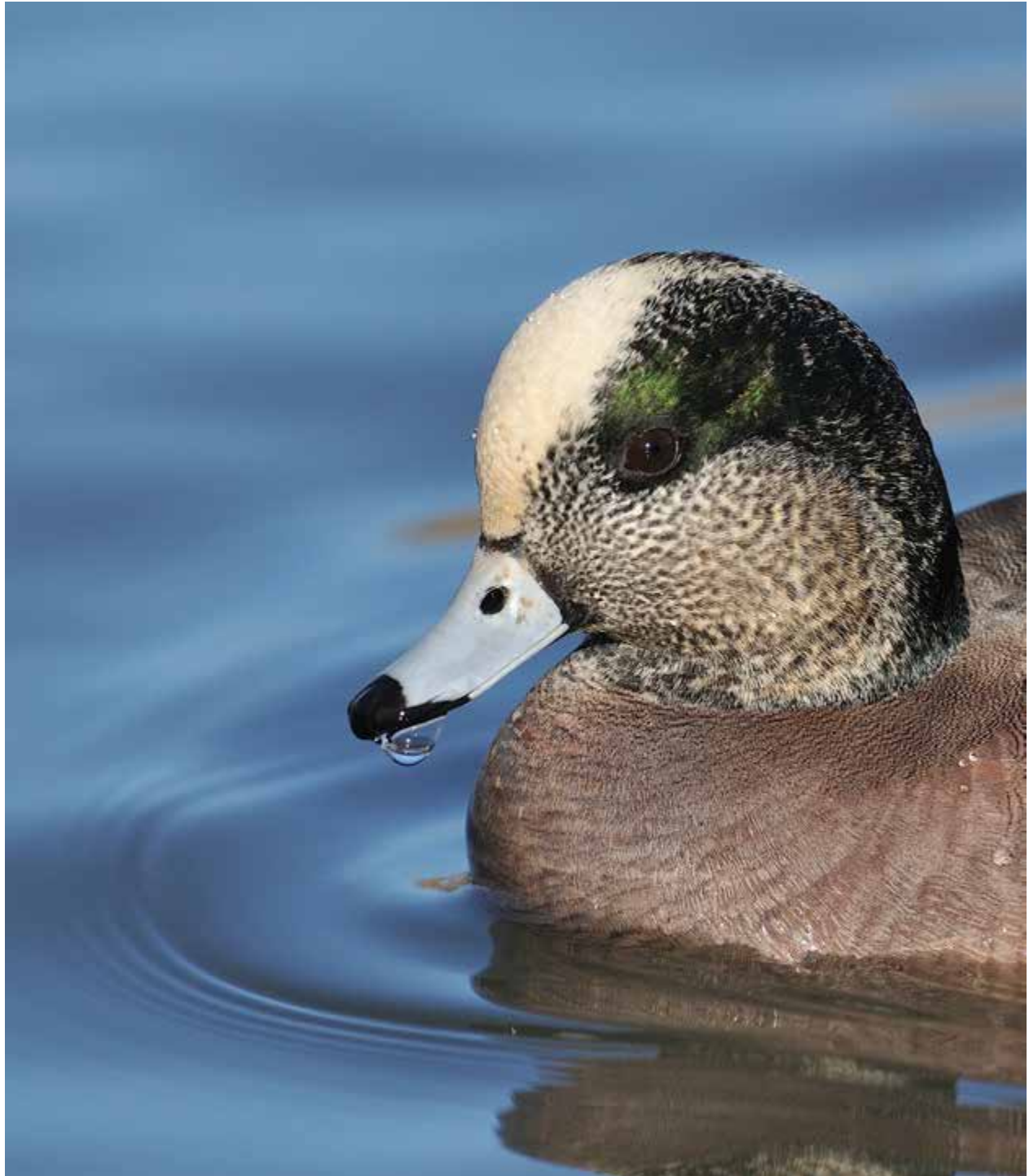


Marshnotes[®]



**BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY
WINTER 2019**

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: 2,700.

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 email and postal addresses marked for attention of Marshnotes Editor. Please include your telephone number or email and the Editor will contact you.

