



Bird Species at Risk in the Columbia Wetlands

A number of provincially or federally listed at-risk bird species can be found breeding in or migrating through, the Columbia Wetlands. This includes at-risk species such as Western Grebe, American Bittern, Short-eared Owl, California Gull, Lewis's Woodpecker, Pelagic Cormorant, American Pelican, Great Blue Heron and Trumpeter Swan. There are many threats to the internationally recognized wetlands that include water pollution, invasive species, agriculture, industrial and urban development and climate change. The Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey (CWWS) is helping to identify the most significant habitats that waterbirds depend on. The baseline data collected through the CWWS will help inform management decisions for conservation, restoration, enhancement and education programs to protect these habitats and help reverse declining bird population trends.

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Wildsight Golden's mission is to work to maintain biodiversity and healthy human communities in and around our region. Our focus is on protecting the high ecological values of the Upper Columbia region, which continues to be one of the richest and most biologically diverse regions in the world.

TO PARTICIPATE IN THE COLUMBIA WETLANDS WATERBIRD SURVEY CONTACT:

Rachel Darvill, CWWS Program Biologist
racheldarvill@gmail.com | 1.250.348.2371
wildsight.ca/branches/golden/columbiawetlandswaterbirdssurvey

COLUMBIA WETLANDS WATERBIRD SURVEY

Citizen Science
FOR
Bird Conservation
IN THE COLUMBIA WETLANDS



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS



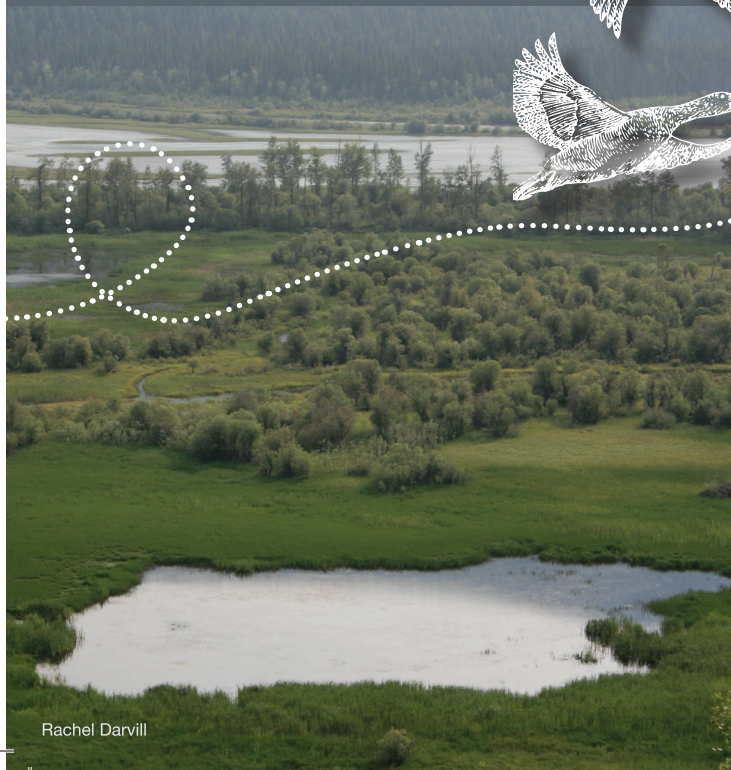
PROJECT COLLABORATORS



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The Columbia Wetlands

Did you know that the Columbia Wetlands are the largest continuous wetland in British Columbia, or elsewhere in the Pacific Northwest of North America? This 180km long ecosystem contains the only un-dammed stretch of the Columbia River remaining. The Columbia Wetlands are a contiguous mosaic of diverse wetlands, aquatic and riparian habitats, including open water, river channels, sloughs, marshes, grasslands and shrub and forest communities. The Columbia Wetlands are a Ramsar site supporting nesting habitat for over 180 bird species. It is a vital component of the Pacific Flyway, making it critical habitat for migrating waterfowl, shorebirds, songbirds and raptors. The Columbia Wetlands also supports habitat for a number of additional species including endemic fish species, amphibians, reptiles, small mammals, ungulates and large predators such as grizzly bears.



Rachel Darvill

Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Survey – What is it?

