

# Marshnotes®



**BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY  
WINTER 2015**

# 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

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Submissions, articles, photographs and letters for publication may be sent to the above email 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**

**April 15th, 2015**

## Executive:

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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: Dan Dixon  
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 (60 yrs +): \$3  
School Groups: Special discounts available; pre-booking is required.

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# Top Birds of the Sanctuary in the Year 2014

**2014 Bird of the Year:**  
Golden Eagle



Golden Eagle

Photo: Ken Young

**Total Species Observed In 2014: 172**

Text: Varri Raffan,  
Gift Shop Manager

## About Our Covers:

Front Cover: Ring-necked Duck © Jim Martin

Back Cover: A Short-eared Owl, Northern Harrier, and a Vole © Peter Neilsen

## Monthly Species Highlights

<b>January</b> Brewer's Blackbird	<b>February</b> Northern Goshawk	<b>March</b> Townsend's Solitaire
<b>April</b> Brant	<b>May</b> Thayer's Gull	<b>June</b> Eastern Kingbird
<b>July</b> Fox Sparrow	<b>August</b> Northern Waterthrush	<b>September</b> American Redstart
<b>October</b> Palm Warbler	<b>November</b> American Tree Sparrow	<b>December</b> Golden Eagle

## A Note From The Editor:

*The most useful photos for Marshnotes are those featuring something in the three months covered by that edition. The best approach is to send thumbnails or reduced images or links to posted images. I will then contact you for higher resolution versions. See page 2 for my email and upcoming deadlines. Kathleen Fry*

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# Manager's Report

Throughout October, November and December, the Sanctuary had over 20,000 visitors, slightly more than last year and the highest number for this period in the last five years. Part of this was likely due to particularly nice days in November, right when the Snow Goose flocks were at their peak numbers and were most noticeable in farm fields or offshore in the marshes. The crowds of people and the din of the geese always brings us our annual dose of excitement.

## A REMINDER FOR ALL VISITORS

The needs of the birds come first at the Sanctuary. Visitors are requested to stay on trails at all times to avoid trampling or modifying habitats, invading spaces set aside for the birds, or entering areas that are fenced off or posted as No Public Access.

We allow the appropriate and respectful feeding of ducks and chickadees, but ask people not to pet, grab or otherwise handle birds. Please note that the majority of the Sanctuary's other birds and wildlife either do not eat seeds or do not want to eat seed offered by people.

Unfortunately it is that time of year again when we feel the need to remind our visitors to keep to the rules about the habitats and birds. Even though visitors might be focussed on their own personal experiences feeding the tamer birds, finding the rare bird or getting that extra-special photo, this is a special conservation area, and it is our job to protect not just the birds but their habitats as well. In winter, rains pound down the plants, beavers cut and drag trees about, and the ducks trample everything in their enthusiastic pursuit of seeds. High winds always break a few tree limbs, and November's storms broke a favourite Saw-whet Owl roost site, plus the tree supporting the Bald eagle nest in Alaksen NWA nearby. Yes, Mother Nature is flattening and modifying habitats, but let's not add to the damage ourselves.

Most fall maintenance was spent addressing soft, eroded shorelines and high water levels after heavy rains, and trying to protect trees from the beavers. Visitors will notice a temporary fence along the edge of the parking lot. This fence is to keep people and ducks away from an eroded bank of the slough until we can reinforce it with rock. Please be patient and keep clear of that area. Other shoreline edges have been repaired along the main trails and have small

fences to keep traffic off of them until they stabilize.

Excess rain stirs beavers into action, but they are also gathering their winter food in late fall. As trees are what they eat, they have probably cut down at least 15 large trees this season and lots of saplings. We can protect trees from beavers with stucco wire, but generally the priority for this effort are the trees right along the paths, and larger feature stands. Interested visitors can see a beaver dam in the inner northeast corner next to the trail, and there are several very large trees nearby that are recently felled.

