PICOIDES

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Adult with young Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*). // Adulte avec jeune Bernache du Canada. Photo: Grant Davis.

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Editors' Message

Rob Warnock and Barbara Bleho

Welcome to the first issue of *Picoides* in 2024. We hope everyone had a great holiday season and start to the new year.

In Matt Reudink's President's Message, he discusses the success of the SCO-SOC mentorship program so far, the ongoing fundraiser for Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion initiatives (see the notice on page 15) and the upcoming SCO-SOC conference to be held jointly with the Wilson Ornithological Society (WOS) and the Association of Field Ornithologists (AFO) this August. Like Matt, we encourage SCO-SOC members to attend. Registration opened in March. Check out all the key dates for the conference on page 13.

We congratulate both Bridget Stutchbury and Geoff Holroyd for receiving the 2022 and 2023 Jamie Smith Mentoring Award, respectively, and Matthew Fuirst for receiving the 2024 Early Career Researcher Award! Also in this issue are SCO award reports by Sarah Mueller (Taverner Award), Taylor Brown (Taverner Award), Alyssa Eby (James L. Baillie Memorial Fund) and Rebecca Jardine (Discovery Award).

If you know any young ornithologists, please encourage them to apply for the Young Ornithologists Workshop at Long Pont Bird Observatory in August. The notice is on page 14. We also hope you can assist Tony Diamond in identifying some folks in two conference group photos in this issue (see page 23). If you are able, please contact Tony directly.

Also in this issue are a book review of *Ecology and Conservation of Mountain Birds* by Kathy Martin and her colleagues; an overview of NatureCounts, Birds Canada's technology platform for collecting, interpreting, and sharing data; and the 50th anniversary of the Ontario Shorebird Survey, including an exciting opportunity to join the celebration through some fun competition! And of course, the latest *Avian Conservation and Ecology* Table of Contents with direct links to the articles is included in the issue. Check them all out!

The next *Picoides* deadline is May 15, 2024. We look forward to your next submission. Without submissions, there is no *Picoides*. We also welcome your feedback as it your publication and we wish everyone a safe, healthy spring.

FRANÇAIS—Message des éditeurs – Rob Warnock et Barbara Bleho

Bienvenue dans le premier numéro de Picoides en 2024. Nous espérons que tout le monde a passé d'excellentes fêtes de fin d'année et entamé la nouvelle année.

Dans le message du président, Matt Reudink évoque le succès du programme de mentorat du SCO-SOC jusqu'à présent, la collecte de fonds en cours pour les initiatives d'équité, de diversité et d'inclusion (voir l'avis en page 15) et la prochaine conférence du SCO-SOC qui se tiendra conjointement avec la Wilson Ornithological Society (WOS) et l'Association of Field Ornithologists (AFO) au mois d'août prochain. Comme Matt, nous encourageons les membres du SCO-SOC à y participer. Les inscriptions sont ouvertes depuis le mois de mars. Vous trouverez toutes les dates clés de la conférence à la page 13.

Nous félicitons Bridget Stutchbury et Geoff Holroyd pour avoir reçu respectivement le prix de mentorat Jamie Smith 2022 et 2023, ainsi que Matthew Fuirst pour avoir reçu le prix de chercheur en début de carrière 2024 ! Vous trouverez également dans ce numéro les rapports sur les bourses SCO de Sarah Mueller (bourse Taverner), Taylor Brown (bourse Taverner), Alyssa Eby (James L. Baillie Memorial Fund) et Rebecca Jardine (bourse Discovery).

Si vous connaissez de jeunes ornithologues, encouragez-les à s'inscrire à l'atelier pour jeunes ornithologues à l'Observatoire d'oiseaux de Long Pont en août. L'avis se trouve à la page 14. Nous espérons également que vous pourrez aider Tony Diamond à identifier certaines personnes figurant sur deux photos de groupe de la conférence dans ce numéro (voir page 23). Si vous le pouvez, veuillez contacter Tony directement.

Vous trouverez également dans ce numéro une critique du livre Ecology and Conservation of Mountain Birds de Kathy Martin et de ses collègues ; un aperçu de NatureCounts, la plateforme technologique d'Oiseaux Canada pour la collecte, l'interprétation et le partage des

données ; et le 50e anniversaire du Relevé des oiseaux de rivage de l'Ontario, y compris une occasion excitante de participer à la célébration par le biais d'un concours amusant ! Et bien sûr, la dernière table des matières d'Écologie et Conservation des Oiseaux avec des liens directs vers les articles est incluse dans le numéro. Jetez-y un coup d'œil !

La prochaine date limite pour les Picoides est le 15 mai 2024. Nous attendons avec impatience votre prochain article. Sans soumissions, il n'y a pas de Picoides. Nous vous invitons également à nous faire part de vos commentaires concernant votre publication et nous vous souhaitons à tous un printemps sain et sûr.

Follow SCO on social media for news, exciting research, updates from members, and more!
Suivez SOC pour les nouvelles, la recherche passionnante, mises à jour des membres, et plus encore!

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President's Message

Matt Reudink

It's been another eventful autumn and early winter for the SCO-SOC. This marks the second year of our mentorship program and we managed to pair 12 mentees with ornithologists from academia, government, NGOs, and independent professionals. Aside from regular meetings with mentors, the mentorship program also provides workshops on topics ranging from work-life balance to landing jobs in government. Many thanks to Steffi LaZerte and Danielle Ethier for all their work organizing the program. If anyone is interested in participating next year, either as a mentor or a mentee, please be sure to get in touch.

In addition to our mentorship program, our workshop series will begin again soon, with a broad range of topics, so keep your eyes peeled for announcements coming soon.

For the past several years, we've run a fundraiser to raise money in support of our various EDI initiatives. In past years, we've run silent auctions; however, we switched things up this year and we were able to commission ornithologist and Haida artist, Erik Prytula, to create a stunning Haida version of our SCO-SOC Black-backed Woodpecker logo. Shirts, hoodies, mugs, and tote bags are all still available and you can purchase from either our US-based store (https://www.bonfire.com/store/society-of-canadian-ornithologists/) or from our Canada-based store (https://urstore.ca/group/society-of-canadian-ornithologists-apparel). Thanks to everyone that's purchased an item!

Finally, we're all getting excited for our upcoming joint meeting with the Association of Field Ornithologists and the Wilson Ornithological Society. The meeting will run from July 29-August 1, 2024, and take place in Peoria, Illinois. As usual, this looks to be another fantastic event. Abstracts are due March 15 with registration opening sometime in March; be sure to check out the meeting website for more information (https://afoscowos2024.org/).

FRANÇAIS— Message du président – Matt Reudink

L'automne et le début de l'hiver ont été riches en événements pour la SOC-SCO. Nous en sommes à la deuxième année de notre programme de mentorat et nous avons pu jumeler 12 mentorés avec des ornithologues du monde universitaire, du gouvernement, d'ONG et des professionnels indépendants. Outre les réunions régulières avec les mentors, le programme de mentorat propose également des ateliers sur des sujets allant de l'équilibre entre vie professionnelle et vie privée à l'obtention d'un emploi au sein du gouvernement. Un grand merci à Steffi LaZerte et Danielle Ethier pour leur travail d'organisation du programme. Si vous souhaitez participer au programme l'année prochaine, que ce soit en tant que mentor ou en tant que mentoré, n'hésitez pas à nous contacter.

En plus de notre programme de mentorat, notre série d'ateliers reprendra bientôt, avec un large éventail de sujets; gardez donc l'œil ouvert pour les annonces à venir.

Depuis plusieurs années, nous organisons une collecte de fonds pour soutenir nos diverses initiatives en matière d'EDI. Les années précédentes, nous avons organisé des ventes aux enchères silencieuses; nous avons cependant changé les choses cette année en demandant à l'ornithologue et artiste haïda, Erik Prytula, de créer une superbe version haïda de notre logo du Pic à dos noir de la SOC-SCO. Les chandails, les kangourous, les tasses et les sacs fourre-tout sont toujours disponibles et vous pouvez les acheter soit dans notre boutique basée aux États-Unis (https://www.bonfire.com/store/society-of-canadian-ornithologists/), soit dans notre boutique basée au Canada (https://urstore.ca/group/society-of-canadian-ornithologists-apparel). Merci à tous ceux qui ont acheté un article!

Finalement, nous sommes tous impatients de participer à notre prochaine conférence conjointe avec l'Association of Field Ornithologists et la Wilson Ornithological Society. La conférence se déroulera du 29 juillet au 1er août 2024 à Peoria, dans l'Illinois. Comme d'habitude, cet événement s'annonce fantastique. Les résumés scientifiques sont attendus pour le 15 mars et les inscriptions débuteront au courant du mois de mars; n'oubliez pas de consulter le site web de la conférence pour plus d'informations (https://afoscowos2024.org/).

STUDENT CONTRIBUTIONS WANTED FOR PICOIDES

SCO-SOC encourages students to submit material for *Picoides*. In particular, we would like each issue to feature abstracts of at least one or two recently published theses. They must be from students at a Canadian university, but need not necessarily focus on Canadian birds. Abstracts should be 250-400 words long, preferably accompanied by one or two relevant photos.

We also welcome articles describing aspects of student research in greater detail; these should focus on a subject relevant to Canadian ornithology, require references, and may be up to 1,000 words long, again preferably accompanied by one or two photos. See the SCO-SOC Information page for submission details.

SCO-SOC Award Recipients

2022 Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award – Bridget Stutchbury

The Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award recognizes ornithologists (professional or amateur) from academia, industry, non-government, or government agencies in recognition of displayed excellence in mentoring a new generation of professional or amateur biologists. The SCO-SOC is delighted that Dr. Bridget Stutchbury received this award for 2022. Bridget is an excellent mentor, as demonstrated by the many letters of reference and as summarized below.

-2022 Award Committee: Kyle Elliott (Chair), Kara Lefevre and Oliver Love

Written by: Elizabeth Gow, Research Scientist, Wildlife Research Division, Environment and Climate Change Canada

Over the past three decades Dr. Bridget Stutchbury has shared her passion with others, while inspiring, and fostering a love of birds to several generations of aspiring (and now many established) ornithologists from all career stages and ages. She has trained 27 MSc students, 10 PhD students, six postdoctoral scholars, numerous undergraduate researchers, and students, and inspired numerous school children to pursue a career in science either through classroom visits, guest speaking engagements, or through her writing. A remarkable number of these students are now in academic or in senior leadership positions in government, the non-profit sector or industry, which speaks to Dr. Stutchbury's exceptional mentoring skills.

The impacts of Dr. Stutchbury' s mentoring are felt by generations of ornithologists and will be for decades to come as several of her academic offspring now mentor their own personnel and students and share much of the wisdom, kindness, and enthusiasm for birds instilled in them by their mentorship from Dr. Stutchbury. Many of her former students reflect on their mentorship from Dr. Stutchbury, especially when things are challenging or go wrong, by thinking "what would Bridget do?" She always seems to be able to put people around her at ease by-producing solutions to hard challenges.

Bridget Stutchbury with a Hooded Warbler. // *Bridget Stutchbury avec une Paruline à capuchon*. Photo: R. Mumme.

For many of Dr. Stutchbury's mentees their first experiences studying birds occurred at her family farm in Pennsylvania, where many students conducted their fieldwork on her "Hemlock Hill" property, and also taught a field course. Much like how songbirds migrate north each year, Dr. Stutchbury would bring many of her students 5-hrs hrs south from York University to her family farm each spring to conduct field work on the property or nearby lands. By spending the spring and summers close to where many of her students were conducting fieldwork, she trained most of her students how to capture, handle, radio-track, and band birds from her backyard. Regular evening BBQs featuring blue-cheese burgers and vegetables picked from the garden, which provided a great foundation for discussing porcupine mating rituals, blue-headed warbler sexual escapades, or hooded warbler promiscuity. So much of Dr. Stutchbury's mentorship and discussions about science occurred from the porch or dining room table of her farm, where students were typically always welcome.

