



Wildlife Habitat Canada
Habitat Faunique Canada

2006-2007

ANNUAL REPORT



www.whc.org

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1750 COURTWOOD CRES., SUITE 310, OTTAWA, ONTARIO K2C 2B5

Wildlife Habitat Canada – Vision & Mission

Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) envisions a future where Canadians share a conservation ethic that recognizes the fundamental importance of wildlife habitats that are abundant, rich and support biodiversity, and that inspires the rest of the world.

WHC advances the conservation, restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat through effective public and private actions. We are a national non-profit charitable conservation organization formed in 1984.

WHC's objectives are to:

- ◆ Promote the conservation, restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat in order to retain the diversity, distribution and abundance of wildlife
- ◆ Provide a funding mechanism for the conservation, restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat in Canada
- ◆ Foster coordination and leadership in the conservation, restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat in Canada.

The organization is closely linked to governments with three Board members named by the federal Minister of Environment (one in consultation with the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans) and two Board members named by the provincial and territorial Wildlife Directors. Additional Board members are drawn from various sectors, including a representative nominated by national non-governmental wildlife conservation organizations.

Wildlife Habitat Canada invests the proceeds from sales of **Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamps and Prints** in habitat conservation. This program operates through our special partnership with the **Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada**.

Each year (for the past 23 years) a painting of a migratory game bird, created by a Canadian wildlife artist, is selected as the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp. Stamps and prints are sold to hunters (as the conservation component of the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit), individuals and collectors to raise funds for wildlife habitat conservation.

Since its inception, WHC has invested well over \$32M in grants to habitat projects across the country and has undertaken over \$21M in other habitat conservation work.

In 2006-07 the future of this long-standing and productive relationship was called into question as Environment Canada began a protracted, and still ongoing, consideration of the operation of the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp programs. WHC is convinced that its objectives remain as valid today as they were in 1984 when governments and the wildlife conservation community came together to create the organization, and looks forward to continuing to serve as a valued connection between waterfowl hunters and wildlife habitat conservation, restoration, and enhancement for many years to come.

Without habitat, there is no wildlife...it's that simple!

To learn more about WHC's projects and programs, please visit our website at www.whc.org.



WETLAND
HABITAT
FUND
FONDS POUR
LES HABITATS
HUMIDES



Stamp Contribution Agreement

The existing five year Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp contribution agreement between Environment Canada/Wildlife Habitat Canada concluded as of March 31, 2007. Throughout 2006-07, Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) staff worked with Environment Canada representatives on extending the Stamp Contribution Agreement for another year (for 2007/08) as well as the potential for developing a new longer term Stamp Contribution Agreement for subsequent years.

Grants

In 2006-07, WHC's Board of Directors approved approximately \$971,092 in funding to a total of 23 grants related to North American Waterfowl Management Plan initiatives, specific habitat conservation projects, and support for conservation networking activities. Grants focused primarily on wetland/habitat conservation, restoration and enhancement and/or stewardship activities, and were distributed across the country.

Forest Stewardship Recognition

Each year, the Forest Stewardship Recognition Program (FSRP) solicits nominations for, and presents, awards to individuals, groups or organizations who have been selected to receive recognition for their outstanding stewardship in Canada's forests. In 2006-07, four FSRP awards were presented to recipients.

National EG&S Survey Results

In June 2006, WHC released the results of the National Survey on Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S). The survey determined that farmers & ranchers make considerable efforts to steward their land and mitigate environmental risks. The survey results were presented at the Valuing Nature Stewardship & Conservation in Canada Conference in Corner Brook, Nfld. in July 2006 and are available on WHC's website at <http://www.whc.org/EN/ourwork/ResultsofNationalSurvey.htm>.

Agricultural Stewardship Recognition

The Countryside Canada (CSC) Stewardship Award program annually solicits nominations for, and presents, awards to individuals, groups or organizations who have been selected to receive recognition for their outstanding stewardship in Canada's agricultural areas. During 2006-07, 11 CSC awards were presented to recipients.

Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund

As of March 31, 2007, the implementation phase of the Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund (OWHF) program came to an end, with the completion of ten successful years and the establishment of a strong interest in wetland conservation in Ontario. All OWHF conservation agreements will remain in force for their full term and financial commitments to landowners for their outstanding projects will be honoured.

Indonesia Climate Change Project

The Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia project concluded at the end of 2006. A \$5 million initiative that was supported by the Canada Climate Change Development Fund through the Canadian International Development Agency over the past five years, the project was led by WHC in partnership with Wetlands International-Indonesia Programme and the Global Environment Centre. In 2006-07, the project built on work that was completed over the previous four years and achieved notable successes at the local, national, and international levels.

New Fisheries-NGO Coalition

On March 26, 2007, the Honourable Loyola Hearn, Minister of Fisheries and Oceans Canada, signed an agreement with a coalition of nine major non-government organizations to achieve better conservation and protection of fish and fish habitat (see the news release at <http://www.whc.org/EN/about/documents/DFONewsRelease-March26-07.pdf>). WHC acted as the Secretariat for this newly created coalition.

Departures from WHC

During the past year, Ed Wiken, Amy Seabrooke, and Nancy Wright left WHC to pursue other interests or employment opportunities. In 2006-07, Joy Waters completed her term on WHC's Board of Directors.

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Funding Habitat Conservation in 2006-2007

Funds invested by Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) to support grants are derived from the purchase of the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp by waterfowl hunters (to validate their Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits) and stamp collectors, and are transferred from Environment Canada to WHC through a Contribution Agreement. A five year Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp Contribution Agreement between Environment Canada and WHC expired as of March 31, 2007. Negotiations between Environment Canada and WHC regarding a one year extension to the Stamp Contribution Agreement (to March 31, 2008) continued throughout 2006/07 (a Contribution Agreement is required by WHC before the organization can provide any grant funding in 2007/08).

Acting through partnerships with landowners, communities, government, non-government organizations and industry, WHC seeks to identify habitat issues and find means for enhancing opportunities and developing practical solutions to problems facing wildlife habitats. Since 1985, WHC has provided grants of \$32 million to hundreds of habitat conservation projects across the full range of

Canadian landscapes and seascapes, from coast to coast to coast, through its granting program.

In 2006/07, WHC's grant program approved the investment of approximately \$971,092 in 23 projects, comprised of eight North American Waterfowl Management Plan grants, five habitat conservation grants, nine grants to support habitat conservation networking, and a grant to the Newfoundland & Labrador Murre Conservation Fund. Projects supported by WHC primarily focused on delivering direct (on the ground) interventions related to habitat conservation, restoration or enhancement for waterfowl, in wetlands, or areas of importance for wetland-associated species, or dealt with (wetland) habitat acquisition/securement for waterfowl or wetlands-associated species.

Descriptions and accomplishments of the 23 projects supported by WHC during the past fiscal year are highlighted on the following pages. More detailed project information can be found on WHC's website at http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/ProjectsFunded_06-07.htm.

NORTH AMERICAN WATERFOWL MANAGEMENT PLAN (NAWMP) GRANTS

Newfoundland and Labrador Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) Coastal and Inland Freshwater Wetlands

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/NLEHJV.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$28,500
Total Project Budget	\$236,200

WHC's grant supported the:

- Negotiation of **Municipal Wetland Stewardship** agreements to secure 500 acres of wetlands and associated uplands, and influenced another 500 acres. Benefits of the Municipal Wetland Stewardship Program include increasing the profile of wetlands and waterfowl within the municipal planning process. Land/water planning and uses are subject to the terms of the agreement and reinforced through an increase in awareness and sense of responsibility. Important wetlands and associated uplands will be protected from adverse development through designation as protected under the municipal planning process, and
- **Stewardship Extension Program** which currently involves 16 municipalities and addresses a



Stewardship Sign Presentation to Grand Falls-Windsor Mayor Rex Barnes & Councillor Jim Courtney.

Jason Foster, EHJV-NL

total of 332,036 acres of wetland and associated uplands.

The funding from WHC represented 12.1% of the total project cost. WHC's grant supported a portion of the salary and travel costs for wetland conservation and stewardship program delivery staff.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Municipal Wetland Stewardship

- ◆ Negotiations were carried out with the Towns of Whitbourne and Gander concerning an expansion of their stewardship zones and management units. Amended municipal wetland stewardship agreements were signed by these Towns' Mayors and the Minister of Environment and Conservation.
- ◆ EHJV staff worked with the Towns of Carmanville and Happy Valley-Goose Bay regarding expanding their stewardship zones and management units to include additional high quality waterfowl habitat within the community.
- ◆ Presentations were given to Town Councils along with meetings with Town Planners, Town Clerks and community/committee representatives to the towns of Come By Chance, Winterland, Markland, Bishop's Falls, Milltown-Head of Bay d'Espoir, St. Alban's, Conne River, Reidville, Sunnyside, Torbay, Dover, Bauline, Deer Lake, St. John's, Happy Valley-Goose Bay, Wabush and Labrador City.

