



WILDLIFE HABITAT CANADA 2012-2013 ANNUAL REPORT

**Without habitat there is no wildlife...
It's that simple!**





Credit: J. Thompson

TO CONTACT US

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All donations to Wildlife Habitat Canada are tax deductible and detailed financial statements are available upon request.

The report cover features the 2012 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp Image, "Evening Repose-Blue-winged Teals" by Patricia Pepin.

Wildlife Habitat Canada's Charitable Registration Number: 11929 8131 RR0001

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Credit:
J. Thompson



About Wildlife Habitat Canada

Wildlife Habitat Canada is a national, non-profit, charitable conservation organization, which was established in 1984.

We work through partnerships with communities, landowners, governments, non-government organizations and Industry to find effective solutions to address problems facing wildlife habitat.



Credit: J. Thompson

Our 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 wildlife habitat conservation programs in Canada;
- Foster coordination and leadership in the conservation community across Canada.



Message from the Chair and President

This year marked the twenty-eighth annual Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and the fourth annual Canadian Youth Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp. Patricia Pepin's award winning stamp image, entitled "Evening Repose—Blue-winged Teals" and Mackenzie Hill's winning image "A Nose Knows—Red Fox" were wonderful pieces to continue the tradition of bridging art, conservation and the human condition.

The 2012-2013 Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp Program provided \$1,300,550 for grants to 34 projects. This funding leveraged more than \$9.5 million in additional partner revenue to help conserve 995,507 acres (402,867.39 hectares) of wildlife habitat right across Canada.

Wildlife Habitat Canada formed a partnership with Northern Park Apparel, a Canadian grass-roots clothing company that provides fundraising opportunities for non-profit and charity organizations across Canada. The ChariTee program was launched with a limited edition Wildlife Habitat Canada t-shirt, whereby \$5 from the sale of each of these t-shirts is donated to Wildlife Habitat Canada to support conservation initiatives across Canada.

Wildlife Habitat Canada also participated in discussions regarding a National Conservation Plan and was appointed to the national Hunting and Angling Advisory Panel.

The Board of Directors welcomed two new Board Members in 2012-2013: Dr. Robert O. Bailey, Chair and National Coordinator, Canada's Outdoor Network; and Wm. Michael Phippen, Senior Vice-President and Managing Director, BMO Nesbitt Burns Inc.

For the support they provided over the past year, Wildlife Habitat Canada would like to extend a genuine thank you to our financial supporters, our conservation partners and especially the hunting community.



Kevin Harris

Chairman
Wildlife Habitat Canada
Board of Directors



Annemarie Grudén Photography

L.G. "Len" Ugarenko

President
Wildlife Habitat Canada



Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamps and Limited Edition Prints

The image for the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Limited Edition Print is produced each year by a selected Canadian wildlife artist. The conservation stamp is purchased primarily by waterfowl hunters to validate their Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit. It is also sold to collectors and individuals interested in contributing to the conservation of wildlife habitat.



Credit: P. Pepin

The Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp was created as, and continues to be a visible reminder of the reason habitat conservation is important: to conserve Canadian wildlife!



2012 Conservation Stamp and Limited Edition Print

The 2012 Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp and Limited Edition Print feature the image "Evening Repose-Blue-winged Teals" by wildlife artist Patricia Pepin (Bromont, QC).

2012 Print and Stamp Image

Claude Thivierge

2013 Canadian Wildlife

Conservation Stamp & Print Artist

“The painting ‘Break the Ice’ was inspired by winter walks on the edge of the river near my home. On this beautiful body of water is a small waterfall and rapids that carve through the ice on the edge of the shore. The initial idea for the painting was to highlight the bizarre and magical shapes on the ice and add these soft, elegant Long-tailed Ducks. This piece has a lot of movement and texture in a uniformity of colour.”



2013 Print and Signed Stamp Image

2013 Conservation Stamp and Limited Edition Print

The 29th Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp image was created by wildlife artist Claude Thivierge (St. Zotique, QC). Claude's image, entitled “Break the Ice—Long-tailed Ducks,” was released on April 1, 2013.

*To view or purchase
Wildlife Habitat Canada Stamp
and Print products, please visit
our website at:*

<http://whc.org/en/online-store>.



2013 Lapel Pin Image



Canadian Youth Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp

Healthy Wildlife Habitat + Healthy Youth

= **A Healthy Future for All!**

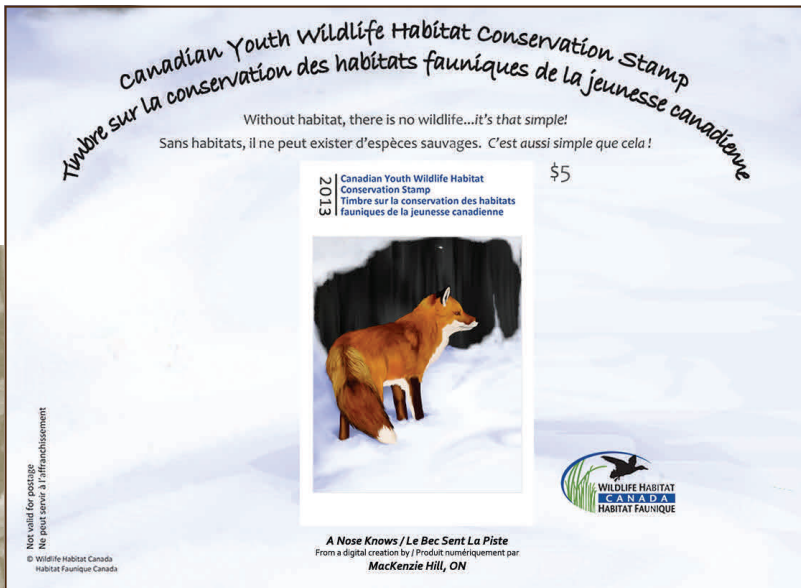
Wildlife Habitat Canada is thrilled to congratulate 17 year old MacKenzie Hill (Barrie, ON) for being selected as the winning artist for the fourth Canadian Youth Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp.

In addition to having her artwork featured on the Youth Stamp, MacKenzie's image was also featured on the cover of the 2013 Get to Know Contest Calendar.