A good mentor loves to celebrate and promote their students' successes and has the utmost respect for their students 'accomplishments. Dr. Stutchbury treats everyone with respect and gives students credit for their work. She often directs inquiring researchers to her student who led the research, highlights the work of her students in her numerous books, and talks. At conferences, she has a keen interest in learning about student research, and always talks with enthusiasm with students who are keen (or terrified) to meet an ornithological legend such as Dr. Stutchbury. This support and enthusiasm for her students is also evident in how she treats her former students as colleagues, and always seems open to providing advice or feedback on research, talking about challenges, or providing references. Dr. Stutchbury takes incredible pride in her current or past student's accomplishments and acknowledges and fully credits them in her own career advancement.

FRANÇAIS— Le prix commémoratif Jamie Smith de tutorat 2022 – Bridget Stutchbury

Le prix commémoratif Jamie Smith de tutorat récompense les ornithologues (professionnels ou amateurs) de milieu universitaire, industriel ou d'organismes non gouvernementaux ou gouvernementaux en reconnaissance de leur excellence dans l'encadrement d'une nouvelle génération de biologistes professionnels ou amateurs. La SOC-SCO est ravi d'offrir le prix de 2022 à Dr Bridget Stutchbury. Bridget est une excellente mentore, comme le démontrent les nombreuses lettres de référence tel que résumé ci-dessous.

-Comité du prix 2022: Kyle Elliott (président), Kara Lefevre et Oliver Love

Rédigé par Elizabeth Gow, chercheuse scientifique, Division de la recherche sur la faune, Environnement et Changement Climatique Canada

Au cours des trois dernières décennies, Dr Bridget Stutchbury a partagé sa passion avec d'autres, tout en inspirant et en répandant l'amour des oiseaux auprès de plusieurs générations d'ornithologues en herbe (et maintenant de nombreux établis) de tous les âges et de tous les stades de carrière. Elle a formé 27 étudiants à la maîtrise, 10 étudiants au doctorat, six chercheurs postdoctoraux, de nombreux chercheurs et étudiants de premier cycle, et a inspiré de nombreux étudiants à entreprendre une carrière scientifique, soit par des visites en classe, des conférences invitées ou par ses écrits. Un nombre remarquable de ces étudiants occupent désormais des postes universitaires ou de haute direction au sein du gouvernement, du secteur à but non lucratif ou de l'industrie, ce qui témoigne des compétences exceptionnelles

de mentor de Dr Stutchbury.

Les impacts du mentorat de Dr Stutchbury sont ressentis par des générations d'ornithologues et le seront pendant des décennies à venir alors que plusieurs de ses descendants universitaires encadrent désormais leur propre personnel et étudiants et partagent une grande partie de la sagesse, de la gentillesse et de l'enthousiasme pour les oiseaux de Dr Stutchbury. Plusieurs de ses anciens étudiants se remémorent le mentorat de Dr Stutchbury, en particulier lors des périodes qui ont été difficiles, en se demandant « que ferait Bridget?». Elle semble toujours être capable de mettre les gens autour d'elle à l'aise en trouvant des solutions à leurs difficultés.

Pour de nombreux mentorés de Dr Stutchbury, leurs premières expériences d'étude des oiseaux ont eu lieu à sa ferme familiale en Pennsylvanie, où plusieurs étudiants ont mené leurs travaux de terrain sur sa propriété «Hemlock Hill» ou y on suivit un cours de terrain. Tout comme les oiseaux chanteurs migrent vers le nord chaque année, Dr Stutchbury emmenait chaque printemps plusieurs de ses étudiants à 5 heures au sud de l'Université York jusqu'à sa ferme familiale pour effectuer des travaux de terrain sur la propriété ou sur les terres voisines. En passant le printemps et l'été à proximité de l'endroit où nombre de ses étudiants effectuaient des travaux de terrain, elle a formé la plupart de ses étudiants à capturer, manipuler, suivre par radio et baguer les oiseaux de son jardin. Les barbecues réguliers en soirée, avec des hamburgers au fromage bleu et des légumes du jardin, constituaient une excellente façon de discuter des rituels d'accouplement des porcs-épics, des escapades sexuelles de la Paruline à tête bleue ou de la promiscuité de la Paruline à capuchon. Une grande partie du mentorat et des discussions scientifiques de Dr Stutchbury se sont déroulées sous le porche ou à la table de la salle à manger de sa ferme, où les étudiants y étaient toujours bienvenus.

Un bon mentor aime célébrer et promouvoir les réussites de ses étudiants et a le plus grand respect pour les réalisations de ses étudiants. Dr Stutchbury traite tout le monde avec respect et reconnaît le travail de ses étudiants. Elle oriente souvent les curieux vers les étudiants qui ont effectué la recherche, en plus de mettre en valeur le travail de ses étudiants dans ses nombreux livres et conférences. Lors des conférences, elle s'intéresse vivement à la recherche étudiante et discute toujours avec enthousiasme avec des étudiants désireux (ou terrifiés) de rencontrer une légende ornithologique telle que Dr Stutchbury. Ce soutien et cet enthousiasme envers ses étudiants sont également évidents dans sa façon de traiter ses anciens étudiants en collègues et semble toujours ouverte à fournir des conseils ou des commentaires sur la recherche, à parler des défis à surmonter ou à fournir des références. Dr Stutchbury est incroyablement fière des réalisations de ses étudiants actuels ou passés et les reconnaît et les crédite pleinement dans son propre avancement professionnel.

2023 Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award – Geoff Holroyd

The Jamie Smith Memorial Mentoring Award recognizes ornithologists (professional or amateur) from academia, industry, non-government, or government agencies in recognition of displayed excellence in mentoring a new generation of professional or amateur biologists. The SCO-SOC is delighted that Dr. Geoff Holroyd received this award for 2023. Geoff exhibits all of the traits required for the award: consistent motivator, diligent in pushing students and colleagues to excel, passion for the discipline, and instilling a sense of integrity in those that he mentors.

-2023 Award Committee: Kyle Elliott (Chair), Therese Burg, Kara Lefevre and Oliver Love

Written by Glen Hvenegaard, Professor, University of Alberta – Augustana Campus

Geoff spent his entire career with the Canadian Wildlife Service, starting as a wildlife technician and biologist, and then finishing as a Research Scientist and Program Manager (1976-2012) with his research focused on the conservation of endangered bird species. As Program Manager, he mentored countless staff members, inside the CWS and beyond, as direct supervisor, chair of conservation committees, and conference organizer. His many conservation successes include chairing the Peregrine Falcon Recovery Team for 26 years, involving collaborations with, and mentoring of, staff members of the CWS and other conservation organizations, resulting in the eventual downgrading the species from endangered to threatened to special concern.

His 23-year involvement on the Burrowing Owl Recovery Team (as chair for 8 years) resulted in 5 graduate student theses on the topics of survival, dispersal, and food limitations for the species. During this time, he initiated the first Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Workshops (held triennially). Each workshop provided opportunities for local, young, and emerging researchers, conservationists, and

ornithologists to share their findings to the broader community. Many of these workshop participants are now playing leadership roles for bird conservation in various research, park, resource management, and wildlife agencies across Canada.

Raven and Geoff Holroyd kayaking on Islet. // *Raven et Geoff Holroyd en kayak sur Islet*. Photo: Sarah Hudson.

As an Adjunct Professor at the University of Alberta (1985-2013), Geoff supervised 14 graduate students, and created a new course on the conservation of endangered species. As a result, Geoff inspired many students to integrate a passion for bird conservation into their jobs as wildlife conservationists and natural resource managers across Canada.

After his retirement, his pace in mentoring continued as co-founder of the Beaverhill Bird Observatory, located 75 km southeast of Edmonton, Alberta. He has been Board chair for several periods, actively mentors 3-5 staff members each year, supports the BBO internship program, and participates in the Geoffrey L. Holroyd Young Ornithologists' Workshop. Many of the staff members, volunteers, and student interns have entered careers in bird conservation, through further study, research, or additional volunteering. Geoff encourages many of his mentees to share their bird conservation research results with the wider scientific community through, for example, internship reports, scientific papers in top tier bird ecology and conservation journals, and presentations at conservation conferences and public outreach meetings. In all these endeavours, Geoff has supported his students and colleagues with patience, insights, experience, and concern for bird conservation at home and abroad.

Congratulations to Geoff for this award recognizing his outstanding mentoring efforts!

FRANÇAIS— Le prix commémoratif Jamie Smith de tutorat 2023 – Geoff Holroyd

Le prix commémoratif Jamie Smith de tutorat récompense les ornithologues (professionnels ou amateurs) de milieu universitaire, industriel ou d'organismes non gouvernementaux ou gouvernementaux en reconnaissance de leur excellence dans l'encadrement d'une nouvelle génération de biologistes professionnels ou amateurs. La SOC-SCO est ravi d'offrir le prix de 2023 à Dr Geoff Holroyd. Geoff présente tous les traits méritant ce prix: un motivateur constant, poussant diligemment les étudiants et les collègues à l'excellence, passionné par son domaine, et inculquant le sens de l'intégrité à ceux qu'il encadre.

-Comité du prix 2023: Kyle Elliott (président), Therese Burg, Kara Lefevre et Oliver Love

Rédigé par Glen Hvenegaard, Professeur, Université de l'Alberta - Campus Augustana

Geoff a passé toute sa carrière au Service canadien de la faune, d'abord comme technicien de la faune et biologiste, puis comme chercheur et gestionnaire de programme (1976-2012), ses recherches étant axées sur la conservation des espèces d'oiseaux en voie de disparition. En tant que gestionnaire de programme, il a encadré d'innombrables membres du personnel, au sein du SCF et au-delà, en tant que superviseur direct, président de comités de conservation et organisateur de conférences. Parmi ses nombreuses réussites en matière de conservation, on peut citer la présidence de l'équipe de rétablissement du faucon pèlerin pendant 26 ans, qui a donné lieu à des collaborations avec des membres du personnel du SCF et d'autres organisations de conservation et à leur encadrement, ce qui a permis de faire passer l'espèce du statut d'espèce en voie de disparition à celui d'espèce menacée, puis à celui d'espèce préoccupante.

Sa participation pendant 23 ans à l'équipe de rétablissement de la Chevêche des terriers (en tant que président pendant 8 ans) a donné lieu à 5 thèses d'étudiants de troisième cycle sur les thèmes de la survie, de la dispersion et des limites alimentaires de l'espèce. Au cours de cette période, il a lancé les premiers ateliers sur la conservation des prairies et sur les espèces menacées (organisés tous les trois ans). Chaque atelier a permis à des chercheurs, des conservateurs et des ornithologues locaux, jeunes et émergents, de partager leurs découvertes avec l'ensemble de la communauté. Bon nombre des participants à ces ateliers jouent aujourd'hui un rôle de premier plan

dans la conservation des oiseaux au sein de divers organismes de recherche, de parcs, de gestion des ressources et de protection de la faune et de la flore à travers le Canada.

En tant que professeur adjoint à l'Université de l'Alberta (1985-2013), Geoff a supervisé 14 étudiants diplômés et a créé un nouveau cours sur la conservation des espèces menacées. En conséquence, Geoff a inspiré de nombreux étudiants à intégrer une passion pour la conservation des oiseaux dans leur travail en tant que conservateurs de la faune et gestionnaires des ressources naturelles à travers le Canada.