- ◆ Field work was carried out in:
 - ◆ Two areas in Gander (Whitman's Pond & Peyton's Pond)
 - ◆ Towns of Whitbourne, Torbay, Grand Falls-Windsor
 - ◆ Wetlands within Deer Lake, Bauline, Dover, St. John's (Yellow Marsh) and Bishop's Falls
 - ◆ Winterland and three communities in Labrador (Labrador City, Wabush, & Happy Valley-Goose Bay)
 - ◆ Existing NAWMP project sites
 - ◆ Avalon Peninsula.

Stewardship Extension Program

- ◆ EHJV staff attended both Stewardship Association of Municipalities (SAM) meetings in Gander and Springdale during which they presented reports, had discussions concerning issues of importance, and met with community officials.

Project Contact: Gerry Yetman, Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Program Manager, Newfoundland & Labrador Dept. of Environment & Conservation, Wildlife Division, Corner Brook NL.

Nova Scotia Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) Wetland Stewardship Program

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/NSEHJV.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$33,000
Total Project Budget	\$682,000

WHC's grant supported the delivery of four key programs:

- Kings Agricultural Wetlands and Biodiversity Conservation Initiative (KAWBCI)
- Projects to support implementation of Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the agricultural landscape province-wide
- Municipal stewardship
- Coastal stewardship.



Cape Sable Coastal stewardship Focus Area.

Reg Newell, NSDNR

The funding from WHC represented 4.8% of the total project cost. WHC's grant supported a portion of the Stewardship Coordinator's salary and expenses to deliver the NS-EHJV Wetlands Stewardship Program in 2006/07.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Kings Agricultural Wetland and Biodiversity Conservation Initiative

- ◆ The Agriculture Policy Framework Greencover Demonstration Project agreement was signed at the end of April 2006.
- ◆ A project Action Plan was developed and subsequently approved in October 2006.
- ◆ Fisher Brook and the Upper Cornwallis River were selected as demonstration sites for water sampling, riparian health assessments, and biodiversity monitoring.
- ◆ A manual on the beneficial management practices for Riparian Zones in Atlantic Canada was developed.
- ◆ A brochure highlighting beneficial management practices around surface water on the farm was drafted.

Provincial Agriculture Projects

- ◆ Through the Lafarge North America Wetlands Stewardship Project, four small marshes within a 48 kilometre (30 mile) radius of the LaFarge plant (in Brookfield, N.S.) were constructed, conserving 5.9 hectares (14.7 acres) of wetland and associated upland habitats.
- ◆ A regional biodiversity workshop for agricultural practitioners was held in Moncton, to encourage the uptake of the beneficial management practices biodiversity component of the Agricultural Policy Framework.

- ◆ The Alberta Cows and Fish Riparian Health Assessment System was adapted to the Atlantic Maritime Ecozone, in particular to N.S. It will assist in determining and geo-referencing the healthy and unhealthy riparian areas in a watershed so restoration efforts can be focussed on areas of need.

Municipal Stewardship and Conservation

- ◆ The N.S. EHJV Wetland Stewardship Program Coordinator provided support for various Municipalities, including the Region of Queens, Kings and Barrington, as well as the Lake Monitoring Program and Lakeshore Discovery Program in Kings County.
- ◆ Approximately 28 hectares (70 acres) of salt marsh/coastal habitat at Cape Sable Island was conserved through stewardship agreements and the N.S. EHJV Owners Unknown project.

Coastal Stewardship and Conservation

- ◆ Wildlife and wetland habitat support was provided to the Cape Sable Island Important Bird Area (CSIBA) Planning Committee for activities such as the annual spring Brant Festival, nature/environment camps, dune restoration project, local high school environment club, and the coastal habitat project.
- ◆ The Cape Sable Coastal Stewardship Project expanded with the signing of four additional stewardship conservation agreements with landowners, conserving approximately 1-2.5 hectares (3-6 acres) of land. In addition, a 0.8 hectare (2 acre) dune was restored in partnership with one of the local fish processing plants.

Project Contact: Glen Parsons, Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Program Manager, N.S. Dept. of Natural Resources, Wildlife Division, Kentville, NS.

Prince Edward Island Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) Wetland Stewardship Program

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/PEIEHJV.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$14,000
Total Project Budget	\$335,000

WHC's grant supported wetland programs primarily focussing on the agricultural landscape in an effort to restore, protect and enhance existing wetlands and waterfowl habitats on the farm. Best management practices, particularly by the agricultural community, were promoted, as increased awareness and promotion of habitat conservation and restoration will assist in meeting waterfowl production targets.

The funding from WHC represented 4.2% of the total project cost. WHC's grant supported a portion of the Program Coordinator's salary for coordination of the PEI EHJV Wetland Stewardship Program.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

The Prince Edward Island Wetland Restoration Atlas, in support of the ongoing Small Marsh Program and implementation of the Wetland Policy, was completed. The Atlas was created to provide community based conservation organizations with a list of potential wetland restoration sites within the province. The sites identified in the Atlas are areas where wetlands have been altered by past land use activities. Ducks Unlimited Canada has developed site specific maps and guidelines for the enhancement of these wetland areas so that environmental organizations can successfully deliver wetland restoration programs within their communities.

Project Contact: Alan McLennan, PEI EHJV Program Coordinator, PEI Department of Environment, Energy & Forestry, Charlottetown, PEI.

New Brunswick Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) Wetland Assessment Project

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/NBEHJV.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$28,000
Total Project Budget	\$64,500

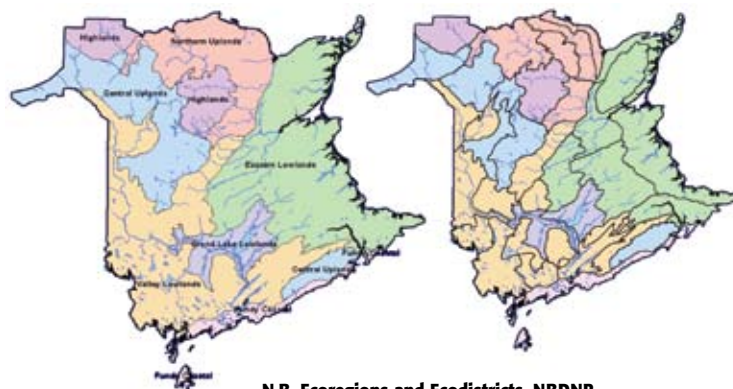
WHC's grant supported:

- Improving the wet area mapping (for all areas, not just the priority areas)
- Incorporating refined wetland mapping into Crown land (including submerged Crown land) management processes
- Providing a refined inventory to government departments for regulatory applications
- Providing improved inventory and assessment information to NB-EHJV partners and resource managers for implementation plan development.

The improved provincial wetland inventory will assist all levels of government and their partners in their wetland conservation planning processes, and will be a resource for the public regarding avoidance of sensitive habitats during project planning processes.

The funding from WHC represented 43.4% of the total project cost. WHC's grant supported the salary costs to complete the habitat relationship matrix for wetland obligate species.

Project Contact: Todd Byers, N.B. EJHV Coordinator, N.B. Dept. of Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife Division, Fredericton NB.



N.B. Ecoregions and Ecodistricts, NBDNR

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Improved Wetland Inventory

The provincial wetland classification system was improved with the delineation of forested wetlands and their inclusion into a revised land classification and wetland inventory. An audit was conducted to confirm the interpretation of wetland types and attributes resulting in a strengthened New Brunswick Wetland Inventory, which is used as a tool to avoid conflicts with wetlands and in habitat availability assessments and prioritization of conservation efforts. Recent developments in wet areas mapping in NB included re-contouring all wet areas. The new version of the wet areas mapping represents improvements to approximately 17% of the land base in NB.

Habitat Relationships for Wetland Species in N.B.

Wetland bird species habitat needs have been better defined. The initial review resulted in nine broad wetland habitat categories to assess habitat availability for 45 of the 69 bird species that breed in NB wetlands. In addition, two non-wetland habitat categories were created to assess migratory bird use of coastal and aquatic habitats for breeding. Provincial ecodistricts were used to summarize habitat requirements for each of the eleven habitat species categories at an appropriate geographical scale for North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI) planning purposes. Habitat availability assessments will help to ensure adequate habitat is available at appropriate geographical scales through time to maintain long term viable populations of waterfowl and wetland obligate birds in NB.

Protection des milieux humides PCHE-Québec (Protection of Wetlands, Quebec EHJV)

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/QCEHJV.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$80,000
Total Project Budget \$259,749

WHC's grant supported the continuation of one Forested Wetlands Protection Project from 2005, and the initiation of four new projects, allowing for the protection of more than 400 additional hectares of waterfowl habitat. The protected wetlands will allow for the conservation of the habitat of Wood Ducks and Black Ducks, as well as many at-risk species such as the Least Bittern, Wood Turtle, and the Pickerel Frog.

