Signage at British Columbia’s Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas

Examples of Signs:

Active Pass IBA
Boundary Bay IBA
Chehalis River Estuary IBA
Chopaka Customs IBA
Englefield Bay Islands IBA
English Bay-Burrard Inlet IBA
Fraser Lake IBA
K’omoks IBA
Kilpoola Lake IBA
Laskeek Bay IBA
Little Qualicum Estuary to Nanoose Bay IBA
McIntyre Bay, North Beach & Rose Spit IBA
Mitlenatch Island IBA
Nootka Island banks IBA
Osoyoos Oxbows IBA
Sidney Channel IBA
Skidegate Inlet IBA
Skookumchuck IBA
Somenos Marsh IBA
Squamish River Area IBA
Strathcona Provincial Park IBA
Stuart, Tachie and Middle Rivers IBA
Summallo River-Skagit Valley IBA
Vaseux Lake Area IBA
White Lake Area IBA

Compiled 2012-2018

IBAs in British Columbia are a partnership program of:
Active Pass IBA, Galiano and Mayne Islands

IBA sign installed at Bellhouse Provincial Park (2012)
Photo: Mike Hoebel

Caretaker Michael Dunn with Peter Askin in front of IBA sign on Galiano Island (2012)
Photo: M. Dunn

IBA sign installed at Gulf Islands National Park Reserve on Mayne Island (2012)
Photo: Michael Dunn
Boundary Bay IBA, Lower Mainland

Caretaker Kathy Stewart holds sign at Chehalis Estuary IBA (2012)
Photo: Krista Englund

Chehalis River Estuary IBA, Mission

Caretaker Kathy Stewart holds sign at Chehalis Estuary IBA (2012)
Photo: Krista Englund
Chopaka Customs IBA, Osoyoos

Caretaker Lee McFadyen at Chopaka Customs IBA (2012)
Photo: Patrick Bouillet

Caretakers Lee McFadyen and Marilyn Bergen with Chopaka Customs IBA sign installed at Park boundary (2016)

Englefield Bay Islands IBA, Haida Gwaii

Jordan Brown and David Bradley with IBA sign (2017)
English Bay-Burrard Inlet IBA, Greater Vancouver

IBA sign at second beach in Stanley Park (2012)
Photo: Robyn Worcester

(Former) Caretaker Robyn Worcester holding IBA sign (2012)

IBA sign at Jericho Beach (2012)
Photo: Jamie Creery
Fraser Lake IBA, Fraser Lake

Caretaker Wayne Ray with Fraser Lake IBA sign
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)

K’omoks IBA, Comox Valley

Caretaker Art Martell with K’omoks IBA sign installed at Little River Ferry terminal (2016)
Photo: Krista Kaptein
K’omoks IBA information on Interpretive Sign installed by Project Watershed at Marine Drive, Royston
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2017)
Kilpoola Lake IBA, Osoyoos

IBA Interpretive sign at Blue Lake (2012)
Photo: Eddie Tennisko

Laskeek Bay IBA, Haida Gwaii

Laskeek Bay IBA sign on East Limestone Island (2016)
Little Qualicum Estuary to Nanoose Bay IBA, Nanoose Bay

IBA interpretive sign at Blue Lake (2012)
Photo: Eddie Tennisko

IBA sign for Little Qualicum Estuary to Nanoose Bay IBA (2012)
Photo: Hans Laue

IBA sign installed at Surfside Drive
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2017)

Little Qualicum Estuary to Nanoose Bay Interpretive Sign

IBA interpretive sign at Doehle Ave Parksville (2018)

IBA sign installed at Surfside Drive
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2017)

Little Qualicum Estuary to Nanoose Bay Interpretive Sign

IBA interpretive sign at Doehle Ave Parksville (2018)
McIntyre Bay, North Beach & Rose Spit IBA, Haida Gwaii

Gaatsguusd ad Nee Kun
McIntyre Bay, North Beach & Rose Spit
Important Bird & Biodiversity Area

McIntyre Bay, North Beach & Rose Spit IBA interpretive sign at Naikoon Provincial Park (2018)
Mitlenatch Island IBA, Strait of Georgia

(Former) Caretaker Peggy Sowden with IBA sign on Mitlenatch Island (2012)

IBA sign on Mitlenatch Island
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)

Nootka Island Banks IBA, Vancouver Island

Caretaker Susan Holvenstot with IBA sign
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)
Osoyoos Oxbows IBA, Penticton

Osoyoos Oxbows IBA sign kiosk at Road 22
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)

Osoyoos Oxbows IBA sign installed at entrance to sign kiosk
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2017)
Sidney Channel IBA, Sidney

Lochside Haven on the Southern Salish Sea

Sidney Channel was designated as an Important Bird Area (IBA) because it supports significant populations of birds. In summer, the channel and lagoon on Sidney Island support numerous murrelets, aukslets, cormorants, gulls and shorebirds. Sea lions live here during the winter, and in spring they are joined by migrating grebes, loons, brants, and shorebirds.

What is an Important Bird Area?

Birds are not the only species that benefit from protection under IBA programs. The presence of greater spotted auklets, one of the world’s rarest seabirds, is one of the key reasons why Sidney Channel was designated as an IBA. These birds nest on the small rocky islands in the channel. They are an important indicator of the health of the ecosystem.