Après sa retraite, son mentorat s'est poursuivi en tant que cofondateur du Beaverhill Bird Observatory, situé à 75 km au sud-est d'Edmonton, en Alberta. Il a été président du conseil d'administration pendant plusieurs périodes, encadre activement 3 à 5 membres du personnel chaque année, soutient le programme de stages du BBO et participe à l'atelier Geoffrey L. Holroyd pour les jeunes ornithologues. Un grand nombre de membres du personnel, de bénévoles et d'étudiants stagiaires ont entamé une carrière dans le domaine de la conservation des oiseaux en commençant par être impliqué académiquement, de par la recherche, ou en devenant bénévole. Geoff encourage nombre de ses stagiaires à partager les résultats de leurs recherches sur la conservation des oiseaux avec l'ensemble de la communauté scientifique, notamment par le biais de rapports de stage, d'articles scientifiques publiés dans des revues de haut niveau sur l'écologie et la conservation des oiseaux, et de présentations lors de conférences sur la conservation et d'ateliers de sensibilisation du public. Dans tous ces efforts, Geoff a soutenu ses étudiants et ses collègues avec patience, perspicacité, expérience et intérêt pour la conservation des oiseaux au niveau national et international.

Félicitations à Geoff pour ce prix qui récompense ses efforts de mentorat exceptionnels!

Early Career Researcher Award 2024 – Mattew Fuirst

The Early Career Researcher Award (ECRA) honours fledgling ornithologists - in academia, industry, non-government, or government agencies – that show strong potential for future leadership in Canadian ornithology.

Dr. Matthew Fuirst was selected as the winner of the 2024 ERCA. Dr. Fuirst has an impressive research program that explores how environmental change influences avian movement throughout the annual cycle, as well as how these movements impact lifetime fitness and population dynamics. Dr. Fuirst has already demonstrated that his research is highly integrative, combining techniques and data from population-, behavioural-, spatial-, and molecular-ecology to understand the mechanistic basis of animal behaviour and the fitness implications of movement strategies. Dr. Fuirst is recognized for his highly collaborative research both within and outside academia, exceptional publication record, and commitment to student and peer mentorship. Currently, Dr. Fuirst holds a dual role at Birds Canada. As Manager of Observatory Operations, Dr. Fuirst is responsible for overseeing the research and migration monitoring at Long Point Bird Observatory and its many programs and, as a Research Fellow, he is currently examining the mechanisms driving regional variation in productivity of Common Loon (*Gavia immer*) across North America.

The award will be presented to Dr. Fuirst at the Society's annual meeting, which will be co-hosted with the Association of Field Ornithologists and the Wilson Ornithological Society in Peoria, Illinois from July 29–August 1 (https://afoscowos2024.org/). Stay tuned for more details about Dr. Fuirst's research in a forthcoming issue of *Picoides*.

FRANÇAIS— Prix pour chercheurs en début de carrière 2024

Le prix de recherche en début de carrière (REDC) honore les jeunes ornithologistes – en milieu universitaire, industriel et en agences non-gouvernementales et gouvernementales – qui démontrent un fort potentiel pour le futur leadership en ornithologie canadienne.

Dr Matthew Fuirst a été choisi comme lauréat du REDC de 2024. Dr Fuirst a un programme de recherche impressionnant qui explore la façon dont les changements environnementaux influencent le mouvement annuel des oiseaux, ainsi que la façon dont ces mouvements

ont un impact sur leur valeur sélective et leurs populations. Dr Fuirst a déjà démontré que ses recherches sont hautement intégratives, combinant des techniques et des données issues de l'écologie spatiale, moléculaire, des populations et du comportement. Cette approche multifactorielle permet de comprendre la base mécanistique du comportement animal et l'implication des stratégies de mouvement sur leur valeur sélective. Dr Fuirst est reconnu pour ses recherches hautement collaboratives, tant à l'intérieur qu'à l'extérieur du milieu universitaire, pour ses publications remarquables et pour son engagement dans le mentorat d'étudiants et de pairs. À l'heure actuelle, M. Fuirst occupe un double rôle au sein d'Oiseaux Canada. En tant que gestionnaire des opérations de l'observatoire, il supervise la recherche et la surveillance des migrations à l'observatoire d'oiseaux de Long Point et ses nombreux programmes. En tant que chercheur, il étudie actuellement les mécanismes à l'origine des variations régionales dans la productivité du Plongeon catmarin (*Gavia immer*) en Amérique du Nord.

Le prix sera remis à Dr Fuirst lors de la conférence annuelle de la société, qui sera organisée conjointement avec l'Association of Field Ornithologists et la Wilson Ornithological Society à Peoria, dans l'Illinois, du 29 juillet au 1er août (https://afoscowos2024.org/). Restez à l'affût pour plus de détails sur les recherches du Dr. Fuirst dans un prochain numéro de *Picoides*.

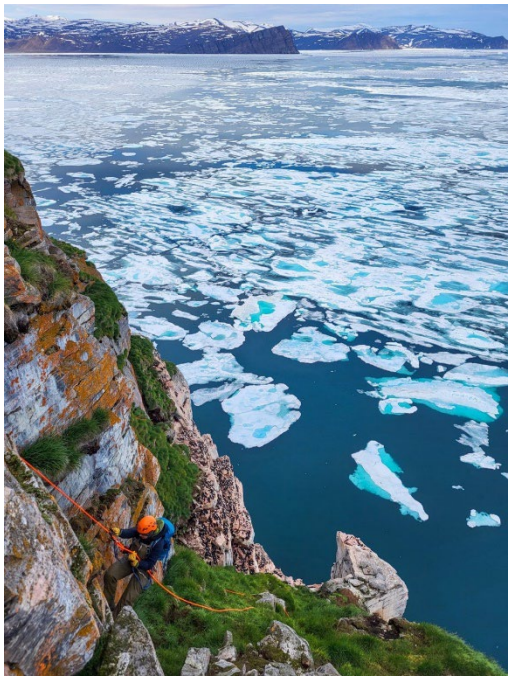
SCO-SOC Award Reports

James L. Baillie Memorial Fund

Influence of sea ice concentration and shipping on the foraging ecology of an arctic seabird

Alyssa Eby, PhD Candidate, McGill University

Climate change results in sea ice loss in Arctic regions, directly impacting ice-associated species, including marine mammals and seabirds. Thick-billed Murres (*Uria lomvia*), an Arctic seabird, are likely to be impacted by changing sea ice conditions, as one of their prey items, Arctic Cod (*Boreogadus saida*) is ice-associated. Additionally, sea ice loss has resulted in increased shipping in Arctic regions. Ships can create substantial underwater noise pollution which could negatively impact marine wildlife that communicate and/or forage in underwater soundscapes, such as marine mammals, seabirds, and fish. Arctic Cod have been found to alter movements in the presence of ships, therefore shipping may also influence murre foraging behaviour.



Alyssa Eby rappelling down to the thick-billed murre cliffs at Cape Graham Moore, Nunavut. Photo: Douglas Noblet.

My PhD aims to 1) quantify the impacts of sea ice on Thick-billed Murres breeding at a low Arctic site, Coats Island, Nunavut, and a high Arctic site, Cape Graham Moore, Nunavut and 2) investigate the impacts of shipping on Thick-billed Murres at Cape Graham Moore, Nunavut as this breeding colony is adjacent to a high traffic shipping lane. To investigate the impacts of sea ice and shipping on thick-billed murres I will combine high-resolution sea ice data from the Canadian Sea Ice Service and shipping intensity measured from Automatic Identification System data with murre foraging movement measured via GPS and murre nutritional state (energetic hormones and metabolites measured from blood plasma collected before and after GPS deployments). Sea ice and shipping data will be overlaid with murre movement data to calculate ice concentration and shipping intensity at foraging locations (Figure 1). From this we can determine whether murres preferentially select to forage in areas of higher sea ice concentration and away from high intensity ship traffic. Furthermore, by measuring energetic hormones and metabolites we can determine whether sea ice use or shipping intensity impacts murre nutritional state. Lastly, in collaboration with Dr. Joshua Jones

(University of California San Diego) we will measure how shipping intensity and associated underwater noise levels (measured via underwater acoustic recordings) near Cape Graham Moore have changed over the study period (2014 to 2024).

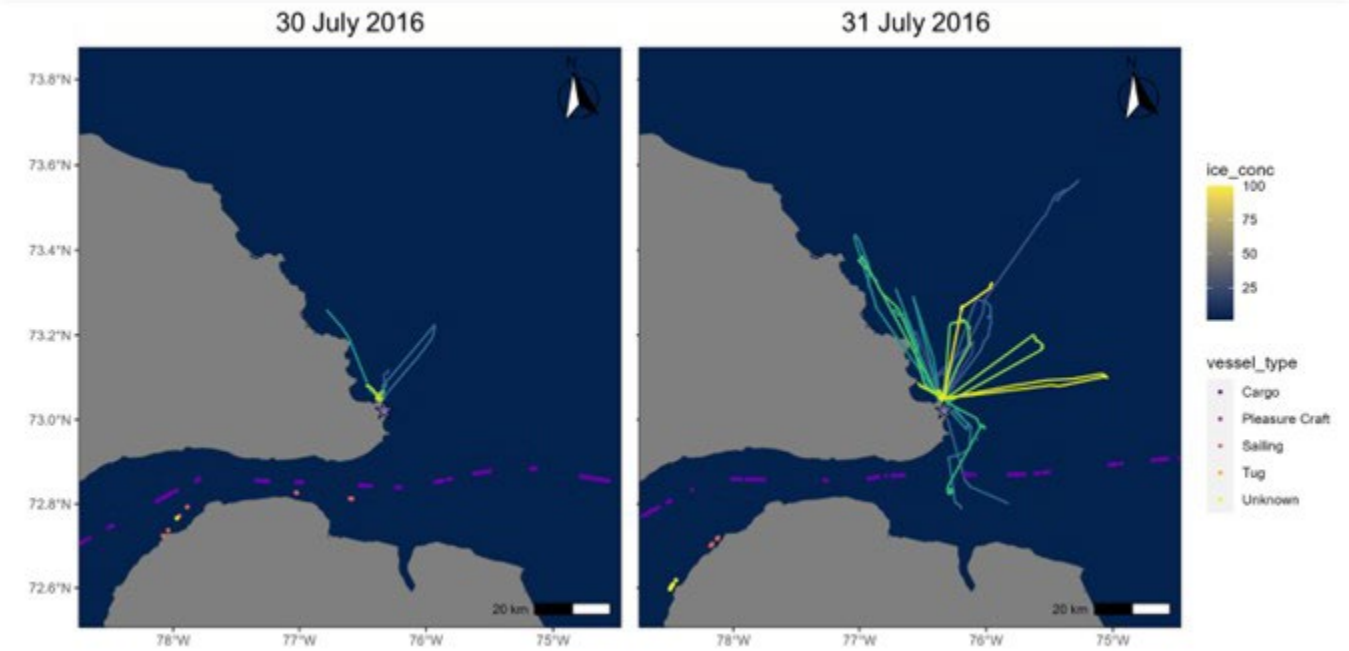


Figure 1. Figure depicting thick-billed murre foraging trips (yellow, green, and blue lines) from the Cape Gaham Moore colony (purple star) on Bylot Island, Nunavut, shipping traffic (purple, pink, orange, and yellow dots), and sea ice concentration on July 30th and July 31st, 2016.

I have spent the last two field seasons (2022 and 2023) collecting data at Coats Island and Cape Graham Moore, Nunavut, supervised by Dr. Kyle Elliott (McGill University) and Dr. Grant Gilchrist (Environment and Climate Change Canada), resulting in 182 GPS deployments at Coats Island and 231 GPS deployments at Cape Graham Moore with corresponding blood samples. Blood samples will be analyzed in collaboration with Dr. Oliver Love at the University of Windsor to measure non-esterified fatty acids, beta-hydroxybutyrate, baseline corticosterone, and triglycerides. Support from the Society of Canadian Ornithologists via the James L. Baillie Memorial Fund of Birds Canada helped to purchase the assay kits for measuring nutritional state, which is a key component of the project. Additional project support includes funding from NSERC, Baffinland, the Weston Family Foundation, McGill University, and Environment and Climate Change Canada. This highly collaborative project will shed light on how thick-billed murres will be impacted by climate change and will help to inform marine spatial planning in northern regions.

