



Wildlife Habitat Canada
Habitat Faunique Canada

2007-2008

ANNUAL REPORT



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www.whc.org

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 24 years) a waterfowl painting, 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 close to \$33 million in grants to habitat projects across the country and has undertaken over \$25 million in other habitat conservation work.

In fall 2007, Environment Canada undertook a public consultation on the future of the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp program and the management of the habitat conservation revenues generated through the stamp program. Overwhelming support was received for both the stamp program and for WHC as the delivery agent for habitat conservation initiatives across the country. WHC appreciates the support, and thanks all of those who took the time to respond to the consultation.

In December 2007, the Minister of Environment, the Honourable John Baird, appreciating the importance of the partnerships demonstrated during the consultation process, approved the continuation of the stamp program and its relationship with WHC. WHC looks forward to continuing to be an effective voice for wildlife habitat conservation in Canada 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.



Stamp Contribution Agreement

With a one year extension to the five year Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp contribution agreement between Environment Canada (EC) and Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) concluding as of March 31, 2008, in fall 2007, EC undertook a public consultation on the future of the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp program, as well as the management of the habitat conservation revenues generated through the Stamp program. Respondents expressed overwhelming support for both the Stamp program and WHC, and WHC thanks the Canadian conservation community, waterfowl hunters, artists, and stamp collectors for their support.

In December 2007, the Minister of Environment, the Honourable John Baird, approved the continuation of the Stamp program and the relationship with WHC. During the remainder of 2007-08, WHC worked with EC to finalize the details of the future Stamp program arrangements and contribution agreement. WHC hopes that the new three year contribution agreement will be signed early in the 2008-09 fiscal year.

Grants

In 2007-08, WHC's Board of Directors approved approximately \$1,096,682 in funding for 19 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.

Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund

Ten successful years of the Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund (OWHF) program concluded as of March 31, 2007. During 2007-08, an evaluation of the OWHF program since its inception was completed and WHC focused on wrapping up the reporting requirements for the OWHF. Since 1997,

approximately 1,140 OWHF projects have been completed with private landowners, resulting in the enhancement of more than 54,000 acres of wetland and associated upland habitats, and providing critical breeding and rearing habitats for a wide range of waterfowl and other wildlife.

Stamp & Print Program

During 2007-08, several events took place to promote the 2007 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp & Print, based on the painting "Morning Post – Wilson's Snipe" by Nigel Shaw of Innisfil, Ontario. As well, over the past year, for the first time, WHC had the responsibility for both producing and distributing the Limited Edition Prints which kept staff very busy.

In partnership with the Canadian Museum of Nature, WHC held the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Art Competition on October 15, 2007 at the museum in Ottawa. The judges chose the stunning image entitled "Lily Pond – Ruddy Ducks" by Patricia Pepin of Bromont, Quebec, as the new 2008 Stamp & Print image.

In conjunction with WHC's Board of Directors meeting, WHC hosted a reception on November 23, 2007 in Ottawa to meet Nigel Shaw and Patricia Pepin, the artists who created the paintings upon which the 2007 and 2008 Stamp & Print images are based. The artists spoke about the opportunities afforded them as a result of their paintings being chosen as the 2007 and 2008 Stamp & Print images, and their original paintings, as well as eight other paintings that finished in the top ten at the October 15th art competition, were on display for guests to view.

Departures from WHC

In 2007-08, Veronica Cameron left WHC's staff to pursue a new employment opportunity, and David Lank and Howard Paish completed their terms on WHC's Board of Directors.

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Funding Habitat Conservation in 2007/08

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. These Stamp funds 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; an extension to the Stamp Contribution Agreement for the 2007/08 fiscal year was finalized in May 2007.

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's grant program has provided close to \$33 million to hundreds of habitat conservation projects across the full range of Canadian landscapes and seascapes, from coast to coast to coast.

In 2007/08, approximately \$1,096,682 was invested in 19 projects through WHC's grant program that included five North American Waterfowl Management Plan grants, eleven habitat conservation grants, two grants to support habitat conservation networking, and a grant to the Newfoundland & Labrador Murre Conservation Fund. The projects supported by WHC primarily focused on:

- direct (on the ground) interventions related to habitat conservation, restoration or enhancement for waterfowl, in wetlands, or areas of importance for wetlands-associated species, or
- dealt with (wetland) habitat acquisition/securement for waterfowl or wetlands-associated species.

Brief descriptions and accomplishments of the 19 projects that were supported through WHC's grant program in 2007/08 are highlighted on the following pages. More detailed information on these projects can be found on WHC's website at http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/ProjectsFunded_07-08.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/07-08/CoastalandInlandFreshwaterWetlandsNfldLab.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$28,500
Total Project Budget	\$268,050

WHC's grant supported a portion of the salary and travel costs for wetland conservation and stewardship program delivery staff towards the:

- Negotiation of a **Municipal Wetland Stewardship Agreement** to secure over 500 acres of wetlands and associated uplands, and influenced another 300 acres. As well, field work was conducted in order to develop a conservation plan.
- Negotiation of a **Coastal Stewardship Agreement** with a coastal community to influence activity around 500 acres of sea duck and sea bird habitat.

- Liaison with communities through the **Stewardship Extension Program** which currently involves 17 incorporated municipalities and addresses a total of 332,036 acres of wetland and associated uplands.



Carmanville Stewardship Agreement signing with Minister Clyde Jackman (left)

Jason Foster, NL EHJV

WHC's grant funding represented 10.6% of the total project cost.

Project Contact:

Jonathan Sharpe, Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Program Manager, Newfoundland & Labrador Dept. of Environment & Conservation, Wildlife Division, Corner Brook NL.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Municipal Wetland Stewardship

- ◆ A wetland stewardship agreement was signed with the Town of Carmanville which secured 538 acres of wetland habitat extending their existing agreement area.
- ◆ A Common goldeneye nest box project resulted in the ongoing influence of 300 acres of wetland habitat.

Coastal Stewardship

- ◆ A number of coastal stewardship proposals were approved by the communities involved; the corresponding agreements are awaiting formal signature by the provincial Minister who is responsible for these agreements. When this formality is concluded, a significant proportion of coastal influenced acres will be realized in the near future.

Stewardship Extension Program

- ◆ EHJV staff:
 - ◆ Drafted habitat assessment protocol for use when assessing new potential stewardship sites in order to establish baseline data.
 - ◆ Drafted community based waterfowl monitoring protocol which will be primarily implemented in communities with existing

wetland stewardship agreements in order to provide an assessment of species diversity and an ongoing level of area usage by waterfowl and wildlife.

- ◆ Provided comments on the development of proposals that affect waterfowl and wetlands in areas with existing stewardship agreements as they relate to provincially designated Sensitive Wildlife/Waterfowl Areas and Municipal Planning Reviews.
- ◆ Attended both Stewardship Association of Municipalities spring and fall meetings in Carmanville and Labrador City respectively during which they presented reports, had discussions concerning issues of importance, and met with community officials.
- ◆ Drafted a revision to the EHJV website which is intended to be uploaded within the Canadian Stewardship Portal (www.StewardshipCanada.ca) and the Newfoundland & Labrador Wildlife Division web pages.
- ◆ Supported, through information, the ongoing digital mapping of stewardship area wetlands which will assist with detecting changes at these sites and with the future prioritization of activities.

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

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/NovaScotiaEHJVWetlandStewardshipProgram.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$33,000
Total Project Budget	\$1,627,697

WHC's grant supported a portion of the Stewardship Coordinator's salary and expenses to deliver two projects in conjunction with the Nova Scotia EHJV Wetland Stewardship Program:

1. Kings Agricultural Wetlands and Biodiversity Conservation Initiative

This initiative supports the wise use of wetlands in agricultural landscapes within the context of sustainable development. It focuses on securing ecosystem benefits from natural and restored riparian edges and wetlands employing watershed management and Beneficial Management Practices and principles.

2. Riparian Health Assessment for Nova Scotia

The goal of this project is to provide a process that can be used by community groups, government, and consultants to quickly and consistently identify, assess, and geo-reference the relative levels of riparian health along the waterways of the Atlantic Maritime Ecozone for conservation planning purposes.

WHC's grant funding represented 2% of the total project cost.