As well, a new monitoring program component was developed; six new projects and seven projects continuing from the previous year, were supported.

The funding from WHC represented 30.8% of the total project cost. WHC's grant supported the salaries, materials, travel and communications associated with the Forested Wetlands Protection Project.

Project Contact: Christine Bélanger, Coordonnatrice des projets, Fondation de la faune du Québec, Sainte-Foy QC.



Sebastien Nadeau, ARMVFPBSL

Lac Tougen'kyou, municipalité de Grosses Roches, Région du Bas Saint-Laurent, 2006.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Five projects related to the protection of forested wetlands were funded under the Program for the protection of forested wetlands on private land. About 70 wetlands were characterized/protected.
- ◆ Overall, these projects permitted the protection of more than 400 hectares of forested wetlands on private lands thanks to the signing of approximately 75 voluntary conservation agreements.
- ◆ A new program component, monitoring the conservation agreement and establishing landowner loyalty, was developed to preserve and increase wildlife productivity in forested wetlands through voluntary landowner commitment. Thirteen of these projects were also supported.

The Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/ONEHJV.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$190,000
(+ \$10,000 in-kind)
Total Project Budget \$1,118,000

Over the past 10 years, the Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund (OWHF) and our conservation partners have enhanced over 50,000 acres of habitat for the benefit of waterfowl and wildlife on private land. In addition to the WHC grant, the OWHF received financial contributions to the program from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, Trillium Foundation, and the Oak Ridge Moraine Foundation.

The implementation phase of the OWHF program ended on March 31, 2007, having completed a successful ten years and established a strong

interest in wetland conservation in Ontario. From its beginning as a pilot program in the formative years, the OWHF was a true demonstration of what can be achieved through the power of a working partnership where landowners are encouraged and empowered to restore and conserve wetlands.

WHC will maintain our support for wetland conservation, restoration and enhancement in Ontario through participation in the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan.

WHC would like to thank the OWHF field representatives, our funders, and the landowners for their contributions to conserving, restoring and enhancing wetlands and associated habitats in Ontario.



Doug van Hemessen

Wetland cell with duck boxes-Meaford, ON.

The funding from WHC represented 17.9% of the total project budget. WHC's grant supported securement, extension, enhancement, and administrative activities, professional expertise on the OWHF Steering Committee, North American Wetlands Conservation Act reporting, and salaries for the OWHF program staff.

Project Contact: Lynn McIntyre, Director of Stewardship, Wildlife Habitat Canada, Ottawa, ON.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Number of reviewed projects: 134
- ◆ Number of projects approved: 119

All Projects Summary

- ◆ Total project costs: \$1,027,506
- ◆ Total landowner contributions: \$735,939
- ◆ Total OWHF and partners' contributions: \$291,567
- ◆ Total acres secured: 18,928
- ◆ Total wetland acres secured: 6,634
- ◆ Total upland acres secured: 12,335
- ◆ Total acres enhanced: 6,708
- ◆ Total wetland acres enhanced: 4,495
- ◆ Total upland acres enhanced: 2,213
- ◆ Cost per project: \$2,450
- ◆ Cost per enhanced acre: \$43

Total Referrals: 575

- ◆ Referrals to OEHJV programs & stewardship programs: 423
- ◆ Referrals to other programs/organizations: 152

All Birds – All Habitats Funded Only Project Summary:

- ◆ Number of projects: 12
- ◆ Total project costs: \$79,642
- ◆ Total landowner contributions: \$46,211
- ◆ Total OWHF contributions: \$33,431
- ◆ Total acres secured: 840
- ◆ Total wetland acres secured: 91
- ◆ Total upland acres secured: 749
- ◆ Total acres enhanced: 387
- ◆ Total wetland acres enhanced: 28
- ◆ Total upland acres enhanced: 359
- ◆ Cost per project: \$2,786
- ◆ Cost per enhanced acre: \$86

Habitat Conservation and Stewardship in Saskatchewan

(see http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/SK_PHJV.htm)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$38,000
Total Project Budget \$418,000

WHC's grant supported:

- Habitat securement through 12 year conservation agreements with up to 10 private landowners to implement cooperative habitat conservation and enhancement projects.
- Habitat conservation and enhancement including conversion of cropland to spring pasture (perennial forage), establishment of grazing systems (e.g. improved grazing management through fencing, watering, deferred grazing), and water development.
- Voluntary stewardship agreements and provision of extension material to private landowners to influence management of native habitats (e.g. influence landowner management of private lands through the Prairie Update, and

participation in the Prairie Stewardship Program, landowner field days, appreciation events).

- Reconnaissance of the abundance and productivity of waterfowl and other wetland-dependent birds in and around wetlands in three habitat contexts: a) cultivated, b) grassed margins and runways, c) larger grassed blocks. Wetlands were in areas such as the Moose Mountain Uplands and Souris River Watershed that have high predicted waterfowl abundance, high risk to drainage, and where watershed planning is currently underway. This reconnaissance will inform conservation managers regarding the biological and habitat benefits of various approaches to conserving at-risk wetlands.

The level of WHC funding for this Prairie Habitat Joint Venture related initiative is approximately 9.1% of the total project budget. WHC funding supported



SWA

Murray & Selina McGillivray who converted 320 acres of cropland to tame pasture in the Missouri Coteau.

the salaries, travel, materials, supplies and communication expenses associated with upland/wetland conservation, restoration, and stewardship, as well as wetland reconnaissance.

Project Contact: Bob Carles, Vice-President, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, Regina, SK.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Habitat Securement and Enhancement

- ◆ Saskatchewan Watershed Authority (SWA) secured and enhanced 640 acres of cropland through conversion to perennial forage through twelve year agreements.
- ◆ Two enhancement projects were established in the Missouri Coteau to convert 640 acres.
- ◆ 403 acres of native habitat in the Missouri Coteau was secured by twelve year agreements and enhanced by establishing one enhancement project that assisted the landowner with seeding 320 of the aforementioned 640 acres of cropland to perennial forage so grazing could be deferred on the 403 acres of native habitat.

Prairie Stewardship Program

- ◆ SWA influenced 12,584 acres of native prairie in the Missouri Coteau, 501 acres in Kimoff, 195 acres in the Thickwood Hills, 83 acres in the Allan Hills, 1,760 acres in the Boundary Plateau, and 177 acres in the Lightning East.
- ◆ Funding from WHC was recognized in every edition of the Prairie Update newsletter that is distributed to over 1,400 voluntary stewards across Saskatchewan, on the SWA website, on the SWA booth which was present at 11 tradeshow between January-December 2006 that had a total attendance of over 182,000 people, in 46 presentations that were attended by a total of 1,683 people, on signage displayed with voluntary stewards and demonstration project participants, on certificates sent to voluntary stewards, and in literature distributed to producers.

Contributions to Develop Monitoring and Assessment Frameworks for Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) Wetland Habitat Investment Sites

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/BSCAssessingEHJWetlandHabitat.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$35,000

WHC's grant supported:

- Utilizing existing Marsh Monitoring Program data to conduct preliminary post-hoc evaluations of habitat quality and relative health of Ontario EHJV (OEHJV) priority sites and regions through spatial inventory and gap analysis, evaluation of wetland conditions using indices of biotic integrity, and examination of wetland habitat quality using bird and anuran habitat association models.
- Developing and proposing a monitoring and assessment framework and sampling design customized for OEHJV evaluation purposes that includes information from wetland bird and anuran surveys.

The ultimate intent of this project is to provide a significant contribution to OEHJV partners by providing the capacity to implement the proposed wetland assessment framework, and to suggest analytical approaches for reporting on OEHJV site status, which collectively will help OEHJV meet a number of its stated implementation actions over the next five years.

WHC's funding support will culminate in the production of a comprehensive formal report that documents the preliminary OEHJV-specific MMP analysis and a detailed proposed OEHJV habitat assessment framework and plan.

Project Contact: Dr. George Finney, President, Bird Studies Canada.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Using the experience and tools that Bird Studies Canada's Great Lakes Marsh Monitoring Program (MMP) has gained and developed in recent years, WHC supported the development of three important program products:

- 1) A wetland bird and habitat assessment scheme designed specifically to provide wetland bird and habitat quality evaluation information for OEHJV wetland habitat investment projects;
- 2) A preliminary evaluation of OEHJV site status based on key attributes of wetland bird and anuran communities found at OEHJV sites during the period 1995 – 2006; and
- 3) A re-examination of MMP-derived wetland bird habitat associations specific to the region within which OEHJV sites occur to demonstrate the usefulness of this information for predicting habitat quality based on the bird community that occur at a site, and vice versa, for predicting the capacity of a particular wetland site to support certain wetland dependent bird species and assemblages.

