

Marshnotes[®]



**BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY
SPRING 2012**

BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY

Managers of the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary Since 1963

- dedicated to the conservation and study of migratory waterfowl-

Marshnotes:

Editor: Kathleen Fry

The contents of Marshnotes may not be reprinted without written permission of the Editor.

Circulation: 2,400.

Published four times a year.

**The British Columbia Waterfowl Society,
5191 Robertson Road,
Delta, British Columbia
V4K 3N2**

Telephone: 604 946 6980

Facsimile: 604 946 6982

Website: www.reifelbirdsantuary.com

Email: bcws@reifelbirdsantuary.com

Submissions, articles, photographs and letters for publication may be sent to the above address marked for attention of Marshnotes Editor. Please include your telephone number and the Editor will contact you.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF MARSHNOTES

JULY 15th 2012

Executive:

President: Jack Bates

Vice-President: George C. Reifel

Treasurer: James A. Morrison

Secretary: Barney W. Reifel

Directors:

Jack Bates

John H. Bowles

F. Wayne Diakow

Hugh A. Magee

James A. Morrison

Gerald S. Oyen

Douglas B. Ransome

Barney W. Reifel

George C. Reifel

Kenneth I. Thompson

Dennis Zentner

Committee Chairs:

Building/ Grounds: Barney W. Reifel

Community Relations: George C. Reifel

Interpretation/Education: F. Wayne Diakow

Outreach: George C. Reifel

Administrator:

Robert Butler

Staff:

Sanctuary Manager: Kathleen Fry

Gift Shop Manager: Varri Raffan

Reception: Laura Jordison

Biologist: Shanna Fredericks

Maintenance: David McClue

Hours of Operation: 9:00 a.m. to 4.00 p.m. Every day. The Sanctuary is wheelchair accessible.

Admission:	Members:	Free
	Non-Members:	Adults: \$5 Children (2-14 yrs) and Seniors (60yrs +): \$3
	School Groups:	Special discounts; Pre-booking required.

**Marshnotes, Snow Goose Festival and the Snow Goose logo
are all registered trademarks of the British Columbia Waterfowl Society.**

The 2012 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner



Photos: Kathleen Fry

About Our Covers

Front Cover:

American Bittern © Jim Martin

Back Cover:

Ring-necked Duck © Jim Martin

The 2012 BCWS Volunteer Appreciation Dinner was held at Vagellis Taverna on March 6th, 2012. Twenty-eight volunteers attended this event in Ladner. The dinner was excellent, and was augmented by speeches from Jack Bates and some fun door prizes. Special thanks are due to Varri Raffan for making all of the arrangements.

Contents

Front Cover:	American Bittern	Jim Martin
Page 3	The 2012 Volunteer Appreciation Dinner	
3	About Our Covers	
4	Manager's Report	
6	Sanctuary Bird Highlights	Kathleen Fry
8	"Match the Birdie"	Varri Raffan
8	Calendar Reminder	Varri Raffan
8	The 51st Annual General Meeting of the BCWS	
10	Nest Box Update	Shanna Fredericks
11	Why be a Member	
11	The Volunteer Corner	
Back Cover	Ring-necked Duck	Jim Martin

Manager's Report

We had a total of 16,290 visitors through the gate in the first three months of 2012, in spite of the usual cool, wet and windy days. Many of our January and February visitors indicated that they had come to the Sanctuary for some more birding after hours of watching the over 30 Snowy Owls at Boundary Bay, so the Warming Hut was quite a popular place. The Sanctuary's own owls, generally a winter attraction, were not as plentiful, with usually only one Saw-Whet Owl present off and on, and even sightings of Great Horned Owls uncommon. A Barred Owl roosting regularly along Central Dyke was found dead in February and was taken to the lab at Environment Canada for analysis.

In the absence of owls, a lot of our visitor focus was on the Sandhill Cranes, two Pileated Woodpeckers making alarmingly-large holes in our elderly Sanctuary trees, and waterbirds such as American Bittern, Green Heron, and Black-crowned Night-herons.

Our resident pair of Sandhill Cranes kept their young colt from last year with them all winter and tolerated the winter presence of another pair with two colts, but objected to any other extra birds. By the end of February, our pair began asserting their ownership of the place and performing their courtship dances, and the other pair departed, presumably for their own nest site. Since late March, we have had last year's colt, the two extra young and a few more sub-adult birds hanging around, and our pair has been regularly chasing all of these out in preparation for nesting.