Project Contact:

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

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Kings Agricultural Wetland and Biodiversity Conservation Initiative

- ◆ 2 demonstration sites (a large beef farm and large dairy farm) promoting Best Management Practices in riparian areas and around water were developed in partnership with the agricultural producers in the Upper Cornwallis watershed. Site plans identifying opportunities to increase biodiversity and wildlife/waterfowl habitats, as well as Agricultural Biodiversity Conservation Plans, including a riparian health assessment, were developed for each site. As well, the 2 demonstration sites have been incorporated into a riparian biodiversity study as part of an Honour's thesis in conjunction with the Biology Department, Acadia University.
- ◆ In fall 2007, 2 wetlands were constructed with fencing and buffers as remote watering systems. An engineered wetland (1.5-2 acres) was installed at the dairy farm to reduce impacts of milkhouse runoff on the waterway; waterfowl were observed in the wetland soon after its construction. These areas should provide habitat for waterfowl and other aquatic and riparian edge species, as well as watering sources.
- ◆ Approximately 7 km of riparian area was fenced to prevent livestock access, and this should also increase biodiversity and potential waterfowl nesting sites.
- ◆ 3 permanent waterway crossings (i.e. bridge, arch culvert, and in-stream culvert) were installed to demonstrate the various techniques available.
- ◆ Approximately 2 acres of treed shelterbelts were planted around the 2 remote watering sites and along part of the riparian buffers.



Reg Newell, N.S. Dept. of Natural Resources

Constructed wetland at dairy farm demonstration site in Upper Cornwallis River Watershed

- ◆ Water quality parameters above and below each of the demonstration sites have been measured on a twice-monthly schedule.

Riparian Health Assessment for Nova Scotia

- ◆ A user manual and score sheet (adapted from the Alberta Cows and Fish Program's riparian health assessment tool) was developed that will indicate the health of riparian areas in Nova Scotia; a training/promotional session on the manual and score sheet was held in March 2008.
- ◆ A personal data assistant/geomatic tool was developed for directly recording riparian health assessment data and geo-reference information while in the field, and information/promotional/training workshops on the tool were held.
- ◆ The riparian health of approximately 200 km of waterway in Nova Scotia was evaluated.

Assessing Wetland Habitats of Breeding Pair Survey Plots in New Brunswick

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/AssessingWetlandHabitatNewBrunswick.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$25,000
Total Project Budget	\$49,000

WHC's grant supported the salary costs to complete the setting of more accurate waterfowl population objectives and habitat relationships in New Brunswick by:

- Characterizing (using Graphic Information Systems) the availability of breeding habitat on the Integrated Breeding Pair plots in relation to wetland availability across New Brunswick

- Setting more accurate waterfowl population goals based on corrected population estimates in conjunction with the new data
- Setting more accurate waterfowl habitat relationships based on corrected provincial habitat relationship matrix estimates in conjunction with the new data.

The more accurate population estimates will:

- Improve management for waterfowl
- Provide more refined waterfowl population objectives for the New Brunswick EHJV to develop habitat objectives in New Brunswick

- Provide baseline data to monitor changes in wetland habitat in relation to population trends over time
- Provide a more accurate habitat relationship matrix to set habitat objectives for waterfowl population objectives in New Brunswick.

Project Contacts:

Todd Byers, N.B. EHJV Coordinator, and Steve Gordon, N.B. Habitat Program, N.B. Dept. of Natural Resources, Fish & Wildlife Division, Fredericton NB.

WHC's grant funding represented 51% of the total project cost.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ This project quantified habitat type within Integrated Breeding Pair survey plots relative to the province of New Brunswick in an effort to improve the interpretation of waterfowl population estimates. The American Black Duck, a conservation priority species for the New Brunswick Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (NB-EHJV), was used for the purpose of the analysis.
- ◆ Habitat within Integrated Breeding Pair survey plots were assessed using Graphic Information Systems and data provided by the N.B. Dept. of Natural Resources. Information on wetlands, lakes/ponds, streams/rivers, and forests, as well as habitat types such as total wetland area, wetland type, lake area, and stream length, within the survey plots were analyzed. Correction factors were developed and applied when comparing the results of each assessment of the habitat within and around the survey plots to the wetland habitat across the province, to provide a weighted estimate of American Black Duck Integrated Breeding Pairs in New Brunswick.

Taking the mean of the highest three years of estimates resulted in a benchmark of 21,600 Integrated Breeding Pairs which is considerably less than the 37,000 Integrated Breeding Pairs in the NB-EHJV Implementation Plan. However, the waterfowl population estimates are crude and more work is required to develop a more accurate stratification process for adjusting plot density estimates for provincial populations.

- ◆ The results of this project indicate that extrapolating plot density to the provincial level appears to overestimate breeding American Black Duck abundance at the provincial level (e.g. the current NB-EHJV estimates may over-estimate provincial waterfowl abundance). Given that the current Integrated Breeding Pair survey plots don't include other important breeding habitat for American Black Ducks, such as agricultural lands and coastal landscapes in N.B., an alternate research method was provided for consideration in generating population estimates that are used to guide EHJV conservation planning and assessment efforts in N.B.

Protection of Wetlands, Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) – Quebec

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/QuebecProtectionofWetlandsEHJV.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$63,500
Total Project Budget	\$206,576

WHC's grant supported salaries, materials, travel, and communications associated with the Forested Wetlands Protection Program. Four new forested wetlands projects were initiated, allowing for the protection of more than 300 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 Northern Dusky Salamander, Least Bittern, Bald Eagle, Wood Turtle, and the Pickerel Frog.



Chaudière-Appalachians, 2007

Regional Environment Council

As well, eight new and seven projects already underway were monitored through the monitoring component of the Forested Wetlands Protection Program.

WHC's grant funding represented 30.7% of the total project cost.

Project Contact:

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

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Four projects on treed wetlands on private lands were supported under the Forested Wetlands Protection Program. More than 30 wetlands were characterized and protected.
- ◆ In a general way, these projects made it possible to ensure the protection of more than 300 hectares of treed wetlands thanks

to the conclusion of approximately 60 voluntary conservation agreements.

- ◆ A new component of the program developed in 2006 made it possible to support 15 projects by monitoring the conservation agreements to ensure the loyalty of the landowner's engagement in these projects.

Southern Ontario Priority Wetland Habitats

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/SouthernOntarioPriorityWetlandHabitats.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$200,000
Total Project Budget	\$662,763

WHC's grant supported wetland rehabilitation/creation projects and extension projects in conjunction with landowners in southern Ontario.

Wetland restoration/creation will lead to increased waterfowl populations. For example, each acre of restored and created wetlands typically generates 25 ducks per year. Therefore, estimated duck production for 400 acres of restored/created wetlands may produce approximately 100,000 ducks assuming a ten year life span.

As well, numerous other wetland dependent species will also benefit from these projects, including species of special concern in southern Ontario wetland habitats.

The wetland rehabilitation work will also improve water filtration, resulting in improved water quality.

WHC's grant funding represented 30.2% of the total project budget.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Wetland Restoration Projects

- ◆ With funding support from WHC, wetland restoration projects on 44 wetland project segments representing nearly 400 acres of wetlands and 811 acres of upland were completed in partnership with 20 landowners.
- ◆ Through complementary funding programs, 115 upland and wetland project segments were secured, and enhancements to the wetlands were completed on 3,870 acres at a cost of approximately \$2 million.

Extension / Stewardship

- ◆ During 2007/08, Ducks Unlimited Canada staff reached nearly 2,000 landowners through direct correspondence and other

communications efforts, such as landowner newsletters and workshops. Through these efforts, staff made 228 landowner contacts, resulting in 152 site visits and negotiated 14 stewardship agreements that cover 239 acres of wetland and 782 acres of upland.

- ◆ Through consultations with landowners, staff were able to influence the conservation of 260 acres of wetlands and 2,243 acres of upland.
- ◆ As well, staff provided technical assistance to landowners regarding minor wildlife habitat enhancements on their wetlands, resulting in the improvement (through buffer strips, nest boxes, etc.) of an additional 541 acres of wetland and 2,964 acres of upland.



Ducks Unlimited Canada staff

Susin Project – Restoring a wetland by shallow excavation

Project Contact:

Jamie Fortune, Director of Operations – Eastern Region, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Ottawa, ON.

Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund (OWHF)

As of March 31, 2007, the implementation phase of the Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund (OWHF) program concluded, with the completion of a successful ten years and the establishment of a strong interest in wetland conservation in Ontario. The OWHF conservation agreements will remain in effect for their full terms and during 2007/08, WHC honoured its financial commitments to landowners for the remaining OWHF projects, as well as its reporting requirements to the program partners.