DEADLINE FOR THE NEXT ISSUE OF MARSHNOTES

April 15th, 2019

Executive:

President: Jack Bates
Vice President: George C. Reifel
Treasurer: James A. Morrison
Secretary: Barney W. Reifel

Directors:

Jack Bates
F. Wayne Diakow
Kevin Husband
James A. Morrison
Gerald S. Oyen
Douglas B. Ransome
Barney W. Reifel
George C. Reifel
Liam Reifel
Kenneth I. Thompson

Committee Chairs:

Buildings/ Grounds: Barney W. Reifel
Community Relations: George C. Reifel
Interpretation/Education: F. Wayne Diakow
Outreach: George C. Reifel

Staff:

Sanctuary Manager: Kathleen Fry
Gift Shop Manager: Varri Raffan
Reception: Susan Norris
Biologist: Dan Dixon
Maintenance: David McClue
Part-time Assistance: Nicole Lamarche
Kristina Breit

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 years +): \$3
School Groups: Special discounts available; pre-booking is required.

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

Top Birds of the Sanctuary in 2018

Monthly Species Highlights

January White-winged Crossbill	February Red-throated Loon	March Northern Goshawk
April White-throated Sparrow	May Hudsonian Godwit	June California Quail
July Baird's Sandpiper	August House Wren	September Common Nighthawk
October Red-breasted Sapsucker	November Osprey	December Cinnamon Teal

2018 Bird of the Year:

Hudsonian Godwit

Total 2018 Bird Species:

166

**Text: Varri Raffan
Gift Shop Manager**

About Our Covers

Front Cover: *American Wigeon*
© Jim Martin

Back Cover: *Northern Shrike*
© Ken Young

Editor's Note:

As a result of positive feedback from the time we included a map for Marshnotes readers, we are going to try include a basic one like this in every edition. It may change a bit if our graphics department (that would be me) have a little more time to work on it. Stay tuned!

Sanctuary Locations Map



Contents

Page 3	Bird of the Year and Monthly Bird Highlights	Varri Raffan
4	Bird Highlights	Varri Raffan
7	Notice of the Annual General Meeting	
8	Manager's Report	
10	Volunteer's Corner	
11	Why Be a Member	Kathleen Fry

Varri Raffan
Varri Raffan
Kathleen Fry

Bird Highlights

October kicks off the southern migration of waterfowl and the further migration of shorebirds that have been in our area since late summer. Lesser Snow Geese will be making their appearance in the Fraser Delta. Month end tally for October 2018 was 85 species.

September 30 – October 6

The first flock of 9 Lesser Snow Geese along with a couple of Lesser Scaup happened on September 30th. Approximately 30 Cackling Geese were seen on the 2nd and by the next day we had 55 of them in the farm fields off the East Dyke. On most days 2 Peregrine Falcons were seen tormenting the flock of Long-billed Dowitchers in the West Field. A male Ruddy Duck and a female Canvasback were spotted on the 4th. On the 6th the first Northern Shrike was found at the south corner of Southwest Marsh. Also on the morning of the 6th, 2 Black-crowned Night-Herons were present but by mid afternoon a third one was found. These are all adult birds. The last time we had a juvenile Black-crowned Night-Heron at the Sanctuary was in April 2010. Juveniles closely resemble the American Bittern. In this week we had the last reports of Warbling Vireo, Barn Swallow, Pectoral Sandpiper, Short-billed Dowitcher and Caspian Tern.

October 7 – October 13

American Robins are abundant now and are taking advantage of the many ripe Hawthorne, Pacific Crabapple and Mountain Ash berries. Other berry eating birds such as Varied Thrush, Hermit Thrush, Cedar Waxwing and House Finch can also be seen eating these berries especially along the driveway and in the picnic area.

This time of year is a good time to take a spotting scope to the tower, particularly on a high tide and scan for loons, grebes, cormorants and Lesser Snow Geese. This week a Red-throated Loon was seen from the tower. On the 12th, 7 Western Meadowlarks, which are not actually in the lark family but are in the black-bird family, were seen perched in a tree at the south end of the seaward dyke. Having bright yellow chests with a black V shaped band and white edges on their tails they stood out well in the leafless bushes. On the 13th we had the first report of a Rough-legged Hawk and on the same day we had the last report of Common Yellowthroats, Sora and Blue-winged Teal.