Beavers store many of the branches from these trees in a food "cache" or floating raft in nearby ponds, then visit this pile over the winter to eat the buds, bark and small twigs. Unfortunately, this activity this year is very close to the water control structure that allows the Sanctuary to drain after heavy rains. The beaver desire to stop running water is matched with our desire to stop water levels from rising and flooding trails. The battle has been ongoing, with the beavers "gifting" us mud and sticks piled every night on top of the control structure to stop it from "leaking", and us raking away everything to allow for some drainage. In the past three months, there has been only one brief ceasefire during a cold spell when the ponds froze over and the world of water was blessedly silent.

Frozen conditions brought otters into the area this winter. Although we haven't figured out their pattern of use, otters were sighted Nov. 22nd and 23rd, on Dec. 1st, 2nd, and 3rd, then on the 17th and 30th and in the first week of January. The first sightings were of two large otters rolling about in the slough by the front gate. On Dec. 2nd, after a cold spell had turned most waterways into ice, there was a loud crashing noise in the slough near the parking lot. It sounded like someone was falling through thin ice, but turned out to be a group of nine playful otters who were swimming under the ice chasing carp, then bashing pie-sized holes in the ice from underneath with their heads to get out again or to breathe or to eat a fish. When they saw me, there was a lot of huffing and snorting noises and heads swaying back and forth. They have done this "ice-fishing" several times now, and seem to have a few favourite spots along the slough where they haul out, dry off, eat fish and/or and "socialize". It looked like play, but does anyone really want their ears chewed off?

The next page summarizes some monitoring studies.

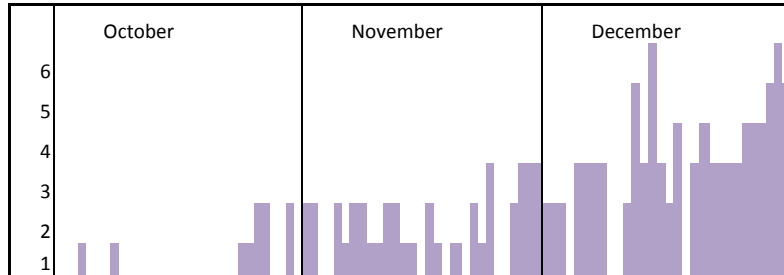
Text: Kathleen Fry, R.P.Bio  
Sanctuary Manager

## Updates on Some of Our Sanctuary Birds & Wildlife

### Northern Saw-whet Owls

The Northern Saw-whet Owl is one of the favourites of Sanctuary visitors. This year, although we had a few early individual sightings in October, regular roost sites were not in use until late October. By late November, when the first local snow fell, there was a slight increase to three, then four birds by Christmas time, and a consistent 5 or six of these birds by year end. In January, we were delighted to find 9 of these birds, so stay tuned.

*The gradual increase in the numbers of Saw-whet Owls seen from October 1st to December 31st 2014.*



### Lesser Snow Geese

Lesser Snow Geese, along with many other Arctic-nesting waterfowl, arrived here from the north along with the first major but brief cold front. On October 10th, this cold Arctic outflow brought a massive flock of at least 20,000 of these showy white birds just in time for the Thanksgiving long weekend, when hundreds of people rimmed the fields just outside of the gates watching them feeding. Numbers built up over the month and there were many interesting viewing days. For example, on October 19th and 20th, the geese were in the fields just north of our driveway and Robertson Slough, and being stalked for hours by a family of coyotes. Numbers peaked in November and by late November, large flocks had moved to an offshore feeding mode, digging up their favourite bulrush plants and loafing in the tidal waters. When we had a brief snowfall, a few weeks of freezing temperatures, high winds and very high daytime tides, many of the geese departed for the Skagit estuary in Washington State. In March, we will see the large flocks returning on their journey northwards to nest on Wrangel Island, Russia. These birds are referred to as the Fraser-Skagit sub-population, and a mid-winter aerial count is done each year on both sides of the Canada/USA border to monitor overall population trends. This year's winter count has not yet been completed, but predictions are for just over 70,000. Last year, the total Snow Geese between the two estuaries was estimated at between 65,000 and 70,000 birds. As there are many young in this year's flock, the numbers should be a little higher than last year.

