BC Important Bird & Biodiversity Areas 2019 Annual Reports

Compiled by Krista Kaptein, BC IBA Caretaker Network Coordinator, BC Nature

Dunlin, Black Turnstone, Sanderling roosting at Skonun Point: McIntyre Bay, North Beach & Rose Spit IBA, Haida Gwaii
photo by Margo Hearne

Ebird IBA Protocol Survey: Chopaka East & Kilpoola Lake Area IBA
photo by Krista Kaptein
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1  Active Pass IBA

2  Amphitrite and Swiftsure Banks IBA

3  Barkley Sound IBA

3.1 Barkley Sound IBA 2019 Annual Report
2017, 2018, 2019 Reports received from Caretaker Anne Stewart Dec 2019. Not included in Compendium by request.

4  Big Bay South to Delusion Bay IBA

5  Boundary Bay- Roberts Bank -Sturgeon Banks IBA (Fraser River Estuary)

5.1 Boundary Bay-Roberts Bank-Sturgeon Banks IBA (Fraser River Estuary IBA) 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Fraser River Estuary
Caretaker Name: Anne Murray
Additions: Marg Cuthbert
Date: January 13, 2020

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Average 2 pr mth</td>
<td>28 eBirded trips mostly with Delta Naturalists Casual Birders (DNCB) or solo</td>
<td>10-20%</td>
<td>Some driving; mostly walking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 16?</td>
<td>FRE group IBA Count organized by Birds Canada</td>
<td>80%</td>
<td>I wasn’t able to participate this year. Results of count on eBird</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Average 2 pr mth</td>
<td>No monitoring program</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Since I live in the IBA, I drive and walk around it enough to see what is going on.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21 Dec</td>
<td>Christmas Bird Count</td>
<td>About 5 blocks square South Delta</td>
<td>Walking, with 3 other participants</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>weekly</td>
<td>Bird survey at Blackie Spit</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Walking the area, bird survey data collected</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monthly</td>
<td>Bird walks in protected areas of Surrey,</td>
<td>?</td>
<td>Walking, public awareness &amp; education</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc? Y X
2. **Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?** Y ✗ If yes, please summarize.

   All IBA trigger species were observed in season.

3. **Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?** Y ✗ If yes, please list:

   As well as the full IBA count organized by Birds Canada there were monthly waterfowl counts and dead bird surveys down by Birds Canada volunteers.

   Delta Naturalists Casual Birders go out once each week and now submit eBird counts for all their trips. Some of these trips were to areas within the Fraser River estuary on days I did not participate.

   FoSBS volunteer invites the public to join in on the weekly bird surveys at Blackie Spit, the surveys go into eBird.

   City of Surrey hosts the monthly bird walks with support from FoSBS.

4. **Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?** Y ✗ If yes, please describe.

   Iona Sewage Treatment plant ponds are being slowly drained and are due to be replaced by a new facility.

   The new protected area on the Nicomekl estuary into the Nicomekl Waterfront Park has almost completed the public process.

5. **Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?** Y ✗ If yes, please describe.

   Area of former fallow land/farmland on Tsawwassen First Nation has now been developed for industrial/port backup facilities. The former “Spetifore” land adjacent to the Boundary Bay Regional Park in the community of South Delta (Tsawwassen) is also partly under development. Former farmland has been converted to a housing subdivision and a new road linking 52 St with Boundary Bay road.

   Many trees in the IBA were blown down or felled because of high winds during 2019 storms.

   Iona ponds in the Sewage Treatment Plant are being drained as they are no longer necessary for the operation of the new sewage treatment facility.

   Semiahmoo First Nation are working on raising Beach Road within the reserve with Min of
Highways. This change will remove the salt marsh within the Little Campbell River estuary as they expand and raise the dyke for the road. This is important habitat for shore birds and waterfowl especially in high wind weather as very sheltered. Future development is uncertain at this time.

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened? Y ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Public hearings for Deltaport Terminal 2 construction were held in May. I presented on 17 May on behalf of Delta Naturalists Society in opposition to the construction due to the likelihood of serious impact to Western Sandpiper populations and other shorebirds, fish and marine mammals. A number of other local naturalists and environmentalists also gave presentations including Susan Jones from Boundary Bay Conservation Committee and Roger Emsley from Against Port Expansion. BC Nature also had an expert speaker present. There are concerns that Federal scientists were not permitted to give closing statements to hearing Panel and that not all issues were adequately addressed. Federal government decision is now imminent (Jan 2020).

As noted above on the Semiahmoo First Nation reserve.

At Iona, pond drainage and lack of clarity regarding the future of that area is a concern. It is an important sheltered (non-dog) area for waterfowl and shorebirds, as well as other species.

b. Have any conservation threats lessoned? N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Not really, but it appears that more people are becoming aware of climate change and the rapid decline of bird populations; plus more people are interested in bird watching. However, pressures for land use changes, increase in density of population, climate change, and other issues continue to exacerbate the problems.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated? Y ☒ If yes, please describe.

I participated in a number of meetings with relevant government officials and staff regarding birds, habitat and human impacts on habitat. On 9 January and 4 April I attended meetings regarding the future of Iona Sewage Ponds (bird habitat).

On 25 January, together with IBA Caretaker Margaret Cuthbert, I met with Gordie Hogg, then MP for White Rock to discuss issues of concern in Semiahmoo Bay and the new Nicomekl River Park and a proposal to create a National Park in the Little Campbell River valley (see Marg Cuthbert’s report).

On 13 March, 1 May, 20 June, 10 July, together with members of Delta Naturalists Society (DNS) I met with Delta municipality staff from, respectively, Environment and Climate Change; Parks and
Recreation; and Engineering departments, to discuss the Birds and Biodiversity Conservation Strategy implementation. On 27 June, with a group of DNS members and at Delta staff request, I toured Ladner Harbor marsh to assess habitat and species with a view to municipal upgrading of the trail. On 26 Aug, with DNS President Tom Bearss, I presented to Delta Council on Delta Naturalists’ Society’s recommended next steps for Delta’s Birds and Biodiversity Conservation Strategy.

During the year, a group of Delta Naturalists members participated again in making, installing and monitoring nestboxes for Barn Owls, Tree and Barn Swallows.

Delta Naturalist members met with Delta MP Carla Qualtrough to discuss our concerns about Roberts Bank developments and other issues on 3 July.

DNS held 4 public walks in Boundary Bay Regional Park to highlight birds and habitat in the park; I led the event on 11 September. I gave talks on the Fraser Delta in White Rock on 5 March; and Pender Island on 8 March.

I attended a Delta Tourism meeting on 10 September and discussed ecotourism. I met with MetroVancouver staff responsible for the Delta area regional parks on 15 October to discuss conservation issues and management of increased public use of dykes. On 20 October, along with many other DNS members, I assisted James Casey and Birds Canada staff with the successful Welcoming Winter Birds Event at the Harris Barn on Arthur Drive, Delta. I contacted Metro Vancouver staff to ensure that the IBA and WHSRN signs at Boundary Bay park were removed and (hopefully) stored appropriately while the sewage outfall works are being undertaken.

On 5 May, I attended the 3-hour Engagement Organizing workshop presented by Nature Canada at the BC Nature AGM in Duncan. On 18 October, I attended the IBA Conservation Team Meeting in Nanaimo. I participated in the IBA Conservation Committee’s meeting at Nanaimo on 18 October.

I took part in the Ladner Christmas Bird Count on 21 December as did a number of other DNS and Vancouver NHS members.

Birds Canada conducted a full IBA Count in the Fall which I was not able to participate in due to being out of town.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

More land needs to be protected specifically for wildlife, particularly intertidal areas and the area immediately within the dykes and more public education is required to ensure that protected land is effective, safe habitat for trigger species.

Dogs should be kept out of many more areas – they run loose in many areas along the dyke, in the
foreshore areas and on beaches. Efforts are being made to ensure there are suitable dog-off-leash areas available for residents elsewhere and that this will allow better enforcement of dyke and other sensitive beach and upland areas. Discussions with Delta and MV staff are ongoing. // In addition, we are working on this with the province and the City of White Rock, mc

People management needs to take into account the fact that more and more people are looking to use the dykes, for a number of activities including birdwatching, but also photography dog-walking, cycling, hunting, etc. Owl photography is very popular. We are working with agencies to improve and simplify signage in critical areas.