October 14 – October 20

With the first Bufflehead, Dunlin, Purple Finch and American Pipits turning up on the 14th they brought our weekly list to 77 species. On the 16th a single Black-throated Gray Warbler was found in a flock of Black-capped Chickadees. On the 18th a Red-breasted Nuthatch was spotted at the Northeast corner. We are still only seeing the 3 Black-crowned Night Herons.



Red-breasted Nuthatch

Photo: Geoffrey Shuen

Changes are now noticeable in the deciduous tree world. With less hours of sunlight the leaves are not getting enough heat and energy for the Chlorophyll (green pigment) in the leaves to survive. After they have lived off what they have stored up, the leaves eventually turn orange, yellow, red, brown and then fall to the ground. The lack of leaves does certainly help with bird watching.

October 21 – October 27

In the mushroom world fall colors are also noticeable, especially in the “Amanita muscaria” mushrooms that appear along some shady grassy trails. These fungi can be white through yellow, orange to very dark red are very photogenic but poisonous when ingested. Along the driveway in Robertson Slough a family of River Otters with 3 pups were spotted as they cavorted on the north bank. There was also a family of Raccoons with 3 kits spotted along one of the trails. In past years raccoons have used the Barn Owl nest box near the tower and have been successful in raising their young. On the 26th a White-throated Sparrow was seen between the Gift Shop and the Warming Hut. On the same day a Harris’s Sparrow was found feeding under the bird feeder at the Northeast corner. We don’t see Harris’s Sparrows every year but this year must be a big year for them as they have been reported in many spots around the Vancouver area.



Raccoon

Photo: Kristina Breit

Only a handful Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs and Long-billed Dowitchers remain in the Sanctuary. Black-bellied Plovers and Dunlin are still present offshore. Other highlights for this week include Pine Siskin, Bonaparte's Gull, Bufflehead, Hermit Thrush, American Pipit, and Lincoln's Sparrow.

November is a good month to view Trumpeter Swans, a large variety of dabbling and diving ducks plus a growing number of Lesser Snow Geese arriving from Wrangel Island, Russia. This month's tally was 90 species.

October 28 – November 3

Temperatures were milder than usual in early fall so we didn't see the usual big numbers of Lesser Snow Geese being pushed down with cold fronts from the north. Now that those cold fronts have begun, though, we are seeing larger flocks feeding in the farm fields on Westham Island. The Harris's Sparrow is still being found at the Northeast corner. Reports indicate that there is a juvenile and an adult bird. A surprise late sighting of a Sharp-tailed Sandpiper was reported on the 30th of October and on November 1st. This Asian shorebird is a long distance migrant. It travels from Siberia to Australia and New Zealand. Each fall a few show up along the Pacific Northwest.

A juvenile Northern Goshawk was seen on November 1st and 2nd along the West or seaward dyke. It is classed as an "Accipiter" like the Cooper's Hawk and Sharp-shinned Hawk. The Accipiters have small heads, short rounded wings and long tails. They are better adapted for hunting in woodlands. The other type of hawk the "Buteo" which include Red-tailed Hawks and Rough-legged Hawks, have large bodies, broad wings, broad fan tails and are better at soaring high in the sky.

November 4 – November 10

The first of the Common Mergansers appeared along the driveway in Robertson Slough on the 4th. The first few Trumpeter Swans are now out in the marsh or in the surrounding grain and potato fields. They will winter in the Fraser Delta and Fraser Valley until about the middle of March. Eight Sandhill Cranes, including our resident 3, are now frequently seen throughout the Sanctuary. The Harris's Sparrow, originally seen on October 27th, is still popping up along the North Dyke. The first sighting for Northern Saw-whet Owl was on the 9th along the East Dyke. A Eurasian Wigeon was also first seen on the 9th on the front lawn of the house. Other highlights for this week were Canvasback, Rough-legged Hawk, Lincoln's Sparrow and Northern Shrike.

November 11 – November 17

A member shared a video of something that is seldom seen. The footage was a Northern Shrike working on regurgitating a "pellet". Pellets are a mass of

undigested parts of the bird's prey which includes hair, bones, feathers, teeth, claws and fur. As Northern Shrike prey on songbirds and mice it will produce a pellet. Other birds that produce pellets are Grebes, Herons, Cormorants, Gulls, Terns, Owls and Kingfishers. When hawks and falcons produce pellets it is called a "casting". Other noteworthy birds this week was Hutton's Vireo and Western Meadowlark.