In late winter, our biologist Shanna and myself donned waders to assess the cranes' 2011 nest island and found it had been significantly eroded over the winter. Enlarging it with sandbags seemed successful, and a few rotten birch logs were added later on. Our pair initially seemed to reject our improvements, checking out another island instead. By mid-April, though they settled on the original site, laying the first egg April 20th and a second one two days later.

In preparation for nesting season, our nest boxes, whether for songbirds or wood ducks, were given an annual check-up. (see page 10).

NOTE: Members interested in regular bird walks but not liking crowded Sundays might be interested in the Sanctuary bird surveys which we now conduct every other Saturday morning to keep better track of trends. We would welcome a few extra helpers. See me for details. Kathleen

Early this year, we purchased a few 10 year old Douglas Firs to replace some of the once-stately firs along East Dyke. Douglas Firs reach their optimal height at about 60 years, then start to lose their vigor. The firs along East Dyke were planted by the late Mr. George C. Reifel 90 years ago now, and are stately but dying. We began planting the new generation of replacement trees in March, with the first young tree planted after gale force winds combined with 34 mm of rain February 24th snapped an old veteran fir which came down across the path. The new young trees can be easily identified, as we have protected them from beavers and visitors with stucco wire.

In between clean up work parties after storms and nest box maintenance, some trail improvements were completed. Visitors may have noticed that a section of North Dyke east of the tower has been widened and the bank stabilized. We will take the same approach further along this path where the DUC pipe was replaced last fall.



Photo: Kathleen Fry

The North Dyke Project

By late March, some spring weather finally seemed to be on its way. Over 2,000 visitors came just in one weekend (March 24th/ 25th), when the sun finally shone, the end of (school) Spring Break loomed, and Lesser Snow Geese flocks settled dramatically over many Westham Island fields.

Lesser Snow Goose Update

Most of our Lesser Snow Geese moved south briefly to the Skagit estuary in Washington State (USA) in late January. As in most years, they stayed there for February and part of March, then moved back into the Fraser Delta. By the end of April, they will be well on their way north on their nearly 5,000 km migration back to Wrangel Island, Russia to nest.

In the Skagit River delta, the geese have some excellent winter feeding areas managed by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) as part of the Skagit Wildlife Area. The Fir Island Unit is a primary feeding area for Lesser Snow Geese, with most of its 225 acres and some adjacent 295 acres planted with winter cover crops, a very similar treatment to the management of fields here around the Sanctuary.

This March, the WDFW captured 200 of these birds in the Skagit Wildlife Area and marked them with neck collars. The collared birds started showing up in Westham Island flocks from March 24th onwards.



Photo: Kathleen Fry

Collared Lesser Snow Geese

**PLEASE REPORT OBSERVATIONS TO THE BIRD BANDING LABORATORY
AT 1-800-327-BAND OR ONLINE AT REPORTBAND.GOV**

Many of our local waterfowl started nests at the end of March. A survey showed there were 28 Wood Ducks vying for nest boxes, at least 20 pairs of Canada Geese starting or sitting on nests, up to 25 pairs of Northern Gadwall, and a drop in our Mallard numbers from a minimum of 5,000 birds most winter days to just over 500 birds. The latter will likely disperse locally to nest. The prediction is for first early hatches in the first week of May and more a few weeks later.

Most winter waterfowl species that leave here in the spring disperse to nesting areas in Alberta, the interior of BC, northern boreal forest areas of Canada, or to the tundra areas of Alaska. The Alaska connection for our shorebirds, cranes and waterfowl is critical. One of the most significant waterbird habitats is the Yukon-Kuskokwin delta along the west coast of the state. The YKD as it is known to waterfowl biologists is a vast complex of 19 million acres of wetlands and tundra created by the Yukon and Kuskokwin Rivers and their tributaries as these two rivers approach the Bering Sea. Much of it is protected through the Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge.

The YKD provides critical food resources for migrant populations of waterfowl such as our Lesser Snow Geese, but is also a major nesting area for other waterfowl, including up to one-third of North America's Northern Pintail populations, 100,000 swans, and 30,000 cranes.