Taking Care of IBAs

Help protect birdlife international partners Nature Canada (BC Nature in British Columbia) and Bird Studies Canada, volunteer caretakers and partners conserve our IBAs. Please pick up all beach garbage and dispose of paint, chemicals and oil properly. Disturbance from humans, boats and pets can harm shorebirds and seabirds - please keep your distance.

IBA interpretive sign overlooking Sidney Channel, Town of Sidney (2012)
Photo: Rob Hall
Skidegate Inlet IBA, Haida Gwaii

IBA interpretive sign at Queen Charlotte City
(2018)
Skookumchuck Prairie IBA, Skookumchuck

Skookumchuck Prairie IBA interpretive sign at Wasa Highway Rest Area (2018)
Photo: Dianne Cooper
Somenos Marsh IBA, Duncan

IBA sign installed at Open Air Classroom boardwalk
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2017)

Squamish River Area IBA, Squamish

Caretaker Chris Dale with IBA sign installed at Squamish Estuary Chelem Trail
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2017)
Strathcona Park IBA, Vancouver Island

Strathcona Provincial Park IBA sign installed at Buttle Lake campground
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2017)

IBA sign installed at Park boundary at Wood Mountain
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)
Stuart, Tachie & Middle Rivers IBA, Fort St. James

Caretaker Joanne Vinnedge and Andrew Wheatley (2012)  
Photo: Lynda Currie

Caretaker Joanne Vinnedge at IBA sign kiosk  
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)
Summallo River-Skagit Valley IBA, Hope

Caretaker Scott Denkers with IBA sign installed at entrance to Skagit Valley Provincial Park (2016)

Caretaker Scott Denkers with IBA sign installed at Skagit River Trail Summallo Grove trailhead (2016)
Vaseux Lake IBA, Penticton

IBA sign at Vaseux Lake Provincial Park (2012)
Photo: Sara Bunge

Vaseux Lake Important Bird Area

Vaseux Lake is one of 1,100 sites that have been designated Important Bird Areas (IBA) worldwide. The Important Bird Areas program of BirdLife International is a global network of sites that support significant populations of birds.

Why is Vaseux Lake an Important Bird Area? The Vaseux Lake area was designated an IBA because it supports several species listed by the Canadian Species at Risk Act. For example, Lesser Yellowlegs, Yellow-headed Loon, and Western Grebe are all found here. Most of these species depend on habitat in different seasons for breeding, non-breeding, or feeding and breeding. This highlights the value of coordinated global conservation efforts such as the important bird areas program.

Are IBA’s Protected? The Important Bird Area (IBA) designation is non-negotiable. Most of the area within Vaseux Lake IBA has some type of legal protection that restricts activities that could harm or destroy their habitat. Vaseux Lake is a Ramsar Site and the Vaseux Lake Delta is a Port Moody Ecological Reserve, both managed by the Nature Trust of British Columbia. Outside these areas, help from private landowners is needed to protect habitat.

www.ibacanada.ca

This project was made possible with a grant from BC Parks’ Community Legacy Fund.
Caretaker Eva Durance at IBA sign kiosk at Vaseux Lake IBA
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)

IBA interpretive sign at Vaseux Lake IBA
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)
White Lake IBA, Okanagan Falls

Caretaker Doreen Olson at White Lake IBA (2012)
Photo: Krista Englund

White Lake IBA Kiosk
Photo: Krista Kaptein (2016)
White Lake
Important Bird Area

White Lake is one of 11,000 sites that have been designated as Important Bird Areas (IBAs) worldwide.

Why is White Lake an Important Bird Area?
The White Lake basin has been identified as important due to its support of several species of global conservation concern. The basin is a key breeding ground for many ducks, geese, and shorebirds. The surrounding wetlands provide critical habitat for and support of several bird species. The White Lake basin is also home to a variety of other species, such as mammals, reptiles, amphibians, and fish.

Are Important Bird Areas protected?
The Important Bird Areas (IBAs) are a network of sites identified as being of global significance for the conservation of birds and other wildlife. These sites are managed by various organizations, including governments, non-governmental organizations, and local groups. The protection of these areas is crucial for the survival of many bird species.

Help conserve IBAs
Conservation initiatives in White Lake IBA

One major initiative is the West Coast Mountains Initiative, which aims to protect the habitat of several bird species, including the Great Blue Heron, the Bald Eagle, and the Trumpeter Swan. The Canadian Wildlife Federation has also supported the conservation efforts in White Lake IBA.

Report all rare bird sightings to 604-940-4700

www.ibacanada.ca

Birds of White Lake
Important Bird Area

The nature of grasslands in the South Okanagan is very special but you may not notice it as the view for a while before you see any wildlife. Birds and animals that live here are often well camouflaged, secretive, and most active at dawn and dusk.

Listen to the songbirds!
Many grassland birds can be detected by their distinctive songs. The least, the Bobolink, and the Western Meadowlark are just a few examples.

Small the sage
Grasslands are very fragile places, thanks to sagebrush, rabbitbrush, and stands of ponderosa pine. Insects attracted to the pines are eaten by birds like the Pygmy Nuthatch and Mountain Chickadee which poke around the fleshy bark. The pines are also important habitat for Western Scrub-Jays and other cavity nesters.

www.ibacanada.ca