Taverner Award Report – Taylor Brown

Most ornithologists are at least vaguely familiar with the unfortunate phenomenon of songbirds becoming entranced and entrained by bright lights during their nocturnal migratory movements through anthropogenically developed areas. Less well-known, however, is a similar phenomenon whereby fledgling seabirds just leaving their nests for the first time (also at night) drop out of the sky into well-lit coastal areas and become stranded there, as has been observed in tens of seabird species and in scores of coastal cities around the world. In Newfoundland specifically, fledglings of two native seabirds are known to experience this phenomenon: Leach's Storm-Petrels (hereafter "petrels;" *Hydrobates leucorhous*) and Atlantic Puffins (hereafter "puffins;" *Fratercula arctica*). Thankfully, since 2011, the Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society has coordinated rescue programs for both species during their respective fledging seasons in Newfoundland (August for puffins, and September to November for petrels) wherein the rescuers are almost entirely composed of volunteers from the general public. The Puffin and Petrel Patrol, as it is aptly named, has been highly successful in the rescue and release of thousands of puffins and petrels to date.

Although light attraction is generally considered to be the main cause of these fledgling seabird strandings, and indeed most stranded individuals are found in well-lit areas, inevitably some wayward puffins and petrels become stranded in dark areas or even seek out dark (and otherwise concealed) areas to hide after becoming stranded. Given the relatively poor night vision humans possess and the fact that

rescue programs typically operate at night when strandings are actively occurring, this raises concerns about potentially lowered detection probability of birds in areas of low levels of illumination. During my first two field seasons in Newfoundland (2021-2022), I mainly focused on studying the behavioural responses of puffins and petrels to various spectra of artificial light. However, in August 2023, I decided to change my focus slightly toward the human aspect of seabird strandings and how varying levels of artificial light may affect the detection probabilities of stranded puffins within the Puffin and Petrel Patrol search area.

To do so, I first collaborated with local 3D-artist SaviMade and the Canadian Wildlife Service to design and 3D-print a number of life-size puffin fledgling decoys. I spray-painted and numbered them and placed them throughout the Puffin Patrol search area in locations of varying levels of illumination and concealment over the course of 15 nights. Although the data are still in the early analysis stage, preliminary results indicate decoys in illuminated locations had a higher detection probability than in dark locations and higher concealment resulted in a lower detection probability, but level of concealment appears to be more important than light level. The results of this experiment, combined with those of a separate experiment I conducted in 2023 concerning the propensity of petrels to hide after becoming stranded, will help inform rescue programs as to the ways in which their search efforts might be conducted more effectively. The puffins and petrels and I are all very grateful to the Society of Canadian Ornithologists for the financial support I received through the Taverner Award.

Top left: An Atlantic Puffin fledgling stands on a dark road just after becoming stranded, illuminated by the headlights of Taylor's car immediately before she captures it. Photo by Taylor Brown. Top right: Taylor holds a puffin fledgling just before releasing it from the beach in Witless Bay, Newfoundland and Labrador. Photo by Kaitlyn Baker. Bottom left: An army of 3D-printed Atlantic Puffin fledgling decoys, ready to be deployed after a coat of white spray paint was applied to their bellies. Photo by Taylor Brown. Bottom right: A stranded Atlantic Puffin fledgling sizes up its 3D-printed decoy counterpart. Photo by Taylor Brown.

Taverner Award Report – Sarah Mueller

My PhD research is on the post-fledging ecology of a population of Savannah Sparrows (*Passerculus sandwichensis*) breeding on Kent Island, NB. The population has been studied by my advisor Dr. Ryan Norris since 2008 but has been marked and followed annually since 1987. Building on this long-term dataset, I am studying survival rates, movement patterns, and prospecting behavior of fledglings. In comparison to the nesting period, relatively little is known about the demographics and behaviors of juvenile migratory birds during the post-fledging period, after they leave the nest but before they depart for fall migration. Mortality rates of juveniles during this period are often much higher than in other life stages because inexperienced birds are vulnerable to predators and at high risk of starvation. Fledgling survival can be as low as 10-20% in the first few weeks after fledging, low enough that it's potentially an important limiting factor for population growth. Additionally, there is some evidence that juvenile birds may begin to "prospect," or evaluate and select future breeding territories, during the post-fledging period, which can improve reproductive success by enabling birds to select higher quality breeding territories or allowing them to begin breeding earlier in spring. However, because fledglings are cryptic and difficult to track, there is still a lot of uncertainty about what factors influence fledgling survival, as well as how variation in fledgling survival rates may influence population dynamics. There is also still little conclusive evidence for prospecting behavior among migratory songbirds.

Radio-tracking sparrows on Kent Island. Photo: Jelany Duali.

I am using both radio-telemetry and mark-recapture approaches to investigate these questions. Since summer 2022, I have traveled to Kent Island to monitor the sparrow population during the breeding season. In addition to finding and monitoring nests, mapping breeding territories, and color-banding new adults and nestlings, I attach radio tags to nestlings about two days before fledging, and then locate each fledgling once per day after it leaves the nest. These location points allow me to track the movements of fledglings and determine survival rates, since I know the fate (alive or dead) of each fledgling every day.

A fledgling sparrow with a radio tag. Photo: Sarah Mueller.

Over my last two field seasons in 2022 and 2023, I have deployed radio tags on 107 juveniles. In the first few days after fledging, juvenile sparrows cannot fly and are particularly vulnerable to predators; this is when they experience the highest mortality rates. After the first few days, fledglings become more mobile and daily survival rates increase substantially. My two field seasons happened to occur in two summers with extremely different environmental conditions: 2022 was unusually warm and sunny on Kent Island, with low sparrow population density relative to historic levels, while 2023 was unusually cold, rainy, and foggy, with moderately high population density. The survival rates of fledgling sparrows reflected these conditions: in 2022, 34% of individuals survived to 70 days post-fledging, while in 2023, only 7% did. I hope to be able to untangle the effects of weather vs. population density on fledgling survival rates.

In summer 2023, four fledglings I tracked in 2022 returned as breeding adults, of which two were males and two were females. For the males, I found some preliminary evidence of prospecting: the two returning males' first nests as breeding yearlings were closer to their post-fledging locations than to their natal nests. There did not seem to be any evidence of prospecting for the females; neither of their first nests were particularly close to their post-fledging locations.

Grassland bird species, including Savannah sparrows, are declining across North America, and at a much smaller scale, the breeding density of Savannah Sparrows on Kent Island has declined over time. High mortality rates make the post-fledging period a bottleneck for

populations, so understanding the drivers and population consequences of post-fledging ecology can improve our ability to target conservation and management efforts for this life stage. This research will contribute to our understanding of the causes and consequences of variation in post-fledging survival rates and the extent of prospecting behavior in migratory songbirds.

I would like to acknowledge the support of my supervisor Dr. Ryan Norris, as well as Hayley Spina, Sarah Dobney, Oscar Nigam, Jonathan Chu, Karen Ong, and Jelany Duali for their assistance in the field. I sincerely thank the SCO-SOC for their generous support of my work.

Discovery Award Report

Thermal, behavioural and fitness responses to warming temperatures in an Arctic songbird

Rebecca Jardine, MSc, University of Windsor.

I am a Master's student at the University of Windsor studying heat stress in Snow Buntings (*Plectrophenax nivalis*) under the supervision of Drs. Love and Vézina (UQAR), supported in the field by Dr. Grant Gilchrist at Environment and Climate Change Canada (ECCC). For my master's project, I am investigating whether Snow Buntings are altering their breeding behaviour to avoid heat stress in the face of rising environmental temperatures on their breeding grounds. The Arctic is undergoing rapid climate change, with temperatures rising 2.5 times faster than the global average. As such, cold-adapted species that breed in the Arctic are expected to be unprepared to physiologically respond to rapidly warming conditions. One example of a cold-adapted species is the Snow Bunting, an Arctic-breeding songbird whose populations are rapidly declining without clear mechanism. Due to high metabolic rates and correspondingly high body temperatures, effective heat dissipation during chick-rearing periods is vital to avoid overheating. Thus, under warming environmental temperatures these birds may experience heat stress more frequently, causing them to take more breaks from feeding young. This trade-off between keeping body temperatures below upper limits and the need to feed young may potentially lead consequences to their young. Therefore, I am interested in understanding: *do Snow Buntings have the capacity to flexibly respond to the direct impacts of increased environmental temperatures?* Determining the conditions under which Snow Buntings will need to alter reproductive behaviours when exposed to elevated temperatures during the breeding season will increase our understanding of species' responses to global warming. This knowledge is especially important as the Canadian Arctic continues to experience warmer temperatures.

Snow Bunting at Qaqsauqtuuq (East Bay) Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Nunavut. Photo: Rebecca Jardine.

To address this question, I am studying a population of Snow Buntings that breed on Qikiqtakuluk (East Bay Island), located within the Qaqsauqtuuq (East Bay) Migratory Bird Sanctuary, Nunavut. This ECCC-led long-term field site is an ideal location for this study because it has one of the highest breeding densities of Snow Buntings (~50-60 breeding pairs/km^2) due to its high abundance of rock formations, which form ideal nesting crevices. Further, this population has been monitored by Dr. Love and ECCC since 2007.

Over the past two breeding seasons (2022, 2023), I have banded and tagged all breeding pairs (14 and 15 respectively) of birds nesting at our field site prior to the start of egg-laying. All birds were tagged with thermally sensitive Passive Integrative Transponder (PIT) tags and colour banded so we could identify each individual. These PIT tags are small, non-battery powered tags which when passed close to a powered antenna, activate an internal microchip, returning a unique tag code and body temperature recording. Antennas were placed at the entrance/exit of rock crevice nests so every time an individual enters (and exits) the nest, their body temperature and unique

identification number were recorded. These tags allow me to quantify the rate and frequency at which birds were making trips to their nest, along with their body temperature over the whole breeding period. I will be combining this information about activity and body temperature along with environmental temperature at our study site to determine whether at higher temperatures, individuals are dropping their provisioning efforts. Unfortunately, due to increased presence of polar bears across our study site, we were unable to remain for the entirety of the breeding period. Thus, we relied on remote monitoring equipment (cameras placed within nest cavities) to determine fledging success.

Since returning from my second field season in late July, I have been assembling, proofing and now exploring the data. While I am still in the early stages of data analysis, I look forward to analysing and interpreting the results of my research in the upcoming months. I am grateful to the SCO-SOC for their generous support of this project.

Ornithological News and Announcements

A joint ornithology meeting in beautiful Illinois!

The Association of Field Ornithologists, the Society of Canadian Ornithologists, and the Wilson Ornithological Society are hosting a joint meeting **July 29–August 1** in **Peoria, Illinois**.

- Abstract decisions will be sent to lead authors in **April**
- Registration is open now, and early bird rates are available until **May 31**
- T-shirts featuring the meeting logo are available for purchase until **June 30** and may be picked up at the meeting

Une réunion commune d'ornithologie dans le magnifique Illinois !

L' Association des ornithologues de terrain , la Société canadienne des ornithologues et la Wilson Ornithological Society organisent une réunion conjointe **du 29 juillet au 1er août à Peoria,** dans l'Illinois .