Location of the Yukon-Kuskokwin Delta

References:

Yukon Delta National Wildlife Refuge
<http://yukondelta.fws.gov/wildlands.htm>
Skagit Wildlife Area
http://wdfw.wa.gov/lands/wildlife_areas/skagit/

Text and images: Kathleen Fry, R.P.Bio,
Sanctuary Manager

Bird Highlights

Here are the highlights from January to March 2012, although we will be well into spring when this newsletter arrives. Once again we do thank all of you that take the time to enter sightings in the log book at the gift shop.

January is a good month to see a big variety of birds of prey and waterfowl species. This month we had a total of 88 species.

January 1 – January 7

75 species were reported this week, with 13 of them being birds of prey. On the 5th, there were 2 sightings of the ever popular Northern Saw-Whet Owl. Back in 1996 in this week, we had a high count of 10 Saw Whet Owls in one day. Offshore Red-throated Loons, Dunlin and Trumpeter Swans were seen, and nearly all the Lesser Snow Geese have left our area to spend January and February in the Skagit Valley, Washington. We will see them again mid-March to mid-April. Lincoln's Sparrow, Pine Siskin, Common Redpoll and Short-eared Owl were unusual species seen this week.

January 8 – January 14

Up to 5 Black-crowned Night Herons are still in their usual roosting area. At this time back in 1996 there were as many as 10, and we used to see more juveniles than we do now. In with the Red-winged Blackbirds was a Brewer's Blackbird, a species which is fairly common elsewhere but, like the Steller's Jay, its a bird that doesn't come often to the Sanctuary. Offshore a Brant Goose was seen. The Brant is a small dark goose which prefers habitats such as marine bays, lagoons and mud flats. Centennial Beach in Boundary Bay is the good spot to see these birds feeding offshore on eelgrass from January to March prior to their migration to the tundra for nesting.

January 15 – January 21

On January 15th a single Orange-crowned Warbler was reported, and on the 16th, Killdeer were heard flying over the Gift Shop. A Least Sandpiper was seen in Southwest Marsh along with a Wilson's Snipe. on January 18th. On the 19th, two Barn Owls were seen going in and out of one of our nest boxes. Barn Owls can start nests from late February to the beginning of May. The size of the Barn Owl clutch depends on prey availability and the severity of the previous winter. The majority of their prey is the Townsend's Vole (*Microtus townsendii*). Barn Owl females incubate the eggs from 30-34 days and once hatched the young can take up to 55 days to fledge.

On January 19th a Red-breasted Sapsucker was seen at the northeast corner of the Sanctuary. The species count for this week was 67.

January 22 – January 28

This is the first week that I have not seen the Great Horned Owl at least once in the cedar trees along the left of the driveway. More than likely their focus now is on nesting. These owls also start nesting early and have 1-4 eggs by mid February and incubate them for 30-32 days. We're not sure where they are nesting but assume it is in the Alaksen NWA property next door. Back in February 1999 the Great Horned Owls nested along our entrance driveway in an old Cooper's Hawk nest in an Alder tree. Then in 2002 they nested along the East Dyke on top of a broken off dead Cottonwood tree. Hopefully by mid April we will see the fledglings roosting along the East Dyke as in previous years. Nine Sandhill Cranes are still at the Sanctuary. The Barred Owl is still being seen roosting in the usual birch tree along the Center Dyke.

February was much like January as far as the bird sightings were concerned. The total bird count for the month was down a bit from January to 76 species.

January 29 – February 4

In this week at the Sanctuary we had 16 different waterfowl species, including 3 Greater White-fronted Geese spotted feeding with the Canada Geese. A male Ring-necked Pheasant out near the tower seemed very tolerant of people. It didn't take him long to figure out what was in the brown bags people were carrying. A few people got some close up pictures of this colorful upland game bird. There are still 2 very active male Pileated Woodpeckers being spotted throughout the Sanctuary. A Purple Finch, Rough-legged Hawk and Canvasback were other birds of note for this week.

February 5 – February 11

The first Barn Swallow for the year at the Sanctuary was on February 5th. This could have been a bird left over from the fall migration. Apparently throughout the winter Barn Swallows can be spotted. According to the Canadian Breeding Bird Survey the Barn Swallow has been on the decline by 7.6% annually over the last decade, due reasons such as loss of nesting sites, loss of foraging habitat, limited food supply, exposure to pesticides and climate change. American Bittern, Mew Gull and Herring Gull were the other highlights for this week. On February 9th, the Barred Owl usually roosting on the Center Dyke was found dead on the trail. Since its first sighting on the BC Coast in 1966, this species has been increasing its' range, with Great Horned Owls being its main predator.