HABITAT CONSERVATION GRANTS

Important Bird Areas (IBA) Habitat Conservation Project

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/IBAHC.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$100,000
Total Project Budget	\$400,000

The funding from WHC represented 25% of the total project budget. WHC's grant supported project management activities, as well as the following eight projects in seven IBAs across Canada:

- IBA Communities in Action Project – Boundary Bay/ Fraser River Estuary IBA (British Columbia)
- IBA Dune Restoration Project - Eastern Cape Sable IBA (Nova Scotia)
- Walsingham Flats Restoration Project - Norfolk Forest Complex IBA (Ontario)
- Invasive Species Removal Project - Norfolk Forest Complex IBA (Ontario)
- Wetland Restoration Project - Comox Valley IBA (British Columbia)
- IBA Cattermole Slough Dike Planting Project - Squamish Estuary IBA (British Columbia)
- Habitat Securement Project - Whitewater Lake IBA (Manitoba)
- Shoreline Improvement Project - Beaverhill Lake IBA (Alberta).

Project Contact: Julie Gelfand, President, Nature Canada, Ottawa, ON.



Habitat restoration at Little Campbell River Estuary.

Margaret Cuthbert, Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

WHC's support allowed the Important Bird Areas (IBA) Habitat Conservation Project to fund projects on habitat enhancement, rehabilitation or restoration; negotiation of easements or landowner stewardship agreements; and IBA landowner awareness programs. Funding was provided by WHC for eight projects in seven IBAs. Highlights of some of these projects include:

- The Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society coordinated numerous plantings and invasive plants removals at several key sites in the Boundary Bay IBA, B.C. watershed. Their activities also raised awareness and facilitated a nest box, stewardship and monitoring program.
- The Cape Sable IBA coastal dune restoration project ensured that dredging activities that were conducted to protect a roadway proceeded in a way that restored the sand to the area from which it had eroded and potentially increase piping plover nesting habitat.
- In the Norfolk Forest Complex IBA, Ontario, bottomland agricultural sections bordering the Big Creek (about 10 acres) was being restored to natural swamp forest by recreating a series of oxbow scars with a back-hoe and planting the surroundings with native, swamp forest species (e.g. buttonbush, silver maple, white ash). The newly flooded lowlands attracted hundreds of migrating waterfowl (mostly Canada Geese, Tundra Swans and Mallards, plus some Buffleheads and Ring-necked Ducks) as soon as the ice went out in March 2007. The site will also undoubtedly attract migrating shorebirds in April and May.
- WHC supported wetland and estuary habitat restoration work done in the Comox Valley IBA by the Comox Valley Naturalist Society, through the removal of invasive species from the Comox Valley wetland (5,774 purple loosestrife plants were removed), riverine and estuarine habitats and replanting with the appropriate native species. Approximately 135 hours were spent removing invasive species and planting 660 native shrubs and 35 flats of native grasses in various areas of the Courtenay Airpark, and 12,066 kg of yellow flag iris was removed from the Courtenay River estuary between 2002 and 2006.

Working for Wildlife Habitat Conservation

<http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/WWHC.htm>

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$50,000
Total Project Budget	\$300,000

WHC's grant supported site-specific habitat conservation actions (focusing on land securement or habitat enhancement) in western Canada:

- Land Securement – Alberta Peace Boreal
- British Columbia Wildlife Federation Wetlands Education Program:
 - 2006 Wetlandkeepers Program
 - 2006 Puddle Projects
- Securement of 160 acres of wetland habitat near Radisson, Saskatchewan.

The funding from WHC represented 16.7% of the total project budget. WHC's grant supported the activities, such as the purchase of wetland parcels, and wetland education workshops involving on-site and classroom components, related to the above mentioned western Canada projects.

Project Contact: Executive Vice President, Canadian Wildlife Federation, Ottawa, ON.

Delta Marsh, Manitoba Rehabilitation

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/DeltaMarshManitoba.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$150,000	variety of waterfowl, warblers, white-tailed deer and
Total Project Budget	\$330,000	furbearers are found there.

WHC's grant supported the acquisition of 273 hectares of land adjacent to existing Crown Lands within Delta Marsh designated as Wildlife Management Area to provide more opportunities for public hunting and secure key parcels of habitat for management purposes. Delta Marsh is recognized as a Ramsar Convention on Wetlands site of international significance, a Canadian Important Bird Area, and a Manitoba Heritage Marsh. Large numbers of colonial nesting birds, as well as a

The funding from WHC represented 45.5% of the total project budget. WHC's grant supported the legal costs associated with the acquisition of three parcels of private lands for inclusion in the Delta Marsh Wildlife Management Area.

Project Contact: Lorne Colpitts, Chief Executive Officer, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, Winnipeg, MB.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

The Delta Marsh Wildlife Management Area Project was successful in purchasing three parcels of adjacent private land (totaling 273 hectares) for inclusion in the Wildlife Management Area. The 32 hectare David Love property was acquired on June 12, 2006, the 226 hectare Fairfield Lodge property on November 20, 2006, and the 14 hectare David Love property on March 30, 2007.

The acquisition of land involved willing sellers, with lands acquired at a reasonable cost. The acquired properties secure significant wetland and adjacent upland nesting cover for waterfowl and other wildlife. Local waterfowl hunters have expressed their gratitude for the additional lands that are now available for public hunting. These lands will also provide opportunities for trapping, ecotourism and scientific research.

Nova Scotia Woodcock Habitat Enhancement

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/NovaScotiaWoodcock.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$5,600	improve woodcock feeding habitat and provide
Total Project Budget	\$14,616	temporary singing grounds which also serve as good brood and nesting habitat.

WHC's grant supported clear cutting strips of over-mature alders, separated by larger areas of the remaining feeding cover, in two locations (Chaswood and Lake Egmont) of Halifax County. The cutting procedure will result in one third of the project site being rejuvenated (e.g. new strips cut), while leaving two thirds of the site intact with cover for woodcock use. Creating newly rejuvenated alder covers will

The funding from WHC represented 38.3% of the total project budget. WHC's grant supported the clear cutting of strips of over mature alders with a brush mower.

Project Contact: Robert Stewart, Chairman, Woodcock Conservation Society, Stewiacke, NS.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Alder strips at the two project sites (Dept of Natural Resources site at Chaswood and the Ledwidge Lumber Limited property site at Lake Egmont in Halifax County) in Nova Scotia were flagged in preparation for brush mowing. In January, 2007 a forestry company commenced work clear cutting a series of strips in the over mature alder growth with a brush mower when the ground was frozen (with the alders dormant) and the work could be conducted without damaging the land. These project sites will yield a rejuvenated habitat of 28 acres for woodcock and other species (ruffed grouse, white tailed deer, snowshoe hare and a variety of songbirds also benefit from this rejuvenated habitat). The Woodcock Conservation Society (WCS) will return to the project sites in November 2011 and November 2016 to clear cut another series of alder strips. This future work will provide new feeding habitat, as well as new temporary singing grounds, for woodcock.

As well, the WCS conducted a spring Woodcock Singing Survey on the project sites to establish a baseline of the number of males present. The Survey will continue for the duration of the Project and the results recorded and shared with the Canadian Wildlife Service (and other conservation organizations) to assist them in their continuing woodcock preservation work.

Securing the St. Croix Easement, New Brunswick

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/StCroixNB.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$105,000

WHC's grant provided \$105,000 required as security by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA) pending a decision by the CRA on the tax treatment of the donation of ecologically sensitive property in Canada by a foreign donor (setting a precedent for other such donations). These funds will be held in a trust account; if and when released they will subsequently be used to support other wetland conservation projects.

Project Contacts: Thea Silver, National Director, Conservation Programs and Support Services, Nature Conservancy of Canada, and Linda Stephenson, Regional Vice President, Atlantic Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

The St. Croix River Conservation Easement was registered on title in early December 2006 (an Environment Canada representative indicated that this is the largest EcoGift easement east of Alberta). Registration of this easement serves to protect these ecologically rich lands in perpetuity and marks the successful culmination of a seven year "labour of love" by the donors and conservation groups. Without WHC's grant/partnership, this conservation opportunity might have been lost forever.

WHC's support of the project will result in considerable leverage. Assuming the security deposit is returned, the \$105,000 contribution will have enabled the securing of 2,300 acres and be able to be reinvested in other (wetland) conservation projects in partnership with the Nature Conservancy of Canada in the future. The value of the donated easement also qualifies as U.S. non-federal match funding under the North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA). As such, it will leverage a matching contribution from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to further augment the Nature Conservancy of Canada's wetland conservation work in Atlantic Canada.