MacKenzie's image, entitled "A Nose Knows," depicts a Red Fox in a winter landscape.

For more information on the Youth Stamp and how you can get involved in the program, or to purchase a Youth Stamp please email youthstamp@whc.org.

2013 Canadian Youth Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp
"A Nose Knows" by MacKenzie Hill.



2012 Get to Know Contest Launch

Wildlife Habitat Canada, along with the Canadian Museum of Nature, hosted the launch of the 2012 Get to Know Contest on April 10, 2012 at the Museum in Ottawa, ON.

2012 Youth Stamp artist, Carson Visser, was in attendance to speak to St. Francis Xavier High School students about his experience with the Contest.

The event featured a sketching exercise led by Carson (pictured above), and guest speakers from Scouts Canada, the Canadian Museum of Nature and the Canadian Wildlife Federation.



Supporting Hunters

Wildlife Habitat Canada supported conservation and hunting organizations during the 2012-2013 program year by donating Mentor Lapel Pins and Conservation Edition Prints to help raise money, as well as promote hunting and habitat conservation across Canada.

2012 Mentor Lapel Pins

The Mentor Pin Program was very successful again this year. Wildlife Habitat Canada provided over 1,300 Mentor Lapel Pins to organizations to distribute as gifts to thank volunteers and mentors. These pins were distributed across Canada for numerous events. Wildlife Habitat Canada is proud to support organizations that are encouraging a new generation of hunters.



2012 Mentor Lapel Pin



Grand River Conservation Authority's Luther Youth Day.
Credit: Grand River Conservation Authority



Atlantic Flyways Technical Meetings
raffle winner, Dr. Paul Padding.



Conservation Edition Prints

In 2012-2013, Wildlife Habitat Canada was pleased to donate Conservation Edition Prints and Stamps to the organizations listed below. These donations help organizations raise funds to further support education and conservation efforts.

Wildlife Habitat Canada receives donations requests from a multitude of organizations annually, for events such as banquets, auctions and silent auctions, golf tournaments, youth education events and raffles, to name a few.

- CBS Affichage
- West Arm Outdoors Club
- DUC Comox Valley Chapter
- Long Point Waterfowl
- Manitoba Wildlife Federation
- Nova Scotia Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- Durham Children's Groundwater Festival
- Port Rowan Park Fundraiser
- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- Grenville Fish and Game Club
- Newfoundland Envirothon
- Ducks Unlimited Canada
- Model Forest
- Delta Waterfowl—South Nation Chapter
- Ontario Forestry Association
- Fondation pour la sauvegarde de la truite mouchetée

Credit: J. Thompson



If your organization would like to learn more about this program, please email admin@whc.org.



Hunters' Contributions to Habitat Conservation

Wildlife Habitat Canada would like to acknowledge and thank the hunting community for their valuable contribution to wildlife habitat conservation. In addition to purchasing the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp to validate their Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit, they pay other license fees which directly support wildlife management. Many attend conservation fundraising dinners and activities, as well as volunteer on committees and projects benefitting wildlife.

The general public should have an understanding that hunting today is just as much a wildlife management tool as it is a recreational activity. For example, recent studies have shown that in some places in North America where there is an over abundance of wildlife, such as white-tailed deer, they viewed as a nuisance. What this means is eventually wildlife loses its intrinsic value and people separate themselves from nature.

We are seeing an extension of this with an entire generation of children who spend more time indoors watching television and playing computer games than they do playing outside. Some studies have demonstrated that these children are suffering from what has been coined as “nature deficit” disorder. These children have no connections to the natural world and lack an understanding of why maintaining healthy wildlife populations and the habitat are important.

Since children are the future and will eventually be responsible for our wildlife and other natural resources, it is vital they learn that we too are part of nature and our well-being is directly tied to how we manage the environment.

Many organizations and individuals conduct youth mentoring programs. It should be noted that these programs go well beyond the various aspects of hunting. They also teach youth about the importance of terrestrial and aquatic habitat conservation, species diversity, biodiversity, social and self-disciplinary skills, to name a few.

By educating young people about the need to maintain the quality of wildlife habitat, we will ensure that future generations, including non-hunters, will enjoy the abundance of wildlife species that we have today.

Long Point Waterfowl Youth Hunting and Heritage
Workshop participants and leaders.
Credit: Long Point Waterfowl.



Highlights of Accomplishments for Grant 2012-2013

The 2012-2013 Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp Program provided 34 grants totalling approximately \$1,300,550. This funding leveraged more than \$9.57 million in additional partner revenue to help conserve more than 995,507 acres (400,000 hectares) of wildlife habitat across Canada.

Prince Edward Island



Restoring and Enhancing Wetland Habitat on Prince Edward Island

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$25,000 to Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Project accomplishments:

- 70 site assessments were completed for wetland restoration potential, with 20 being identified for restoration.
- 5 wetland restoration/construction projects were completed and stewardship agreements with 5 landowners were signed for 15-year terms.
- 3 projects were completed through the Canada-PEI Agriculture Stewardship Program (CPEIASP).
- 9.4 acres (3.8 hectares) of wetland habitat were restored and 8 acres (3.2 hectares) of upland habitat were conserved.



Credits: D. Lewis



Nova Scotia



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

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$50,000 to the Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources – Wildlife Division.

Project accomplishments:

- 13 farms were assessed for Agricultural Biodiversity Conservation (ABC) Plan delivery.
- Habitat influenced: wetlands, 64.2 acres (26 hectares); uplands, 1949.7 acres (789 hectares); riparian, 9 km; woodland, 976.1 acres (395 hectares).
- 3 farm visits were conducted to provide advice on wetland conservation.
- 4 site visits to identify wetlands were conducted and recommendations were provided to Lunenburg municipality.
- Promoted wetland biodiversity conservation stewardship at 9 community events.
- The Dalhousie School of Resource and Environmental Studies undertook an evaluation of the ABC project.

New Brunswick



Mallard Hen House Installations on Private Lands in Southern New Brunswick

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$4,750 to SNB Wood Co-operative Ltd.