Barn Owl nest boxes are helping this edge of range species within Delta but poisoning (rat-poison) is taking its toll of many raptors.

MC – government policy change on use of rodenticides especially along the shore in Semiahmoo Bay and around commercial buildings and condos – too many owls and raptors are dying.

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)? [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

AM -At least 200 hours personally, including meetings, eBirding in the IBA, presentations, writing, reporting. Delta Naturalist members involved in educational activities, nest box building, eBirding and meetings with government staff added many more hours. At least a dozen DNS members are extremely active in this way.
MC – Marg- full time coordination of FoSBS and part time for the LCWS, 20 -30 hours a week x 46 - 50 weeks annually.
Other volunteers hours involved in IBA stewardship and public education – 3,000 – 5,000 hours.

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website? Y ☒

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

Note: Marg Cuthbert has attached FoSBS and LCWS activity reports.
Our Friends community volunteers continued their ongoing commitment to stewardship in the Boundary Bay watershed with:

- participating in a riparian planting at Mud Bay Park with the City of Surrey;
- hosting a World Wetlands event February 2 with the City of Surrey to promote public awareness of the new proposed Nicomekl Waterfront Park. Two buses carried 110 people to various sites along the river and speakers included Dr Sean Boyd speaking on wetlands and loss of salt marsh in the Fraser delta;
- participating in a ‘Four Seasons of the Serpentine’ exhibit event with display and activity and assisting with event promotion for Feb 23;
- developing a Birds of Surrey brochure for the city with the support of the Delta Naturalists Terry Carr and John Gordon Photography; 5000 copies have been printed and are now being distributed;
- cleanout of 60 nest boxes at the Serpentine Wildlife Area on March 15th;
- conducting eight native plant demonstration garden and forest trail work parties including extensive plantings in March 16th 2019, October 19th and 26th, of two seepage areas in the riparian corridor and a number of unsanctioned trails in the forest and riparian corridor of the Little Campbell River at the Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club with the Little Campbell Watershed Society;
- weekly bird surveys at Blackie Spit;
- completion of data entry for the subtidal eelgrass mapping of 86 hectares in Boundary Bay, further monitoring will be conducted by satellite imagery;
- facilitating a post doctoral research student on a project to study the nutrient loading in eelgrass in the eastern portion of Boundary Bay with field support and funding;
- facilitating the funding of a water quality project in the Little Campbell River estuary with ‘Smart Shores’ a new technology that maps pollution and the shoreline;
- providing two references for students applying for jobs and two scholarship application reference letters for students, who have worked with us on projects;
- speaking to the Earl Marriott Grassroots Club about environmental opportunities for students;
- speaking to two Rotary Clubs in the local area on March 26th and April 2 and a third scheduled to the Rotary Club of White Rock-Peace Arch May 27th;
- attending a Semiahmoo Secondary volunteer fair on April 3 to promote environmental opportunities to students and facilitate a native plant garden project;
- ongoing support of Elgin Secondary teachers with their native plant garden and connecting them to another secondary school project to share information;
- met with south Surrey RCMP detachment on April 9th to discuss opportunities for collaboration on environmental concerns;
- presented 6 Birds in Focus programs and 6 Marine Discovery programs in the schools with 8 marine field trips to June and 6 class presentations in the fall including pond discovery and birding field trips;
- conducting a Great Canadian Shoreline Cleanup at Blackie Spit on April 14 and September 15th at Blackie Spit and facilitated a Rotary Club shoreline cleanup at Crescent Beach on April 23rd;
- hosting a team planning meeting for the Shorekeepers marine methods training workshop scheduled for May 19th, 2019 for community, 21 attendees; survey scheduled for June 2;
coordinating and facilitating a Little Campbell Watershed Society ‘Get to Know Your River’ public event April 27th with stewardship partners, park staff and businesses offering activities, speakers, nature photo show, environmental songs from The Wheat in the Barley and a Silent Auction;

launching of the 2019 Beach Hero Marine Interpretive program in Boundary Bay, training May 15th;

hosted a Native Plant Garden Tour May 12; a Lichen Discovery walk May 14th,

coco-hosted a pop-up World Ocean Day Festival June 9th at Blackie Spit with Surrey Parks Urban Forestry;

a Marine Creatures and Eelgrass beach discovery walk June 8th and a World Nature Night presentation of India with award winning John Gordon Photography June 7th;

launching of the Beach Hero Marine Interpretive program with a training May 15th;

hosting an IBA – Fraser delta Boundary Bay caretakers meeting with BSC on May 16th;

hosting a marine discovery walk May 18th, June 6th, June 8th and August 17th

leading a marine discovery walk for the Stanley Park Ecological Society;

participating with the Fraser delta Spartina anglica mapping and removal initiative in Boundary Bay;

coco-host Surrey Council tour of the Little Campbell River in Surrey May 21;

participation in Surrey Parks public input for Latimer Lake Park plan May 30 and June 25th;

co-hosed with City of Surrey Climate Flood Adaptation Strategy public talk May 30;

hosted an FoSBS team & partners gathering to celebrate one of our volunteer’s upcoming wedding;

hosting a Boundary Bay Health, Conservation and Management stakeholders group meeting with support from the City of Surrey and in collaboration with Bird Studies Canada June 13th;

giving four class presentations and leading eight classes of students for marine discovery in May/June reaching 895 individuals;

participation in video project with the White Rock Museum exhibit June/July;

participation in stakeholder meetings with developers applying in Boundary Bay / Little Campbell watershed June 17, July 3;

organizing a conversation with local Boundary Bay stakeholders with Surrey/WR MP and visiting MP from Quebec (previously worked with Ecojustice, advocate for SAR protection) together with BSC;

co-ordination of the Dart’s Hill Native Plant Garden with planning meeting June 26th and August 16th to plan a Garry Oak meadow project;

participation in the City of Surrey’s Environmental Extravaganza program April 15th thru June 10th with nine events and attendance at planning and wind up meetings;

attending City of White Rock Community Forum on the waterfront June 27th and input to the WR Waterfront draft Plan;

participating in seven community events: Canada Day event at Blackie Spit July 1, BC Day at Semiahmoo Bay August 3rd, Blackie Spit with SNAP with display, activities and live touch tank and two WR Farmer’s Market’s;

offering Beach Hero marine interpretation on walks to 1884 individuals with the program reaching 4300 individuals summer of 2019;

participating in City of White Rock Town Centre design workshop July 6;

distributing the new forage fish spawning habitat brochure printed for us by City of Surrey;

distributing the coastal native plant brochures and birds of Surrey brochures to project partners and organizations to further share with communities;

participating in City of Surrey’s Nicomekl Riverfront Park open house Aug 6th;

host 20 SFU teachers at Ocean Park Library with an FoSBS / Marine presentation, educational materials and a follow up beach walk and cleanup August 14th;
• participate with BSC and public walk in White Rock August 20th;
• host the Beach Hero Marine Interpretive team for an end of 2019 program lunch Aug 23rd;
• meet with the Little Campbell Forest trail project coordinators to discuss the fall/winter workplan August 24th;
• meet Seaquaria team at WR Elementary school to assess repair needs Sept. 3rd;
• weekly bird surveys at Blackie Spit;
• ongoing promotion on our web calendar of free public events for the community, our own and other groups;
• ongoing monitoring of eelgrass in Boundary Bay conducted by satellite imagery;
• ongoing support for a post doctoral research student on a project to study the nutrient loading in eelgrass in the eastern portion of Boundary Bay;
• supporting a UBC BRITE student with their internship over the summer and project to design a monitoring protocol for eelgrass in Boundary bay to be used by community volunteers (citizen science);
• co-coordination of the Shared Waters working group and participation in the June 27th stakeholders meeting, development of the website, and input to group surveys;
• participation in a planning meeting with the White Rock Native Plant demonstration garden with project coordinators and the City of White Rock with our proposed work plan, plant list etc and mulching scheduled on October 20th;
• conducting plantings in September and October at the White Rock and Dart’s Hill native Plant demonstration gardens and at the Little Campbell Forest trail riparian project. Monitoring to be conducted at the forest trail project sites to determine plant success and further needs over the winter;
• host our FoSBS AGM and a Volunteer /Project Partner Appreciation event September 29th;
• participate in the Campbell Valley Regional Park Management Planning process October 22;
• participate with the Fergus Biodiversity Preserve working group November 22 next steps;
• numerous letters to Ministry of FLNRO re wq and disturbance issues on the Boundary Bay WMA;
• contributing to the IBA annual report;
• facilitating the launching of the birding trail initiative for the BB / Fraser delta;
• planning the events, activities and work parties for 2020.