November 18 – November 24

This week ended with 80 species and an assortment of highlights. There are more Common Mergansers now showing up from the Yukon and Northern British Columbia to join the already present increasing flocks of Hooded Mergansers. Common Mergansers are found in Robertson Slough and Ewen Slough, places where there is deeper water and more fish. On the 22nd a Barn Owl was found perched in one of the Cedar Trees along the driveway. This makes 5 species of Owls this week including Great Horned Owl, Barred Owl, Northern Saw-whet Owl, and Short-eared Owl. From November until the middle of March is the best time to view the ever popular and highly sought after owl species. A couple of Common Ravens are seen frequently throughout the month. Other highlights for this period were Wilson's Snipe, Osprey, Ring-billed Gull, Swamp Sparrow and Western Meadowlark.



Immature Bald Eagle

*Photo: Jens Preshaw
(...../continued on page 6)*

(Continued from page 5)

November 25 – December 1

A lone Long-eared Owl brings number of owl species to 6 species for the month. The juvenile Northern Goshawk is still being seen mostly along the center dyke. Two Belted Kingfishers, one male and one female are reported. The female is recognizable with the additional rusty breast band above the gray chest band. Feeders throughout the Sanctuary are busy with Black-capped Chickadees, Golden-crowned Sparrows (with the yellow center stripe on the head), Dark-eyed Juncos with their brown backs and black hoods and male Red-winged Blackbirds sporting red shoulder patches. Red-winged Blackbirds now seem to regard people as portable bird feeders. They are quick to take wheat or sunflower seeds from the hand and are not afraid to hang out for a bit as you walk along. On the 29th 2 Barn Owls were spotted perched in the dense trees at the end of East Dyke. I found it interesting that the first Barn Owl record in British Columbia was at the mouth of the Fraser River in 1909.

In December we see Bald Eagle numbers increase and some adult Bald Eagles starting to put a new layer of sticks on their existing nests. Hawks and owls are also best seen at this time of year. Lesser Snow Geese however are now leaving our area and heading into Washington. The species count for December 2018 ended at 87 with an average of 72 different birds seen each week.

December 2 – December 8

On the 2nd another report came in of a Northern Saw-whet Owl, this time along the Center Dyke. The next day one was located in a Holly bush at the Northeast Corner, a more usual roost site. Twelve other Sandhill Cranes have been coming and going throughout the week. Among the Common and Hooded Mergansers in Robertson slough was a Red-breasted Merganser on the 2nd. Virginia Rail, Wilson's Snipe and Northern Shrike were all located along the outer West Dyke. From this dyke you can also watch Northern Harriers hunting along the marsh. Male and female Northern Harriers both have distinctive white rump patches.

December 9 – December 15

On the 10th, we had 19 Sandhill Cranes, including our resident family. This is the 5th week that we are still able to locate the juvenile Northern Goshawk. Mallards of course are here every week of the year and enjoy being fed by visitors. One place that we would like people to be careful when feeding ducks is by Robertson Slough off the parking lot. It's okay to feed right at the water's edge but do not feed where the cars park or drive. Sometimes I have to collect fatalities that occur when a poor duck doesn't waddle out of the way quickly enough. Once you are past the Gift Shop and Warming Hut, an ideal spot for feeding is along the inner Display Ponds. I recently learned

that a Mallard can hold 4 ounces of grain in its crop (a storage area for food before it passes in to the gizzard to be broken down). You will notice especially on weekends how extended the crops on the ducks at the front entrance are. These birds have more than likely reached their capacity, so head further into the trails where ducks are much thinner.

December 16 – December 22

Remember before you head in for your walk to check the up to date sightings list on the front window of the Gift Shop. A total of 72 species made this week's list. Cinnamon Teal are generally a summer bird, but on the 22nd we had a very late sighting of one. Greater White-fronted Geese are now popping up in flocks of Canada Geese. They are a bit smaller in stature than the Canada Geese and are recognizable with white faces that surround their pink beaks, black barring on their bellies and orange feet. December 20th was the day of the heavy winds. We ended up closing the Sanctuary for the afternoon as it was far too dangerous to walking under all those trees. The morning before the high winds, we had 3 species of owls but the next morning we couldn't locate any of the owls in any of their regular spots. No wonder with that wind force. Sometimes it works the other way and will blow in a rare bird into our area.