Project accomplishments:

- 51 mallard hen houses were produced and installed in wetland areas.
- The SNB website was updated and "woodlot owner of the year" field days were used as communication tools to demonstrate the project's merits to the public.
- 387 acres (156.6 hectares) of wetland habitat were enhanced.
- 43 participants were involved in the project.



Credit: SNB Wood Co-operative Ltd.

"Looking forward to working with WHC once again this year. The past few years have been very successful, with lots of habitat being conserved, rejuvenated, or enhanced, for private woodlot owners in NB."

- J. Floyd, Forester

New Brunswick



Lower Saint John River Strategic Conservation Planning and Landowner Outreach

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$25,500 to The Nature Trust of New Brunswick.

Project accomplishments:

- Biodiversity data was collected, assessed and compiled for the creation of a strategic conservation plan: priority species list was completed, associated habitats for species was identified, habitat characteristics for each primary type were defined and habitat was ranked according to definitions.
- Four meetings were held to engage local stakeholders, increase awareness and share data regarding the conservation plan.
- 1145 participants were involved in the project, including volunteers, stakeholders and community tour meeting participants.

Developing a Marsh Monitoring Program for the Maritime Provinces (EHJV delivery area)

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$50,000 to Bird Studies Canada

Project accomplishments:

- In collaboration with NB-DNR, 339 survey points were established from three major wetland types. 400 acres (161.8 hectares) were surveyed.
- Bioacoustics monitoring devices (Songmeters) were deployed at 51 recording sites. Over 2,000 hours of recordings were collected.
- 178 recordings at dusk and civil-twilight were analyzed for primary species vocalizations.
- A strategic implementation plan was drafted highlighting recommendations on sampling protocols for ground and acoustic surveys, wetland site selection, and suggested steps for implementation.

Credit: G. Beaulieu

"Thanks very much for supporting this program in its start-up year, and for continuing to support the project. We are very pleased with our first year's results..."

- B. Stewart, Atlantic Program Manager



Newfoundland & Labrador



Newfoundland and Labrador Coastal and Inland Freshwater Wetlands Stewardship and Conservation

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$25,000 to the NL Wildlife Division, Department of Environment and Conservation.

Project accomplishments:

- 15 meetings were held with municipal councils to draft or revise municipal stewardship plans.
- Field assessments and mapping were completed in 10 municipalities for priority habitat areas with the potential for securement or enhancement via stewardship agreements.
- 4 stewardship agreements were reached in principle with the towns of Flatrock, Frenchman's Cove/Garnish, St Lawrence and Charlottetown. Secured acreages significantly exceed the established targets.
- 4 habitat conservation plans were drafted and presented to the town councils of Steady Brook, Come by Chance, Deer Lake and Stephenville Crossing.
- Support was provided to partner municipalities for development and land use decision making.



Participants in the introduction to birding workshop, field skills component.

Credit: C. Barney



Public unveiling of Steady Brook interpretative trail signage.

Credit: C. Barney

Some of target riparian habitat in Town of Indian Bay,
Credit: C. Barney



Newfoundland and Labrador Murre Conservation Fund



Through the Newfoundland and Labrador Murre Conservation Fund, Wildlife Habitat Canada provided \$30,000 in funding to three NL Murre Conservation Fund Projects.

Newfoundland and Labrador Murre Hunter Stewardship and Education

NL Wildlife Division, Department of Environment and Conservation (\$10,000)

Project accomplishments:

- 3 hunter education and outreach events were conducted in coastal communities with signed stewardship agreements.
- Wharf signs were purchased and placed in the 3 towns that participated in outreach events.
- 4500 brochures were re-printed and distributed to management agencies for use in all regions of the province.
- Exploratory meetings were conducted in two coastal municipalities to introduce and promote stewardship agreements as a tool to conserve habitat and associated wildlife.

"We enjoyed implementing this project and sincerely thank you again for your support."

*- J. Sharpe, Senior Biologist (Stewardship), NL EHJV
Program Manager, Wildlife Division*



Youth participants in a Winterland interpretative walking tour.
Credit: C. Regular.



Participants in the Springdale Youth Education and Outreach Event.
Credit: NL Wildlife Division.

Newfoundland and Labrador Murre Conservation Fund



Winter Habitat Associations and Foraging Ecology of Murres in Newfoundland and Labrador

Memorial University (\$10,000)

- Analyzed light and temperature data from retrieved bird-borne geolocators to identify winter areas.
- Identified and assessed year-round ocean habitat use.
- Characterized winter habitat associations, activity budgets and foraging effort in relation to habitat and climate features.
- Assessed climatic and anthropogenic risk encounters.
- Provided scientific rationale for better protection and management of seabirds and marine ecosystems.



Common Murre colony – Funk Island (photo: Bill Montevecchi)

Assigning Murres Shot in the Newfoundland Murre Hunt to a Colony of Origin Using Stable Isotopes

University of Saskatchewan (\$10,000)

- Analysed $\delta^2\text{H}$ in 231 samples of Murre feathers from 14 colonies.
- Analysed $\delta^{13}\text{C}$, $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in Murre feathers from 250 known-origin samples; results pending.
- Analysis ongoing for $\delta^2\text{H}$, $\delta^{13}\text{C}$ and $\delta^{15}\text{N}$ in harvested birds (525 samples) secured from Newfoundland, Greenland and the Faroe Islands).

Aménagement faunique du marais Poulin

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$25,000 to Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Project accomplishments:

- A 20-year conservation agreement was signed with two landowners for an area of 35 acres (14.16 hectares) of wetland habitat.
- Construction was completed in December 2012: an old control structure was removed; a new water level control structure was constructed; the marsh was restored.

Aménagement faunique Fabre

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$25,000 to Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Project accomplishments:

- A biological recognition report was completed, including photographs, wildlife management plan and restoration design.
- Underwent negotiations with the property owner: a conservation agreement aimed at conserving 15.4 wetland acres (6.23 hectares) and 14.6 upland acres (5.9 hectares) is in progress.
- A management plan for wetland and associated upland habitat in the project area was developed.