The OWHF program wrap-up activities that were completed in 2007/08 include:

- Letters were sent to the landowners who had projects in progress to inform them of the deadline to submit their final reports to WHC and receive their final payments.
- From April to December 2007, final reports were audited, final site visits were performed and payments were issued to landowners.

- The Annual and Final Reports were submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to meet the North American Wetland Conservation Act program partner requirements.
- Final project reports were also distributed to other OWHF program partners (i.e. the Trillium Foundation and The Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation).
- A reconciliation of the National Tracking System report (for 1997-2007) was sent to Environment Canada.
- Preparation of the final OWHF Program Evaluation Report.

Our thanks go to the OWHF Program Administrator, Diane Brunet, for her efforts in assisting with the completion of these wrap-up activities. The OWHF program results and achievements in 2007/08 are highlighted below.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Number of reviewed projects: 114
- ◆ Number of projects approved: 111

All Projects Summary

- ◆ Total project costs: \$921,338
- ◆ Total landowner contributions: \$662,494
- ◆ Total OWHF and partners' contributions: \$258,844
- ◆ Total acres secured: 18,439
- ◆ Total wetland acres secured: 6,500
- ◆ Total upland acres secured: 11,939
- ◆ Total acres enhanced: 6,685
- ◆ Total wetland acres enhanced: 4,504
- ◆ Total upland acres enhanced: 2,180
- ◆ Cost per project: \$2,332
- ◆ Cost per enhanced acre: \$39

All Birds – All Habitats Funded Only Project Summary:

- ◆ Number of projects: 12
- ◆ Total project costs: \$66,489
- ◆ Total landowner contributions: \$35,692
- ◆ Total OWHF contributions: \$30,797
- ◆ 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: \$2,566
- ◆ Cost per enhanced acre: \$80



Marjorie Rogers-Carswell



Before and after photos of a wetland project in the Municipality of South Huron

Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund (OWHF) – 1997-2007 A Successful Ontario Wetlands Conservation Achievement

The Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund (OWHF) was established in 1996 by WHC and the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources (OMNR), supported by Environment Canada and the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). Under the auspices of the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, the OWHF became operational in 1997 as one of the program delivery mechanisms of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP). The OWHF was conceived to curb the demise of wetland ecosystems by supporting landowners in their voluntary efforts to conserve, enhance or restore wetland habitats and waterfowl populations. At that time, the program was a “proof of concept” that the delivery of a landowner extension program by multiple funding partners between two federal governments, the provincial government and a non-government organization was cost effective and could achieve multiple organizations’ objectives. It was considered to be very innovative and a radical concept at the time. Many individuals and organizations watched with interest as the OWHF program grew and expanded over the next ten years.

The goal of the OWHF was to encourage and support private landowners in their efforts to conserve and enhance existing wetlands on their property through the provision of technical support and financial assistance.

The OWHF objectives were:

1. To promote ecologically sound landscape uses which meet the needs of waterfowl, wetland wildlife and people;
2. To increase the abundance of wetland wildlife and to improve the quality and quantity of wetland habitats;
3. To encourage landowners to be involved in wetland habitat improvement, maintenance and monitoring; and
4. To have a positive effect on wetland habitat diversity to benefit waterfowl.

Over the OWHF’s ten year course, an impressive 1,140 projects lead to the enhancement of more than 54,000 acres of wetland and associated upland habitats in southern Ontario. These protected spaces have nurtured hundreds of different species and provided critical breeding and rearing habitats for a wide range of waterfowl and other wildlife.

To guide future landowner delivery programs, an evaluation of the OWHF program was completed in 2007/08. The evaluation report provides a retrospective view of the origin and the influences that helped to define the OWHF, including the early “drivers” that shaped private land stewardship in Ontario. The report traces the evolution of the OWHF program over its ten-year life span, assesses the effectiveness of the program in achieving its goals and objectives, highlights its accomplishments and identifies the practical lessons learned. The report concludes by characterizing the influences that will guide

the shifting conservation agenda in Ontario and demonstrates how the lessons learned from the OWHF legacy could assist in the development of future conservation programs directed at rural landowners.

WHC would like to convey a special thank you to all the field staff and landowners associated with the OWHF program over the past ten years for their wildlife habitat conservation efforts that contributed to the program’s success!

For more information about the OWHF or to obtain a copy of the OWHF 1997-2007 evaluation report, please contact WHC’s Director of Stewardship, Lynn McIntyre (lmcintyre@whc.org).

HABITAT CONSERVATION GRANTS

Important Bird Areas (IBA) Habitat Conservation Project

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/ImportantBirdAreas-HabitatConservationProject.htm>)

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

WHC’s grant supported project funding, as well as project management activities, for the following 11 IBA projects across Canada:

- Fraser River Estuary / Boundary Bay (British Columbia)
- Network of 75 waterbird / wetland IBA’s (British Columbia)
- Baynes Sound (British Columbia)
- Beaverhill Lake (Alberta)
- 4 prairie IBA’s (Alberta) :
 - Big Lake
 - Grand Prairies / Trumpeter Swan
 - Chappice Lake
 - Miquelon Lake
- Whitewater Lake (Manitoba)
- Norfolk Forest Complex (Ontario)
- Long Point Peninsula and Marsh (Ontario)
- Eastern Lake St. Claire (Ontario)
- Eastern Cape Sable Island (Nova Scotia)

- 6 marine IBA’s (Newfoundland & Labrador and Quebec):
 - Cape St. Marys
 - Baccalieu Island / Red Head Cove
 - Funk Island
 - Wadham Islands / Musgrave Harbour
 - Cape Freels Coastline and Cabot Island Cape Freels North
 - Baie de Brador.

Specific conservation actions were undertaken at each IBA to primarily benefit wetland habitat and / or migratory waterfowl, with an emphasis on concrete actions to conserve and restore habitat beneficial to the species for which the individual IBA was established.

WHC’s grant funding represented 25% of the total project budget.

Project Contact:

Julie Gelfand, President, Nature Canada, Ottawa, ON.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Invasive species removal efforts carried out by the Comox Valley Naturalists Society are showing good results for the improvement of wetland habitat in British Columbia's Comox Valley and Baynes Sound IBAs. Many different species of invasive plants were removed from the IBA during the 2007 field season, including yellow flag iris, Himalayan blackberry, knapweed and knotweed species, *Spartina* species, and giant hogweed. Hundreds of kilograms of invasive plants were removed this year – for example, 690 kg of yellow flag iris plants. A significant achievement, which signals that habitat restoration efforts are paying off, was the dramatic decline noted in the number of Purple Loosestrife and Himalayan Balsam plants needing to be removed from the area's wetlands this season.
- ◆ BC Nature has established a network of IBA Caretakers in British Columbia. This approach to IBA stewardship represents a significant contribution to the conservation of wetland habitat in the province, as 75 of BC's 85 IBAs are associated with wetlands and/or waterfowl. IBA Caretakers are key stewards of their local IBAs. They help to safeguard the IBA by monitoring threats to habitats and bird populations, and provide public outreach about the conservation of the birds and habitats of local IBAs. To date, the Caretaker network is active at 63 IBAs in BC.
- ◆ WHC's support of habitat restoration work at Alberta's Beaverhill Lake IBA has allowed the Beaverhill Bird Observatory to better protect the IBAs fragile shoreline habitat from inappropriate uses. Significant areas of the IBAs shoreline have been damaged from grazing cattle and the use of motorized vehicles. Through the IBA Habitat Conservation Project, fences, gates and educational signage have been installed which have greatly reduced impacts to the IBAs shorelines. In some newly protected areas, cattails are reappearing, and with them, marsh breeding birds like Sora and American Bittern. Thanks in part to their work conducted for the IBA Habitat Conservation Project, the Beaverhill Bird Observatory received Alberta's 2007 Outstanding Group Steward Award.
- ◆ The Turtle Mountain Conservation District secured protection for wetlands and upland habitats at Manitoba's Whitewater Lake IBA. A promotional campaign and outreach to local landowners resulted in the signing of a conservation agreement to protect 127 acres of native wetland habitat, and 30 acres of upland habitat. Because of the positive publicity surrounding this agreement, other landowners are now interested in exploring conservation agreements for their properties.