### Sandhill Cranes and Red-eared Slider Turtles



*A thawed out baby turtle (in its first temporary pond, a soup bowl).  
Photo: Kathleen Fry*

Our wintering flock of 11 Sandhill Cranes consists of the resident pair, a visiting Richmond pair plus their two 2014 chicks or "colts", and our gang of 5 sub-adults. We have nicknamed these 11 as the "Cranine Unit" as they spend a lot of time digging in the lawn sleuthing out potential foods and are particularly good at finding the underground nests of the Red-eared Slider turtles. In January, a crane dug up a turtle nest with some still dormant but hatched young. This is a significant record for this non-native turtle species.

For more information about Red-eared Sliders, efforts to restore populations of the native Western Painted Turtle, and what researchers have learned about both of these species, come to the upcoming short talk about turtles. It will be hosted here at the Sanctuary's Lecture Hall.

## TURTLE TALK

Date: Feb 20th, 2015  
Time: 10 am FREE

# The Ladner Christmas Bird Count 2014

The Ladner BC/Washington Christmas Bird Count was held on Sunday Dec. 21st, with 143 species seen on count day plus three species in count period. This makes the Ladner CBC the # 1 Count in BC and in Canada, while the Victoria Count registered 141 species on Dec. 20th. Species highlights included Great Egret (1), Sora (1), Western Scrub Jay (2), Townsend's Solitaire (1), Palm Warbler (2), Swamp Sparrow (5), Harris' Sparrow (1), and Common Redpoll (2). These species are rare and not seen every year.

The Ladner CBC had a 6 owl day (Barn Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Long-eared Owl, Short-eared Owl and Northern Saw-whet Owl). There were no Snowy Owls seen on the count this year. The Point Roberts Team did an excellent job or recording the Common Murres, Pigeon Guillemots, Marbled Murrelets and Ancient Murrelets, which are often hard to get on count day. The count also had high numbers of wintering Anna's Hummingbirds (129) surpassing our previous records of 59 last year.

Two teams which covered the George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary, the Alaksen National Wildlife Area, and the rest of Westham Island and recorded a total 106 species. Mary Taitt led the team for Reifel

and Westham Island (104 species), and Pablo Jost led the Alaksen Team (73 species). The two teams combined had 27 people out counting birds throughout the day. Altogether, there were 105 birders out in the field and 17 feeder watchers, making a total of 122 birders who participated in the count and everyone had a great day of birding.

There were fewer Bald Eagles this year (741) compared to last year, and, while we missed the Golden Eagle on count day, we were able to add it to the count period, along with a Rusty Blackbird.

If anyone would like a copy of the final tally of species, by area, please contact me. Many thanks again for the great coverage from the Delta Optimist (Sandor Gyarmati), both before and after the count.

Special thanks to the BC Waterfowl Society for use of the Lecture Hall for the post count tally and dinner, and to Kathleen and Varri, for their assistance regarding logistics. A donation was made from the Ladner CBC to the BCWS for use of the building.

Text: Jude Grass  
Ladner BC/Washington CBC Coordinator  
[judegrass@shaw.ca](mailto:judegrass@shaw.ca)



*Male Eurasian Wigeon*

*Photo: Ken Young*



## A Special Thank You

Special thanks to  
10 year old  
**Matthew Moreau**  
for donating his birthday  
party money  
to the Sanctuary.

# **Notice to all Members**

## **BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY**

The Bylaws of the Society provide for the election of six (6) Directors by the Society membership in addition to the appointment of six (6) Directors from Stakeholder groups. The six elected Directors each serve a two year term, with three to be elected at each Annual General Meeting.

### **THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

will be held at

**7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 14th, 2014**

in the Lecture Hall at

**The George C. Reifel Migratory Bird Sanctuary**

5191 Robertson Road, Ladner British Columbia

The Board of Directors would like to take this opportunity to advise the membership that three incumbent Directors

Douglas B. Ransome  
Barney W. Reifel  
Ken I. Thompson

will be seeking re-election for a further term.

If you wish to nominate a candidate for election as a Director at the Annual General Meeting, please complete the nomination form which, in addition to the candidate's written consent, must include a written nomination by two Society members in good standing.

Nomination forms are available at the Sanctuary.

No member may nominate more than one candidate in any one year.

A family membership constitutes one vote at the meeting.

