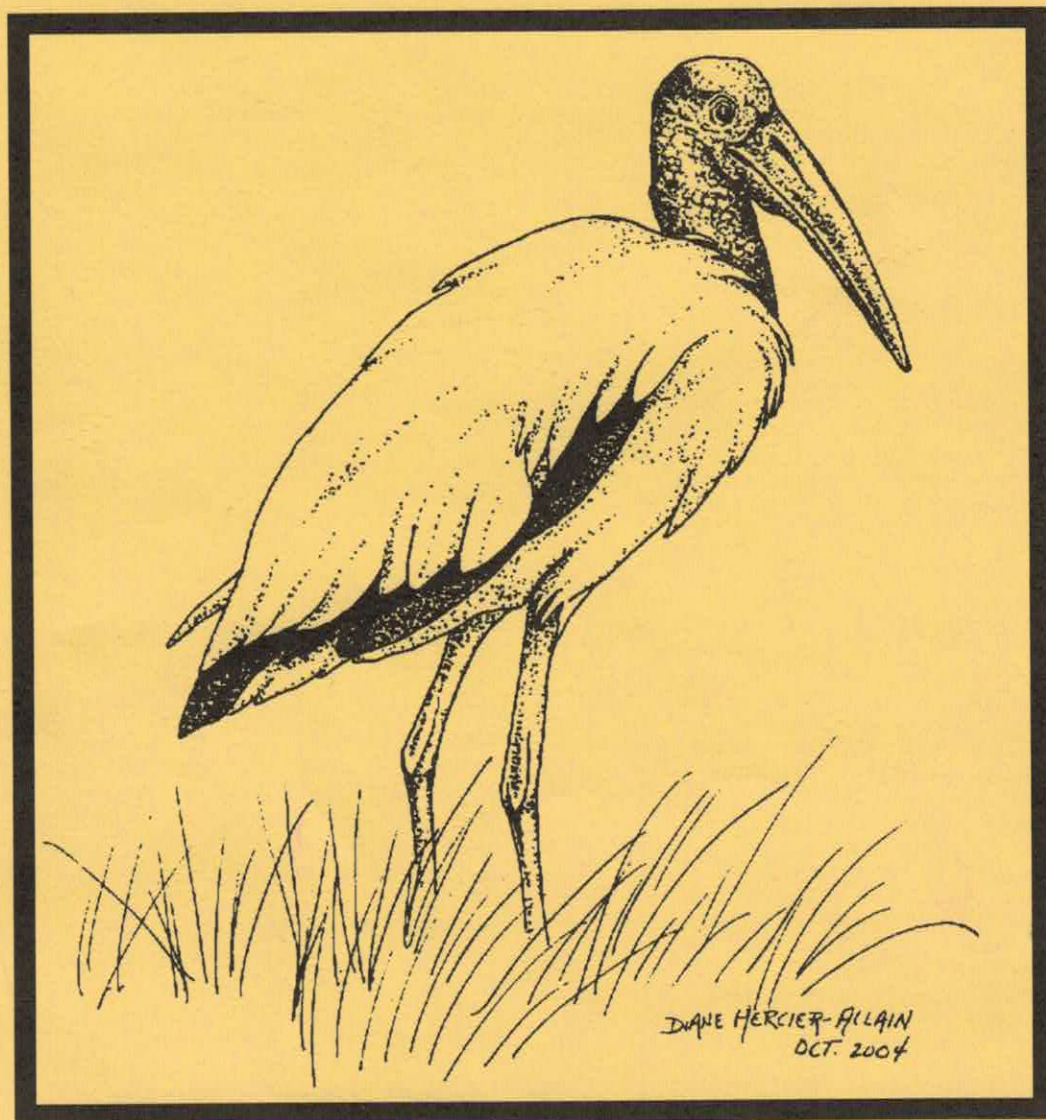




31 (3) Autumn / Automne 2004

# ***N.B. Naturalist***

## ***Le Naturaliste du N.-B.***



DIANE HERCIER-ALLAIN  
OCT. 2004





# N. B. Federation of Naturalists      Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B. 277 avenue Douglas Avenue, Saint John, N. B. E2K 1E5 Canada. [www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca)

The Federation is a non-profit organization formed in 1972 to encourage an understanding of nature and the environment, and to focus concern for the natural heritage of New Brunswick.