February 12 – February 18

Our one lone Barn Swallow from last week has chosen to roost at night in an old swallow nest out the back of the gift shop. Dunlin and Black-bellied Plovers are being seen frequently. These are 2 of the shorebird species that you can expect to see over winter. We are now starting to see Canada Geese pairing up and staking out territory for the upcoming nesting season. This week 58 species were reported.

February 19 – February 25

An unusual Northern Flicker was seen along the outer seaward dyke on the 19th, showing a mix of the characteristics of the Red-Shafted and Yellow-Shafted colour phases. Many flickers in the Lower Mainland are hybrids of some form. The first Long-billed Dowitcher for the year was seen in the West Field by the tower. On the 22nd, a Hutton's Vireo was reported. Snow Geese are now starting to reappear around the Sanctuary. On the 25th, one blue morph bird was spotted in a flock of approximately 500 Lesser Snow Geese. The blue morph and white morph were once thought to be 2 separate species but are 2 color phases of the Lesser Snow Goose.

In March, the species list increased with the return of shorebird and warbler species into our area to either nest or fuel up on their migration north. A total of 88 species were reported in March.

February 26 – March 3

This week was quiet. Highlights included Pine Siskin, Common Redpoll, Eurasian Wigeon, Canvasback, Barn Owl, Northern Saw Whet Owl, Merlin, American Bittern and Hairy Woodpecker.

March 4 – March 10

On the 8th I put up our hummingbird feeders in anticipation of the arrival of the Rufous Hummingbirds, but had a male Anna's Hummingbird the next day instead. Although I know a lot of our members do have Anna's over the winter we generally do not have them here at the Sanctuary. Anna's winter from southern British Columbia to Arizona. Of all the North American hummingbirds, the Anna's

consumes the most insects, and their hearts beat at an amazing 1260 beats per minute.

A Bushtit nest was located this week. These early nesters make hanging gourd-shaped structures woven together with twigs, lichens, and moss and spider webs and lined with feathers. On the 8th the first Tree Swallow was seen, and on the 9th, the first Violet-green Swallow showed up. Our 5 Black-crowned Night Herons remain and a Hutton's Vireo was seen again.



Bushtit Nest

Photo: Jim Martin

March 11 – March 17

On the 15th the first male Rufous Hummingbird was seen at the Gift Shop feeder. The males show up before the females in the breeding grounds, and they nearly always show up at the Sanctuary very year on either the 15th or 16th of March. The best month to watch Rufous Hummingbirds at our feeders is May. I found it interesting that they only make 14- 18 foraging flights per hour (approximately every 15-20 minutes) which can take less than a minute each. The rest of the hour the bird perches quietly. On the 15th we had a

Cassin's Finch reported. These finches resemble the Purple Finch but the Cassin's has a white belly and a redder crown. We also had our first sighting for spring of the Greater Yellowlegs seen in the West Field.

March 18 – March 24

Sixty six species were recorded this week. On the 21st a Green Heron was seen at the very southwest corner of the Sanctuary. This was an early sighting of one of these Herons as we normally see them later in the spring or early fall. Other highlights for the week include American Bittern, Greater White-fronted Geese, Pileated Woodpecker, Eurasian Wigeon, Peregrine Falcon and Red-breasted Nuthatch.

...../Continued on page 8

Answers to quiz on page 10:

- a. flycatcher,
- b. turkey,
- c. pigeon,
- d. robin (robbing),
- e. cardinal,
- f. dove,
- g. swallow,
- h. bluebird,
- i. mockingbird,
- k. catbird,
- l. cuckoo,
- m. sandpiper,
- n. woodpecker,
- o. bird of paradise (pair of dice).

(Continued from page 7)

March 25 – March 31

The lone Saw-Whet Owl that has been roosting periodically by the house has departed now. This is the time of year this species moves to dense coniferous mountain slopes to nest. The first spring sighting of a Yellow-rumped Warbler was on the 28th. Typically in this week our waterfowl diversity declines, as species leave for other nesting areas. Resident Canada Geese and Mallards began sitting on nests this week. They will incubate their eggs from 25-30 days. From mid-May to the end of June will be a good time to see lots of young broods. Up to 10 American Goldfinch in their summer plumage were seen. A Varied Thrush was reported feeding with the American Robins along the entrance driveway. We are now down to 3 of the original 5 Black-crowned Night Herons. A single Northern Shrike was reported on the seaward dyke. A Hairy Woodpecker, Pileated Woodpecker, Virginia Rail and Greater Yellowlegs were some of the other highlights for the week.