Protection des milieux humides forestiers sur terres privées / 2012-2013

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$40,000 to the Fondation de la faune du Québec

Project accomplishments:

- The characterization of 89 forest wetlands was conducted to determine the wildlife value of the sites and the potential for nesting waterfowl.
- 179 landowner information booklets were delivered.
- 170 statements of intent were signed, protecting 2,980 acres (1,205.96 hectares) of wetland habitat.
- Followed up activities were completed for 30 wetlands that were conserved 3 years ago.
- Awareness tools to educate landowners were developed: 50 maps and aerial photos were completed; 20 different leaflets were created and distributed.
- 240 landowners and 10 educators participated in the project.



Lower Saint-Lawrence

Credit: Fondation de la faune du Québec



Leeds Community Pasture Riparian Restoration

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$13,130 to the Leeds-Grenville Stewardship Council (LGSC).

Project accomplishments:

- 2,100 meters of cattle exclusion fencing was constructed.
- A second solar watering system and a bed-level water crossing were installed.
- 1,400 trees and shrubs were planted, engaging 30 students in the project.
- LGSC education programs provided education opportunities for 2,400 students in 2012.
- A presentation was given to the Stewardship Network of Ontario at the Annual Meeting.

Carolinian Education Project

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$10,000 to the Jaffa Environmental Education Centre (Thames Valley District School Board).

Project accomplishments:

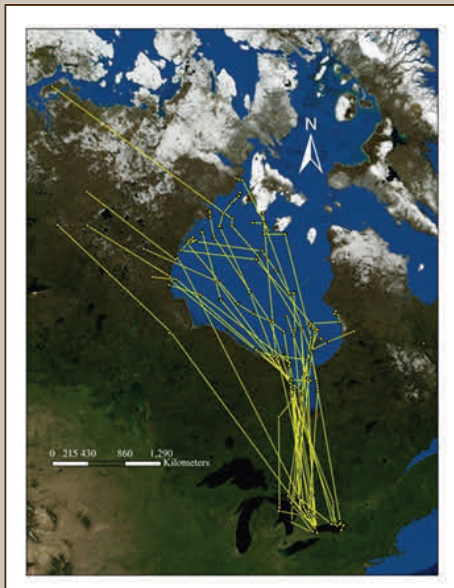
- Research was conducted and an outline of a permanent exhibit was completed. A taxidermist was hired to develop, fabricate and install the dioramas and prepare specimens and replicas for display.
- Permanent displays were created to 1) display materials and incorporate hands-on activities for students; 2) provide education on the importance of, and stewardship options for, wetlands.
- The use of bird boxes for primary and secondary cavity nesters was promoted.
- Annual participation: 5,000 participants, 200 educators. The display will be used in the curriculum to increase awareness and appreciation of the Carolinian Life Zone and its wetlands.

*“On behalf of the Thames Valley District School Board, please accept our thanks for your generous contribution towards the improvements at the Jaffa Environmental Education Centre.”
- J. Pitman, Learning Supervisor—Mathematics, Science & Technology and Environmental Education.*





Photo and Image Credits: Long Point Waterfowl



Spring migration 2012 of satellite tracked Long-tailed Ducks from Lake Ontario to staging areas in Georgian Bay, James Bay and Hudson Bay, to inland and coastal breeding and molting locations in Nunavut and the Northwest Territories.

Movement Patterns and Habitat Selection by Long-tailed Ducks (Clangula hyemalis) overwintering at Lake Ontario

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$20,288 to Long Point Waterfowl.

Project accomplishments:

- 229 Long-tailed Ducks were captured and 65 adults were implanted to produce home range maps for ducks overwintering on Lake Ontario.
- 11 near shore aerial surveys were completed to produce waterfowl density distribution maps and identify trends over winter.
- LPW partnered with the Max Planck Institute and used the Movebank website to display and archive Long-tailed Duck satellite data.
- Predictive models of habitat selection were created to validate the models using aerial survey data.

*"We really appreciate this continued generosity and commitment to our research."
- Dr. S. Petrie, Executive Director*

*Habitat use, migratory behaviour, and vital rates of Sandhill Cranes (*Grus canadensis*) on the North Shore of Lake Huron, Ontario*

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$15,000 to Long Point Waterfowl.

Project accomplishments:

- Data relating to age-specific trends in behaviour and habitat use was collected during the 2012 field season.
- Available tracking data was analysed to provide original insight towards Eastern Population Sandhill Crane roost and wetland use.
- Depletion surveys indicated that grain density across the study site was substantially lower in 2012 as compared to 2011.
- Over 75 hours of behavioural observations were collected to analyse the relationship between food depletion and changes in foraging behaviour.
- Experimental plots in 10 fields were created to establish a causal relationship between food depletion and behaviour.



Credits:
E. Hanna

"Thank you for advising me of this award! I am certain that Long Point Waterfowl's project will benefit greatly from the research grant."

- Ms. Carol Hughes, NDP, MP Algoma-Manitoulin-Kapuskasing

Youth Hunting & Wildlife Heritage Workshop

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$5,200 to Long Point Waterfowl.

Project accomplishments:

- 24 youth, 10 educators and 4 Hunt Club managers participated in the 6-day Youth Hunting and Wildlife Heritage Workshop (Hunter Safety, Canadian Firearms training courses).
- Youth learned to become conservation-minded hunters and waterfowlers.
- Youth participated in one-on-one mentorship activities with professionals in wildlife careers.
- LPW developed a plan to offer two separate 6-day workshops in 2013 due to increasing interest. Program to be expanded to include college and university students enrolled in wildlife programs to instill an appreciation for the ecological, economic and social importance of hunting.