La Fédération est une organisation sans buts lucratifs formée en 1972 pour encourager une meilleure compréhension de l'environnement naturel, et pour éveiller le souci pour le patrimoine naturel du Nouveau-Brunswick.

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**Association des Naturalistes de la Baie de Bouctouche,** c/o Marc LeBlanc 1529 383 chemin de la Cote, Grand-Digue, E4R 4A9; 576-1075; courriel / e-mail: [mireille\\_godin@hotmail.com](mailto:mireille_godin@hotmail.com) Site web: [www.geocities.com/annboubouctouche](http://www.geocities.com/annboubouctouche) Réunions le dernier mardi du mois à l'éco-centre Irving, la dune de Bouctouche (septembre à juin) avec sorties chaque mois.

**Celebration of Birds Nature Club (Gagetown),** c/o Bonnie Hamilton Bogart, 194 Tilley Road, Gagetown NB E5M 1H7; email [bonniehb@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:bonniehb@nb.sympatico.ca). Information evenings every 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday in February and March, and field trips in April and May.

**Chignecto Naturalists' Club,** c/o CWS, Box 6227, Sackville, NB E4L 1G6; 364-5047; meets Sackville Public Library, 7:30 pm, 3<sup>rd</sup> Mon., Sept.-June.

**Club de Naturalistes de la Péninsule acadienne,** 1521-4 chemin Cowan's Creek Pokemouche, NB E8P 2C6; courriel: [emile.info@cnpa.ca](mailto:emile.info@cnpa.ca) site web: <http://www.cnpa.ca> réunions au Club de l'âge d'or Landry, 1<sup>er</sup> mercredi, sept. à juin; *Le Gobe-mouche* mensuel.

**Club de Naturalistes Vallée de Memramcook** a/s Yolande LeBlanc, 251 rue Centrale, Memramcook NB E4K 3P8; tél 758-9583; courriel: [yolande@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:yolande@nbnet.nb.ca) réunions le mardi de mois, sept. à juin, à la Salle Mère Marie-Léonie

**Club d'ornithologie du Madawaska Ltée,** a/s Musée historique du Madawaska, 195 boul. Hébert, Edmundston NB E3V 2S8; tél 737-5282

(Bert Lavoie); réunions à 19h00, 2<sup>ième</sup> mercredi, sept. à juin, Musée du Madawaska; *Le Jaseur* trimestriel.

**Club les Ami(e)s de la Nature du sud-est INC,** a/s Norm Belliveau, C.P. 4204, Dieppe, NB E1A 6E8, ligne d'information: 532-Buse réunions alternant entre Dieppe et Shédiac, 1<sup>er</sup> mercredi du mois; excursions 3<sup>ième</sup> samedi ou dimanche; *La plume verte*.

**River Valley Naturalist Club (formerly Ford Alward Naturalist Association),** c/o Lorna Maddox, 1-71 Barker Lane, Unit 1, Wicklow, N.B. E7L 3S4; tel. 392-6481 meets Florenceville Town Hall, 7:00 pm, 4<sup>th</sup> Thur., Sept.-June; meetings advertised in local newspapers.

**Fredericton Nature Club,** c/o Glenda Turner, Box 772, Station A, Fredericton, NB E3B 5B4; 455-2038; meets Odell Park Lodge, at Odell Park, 7:00 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Wed., Sept.-May; monthly newsletter.

**Kennebecasis Naturalists' Society,** c/o Ms H. Folkins, 827 Main St., Sussex, NB E4E 2N1; meets St. Paul's United Church Hall, 7:30 pm, 4<sup>th</sup> Mon., Sept.-June; quarterly newsletter.

**Moncton Naturalists' Club,** Box 28036, Highfield Square P.O., Moncton, NB E1C 9N4; 384-6397 (information line); meets Church of the Nazarene, 21 Fieldcrest Drive, 7 pm, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon., Sept.-June; monthly newsletter.