GRANTS TO SUPPORT CONSERVATION NETWORKING

WHC provides small grants to support activities leading to improved capacity and coordination in habitat conservation and stewardship in Canada. The grant to the Canadian Museum of Nature in support of the Bird Gallery took advantage of a unique opportunity to renew a national treasure that has provided many Canadians, especially youth, with an introduction to the wonders of Canadian birds and their habitats. In 2006/07, nine conservation networking grants were provided.

- **Valuing Nature, Stewardship and Conservation Conference 2006**
 WHC Approved Project Grant \$7,000
 Total Project Budget \$245,000
- **Canada Night 2006**
 WHC Approved Project Grant \$3,000
 Total Project Budget \$80,000
- **National Capital Region National Wildlife Week Festival**
 WHC Approved Project Grant \$1,000
 Total Project Budget \$33,863
- **Alberta Fish and Game Association Heritage 100 History Book**
 WHC Approved Project Grant \$1,000
- **La revue Le Naturaliste canadien**
 WHC Approved Project Grant \$1,000
- **8th Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species Conference**
 WHC Approved Project Grant \$5,000

- **Coalition of National/Regional Conservation Non-Government Organizations and Department of Fisheries and Oceans**

WHC Approved Project Grant \$3,125

- **Land Trust Alliance of British Columbia Wetland Restoration Seminar**

WHC Approved Project Grant \$2,000

- **Canadian Museum of Nature Bird Gallery Sponsorship**

WHC Approved Project Grant \$50,000

The Bird Gallery is a new 4,300 sq. ft. permanent gallery on the 4th floor of the Canadian Museum of Nature's Victoria Memorial Museum Building. It opened in December 2006. The gallery presents Canadian birds as a "3D Field Guide" presentation and provides the visitor with a better understanding of birds in their habitats through sound, moving images, and the Museum's extensive collections.

WHC's grant supported a (10 year) sponsorship of the *Habitat and Migration* section of the Bird Gallery, including promotion of the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print program through the provision of English and French program brochures in the gallery.

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR MURRE CONSERVATION FUND

WHC Approved Project Grant \$40,867

Created in 2005, the Murre Conservation Fund (see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/06-07/NLMurre.htm>) supports projects that will introduce the general public in Newfoundland & Labrador to the conservation, management, and traditional uses of murre, as well as projects that will enhance conservation and management of murre populations and their habitats. The main source of funding for the Fund is via a portion of the revenues derived from the sales of Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamps to murre hunters in Newfoundland and Labrador. The Fund is administered by the Newfoundland and Labrador Legacy Nature Trust under the direction of the Murre Conservation Fund Committee.

On August 17, 2006, the Fund's application process and timelines were announced through a media

release. As a result, five project applications seeking support from the Fund in 2007/08 were received between September 1 and November 30, 2006. These applications were reviewed and evaluated by the Committee on February 7, 2007 and a total amount of \$62,704 was subsequently approved to support four murre projects in 2007/08.

WHC's grant was provided in accordance with the terms of the 2005 agreement signed by WHC, Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada, Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation, and the Newfoundland and Labrador Legacy Nature Trust.

Project Contact: Tammy Baldwin, Project Manager, Newfoundland & Labrador Legacy Nature Trust, St. John's, NL.

Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamps and Prints

2006 & 2007 Conservation Stamp and Print

The Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print are produced each year through unique partnerships between WHC, the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada, Canadian Art Prints and a selected Canadian wildlife artist. The conservation stamp is purchased primarily by waterfowl hunters to validate their migratory game bird hunting permits, but it is also sold to print purchasers, stamp collectors, and individuals interested in contributing to conservation, restoration and enhancement of wildlife habitat in Canada.

The 2006 stamp and print featured the image "Resting Time – Brant Geese" conceived by wildlife artist Pierre Leduc of Stoneham, QC. This was the third selection of a Pierre Leduc image for the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp. It was the first time that the stamp

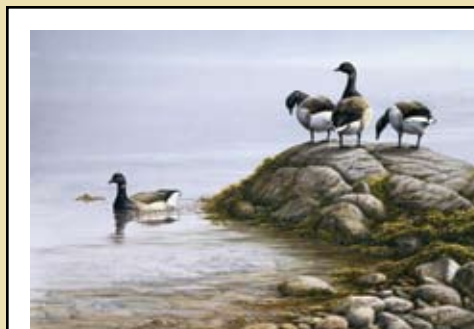
was produced using only a portion of the painting, while the limited edition prints depicted Pierre's full work.

During 2006-07, Pierre Leduc participated in a number of events that focused attention on the 2006 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Stamp & Print. Throughout the year, Pierre attended launches, presented prints and supported shows that highlighted the 2006-07 Program. It was a pleasure working with him over the program year!

Because of the continuing uncertainty surrounding the long-term commitment of Environment Canada to the program, an art competition was not held to select the 2007 image. Instead, a reserve painting that was secured from a previous competition was chosen to be the image of the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Stamp & Print for 2007. The image is "Morning Post-Wilson's Snipe" by Nigel Shaw of Innisfil, ON.



2006 Stamp, Pierre Leduc, "Resting time - Brant Geese"



2006 Print "Resting time - Brant Geese" by Pierre Leduc of Stoneham, QC

Wildlife Habitat Canada will again be holding an art competition for the 2008 image, with judging in mid-October 2007. Each submission will be judged following the strict criteria established for the competition. For more information on the art competition and the selection process used, please visit WHC's website at http://www.whc.org/EN/stamps/art_competition_rules.htm.

Stamp Launch Events:

- ◆ An artist signing took place at Rousseau Wildlife, Philatelic, Numismatic Gallery on April 1, 2006 in Montréal. During this event, Pierre Leduc signed stamps for many collectors and conservation enthusiasts.
- ◆ Pierre participated in the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 78th annual convention in Calgary, AB on September 29 to October 1, 2006. A special thank you to Dwayne Miner Philatelics for organizing Pierre's participation and allowing Pierre to greet stamp enthusiasts at his booth. Pierre presented a framed 2006 Limited Edition Print during the President's Reception and Silent Auction on the Friday night. As well, he signed stamps for collectors at the show on September 30th.



Pierre Leduc (on right) awarding Calgary Philatelic Society President Dave Russem a framed Print at the President's Reception for the 78th Annual Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's Convention in Calgary AB.

Promotional Activities:

- ◆ During the summer months, a display of the 2006 original painting and products was highlighted at the Algonquin Art Centre in Algonquin Park, ON.
- ◆ At this venue, a donated original sketch entitled "Canada Goose" by Robert Bateman was purchased for over \$10,000. Proceeds from this sale supported WHC's wildlife habitat conservation, restoration and enhancement initiatives.
- ◆ Throughout the year, over 250 Conservation Edition Prints were distributed to non-government conservation organizations, raising approximately \$25,000 to help support their endeavours.
- ◆ Once again this year an in-store promotion and contest took place at S.I.R. Warehouse Sports Store during September/October in Manitoba. Hunters

purchasing their Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit were given the opportunity to win a framed Conservation Edition Print and Stamp as part of a draw. This year, thanks to the special efforts of WHC Board Director, Bob Barton, the promotion expanded to MacDonald's Sporting Goods in Portage la Prairie and Jo Brook Farms in Brandon, Manitoba as well. Feedback from the promotions was very positive.

- ◆ Approximately 500 Mentor Lapel Pins were distributed to a number of partners for the purpose of recognizing those who volunteered as mentors during Waterfowler Heritage Day events.
- ◆ For the first time, WHC products became available for sale at the Museum of Nature Boutique at the Museum of Nature in Ottawa, ON. This coincides with WHC's sponsorship of the Bird Gallery Exhibit which opened in December 2006. Promotional material that referred to the 2006 stamp & print products was developed in both English and French for the display at the museum.



Bob Barton (in centre) presenting framed print to Mentor Mitch Legault during Waterfowler Heritage Day Activities in Manitoba.



Participants at Mentoring Hunt Event during Waterfowler Heritage Day activities in Manitoba.

Stamp Products (see our 2007 products at <http://www.whc.org/EN/stamps/2007products.htm>)

Each year, the stamp is available in four configurations:

- ◆ Stamp affixed to the Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit (\$8.50)
- ◆ The Souvenir Sheet, consisting of a single stamp in an attractive booklet, available in mint (\$8.50) or signed by the artist (\$20.00)
- ◆ Panes of 16 stamps (\$136.00)
- ◆ Corner Blocks (Lower Right, Lower Left, Upper Right, Upper Left) of four stamps each (\$34.00).

The conservation stamps are available at Canada Post Philatelic Centres, Stamp Dealers across North America, and from WHC. Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits are available at Canada Post outlets.

Limited Edition Prints

For 2007, WHC has taken on the task of producing the various limited edition prints of the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp & Print Program. Proceeds from the sale of the prints fund WHC's conservation programs. The prints go on sale April 1st of each year. A mint and/or signed stamp must be purchased with each print. A limited number of stamps and prints from previous years are still available.