Credits: Long Point Waterfowl

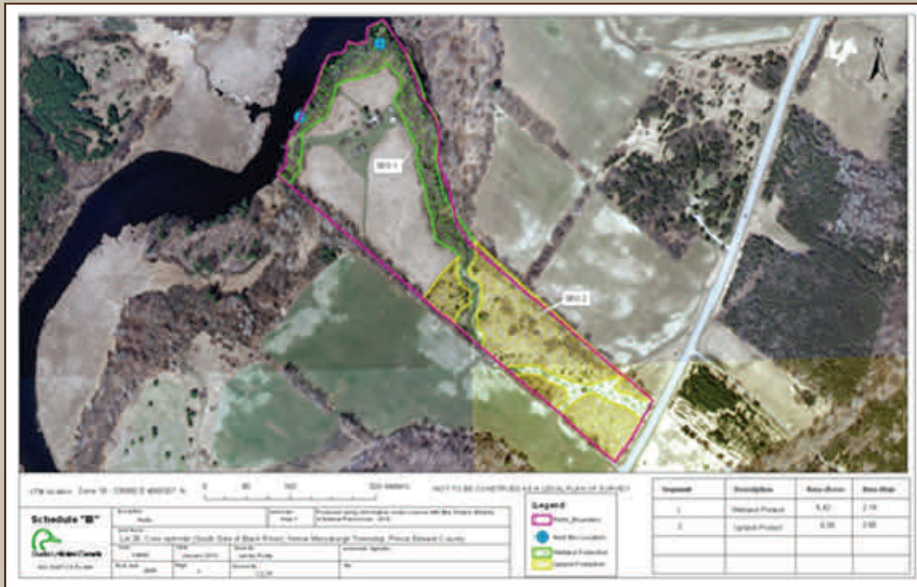


Southern Ontario Nest Success

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$200,000 to Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Project accomplishments:

- Wetland restorations projects were designed, negotiated, permitted and implemented.
- 8 conservation agreements were signed.
- Private landowners maintained nest boxes and submitted survey results.
- Contractors were hired to maintain nest boxes on Crown-owned landscapes. Approximately 8,700 nest boxes were installed.
- Aging water control structures were repaired on existing wetland projects considered to be at the highest risk for productivity loss.



Reilly Nest Boxes project area
Credit: Ducks Unlimited Canada



Peers Wetland Securement, Restoration and Management Project

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$19,913.60 to the St. Clair Region Conservation Authority.

Project accomplishments:

- Waterfowl habitat was secured through the purchase of private property.
- A water control structure was upgraded and a pump was installed.
- A secondary school program was developed for use at Peers wetland.
- 310 metres of berm was reconstructed.
- 18.9 acres (7.6 hectares) of sensitive wetland habitat was restored, conserved and enhanced.
- Upland habitat was retired and native grasses and forbes were restored.
- An adjacent landowner expressed interest in donating his property.



St. Clair Conservation Biologist, Muriel Andreae, documents wetland plants found at Peers Wetland.

Credit: St. Clair Region Conservation Authority

Conestogo Hunting Area #3 Wetland Restoration

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$45,000 to the Grand River Conservation Authority.

Project accomplishments:

- 1 berm, spillway and outlet were re-worked to ensure long term presence and health of the wetlands.
- 3 water control structures and all related materials were purchased to improve vegetation and habitat conditions.
- Communication and education to improve public knowledge and awareness of wetlands is ongoing.
- 3.2 acres (1.3 hectares) of wetland habitat was conserved and 18.4 acres (7.4 hectares) was restored.
- 487.2 acres (197.1 hectares) of upland habitat was conserved.

"Thank you so much for providing financial support to make this project happen!"
- M. Neumann, Supervisor of Terrestrial Resources



Community Stream Steward Program: Conserving Wetland Landscapes Initiative

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$35,000 to the Ontario Federation of Angers and Hunters' Community Stream Steward Program.

Project accomplishments:

- 15 educational site visits were completed with 23 landowners, evaluating 750 acres (303.5 hectares) of wetland and upland habitat.
- 15 partner events were attended to increase landowner and general public awareness about wetlands.
- 2 workshops were held to support landowners and farmers in conservation efforts.
- 4 pair pond habitat projects were completed.
- 6 wetland habitat enhancement projects were completed, including 4 corridors to link wetland with upland habitat.
- 290 trees and shrubs were planted.



Photo and Image Credits:
OFAH Community
Stream Steward Program



Delta Marsh Carp Exclusion

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$100,000 to Ducks Unlimited Canada.

Project accomplishments:

- 5 new structures were constructed with removable screens to allow the exclusion of Common Carp from Delta Marsh.
- 2 culvert structures were retrofitted to allow removable screens to be inserted.
- 29,995 acres (12,138.5 hectares) of Delta Marsh have been restored through the exclusion of Common Carp.

Prairie Habitat Revival Project

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$85,000 to the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation.

Project accomplishments:

- 68 acres (27.5 hectares) of native mixed-grass was reclaimed on prairie habitat, and 130 acres (52.6 hectares) of upland habitat was conserved.
- A previously drained wetland was restored and one water control structure was constructed.
- The restoration process was documented to establish a demonstration mitigation bank.
- A vegetation sampling protocol was defined to determine ecological value of habitat.

Credit: Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation



Pothole Preservation in NAWMP Target Landscapes

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$80,000 to the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation.

Project accomplishments:

- 9 conservation easements were signed covering 1,692 acres (684.7 hectares) of wetland and upland habitat.
- 15 landowners participated in the project. Additional landowners were contacted through the project reconnaissance phase.



Hagan conservation easement



Adams conservation easement

Credits: Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation





Habitat Stewardship in Saskatchewan 2012-2013

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$90,000 to the Water Security Agency of Saskatchewan.

Project accomplishments:

- 26 conservation agreements were signed for 12 year terms through voluntary, cost-shared projects with local farmers and ranchers.
- 5,438 acres (2,200 hectares) of cropland was converted to perennial forage.
- 26 voluntary stewardship agreements were negotiated.
- Wetland and drainage inventory was completed on 7 townships, representing approximately 171,200 acres (69,282 hectares).

The Prairie and Parkland Marsh Monitoring Program

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$50,000 to Bird Studies Canada.

Project accomplishments:

- 808 bird surveys were conducted at 224 stations within 12 study sites.
- Conducted fieldwork at multiple study sites.
- 67 total study sites were sampled between 2009 and 2012.
- First-generation DSS maps that link species abundance to habitat and landscape characteristics were produced.
- Project results were presented at the North American Ornithological Council 2012 meeting, Vancouver, BC, and at the Prairie Conservation and Endangered Species, Red Deer, AB.