Please deliver the completed nomination form, by mail, fax or in person by

**4:00 p.m. Sunday, March 15th, 2015**

to

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

**Fax: 604 946 6982**

If there are any further nominations received by the deadline, a list of all candidates will be posted at the Sanctuary.

## Bird Highlights

*In October 2014, 107 species were reported, with an average of 76 species per week. Birds of prey are plentiful now with 13 different types being observed this month. Some visitors might have noticed a very high count of dabbling ducks (Northern Pintail, American Wigeon, Northern Shovelers and Mallards) tightly packed in Robertson Slough this month. These birds have migrated from Alberta, northern and interior British Columbia or the Yukon. Every year when they first arrive, some take time to rest and orient themselves in this protected waterway before they disperse to other parts of the Sanctuary, the Fraser River estuary, and up the Fraser Valley.*

### Sept 28 – Oct 4

The first reports for this fall of 1 Fox Sparrow, 3 Western Meadowlarks, 2 White-throated Sparrows and an unusual sighting of a Palm Warbler were all in this week. The Palm Warbler was spotted between the Gift Shop and the Warming Hut by a couple of members. It is now likely on its way to southern United States and into the Caribbean area for the winter. The last time we had a Palm Warbler reported here was in October 2005. Approximately 200 Greater White-fronted Geese were seen off the East Dyke. The first Northern Saw-whet Owl of the season was found on the 4<sup>th</sup>, two days earlier than last year. Historically the first week of October is when we have our first sightings of this small owl.



Northern Saw-whet Owl

Photo: Ken Young



Northern Shrike

Photo: Jan Lasteen

### Oct 5 – Oct 11

A Northern Shrike was spotted along the West (seaward) Dyke. Although classed as a songbird the Northern Shrike, also called “Butcher Bird”, is a fierce predator preying on mice, frogs, snakes and other songbirds in the winter and eating mainly seeds in the summer. They knock their avian prey out of the air with a sharp blow of their beak and then biting the neck in order to sever the vertebrae. When you find one perched in a tree or shrub check the surrounding branches for their prey as they often hang their prey on a thorn or in a fork of a branch until it is time to dine. One Sharp-tailed Sandpiper was found in the west field amongst 600 Long-billed Dowitchers and numerous Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs. This was the last week that we could locate any Cinnamon or Blue-wing Teal at the Sanctuary. They migrate to southern United States and further south into Ecuador, Brazil, Argentina and West Indies. We will see them back at the Sanctuary by mid March. The first fall arrivals of Ring-necked Ducks, Lesser Scaup and Canvasback were all in this week.

### Oct 12 – Oct 18

The following were highlights out of the 74 species seen: Red-necked Grebe, American Bittern, Greater White-fronted Geese, Cackling Goose, Ring-necked Duck, Rough-legged Hawk, Wilson’s Snipe, Barred Owl, Hairy Woodpecker, Hermit Thrush, Varied Thrush, American Pipit, Western Meadowlark, Pine Siskin and Yellow-rumped Warbler.



#### Oct 19 – Oct 25

There are now 4 Black-crowned Night-Herons (3 adults and 1 juvenile). On the 19<sup>th</sup> a White-throated Sparrow was found at the feeder in the northeast corner. One adult and one juvenile Northern Shrike are being seen along the West Dyke, which is the best area to spot them at the Sanctuary. A Horned Grebe was seen on the 23<sup>rd</sup> in the West Field. These small diving birds eat aquatic insects, frogs, snails, fish and their own feathers. The odd behaviour of eating feathers is thought to protect the stomach lining by acting as padding so the sharp fish bones they ingest don't do damage before they are digested and pass into the intestine. The 24<sup>th</sup> a Ruddy Duck was seen in the Southwest Marsh. Flocks of Pine Siskins are now being spotted flying about the Sanctuary. Other highlights this week were Dunlin, Wilson's Snipe and Purple Finch.

#### Oct 26 – Nov 1

Black-crowned Night-Heron numbers have now increased to 7 birds (5 adults and 2 juvenile). This week we had the first fall sighting of a Bufflehead at the Sanctuary. On the 29<sup>th</sup>, a very rainy day, near the Center Dyke bird blind, a Long-eared Owl was found perching in an open area looking very wet and unhappy. The five species of Owls this week were Barn Owl, Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Long-eared Owl and Northern Saw Whet Owl. Ruddy Duck, Thayer's Gull and Hermit Thrush were 3 birds of note for this week that had 80 species total.