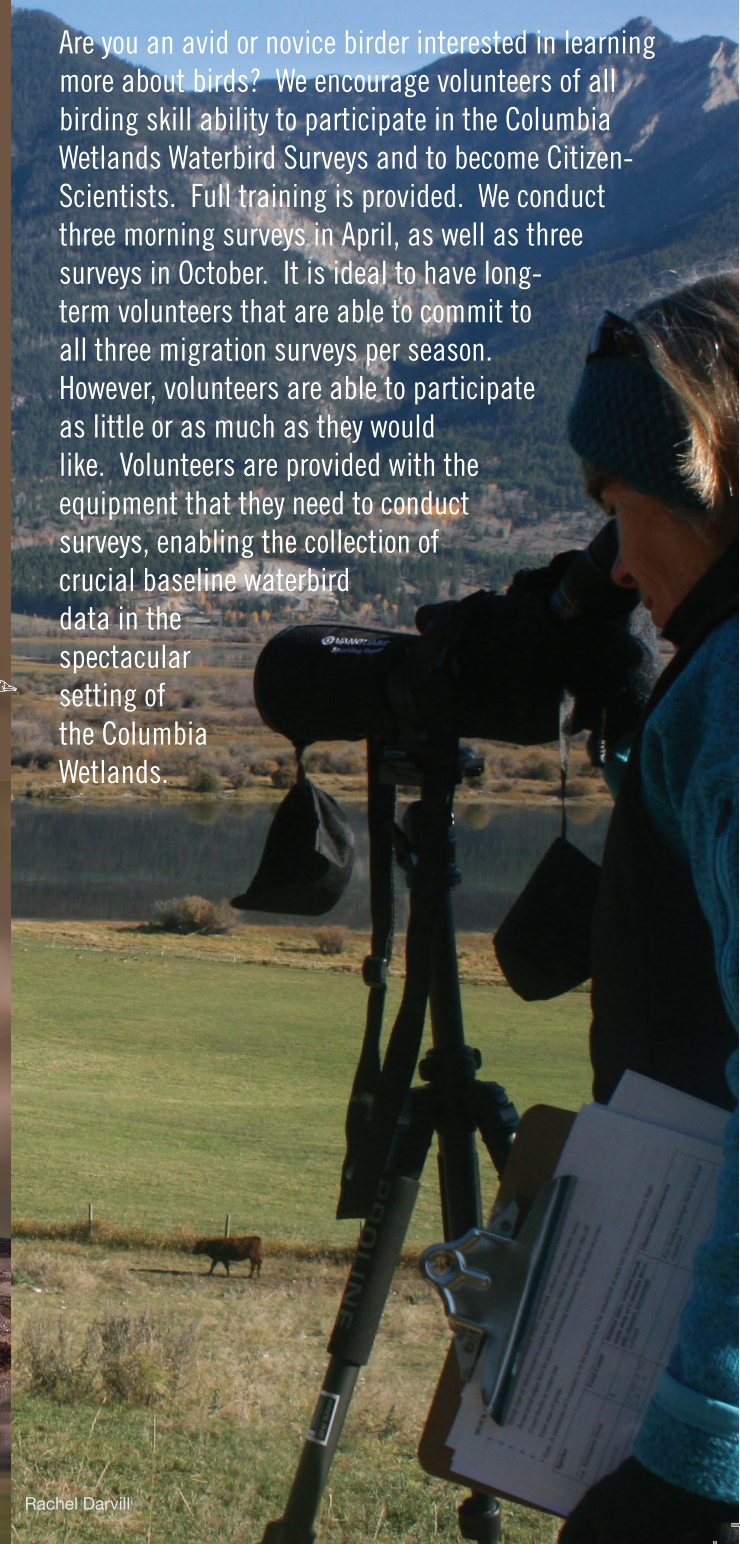
This is a project that uses extraordinary citizens to gather important scientific data that is currently lacking, during both the spring and fall migration periods. There are many important outcomes of the waterbird surveys, including long-lasting community benefits and scientific contributions. Beyond data collection, this citizen-science project aims to enhance and preserve the biodiversity and important habitat of the Columbia Wetlands, in part through increased public education programs that promote the ecological significance of the wetlands. It is our hope that baseline data will also result in the Columbia Wetlands being designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA).



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Interested in Collecting Bird Data?

Are you an avid or novice birder interested in learning more about birds? We encourage volunteers of all birding skill ability to participate in the Columbia Wetlands Waterbird Surveys and to become Citizen-Scientists. Full training is provided. We conduct three morning surveys in April, as well as three surveys in October. It is ideal to have long-term volunteers that are able to commit to all three migration surveys per season. However, volunteers are able to participate as little or as much as they would like. Volunteers are provided with the equipment that they need to conduct surveys, enabling the collection of crucial baseline waterbird data in the spectacular setting of the Columbia Wetlands.



Rachel Darvill