Habitat Influences on Pintail Duckling Survival: Testing Management Actions

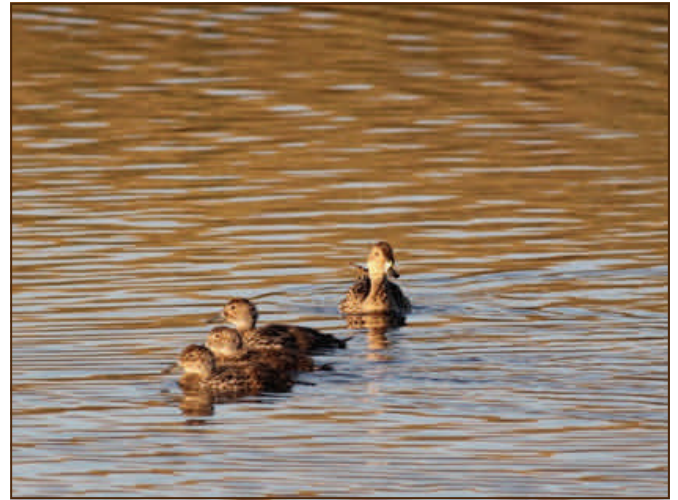
Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$20,000 to the University of Saskatchewan.

Project accomplishments:

- 50 nesting pintail hens were radio marked in grassland and cropland dominated landscapes characterized by winter wheat.
- Brood and duckling survival was monitored weekly until 30 days of age.
- Approximately 10,000 acres (4,046.8 hectares) of nesting area was searched; 772 waterfowl nests were found (152 pintail).
- 47 broods were monitored for survival in contrasting landscapes.

"Thank you WHC for the support towards our pintail duckling survival study, it is a great honour..."

- D. Johns, M.Sc. Candidate



Credits: D. Johns, University of Saskatchewan



Hebert Lake Uplands

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$21,000 to the Alberta Conservation Association.

Project accomplishments:

- An initial Environmental Assessment was completed.
- 3 acres (1.2 hectares) of upland habitat was reclaimed and seeded. Weeds were controlled on 100 acres (40.4 hectares).
- 3 km of cattle exclusion fencing was constructed, eliminating grazing cattle from the entire project area.
- 3 nest boxes and 4 nesting tunnels were installed.
- Recreational use and public safety was facilitated by removing 5km of cross-fence and constructing a "V-gate" and a new access.
- "Foot Access Only" signs were installed.
- The Buffalo Lake Naturalist Club visited and inventoried the site.

Nest box installed at Hebert Lake Uplands.



Credits: A. Murphy

Nesting tunnel installed at Hebert Lake Uplands.



Friends of Fish Creek Watershed Public Awareness Campaign, Phase two

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$5,000 to the Friends of Fish Creek Provincial Park Society.

Project accomplishments:

- An awareness campaign and water festival were held to educate communities about water issues and increase public awareness.
- Educational materials were updated. A new fact sheet was developed and distributed.
- Staff and volunteers made presentations and educated residents at events; wetland tours and invasive weed walks were offered.
- Campaign and water quality monitoring results were reported to Alberta Parks, Environment, and other associated groups.
- 4,000 participants, 30 educators and 200 landowners were involved in the project.

Credits: Friends of Fish Creek



Prairies: Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba



Enhancing waterfowl habitat and producing ducks, ALUS and Hen Houses in Prairie Canada

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$43,768.40 to the Delta Waterfowl Foundation.

Project accomplishments:

- Seven ALUS (Alternative Land Use Services) demonstration farms were established.
- In Parkland County, just west of Edmonton, a new ALUS project was launched and two demonstration farms were established.
- In Saskatchewan, the first demonstration project was established with new projects registered and ready for establishment in 2013.
- Delta continues to install and maintain hen houses on a number of fronts on the Canadian prairies and elsewhere.
- In association with this project, 200 hen houses were constructed and another 315 were maintained.



Newly installed Hen House in Minnedosa, MB region.



Outdoor writer Don Meredith covers an ALUS project in September 2012 with Kerri O'Shaunessy, from Cows and Fish, in Parkland County.

Credits: Delta Waterfowl Foundation.





Stewardship and Conservation of Priority Wildlife and Wetland/Upland Habitat on Salt Spring Island 2012-2013

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$80,000 to the Salt Spring Island Conservancy.

Project accomplishments:

- 6 Stewardship Agreements were signed to protect 20 acres (8.1 hectares) of upland forest, wetland and marine shoreline habitat.
- 337 acres (136.4 hectares) were enhanced with 400 native Western Red Cedar planted in two SSIC Nature Reserves.
- Two new Management Plans were developed for 2 reserves.
- Invasive species removal was completed at two SSIC reserves.
- Photopoints were established for long term monitoring of hydrological restoration and forest regeneration on a Nature Reserve.
- 3 trailhead signs were installed within SSIC's Alvin Indridson Nature Reserve.

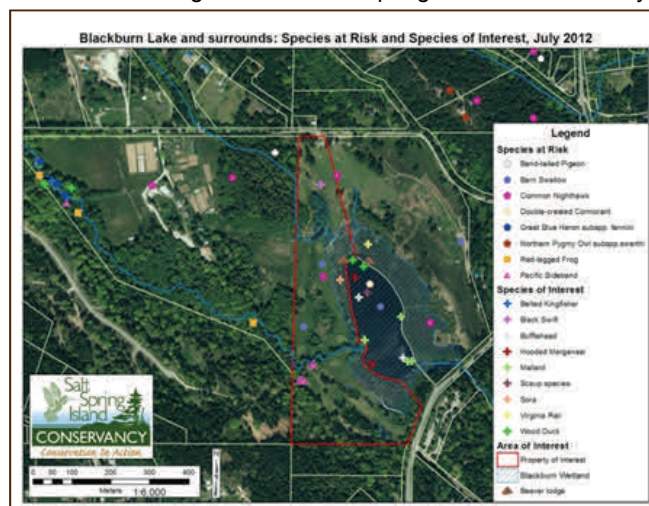
"We're so appreciative of your support—it's been amazing what we have been able to accomplish thanks to your funds... We look forward to our continued collaboration"

- C. Torgimson, Executive Director



Tree planting at the Alvin Indridson Nature Reserve

Photo and Image Credits: Salt Spring Island Conservancy



"I am so excited that you (SSIC) have received this award, which will allow you to continue your important and vital work towards increasing capacity for and public awareness of habitat protection. The long term benefits of stewardship and education initiatives provide lasting benefits for Canadians, and for the flora and fauna we wish to protect."