The **Limited Edition** consists of 9,500 reproductions of the image, signed by the artist.

The **Medallion Edition** consists of 1,300 reproductions of the image, signed by the artist with a gold-plated medallion of the image.

The **Executive Edition** consists of 150 reproductions of the image, signed by the artist, with a gold-plated medallion of the image and an original colour pencil Remarque by the artist.

The **Conservation Edition** consists of 300 signed and numbered reproductions published exclusively for WHC to donate to wildlife habitat conservation organizations to support their fundraising activities.

Pewter Lapel Pin

In addition, WHC produces a pewter lapel pin based on the stamp image and rendered from the artist's sketch.



2007
Pewter Lapel Pin

Please contact WHC's Coordinator Product Management, Pauline Fitchett (pfitchett@whc.org), for availability and pricing information of stamp and print program products.

2007 Stamp & Print Image

The Artist

There has rarely been a time in Nigel Shaw's life when birds and wildlife have not played an important part. From an early age, as a schoolboy in Blackpool, England, drawing and birds were a part of most days.

His first works were done using watercolours, but he felt it lacked what he needed to achieve the effects he desired. Experiments with other mediums brought him to acrylics, which he still uses today. Nigel's approach to his work has led him to paint birds and animals, which are not as well known to most people. He feels there are a lot of birds, which rival the more common species in both beauty and colour. He explains "that if I can pass on a piece of knowledge about the bird in my painting, I have accomplished what I have set out to do. I have found that people like to ask questions about the birds in my paintings and I enjoy explaining how and why the painting came about."

The artist currently lives in Innisfil, Ontario. Nigel's work can be viewed on his website.

About the Painting – Morning Post – Wilson's Snipe"

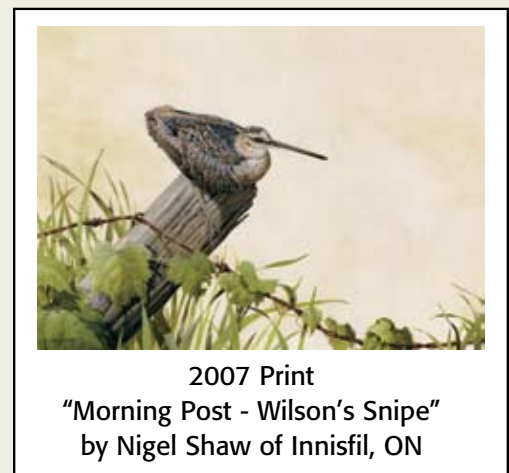
"This painting was inspired by visits to a nearby marsh during the spring courtship. The male snipe was heard more than seen as he did his high-flying serenade. The idea for the painting came about after he was observed on more than one morning sitting on an old fence post, bordering the marsh.

A combination of cryptic markings and rich browns and grays make the Wilson's Snipe an interesting challenge. I decided to paint the bird in an early morning light with the fog just starting to burn off in the first rays of sun. Dew is still lingering on the wild grape that has conquered the old fence line, as the snipe is poised to take flight."

– Nigel Shaw



2007 Stamp,
Nigel Shaw,
"Morning Post - Wilson's Snipe"



2007 Print
"Morning Post - Wilson's Snipe"
by Nigel Shaw of Innisfil, ON

Advancing Stewardship – Promoting Habitat Conservation ACTION

Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) undertakes a number of activities directed toward our objective of promoting habitat conservation action, including our Stewardship Recognition Award Programs. As well, our work administering both the Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund in partnership with the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, and our initiative in Indonesia undertaken with funding from CIDA continued in 2006-2007.

Stewardship Recognition Award Programs

WHC has two national stewardship award programs – the Forest Stewardship Recognition Program and the Countryside Canada Stewardship Recognition Program. These award programs recognize individuals, organizations and companies for exceptional stewardship in Canada's forests and on our agricultural lands. The programs are intended to promote stewardship and biodiversity conservation throughout Canada.

Forest Stewardship Recognition Program

The Forest Stewardship Recognition Program (FSRP) recognizes outstanding stewardship in Canada's forests. The forest stewardship award is intended to promote good forest stewardship; recognize the accomplishments of forest managers; encourage the use of innovative practices to conserve biodiversity; and increase public awareness of stewardship efforts in Canada's forests.

Forest Stewardship Award

Since 1998, the FSRP award has honoured over 200 individuals, companies and organizations for their stewardship efforts in Canada's forests. Winners receive a limited edition print of a painting entitled *New Morning*, by artist Don Li-Leger. This artwork was commissioned to symbolize the forest stewardship award. The award is presented at public events to further increase awareness of stewardship achievements.



Lipman Still Picture Inc., 199 Crichton Street
Ottawa, ON, K1M 1W1

Peter Gray-Donald (on left) & Avrim Lazar (in centre), President & CEO of Forest Products Association of Canada, present the FSRP award to Dave Sexsmith (on right), Quinte Region, ON.

2007 Forest Stewardship Award Recipients

(Information is available on WHC's website at <http://www.whc.org/EN/stewardship/2007FSRPAwardRecipients.htm>)

- ◆ Hardisty Creek Restoration Project, Hinton, Alberta
- ◆ Upper Canada Woods Co-operative, Quinte Region, Ontario
- ◆ Steve Pitt, Kingston, Ontario
- ◆ Warren and Bruce Cook, Deep Bay, Vancouver Island, BC.

Countryside Canada Stewardship Recognition Program

Countryside Canada is intended to recognize and promote land stewardship and wildlife habitat conservation in the agriculture community. Across Canada, the stewardship efforts of farmers, ranchers, agricultural organizations and rural landowners are helping to ensure that wildlife habitat remains an integral part of the agricultural landscape.

Countryside Canada Stewardship Award

Since 2000, the Countryside Canada stewardship award has been presented to 77 individuals and organizations. Recipients of a Countryside Canada award receive a limited edition print of *The Awakening*, a painting by artist Antony John. This artwork was commissioned to symbolize the Countryside Canada stewardship award. The painting underscores the need for understanding, caring and stewardship to achieve

harmony with nature. The award is presented at public events to further increase awareness of stewardship achievements.

2007 Countryside Canada Award Recipients

(Information is available on WHC's website at <http://www.whc.org/EN/stewardship/CSC/2007CSCAwardRecipients.htm>):

- ◆ Herb Goulden, Brandon, Manitoba
- ◆ Elgar Grinde, Holden, Alberta
- ◆ Harry Burton, Salt Spring Island, BC
- ◆ Christoph and Erika Weder, Rycroft, Alberta
- ◆ Roy Greer, Blanshard, Manitoba
- ◆ Joe Gardner, Douglas Lake Ranch, BC
- ◆ Bill Fox, Elk Point, Alberta
- ◆ Pincher Creek Watershed Group, Pincher Creek, Alberta



Peter Gray-Donald (on right) presents the CSC award to Roy Greer at the Bird Gallery.

Lipman Still Picture Inc., 199 Crichton Street, Ottawa, ON, K1M 1W1

- ◆ Margaret Glasford, Red Deer, Alberta
- ◆ David O'Reilly, Oliver, BC
- ◆ Jeff McCammon, Gunn, Alberta.

For more information on WHC's stewardship programs, please contact WHC's Director of Stewardship, Lynn McIntyre (lmccintyre@whc.org).

National Rural Landowners Survey on Ecological Goods and Services

With support from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, WHC undertook a two year project on Ecological Goods and Services (EG&S) within the agricultural sector. As a component of the project, a national survey was conducted to benchmark attitudes and behaviours towards EG&S and inform the development of EG&S policy on farm and ranchlands in Canada. The results of the survey were released and presented at the national *Valuing Nature: Stewardship and Conservation Conference* in Corner Brook, NL in July 2006. As part of the communication plan, additional presentations were made to over 1,000 delegates at the following conferences: Canadian Environment Network; Latornell Conservation Symposium; Ecological Goods and Services Conference; and the Agriculture Canada

Environmental Adoption Workshop. Between the period July 1, 2006 and March 31, 2007, there were over 7,000 page views to the EG&S website and more than 2,500 downloads of the national EG&S survey results. More information on EG&S and a download of the full survey results are available at <http://www.whc.org/EN/ourwork/ResultsofNationalSurvey.htm>.

A key supporter of the national Ecological Goods and Services survey was:



Citizen Science Network Project

The WHC Citizen Science Program began as a proof of concept project to determine the level of engagement and scientific protocols appropriate to engage community groups in science based monitoring programs. During 2006-2007, the program was successfully amalgamated and transitioned to the Canadian Community Monitoring Network.

A comprehensive listing of monitoring protocols available to citizen science groups, including Ecological Monitoring and Assessment Networks, can be found at www.citizenscience.ca. WHC would like to thank the Citizen Science Network Advisory Committee for their contributions to the program.

Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands Project

The Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia (CCFPI) project, a \$5 million initiative supported by the Canada Climate Change Development Fund through the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA), was completed at the end of 2006. The project was led by WHC in partnership with Wetlands International Indonesia Programme and the Global Environment Centre.

Over its final year of operation, the CCFPI project built on and consolidated the work of the previous four years. **Notable achievements in 2006 included:**

Local Level

The project provided support to 32 community groups in the provinces of South Sumatra, Jambi and Central Kalimantan. These initiatives were a continuation of CCFPI's work to pilot way of linking economic development activities to environmental rehabilitation and protection work (through, for example, planting trees, hydrological restoration, fighting fires, engagement in protection activities). The so-called "bio-rights" approach is being followed-up by other initiatives in the post-CCFPI period.

Estimates of the level of carbon sequestered/maintained in the target peatlands areas were completed in Jambi and Central Kalimantan. The estimates show significant benefits on this front, strengthening the case for urgent and continued action to protect and rehabilitate peatlands in Indonesia.

National Level

CCFPI facilitated the completion of the multi-departmental Indonesian National Peatlands Strategy and Action Plan. The launching of this plan was an important link in a policy chain linking ASEAN regional efforts to advance the peatland management agenda with a national framework, and provincial and district plans and action. At the provincial level, building on experience from a CCFPI-supported district

peatland action plan, the province of South Sumatra established a Provincial Coordinating Team for Peatlands Management that was preparing a strategic management plan for peatlands in the province.

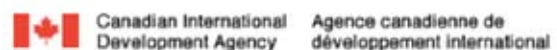
International Level

CCFPI participated in the United Nations Conference of Parties meeting of the Convention on Climate Change in November 2006. There was very strong interest in understanding the level of emissions that result from peatlands degradation, especially from burning and draining.

The importance of appropriate peatlands management which fully engages local communities is receiving increasing attention at the global level. The CCFPI project was a leader in pioneering work in this important area. The project has resulted in a strong base of science, community experience and policy work in Indonesia. This is being used as a starting point for others to continue working in the area, while applying lessons learned from CCFPI. By the end of the project, support was forthcoming from local communities, local government, the national government, and international stakeholders to continue activities building on CCFPI's experience.

A detailed description of the CCFPI project can be found on WHC's website at <http://www.whc.org/EN/ourwork/indonesia.htm>.

Our key program sponsor for the CCFPI project was:



Canada

For more information on the CCFPI project, please contact WHC's President, David Brackett (dbrackett@whc.org).

Promoting Habitat Conservation COORDINATION

WHC staff continued to play an active role in a number of national activities, including participation on the Steering Committee of the national *Valuing Nature: Stewardship and Conservation Conference*, the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Board, the Prairie Habitat Joint Venture Board, and the NABCI Canada Council. David Brackett attended and made presentations to the Canadian Wildlife Directors Committee, and participated in the revival of the Species at Risk Working Group (a coalition of non-governmental and business groups). Lynn McIntyre participated as a member of the Ontario Natural Spaces Leadership Alliance.

StewardshipCanada.ca



The Stewardship Canada Web Portal is administered by WHC on behalf of a multitude of conservation and stewardship organizations across Canada. The portal allows organizations to share technical development, databases and showcase information that is appropriate to various regions of the country. Currently there are over 100 websites leveraging the technology and resources that have been developed over the past seven years; this is a testament to the strength of partnership within the conservation community. During the past year, two notable upgrades have been the funders and organization directories. For more information on the Stewardship Canada Web Portal, please visit www.stewardshipcanada.ca.

For more information on the Stewardship Canada Web Portal, please contact the National Coordinator StewardshipCanada.ca, Naomi Tabata (ntabata@whc.org).



National Green Legacies Project

The objective of the Green Legacies initiative (www.greenlegacies.ca) was to increase the level of “planned gifts” directed to conservation and stewardship organization in Canada. In the past, WHC had been contracted by Environment Canada to provide administrative and financial services to the project. In 2006, with funding and support from the Tides Foundation, the Green Legacies initiative embarked on a national communication strategy to increase the profile of conservation and stewardship organizations to funders.

Secretariat to the Coalition of National/Regional Non-Governmental Conservation Organizations and Department of Fisheries and Oceans

In March 2007, a Contribution Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding confirming the establishment of a coalition of national/regional non-governmental conservation organizations (NGOs) and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans (DFO) were finalized. In conjunction with the coalition, a Secretariat was created to:

- ◆ Regularly communicate with members of the coalition
- ◆ Organize meetings of coalition members and retain meeting minutes
- ◆ Report to the coalition co-chairs on matters related to the implementation of the workplan (a component of the DFO-NGO coalition agreement)
- ◆ Prepare a draft annual report indicating the results achieved under the coalition agreement.

Funding for the Secretariat and annual workplan was derived from contributions from each of the coalition members.

WHC hosted the Secretariat on a cost-recovery basis. As part of its Secretariat role, WHC:

- ◆ Acted as the banker for the coalition
- ◆ Provided regular financial reports in relation to the budget, to the coalition steering committee members
- ◆ Organized one coalition teleconference and two face to face meetings which included discussions on:
 - The March 26, 2007 signing ceremony for the Contribution Agreement and Memorandum of Understanding
 - Preliminary reactions to Bill C-45 Fisheries Act Renewal
 - Reviewing the 2006/07 workplan & budget
 - Reviewing/approving the draft 2007/08 workplan & budget.



DFO/NGO Coalition Agreement Signing, March 26, 2007.

apFOTO, 1242 1/2 Wellington St. Ottawa, ON, K1Y 3A4

- ◆ Recorded notes during the February 15, 2007 teleconference technical briefing on Bill C-45 Fisheries Act Renewal
- ◆ Maintained meeting minutes/records.

During the first, shortened, fiscal year the Coalition members collaborated to:

- ◆ Initiate work on a habitat conservation community of interest on the Stewardship Canada Web Portal
- ◆ Prepare a communication plan for the Coalition
- ◆ Prepare a proposal to secure support from external sources for a national conference workshop on the tools for integrating fish habitat values into watershed planning.
- ◆ Prepare a Guide to incorporate Environmental Process Modernization Plan products into NGO Best Management Practices approved work practices that are used by local NGOs to design and carry out their development and restoration stewardship projects.

Corporate Activities

In 2006/07, WHC undertook a number of corporate activities in support of our projects and programs.

Management and Planning Activities

The Board met twice during the year, in June 2006 in Cambridge, Ontario and in January 2007 in Ottawa, Ontario. The Executive Committee met twice as well, in April 2006 and in November 2006. The Nominating Committee and Finance and Audit Committee both met in conjunction with the Board meetings, and the Finance and Audit Committee also met by teleconference to consider the draft report from the Auditor.

Activities during the year were dominated by the shift to a new organization of the annual budget and workplan, and reporting against this new format. The new format is closely aligned with the objects of WHC as laid out in its founding documents, allowing a much easier tracking of expenditures of both time and money against the basic reasons for the existence

of the organization. The workplan also reflected significant adjustments in expenditure patterns, including more than doubling of the amount spent on grants in support of habitat conservation activities by other groups.

A principal concern for the Board throughout the year was the state of the funding arrangements with Environment Canada through which the proceeds of the sale of Habitat Conservation Stamps are transferred to WHC, as required by the *Migratory Birds Regulations*. An amendment to the existing contribution agreement covering the 2006/07 fiscal year was completed in October 2006, and discussions concerning an extension to that agreement carried on throughout the year, coming to a conclusion only in May 2007.

Corporate Services and Banking Agreements

Corporate services staff provided services in the areas of organizational operations, financial management and coordination of the year end financial audit, for WHC during 2006/07. Staff also undertook accounting, banking, and reporting services for the Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia initiative, and the Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund program, as well as managed/coordinated the final program audit and review for the National Survey on Ecological Goods and Services (for Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada). WHC's accounting software was upgraded from ACCPAC to the more contemporary Windows-based software program Simply Pro, which required establishing and implementing new procedures (e.g. revision of account codes, restructuring of financial reports).

In addition, staff provided reporting, banking and financial management assistance to the broader habitat conservation community. During 2006/07, WHC assisted 11 external organizations/groups by administering banking agreements for:

- ◆ Canadian Wildlife Directors Committee
- ◆ NAWMP Prairie Habitat Joint Venture

- ◆ National Capital Region National Wildlife Week Festival
- ◆ Newfoundland and Labrador Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Wetlands Program
- ◆ Department of Fisheries and Oceans/Non-Government Organizations Coalition
- ◆ Partners in Flight National Working Group
- ◆ Partners in Flight Ontario/Bird Studies Canada
- ◆ Integrated Landscape Management Coalition
- ◆ National Forest Strategy Coalition (theme one)
- ◆ BC Habitat Trust Fund
- ◆ Intervale Conservation and Heritage Associates (peat filter wastewater treatment & habitat restoration in Labrador).