*November 2014 ended with 89 species recorded. Since 2010, interestingly enough, each November has ended with a total of 89 species. Snow Geese are now at their peak numbers. Trumpeter Swan numbers are still growing as these birds make their way down from Alaska, Yukon and northern British Columbia. The swans will be with us in the Fraser Delta until around the middle of March.*

#### Nov 2 – Nov 8

A flock of 16 Ring-necked Ducks and a Common Redpoll in a flock of Pine Siskins were both found on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. A couple of Canvasback and a male Eurasian Wigeon were seen on the 5<sup>th</sup>. On the 6<sup>th</sup> we had a very late sighting for the Sanctuary of a Yellow Warbler and the last Wilson's Warbler was on the 8<sup>th</sup>. As a note of interest, back in this month in the year 1986 we had the only sighting ever at the Sanctuary (so far) of a Philadelphia Warbler. The elusive Swamp Sparrows have returned to the same place as last year. Two have been heard and seen this week in the outer grasses of the marsh north of the observation tower. You'll need to set some time aside in anticipation of

their tendency to be foraging low in the reeds and coming up to perch in visible spots on periodically.

#### Nov 9 – Nov 15

We had the first sighting at the Sanctuary for this fall of a Common Merganser and a Bohemian Waxwing. The Bohemian Waxwing was feeding in a Hawthorne tree with a flock of Cedar Waxwings at the front gate. Unlike the Cedar Waxwing the Bohemian Waxwing is larger, grayer and has cinnamon colored coverts (small under tail feathers). On the 9<sup>th</sup> a Wilson's Snipe was seen. On the 13<sup>th</sup> a Rough-legged Hawk was reported. Rough-legged Hawks are slightly smaller than the Red-tailed Hawks and you tend to see them perching on the springy tips of trees. Their head and chest is beige with tan streaks. In flight you will notice the under part of their wings shows a black wrist patch. On the 15<sup>th</sup> a juvenile Harris's Sparrow was found at the end of the east dyke. This nicely marked sparrow is slightly larger than the Golden-crowned Sparrow with a pink bill. When in adult plumage they have a black crown, black throat and beige sides of the face. In the summer the Harris's Sparrow builds its nest in the remote bogs of northern Canada.



*Harris's Sparrow*

*Photo: Ken Young*

#### Nov 16 – Nov 22

We now have two more unusual sparrows. A White-throated Sparrow and an American Tree Sparrow were both seen around the information panels past the Warming Hut. The American Tree Sparrow is quite recognizable with a black dot on its beige chest and a rusty crown. This week we had 8 different types of sparrows. Some other highlights from this week were Canvasback, Ring-necked Duck, Eurasian Wigeon, Ruddy Duck, Sora Rail, Northern Shrike, Western Meadowlark and Pine Siskin.

#### Nov 23 – Nov 29

This week the number of Northern Saw-Whet Owls is running at at least three birds, mainly along the East Dyke. These owls get their name from a raspy call that sounds like a blade being sharpened with a file. Two Orange-crowned Warblers (not that you ever see the orange crown) are still being seen. These warblers are hardier and it is not unusual to see them in November as some will winter in North America. Our 11 Sandhill Cranes and 7 Black-crowned Night-Herons seem to be our wintering flock now. There were 73 species this week, and more birds of note included 2 Northern Shrikes, 2 Belted Kingfishers and a flock of about 50 to 60 Pine Siskins.

*December 2014 we had 85 species reported. This was the lowest count for the last 6 Decembers. This could have been due to the lack of folks reporting bird sightings especially the first part of December as the weather was very cold. Most of our waterways were frozen, driving a few of the waterfowl species out of the Sanctuary in search of open water. Birds of prey continue to be plentiful.*

#### Nov 30 – Dec 6

On the 30<sup>th</sup>, to the surprise of the Sunday morning 10 am bird walk, a Golden Eagle was observed circling over the tower. The last report of a Golden Eagle at the Sanctuary was back in April 2008. Golden Eagles are loners and are found in mountain regions of the Northern Hemisphere. They dine on squirrels, prairie dogs, marmots and rabbit while the Bald Eagles diet is mostly fish (and Snow Geese). The Harris's Sparrow is still being spotted mostly around the information boards by Fuller Slough. Other Highlights for this week include a Lincoln's Sparrow, a Brewer's Blackbird and Western Meadowlark.