The Friends of Semiahmoo Bay conservation and educational accomplishments are due to the commitment, hard work, resources and care by our volunteers and project partners. They make all the difference!

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Phone: 604 536-3552 or Fax: 604-542-9882
LCWS Partner groups continue to work for the Little Campbell River and its watershed through advocacy, enhancement projects, citizen science and education.

On the 29 acre property of the Semiahmoo Fish and Game Club we have continued with partnering with Friends of Semiahmoo Bay Society on monthly habitat enhancement work parties each month through the fall and began again in March. English Holly continues to be removed both in the forest and in Surrey Parks acreage adjacent to the property. On March 16th we conducted a major planting along all unsanctioned trails and seepage areas (ephemeral) on the north side of the trail. This entailed one of our volunteers going to a nursery on Vancouver Island to pick up wetland plants and seeds. Project partner A Rocha also sold us a flat of swamp lantern plugs and about 100 trees and shrubs from their native plant nursery. Eighteen volunteers came out to help. We hope to see improved growth of the shrubs and herbaceous plants now that the Semiahmoo Fish & Game Club have reached an understanding with the archery club members that the entire lowland of the property is part of the riparian corridor wetland complex and should not be disturbed.

We also planted October 19th and facilitated the Canucks Autistic Network with their leaders and youth with a planting along the river site on October 26th.

The LCWS members worked hard to offer the ‘Get to Know Your River’ event on April 27th to the community. Thousands of invitations have gone out to residents, ratepayers, businesses, federal, provincial and municipal government and parks, first nations and NGO’s. The purpose of the event was to engage the public in awareness and more knowledge with the hope that they will in turn participate in stewardship of the river. Activities included a fish release, hatchery tour, family activities and displays, silent auction, prizes, a nature photo slide show, environmental songs from the Wheat in the Barley and a fabulous line up of speakers. Turnout was disappointing but we are working on another event for April 25th, 2020.

Also the above event was seen as an opportunity to promote the ‘we have a dream’ idea for the LCR: land to be acquired and protected as a multi jurisdictional Urban Park Corridor. LCWS members continue to work hard to increase knowledge and promote the Little Campbell River Urban Park Corridor initiative. To date, we have received only positive feedback from residents and government agencies to this.

‘Smart Shores’ partnered with us to map and photograph the shoreline and pollution beginning in the Little Campbell estuary. Water quality and quantity continue to be concerns if we are to continue having five salmonid species in the river.

The ongoing rezoning applications from agriculture to industrial continue to take up valuable volunteer time and we are very busy dealing with an Environmental Assessment Board appeal concerning a galvanizing plant owned by ‘Ebco’ that has been placed smack in the middle of the watershed. This goliath is using immense taxpayer funded power and money against a few rural farmers and volunteers trying to protect the watershed from serious heavy metal and chemical pollution, borne from air to water.
The endless ‘dog off leash’ issue continues to intensifying. Recently a realtor continued a long local tradition in advertising a house for sale near Semiahmoo beach--- ‘the best dog off leash area in the lower mainland’ (sic). With a waterfront that services a huge swath of the Lower Mainland, and regularly sees dog owners encouraging their pets to harass both migratory and resident birds we need to get this area designated a no go area for dogs, to us a no-brainer, to bureaucrats a potential pension percussor! We need a new BBWMA Management Plan ASAP!

Water quality and quantity continue to be serious concerns. LCWS members toured a feedlot property May 13th with the owner and have learned it is a complicated situation that will take time to resolve. The local residents are working with us on their concerns on air quality and wq.

On May 21, LCWS members led a tour of the Little Campbell River with Surrey Mayor and Council with a wrap up lunch hosted by our A Rocha partners. We also hosted a tour with the Township of Langley Mayor and two Council lurs on October 24th with a Councillor proceeding to put up a motion for Council to develop a Biodiversity Conservation Strategy and to also look at acquiring land for the Urban Park Corridor – more to follow.

LCWS members as usual attended a number of developer - initiated meetings in the watershed to give our input and express concerns. We appreciate that City of Surrey staff also attend and support our concerns - we are on the same page re: conservation of habitats.

The LCWS participates in the Shared Waters stakeholder group and have expressed serious concerns about the futility of restoring shellfish harvest in Semiahmoo Bay with so many dogs on the beach. While wildlife often gets thrown under the bus in BC, the glimmer of hope here comes from the fact that local First Nations will never be able to harvest shellfish again in Semiahmoo Bay until domestic animals are restricted and there seems to be increased awareness of this fact.

6  Carmanah Walbran Forest IBA
no Caretaker in 2019

7  Cecil Lake IBA

7.1 Cecil Lake IBA 2019 Annual Report
Email from Andrew Tyrrell, Dec. 13, 2019
I have been rather overloaded this entire year.... but have not been able to set aside the time to do anything substantive. On the bright side, I did purchase 2 kayaks this fall and am looking forward to being able to get out on Cecil Lake a bit more regularly. I am also hoping to survey the lake with a drone at some point. Are you aware of any protocol for grebe surveys with drones?...

8  Chain Islets & Great Chain Island  IBA

9  Checleset Bay IBA
10 Chehalis River Estuary IBA

10.1 Chehalis River Estuary IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Chehalis River Estuary  
Caretaker Name: Kathy Stewart  
Date: Dec 22, 2019

Summary of Site Visits:

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<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>At least 9 months out of the year</td>
<td>Casual</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>mainly along south western edge of the estuary and east shore of Harrison Bay</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  
Y ✗

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?  
Y ✗ If yes, please summarize.

Bald Eagles were seen in good numbers this year, in fact the count for the Bald Eagle Festival, done by David Hancock from the boat tour on Harrison River was the second highest recorded with over 4,000 counted (eBird wouldn't accept the number).

Swans were slow in arriving but are in good numbers now, every year we seem to get more Tundra mixed in with the Trumpeters.

The Purple Martin colony was good and productive again. Never did find if any of the boxes that were put off of Kilby Beach were occupied but the ones off of Eagle Point were all well used.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?  
N ✗ If yes, please list:

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  
Y ✗ If yes, please describe.

Another year has gone by since the area, or at least part of it, became a Wildlife Management Area but still no changes, not even a sign erected.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  
N ✗ If yes, please describe.

6. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  
Y ✗ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.
There is a major amount of development in the planning stages. This includes a hotel to be located on the Sandpiper Golf Course, as well as some housing, also on the golf course. There are several other housing and condo developments planned, some right on the shore of Harrison Bay. The only thing holding things back at this stage is the lack of infrastructure, specifically sewage and water.

b. Have any conservation threats lessoned?  N  ☐ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  Y  ☐ If yes, please describe.

I don't have details, but I met someone the other day who was doing a survey for the Fraser Valley Regional District in regards to conservation and recreation in the area. We had a very long talk. Some concerns expressed were the amount of boat traffic the river (especially power boats an boat races.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

Fortunately, the trigger species aren't too affected apart from the number of people coming out to see and photograph the eagles. It seems efforts that have been done in the past, signage etc are continuing to be effective for the most part.

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

Everyday I am not travelling elsewhere, we (my husband and I) spent at least a couple of hours walking in the area. I do a bird count during the mid-day walk, also always have my camera. Then report the bird count to EBird and do a blog on the area in the evening.

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?  Y  ☐

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

Other than the fact that a proper bird count has never been done, mainly because it would require a large number of people, and boats, there isn't really anything. It would be nice to see the WMA signage that has been proposed show up though!
11  Chilcotin Junction IBA

11.1 Chilcotin Junction IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Chilcotin Junction  
Caretaker Name: Cathy Koot  
Date: 31 January 2020

Summary of Site Visits: 2019

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 8</td>
<td>BC/Yukon Nocturnal Owl Survey (Birds Canada), English Road Route</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
<td>3 Common Poorwill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 8</td>
<td>BC/Yukon Nocturnal Owl Survey (Birds Canada), Moon Road Route</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
<td>5 flammulated owl, 3 common poorwill</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 12</td>
<td>BC/Yukon Nocturnal Owl Survey (Birds Canada), Meldrum Route</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
<td>5 flammulated owl, 2 barred owl, 8 common nighthawk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 10</td>
<td>BC/Yukon Nocturnal Owl Survey (Birds Canada), Meldrum South Route</td>
<td>&lt;1</td>
<td>5 flammulated owl, 2 great-horned owl, 1 barred owl, 2 common nighthawk</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  
   Y ☒

Reports are in eBird, B.C. Nocturnal Owls Survey (Birds Canada), and Breeding Bird Survey. Observations of species surveyed in the Nocturnal Owl Survey plus incidental nocturnal observations are also plotted in a GIS geodatabase maintained by the caretaker.