Alison Millham, Comox Valley Naturalists Society

Eradicating yellow flag iris, which grows vigorously in wet soil to the complete exclusion of native cattails, in a Comox Valley, B.C. wetland

Woodcock Habitat Enhancement

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/WoodcockHabitatEnhancement.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$10,032
Total Project Budget	\$18,142

WHC's grant supported the clear cutting (with a brush mower) of over mature alders on a private landowner's property in Hants County, Nova Scotia, to create 14 acres of rejuvenated habitat for woodcock and other migratory birds. The woodcock population will increase as the new alder growth will offer more nesting area for female woodcock, and females and young woodcock will stay and feed in the new habitat. In addition, the newly cut areas will provide staging areas for the male woodcock's spring "sky dance."

Upland game birds such as the ruffed grouse, as well as other wildlife including the snowshoe hare, songbirds, and white tailed deer, will benefit from the rejuvenated alder habitat.

WHC's grant funding represented 55.3% of the total project budget.

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

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ In December 2007, the project site was flagged in preparation for the work and a forestry company commenced work to clear the over mature alder growth. The work commenced quickly with no residual damage to the land due to the very cold weather experienced in December. The Contractor was able to perform the clearing work on the site (with a brush mower) in fifty-six hours, with four hours spent on moving the equipment to the site.
- ◆ This project created 14 acres of rejuvenated woodcock habitat through the clearing of a 14 acre site of over mature alder growth by brush mower between December 2007 and January 2008, on a private landowner's property in Maitland, Hants County, Nova Scotia.

Corn Creek Marsh Diversion Upgrade and Water Control Addition

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/CornCreekMarsh.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$25,000
Total Project Budget \$121,153

WHC's grant supported the construction of a new water control structure in Unit 2a of Corn Creek marsh as part of a larger campaign to replace/upgrade a network of 25 water controls within 14 managed wetland units (5,000 ha). The new installed structure will allow managing water levels in Unit 1 independently from three wetland units located upstream, by bypassing Unit 1. This new configuration will, in the future, permit Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area staff to conduct rehabilitation/restoration projects in Unit 1 to improve habitat for several species of waterfowl and many other wildlife species that utilize that wetland unit for one or more stages of their life cycle.



Earth dam removal by water control 2a – Corn Creek marsh unit 2a

Marc-André Beaucher, Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area

The Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area is a Ramsar Convention on Wetlands site of international significance, a Canadian Important Bird Area, and an Important Amphibian and Reptile Area in Canada. Over 285 species of birds, 55 species of mammals, 6 species of reptiles, 6 species of amphibians, and hundreds of plant and invertebrate species have been recorded within or around the Area over a 40-year period.

The funding from WHC accounted for 20.6% of the total project budget. WHC's grant supported the costs associated with the fabrication of the concrete drop inlet structure, the purchase of a high-density polyethylene culvert, the purchase of a flapgate, the fabrication of a concrete outfall structure, and a portion of the installation costs.

Project Contact:

Marc-André Beaucher, Wetland Manager, Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area, Creston, BC.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Replacement of a badly deteriorated water control structure at the south end of Unit 3 of Corn Creek marsh in October 2007 that helps manage water levels between Units 2b and 3, and maintains the wetland healthy for waterfowl and other wildlife species.
- ◆ Fabrication and installation of a new water control structure in Unit 2a of Corn Creek marsh in November 2007 that allows the evacuation of water from that unit without having to channel it through Unit 1.
- ◆ Fabrication of a new gatewell control structure and purchase of the necessary materials to replace a failing water control structure at the north end of Unit 3 of Corn Creek marsh that allows letting water in or out of that unit for wildlife management purposes (this work is planned for fall 2008).

Conservation Project of the Île de Grâce Meadow

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/ConservationProject-GraceIslandMeadow.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$30,000
Total Project Budget \$68,370

Île de Grâce is a vast habitat deemed to be essential to the lac Saint-Pierre's biological diversity. Its various marshes, grassland, and mature forest are home to a very large number of avifauna and terrestrial species. Farming activities on the Île de Grâce had been discontinued and the resulting grassland has a productive capacity for individual numbers and nesting success of many duck species. The project aimed to improve the Île de Grâce wildlife habitat through restoration, development and habitat protection work while allowing the maintenance of the grassland's integrity and re-establishing traditional agricultural activities. Farmers in the area noted that acquiring a barge was imperative to undertake farming activities on the island.

WHC's grant supported the construction, plans, and specifications related to

development of a barge that allowed the transport of agricultural equipment for use in farming activities on Île de Grâce. The barge would also be available for use by all conservation organizations in the lac Saint-Pierre area, for shoreline protection projects, waterway sand removal allowing greater fish access, or controlling undesirable plants around Île de Grâce.



The barge that is necessary for the implementation of agricultural activities on Île de Grâce, Quebec

Alain Desmarais, Regroupement des Sauvagniers du Lac St-Pierre

WHC's grant funding represented 44% of the total project budget.

Project Contact:

Alain Desmarais, Project Manager, Regroupement des sauvagniers du lac St-Pierre, Saint-Ignace-de-Loyola, QC.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

◆ Through this project, a barge was acquired for the transportation of machinery and equipment to Île de Grâce that will enable traditional agricultural activities to be carried out once again.

◆ The Île de Grâce meadow is very productive with regard to the nesting success of many duck species. The next phase of the project will be to undertake ploughing, digging ditches, and installing an herbaceous strip around the perimeter of the island that will contribute to waterfowl productivity.

Habitat Conservation and Stewardship in Saskatchewan

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/HabitatStewardshipinSaskatchewan.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$95,000
Total Project Budget \$866,500

WHC's grant supported the expenses associated with habitat securement, enhancement, and restoration, as well as stewardship activities and the development of the wetland inventory, in conjunction with:

- Habitat securement (through 12 year conservation agreements with private landowners) implementing cooperative habitat conservation and enhancement projects.
- Habitat conservation and enhancement including conversion of cropland to spring pasture and hayland seeded with native or non-invasive tame species.
- Voluntary stewardship agreements and provision of extension material to private landowners to influence management of native habitats.
- The quantification of wetland loss rates in Northern Pintail Target Areas.

It is estimated that the current project's conversion of cropland to forest in Saskatchewan waterfowl target areas will hatch over 18,480 dabbling ducklings and 4,750 Pintail ducklings over the duration of the 12-year conservation agreements.

WHC's grant funding for this Prairie Habitat Joint Venture related initiative is approximately 11% of the total project budget.

Project Contact:

Bob Carles, Vice President, Stewardship Division, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, Regina, SK.



Jason Puckett, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

Lon and Kathy Slade converted 1,220 acres of cropland to tame pasture at Touchwood ranch located southeast of Raymore

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

Habitat Securement and Enhancement

As part of the larger program to which WHC funds contributed, 53 habitat enhancement projects with 12 year agreements were initiated and cost-shared with landowners to convert a total of 9,120 acres of cropland to perennial cover in 11 NAWMP Target Landscapes encompassing regions of high waterfowl and Northern Pintail nesting density.

- ◆ One project was initiated in the Quills South Target Landscape (TL) that converted 150 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ Four projects were initiated in the Pheasant Hill TL that converted 1956 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ Four projects were initiated in the Touchwood - Beaver TL that converted 1618.5 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ Seven projects were initiated in the Upper Assiniboine TL that converted 1684.5 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ Four projects were initiated in the Coteau North TL that converted 602.5 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ Four projects were initiated in the Coteau Central TL that converted 467.5 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ One project was initiated in the Boundary Plateau TL that converted 55 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ One project was initiated in the Coteau South TL that converted 129 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ Seven projects were initiated in the Thickwood TL that converted a total of 800 acres of cropland to perennial cover.
- ◆ Eighteen projects were initiated in the Lightning East TL that converted 1598 acres of cropland to perennial cover.

- ◆ Two projects were initiated in the Regina East TL that converted a total of 59 acres of cropland to perennial cover.

Prairie Stewardship Program

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority's (SWA's) Prairie Stewardship Program provides stewardship extension information to landowners through newsletters and a variety of information guides provided as handouts at a variety of functions. Funding from WHC has been recognized in every edition of the Prairie Update newsletter which is distributed by mail to 1,488 voluntary stewards across Saskatchewan. WHC's contributions to the project were also recognized on the SWA website (www.swa.ca), at the SWA booth which was present at 9 tradeshow between April 2007 and March 2008 that had a total attendance of over 199,030 people, in 69 presentations and workshops that were attended by a total of 2,533 people, on signage displayed with voluntary stewards and demonstration project participants, on certificates sent to voluntary stewards, and in literature distributed to producers.