#### Dec 7 - Dec 13

Very large flock of American Robins (200+) have been seen all around the Sanctuary feeding on the ripe and decomposing Hawthorne berries. On the 13<sup>th</sup>, viewing out to the marsh, members watched a Short-

eared Owl hunting for rodents while a Northern Harrier was dive bombing it. Short-eared Owls are one of the few types of owls that hunt in the day time, mainly at dawn and dusk. The outer marsh is a good area to observe the Northern Harrier (old name "Marsh Hawk") as it flies low and slow looking for Townsend's Voles, snakes, frogs and even grasshoppers. The males have a silvery gray belly and the females have a rusty brown belly. When in flight both sexes have a distinctive white rump patch.

#### Dec 14 – Dec 20

79 species were observed this week. Ring-necked Ducks, one of the 17 waterfowl species this week, have been spotted in the channel in front of the Viewing Platform. No use looking for the ring around the neck. It is visible only if you catch it in the right light but the ring around the tip of the bill is the best way to identify them. We have had 16 Ring-necked Ducks as a high count for this winter but back in 2001, 61 of them were spotted on Ewen Slough. On the 14<sup>th</sup> we were able to find 6 Northern Saw Whet Owls in the Sanctuary. Other highlights for this week were Common Goldeneye, Peregrine Falcon, Bohemian Waxwings, Swamp Sparrow and Harris's Sparrow.

#### Dec 21 – Dec 27

A Short-eared Owl, Long-eared Owl and a Horned Grebe were found this week. You can spot Trumpeter Swans in the marshes from the tower and in nearby Westham Island farm fields feeding on leftover frozen potatoes. The large numbers of Snow Geese have now left the Fraser Delta and are headed for the Skagit Valley in Washington. This ends the Bird Highlights for 2014.

May 2015 bring you a bird you've never seen.

Text: Varri Raffan,  
Gift Shop Manager

#### References:

Reader's Digest, 1990. **Book of North American Birds**  
Sibley, D.A., 2003. **The Sibley Field Guide to Birds of Western North America**,  
Ehrlick, P.R, Dobkin, D.S., & Wheye, D. 1988 **The Birder's Handbook, a Field Guide to the Natural History of North American Birds**  
Marshnotes Archives  
Website *Whatbird.com*

## The Volunteer Corner

### *Special Thanks To:*

- ◆ Our regular Sunday birding team of Mary Taitt and Brian Self, as well as Jim Martin, Istvan Orosi, Karl Pollak, Emma Turgeon, Al Russell and David Bruce for helping host visitors on weekends.
- ◆ Bill Topping for hosting visitors in the Museum on Sunday mornings.
- ◆ Justin Malkonin, Georgia Taipalus, Eric Rossicci, and Eileen Axford for bagging seed and filling bird feeders.
- ◆ Our fall newsletter mailout team of Jim and Jean Marsh, Eric Rosicci, Eileen Axford, Laura Jordison, and Jim Martin.
- ◆ The team of Arlie Darby, Irene Banack, and Barbara Warrick for the flower gardens around the Museum and washrooms.

- ◆ The team of Canuck's staff volunteers who helped resurface some of our gravel trails on November 7th as part of their "Live to Give" campaign.

### *Volunteers Wanted For This Spring:*

- ◆ Hosting visitors along trails on busy weekends, and during periods of excitement about Lesser Snow Geese, Sandhill Cranes and Saw-whet Owls.

If you are interested in helping, please leave your contact information at the office or call Kathleen directly at 604-946-6985.

*Thanks very much, everyone!*

## 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; and 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)

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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](http://www.reifelbirdsanctuary.com)

# BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY

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*A Short-Eared Owl, a Northern Harrier and a Vole © Peter Nielsen*