December 23 – December 29

A Virginia Rail was located on the ground behind the wood pile off the Warming Hut deck on the 23rd. A few of us got as close as 6 ft away and it didn't take off. It just continued to scrape through the leaf and blackberry debris and never looked up. Then on the 29th on the other side of the trail visitors watched a Sora as it foraged through the ground cover. On December 26th we had a high count for owls with 3 Northern Saw-whet Owls and 2 Great Horned Owls. An American Bittern was seen on the 23rd and 26th after a 5 week gap in sightings. Occasionally you will find hybrid ducks and on the 23rd a member showed us a photo of a cross between a Mallard and a Northern pintail. Apparently Mallards are notorious for mixing it up with various other waterfowl species and the Mallard/Pintail cross is the most common hybrid in North America.

As my bird reports come to an end for 2018, I thank you for sharing all your bird sightings and photos with me. I look forward to doing it all again in 2019.

Text: Varri Raffan
Gift Shop Manager

**Notice to all Members
of the
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 16th, 2019

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 17th, 2019

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.

Manager's Report

The last three months of 2018 brought a total of 24,155 visitors through the entrance gates, putting us at over 95,000 for the whole year, an increase of over 10,000 people from last year. A big leap that doubled numbers in March was probably due to some nice weather coinciding with Spring Break in local schools and the Easter long weekend. Another big leap in number over these past three months was probably due to the presence of Lesser Snow Geese feeding in fields nearby and other fall migrants.

It is nice to see the interest in the Sanctuary. The peaks of visitor use on statutory holidays, though, are getting more extreme every year, and we sometimes have far too many visitors on site. As it is now, once we have fitted in everyone to the extent of our parking, any more visitors start to stress our facilities, trails and birds. In 2018 we passed this threshold on at least 22 days and we hope to encourage some of these visitors to visit on the less busy days of the week. The upcoming weekends may be busy and repairs to the Westham Island bridge will also affect traffic, so please note the NOTICES on the next page.

Fall events were typical for this time of year. The school program schedule was busy, and the grant from Nature Canada continues to make it possible to provide free busing and programs to classes from inner city schools between September and the end of the March. A teacher Open House was held October 19th and was attended by 19 teachers who came to learn about the Sanctuary and about our programs for school classes.

There were many good viewing opportunities locally this fall for Lesser Snow Geese from Wrangel Island Russia in amongst the pumpkins, thousands of other waterfowl from western North America overwintering here, a growing collection of winter hawks, eagles and owls, and big flocks of robins and waxwings looking for the last of the berries. This is also the time of year that we have episodes of high winds guaranteed to break branches off aging fir trees and topple or damage anything less than sound. As usual, we experienced all of this in 2018.

In addition to the people learning about nature, our 2018 Sandhill Crane colt Louie has spent the last 3 months learning about new crane things. First there was the new culinary experience of baby turtles from the front lawn. In October, the family discovered the soft filled in burrows under the grass where the red-eared sliders laid their eggs this summer. They found three nests that we know were laid May 20th, June 8th and June 20th. In very few minutes of excited digging and sod removal, eggs were cast on the lawn for inspection and dissection. The tiny turtles were fully

formed, but still curled up in their shells, and for a few weeks, we kept finding their disinterred bodies on the lawn. They did have a shell, so Louie just seemed to prefer inspecting them rather than consuming them.

Louie is a big bird now, and is learning to hold its own in amongst other adult cranes and other colts. Each fall, Delta seems to host a gathering of about 60 cranes. This year, there were 57 cranes in corn stubble and pasture just west of Burns Bog and north of Highway 99. In this group were three colts, so at least some nest success occurred this year in addition to our own family. Most of that group might have migrated, but in November some of them may also have visited here, as we had 8 birds instead of just our resident family. In early December, this swelled to at least 16 and sometimes 19 birds from the 8th onwards. When these extra birds first arrived, the whole group and our pair and Louie flew over to the Coast Guard meadows. There the whole group postured, chased and stalked one another, made land claims and just generally ran the whole gamut of social interactions, with young Louie doing a version of all of these things. Our crane family managed to come through that unscathed, though, and are still the "owners" of their territory. There were two other colts in the group as well as Louie. One of the visiting birds is a very small brown juvenile that may be a dark colour phase or a different race of Sandhill Cranes than what usually passes through here.