Wetland Inventory

Historic wetlands within a 129,703 acre (~ 5.5 townships) portion of the NAWMP Lightning East Target Landscape were digitized from 1962 airphotos. A total of 19,966 historic wetlands were digitized. Comparison of the historic wetland dataset with the results of an inventory of current wetlands led by other agencies (to be completed in Summer 2008) will enable calculation of wetland loss, assessment of risk factors influencing likelihood of wetland loss, development of a risk model for wetland loss, and aid in development of monitoring strategies that are robust to variation in the spatial distribution of wetland loss.

Long Cove Conservation Lands Campaign

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/LongCoveConservationLandsCampaign.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$50,000
Total Project Budget \$552,347

Project Contact:

Bonnie Sutherland, Executive Director, Nova Scotia
Nature Trust, Halifax, NS.

WHC's grant supported the costs associated with the actual land purchase from a landowner, as well as the title work, appraisal, and survey work required to complete the land acquisition to protect approximately 4.5 km of coastline habitat and six islands in Ragged Harbour, Nova Scotia, an important overwintering area for waterfowl.

WHC's grant funding represented 9.1% of the total project budget.



Ben Davis, Nova Scotia Nature Trust

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ The Long Cove property was secured as of October 10, 2007, resulting in the permanent protection of one of the largest and most ecologically diverse areas of undeveloped coastal habitat on the south shore of Nova Scotia. Exposed oceanfront, two small headlands, white sand beaches and rocky shorelines, as well as extensive areas of pristine salt marsh and a number of small islands are included in the property, which encompasses approximately 4.5 km of coastline.
- ◆ The property directly benefits wetland habitat conservation by preserving 63 hectares (155 acres) of diverse coastal wetlands and shoreline. These habitats are important for a wide range of wildlife, particularly birds, of which 250 species are known to use the area. The property, along with adjacent areas in Medway Harbour, is an important overwintering area for waterfowl and the site is considered a priority site by the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture coastal habitat project.
- ◆ A stewardship plan was developed for the Long Cove property and serves as a guiding document for managing the property.

Long Cove Conservation Lands

Proven Lake Habitat Acquisition and Watchable Wildlife Site

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/ProvenLakeHabitat.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$50,000
Total Project Budget \$145,200

WHC's grant supported the acquisition of a 274 acre parcel of land from a landowner. The land consists of wetland habitat and adjacent uplands nesting cover, and will be protected through its addition to the Proven Lake Wildlife Management Area in Manitoba.

Wildlife will benefit from the long term securement of this wetland and associated upland habitat.

Development of non-intrusive wildlife viewing facilities on this site will create a better awareness of the importance of wildlife habitat in the area and hopefully lead to further conservation efforts in the area.

WHC's grant funding represented 34.4% of the total project budget.

Project Contact:

Bob Grant, Manager of Provincial Operations, Ducks
Unlimited Canada, Brandon, MB.



Ducks Unlimited Canada staff

Proven Lake dyke

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ Through this grant, 274 acres of habitat at Proven Lake near Riding Mountain National Park was acquired in January 2008 in order to conserve this significant waterfowl nesting, brood rearing, and staging habitat. This habitat will be added to the Proven Lake Wildlife Management Area which is recognized nationally as a Canadian Important Bird Area by Nature Canada, and as a Manitoba Heritage Marsh.
- ◆ Through a prior lease arrangement between Ducks Unlimited Canada and the former landowner, the upland habitat was seeded to permanent cover and will continue to be managed to provide waterfowl nesting cover and habitat for other wildlife.
- ◆ During the summer of 2008, a Watchable Wildlife Site is scheduled to be developed on the newly acquired habitat by Manitoba Tourism that includes a parking area and interpretive trail along the existing dyke system, in order to encourage public use of the site for both recreational and educational purposes.

Wetland Protection in Southwestern Manitoba

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/WetlandProtectionSouthwesternManitoba.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$100,000
Total Project Budget	\$1,131,300

Project Contact:

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

WHC's grant supported the securement of wetland and associated habitats with perpetual conservation easements within the glaciated prairie pothole region of southwestern Manitoba (and within the Manitoba NAWMP target area). The ratio of wetland to upland acres secured was approximately 1:1. At least 17 species of waterfowl and over 200 species of waterbirds, shorebirds, and landbirds will benefit from these wetland conservation activities.

WHC's grant funding represented 8.8% of the total project budget.



Rob Shearer, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation

Prairie Pothole landscape where the southwestern Manitoba project has actively secured wetland habitats

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ In 2007/08, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation secured 42 Conservation Easements, totalling 5,020 acres of wetland associated habitats in North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) priority areas in southwestern Manitoba. Of those, 10 Conservation Easements affecting a total of 1,075 acres of wetland and associated habitats were purchased directly with WHC funding (these Conservation Easements are within the Four Watersheds planning area of the Integrated Watershed Management Plan). All Conservation Easements were signed in perpetuity.
- ◆ The purchased Conservation Easements were delivered in priority landscapes identified within the Manitoba Implementation Plan for NAWMP as being of high value for waterfowl production. Therefore, they contribute to the regional, provincial, and national objectives for NAWMP. As well, they provide habitat for at least 17 species of waterfowl, and approximately 200 other species of birds can potentially use these habitats at some time during their life cycles. Furthermore, many mammal, reptile, and amphibian species depend on these habitats.

Wetland Restoration in Canada's Prairie Ecozone

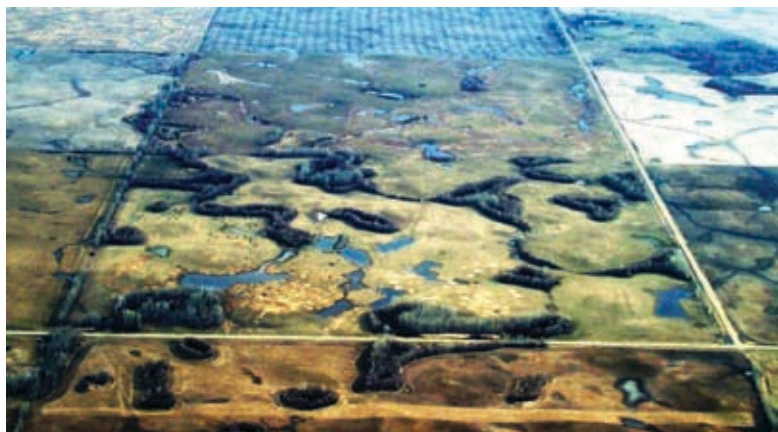
(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/WetlandRestoration-PrairieEcozone.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$95,000
Total Project Budget	\$741,035

WHC's grant supported the restoration of small wetland basins in the province of Alberta. Individual wetlands or "ponds" averaged 1.5 acres, ranging between 0.1 to 5 acres in size. Most basins were restored to seasonal or semi-permanent types. Lands included a mix of private and permanently secured parcels.

Benefits such as additional breeding duck pairs, accrue with each restored basin. Additional benefits for breeding waterfowl occur with multiple wetland restorations through enhanced hen and duckling survival.

WHC's grant funding represented 12.8% of the total project budget.



David Matheson, Ducks Unlimited Canada

Historically seasonal wetlands had been drained. The ditches were plugged in fall 2007 and the basins were filled by the spring 2008 runoff.

Project Contact:

Michael Barr, North American Waterfowl Management Plan Specialist, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Camrose, AB.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ WHC's grant supported the restoration of 5 land parcels, including 84 wetland basins and 201 acres. Physical restoration involved minor earthworks to "plug" a drainage ditch or channel and re-contour the outlet to its assumed, original state.
- ◆ Modest spring run-off conditions in 2008 resulted in limited or no reflooding of many restored basins this year.
- ◆ Overall in 2007/08, Ducks Unlimited Alberta restored a total of 106 wetland basins totaling 394 acres.

Average wetland size was 3.7 acres. Projects occurred throughout the prairie/parkland region (including the Peace parklands). Wetland restorations occurred on private lands secured through short term or in-perpetuity agreements (e.g. conservation easement) and permanently secured lands (e.g. purchase).

- ◆ Project benefits are impressive and significant for waterbird, other wetland-dependent wildlife and agricultural producers. Detailed waterfowl benefits are periodically determined by applying landscape-scale models that consider cumulative, net wetland and upland change. Less tangible but significant benefits from this project are the demonstration value restored wetlands provide, and how these examples inspire others to also support wetland conservation.