References:

Birds of BC, Volumes I to IV, 1990-2001
W. Campbell, N. K Dawe, Dr. I. McTaggart-Cowan,
G.W. Kaiser, J. Cooper, A. Stewart, M. McNall. UBC Press.

www.Whatbird.com

Text: Varri Raffan, Gift Shop Manager

“Match the Birdie”

These are clues to the names of different birds. How many can you name? (Example: A delicious cookie – Oriole). Answers on page 7.

Questions

- a. A sticky roll of paper
- b. Holiday feast
- c. Turned in toes
- d. Thieving
- e. His Eminence
- f. Peace
- g. Down the hatch
- h. Sad on a Monday morning.
- i. Sarcastic
- j. Nine lives
- k. Marathoner
- l. How silly can you get?
- m. Beach musician
- n. Timber sculptor
- o. Rolled in a Las Vegas game.

Text: Varri Raffan

Calendar Reminder

July 15th is the deadline for photograph submissions for the 2013 calendar. Please submit photos on disk to the Sanctuary office. Attention: Varri, along with contact information.

BCWS 51st Annual General Meeting



Staff and Directors Present at the 51st Annual General Meeting of the BC Waterfowl Society

Left to Right: Robert Butler, Dave McClue, Jim Morrison, George Reifel. Gerry Oyen, Jack Bates, Laura Jordison, Shanna Fredericks, Kathleen Fry, Doug Ransome, Varri Raffan

BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY

Report on the 51st Annual General Meeting

The 51st Annual General Meeting took place on Tuesday April 17, 2012 in the Lecture Hall of the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary. BCWS President Jack Bates called the Meeting to order at 7:30 pm and welcomed everyone. He declared a quorum in attendance. BCWS Administrator Robert Butler acted as Secretary.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF THE 50th AGM: The Minutes of the 50th Annual General Meeting, held on April 12, 2011 were approved.

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS: The financial statements for the year ending December 31, 2011 along with the Accountants' Report, prepared by our auditors, was presented by the Society's Treasurer James Morrison. Questions from the floor followed the Treasurer's brief summary of the year's highlights.

APPOINT OF THE ACCOUNTANTS FOR 2012: KPMG were appointed as the Society's Accountants for the fiscal year ending December 31, 2012, with remuneration to be determined by the Board.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS: President Jack Bates introduced those Society's Directors that were present, and gave a brief report on the Society and the Board's activities for the year 2011 noting the Society remains in a strong financial position. He thanked our staff, the Directors and all of the volunteers for their contributions during 2011. He also thanked now-retired Patricia M. Banning-Lover for her past work on the Marshnotes production, and, Jim Martin for his spectacular images on the front and rear covers of the recent Marshnotes. Staff member Laura Jordison was thanked for the Owl image on a very recent Marshnotes issue. Thanks also went to Gift Shop Manager Varri Johnson for her '26 years of service' to the BCWS. He also thanked our Sanctuary Manager Kathleen Fry for taking on the Marshnotes production and for all her other initiatives during the past year.

SANCTUARY MANAGERS'S REPORT: Sanctuary Manager, Kathleen Fry, reviewed the Manager's report briefing members on the 2011 activities. The report noted there are 2,332 Members as of December 31, up slightly from the prior year. There were 72,459 visitors to the Sanctuary in 2011, with May 23rd being the best day at 1,000 visitors. May was also the best month with 8,079 visitors followed by July with 7,403 through the gates. There were 267 group bookings in 2011. As in previous years, many people buy seed and remain in the parking area to feed the birds. The report acknowledged Varri Raffan and all the other staff and volunteers who, through their hard work, contribute to making the Sanctuary a feature destination for visitors.

ELECTION OF DIRECTORS: In accord with the Society's bylaws, three Directors were elected by acclamation. The Directors are: F. Wayne Diakow, James A. Morrison and Gerald O. S. Oyen.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 pm.
Coffee and Tea and refreshments followed the meeting.

