



# Wildlife Habitat Canada Habitat Faunique Canada

## *Update on Activities*

October – December 2006

1984-2007...without habitat, there is no wildlife...it's that simple!

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### **Canadian Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp Program**

For more than 22 years WHC has invested the funds received from the annual sale of the Wildlife Habitat Conservation Stamp in conservation. The stamp is purchased primarily by waterfowl hunters to validate their federal Migratory Game Bird Hunting Permit. From these stamp revenues, project grants have resulted in the investment of more than \$32 million into wetland and wildlife conservation projects across Canada. In total, WHC has invested more than \$52 million in conservation activities since 1984.

Our ability to continue this support of conservation activities in Canada in the future is in jeopardy. Environment Canada has not yet renewed the enabling Contribution Agreement for the upcoming fiscal year (April 1, 2007 to March 31, 2008) and is considering canceling the contribution entirely in the future. If that happens, the Canadian conservation community will lose more than \$1 million in annual grant funding, and the continued operation of WHC as a voice for wildlife habitat conservation will be in serious doubt. We firmly believe that there is a significant benefit for a national NGO to manage the project-granting program for these funds. If you are interested in keeping up to date as discussions progress, please let us know.

### **Grant Program for 2007-2008**

In anticipation of the grant program continuing, WHC has been reviewing applications for grants for 2007-2008. WHC's grant program continues to focus on initiatives that deal with **waterfowl and/or the conservation, restoration, and enhancement of wetland habitats**. We are specifically interested in projects that have direct impact on wetland habitats and do not focus on public education and outreach. Please note that WHC no longer provides grants to university graduate research projects. However, WHC may consider funding research with direct application to waterfowl (e.g. management impacts and/or benefits to waterfowl) and/or the conservation/restoration/enhancement of wetland habitats. If you would like information on your project's eligibility, please contact [Claudia Latsch](mailto:Claudia.Latsch@whc.org).

### **Recent Grant Approvals**

The WHC Board Executive Committee approved a Bird Studies Canada proposal to WHC for a \$35,000 grant to support Developing a Monitoring and Assessment Framework for Ontario Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Wetland Habitat Investment Sites.

The full list of grants approved can always be found on our website at [www.whc.org/ProjectsFunded2006\\_2007.htm](http://www.whc.org/ProjectsFunded2006_2007.htm).

WHC does receive a number of small grant requests. To date this year, 6 grants to support conservation networking have been approved. Two recent small grant requests were approved: \$1,000 each to the production of the Alberta Fish & Game Association's Heritage 100 history book and to La revue Le Naturaliste canadien (La Société Provancher d'histoire naturelle du Canada).

### **Joint Venture Board meeting**

David Brackett participated at the Board meeting of the Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV) in Calgary on October 10<sup>th</sup> to 12<sup>th</sup>. The meeting also celebrated the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan. While in Alberta, he also visited the Antelope Creek Ranch project with WHC Board Alumnus Doug Stewart, who will be taking over as the WHC representative on the ranch Management Committee.

### **Countryside Canada National Stewardship Award**

On October 19<sup>th</sup>, Lynn McIntyre presented a CSC award to the late Victor Roland, a well-known dairy farmer in Huron County, Ontario. Victor Roland farmed for more than 40 years in southwestern Ontario. He strictly adhered to sustainable farming practices such as conservation tillage and responsible nutrient management. Mr. Roland also managed his woodlot sustainably and worked to improve wildlife habitat and groundwater quality. The award was presented to his wife, Margaret at the annual general meeting of the Huron Federation of Agriculture. For more details, please visit [www.whc.org/TheLateVictorRolandreceivesCountrysideCanadaAward.htm](http://www.whc.org/TheLateVictorRolandreceivesCountrysideCanadaAward.htm).

### **Stewardship Award Nominations received**

Nominations for both the National Forest Stewardship Recognition Program and the Countryside Canada Stewardship Awards closed on November 30<sup>th</sup>. We have



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received a number of nominations for awards and the recipients of the 2007 awards will be announced in late January.