- Les décisions des résumés seront envoyées aux auteurs principaux en **avril**
- Les inscriptions sont ouvertes dès maintenant et les tarifs préférentiels sont disponibles jusqu'au **31 mai.**
- Les T-shirts arborant le logo de la réunion sont disponibles à l'achat jusqu'au **30 juin** et peuvent être récupérés lors de la réunion.

https://afoscowos2024.org/

LONG POINT BIRD OBSERVATORY

BIRDS CANADA OISEAUX CANADA

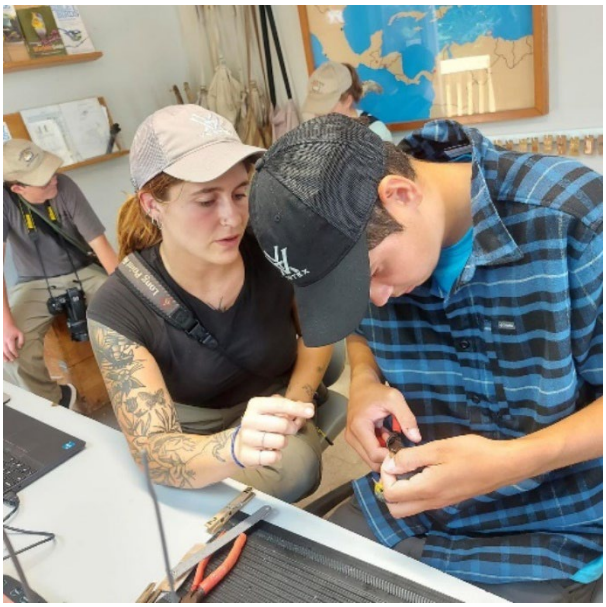
2024 Long Point Bird Observatory Young Ornithologists' Workshop

VORTEX® OPTICS

Long Point Bird Observatory is looking for keen young birders to apply for the 2023 Doug Tarry Young Ornithologist Workshop. Two workshops will be held this year, **August 4-11,** and **August 18-24**. Participants will receive hands-on training in field ornithology centered in Long Point, Ontario including bird banding, censusing, field identification, birding trips, preparing museum specimens, guest lectures, and more! Twelve of Canada's most promising ornithologists between the ages of 13-17 will be selected to attend. Applications are due **April 30, 2024**. For more information and an application form, contact LPBO at lpbo@birdscanada.org, or visit www.birdscanada.org/lpbo.

LPBO has been conducting youth training workshops since 1975 and established the Doug Tarry Natural History Fund and Young Ornithologists' Workshop & Internships in 1991 thanks to the generosity and foresight of the humanitarian and naturalist, Doug Tarry. The workshops have since nurtured the interests and skills more than 200 of Canada's best and brightest scientists, field biologists, and naturalists.

The cost of the workshop is $500/person, which is heavily subsidized by funding provided by Long Point Bird Observatory and the Doug Tarry Natural History Fund. The fee covers all direct costs of the workshop (accommodation, meals, workshop travel, equipment and materials, special activities while at Long Point, and professional staff with a 2:1 Participant to Instructor ratio at all times). Participants are responsible for their own transportation to and from Long Point, but pickups at the nearest airport/train stations can be arranged.



Left/gauche : YOW participants at LMBO. // Les participants de l'OEJ au LMBO. Right/droite: A YOW participant banding a songbird. // Un participant de l'OEJ bague un oiseau chanteur. Photos: Kyle Cameron.

2024 Atelier des jeunes ornithologues de l'Observatoire d'oiseaux de Long Point

Le Long Point Bird Observatory recherche de jeunes ornithologues passionnés pour participer à l'atelier des jeunes ornithologues Doug Tarry 2023. Deux ateliers se tiendront cette année, du 4 au 11 août et du 18 au 24 août. Les participants recevront une formation pratique en ornithologie de terrain à Long Point, en Ontario, y compris le baguage d'oiseaux, le recensement, l'identification sur le terrain, les excursions ornithologiques, la préparation de spécimens de musée, les conférences d'invités, et plus encore! Douze ornithologues canadiens parmi les plus prometteurs, âgés de 13 à 17 ans, seront sélectionnés pour participer au programme. La date limite de dépôt des candidatures est le 30 avril 2024. Pour obtenir de plus amples renseignements et un formulaire de demande, communiquez avec le LPBO à lpbo@birdscanada.org ou visitez le site www.birdscanada.org/lpbo.

Le LPBO organise des ateliers de formation pour les jeunes depuis 1975 et a créé le Doug Tarry Natural History Fund et le Young Ornithologists' Workshop & Internships en 1991 grâce à la générosité et à la clairvoyance de l'humanitaire et naturaliste Doug Tarry. Depuis, les ateliers ont nourri les intérêts et les compétences de plus de 200 scientifiques, biologistes de terrain et naturalistes parmi les meilleurs et les plus brillants du Canada.

Le coût de l'atelier est de 500 $/personne, largement subventionné par le Long Point Bird Observatory et le Doug Tarry Natural History Fund. Les frais couvrent tous les coûts directs de l'atelier (hébergement, repas, déplacements pour l'atelier, équipement et matériel, activités spéciales pendant le séjour à Long Point, et personnel professionnel avec un rapport de 2:1 entre les participants et les instructeurs à tout moment). Les participants sont responsables de leur propre transport vers et depuis Long Point, mais des transports pour l'aéroport ou pour la gare la plus proche peuvent être organisés.

SCO-SOC Fundraiser for EDI Initiatives

The SCO-SOC fundraiser is ongoing, the proceeds of which will fund our various EDI initiatives, including our Student Discovery Award, meeting programming, workshops, and supporting wonderful programs like FREED. This year, we commissioned Indigenous Haida artist and ornithologist, Erik Prytula, to create a Haida version of our black-backed woodpecker logo. We have set up two shops, one in Canada and one in the US, to sell shirts, hoodies, tote bags, and mugs with this beautiful design. Note that these are different companies, so the offerings differ slightly. Please distribute far and wide to anyone looking for a gift for the holidays!

To purchase from Canada:

https://urstore.ca/group/society-of-canadian-ornithologists-apparel

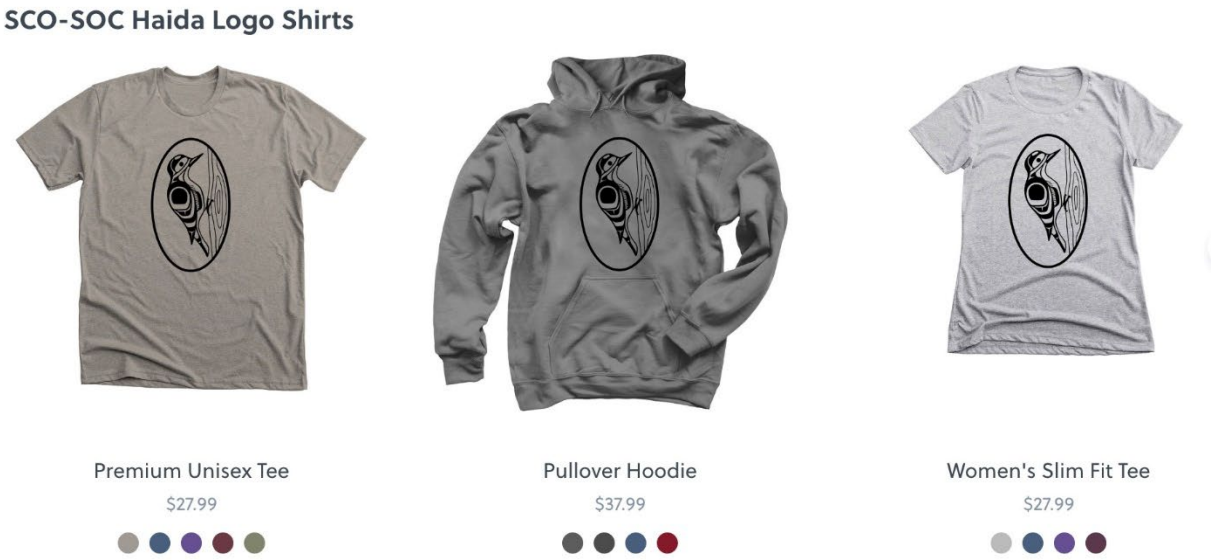
To purchase from the US:

https://www.bonfire.com/store/society-of-canadian-ornithologists/

About the artist:

Erik Prytula is an Haida artist and Indigenous entrepreneur who operates out of Kamloops BC. He is from the Eagle clan Tsiits Gitanee clan of Haida Gwaii. Erik specializes in traditional Haida formline where he paints acrylic paint on canvas and cedar, carves red and yellow cedar, and sculpts a rare rock called argillite. In 2016 he was mentored by master artist Reg Davidson who taught him how to carve cedar. Major public art features that Erik has created are the "Taking Flight" mural for Thompson Rivers University, a portrait mask for the Vancouver Airport, a "Raven Steals the Light" painting for the BC Nurses Union, and hand painted masquerade masks for Fashion Speaks International. However, the majority of his works have been sold to private buyers. Erik considers art as a means of keeping in touch with his culture as well as a way of inspiring the next generation of First Nations youth.

Find more of Erik's artwork on Instagram: https://www.instagram.com/prytulae/



Collecte de fonds SCO-SOC pour les initiatives EDI

La collecte de fonds du SCO-SOC est en cours. Les fonds récoltés serviront à financer les différentes initiatives de l'EDI, notamment le prix de la découverte pour les étudiants, la programmation des réunions, les ateliers et le soutien à des programmes formidables tels que FREED. Cette année, nous avons demandé à Erik Prytula, artiste et ornithologue haïda, de créer une version haïda de notre logo de pic à dos noir. Nous avons ouvert deux boutiques, l'une au Canada et l'autre aux États-Unis, pour vendre des t-shirts, des sweats à capuche, des sacs fourre-tout et des tasses avec ce magnifique dessin. Notez qu'il s'agit de deux sociétés différentes, et que les offres diffèrent donc légèrement. N'hésitez pas à diffuser largement l'information à tous ceux qui cherchent un cadeau pour les fêtes de fin d'année !

Pour acheter au Canada :

https://urstore.ca/group/society-of-canadian-ornithologists-apparel

Pour acheter aux États-Unis :

https://www.bonfire.com/store/society-of-canadian-ornithologists/

À propos de l'artiste :

Erik Prytula est un artiste haïda et un entrepreneur autochtone qui travaille à Kamloops, en Colombie-Britannique. Il appartient au clan de l'aigle Tsiits Gitanee de Haida Gwaii. Erik se spécialise dans le formage traditionnel haïda où il peint à l'acrylique sur toile et sur cèdre, sculpte le cèdre rouge et le cèdre jaune, ainsi qu'une roche rare appelée argilite. En 2016, il a bénéficié du mentorat du maître artiste Reg Davidson qui lui a appris à sculpter le cèdre. Les principales œuvres d'art public créées par Erik sont la peinture murale "Taking Flight" pour l'université Thompson Rivers, un masque portrait pour l'aéroport de Vancouver, une peinture "Raven Steals the Light" pour le syndicat des infirmières de la Colombie-Britannique, et des masques de mascarade peints à la main pour Fashion Speaks International. Cependant, la majorité de ses œuvres ont été vendues à des acheteurs privés. Erik considère l'art comme un moyen de rester en contact avec sa culture et d'inspirer la prochaine génération de jeunes des Premières nations.

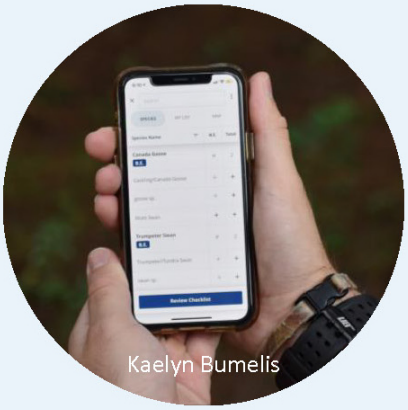
Retrouvez d'autres œuvres d'art d'Erik sur Instagram : https://www.instagram.com/prytulae/

NatureCounts: Bridging the Gap Between Data and Action

The collection of new data intuitively underpins most bird research, but existing data are often undervalued and underused. A mountain of bird data has already been amassed, and it holds immense research potential either on its own or in complement to novel information.