British Columbia Waterfowl Society
gratefully acknowledges the continuing support
of its Accountants
KPMG Peat Marwick Thorne Inc.
Suite 400, North Tower
5811 Cooney Road, Richmond, B.C. V6X 3M1

Nest Box Update

It's been a busy winter season of crawling up and down ladders, dodging rats as they leap out of boxes, and being showered with wood shavings. The effort has paid off though, with our boxes now repaired, mapped, and marked with identification numbers.

The 2011 nesting season was very successful, with our songbird boxes used by the usual suspects such as House Sparrows, Tree Swallows and Black-capped Chickadees, as well as some surprises such as Bewick's Wrens and Red-breasted Nuthatches. The Wood Ducks also proved to be quite productive in 2011, with nearly a 70% hatching success rate in our 30 Wood Duck boxes. There are 4 owl boxes in the Sanctuary. A few of them are often used by Barn Owls as a daytime roost, while others seem to offer a revolving door policy to our many Raccoon friends.

The competition for boxes is fierce. Squirrels often invite themselves to use our Wood Duck boxes, and no box goes unused; as evidenced by the family of Mink living in a shelved Wood Duck box in the workshop!

Over 150 boxes are ready for the 2012 nesting season, and we expect to see great nesting success this summer. Experiments are ongoing to find the most effective way to discourage invasive House Sparrows from using boxes in Tree Swallow habitat. Boxes have been retrofitted with hole plates, or baffles, of various sizes. We hope to determine the ideal hole size that blocks the broad-shouldered House Sparrows but allows the more slender Tree Swallows to enter. Please be sure to report any interesting sightings in the Logbook behind the Gift Shop with the corresponding box number.

Many thanks to the following volunteers for their hard work cleaning out songbird boxes and installing new Tree Swallow boxes: Peter Ward, Ken Hall, John Toochn, and Delta Naturalists Ken Borrie, Anne Borrie, Kitty Broeder, Jonathan Mwenifumbo, Anne Murray and Tom Bearss.

Special thanks to Peter Ward and Ken Hall for sharing their knowledge and design of Tree Swallow boxes. Their

Cascade Swallow boxes, which are specially designed to keep House Sparrows out, can be seen along the Southwest Marsh Trail of the Sanctuary.

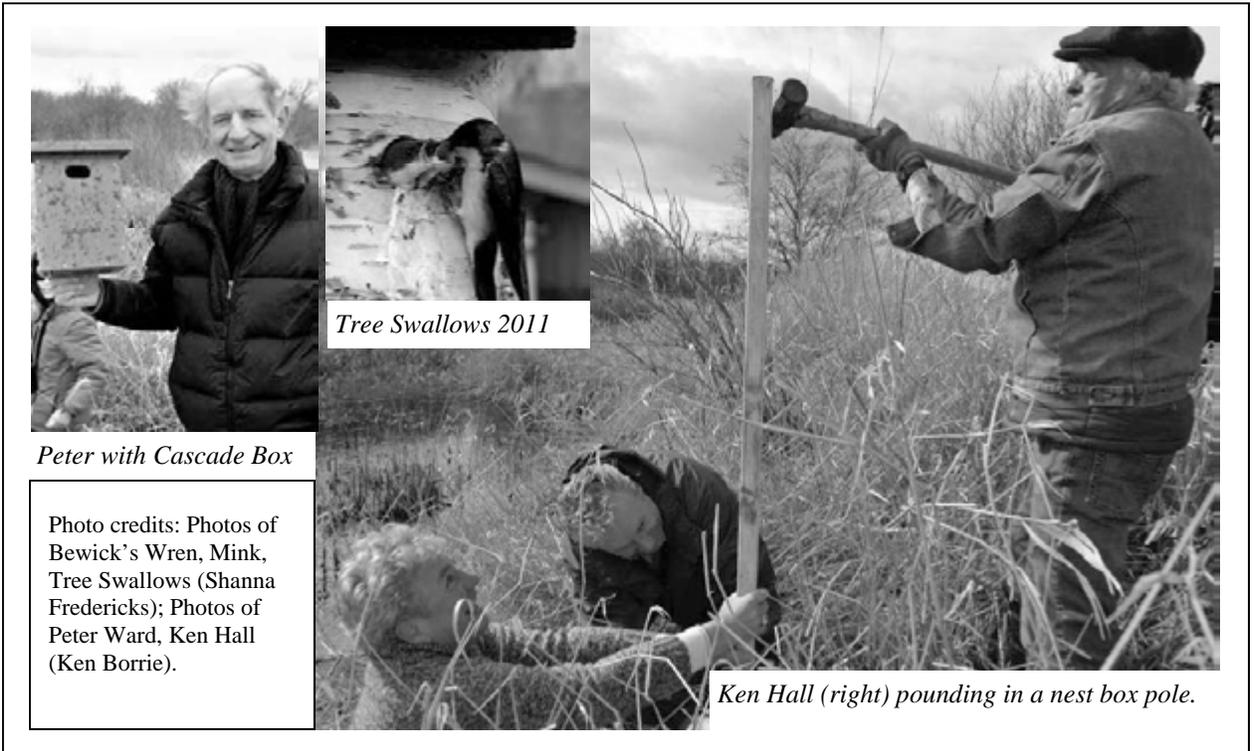
Text: Shanna Fredericks, Biologist, MSc.