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?  
   Y ☒ If yes, please summarize.

See table above for summary of Flammulated Owl surveys. The Fraser West route remains inaccessible to both trucks and ATVs (due to abuse by off-road users). The Flat Rock route of the Williams Lake Community Forest was not surveyed in 2019.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?  
   Y ☒ If yes, please list:

FLNRORD is continuing surveys at sharp-tailed grouse leks in the Junction Sheep Range PP grasslands with two visits per year to each known location.

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  
   N ☒ If yes, please describe.
5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  N  
6. a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  Y  
   If yes, please describe.
   Western Spruce Budworm was sprayed in a portion (caretaker has map) of the IBA with B.t.k. in an area that had flammulated owls in previous years. There was a singing owl in the sprayed stand during the survey in 2019. Tussock moth has expanded its range in BC up the Fraser River and some sites occur within the Junction Sheep Range Provincial Park portion of the IBA. The Province is planning to spray vulnerable stands important to forestry, none of which occur in the IBA. Tussock moth leads to foliage loss and reduced growth in Douglas-fir.

   b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  N  
   If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  Y  
   If yes, please describe.
   Fuel-reduction and fire break creation continues on parts of the Flat Rock Block of the Williams Lake Community Forest, closest to the City of Williams Lake.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?
   Widespread fuel reduction activities would decrease the probability of stand-replacing (high severity) wildfire in treed portions of the IBA. Flammulated owl habitat exists where the historical fire regime included frequent, low to moderate severity fires.

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  
   Travel 15  
   Monitoring 30  
   Data Management 12  
   Reporting 6  
   Total 63

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?  Y  

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).
12 Chopaka Customs IBA

13 Chopaka East & Kilpoola Lake Area IBA

13.1 Chopaka East & Kilpoola Lake Area IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Chopaka East and Kilpoola Lake  Caretaker Name: Matthias Bieber  Date: February 8, 2020

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>June 6, 2019</td>
<td>Scouting for eBird count, ebirding</td>
<td>10%</td>
<td>Traveled along roads through IBA</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>June 11, 2019</td>
<td>IBA eBird count</td>
<td>50%</td>
<td>Official count following the BA Canada ebird protocol</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  Y  ❌

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?  Y  ❌ If yes, please summarize.

One Sage Thrasher and 2 Lewis's Woodpeckers were detected during the IBA eBird Count on June 9th. Another Sage Thrasher was detected on June 12.

Several other species of interest were detected during the IBA eBird Count: 3 Short-eared Owl, 7 Common Nighthawk, 37 Brewer's Sparrow, 12 Lark Sparrow and 9 Grasshopper Sparrow.

Brewer's Sparrows were also reported in low numbers on eBird on 6 other occasions in June, as well as 4 additional Grasshopper Sparrows. One Gray Flycatcher and several Barn Swallows were also reported in 2019.

NCC has records of a Lewis's Woodpecker in 2018 and a Sage Thrasher in 2016 within the IBA.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?  N  ❌ If yes, please list:

The Canadian Wildlife Service has not recently (since 2014) monitored Lewis's Woodpecker in the IBA as they have not found any nesting records for a number of years.

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  N  ❌ If yes, please describe.
5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  N  ☒ If yes, please describe.

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  Y  ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Cattle trespassing along the IBA border has been an issue. Despite fence repairs in 2018, the issue continued in 2019.

ATV use in the IBA is likely an issue. A dirt bike was seen on one of the trails during a site visit and others could easily be going off trail.

b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  Y  ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Invasive species management by NCC has resulted in a reduction of 97% of Russian knapweed since 2013.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  Y  ☒ If yes, please describe.

The Burrowing Owl Conservation Society of BC released 6 Burrowing Owl pairs in the Sage and Sparrow Conservation Area in 2019. NCC is also monitoring bats in the area.

Russian knapweed removal by NCC.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

Further invasive weed management is needed to protect the native grassland habitat. Weeds like crested wheatgrass, knapweed, dalmation toadflax and especially cheatgrass are encroaching and outcompeting native species.

Grazing continues in some parts of the IBA and in the low lying areas around Kilpoola Lake, it has the potential to degrade sensitive habitat and disturb nesting birds. Wet areas and draws where grazing is ongoing would benefit from being fenced off. A solar-powered cattle watering trough would be beneficial to reduce the need for cattle to encroach on natural water sources.

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

About 70
10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website? Y ☒

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

Since the IBA is relatively remote and parts of it are not easy to access there is little conservation presence and enforcing the site regulations remain a challenge. The area would benefit from increased watchfulness by partnering ENGOs who the site. Any suspicious activity (eg., off road atv use, hunting, camping, etc.) should be reported and communicated to the IBA program.

14 Cleland Island & Southeast Clayoquot Sound IBA

15 Cowichan Estuary IBA

16 Creston Valley IBA

17 Cumshewa Inlet North to Sheldens Bay

   no Caretaker in 2019

18 Desolation Sound IBA

19 Douglas Lake Plateau IBA

19.1 Douglas Lake Plateau IBA 2019 Annual Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IBA Name: Douglas Lake Plateau</th>
<th>Caretaker Name: Alan Burger (Nicola Naturalist Society); Rick Howie (Kamloops Naturalists)</th>
<th>Date: 13 Feb 2020</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>See attached appendix for e-</td>
<td>Casual surveys by car and on foot</td>
<td>Mostly &lt;10% per visit</td>
<td>Along public roads through private ranchland and Indian Reserves.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Bird extracts – visits in 2019 by Nicola Naturalists and Alan Burger

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Routes covered:</th>
<th>1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?</th>
<th>N ☒</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Pennask Lake Road</td>
<td>Nicola Naturalist Society data and those from Alan Burger are all on e-Bird (see Appendix). Only a few of Howie's sightings are on E-bird but will be uploaded in the near future. The rest are stored in his personal database.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Minnie Lake Rd (Douglas Creek Rd)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Douglas Lake Rd (from Hwy 5A past Douglas Lake to Chapperon Lake)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Spahomin IR</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lauder Road.</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rick Howie made 12 trips into the IBA during 2015.</td>
<td>Some were casual birding while enroute while others were intended as investigative field trips. 3 trips were taken from Feb 11 - Apr 21 and 9 trips were made from June 12-Nov 27. See attached summary.</td>
<td>&lt;5% per visit</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Public roads including Hwy 5a south to Nicola lake and Merritt occasionally, Goose Lake Rd, Knutsford.</td>
<td>2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year? Y ☒If yes, please summarize.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&lt;5% per visit</td>
<td>Sandhill Cranes were observed:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>22 April 2019 Minimum of 7,700 aggregated on the ground in one marshy area on Douglas Lake Ranch west of Chapperon Lake. Counted from high-resolution photos (see report in BC IBA newsletter October 2019 – Vol 13 Issue 1). Not all the cranes present could be counted in the photographs, so there were almost certainly more than 8,000 cranes in this aggregation.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Fall migration not covered in the southern part of the IBA.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest? N ☒ If yes, please list:</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>None that I’m aware of (Alan). Ditto from Rick Howie</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report? N ☒ If yes, please describe.</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>None ? (Alan)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

BC IBA Caretaker Annual Reports 2019 22
5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  N  ☒ If yes, please describe.

No major changes to the grasslands and hayfields in 2019.

Single family dwellings continue to spread slowly in the Knutsford area, with parcel sizes varying. Habitats away from the house footprints have not changed significantly, but any proliferation of horses and livestock kept by inexperienced range managers will result in degraded grasslands. Such areas are currently visible. No significant changes in 2014.

6. a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  Y  ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

The Upper Nicola Band is proposing a large solar power installation on their reserve lands. The exact location is not clear. This might impact some species – not sure if an environmental impact study has been made.

Wind turbines are proposed for a site near Helmer Ridge near the Coquihalla Highway north of Merritt by MKI [http://www.mkince.ca/home.html](http://www.mkince.ca/home.html) (Martin Ince is president). This is not within the IBA but might affect Sandhill Cranes and other migrants passing through this area. This development is currently on hold because of problems in selling power to BC Hydro. If there is increased demand for wind farms the IBA area might be considered since it has many high exposed windy hilltops.