Alternative Land Use Services (ALUS) Demonstration Project in the County of Vermilion River, Alberta

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/ProjectVermilionRiverAlberta.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$100,000
Total Project Budget	\$1,070,000

Flooding has been a problem in the Big Gully area of the County of Vermilion River. One recommended solution to the flooding

problem is to use wetlands as a means of storing excess water, thus preventing flooding and at the same time increasing the valuable wetland habitat which provides nesting sites for bird and other wildlife populations. Flood control through increased wetlands can produce more wildlife, especially waterfowl, as well as reduce

flood damage and cropland loss (the Big Gully region is known for its importance to waterfowl production).

A project management team working with private landowners of ALUS eligible land in the Big Gully area will clearly identify the ALUS lands. The ALUS lands will be incorporated into the Wetland Conservation Program for protection (of water quality) and future wildlife development. These areas will then be converted to, or restored as, wetlands which will become a substantial financial benefit to the area in the form of tourism, bird watching, and hunting.

WHC's grant will support the restoration/creation of wetlands of ALUS identified land in the Big Gully area of the County of Vermilion River, Alberta.

The project will provide a unique opportunity to test an ecological services delivery model (ALUS)

by combining municipal wetland restoration for flood control with ecological goods and services for conserving/enhancing environmental benefits.

WHC's grant funding represents 9.3% of the total project budget.

Project Contacts:

Robert Sopuck, Vice President-Policy, Western Canada, Delta Waterfowl Foundation, Winnipeg, MB, and Dr. Robert O. Bailey, Vice President, Policy for Canada, Delta Waterfowl Foundation, Lombardy, ON.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ This project is in the advanced planning stage. Confirmation of some funding sources have been delayed due to administrative reasons, and WHC funding for the project will be released when the funding package is complete.

Developing a Marsh Bird Monitoring Program for Prairie Habitat Joint Venture

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/MarshMonitoringPrairieHabitat.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant	\$50,000
Total Project Budget	\$65,567

The Prairie Habitat Joint Venture's (PHJV's) historic emphasis has been on the conservation of waterfowl and their wetland and upland related habitats. Scientific information obtained for water birds (i.e. grebes, rails, herons, and bitterns) is sparse, thus hampering the design of habitat conservation strategies and programs for these species. As well, the lack of systemic data also limits the ability of the PHJV to assess how their existing programming is affecting these species.

To address the lack of data, Bird Studies Canada proposed designing and testing a monitoring program for water birds in PHJV areas of interest based on continental assessments of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. The monitoring program is planned to be initially piloted in selected focal areas in each province, and then rolled out throughout the PHJV area once long-term funding has been identified. The program will:

- Eventually lead to building a database that will enable estimates of population trends for focal target wetland bird species
- Contribute species and associated habitat use information that will guide model development and inform decision support systems to help to evaluate relative importance of wetland types and habitat types to these species
- Inform evaluation of PHJV programs and how these affect water birds.

WHC's grant funding represented 76.3% of the total project budget.

Project Contact:

Dr. George Finney, President, Bird Studies Canada, Port Rowan, ON.



Matthew Frey, Bird Studies Canada

Prairie & Parkland Marsh Monitoring Program personnel conducting site reconnaissance & establishing a marsh bird survey station, Dana Hills, Sask.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

- ◆ The Prairie & Parkland Marsh Monitoring Program (PPMMP) Steering Committee (representatives include Federal, Provincial, and non-government organizations) was formed and its inaugural meeting was held in February 2008. The Steering Committee guided the founding of program goals that will enhance PHJV habitat-based conservation planning.
- ◆ Partnerships were established and other sources of funding were secured that permit 2008 pilot study efforts, ground reconnaissance, and field study project evaluation.
- ◆ First-year pilot fieldwork is planned to begin in May 2008 at study sites near Beaverhill, AB, and Dana Hills, SK, to evaluate survey and sampling protocols, and project logistics. As well, Bird Studies Canada is planning to conduct 2008 pilot work at Ducks Unlimited Canada's Spatial and Temporal Variation in Nest Success of Prairie Ducks sites.

GRANTS TO SUPPORT HABITAT CONSERVATION NETWORKING

WHC provides small grants to support activities leading to improved capacity and coordination in habitat conservation and stewardship in Canada. In 2007/08, two conservation networking grants were provided.

- **National Capital Region National Wildlife Week Festival**

WHC Approved Project Grant \$1,000

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

WHC Approved Project Grant \$3,333

NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR MURRE CONSERVATION FUND

Newfoundland & Labrador Murre Conservation Fund

(see <http://www.whc.org/EN/grant/07-08/MurreConservationFund-Nfld-Lab.htm>)

WHC Approved Project Grant \$37,317

Created in 2005, the Murre Conservation Fund 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 enhance conservation and management of murre populations and their habitats. The Fund encourages the conservation of murre species as functioning components of ecosystems and as a contribution toward the biological diversity of native species and habitats in Newfoundland and Labrador. 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 (<http://legacynaturetrust.ca/index.asp>) under the direction of the Murre Conservation Fund Committee, of which WHC is a member.

WHC's grant to the Murre Conservation Fund is 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.

RESULTS & ACHIEVEMENTS

In its first year of funding (2007-2008), the Murre Conservation Fund granted \$62,704 for the following 4 projects concentrating on murre conservation in Newfoundland and Labrador:

- (1) Tracking Reproductive and Parental Behavior of Common Murres;
- (2) Stewardship and Responsible Hunting of Turrs;
- (3) Year-round Tracking of Murres in NL; and,
- (4) An Investigation into Population Status, Reproductive Success and Phenology of Common and Thick-billed Murre Colonies on the Gannet Islands.

In March 2008, the Murre Conservation Fund issued a call for proposals for a second round of funding (2008-2009). These applications will be reviewed and processed in May 2008.



Peter Thomas, Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada

Common Murres with chick, Gannet Islands Ecological Reserve, NL

Project Contact:
Michelle Myrick, Newfoundland and Labrador Legacy Nature Trust, St. John's, NL.

Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamps & Prints

The **Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print** are produced each year through unique partnerships among WHC, the Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada 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.

2007 & 2008 Conservation Stamp and Print

During 2007-2008, WHC took on the task of producing, as well as distributing, the various limited edition prints of the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print Program. The distribution of these prints gave us a great opportunity to connect with many dealers across North America that sell our products.

Due to 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 art competition

was chosen to represent the image of the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print for 2007. The 2007 image is "Morning Post – Wilson's Snipe" by Nigel Shaw of Innisfil, Ontario.

Over the 2007-2008 program year, Nigel participated in a stamp launch event, artist shows, as well as a special reception that featured the artists who created the paintings for the 2007 and 2008 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamps and Prints. The reception was held in Ottawa, Ontario in conjunction with WHC's fall 2007 Board of Directors meeting (additional details on the reception can be found under Promotional Activities on page 23). It was a pleasure working with Nigel during the 2007



2007 Stamp by Nigel Shaw
"Morning Post – Wilson's Snipe"



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

Program Year. We thank him for his continued support and wish him the best of luck in the future!

Our annual Art Competition was held on October 15, 2007 at the Museum of Nature in Ottawa, Ontario. A total of 25 Canadian wildlife artists competed to have their painting chosen as the image for the 2008 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp. Of these, eight artists were newly selected to compete in the competition for the first time. Our thanks go to the judges who volunteered their time to judge the entries. Categories represented by the judges were: ornithology, habitat, wildlife art, and stamps. After a three stage judging process, the striking painting “Lily Pond – Ruddy Ducks” by Patricia Pepin of Bromont, Quebec was chosen as the 2008 image. 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 Event:

- Nigel Shaw participated in an artist signing to launch the 2007 Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print program at Rousseau Stamps & Coins at the Bay in Montreal on April 1, 2007 where he greeted stamp collectors and conservation enthusiasts.



Jackie Shaw

Nigel Shaw signing stamps at the 2007 Stamp Launch at Rousseau Stamps & Coins at the Bay in Montreal

Promotional Activities:

- Once again, in 2007-2008 a display of the current original painting and WHC stamp & print program products were highlighted at the Algonquin Art Centre in Algonquin Park, Ontario. Nigel’s painting “Morning Post – Wilson’s Snipe” was displayed throughout the summer months. As well, Nigel took part in an “Artist in the Park” event at Algonquin Art Centre. He was available to speak with park visitors, as well as sign conservation stamps while sketching new works of art. A framed Limited Edition Print that was



Nigel Shaw (2007 Artist) and Patricia Pepin (2008 Artist) with their original paintings for the Habitat Conservation Stamp & Print program at WHC’s November 2007 reception

Annemarie Grudén, Annemarie Grudén Photography

donated for a draw at the Boutique in the Art Centre was well received by the large number of customers visiting the park.