Of the above list, WHC received administration fees for five initiatives, and corporate services related to the latter five initiatives concluded as of March 31, 2007. The total funds administered by WHC for other conservation organizations/groups in 2006/07 totaled \$249,245.

Communication and Promotion Activities

Activities in 2006/07 followed the outline of the Stamp and Print Communication Plan provided to Environment Canada in June 2006.

In 2006/07, WHC's website (www.whc.org) was redesigned to enhance the visibility of the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print Program, improve the user's navigation among the web pages, ensure consistency when switching between the English and French web pages, and better reflect the activities and deliverables contained in the organization's workplan. The "What's New" section on our website (http://www.whc.org/EN/about/whats_new.htm) is kept up to date with various WHC accomplishments, news, and events.

The majority of communication about WHC was conducted by electronic means in 2006/07. Our newsletter/update that communicated the highlights of key activities and events involving staff and Board members was emailed to WHC's Board of Directors on a monthly basis. As well, WHC newsletters/updates were distributed electronically on a quarterly basis to members of the conservation community, to inform them about news, events, and accomplishments pertaining to the organization. A special update was distributed electronically to our colleagues and partners in February 2007 to advise them of the main outcomes of WHC's January 2007 Board of Directors meeting and update them on the status of the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp Contribution Agreement. An information sheet providing an overview on WHC was included with the February 2007 update distribution.

Solicitation of award nominee submissions for both the Forest Stewardship Recognition Program and Countryside Canada was again conducted electronically in 2006/07.



Canadian Museum of Nature Bird Gallery.

Lipman Still Picture Inc., 199 Crichton Street Ottawa, K1M 1W1

Pierre Leduc, the winner of the 2006/07 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp art competition, promoted the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp program by signing stamps for collectors and conservation enthusiasts at the Rousseau Wildlife, Philatelic, Numismatic Gallery in Montreal on April 1, 2006. He also accompanied WHC staff to the Royal Philatelic Society of Canada's 78th Annual Convention in Calgary on September 29 to October 1, 2006. Stamp collectors had the opportunity of a lifetime to view part of Queen Elizabeth II's personal stamp collection. As a result of WHC's participation at this event, an article published in the November 28, 2006 edition of *Canadian Stamp News* highlighted four main national conservation organizations, including WHC. In addition, Pierre and the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp art competition were featured in the article.

In cooperation with the Canadian Museum of Nature and as part of WHC's sponsorship grant to the museum's Bird Gallery, WHC developed additional promotional material about the stamp and print program (i.e. English and French program brochures) that was included in the museum's new Bird Gallery which opened in December 2006.

Our Funding Partners

WHC would like to thank the following organizations for their financial support of our projects and activities in 2006-2007.

Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp

- ◆ Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada
- ◆ Canada Post – philatelic product sales
- ◆ Canadian Art Prints
- ◆ Canadian Museum of Nature

Ecological Goods and Services National Survey

- ◆ Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada

Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund

- ◆ Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- ◆ US Fish & Wildlife Service
- ◆ Trillium Foundation
- ◆ Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation
- ◆ Wildlife Habitat Canada

Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands International Project

- ◆ Canadian International Development Agency

StewardshipCanada.ca

- ◆ Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- ◆ Stewardship Centre of BC (BC Habitat Trust Fund)
- ◆ Land Stewardship Centre of Canada (Alberta)
- ◆ BC Water and Waste Association.

Financial Summary 2006/2007

For further information on WHC's financial summary for 2006/07 below, or to receive our detailed financial statements, please contact WHC's President, David Brackett (dbrackett@whc.org).

Statement of Financial Position - March 31, 2007

Assets	2006/07	2005/06
Current assets		
Cash and Cash equivalents	\$ 2 032 985	\$ 2 230 344
Accounts receivable	252 465	504 130
Prepaid expenses	47 215	38 892
	<u>2 332 665</u>	<u>2 773 366</u>
Capital Assets	12 488	23 862
	<u>\$ 2 345 153</u>	<u>\$ 2 797 228</u>
Funds held in trust	<u>\$ 9 876</u>	<u>\$ 7 872</u>

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 534 958	\$ 915 131
Deferred contribution revenue	679 829	532 846
	<u>1 214 787</u>	<u>1 447 977</u>
Net Assets		
Investment in capital assets	12 488	23 862
Restricted for future year program commitments	350 000	486 500
Restricted for future administrative requirements	350 000	550 000
Working reserve	417 878	288 889
	<u>1 130 366</u>	<u>1 349 251</u>
	<u>\$ 2 345 153</u>	<u>\$ 2 797 228</u>
Trust liability	<u>\$ 9 876</u>	<u>\$ 7 872</u>

Statement of Operations for the year ended March 31, 2007

	2006/07	2005/06
Revenue		
Conservation stamp program	\$ 1 419 291	\$ 1 495 138
Habitat Conservation Projects - Action	1 722 719	1 847 363
Habitat Conservation Projects - Co-ordination	41 703	139 023
Miscellaneous	154 435	91 588
	<u>3 338 148</u>	<u>3 573 112</u>
Expenses		
Fund Habitat Conservation	\$ 1 128 101	\$ 1 029 180
Promote Habitat Conservation Action	1 630 538	1 814 103
Promote Habitat Conservation Co-ordination	130 205	139 023
Corporate Support Service	668 190	595 085
	<u>3 557 034</u>	<u>3 577 391</u>
Recovery of prior years' taxes	-	22 762
Excess of Revenues over Expenses	<u>\$ (218 886)</u>	<u>\$ 18 483</u>

To Contact Us

For more information about WHC, visit our website at www.whc.org, or contact us at:

Wildlife Habitat Canada

1750 Courtwood Crescent, Suite 310, Ottawa, ON K2C 2B5

Telephone: (613) 722-2090

Fax: (613) 722-3318

Toll-Free: (800) 669-7919

Email: admin@whc.org

Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) is a national, non-profit, conservation organization which was established in 1984 by Environment Canada, provincial wildlife agencies, and conservation agencies within the wildlife habitat coalition. WHC works through partnerships with communities, landowners, governments, non-government organizations, and industry to find effective solutions to complex environmental problems facing wildlife habitat. If you would like to get involved in one or more of our programs, or for more information, please contact us. All donations to WHC are tax deductible and detailed financial statements are available on request.

Charitable Registration Number: 11929 8131 RR0001

WHC's Staff

David Brackett	President	dbrackett@whc.org	ext. 224
Veronica Cameron	Office Administrator	vcameron@whc.org	ext. 223
Pauline Fitchett	Coordinator, Product Management & Communications	pfitchett@whc.org	ext. 222
Jill Heyde	Manager, Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia Project	Departed WHC in March 2007	
Claudia Latsch	Executive Assistant	clatsch@whc.org	ext. 228
Lynn McIntyre	Director, Stewardship	lmcintyre@whc.org	ext. 234
Cathy Pun	Accountant	cpun@whc.org	ext. 226
Amy Seabrooke	Manager, Stewardship Projects	Departed WHC in July 2006	
Naomi Tabata	National Manager, StewardshipCanada.ca	ntabata@whc.org	ext. 401
Val Turner	Intermediate Accountant	vturner@whc.org	ext. 249
Ed Wiken	Director of Science and Policy	Departed WHC in May 2006	
Nancy Wright	Senior Marketing Advisor	Departed WHC in March 2007	

WHC's Board of Directors

WHC is governed by a diverse Board of Directors that has three main committees: Finance & Audit; Nominating; and Executive. The Board was comprised of ten members in 2006/07 [three members appointed by Environment Canada (one in consultation with the Department of Fisheries and Oceans); two representatives of Provincial and Territorial Wildlife Directors (Eastern & Western respectively), one representing national NGO wildlife organizations, and four members selected by the Board]:

Peter Gray-Donald	Chair	Former Corporate Banking, Royal Bank of Canada
Bruce Amos	Director	Former Director General of National Parks; Former Regional Vice Chair, IUCN World Commission on Protected Areas
Bob Barton	Director	Past President, Canadian Wildlife Federation; Founding Director of the Manitoba Wildlife Federation Habitat Foundation
Jack Dubois	Director	Director of the Wildlife and Ecosystem Protection Branch, Manitoba Conservation
James Knight	Director	Consultant
David Lank, C.M.	Director	Professor, the Dobson Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies, McGill University
Howard Paish	Director	Retired, Howard Paish & Associates, Natural Resource and Environmental Management Specialists
Lyse Rousseau	Director	President, Rousseau Wildlife, Philatelic, Numismatic Gallery
Mike Sullivan	Director	Director, Fish and Wildlife Branch, NB Dept. of Natural Resources
Joy Waters	Director	ADM, Department of Environment, Yukon Government

The term of Joy Waters expired following WHC's January 2007 Board of Directors meeting in Ottawa.