The potential Ajax mine is a major threat in the Knutsford area. Other drilling exploration is planned for areas east of Hwy 5a in the Knutsford area but did not occur in 2014 as planned. Field work and studies continue on the Ajax property. If mines were developed in both of those areas, there would be a significant loss of grassland habitat just south of Kamloops.

b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  N  ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

No change at the southern end. No diminishment at the north end.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  Y  ☒ If yes, please describe.

No change at the southern end. The Upper Nicola Band along with the Burrowing Owl Society has an ongoing Burrowing Owl breeding and release program operating on the Spahomin Indian Reserve.

Anti-mine protests have been active at the north end. Burrowing Owl releases continue in the Knutsford, Beresford and other areas to the south within the IBA.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?
Keep vigilant for proposed developments, like wind farms, which might impact this area. Probably best to leave things as they are. No recommendations at this time (Rick).

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)? [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

At southern end (Nicola Naturalists & Alan Burger) – about 30 hours
At northern end, 40 hours. (Howie)

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website? Y ✗

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

On 8 October 2013 Rick Howie arranged a meeting with Ian Barnett (Nature Conservancy of Canada) to discuss strategies to approach ranchers in the Douglas Lake Plateau IBA about creating an awareness of the IBA status as well as obtaining permission and support for monitoring of birds in the IBA. Howie, Burger and Barnett met briefly over lunch and agreed that a follow up meeting should be arranged with Dave Haywood-Farmer for additional advice. This meeting has not been held yet. Howie has a personal concern (not verified) that some large land owners may become uncooperative once they learn that the IBA has been created without consultation. Understanding of the legal status and implications is likely low amongst most if not all ranchers. There has been no movement on meetings with any of the ranchers with respect to the preceding initiative.

20  English Bay, Burrard Inlet & Howe Sound IBA

20.1 English Bay, Burrard Inlet & Howe Sound IBA 2019 Annual Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IBA Name: English Bay &amp; Burrard Inlet (Stanley Park)</th>
<th>Caretaker Name: Meghan Cooling</th>
<th>Date: Dec 16, 2019 2019 Report</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

**Summary of Site Visits:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Jan-Apr and Sept-Dec 2019</td>
<td>CWS</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>Conducted LMVN27 survey on 2nd Friday of each month</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 2019, Dec 2019</td>
<td>CWS</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>LMVN28 done once on 2nd Friday of month. LMVN done in Nov &amp; Dec.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov 24, 2019</td>
<td>SPES Winter waterbird survey</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>Surveyed LMVN27, 28, 30, 31 using CWS Protocol</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jan - Mar 2019</td>
<td>Seawall survey</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>Conducted by BCIT students once a week. 16 surveys</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc? Y ☒

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year? Y ☒ If yes, please summarize.

   Barrow's Goldeneye (Jan- Apr, Oct- Dec)
   Great Blue Heron (Sept, Oct)
   Surf Scoter (Jan-Apr)
   Western Grebe (Nov)

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest? N ☒ If yes, please list:

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report? N ☒ If yes, please describe.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report? N ☒ If yes, please describe.

6. a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened? N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

   b. Have any conservation threats lessened? N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated? N ☒ If yes, please describe.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)? [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

   20 hr for SPES CWS surveys, about 100 hr for the BCIT student surveys

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website? Y ☒

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).
21 Fraser Lake IBA

22 Greater Vancouver Watershed IBA

23 Hesquiat Lake Area IBA

24 Holden Lake IBA

no Caretaker in 2019

25 Jervis Inlet/McRae Islet IBA

26 Kitkatla Channel, Goschen Island North to Porcher Island IBAs

27 Klaskish River and East Creek Watersheds IBA

no Caretaker in 2019

28 K’omoks IBA

28.1 K’omoks IBA 2019 Annual Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IBA Name: K’omoks</th>
<th>Caretaker Name: Art Martell</th>
<th>Date: 31 December 2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Many throughout the year</td>
<td>BBS, eBird, Coastal Waterbird Surveys, Beached Bird Surveys, three CBCs, Comox Spring Bird Count, Swan Counts, CVN Birders walks/Field Trips</td>
<td>80+%</td>
<td>Multiple locations</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc? Y ☑

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year? Y ☑ If yes, please summarize.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest? Y ☑ If yes, please list: CWS radio tags on Harlequins
4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  N ☒ If yes, please describe.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  N ☒ If yes, please describe.

6. a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  Y ☒ If yes, please describe.

Ongoing programs for re-establishment of Saltmarsh and Eelgrass (K’omoks Estuary, Project Watershed) and Bull Kelp (K’omoks Estuary, Point Holmes & Hornby Island). Planning continues for restoration of Comox Slough-Mallard Creek by Project Watershed. IBA Local Action Fund project (Gosling Foundation, BC Nature) to engage K’omoks Guardian Watchmen in IBA monitoring completed first year. Conservancy Hornby Island promotes Hornby Island Marine Conservation Initiative and Marine Conservation Atlas and an annual HerringFest.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

Reduction in harvest of Herring, reduced hardening of shorelines (green-shores)

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

Unknown, but estimated 1000+ hrs.

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?  Y ☒

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

29 Kotcho Lake IBA

no Caretaker in 2019
This was the Laskeek Bay Conservation Society’s 30th field season on East Limestone Island (ELI), Laskeek Bay, Haida Gwaii. The season ran from 3 May to 18 July, bringing 17 volunteers and 3 student interns to the island, as well as 91 visitors including 36 students and 9 teachers/chaperones who came with Project Limestone. Ancient Murrelet (ANMU) chick departures were very low again, similar to last year, and started on the night of 11 May. Remote cameras were used to monitor all ANMU funnels this year. A total of 34 chicks were photographed in the Cabin Cove funnels during the standard monitoring time. An additional 8 chicks were photographed after the standard end to monitoring time of 02:30. Adult Ancient Murrelet activity seemed low this season, similar to last year. No raccoons were detected on the island during shoreline surveys in February and March, or on remote baited cameras used throughout the field season. Black Oystercatcher surveys were conducted only in Laskeek Bay this year, and 26 chicks were banded. Glaucous-winged Gull censuses were conducted at 3 colonies in Laskeek Bay and 184 active nests were found. The Pigeon Guillemot (PIGU) nestbox project was operating fully this season, 30 boxes were open for use. 16 boxes (53%) were active and produced 18 chicks that were weighted and measured. We also, in conjunction with the Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS), put 15 geolocaters on to adult PIGU’s. There were 3 Cassin’s Auklet chicks that were measured and weighed in nestboxes; 1 disappeared before fledging, 2 were banded and then fledged. Five near-shore sea surveys were completed and Marbled Murrelet counts were high, there were a total of 681 sightings during all surveys. Two Hecate Strait surveys were completed. Marine mammal sightings included 122 humpback whales, 2 minke whales, 5 grey whales, 16 harbour porpoises and 8 sightings of groups of orcas. Thirteen wildlife trees were active, containing 14 nests. A program to monitor sapsucker sapwells was initiated this season; 98 person hours were spent monitoring, interactions between Red-breasted Sapsuckers (RBSA) and squirrels were observed and there were 41 hummingbird sightings at the sapwells. A Common Raven nest, two Bald Eagle nests, and the Peregrine Falcon nest were active. We initiated a vegetation restoration plan, centered on the reduction of Deer numbers on the island, and various monitoring programs were begun in anticipation of the first deer population control (intended for October 2019); vegetation plots, songbird point counts, tree growth monitoring and invasive plant monitoring. We continued to monitor deer on East Limestone. Marine debris was documented and removed from one beach on Reef Island (Reef South Beach) and one on East Limestone (Crow Valley Beach).
31  Lawn Point IBA

31.1 Lawn Point IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Lawn Point  Caretaker Name: Margo Hearne & Peter Hamel  Date: Jan 27, 2020

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monthly through out the year</td>
<td>Casual observations en route between Masset &amp; Sandspit  Also obs. from ferry to Pr. Rupert</td>
<td>CBC reports, stops along the highway, ferry trips Skidegate – Prince Rupert</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  N ☒

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?  If yes, please summarize.

List attached from Tlell CBC Dec 21, 2019

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?  N ☒ If yes, please list:

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  N ☒ If yes, please describe.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  N ☒ If yes, please describe.

