participant Janice Carson.

Media Contact

Kerrie Wilcox,
Canadian Coordinator, Project FeederWatch
Bird Studies Canada
Tel. 519-586-3531 ext. 134 or 1-888-448-2473 (Toll-free)
kwilcox@birdscanada.org
birdscanada.org
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Den Dikken, Anita  
BC Nature representative

Kneesch, Jim  
Treasurer/Membership / DNS Facebook Master

McVittie, Chris  
Director at Large / DNS Facebook Master

Syd Barber  
Director at Large

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Publicity

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Rennie, Paul  
Audio Visual Support

Ronback, James  
Environmental Watch Dog Jim.Ronback@gmail.com

Stewart, Alan  
Audio Visual Support

Whitlam, Valerie  
Social Committee

Williamson, Joanne  
Lead - Social Committee

Delta Nats’ website: https://dncb.wordpress.com/

Wild Life Rescue  604-526-7275
Canadian Wildlife Services  604-666-0143
Rare Bird Alert (24 hour)  604-737-3074
Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary  604-946-6980
OWL (Orphaned Wildlife Rehab)  604-946-3171
Wildlife Violation Report  1-800-663-9453
Fisheries and Oceans HOT LINE  604-666-3500
Delta Farmland & Wildlife Trust  604-940-3392

INTERESTING LINKS

Delta Farmland and Wildlife Trust: http://www.deltafarmland.ca/
Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society: http://www.birdsonthebay.ca/
Boundary Bay Park Association

https://boundarybayparkassociation.wordpress.com/event-calendar