**Restigouche Naturalists' Club,** c/o Mike Lushington 214 Rosebery Street, Campbellton, NB E3N 2H5; 684-3258; meets Village-Campbellton Nursing Home, 7 pm, 1<sup>st</sup> Monday; <http://members.tripod.com/~RestNatClub>

**Saint John Naturalists' Club,** P.O. Box 2071, Saint John, NB E2L 3J5; meets N.B. Museum at Market Square, 7:30 pm 2<sup>nd</sup> Mon., Sept.-May, elsewhere in June; monthly newsletter.

## N.B. Naturalist / Le Naturaliste du N.-B. ISSN 0047-9551

Published quarterly by the N.B. Federation of Naturalists, c/o New Brunswick Museum, 277 Douglas Ave., Saint John, NB E2K 1E5. Canadian Publication Mail Product Sales Agreement No. 487716. Return postage guaranteed. Please send notice of change of address to the **Membership Secretary**. Subscription rates (renewable before Jan 1<sup>st</sup>): individual \$20, family \$25, life \$1000, single issues - \$4 plus postage.

*N.B. Naturalist* carries articles and reports pertaining to the natural history of New Brunswick. Articles are invited in either English or French, and will be printed in the language in which they are received. The opinions expressed are those of the authors. **Please send all submissions for the N.B. Naturalist to: Gert Bishop, 16 Pitt St. Sussex NB, E4E 1J1; tel. (506) 433-4994, [gartali@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:gartali@nbnet.nb.ca)** Ask for details of computer compatibility. Advertising rates available on request.

Cette publication trimestrielle est éditée par la Fédération des naturalistes du N.-B., a/s Le Musée du Nouveau-Brunswick, 277 ave. Douglas, Saint John, NB E2K 1E5. Port de retour garanti. Tout changement d'adresse devrait être envoyé au **Secrétaire de la société**. Les tarifs de réabonnement pour *Le Naturaliste N.-B.* avant le 1 janvier. Abonnements: individuel 20\$, famille 25\$, membre à vie 1000\$; un numéro 4\$ l'exemplaire plus les frais postaux.

On peut lire dans *Le Naturaliste du N.-B.* des rapports touchant l'histoire naturelle du Nouveau-Brunswick. Les articles seront acceptés en français ou en anglais pour être reproduits dans la langue d'origine. Les opinions exprimées sont celles de leurs auteurs. **Veuillez faire parvenir toutes articles pour Le Naturaliste du N.-B. à: Gert Bishop, 16 Pitt St. Sussex NB, E4E 1J1; tel. (506) 433-4994, [gartali@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:gartali@nbnet.nb.ca)** Demandez les détails de compatibilité d'ordinateur. Tarifs publicitaires disponibles sur demande.



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## Rapport du Président

Mike LeBlanc

Être naturaliste, pour moi, c'est bien spécial. Je trouve les naturalistes, partout où je visite, sympathiques et accueillants. Jusqu'à présent, j'ai eu la chance de visiter douze de nos treize clubs fédérés de la province et j'apprécie toujours les commentaires des naturalistes présents. Je veux remercier tous les gens qui font la différence pour la nature, soit en organisant ou en étant guides pour des sorties ou activités de thème nature dans la province. Ces gestes laissent des impressions positives en partageons cette beauté spectaculaire qui est la nature de la province. Merci aussi à ceux qui font des présentations à nos réunions de clubs, ceci nous éduque davantage des choses que nous aimons tant.

Mais toutes ces sorties, présentations et activités de clubs ne se dérouleraient pas si ça n'était pas de membres exécutifs de nos clubs. Nous avons besoin de ces gens, qui prennent des postes, pour que nous puissions avoir des clubs qui fonctionnent. Mais, il y a quelque chose que nous ne devons pas faire et c'est trop se fier sur quelques personnes, car elles deviennent épuisées et écœurées que c'est toujours les mêmes qui font tout le travail. Si nous voulons que nos clubs ainsi que la fédération continuent à s'épanouir, il faut avoir des gens qui en profitent soient aussi prêt à prendre relève. Chaque personne donne ce qu'elle peut, et en même temps ça ne donne pas juste la relève mais aussi des nouvelles idées.

Nous avons toujours besoin de gens pour aider à des postes dans nos clubs, associations, sociétés et fédération. Nous avons besoin de vous pour combler des postes d'exécutifs pour des comités. Alors, parlez à vos président(e)s ou membres d'exécutifs et ils vous donneront de plus amples détails.