Mostly offshore birds reported

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  Y ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

More beach disturbance, new 'glamping' campsite built in Tlell, hence more visitors to area, increasing ATV use on beaches

b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

6. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  If yes, please describe.
8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

More local involvement from Hereditary leaders & Councils. Discussions ongoing with CHN representatives

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)? [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

See Skid Inlet report

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

32 Little Qualicum Estuary to Nanoose Bay IBA

33 Mandarte Island IBA

34 McFadden Creek Heronry IBA

35 McIntyre Bay, North Beach and Rose Spit IBA

35.1 McIntyre Bay, North Beach and Rose Spit IBA 2019 Annual Report

| IBA Name: McIntyre Beach & Rose Spit | Caretaker Name: Margo Hearne & Peter Hamel | Date: Jan 27, 2020 |

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regularly with Rose Spit once or twice a year</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Daily or weekly weather dependent</td>
<td>Personal monitoring &amp; bird sightings</td>
<td>Beaches on land no sea travel</td>
<td>Walk &amp; drive – ATV to Rose Spit. Annually for the CBC</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  Y  ❌

CBC report

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?  Y  ❌ If yes, please summarize.

Short-tailed Shearwater, Sooty Sh., diving ducks. RT; CO & PA Loons; Semi-palmated Plover. Sanderlings; gull species, shorebirds (Dunlin, Black Turnstones) both winter & on migration – high SPPL use on migration at North Beach (2000 + in spring) See attached list of a sample sighting in June 2019.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?  N  ❌ If yes, please list:

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  N  ❌ If yes, please describe.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  Y  ❌ If yes, please describe.

Heavy erosion all along the beaches, many feet of dunes have disappeared all along the coast, especially at Rose Spit (see photo)

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  Y  ❌ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

More surfers at bird use areas; increased ATV traffic in remote areas along the beaches, their use in increasing at a rapid rate & is being encouraged on-line advertising; wind surfing on shorebird feeding
beaches. This is not “passive” recreational activity & is increasing and is a major disturbance where there was none before – SPPL nesting areas suffering from dogs walking the beaches

b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  Y ☒ If yes, please describe.

Signs pointing out that the area is an IBA (2017) – opening dialogue with Haida Natural Resource Dept. to work with them on IBAs

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

Education & information, increased monitoring by Hereditary Island residents who have land title & rights. Denying ATV use on beaches during nesting season.

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

Daily walks at Skonun Point area weather permitting, monthly visits to North Beach = approx. 300-400 hrs year.

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

36  Megin, Moyeha, Watta and Pretty Girl Watersheds IBA

no Caretaker in 2019

37  Mitlenatch Island IBA

37.1 Mitlenatch Island IBA 2019 Annual Report

Selection of bird notes from Mitlenatch Island Stewardship Team, 2019, by Caretaker Jan O'Brien:

Concern about the number of cormorants and Glaucous Winged Gulls (GWGU) on the island. A full count will be undertaken in 2020 so we will have a better handle on that concern soon.
It takes 75 volunteers to provide stewardship to Mitlenatch Island.

Week of Mar 31:
Four eagles are spending time on F Island

Week of Apr 14:
610 GWGU in a travelling count from the paths (120 below the blind).

Week of Apr 21:
Many harlequins and a pair of red-breasted merganser in Camp Bay.

Week of Apr 28:
Mating began up at the bird blind.

Week of May 12:
cormorant counting

Week of May 19:
Canada Goose family with five goslings continues to thrive despite all the bald eagles hanging out on F Island.

Week of May 26:
Four blue winged teals showed up in NW Bay. Don paddled around the island to count cormorants seeing 838 pelagic cormorants and spotted pelagic nests on the rock cliff below the bird blind. Before leaving they saw the first egg laid at the blind.

Week of June 9:
hosted three biologists from Environment Canada on their annual visit to examine the gull eggs.

Week of June 23:
David Thomson and Peggy Sowden arrived at the blind in time to see three chicks hatch. Their cormorant count found 176 Pelagic Cormorant nests compared to 214 in 2018. Double crested were at 27 compared to 55 in 2018. They made the first sighting of a Bewicks wren on Mitlenatch.
There also seems to be fewer GWGU with only 356 in an area where there were 894 the previous year.

Week of June 30:
Alison Watt and Nancy Baron were greeted by five purple martins at Camp Bay. Another new bird for Mitlenatch. Nancy proposes that MIST install boxes for them and has made a donation to get the project going.
Alison and Nancy confirmed David and Peggy's concern that there were fewer cormorants finding 175 Pelagic nests and 33 Double Crested nests. More evidence of the river otter’s appetite found on the trail where five fresh little legs were left. The river otter has two young to feed.

Week of July 14:
red breasted nuthatch in the pines — another first for Mitlenatch.

Week of Aug 11:
the number of gulls seemed low. Gulls seem to leave during the day and return at night. three types of warblers — Common Yellowthroat, Yellow, and Orange-Crowned showed up.

Week of Aug 18:
Jenny Singleton got in touch with Bruce Cousens of the purple Martin group who was excited by the sightings but concerned about whether there is enough food to support nest boxes. added black and white warbler and MacGillivray’s warbler to the list.

Week of Sept 8:
Raptors were observed on the island — two northern harriers and two peregrine falcons.

38 Moore and Byers Islands and Banks IBA
Thinking back about my 2018 IBA report, we had both a herring spawn, first in 10 years (Mar 4, 2018) and visits from wolves, three times in Feb. Both ends of the predator and prey cycles; must mean a healthy ecosystem.

Feb 1-8, 2019 - I've been here a week, totally calm, clear and cold, mostly sunny.
Birds - Small groups of buffleheads, 5-10 each. Small groups of common mergansers, 2-10 each
A scaup, probably greater. Usual solitary kingfishers, here and there. Eagles, a pair often roosting in the huge spruce just outside my window. A few little shorebirds, spotted sandpipers.
No large flocks. 2-4 cormorants. Regular seagulls (not ID'd)
A few oystercatchers on the outer spit. GB heron, 2-3, one lives right in front of Bob's, and flies off in a huff, squawking, whenever I go by.

Feb 13- there is a second pod of sea lions off South Beach. 10-15, many flippers in the air (cooling mechanism? In Feb?) even as they swim. A larger flock of buffleheads 40-50, in the back lagoon. 2 sparrows (maybe Sooty Fox Sparrow, and/or Pacific NW Sparrow) and a few solitary Winter Wrens on the beach logs.

Feb 15- flock of 40-50 Turnstones in the back lagoon. Larger groups of Buffleheads, up to 50.

Feb 20- 1 only Spotted Sandpiper on my beach, "bobbing."
I only Common Loon, for one day, one wailing call.

Feb 22- 5 Surf Scoters, 3 female, 2 male, definate white and red on males bills. Looks like red legs too.

Feb 26- my last day here. Too early for a herring spawn.

The only other local news is that of the Nuchatlaht First Nation's title case filed in BC courts this summer. Nootka Island has been stewarded by Mowachaht & Nuchatlaht Indigenous governance systems since time immemorial. Western Forest Products and provincial government mismanagement have done untold damage. The Nuchatlaht want their land back. (See BC Sierra Club for more details.)
42  Osoyoos Oxbows IBA

42.1 Osoyoos Oxbows IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Osoyoos Oxbows  Caretaker Name: Matthias Bieber  Date: February 1,2020

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>May-July,2019</td>
<td>Yellow-breasted Chat Monitoring</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>December 28, 2019</td>
<td>Christmas Bird Count</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Nocturnal Owl Survey</td>
<td>Negligible</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  Y  ✗

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year? Y  ✗ If yes, please summarize.

Yellow-breasted Chat territories were monitored as part of a long-term monitoring effort. Throughout the breeding season, approximately breeding pairs of Yellow-breasted Chat within the IBA, with 73 of these being in the South Okanagan Wildlife Management Area.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?  N  ✗ If yes, please list:

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  If yes, please describe.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  If yes, please describe.

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened? If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  If yes, please describe.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?
9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  
[Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

About 20

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?  Y ☑

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

Conducting an IBA eBird Count in the coming years would be useful to get a baseline of avian populations in the entire IBA. Since habitat in the IBA is heavily fragmented and only certain portions are regularly birded, it's challenging to estimate accurate counts for the area.

A supplementary form for submitting species observations would be helpful.