- Ms. Elizabeth May, Green Party of Canada, MP Saanich-Gulf Islands



Wetlands on Wheels 2012-13: Building stewardship capacity and restoring wetlands in B.C.

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$20,000 to the British Columbia Wildlife Federation.

Project accomplishments:

- Wetlandkeepers and Map Our Marshes workshops were delivered throughout B.C.
- 9 wetlands were assessed for potential restoration/conservation in Castlegar.
- 2 groundwater structures were restored and 3 liner wetlands were created during a workshop in Squamish and Pemberton. Vegetation was planted around the newly restored wetlands.
- 477 plugs (of native sedges, plants and grasses) were planted and spread.
- Feature articles were written about 10 different fish and game clubs doing stewardship work.
- Online networking tools were developed to inspire other fish and game groups to get involved in stewardship activities.

"Once again, thank you for your support, which helps us connect B.C. communities to their wetlands!"

- N. Fletcher, Wetlands Education Program Coordinator

Photo and Image Credits:
B.C. Wildlife Federation



Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area Water Control System Upgrade _ Leach Lake Water Control #2

Wildlife Habitat Canada provided a grant of \$10,000 to the Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area.

Project accomplishments:

- Cofferdams were constructed at each of the extremities of the existing control structure to provide workable conditions.
- The old water structure was dug out and the ground was prepared for the new structure.
- The new structure was positioned, culvert sections were attached and the anti-seepage collar was installed.
- The ground was refilled and compacted to dyke elevation.
- 1,730 acres (700 hectares) of wetland and 840 acres (340 hectares) of upland was conserved.

Old water control #2



Credits: Creston Valley Wildlife Management Area



New water control #2

Financial Statements are available upon request.

Grant Program Performance Indicators

As required by Environment Canada (EC), Wildlife Habitat Canada (WHC) has developed a comprehensive set of performance indicators for its competitive grant program.

What is a performance indicator?

“Performance indicators are measurable results that demonstrate how a project’s objectives are met.”

– Environment Canada, “Performance Indicators” (2013-07-02): <http://www.ec.gc.ca/ecoaction/default.asp?lang=En&n=93C81A93-1>

The Performance Measurement Framework (PMF) was implemented in late 2012, with data from the 2011-2012 grant program being used as the baseline. Expected Outcomes of the program are listed below; 2012-2013 grantees reported against WHC’s ten performance indicators in their Final Project Reports, with the following results:

Habitat grants provided to eligible recipients (NAWMP, other important migratory game birds):

- **Funding allocation**, \$1,230,350 (an increase compared to the baseline).

Networking grants provided to eligible recipients (Wetland Education, Hunter Education):

- **Funding allocation**, \$40,200 (a decrease compared to the baseline; however, this was due to smaller funding requests in this category for the 2012-2013 program).

Murre Conservation grants provided to eligible recipients:

- **Funding allocation**, \$30,000 (an increase compared to the baseline)

Increased number of NAWMP conservation activities:

- **Proportion of funded projects addressing priority activities under NAWMP as identified by the Habitat Joint Ventures and Joint Venture Technical Committee**, 76% or 26/34 (baseline was 70% or 20/26; therefore, there was no change in terms of percentage, but overall a higher total number of projects addressed priority activities).

Increased number and types of habitat protected, conserved and restored:

- **Land area conserved, enhanced or restored through funded projects**, 1,009,187.7 acres (an increase compared to the baseline).

Increased participation in on-the-ground wetland education programs and hunter education programs:

- **Number of participants** (21,785) and **total participant person-days** (4,194) in on-the-ground wetland education and hunter education programs supported by WHC grants (a substantial increase in both categories compared to the baseline).

Increased participation in Murre conservation activities and management:

- **Funding allocation**, \$30,000 (an increase compared to baseline).
- **Number of participants (234) and total participant person-days (312) in on-the-ground programs specific to Murre conservation activities and management** (an increase compared to the baseline).

Grantees are able to leverage WHC funding and secure total project funding:

- **Funds leveraged by WHC funded projects**, \$9,573,067 (an increase compared to the baseline).

Increased use of voluntary preventative measures to protect, restore and enhance habitats:

- **Voluntary preventative measures employed in funded projects**, requires reporting at the end of every second fiscal year. Results to be reported March 2014.

Increased number of public and private partners involved in wildlife habitat conservation:

- **Number of partners involved in wildlife habitat conservation**, requires reporting at the end of every second fiscal year. Results to be reported March 2014.

Increased application of innovative habitat conservation tools:

- **Innovative habitat conservation tools in funded projects**, requires reporting at the end of every second fiscal year. Results to be reported March 2014.

Increased scientific understanding of habitat conservation and migratory game bird management:

- **Funded projects showing ‘evidence of acquisition’ of expected knowledge and/or skills by the target group**, requires reporting at the end of every second fiscal year. Results to be reported March 2014.

Conservation and protection of valuable wetland and associated upland habitats that sustain abundant populations of waterfowl and other migratory game birds:

- **Status of habitat and migratory bird populations**, requires reporting at the end of every fifth fiscal year. Results to be reported March 2017.



Our Supporters and Partners



Environment
Canada

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Through the legislative arrangement with Environment Canada, Wildlife Habitat Canada receives the revenues from the sale of the Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp, purchased primarily by waterfowl hunters to validate their Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permits. Each year, Wildlife Habitat Canada receives this financial support through a contribution agreement with Environment Canada. This endeavour supports Environment Canada's responsibility for the protection and conservation of habitat, particularly for the conservation of waterfowl pursuant to the Migratory Birds Convention Act.