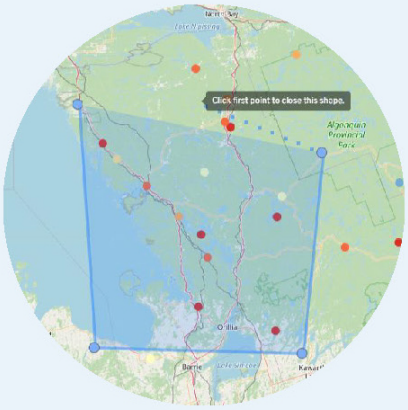
NatureCounts is a technology platform by Birds Canada that collects, interprets, and shares data on birds in Canada. It is one of the largest biodiversity data repositories in the world, currently housing over 228 million bird records from hundreds of citizen science and research projects. Most importantly, NatureCounts is an open data platform, so the power and potential of that mountain of bird knowledge is available to everyone.

The data in NatureCounts span more than a century and come from projects like breeding bird atlases, migration monitoring stations, eBird, and many more. New data are constantly added, and an ever-growing suite of tools makes the data easy to access and work with. If you are conducting research or assessment on birds in Canada, a search of the NatureCounts database may yield exactly what you need, or even more than you expect.



The App

The innovative NatureCounts app drives tailored, precise, easy data collection for dozens of research projects. Data collected using the app flow directly into NatureCounts, and can even be synchronized to eBird.



The Website

The NatureCounts website allows you to search, visualize, and download the data. You can refine your search by species, date range, project, or location to ensure you're getting the exact data you need, and exclude what you don't.

The R Package

With the NatureCounts R package you can access your NatureCounts data downloads directly in R. This allows you to summarize, visualize, and analyze NatureCounts data as quickly and efficiently as possible.

The core tenet of NatureCounts is to get the right data into the hands of the right people to drive conservation research and action. The data have been used in species assessment, impact assessment, land use planning, and research on everything from agriculture to climate change. We are always excited to work with researchers and conservation professionals to realize the full potential of the data and ensure the conservation of birds in Canada and beyond.

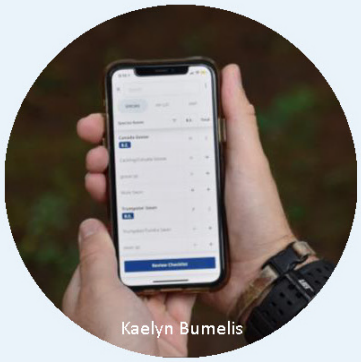
To start exploring NatureCounts, visit **www.naturecounts.ca**

NatureCounts : Faire le pont entre les données et l'action

La collecte de nouvelles données est un fondement intuitif de la plupart des recherches sur les oiseaux, mais les données récoltées antérieurement sont souvent sous-évaluées et sous-utilisées. Une masse de données ornithologiques a déjà été constituée, et elle recèle un immense potentiel de recherche, soit en tant que telle, soit en complément d'informations nouvelles.

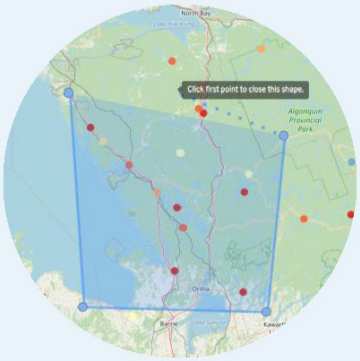
NatureCounts est une plateforme technologique d'Oiseaux Canada qui permet d'obtenir, d'interpréter et de diffuser des données sur les oiseaux au Canada. Ce dépôt de données sur la biodiversité, l'un des plus imposants au monde, contient actuellement plus de 228 millions de mentions d'observation d'oiseaux obtenues dans le cadre de centaines de projets de science participative et de recherche. Surtout, NatureCounts est une plateforme de données ouverte qui met à la disposition de tous la puissance et le potentiel d'un immense bassin de connaissances sur les oiseaux.

Les données de NatureCounts couvrent plus d'un siècle et proviennent de projets tels que les atlas d'oiseaux nicheurs, les stations de surveillance des migrations, eBird et beaucoup d'autres. De nouvelles données sont constamment ajoutées, et un ensemble d'outils en constante évolution facilite l'accès aux données et leur utilisation. Si vous menez des recherches ou des évaluations sur les oiseaux au Canada, l'utilisation de la base de données NatureCounts pourrait vous apporter exactement ce dont vous avez besoin.



L'application

L'application novatrice NatureCounts permet une collecte de données sur mesure, précise et facile pour des projets de recherche. Les données recueillies à l'aide de l'application sont directement intégrées dans NatureCounts et peuvent même être synchronisées avec eBird.



Le site Web

Le site Web de NatureCounts vous permet de chercher, de visualiser et de télécharger des données. Vous pouvez raffiner vos recherches par espèce, plage de dates, projet ou lieu pour obtenir exactement les données dont vous avez besoin et exclure les autres.

Le logiciel R

Il est possible d'accéder aux données téléchargées depuis NatureCounts directement dans le logiciel R. Cela permet de résumer, de visualiser et d'analyser les données rapidement et efficacement.

Le principe fondamental de NatureCounts est de mettre les bonnes données entre les mains des bonnes personnes afin de stimuler la recherche et l'action dans le domaine de la conservation. Les données ont été utilisées pour l'évaluation de la situation d'espèces et d'impacts, l'aménagement du territoire et la recherche dans de nombreux domaines, depuis l'agriculture jusqu'aux changements climatiques. Nous sommes toujours ravis de collaborer avec les chercheurs et les professionnels de la conservation afin de réaliser le plein potentiel des données et d'assurer la conservation aviaire au Canada et ailleurs.

Pour commencer à explorer NatureCounts, rendez-vous à **www.naturecounts.ca**

Ontario Shorebird Survey Celebrates 50th Year!

Christian Friis, Canadian Wildlife Service, Ontario Region

Contact: shorebirds@ec.gc.ca or christian.friis@ec.gc.ca or 416.574.7102

Shorebirds are amongst the most spectacular migrants on the planet, and many species routinely travel between breeding grounds in Arctic North America and non-breeding grounds as far away as the southern tip of South America – a round trip over 32,000 km! During these annual migrations, shorebirds stop at a network of sites to rest and refuel, and indeed shorebird conservation has required an international research effort to identify key areas used throughout their ranges. In North America, volunteer survey networks run in Canada and the United States, and in remote areas, aerial and ground-based surveys are used. In South America, the principal coastal non-breeding areas were identified using aerial surveys conducted under the Canadian Wildlife Service Shorebird Atlas Project, culminating in the publication of the Atlas of Nearctic Shorebirds on the Coast of South America[1] in 1989. Similar Atlas projects have been completed in Panama, and more recently Mexico. This led directly to a major international conservation initiative known as the Western Hemisphere Shorebird Reserve Network (WHSRN)[2], which aims to protect key areas used by shorebirds throughout their ranges.

In Canada, monitoring of migrant shorebird populations began in 1974 by Environment Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service, (CWS) in Ontario and the Maritimes. The Ontario Shorebird Survey (OSS) is part of a large network of sites of similar programs including the Atlantic Canada Shorebird Survey (formerly known as the Maritimes Shorebird Survey) and the U.S. coordinated International Shorebird Survey. These surveys began with the intention of identifying areas important to shorebirds during their northbound and southbound migrations over a broad geographic area. Since then, monitoring shorebird populations has become an increasingly important goal. The OSS is unique in that it surveys in-land migrant shorebirds. In fact, it is the only survey of its kind in Canada to do so.

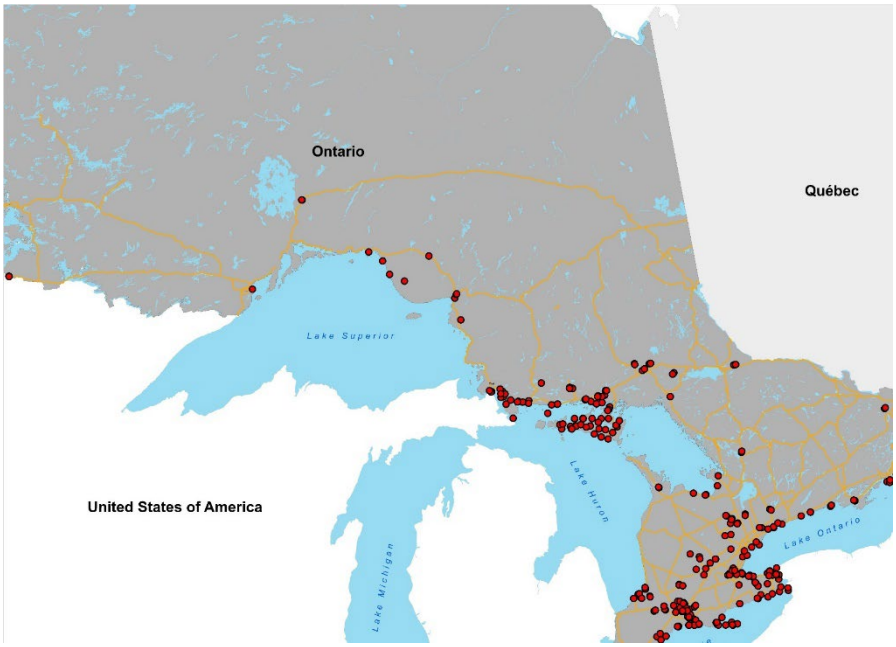


Figure 1: Ontario Shorebird Survey sites.

The Canadian Wildlife Service coordinates and manages the data of the OSS. Field work is conducted by volunteers who visit sites every two weeks between late April and early June during northbound migration, and between late July and late October during southbound migration. Initially, volunteers chose sites at locations where shorebirds were found in good numbers or because of easy access. Today, sites are well distributed across the province (Figure 1). Many sites are found along the shores of the Great Lakes, while others are found at in-land wetlands, sod farms, and sewage lagoons. The dependence of shorebirds on coastal and wetland habitats makes them an excellent indicator of the health of our shared environment. The need to continue monitoring migrant shorebirds is still strong. Recent analyses show shorebird

[1] R. I. G. Morrison and R. K. Ross. 1989. Atlas of Nearctic shorebirds on the coast of South America. Canadian Wildlife Service, Ottawa, Canada. Vol. 1: https://publications.gc.ca/collections/collection_2019/eccc/CW66-96-1989-1-eng.pdf

[2] http://www.whsrn.org

populations are among the fastest declining bird groups in North America[3,4], and data collected by the OSS contributes to our understanding of the effects of recovery efforts implemented by partners throughout the Western Hemisphere.

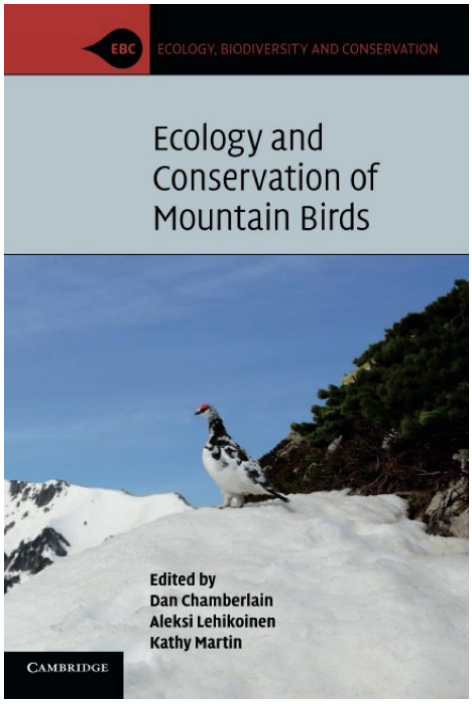
Help us celebrate 50 years of shorebird migration monitoring and contribute to an important long-term dataset! We are running competitions throughout the northbound and southbound migration seasons with give-aways and prizes. Join the efforts of other like-minded, local volunteers and survey available sites in your patch. Check out https://www.canada.ca/en/environment-climate-change/services/bird-surveys/shorebird/ontario.html for information. To sign up or check out available sites across the province, go to https://naturecounts.ca/nc/prism/main.jsp. To have your eBird checklists included in future shorebird population assessments, submit your checklists to eBird using the International Shorebird Survey protocol (a.k.a., Observation Type: International Shorebird Survey (ISS)).