43  Pacific Spirit Regional Park IBA

43.1 Pacific Spirit Regional Park IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Pacific Spirit Park  Caretaker Name: June Ryder  Date: February 8, 2020

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>many</td>
<td>Casual</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  N ☒

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year? N ☒ If yes, please summarize.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest? If yes, please list:

Monthly bird surveys continue at UBC Farm

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report? If yes, please describe.
Increasing development (condos, rental accommodation) at Wesbrook Place along western park boundary.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report? If yes, please describe.

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened? If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Off leash dos – increasing numbers – threat to nesting birds near trails -also increasing numbers of pedestrians & bikes on trails

b. Have any conservation threats lessened? N ❌ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated? If yes, please describe.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)? [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

44 Porlier Pass IBA

45 Seabird Colonies (Environment Canada/Canadian Wildlife Service)

46 Sidney Channel IBA
47  Skidegate Inlet IBA

47.1 Skidegate Inlet IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Skidegate Inlet  Caretaker Name: Margo Hearne & Peter Hamel  Date: Jan 27, 2020

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Bi-weekly</td>
<td>Regular bird monitor of area</td>
<td></td>
<td>M.V. Kwuwa ferry Drive &amp; Walk the spits at Sandspit &amp; Shingle Bay</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CBC Dec 29, 2019</td>
<td>CBC</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  N  ☒

CBC report for 2018 & 2019

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?  Y  ☒ If yes, please summarize.

Sandspit beaches still critical areas for wintering & migrating shorebirds, waterfowl, alcids & nearshore pelagic species (i.e. diving ducks, cormorants, Western & Red-necked Grebes) Shingle Bay critical shelter for Harlequin Ducks during southeast gales, up to 1000+ observed there prior to & during gales. Beaches harbour hundreds of BBPL; BLTU; DUNL & Lesser #’s of Sanderlings (# of Sanderlings declining) Skidegate Inlet shelter for 1000+ COMU in mid-winter – see attached list of particular interest.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?  N  ☒ If yes, please list:

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  N  ☒ If yes, please describe.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  Y  ☒ If yes, please describe.

Somewhat. Much disturbance from Airport, especially helicopter traffic all summer & destruction of Barn Swallow nests at Sandspit terminal. Eagle nesting tree in “Radio Road Park” cut down with nest within, although it might not have been occupied in 2019, 2 adult BAEA seriously disturbed by the activity. We believe they were readying to nest there again.

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  Y
If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Low helicopter flights over Kilkun Bay & Shingle all summer, also helis landing & flying low on beach areas where Semipalmated Plovers nest. Outside the fenced area – support for the area as a protected space needs to come from Fed & Prov. Gov’t.

b. Have any conservation threats lessened? N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated? Y ☒ If yes, please describe.

Letter to Minister of Environ. Federally – re destruction of blue-listed Barn Swallow nests at Sandspit Terminal & at Masset Military Base

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

1) Education & interpretation 2) financial compensation (or reward) for not destroying nests & eggs 3) lawsuits for those that do under SARA

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)? [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

Approx 48 hrs. includes travel time & o/night accommodation in Sandspit approx. 40 wks a year (48 hrs x 40 weeks a year)

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website? Y ☒

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

This IBA is really important to all migrant & nesting species throughout the year. If the golf course sells – its for sale – it will remove a really special area on the BC coast for wintering & migrant & nesting species including RBSA; HAWO; NOFL; etc. Its also a “catch” for rarities e.g. Brambling, rare warblers, kingbird, finches & some rare birds from Asia. Overwintering geese spend much of their time there, migrant WR Geese feed there.
48  Skookumchuck Prairie IBA

48.1 Skookumchuck Prairie IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Skookumchuck Prairie  Caretaker Name: Dianne Cooper  Date: 2020-01-13

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2019-01-05</td>
<td>Christmas bird count</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>Kimberley CBC, with 2 others and feeder watchers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-03-23</td>
<td>general birding</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>with 1 other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-04-20</td>
<td>search for satellite-tagged curlew</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-05-02</td>
<td>surveying for Lewis' and curlews</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-05-04</td>
<td>general birding</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>with 2 others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-05-07</td>
<td>Wings Over the Rockies field trip</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>with 22 others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-05-22</td>
<td>surveying for Lewis'</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>with 1 other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-05-28</td>
<td>surveying for Lewis'</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>with 1 other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-06-28</td>
<td>looking for Great Gray Owl</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>with 2 others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-06-30</td>
<td>surveying for Lewis'</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-07-03</td>
<td>surveying for Lewis'</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
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<td>2019-07-05</td>
<td>surveying for Lewis'</td>
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<tr>
<td>2019-07-09</td>
<td>surveying for Lewis'</td>
<td>15</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-08-05</td>
<td>Rocky Mountain Naturalists field trip</td>
<td></td>
<td>with 10 others</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-08-22</td>
<td>general birding</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>with 1 other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-08-30</td>
<td>general survey</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>with 1 other</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019-10-01</td>
<td>general birding</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>with 1 other</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  Y  ☒

Yes. And I submitted 32 observations of plants and animals to iNaturalist, Project Skookumchuck Prairie IBA

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?  Y  ☒ If yes, please summarize.

Trigger species:
-one satellite tagged Long-billed Curlew (Pine) seen once and several other individuals sighted throughout the breeding season
-twenty-one (21) Lewis's Woodpecker nests found of which 9 were previously known and 12 were newly discovered
three (3) (possibly four) American Kestrel nests confirmed of which (2) were in the same tree as an active LEWO nests; and one (1) AMKE nest suspected, which was also in the same tree as a LEWO nest

Species of interest:
- one brief sighting of a Black Swift
- Sandhill Crane: it is possible they are nesting somewhere in the IBA because they are consistently seen using the same flight path over the past 3 years
- Great Blue Heron: I suspect there is a small heronry up Wolf Creek
- swallows: Barn, Northern Rought-winged, and Violet-green
- first sighting of Common Grackle in the IBA
  - Eurasian Collared-doves becoming more numerous

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest? N ☒ If yes, please list:

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report? Y ☒ If yes, please describe.

The Regional District of East Kootenay passed bylaws requiring developments permits in ecologically sensitive areas as defined by their own mapping. This affects privately-owned portions of the IBA.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report? N ☒ If yes, please describe.

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened? Y ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

no major ones that I am aware of but there were a couple of issues this year:
 a) earlier in the spring I noticed a lot of litter along one stretch of the highway in the IBA; I contacted the contractor, Mainroad, and they said they would clean it up; I think they did.
 b) a long term camper was observed set up in a grove of trees hosting at least one LEWO and one AMKE nest; I contacted the Conservation Officer and he said he would go check out who it was. I never heard back from the CO and the camper was still there last time I drove by. The CO said it is not illegal to camp on Crown land and there really isn't anything could be done.
 c) A board was nailed to a tree that appeared to be used for target practice. It was near the long-term camper. I ripped the board down and brought it home.
 d) I found a pile of LEWO feathers and a tray used for holding 22 bullets near a previously known LEWO nest from last year. It was about a kilometer away from the long-term camper on the other side of a ridge. I assume the LEWO was shot. The nest hole appeared to be ripped into. I told the CO about this also.

3) invasive plant species have not been treated yet so I assume they continue to spread

b. Have any conservation threats lessened? N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Not that I am aware of.
7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated? N ☒ If yes, please describe.

Not that I am aware of.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

Designation of the main Lewis' Woodpecker nesting sights as Wildlife Habitat Area - there are too many trees and potential trees to designate each tree as a Wildlife Habitat Feature.

Acquisition of a section of the privately-owned portion of the main curlew nesting field by Nature Trust

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)? [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

Travelling: 17 days visited X 1.5 hours travel per day = 25 hours travel
Monitoring: 107 person hours including 61.5 of mine of which 29.5 were by myself
Nesting Tree Database: 12 hrs - data management, database entry and management
Communication: 3 hrs
Maintenance: 1 hr weatherproofing posts of signage

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website? Y ☒

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

I found 21 Lewis's Woodpecker nests this year of which 9 were in trees/cavities reused from previous years and 11 were in new trees. I also found 3 American Kestrel nests and possibly another. Both LEWO and AMKE were nesting in one tree (#38). In another tree (#19), the AMKE was using the cavity that a LEWO had used the year before. In tree #10, a LEWO was using the cavity an AMKE had used the year before. I submitted the 19 LEWO (and a couple of AMKE) nests found in 2016 and 2017 to the BC Wildlife Species Inventory database and to Canadian Wildlife Service. I will attempt to do the same with the nests from 2019. I am attempting to stay in touch with the Canadian Wildlife Service about their updating of their LEWO status report.