Dark juvenile Sandhill Crane colt. Photo: Dan Dixon

(...../continued on page 9)

NOTICES

WESTHAM ISLAND BRIDGE CLOSURES JANUARY TO MARCH

The Westham Island Bridge was built in 1910 and is undergoing some much needed repairs by Translink. Unlike other times when minor repairs have been done in amongst traffic, they need to completely close the bridge to all vehicle traffic sometimes for hours while they continue these repairs in 2019.

Although some closures are night closures (8 pm to 4 am), others will need to be daytime closures and these will affect your ability to get to the Sanctuary. We advise checking to see if there is a daytime closure if planning a trip here.

Translink hopes to have short openings in between more lengthy closure periods. Vehicles may end up lined up along River Road or on Westham Island Road, so please be patient. They are allowing pedestrians and cyclists to cross the bridge escorted during the closures, so you could consider this as an option.

You can check the Translink website for the project for updates. www.translink.ca/westham or call their contact number 604-953-3333.



We have created a Twitter account specifically to send out visitor alerts to save drivers some aggravation both with the bridge closures and on days when we have run out of parking. It will not be active except on problem days. No Tweet, no problem.

Our username is @ReifelSanctuary.

PARKING ON BUSY WEEKENDS AND STATUTORY HOLIDAYS

If you visit the Sanctuary on a sunny weekend or statutory holiday, often everyone else will have had the same idea so please note the following:

We will have flag personnel helping to park your vehicle and optimize the use of space, so please follow their instructions.

If you encounter a line-up of cars on Robertson Road, then all parking areas inside are full and the incoming traffic is now being stopped at the front gate. When some visitors leave, cars can then enter to take those vacant spots. If you can visit another day, please do so. If you still want to visit, you will probably be waiting for at least a few minutes in this line up. If it is lengthy, it might take as much as 20 minutes before it is your turn.

Please do not park on Robertson Road with the idea of walking in. Delta has requested this, and we agree. The road shoulders are not engineered for parking, pedestrians end up walking in traffic in our narrow driveway, and too many cars along Robertson Road can restrict access for emergency vehicles.

(Continued from page 8)

Every fall we look forward to the arrival of noticeable flocks of the Lesser Snow Geese to arrive from Wrangel Island Russia. The Lesser Snow Geese that we see here are called the Fraser-Skagit population, as the wintering flocks move back and forth between the Fraser River delta and the Skagit River delta just south of the Canada/United States border in the State of Washington. Another Wrangel Island population winters in California.

Dr. Sean Boyd who has done research on Snow Geese for many decades now predicts that this year's winter population of the Fraser-Skagit birds is about the

same as last year's (85,000-90,000 birds). The entire population is censused by plane and with detailed analysis of photographs every year as an ongoing index. This year's count will be done sometime in January.

Lesser Snow Geese nesting on Wrangel Island are the subject of research projects of Canadian, American and Russian scientists. This year, for example, funding from the State of California is going towards the installation of some more satellite transmitters on the birds as part of an ongoing migration study.

(...../continued on page 10)

(Continued from page 9)

Scientists use various types of equipment to track individual birds to get a better understanding of their needs. Some are high-tech. A Lesser Snow Goose might wear a plastic neck collar with a satellite transmitter attached. Its journey between wintering and nesting areas will be recorded automatically and plotted via computers. Others are more basic and visual, such as neck collars, colour leg bands and wing tags or leg flags. These “auxillary markers” are designed to attract attention so that observers can report them easily any time they are seen. In general, though, most banded birds just have a small metal leg band with a unique number used for each individual bird. These leg band numbers take a little more skill to read. For a duck, for example, there are usually 3 or 4 numbers, a hyphen, then at least 5 more numbers on a band that circles the ankle of the bird.

Most leg bands are read when a bird is in hand after being re-captured. Ian McGregor, one of our regular visitors, however, has been patient and has been able to watch banded waterfowl from different angles to get all of the numbers without having to catch the birds. These get reported to the North American Bird Banding Office. In return, information is sent back about when the bands were put on the birds. This all helps answer that common summer question here-“Where have all the ducks gone?”