Votre aide assure le futur du mouvement des naturalistes au Nouveau-Brunswick !!

Being a naturalist in New Brunswick is a special thing. Every time I visit a naturalist club in the province it is a wonderful time, as we are a very friendly group. Until now I have visited 12 of our 13 federated clubs in the province and I have always had very positive experiences and comments from the naturalists present.

I would like to thank all these people who make a positive impact on nature. These people may be guides, or organisers of nature outings, presentations, and activities in our clubs. Or those people who can be counted on to give a presentation and share their passion and knowledge of nature. All these presentations, outing and activities make our clubs work. But all these things could not take place if it were not for our executives in our clubs. These people give their time so we can learn a lot about the natural history of our province.

One thing we have to make sure is that these people do not become fed up or tired of doing everything. In order make sure we can continue to do all these wonderful things, we must ensure that there are new people getting in these different positions in our clubs and federation executives. This brings fresh people but also fresh ideas in the things we do.

All our federated clubs, associations and societies and also the federation need people to give a hand. We need people like you to fill important positions in our executives and committees. So then, talk to your presidents or executive members and they will give you more details and answer your questions.

Your help will assure the future of the naturalists in New Brunswick.





## NBFN Central Office

*Marieka Arnold, Executive Director*

Our transition from the summer months to fall has brought farewells to our seasonal staff working at the Piper Project/Projet Siffleur, Mary's Point Shorebird Reserve and our Summer Nature Camps. We certainly had an active time delivering our nature programs and offer a huge thanks to all who made these possible. Our seasonal transition has brought more meetings and the much-needed office work, number crunching and report writing.

One very newsworthy item is the NB Young Naturalist Club, which will be formally launched at the Atlantic Naturalist Network meeting in Tatamagouche at the end of November. Staff coordinator Maria Papoulias, volunteer coordinator Ulla von Shroetter, and our youth education committee have already dedicated many hours of time and determined enthusiasm

over the past months. Please consider gifting a NB Young Naturalist membership this Christmas, or becoming a member yourself. Membership details can be found in this very magazine!

Our website has a new face, and it goes beyond that of the fuzzy, chubby, Black Capped Chickadee. Please visit us at [www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca) and tell us what you think. Design was done by River Valley Naturalist Club President, Leland Daugherty.

The Federation has been involved with a number of issues affecting the management of our natural resources. We remain very committed to our crown land forests and this is reflected in the current document produced by the Select Committee on Wood Supply. Our provincial park system, also of great concern to naturalists, is facing review. Some of our time has been devoted to consultations on this matter.

Enjoy your time in the out of doors this season, and please contact or visit us at any time!

## Bureau Central, FNNB

*Marieka Arnold, Directrice générale*

Au bureau de Fredericton, entre la fin de l'été et le début de l'automne, c'est le moment de faire ses adieux au personnel saisonnier des projets: Projet siffleur, Réserve d'oiseaux de rivage de Mary's Point, et des Camps d'été Jeunesse nature. Tous ont travaillé fort, et eu bien du plaisir à réaliser les programmes d'été. Nous remercions tous les gens qui ont rendu ses programmes possible. A ce moment de l'année, le personnel du bureau est affairé à écrire des rapports de fin de

saison, à rédiger des propositions de projets futures et à participer à maintes rencontres de comités.

Un nouvel item à l'agenda est l'organisation de Club de jeunes naturalistes du N.-B., qui sera lancé officiellement à Tatamagouche à la rencontre du Réseau des naturalistes de l'Atlantique, à la fin novembre. La directrice du personnel, Maria Papoulias, et la volontaire Ulla von Shroetter, et le comité Education jeunesse ont passé de longues heures à élaborer le programme jeunesse. Vous pouvez offrir un abonnement cadeau au Club de jeunes naturalistes du N.-B. à Noël à

un jeune ou vous y abonner. Les détails de l'abonnement se trouvent dans cette édition.

Notre site web a été renouvelé, regardez ce qui se cache derrière notre dodue petite Mésange à tête noire. Visitez notre site à [www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca) et dites nous ce que vous en pensez. Leland Daugherty, président de River Valley Naturalist, a conçu les changements visuels.

La Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau-Brunswick a été impliquée dans les débats concernant nos ressources naturelles. Notre forêt nous tiennent à coeur, ceci se démontre dans le récent document publié par le comité spécial sur l'Approvisionnement en bois. Le gouvernement est en train de reviser le système des parcs provinciaux, notre participation dans le processus gouvernemental a occupé plusieurs heures de notre temps.

Profitez de vos activités de plein air cette saison, et n'hésitez pas à nous contacter ou visiter!



*Conservation project at NBFN summer nature camp*



## From Our Past

Selected by Mary Sollows

*The following article was taken from the Bulletin of the Natural History Society of New Brunswick: No. XIX, 1901, pp. 338-339. ARTICLE VI.*

Notes on the Natural History and Physiography of New Brunswick, By W. F. Ganong

### 42. -ON A STRANGE POSITION FOR A PEAT-BOG

In the angle between the Main Tobique River and its Right-hand Branch, some five miles back from both, rises Bald Head, in many respects the most striking, easily-recognized and mountain-like mountain in New Brunswick. It rises perfectly abruptly some thousand feet above a flat basin, and its steep bare top is a conspicuous and unmistakable object from every direction. It is locally reputed to be simply a heap of loose stones, which well describes the impression it makes upon one, but the description is not correct, for the top is of ledge rock. The southern slope is inaccessible, but the northern is easy to climb, though it consists of large, loose angular felsite boulders at as steep a slope as they can rest. This slope, measured by a protractor on one of Mr. Hay's photographs, is 30°; but owing to the distortion produced by the camera, it must be considerably greater. Upon this northern slope, resting upon the loose rocks, lie several small living sphagnum bogs. It is a sight calculated to make any botanist rub his eyes and wonder if much study hath not made him mad. These bogs are from about half an acre in extent down to a few square yards. At their upper margins they consist of the ordinary dry turf formed by the roots of trees, etc., not infrequent over rocky places, but downwards this passes gradually over into sphagnum bog, bearing *Kalmia*, *Ledum*, dwarfed spruces, and the other characteristic raised-bog (Hockmoor) vegetation. The bog reaches its greatest perfection at the lower margin, where the red sphagnum occurs in dense rounded polsters, evidently with sufficient moisture for healthy growth. Their aspect here is almost identically that of the raised bogs which have been described from other parts of New Brunswick.\* At the lower margin they are most bog-like, some two feet thick, and they end downwards with an abrupt rounded edge. Evidently the water in them settles to the lower edge, promoting the more

vigorous growth there, and causing them to grow down the slopes. Such bogs demand much pure water for their growth, and the question now arises as the source of supply in this case. Two explanations appear possible. First, the bogs may have formed when the whole slope was heavily forested (as the many blackened stumps show that it was until recently), and since then they have managed to soak in enough water from the rains to keep them growing, the northern abrupt slope of the mountain protecting them from great evaporation. In this case they would simply be the remnants, rapidly disappearing, of once extensive bogs. Against this view, however, is the fact that such bogs do not appear to grow upon forested felsite hills in this region. I have been upon a number of them and have never seen such bogs. Moreover, even if they are such remnants, it does not explain the source of the water sufficient to keep such extensive bogs supplied, for rain alone could scarcely do it in such a perfectly drained situation. The other explanation is that there is some peculiarity in the structure of this mountain which produces the storage of water under the rocks in spots, allowing it to escape gradually after the manner of springs. But no trace of such a structure is to be seen. The subject is very puzzling.

\* Upon Raised Peat-Bogs in New Brunswick. Transactions of the Royal Society of Canada, iii, 1897, section iv, 131.