49 Snake Island IBA
    no Caretaker in 2019
50 Somenos Marsh Wildlife Refuge IBA

50.1 Somenos Marsh Wildlife Reguge IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Somenos Marsh  Caretaker Name: Paul Fletcher  Date: Dec 6/2019

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Regular weekly visits</td>
<td>casual</td>
<td>70%</td>
<td>Walking trails, volunteer reports</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc? Y ☒

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year? Y ☒ If yes, please summarize.

Weekly swan & goose counts sent Oct 31-Mar 31

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest? Y ☒ If yes, please list:

We monitor invasive species; we do weekly bird counts – swan & goose count

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report? Y ☒ If yes, please describe.

Crown Lands have become a WMA (Wildlife Management Area)

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report? Y ☒ If yes, please describe.

Invasive species issues

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened? Y ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Upper watershed logging; water quality; invasive aquatic plants

b. Have any conservation threats lessened? N ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated? Y ☒ If yes, please
describe.

Restoration – invasive removal/native species planting; new swallow nest boxes added

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

Control of spreading willows into fields used by swans & herons

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

3-5,000

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?  Y  ☑

11. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

We are still discussing boundary changes.

51 South Thompson River IBA
52 Squamish River Area IBA

52.1 Squamish River Area IBA 2019 Annual Report

2019 Squamish River IBA Report

Site BC023
Caretaker: Chris Dale

Site Monitoring
A monthly bird census of the Squamish River Estuary has been carried out on the second Sunday of each month since 1991 and the data has been sent to Bird Studies Canada and E-Bird Canada. Derek Sutton and Dave Lassmann have kept a master list of all the birds seen during the monthly counts since 1991. A checklist of birds seen in the Squamish Estuary, was compiled by Jim Wisnia in the mid 1990s and updated in 2007 and 2012 by Karl Ricker. Total bird species seen in the Squamish IBA since 1991 now is 257. During 2019 there were 184 species reported to e-Bird by multiple observers for the Squamish River IBA. I was able to visit various locations in the Squamish IBA 180 times during 2019 (mostly the Squamish Estuary) and I have submitted the reports to e-Bird.

Bald Eagles
Due to the almost non-existent salmon runs this fall in the Squamish area rivers the number of Bald Eagles is away down again in 2019. During this year’s Christmas Bird Count on December 15, only 258 eagles were counted which is the smallest count ever. The annual eagle count held two weeks later was slightly better but still down from previous years and unfortunately the largest concentration of eagles was at the municipal landfill.

Purple Martins
The Purple Martin nest boxes that were installed on the pilings in the middle of the Central Channel of the Squamish River Estuary in 2016 appear to have been successful again this year. There seemed to be at least twelve to fourteen birds total now using the nest boxes. Although their location makes it hard to monitor, there seems to be at least four pairs of adults and the rest were this year’s young. John Buchanan has constructed more nest boxes and is also trying a condo style nest box to see if the Purple Martins would use them.
Issues in the Squamish IBA BC023
Once again the big issue in the Squamish IBA is the off-leash dogs that are allowed to wander off the local trails and chase wildlife. The trails through the estuary and along spawning channels have been improved and are quite smooth now and as a consequence many more people are walking with their dogs through sensitive bird habitat. There does not seem to be any by-law enforcement to ensure dogs are kept on leash and some people take it as their right to let the dogs run through the estuary grasslands and chase birds.

No new bird species were added to the area checklist during 2019

Interesting birds seen in the Squamish IBA in 2019

- Loggerhead Shrike: second reported in the Squamish Estuary
- Lark Sparrow: second reported in the Squamish Estuary
- Eurasian Wigeon
- Wilson’s Phalarope
- Black-bellied Plover
- Pigeon Guillemot
- Lewis’s Woodpecker: seen every two or three years during migration
- Horned Lark
- Lazuli Bunting

53 Strathcona Provincial Park IBA

54 Stuart, Tachie & Middle Rivers IBA

55 Summallo River/Skagit Valley IBA
56  Tachick and Nulki Lakes IBA

56.1 Tachick and Nulki Lakes IBA 2019 Annual Report

IBA Name: Nulki & Tachick Lakes  Caretaker Name: Nancy Krueger  Date: Jan 24, 2020

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Sept 22/19</td>
<td>IBA</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Jaeger Beach, potlatch at Nulki from lodge Tachick</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct 27/19</td>
<td>IBA</td>
<td>30%</td>
<td>Same all by car</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc?  N  ✗

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year?  N  ✗ If yes, please summarize.

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest?  N  ✗ If yes, please list:

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report?  N  ✗ If yes, please describe.

5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  N  ✗ If yes, please describe.

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  N  ✗ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  N  ✗ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  N  ✗ If yes, please describe.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

Nothing. Ducks are declining all over

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  [Note: This info helps
us leverage funding for the IBA program.}

8 hours travel, 3 ¼ hours counting

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website? Y ☒

12. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).

57 Tofino Mudflats IBA

58 Vaseux Lake Area IBA

58.1 Vaseux Lake Area IBA 2019 Annual Report

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>IBA Name: Vaseux Lake</th>
<th>Caretaker Name: Eva Durance</th>
<th>Date: 11/27/2019</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

Summary of Site Visits:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date(s)</th>
<th>Description of Monitoring (e.g. Casual, Coastal Waterbird Survey, BBA, CBC, etc.)</th>
<th>Area of IBA Covered (%)</th>
<th>Notes (location monitored, how IBA navigated, etc)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>March 21</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

1. Did you enter all of your bird observations into an online database, such as eBird, Coastal Waterbird Survey, Breeding Bird Atlas, etc? Y ☒

2. Were any IBA trigger species or other species of interest observed this year? Y ☒ If yes, please summarize.

Peregrine Falcon pair nested on cliffs west of river and south of Banding Station and raised one chick; Yellow-breasted Chat seen, heard, and banded along the boardwalk and at the Banding Station

3. Are you aware of any other datasets or monitoring programs underway for the IBA trigger species or other species of interest? Y ☒ If yes, please list:

CWS Yellow-breasted Chat program; Vaseux Banding Station

4. Has the land use, ownership and/or conservation status (e.g. management plans, protected areas) of the site changed since your last report? N ☒ If yes, please describe.
5. Has the habitat of the site changed since your last report?  N  ☒ If yes, please describe.

6 a. Have any new or potential conservation threats arisen, or existing pressures worsened?  Y  ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

Continuing pressure from recreation groups and the RDOS to open up the KVR railbed to hiking and biking; CWS not in favour and the railbed runs chiefly through their lands from north of the lake to the south end, but serious concern still exists.

b. Have any conservation threats lessened?  N  ☒ If yes, please describe what, when, where, etc.

7. Have any conservation actions/activities been undertaken/initiated?  Y  ☒ If yes, please describe.

Waterfront habitat value assessment and suggested enhancements in 2018-19 for Vaseux Lake residents (private properties along south and southeast end of lake) by BC branch of Canadian NGO Love Your Lakes.

8. What conservation actions do you feel would help improve conditions for the trigger species?

Prevention of hike-bike trail along west side of river and lake; greater presence of CWS staff and/or better signage and gating in the Wildlife Refuge to educate public using the dikes and enforcing seasonal closures.

9. How many hours did you (and your partners) spend on Caretaker related duties this year (e.g., travelling, monitoring, reporting, outreach, conservation, etc)?  [Note: This info helps us leverage funding for the IBA program.]

50

10. May we include this report in our Annual Report Compendium, which is posted to the BC Nature website?  Y  ☒

13. Please include any other comments about the status of your IBA (e.g. assistance required from IBA partners, boundary or site summary changes required, comments about the report form, other species observed, etc).
60 White Lake Area IBA

60.1 White Lake Area IBA 2019 Annual Report

Email from Doreen Olson, Mar. 1, 2020

I have a couple of events that I would like to share with you. One is a possible participation in the Nature Canada Board Meeting being held in the Similkameen. Not sure what that might be yet but the meeting is April 3-5.

The other is a walk on the land with CPAWS featuring the local IBA’s.

I have a conference call with Nature Canada ... to talk about finalizing the ideas we have so I will have more info after that meeting.