Anyone can contribute to the scientific knowledge of the migration of individual birds by reporting their observations about colour markers or actual band numbers to the North American Bird Banding Office. You do need to be accurate and have a complete record of what you see. For neck-collars, for example, the orientation of the lettering is important, and for colour leg bands, the colours, what leg and in what order.

Visit the North American Bird Banding Office website at <https://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/BBL/bblretrv/> for more information.

Just a quick note at the end here about the windstorm in December. Members who have not been out for a few months might note we have lost some trees. They include a varied selection of small trees and snags along the driveway, a Weeping Willow behind the house, an Apple tree across from the Warming Hut, dead Pines opposite Fuller Slough and at the start of East Dyke, two dead Douglas Fir snags along East Dyke, a Cottonwood along the Main Trail, a stately Paper Birch on the inside Northeast Corner; plus numerous branches from still upright but ragged East Dyke Douglas Fir trees. Most of these trees fell during the December 20th windstorm.

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

Here’s a few samples of Ian’s band records. From these returns, we know that some of our wintering Mallards, for example, leave here to nest in various parts of Alberta, Alaska, Washington, the interior of BC, and California.

Band #	Species	Date Banded	Where	Date Seen Here
1917-82106	Mallard	August 2014	Fairview, Alberta	January 2018
1927-10917	Mallard	July 2011	Minto Flats, Alaska	December 2014
2087-00068	Mallard	August 2014	Merritt, BC	December 2014
1797-44169	Mallard	November 2006	Alaksen NWA, Delta BC	January 2011
1917-38319	Mallard	May 2011	Butte County, California	March 2014
1797-69203	Mallard	August 2011	Skagit County, Washington	January 2018
2047-56721	Mallard	August 2012	Brooks, Alberta	November 2013
1827-48109	Mallard	August 2011	Last Lake, Alberta	October 2017
20147-28813	Cackling Goose	July 2013	Newtok, Alaska	October 2013
0918-20004	Canada Goose	June 2000	Alaksen NWA, Delta BC	July 2011
1048-81438	Canada Goose	June 2012	Pitt Lake, BC	June 2013
2047-28198	Cackling Goose	April 2013	Scappoose, Washington	October 2013
1196-72553	Gadwall	July 2012	Walnut Grove, California	March 2014
1116-52089	Wood Duck	August 2013	Naples, Idaho	April 2018

The Volunteer Corner

Special thanks to:

- ◆ Our regular Sunday Bird Walk team of Mary Taitt and Istvan Orosi.
- ◆ Members Jim Martin, Emma Turgeon and David Bruce for helping visitors along trails.
- ◆ Justin Makonin, Eric Rossicci, and Eileen Axford for bagging seed and filling bird feeders.
- ◆ Our fall newsletter mailout team of Jim Martin, David Bruce, Pat O’Gorman and Varri Raffan.
- ◆ Brian Self, Nicole Lamarche, Kristina Breit, and for their assistance with bird surveys.
- ◆ The Canucks Live to Give volunteers who came out to help gravel trails on November 6th.
- ◆ Alison Curtis and Geraldine Sang for their generous donations of bird seed.


Volunteers needed:

- ◆ Sanctuary visitor hosts on busy weekends such as the Family Day weekend and to monitor activity around sensitive species such as owls
- ◆ Museum host for Sunday mornings;
- ◆ Bird surveys.

For more information, ask at the Gift Shop or visit our website. www.reifelbirdsantuary.com and explore the Volunteer page.

Please leave your name and contact information at our office 604-946-6980 or send me an email.

Kathleen (kathleen@reifelbirdsantuary.com.)



A Special Thank You
TO 4 YR OLD

CARA QI

FOR DONATING HER
BIRTHDAY FUNDS TO THE SANCTUARY

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)

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.reifelbirdsantuary.com

BRITISH COLUMBIA WATERFOWL SOCIETY

5191 Robertson Road, Delta, British Columbia V4K 3N2



CANADA		POSTES
POST		CANADA

Postage paid	Port payé
Publications Mail	Poste-publications

40924050

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



Juvenile Northern Shrike © Ken Young