### Stewardshipcanada.ca

The technical and interface updates to the funders directory on Stewardshipcanada.ca have been completed. Visit [www.stewardshipcanada.ca/funders/index.asp?type=static&page=funderhome.asp](http://www.stewardshipcanada.ca/funders/index.asp?type=static&page=funderhome.asp) to take a tour of the revised database.

### Ecological Goods & Services (EG&S) Survey Presentations

Lynn McIntyre presented the results of the national survey of farmers and ranchers on EG&S at the Canadian Environmental Network Conference on Agriculture and the Environment (CAE) in Montreal on Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>. The conference aimed to strengthen bridges between the environmental movement and the agricultural sector.

Lynn also presented the results of the EG&S Survey at the A.D.Latornell Conservation Symposium held Nov. 15 – 17 in Alliston, Ontario. The conference was well attended, attracting over 1000 participants.

A visiting Chinese delegation, on a Canadian study tour organized by IUCN Canada, was also taken through the study results on Dec. 6<sup>th</sup> in Ottawa at WHC's offices.

If you missed the presentations of the survey, you can still download the results from our website at [www.whc.org/NationalLandownerSurveys.htm](http://www.whc.org/NationalLandownerSurveys.htm).

### Planning for 2007 Stamp & Print has begun

Development and planning for the 2007 image has begun. Normally, entries would be judged in October to select the new image, however, given the uncertainty surrounding the stamp & print program we were unable to hold an art competition this year. We have selected the first runner-up from the 2006 art competition for 2007. The 2007 image will be "Morning Post – Wilson's Snipe" by Innisfil Ontario artist Nigel Shaw.

As well, our production and distribution arrangement for our various limited edition prints with Canadian Art Prints is ending. We have decided to manage the production of the

limited edition prints in-house as it presents a stronger revenue opportunity for the program for WHC. To order your copy of the 2007 Limited Edition Print when they go on sale April 1<sup>st</sup>, please contact [Pauline Fitchett](mailto:Pauline.Fitchett@whc.org).

### Canadian Stamp News article

Developing out of Pierre Leduc and Pauline Fitchett's attendance at the Royal Philatelic stamp show in Calgary in early October, Canadian Stamp News has prepared a 2-page feature on Canadian "Duck" stamps. You can download a scanned copy of the article from our website at [www.whc.org/documents/CdnStampNews.pdf](http://www.whc.org/documents/CdnStampNews.pdf). The article features the organization and highlights the art competition and the stamp's history. It also draws attention to the diminishing number of waterfowl hunters in Canada.

### Upcoming WHC Board Meeting

On January 22<sup>nd</sup> & 23<sup>rd</sup> the WHC Board of Directors is holding their semi-annual meeting in Ottawa. This is a critical meeting for the organization and the future of the grant program given the current status of our contribution agreement with Environment Canada.

### WHC Reception at the Canadian Museum of Nature, January 22<sup>nd</sup> (5:30 – 7:00 pm)

In conjunction with our Board of Directors meeting, we are holding an event to celebrate the opening of the all-new Bird Gallery at the Canadian Museum of Nature. We will also use the occasion to honour key 2007 recipients of the Forest Stewardship Recognition Program and Countryside Canada National Stewardship Awards. For information about the event, please contact [Nancy Wright](mailto:Nancy.Wright@whc.org) or [Veronica Cameron](mailto:Veronica.Cameron@whc.org).

### AROUND OUR COFFEE POT...

We are now well settled in our new office space (same address as before, smaller digs). Our old space (plus a significant amount of our surplus furniture) is now the home of the national office of the Canadian Lung Association.

### Welcome Back & New Addition

At the end of November we welcomed Veronica Cameron back from her maternity leave. Karen Gelowitz added to the WHC family with the birth of Riley Ian Gelowitz on Dec. 20<sup>th</sup>.