Bewick's Wrens



Mink in a Duck Box



Tree Swallows 2011

Peter with Cascade Box

Photo credits: Photos of Bewick's Wren, Mink, Tree Swallows (Shanna Fredericks); Photos of Peter Ward, Ken Hall (Ken Borrie).

Ken Hall (right) pounding in a nest box pole.

The Volunteer Corner

Special Thanks To:

- ◆ Our regular Sunday birding team of Mary Taitt and Brian Self, as well as Jim Martin, Al Russell and Bob Wilmot for hosting visitors on busy weekends. Special thanks to Bill Topping for helping in the Museum Sunday mornings.
- ◆ Nat's Nursery for the donation of some cedars, and the provision of some nice healthy young firs.
- ◆ Mountain Equipment Co-Op for the donation of some used binoculars.
- ◆ Eric Rossici, Eileen Axford, Justin Malkonin, Karl Pollak and the students from Delta Secondary's Provincial Resource Program for bagging seed and filling bird feeders.
- ◆ Our nest box team of Ken Hall, Peter Ward, John Toochnin, and the Delta Naturalists members (see page 10) who came out to help with maintenance this spring.
- ◆ The Richardsons and Tom Anderson for being so understanding when we FORGOT to invite them to the annual appreciation dinner.
- ◆ Our winter newsletter mailout team of Shurli Tylor, Jim and Jean Marsh, the Drews, and Jim Martin.

Volunteers Wanted For:

- ◆ Hosting visitors along trails on busy weekends from May to July, and for work parties around the Sanctuary on specific dates over the early summer months.

Please leave your name and contact information at the Sanctuary Office (604 946 6980).

Why be a Member?

As a Member, you receive the following benefits:

FREE admission to the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary 365 days a year.

Quarterly issue of the BCWS publication "Marshnotes".

A 10% discount on purchases in the Sanctuary Gift Shop.

Membership in one of British Columbia's most respected conservation organizations.

With your support the British Columbia Waterfowl Society is able to:

Staff, maintain and expand facilities at the Sanctuary for the benefit of its visitors and members.

Provide interpretive and education programs, including guided tours for organized groups of all ages.

Contribute towards important scientific research on waterfowl to determine their life cycle needs for survival.

Provide support for like-minded organizations who are working on waterfowl-related projects.

Enclosed is my cheque or VISA/Mastercard number for:

SINGLE Membership: **\$25**

FAMILY Membership: **\$50**

LIFE Membership: **\$500**

Donation (tax deductible)

VISA Mastercard

VISA or Mastercard # _____

Expiry Date: _____

Name: (Mr. Mrs. Miss Ms.) _____

Address: _____

_____ Postal Code _____

Please mail to **British Columbia Waterfowl Society**
5191 Robertson Road, Delta BC V4K 3N2

Telephone: 604 946 6980 Fax: 604 946 6982

Website: www.reifelbirdsanctuary.com

BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY

5191 Robertson Road, Delta, British Columbia V4K 3N2



PUBLICATIONS MAIL AGREEMENT NO 40924050
RETURN UNDELIVERABLE CANADIAN ADDRESSES TO
CIRCULATION DEPT.
330 - 123 MAIN STREET
TORONTO ON M5W 1A1
email: circdept@publisher.com



Ring-necked Duck © Jim Martin