- The 2007 original painting travelled to Buckhorn, Ontario for a two week stay at the Gallery-on-the-Lake in July. During this time, Nigel was a featured artist at the Gallery. The WHC Stamp and Print Program was promoted in conjunction with Nigel’s original painting.
- Donated Art was once again available at the Algonquin Art Centre for the summer season. A large giclée by artist Pierre Leduc, as well as one by artist Michael Dumas, sold with the proceeds going to wildlife habitat conservation, restoration and enhancement initiatives. WHC thanks the artists who have donated their artwork to raise funds for these initiatives.
- On November 23, 2007, a reception was held in conjunction with WHC’s fall 2007 Board of Directors meeting in Ottawa. At the reception, the paintings of nine of the top ten finalists in the art competition to select the image for the 2008 Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print, including Patricia Pepin’s winning painting for the 2008 image entitled “Lily Pond – Ruddy Ducks”, were available for viewing. The 2007 painting “Morning Post – Wilson’s Snipe”, as well as the 2008 winning painting, were well received by the reception attendees. Both Nigel and Patricia were present to say a few words about their paintings. Nigel also spoke about the highlights of his experience being the winner for the 2007 Program year. The reception offered WHC a good opportunity to showcase the Stamp and Print Program.

- Over 240 Conservation Edition Prints were distributed to non-government organizations during 2007-2008, raising approximately \$25,000 that went directly towards their respective conservation initiatives. *For more information about the Conservation Edition Print Program, please contact WHC's Coordinator Product Management, Pauline Fitchett (pfitchett@whc.org).*
- 2007-2008 was the second year that WHC distributed Mentor Lapel Pins to a number of partners for the purpose of recognizing those who volunteered as mentors during Waterfowler Heritage Day events across Canada. Close to 600 Mentor Lapel Pins were distributed during the course of the mentoring events. "WHC is proud to recognize those hunters who are dedicating their time to introducing a new generation to waterfowling and conservation", commented WHC's President, David Brackett.
- WHC Stamp and Print Program products were available for sale at the Nature Boutique at the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa. In addition, promotional materials in both English and French for the 2007 Program year were also available in the Bird Gallery as part of WHC's sponsorship of the Bird Gallery Exhibit.



2007
Mentor Lapel Pin

Stamp and Print Products

(see our 2008 products at <http://www.whc.org/EN/stamps/2008products.htm>)

Stamps

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 as 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

During 2007-2008, WHC took on the added responsibility of producing the various limited edition prints for the 2007 program. We were able to connect with dealers across North America who have sold our prints over the past 23 years. 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 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.



2008
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.

2008 Stamp & Print Image

The Artist

The fields surrounding Patricia's home in Bromont, Quebec were her first playgrounds. Her interest in nature began early with her fondness for frogs, bugs, and other creatures that hide under stones. Except for the lessons taken as a child, Patricia is mostly a self-taught artist, learning her skills from observing the work of other painters.

Light is very important to her and the subjects in her paintings are almost always bathed in sunshine. As an artist she tries to capture a fleeting moment in nature when the light is just right; a coyote's furtive glance, the flash of orange of a goldfish or the graceful curve in a bird's neck.

Patricia's career in wildlife art began in 1997 when she saw the "Birds in Art" exhibition in Wisconsin, U.S. She was struck by the quality and diversification that was possible within the animal art genre. One year later, one of her paintings was part of the same exhibition and her career as a wildlife artist has been going forward ever since.

Patricia has rightfully earned the recognition of her peers and plans to remain in the heart of the Wildlife Art Movement by continually producing exceptional paintings.

The artist currently lives in Bromont, Quebec.

About the Painting "Lily Pond – Ruddy Ducks"

"Marshes and ponds are places I love to visit because the animal and plant life found there is abundant and diversified. I take great pleasure in painting pond lilies, as well as water lilies, and enjoy the challenge of doing justice to their beauty. In this painting, I placed the ruddy ducks alongside a yellow pond lily, in an attempt to emphasize their diminutive size."

– Patricia Pepin



2008 Stamp
"Lily Pond – Ruddy Ducks"
by Patricia Pepin of Bromont, QC



2008 Print
"Lily Pond – Ruddy Ducks"
by Patricia Pepin of Bromont, QC

Advancing Stewardship – Promoting Habitat Conservation Action

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.

Her Excellency, the Right Honourable Michaëlle Jean, C.C., C.M.M., C.O.M., C.D., Governor General of Canada, serves as Patron of Wildlife Habitat Canada. The Governor General's public support of WHC's conservation activities will help to raise the profile of stewardship across Canada.

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

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.



FSRP recipients 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.

On July 18, 2007, the Honourable Iona Campagnolo, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia on behalf of the Governor General of Canada, presented the 2007 Forest Stewardship Recognition Program Award to Warren Cook and his son, Bruce Cook, of Bowser, B.C. The forest stewardship award, which recognizes outstanding stewardship in Canada's forests, has been presented to the Cooks to honour their exceptional commitment to habitat protection.

"The forest stewardship award is a national awards program that promotes stewardship and biodiversity conservation," said David Brackett, President of Wildlife Habitat Canada. "The Cook family has



Westwind Photographic Services, Nanaimo, BC

The Honourable Iona Campagnolo, Lieutenant Governor of British Columbia on behalf of the Governor General of Canada, presented the 2007 Forest Stewardship Recognition Program Award to Warren Cook and his son, Bruce Cook.

established a legacy of habitat protection, thanks to the dedication of Warren and Bruce Cook."

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.

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 Countryside Canada. 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.

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 upcoming 2009 national stewardship conference to be held in July 2009 in Calgary Alberta, the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Board, the Prairie Habitat Joint Venture Board, and the NABCI Canada Council. David Brackett attended and made presentations to

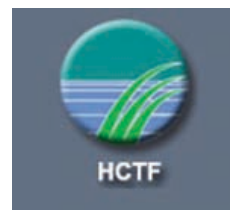
the Canadian Wildlife Directors Committee, and participated in the attempts at a revival of the Species at Risk Working Group (a coalition of non-governmental and business groups). Lynn McIntyre participated as a member of the Ontario Natural Spaces Leadership Alliance and the Coalition of the Dept. of Fisheries and Oceans/conservation non-government organizations.



StewardshipCanada.ca, Naomi Tabata
(ntabata@whc.org).

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



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

In March 2007, the presidents of nine nationally / regionally-focused conservation non-governmental organizations (CNGO's) and the Minister of Fisheries and Oceans signed an agreement to formalize their commitment to work together to achieve better conservation and protection of our aquatic habitat resources.

The objectives of the coalition of CNGO's and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans are to:

- Promote the stewardship of fish habitat
- Provide advice on issues and policies impacting on the aquatic ecosystem, and
- Enable the leveraging of resources to support the work of the coalition.

Conservation of the aquatic ecosystem has been improved through the coalition's activities during the past year that include website sharing of

technical reports, public outreach, and stewardship initiatives.

In March 2008, a coalition workshop was held on Integrated Planning and Fish Habitat Management in Canada. Participants developed a framework for effective integrated planning for fish habitat management, as well as defined the role of the CNGO's in the implementation of the framework and next steps.

For more information on the DFO/CNGO coalition, please contact WHC's Director of Stewardship, Lynn McIntyre (lmcintyre@whc.org).

Corporate Activities

During 2007-2008, WHC undertook a number of corporate activities in support of our projects and programs.

Management and Planning Activities

WHC's Board of Directors and Committees met several times over the past year. The Board met in July 2007 in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory, by teleconference in August and September 2007, and in November 2007 in Ottawa, Ontario. The Executive Committee met by teleconference in April 2007, August 2007, and January 2008. The Nominating Committee met by teleconference in April 2007 and February 2008 to discuss potential candidates for WHC's Board, while the Finance and Audit Committee met by teleconference in June 2007 to review the Auditor's draft audit report for 2006/2007. As well, both the Nominating and Finance and Audit Committees met in conjunction with the Board meetings in June and November 2007.