Book Review

Ecology and Conservation of Mountain Birds

Dan Chamberlain, Aleksi Lehikoinen and Kathy Martin (Editors)

Published in 2023 by Cambridge University Press. Cambridge, UK, ISBN: 9781108940429



Ecology and Conservation of Mountain Birds is a collection of ten chapter-length monographs. Each chapter is jam-packed with information useful to researchers and conservationists. Each chapter can work as a stand-alone monograph. There is some overlap between chapters, however. Each chapter also has its own lengthy literature cited section. This makes it easier for the reader to track down additional information if desired. I wondered if a single literature section would have sufficient and eliminate duplicate references.

The first chapter neatly explains the difficulty and complexities in answering seemingly two simple questions: 'what is mountain habitat and what is a mountain bird'. It depends on criteria one uses and complexities arise with the fact that many mountain habitats have unique set of attributes even within a single mountain range such as the Andes. In this chapter, the authors also attempt to quantify the number of published English language avian ecology articles by ten habitat types between 2011-2021. I wondered how many other relevant citations there were missed in the literature search. Mountain habitats are in the middle in the pack with grassland/steppe habitats in the number of avian oriented publications but with less than 25% the number of avian-oriented articles in forest habitats. However, most of studies in mountainous habitats were in temperate forested areas or along a gradient. Rest of the chapter briefly highlight factors affecting mountain birds such as weather, food resources, migration and human caused effects.

The next chapter succinctly reviews both what constraints birds face and what adaptations they require to have for successful exploitation of mountainous habitats. Chapter 3 defines what are alpine (above the treeline) and nival (permanent snow) habitats and describe well the bird communities found in these habitat types around the world. Some of these habitats are further explored in later chapters specifically forest ecotones and tropical mountains. I am glad that this volume covers mountainous habitats beyond Europe and North

[3] Kenneth V. Rosenberg *et al.* 2019. Decline of the North American avifauna. Science 366, 120-124. DOI: 10.1126/science.aaw1313
[4] Paul A Smith, *et al.* 2023. Accelerating declines of North America's shorebirds signal the need for urgent conservation action. Ornithological Applications 125(2), 1-14. DOI: 10.1093/ornithapp/duad003

America. I found the chapter on tropical mountains was particularly interesting and educational as I am not very familiar with these avifauna or habitats.

There are well-written chapters on mountain bird population trends (Europe and western North America) and diversity and species modelling in this volume. Population trends between Europe and North America are not comparable to due to different sampling and survey methods. What is clear is that a number of mountain bird species on both continents are suffering population declines. In these two chapters, the teams of authors, clearly discuss the numerous difficulties of monitoring birds in mountainous areas and their effects on our ability to effectively both assess population trends and populate and build effective diversity and species distribution models. The authors of the modelling chapter note that improvements in climate models and remote sensing have improved diversity and species modelling in recent years and the continuous need to consider, biases, scale, and timing of the breeding season for modelling in mountainous habitats.

Two additional key chapters in this book are effects of climate change and anthropogenic activities on mountain birds. These key topics were briefly discussed in earlier chapters but are discussed in more detail in these two chapters. For the climate change chapter, the authors succinctly review changing mountain climates, impacts on high mountain birds at several spatial scales, future vulnerability for birds and possible conservation strategies. The anthropogenic activities and their impacts on mountain birds were discussed include winter recreation activities like skiing, renewable energy, and hunting.

The last chapter is a particular strength of the book summarizing current knowledge gaps and proposing research and conservation priorities for mountain birds and their habitats across the globe. Unfortunately, it is a lengthy list of gaps and priorities. On the other hand, these gaps and priorities give rise to many opportunities for researchers and conservationists. These gaps and priorities in this chapter most likely apply to other terrestrial habitats as well.

There are eight colour plates placed in the middle of the book and the rest of the figures are in black and white. As a visual learner, I found them helpful and help illustrate and strengthen the text. Some of the chapters have short ‘text box’ essays embedded in them to help further illustrate key points of the chapter. Examples include text box essays about the Glacier Finch and Wallcreeper in Chapter 1. Some chapters also contain either helpful summary tables or appendices or both.

The book concludes with two useful indices: bird species index with scientific and common names and the standard subject index. Bird names appear in both indices.

The editors have done a good job in ensuring that that book is readable at an academic level with a large group of contributors from 24 countries and six continents. Capturing the diverse experience and perspectives is a key strength of the book. However, readers should have at least a basic understanding of ecology, ornithology, and conservation issues to get the most out of this volume.

I found that this book has a lot of useful information for folks working in non-mountainous habitats because many conservation issues apply to all terrestrial habitats such as climate change, human activities and habitat loss and fragmentation and suggested approaches to avian conservation in this book should also work outside of mountainous regions.

I learned a lot from this well-written book. Therefore, I recommend this book to anyone who is working in avian ecology and conservation in mountainous and other terrestrial habitats.

Reviewed by Rob Warnock, warnockr@myaccess.ca

Doris Huestis Speirs Award
Prix Doris Huestis Speirs

CALL FOR NOMINATIONS / APPEL DE NOMINATIONS - 2024

The Doris Huestis Speirs Award is the most prestigious award given by the SCO-SOC. The award is presented annually to an individual who has made outstanding lifetime contributions in Canadian ornithology. Past awardees include professionals who work at museums, government agencies, private companies, and universities, as well as amateur ornithologists and people who have contributed to ornithological infrastructure of Canada. // *Le prix Doris Huestis Speirs est le plus prestigieux prix décerné par la SCO-SOC. Le prix est remis annuellement à une personne qui a apporté une contribution significative à long terme en ornithologie au Canada. Les précédents récipiendaires sont des professionnels qui travaillent dans les musées, les organismes gouvernementaux, les entreprises privées, les universités, ainsi que des ornithologues amateurs et des personnes qui ont contribué à la cause ornithologique au Canada.*

Doris Huestis Speirs was born on 27 October 1894 in Toronto, Ontario, and passed away in Ajax, Ontario, on 24 October 1989. Doris was highly prominent in art, literary, and ornithological circles. She founded the Margaret Morse Nice Ornithological Club, which was the only such group specifically for women, and she was also a founding member of the Pickering Naturalists' Club. In her lifetime, Doris made several prominent contributions to the ornithological literature on Evening Grosbeaks and Lincoln's Sparrows (the latter with her husband, J. Murray Speirs). *// Doris Huestis Speirs est né le 27 octobre 1894 à Toronto, en Ontario, et est décédé à Ajax, Ontario, le 24 octobre 1989. Doris a été très importante dans les milieux artistiques, littéraires et ornithologiques. Elle a fondé le club ornithologique de Margaret Morse Nice, qui était le seul groupe ornithologique pour les femmes et elle a également été membre fondateur du Club des naturalistes de Pickering. De son vivant, Doris a fait plusieurs contributions importantes à la littérature ornithologique du Gros bec errant et le Bruant de Lincoln (ce dernier avec son mari, J. Murray Speirs).*

Process//Processus: Nominations should clearly articulate the nominee's cumulative, significant contributions to ornithology in Canada. Nomination packages containing attestations from more than one individual about the scope and impact of the nominee's contributions are particularly welcomed. To nominate a candidate for the Speirs award, preferably with supporting detailed information, contact the Chair of the award committee: // *Les candidatures doivent exprimer clairement le cumul et l'importance des contributions du candidat à l'ornithologie au Canada. Les dossiers de candidature comprenant le soutien de plus d'une personne au sujet de la portée et l'impact des contributions du candidat sont particulièrement les bienvenues. Afin de désigner un candidat au prix Speirs, de préférence avec à l'appui des informations détaillées, contactez le président du comité d'attribution:*

Nicola Koper
Dean of Environment
University of Northern British Columbia
Email/courriel: nicola.koper@unbc.ca

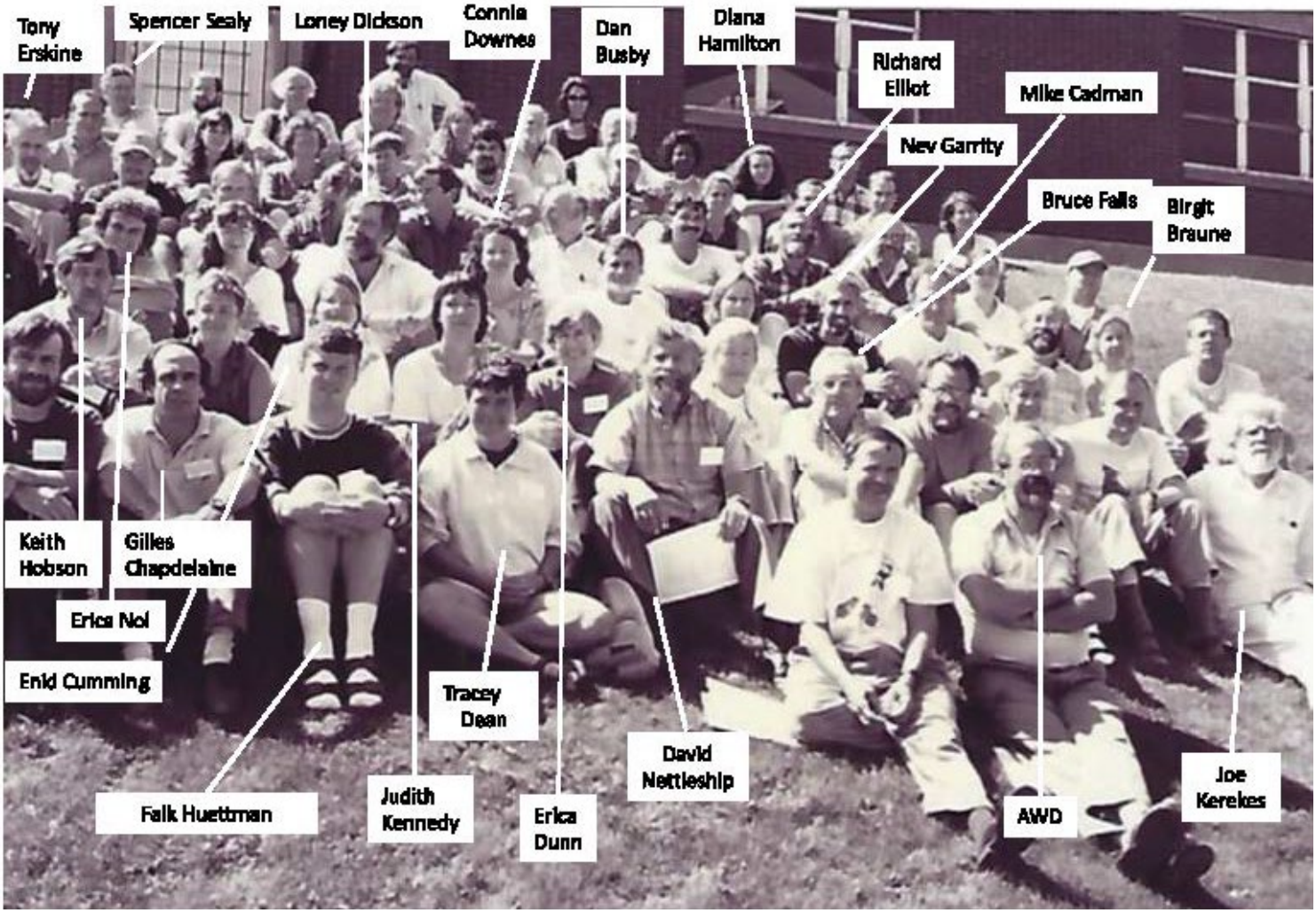
Society of Canadian Ornithologists
Société des ornithologistes du Canada

Deadline for receipt of nominations is extended to 19 April 2024. // La date limite de réception des candidatures est prolongée jusqu'à le 19 avril 2024.

Information Exchange

Name that Birder!