Wildlife Habitat Canada would like to thank the following organizations for their support and partnership of our programs and activities in 2012-2013:

- Alberta Conservation Association
- Bass Pro Shop
- Bird Studies Canada
- Canada Post (Philatelic Product Sales)
- Canadian Museum of Nature
- Canadian Wildlife Service of Environment Canada
- Delta Waterfowl Foundation
- Ducks Unlimited Canada

- Fondation de la faune du Québec
- Halliburton Highlands Outdoors Association
- Land Stewardship Centre of Canada (Alberta)
- Leeds-Grenville Stewardship Council
- Long Point Waterfowl
- Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation
- Manitoba Wildlife Federation
- National Watershed Stewardship Coalition
- Nature Canada
- Nature Conservancy of Canada
- New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources
- Newfoundland and Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation
- Northern Park Apparel
- Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources
- Nova Scotia Nature Trust
- Ontario Federation of Anglers and Hunters
- Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
- Parks Canada
- Canadian Wildlife Federation Get to Know Contest
- Salt Spring Island Conservancy
- Stewardship Network of Ontario
- The Lowe-Martin Group
- Trout Unlimited
- Water Security Agency, Saskatchewan



Northern Park Apparel: ChariTee Program



Limited Edition WHC T-shirts



- Now available exclusively through WHC -

Quantities Limited!

Please visit WHC's online store
(www.whc.org/en/online-store)
to purchase your WHC Tee!

Who is Northern Park Apparel?

Northern Park Apparel (NPA) is a Canadian, grass-roots clothing company that was brought to life with Canadian culture and identity in mind.

The ChariTee Program

The NPA ChariTee Program provides fundraising opportunities for non-profit and charity organizations across Canada.

NPA and WHC

Northern Park Apparel launched their ChariTee program with a limited edition Wildlife Habitat Canada t-shirt in December 2012.

A donation from the sale of each limited edition t-shirt was made to WHC to support conservation initiatives across Canada!

The original WHC design on a charcoal t-shirt was so popular that NPA released new limited edition WHC t-shirts in slate (men's) and navy (women's)!



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With special thanks to the following volunteers:

Chelsea Cottrell

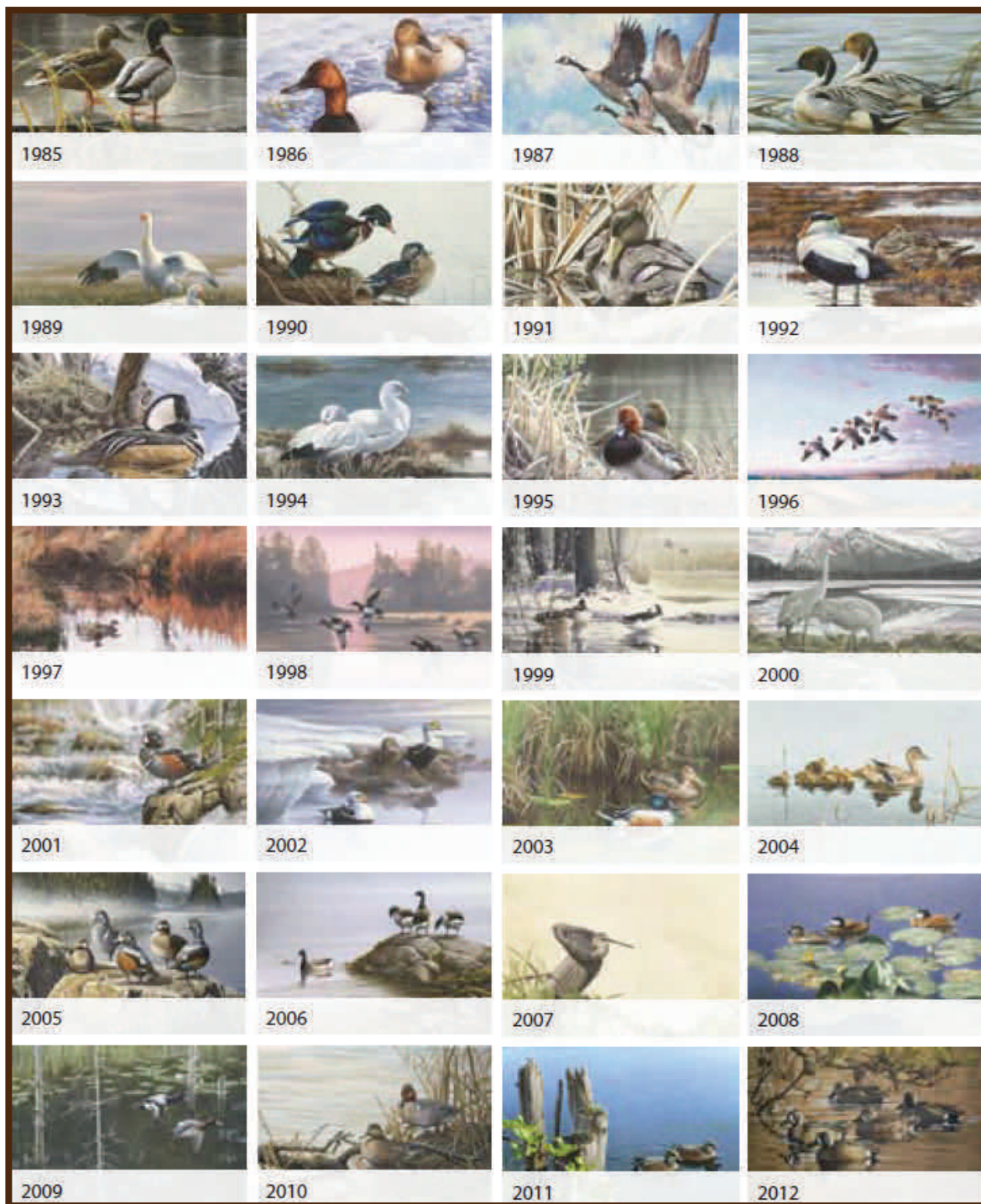
Ben Hiemstra

Monica Reyes

Rebecca Rooke

Credit: J. Thompson





Celebrating Over 25 Years of Wildlife Habitat Conservation



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