During the past year, the primary focus for WHC's Board of Directors was seeking the continuation of the organization's 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 extension to the stamp contribution agreement covering the 2007/08 fiscal year was finally signed in May, 2007 and concluded as of March 31, 2008. With the Environment Minister's December 2007 approval of the continuation of the stamp program and management of the habitat conservation revenues generated through that program subsequent to Environment Canada's public consultation process in fall 2007, discussions concerning the details of a new contribution agreement took place during the remainder of the fiscal year. A new three year contribution agreement was drafted in February 2008; WHC hopes that the agreement will be finalized early in the 2008/2009 fiscal year as extended delays in getting the agreement in place would be disruptive for the Board, and for the delivery of habitat conservation grants to project proponents across the country.

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 2007-2008. Staff also undertook accounting, banking, and reporting services for the Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund program. As well, staff managed/coordinated the completion of the:

- Climate Change, Forests and Peatlands in Indonesia initiative, with final reporting and the return of unused funds in May 2007
- National Survey on Ecological Goods and Services final program audit. Submission of the final program reports and receipt of the holdback payment were completed in July 2007.

In addition, staff provided reporting, banking and financial management assistance to the broader habitat conservation community. During 2007-2008,

WHC assisted six external organizations/groups by administering banking agreements for:

- Canadian Wildlife Directors Committee
- NAWMP Prairie Habitat Joint Venture
- Newfoundland and Labrador Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Coastal and Inland Freshwater Wetlands and Stewardship Program
- Coalition of Non-Governmental Conservation Organizations and the Department of Fisheries and Oceans
- Partners in Flight National Working Group
- National Capital Region National Wildlife Week Festival.

WHC received administration fees for four initiatives on the above list. Corporate services for the National Capital Region National Wildlife Week Festival concluded as of August 31, 2007. The total funds administered by WHC for other conservation organizations/groups in 2007-2008 totaled \$341,440.

Communication and Promotion Activities

During 2007-2008, the “What’s New” section (http://www.whc.org/EN/about/whats_new.htm) on WHC’s website highlighted various WHC accomplishments, news, and events.

As well, newsletters/updates that highlighted WHC’s key activities and events were distributed electronically on a quarterly basis to members of the conservation community, to inform them about the news and accomplishments pertaining to the organization. In August 2007, we distributed a special notice electronically to our colleagues and partners advising them of Environment Canada’s public consultation process related to the Habitat Conservation Stamp program and requesting that they respond by expressing their support for the stamp program and WHC. This communication was successful as significant support for both the stamp program and WHC was generated, resulting in Environment Minister John Baird’s approval of the continuation of the stamp program and the arrangements with WHC.

In 2007-2008, the solicitation of award nominee submissions for both the Forest Stewardship Recognition Program and Countryside Canada Stewardship Recognition Program was again conducted electronically.

The Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp program was promoted by Innisfil, Ontario wildlife artist, Nigel Shaw, whose painting “Morning Post – Wilson’s Snipe” was chosen to be the 2007 image. Nigel and WHC staff attended the launch of the 2007 program at Rousseau Stamps & Coins at the Bay in Montreal on April 1, 2007 where Nigel promoted the program by signing stamps for collectors and conservation enthusiasts.

As well, Nigel and WHC staff attended the June 22, 2007 opening of the Algonquin Art Centre in Algonquin Park, Ontario. During the summer, the

2007 Stamp and Print Program products along with a number of artist donated paintings to WHC were available for sale at the Algonquin Art Centre. WHC also donated a framed Limited Edition Print for use in a draw at the Art Centre.

On November 23, 2007, WHC hosted a reception in conjunction with our fall 2007 Board of Directors meeting in Ottawa. The reception provided a good opportunity to showcase the Stamp and Print Program with the paintings of nine of the top ten finalists in the art competition to select the image for the 2008 Habitat Conservation Stamp and Print available for viewing by the guests. Both Nigel Shaw (2007 artist) and Patricia Pepin (2008 artist) attended the reception and spoke about their respective paintings “Morning Post – Wilson’s Snipe” and “Lily Pond – Ruddy Ducks.”

During 2007-2008, WHC distributed over 240 Conservation Edition Prints to various non-government organizations. Approximately \$25,000 was raised for their respective conservation initiatives.

Stamp and Print Program products were available for sale throughout 2007-2008 at the Nature Boutique in the Canadian Museum of Nature in Ottawa. As well, in cooperation with the Canadian Museum of Nature and as part of WHC’s sponsorship grant to the museum’s Bird Gallery, WHC produced additional promotional materials about the Stamp and Print Program (i.e. English and French program brochures) that were included in the museum’s Bird Gallery which opened in December 2006.

Past WHC Board members are often active contributors to our continuing program. John Perlin arranged the placement of a series of WHC prints in the Salvation Army Wiseman Centre in St. John’s, NL.

Financial Summary 2007/2008

For further information on WHC's financial summary for 2007/08 below, or to receive our detailed financial statements, please contact WHC's President, David Brackett (dbrackett@whc.org).

Statement of Financial Position - March 31, 2008

Assets	2007/08	2006/07
Current assets		
Cash and cash equivalents	\$ 1,725,558	\$ 2,032,985
Accounts receivable	197,348	252,465
Prepaid expenses	48,637	47,215
	<hr/> 1,971,543	<hr/> 2,332,665
Capital Assets	15,370	12,488
	<hr/> \$ 1,986,913	<hr/> \$ 2,345,153
Funds held in trust	<hr/> \$ –	<hr/> \$ 9,876

Liabilities and Net Assets

Current liabilities		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 539,238	\$ 534,958
Deferred contribution revenues	417,966	679,829
	<hr/> 957,204	<hr/> 1,214,787
Net assets		
Investment in capital assets	15,370	12,488
Restricted for future year program commitments	–	350,000
Restricted for future administrative requirements	350,000	350,000
Working reserve	664,339	417,878
	<hr/> 1,029,709	<hr/> 1,130,366
	<hr/> \$ 1,986,913	<hr/> \$ 2,345,153
Trust liability	<hr/> \$ –	<hr/> \$ 9,876

Statement of Operations for the year ended March 31, 2008

Revenues	2007/08	2006/07
Conservation stamp program	\$ 1,551,346	\$ 1,419,291
Habitat conservation projects - action	548,422	1,722,719
Habitat conservation projects - co-ordination	–	41,703
Miscellaneous	173,489	154,435
	<hr/> 2,273,257	<hr/> 3,338,148
Expenses		
Fund habitat conservation	1,351,445	1,128,101
Habitat conservation projects - action	423,921	1,630,538
Habitat conservation projects - co-ordination	116,407	130,205
Corporate support services	482,141	668,190
	<hr/> 2,373,914	<hr/> 3,557,034
Deficiency of Revenues over Expenses	<hr/> \$ (100,657)	<hr/> \$ (218,886)

Our Funding Partners

WHC would like to thank the following organizations for their financial support of our programs and activities in 2007-2008.

Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp

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

Ontario Wetland Habitat Fund

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Oak Ridges Moraine Foundation

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.

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	Ext. 224
Veronica Cameron	Office Administrator	Departed WHC in August 2007
Pauline Fitchett	Coordinator, Product Management & Communications	Ext. 222
Claudia Latsch	Executive Assistant	Ext. 228
Lynn McIntyre	Director of Stewardship	Ext. 234
Cathy Pun	Accountant	Ext. 226
Naomi Tabata	National Manager, StewardshipCanada.ca	Ext. 401
Val Turner	Intermediate Accountant	Ext. 249

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 2007/08 [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].

In 2007/08, three new Directors joined WHC's Board: Brad Fenson and Tami Hamilton (July 2007), as well as Jim Ross (November 2007), and two Directors, David Lank and Howard Paish, completed their terms following WHC's July 2007 Board of Directors meeting in Whitehorse, Yukon Territory.

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
Brad Fenson	Director (as of July 2007)	Habitat Coordinator, Alberta Fish and Game Association; Freelance Writer and Photographer
Tami Hamilton	Director (as of July 2007)	Program Coordinator
James Knight	Director	President, Association of Canadian Community Colleges
David Lank, C.M.	Director (to July 2007)	Professor, the Dobson Centre for Entrepreneurial Studies, McGill University
Howard Paish	Director (to July 2007)	Retired, Howard Paish & Associates, Natural Resource and Environmental Management Specialists
Jim Ross	Director (as of November 2007)	Instructor, Nova Scotia Community College; Former Section Head (Acting), Habitat Management Division, Department of Fisheries and Oceans, Halifax
Lyse Rousseau	Director	President, Rousseau Stamps and Coins at The Bay
Mike Sullivan	Director	Director, Fish and Wildlife Branch, NB Dept. of Natural Resources



Joy Waters, Yukon Department of Environment

WHC Board of Directors & President