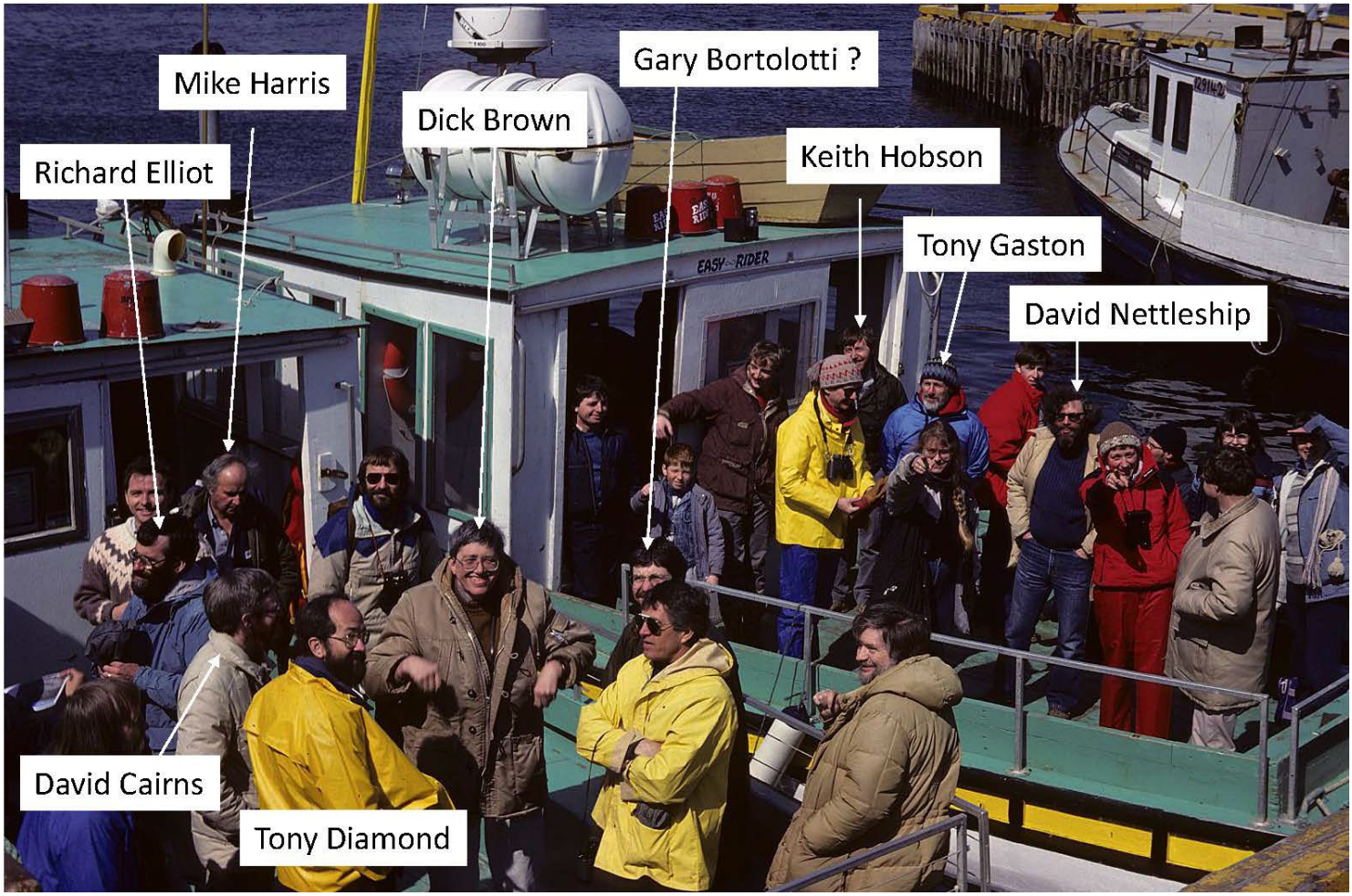
The Society's first-ever stand-alone meeting was held at the University of New Brunswick in Fredericton in August 1996. Below is a group photograph of most of those who attended. This is a generation ago, and the torch they carried for Canadian ornithology has passed through many hands since. The number of faces I can identify now is embarrassingly small and I am seeking help in identifying as many others as possible. To those who were there but have escaped my less-than-eagle eye coupled with an unreliable and increasingly feeble memory for names, I apologise; but please don't be so offended that you don't come forward and identify yourself.



Name that Seabirder!

In April 1989 CWS and the Ocean Sciences Centre of Memorial University of Newfoundland (MUN) sponsored a symposium on Population Biology and Conservation of Marine Birds at MUN. This drew seabird biologists from both sides of the Atlantic including Rob Barrett of the Norwegian Institute for Nature Research, who took this photo as they embarked on a boat to take them out to see the seabird island of Witless Bay. We have identified those we have labelled and would appreciate hearing from anyone who can identify any others.

Tony Diamond
tonydiamond49@gmail.com



Avian Conservation and Ecology Articles

Volume 18, Issue 2 December 2023

SHORT COMMUNICATIONS

Effects of Atlantic butterfish (Peprilus triacanthus) in diets of Common Terns (Sterna hirundo): a case study of climate change effects in the Gulf of Maine
Olivia A. Smith, Elizabeth C. Craig

Highly variable movements by Andean Flamingos (Phoenicoparrus andinus): implications for conservation and management
Alex E. Jahn, Joaquín Cereghetti, Michael T. Hallworth, Ellen D. Ketterson, Brandt Ryder, Peter P. Marra, Enrique Derlindati

RESEARCH PAPERS

Post-fledging survival, movement patterns, and habitat associations of Bendire's Thrashers (Toxostoma bendirei) in the Chihuahuan Desert
Allison Salas, Fitsum Abadi, Martha J. Desmond

Conservation-related knowledge, interactions, and attitudes of local people toward Grey Crowned-Cranes (Balearica regulorum) in Tanzania
Bridget B. Amulike, Curtice R. Griffin, Todd K. Fuller

Habitat associations of Golden-winged Warblers and Blue-winged Warblers during the non-breeding season
David I. King, Michael E. Akresh, David A. Murillo, Ruth E. Bennett, Richard B. Chandler

Spatial segregation between Gray-cheeked Thrush and an introduced nest predator in a managed forest landscape
Jenna P. B. McDermott, Darroch M. Whitaker, Ian G. Warkentin

Accurate abundance estimation of cliff-breeding Bounty Island shags using drone-based 2D and 3D photogrammetry
Thomas Mattern, Klemens Pütz, Hannah L. Mattern, David M. Houston, Robin Long, Bianca C. Keys, Jeff W. White, Ursula Ellenberg, Pablo Garcia-Borboroglu

Full-service hotels, convenience stores, or fire escapes? Evaluating the functional role of stopover sites for Neotropical migrants following passage across the Gulf of Mexico in autumn
Lauren E. Solomon, Antonio Celis-Murillo, Michael P. Ward, Jill L. Deppe

Redistribution of wintering American Common Eiders (Somateria mollisima dresseri)
Sarah E. Gutowsky, Gregory J. Robertson, Mark L. Mallory, Nic R. McLellan, Scott G. Gilliland

Vegetation associations of riparian birds in successional woodlands along the regulated Missouri River
Christopher L. Merkord, Amin Rastandeh, Adam Benson, Mark D. Dixon, David L. Swanson

Optimizing survey timing for detecting a declining aerial insectivore, the Black Swift (Cypseloides niger borealis)
Paul G. Levesque, Richard E. Feldman, Christine A. Rock, W. Eric Gross

Accounting for misclassification of subspecies provides insights about habitat use and dynamics of the Florida Grasshopper Sparrow in response to fire
Archer F. Larned, Brian W. Rolek, Keota Silaphone, Shane Pruett, Reed Bowman, Bernard Lohr

Light-level geolocation reveals moderate levels of migratory connectivity for declining and stable populations of Black-throated Blue Warblers (Setophaga caerulescens)
William B. Lewis, Robert J. Cooper, Michael T. Hallworth, Alicia R. Brunner, T. Scott Sillett

Snowy Owls in central North America have regular migration and high philopatry to wintering sites though not always to home ranges
Karen L. Wiebe, Mark T. Bidwell, Rebecca A. McCabe

Seasonal variation in drivers of bird-window collisions on the west coast of British Columbia, Canada
Viviane Zulian, Andrea R. Norris, Kristina L. Cockle, Alison N. Porter, Lauryn G. Do, Krista L. De Groot

Feather isotopes (δ2Hf) and morphometrics reveal population-specific migration patterns of the Blackpoll Warbler (Setophaga striata)
Erica H. Dunn, Kevin J. Kardynal, Kristen M. Covino, Sara R. Morris, Rebecca L. Holberton, Keith A. Hobson

Evidence of a load-lightening helper effect in Florida Scrub-Jays: implications for translocation
Alexis Cardas, Erin L. Hewett Ragheb, Karl E. Miller, Abby N. Powell

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RESEARCH PAPERS

Sharp-tailed Grouse increase site use after prescribed fire but not mechanical treatments during the fall
Charlotte L. Roy, John Giudice, Lindsey M. Shartell

Nesting phenology of migratory songbirds in an eastern Canadian boreal forest, 1996–2020
Sara Boukherroub, André Desrochers, Junior A. Tremblay

Response of corvid nest predators to thinning: implications for balancing short- and long-term goals for restoration of forest habitat
Joan C. Hagar, Theodore Owen, Thomas K. Stevens, Lorraine K. Waianuhea

Estimates of Southern White-tailed Ptarmigan daily nest survival from multiple sites in the Southern Rocky Mountains of Colorado
Gregory T. Wann, Amy E. Seglund, Phillip A. Street, Nicholas J. Parker, Shelley L. Nelson, Jonathan P. Runge, Clait E. Braun, Cameron L. Aldridge

SCO – SOC Information

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Dr. Nicola Koper	Past President	-	nicola.koper@unbc.ca
Dr. Lisha Berzins	Treasurer	-	lisha.berzins@usask.ca
Dr. Elizabeth MacDougall-Shackleton	Membership Secretary	519-852-5179	emacdoug@uwo.ca
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Barbara Bleho	Co-editor, *Picoides*	416-705-0092	bleho.barbara@gmail.com
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Amélie Roberto-Charron	Member of Council	867-669-4734	amelie.roberto-charron@canada.ca
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Erica Dunn	1988-1990	Jean-Pierre Savard	2002-2004	Ken Otter	2016-2018
Jon Barlow	1990-1992	Charles Francis	2004-2006	Colleen Barber	2018-2020
Bruce Falls	1992-1994	Susan Hannon	2006-2008	Nicola Koper	2020-2022
Henri Ouellet	1994-1996	David Bird	2008-2010		
David Nettleship	1996-1998	Erica Nol	2010-2012		

Membership Information

www.sco-soc.ca/membership.html

SCO-SOC membership forms can be found at the link above. Current membership rates are provided below. SCO-SOC provides free membership to members of equity-denied communities. See our website for more information.

Student	$15.00/year
Early Career (<5 y post-grad)	$25.00/year
Retired	$25.00/year
Regular	$35.00/year ($45.00/year international)
Sustained	$75.00/year
Life	$500.00

SCO-SOC Website

www.sco-soc.ca/index.html

The SCO-SOC website includes sections on membership, meetings, news, publications, awards, information for students, an overview of SCO-SOC, and links of interest to members and other visitors.

Please direct any suggested additions or edits to the website to the Society's webmaster, Jennifer Foote, at jennifer.foote@algomau.ca.

Submissions to *Picoides*:

Articles and photos relevant to Canadian ornithology are welcomed by the editors. If submitting photos, please save them in tiff or jpeg format with descriptive file names, and supply captions including common names of species, location, date, photographer, and any other notes of interest. Deadlines for submission are February 15, May 15, and October 15; issues are typically published 4-6 weeks later. Please send all submissions to Rob Warnock at warnockr@myaccess.ca. **Disclaimer:** *Picoides* is not a peer-reviewed journal; the publication of an article in *Picoides* does not imply endorsement by SCO-SOC.