## Botany Corner

Gart Bishop, Kennebecasis Naturalists

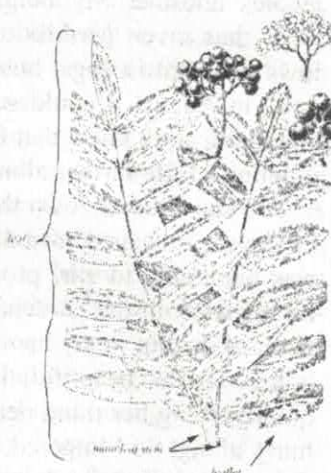
### Mountain-ash – (Sorbier) [*Sorbus*]

Mountain-ash (also called Dogberry or Rowanberry following the European species) is a member of the Rose Family and not the Olive family which includes our true ashes such as White or Black Ash. Common throughout the province in acid woods, and along shores, Mountain-ash is found from the Bay of Fundy coastline to the forested summits of Mt. Carleton and Mt. Sagamook. The small white flowers appear in broad, flat-to-rounded clusters. Standing on Mt. Carleton in June, one can look down and see the white cloud-like profusion of Mountain-ash blossoms scattered amongst the tree tops. From August onward, the red/orange berries give the landscape a splash of colour.

Mountain-ash is a small tree (6-10 m) having a moderate tolerance to shade. It commonly grows in mixed woods, in woodland openings or forest margins. While White Ash and Mountain-ash both have compound leaves, Mountain-ash leaves are alternately arranged along the twigs, whereas true ashes have opposite leaves.

A compound leaf is composed of a main stem (rachis) with a number of paired leaflets and a single terminal leaflet. In the fall, the main stem of the leaf separates from the tree either before or after the leaflets separate from the main leaf stem. The compound leaf of the Mountain-ash usually is composed of 13 to 15 leaflets.

There are two common native species of Mountain-ash found throughout New Brunswick which can be separated through careful examination of the leaves. American Mountain-ash (*Sorbus americana*) has leaflets which are broadest below the middle and taper to a long thin point. Showy Mountain-ash (*Sorbus decora*) have leaflets which are broadest near the middle and taper much more quickly to a blunter point.



Leaf on left (on top) is American Mountain-ash  
Leaf on right (beneath) is Showy Mountain-ash

### Mountain Ash

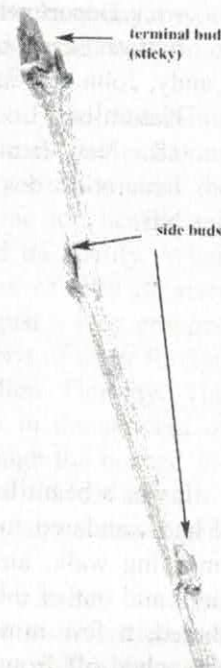
Drawings by F.S. Matthews

In winter, Mountain-ash trees can easily be recognized by examining the twigs which display distinctive large (~ 1cm) dark purple/red buds at the end of the branches, which are sticky when squeezed even on a cold winter's day. The buds along the twig are somewhat smaller. The bark is mostly smooth except where uniform rows of small pencil-sized holes indicate that it has been targeted by a Yellow-bellied Sapsucker. Snowshoe Hare, moose and deer will frequently browse the foliage and twigs while Beavers sometimes nibble on the bark.

The red berries are sought after by Red Squirrels, Marten, Black Bear, Ruffed Grouse and many songbirds, especially Grosbeaks and Cedar Waxwings. Robins

(and errant Fieldfare travellers) which get caught in a snowy winter by staying too late in the season, are thankful for this fruit which persists (if not eaten) until spring. Some naturalists even freeze the berries in the fall and bring them out for a winter treat (Candy 1997). Seed dispersal, as might be expected, is chiefly by birds.

The soft, mealy, bright orange to red fruits are low in protein but high in tannin, carbohydrates, vitamin C and iron. Although considered to be bitter, the fruits sweeten somewhat after a couple of good frosts, and can be made into wines, jellies and jams. One reference (Turner 1979) warns that the berries should be fully ripe before consumption, and that because the seeds contain amygdalin, moderation is advised. Another book (Blouin 1984) mentions that the leaves contain cyanide compounds and are poisonous. Apparently they were frequently consumed by Maritime natives to induce vomiting. North American natives used a decoction from the bark to purify the blood, stimulate the appetite and to treat boils and gonorrhoea.



Mountain ash twig  
Gart Bishop



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## Of Horses and Wildflowers

Mike Lushington

It was a beautiful, early August morning. Sasha and I had wandered further to the west than usual on our morning walk, along the rail spur that hauls freight into and out of the Town of Dalhousie. I had remembered, a few minutes past, an old woods road that branched off from the track toward the south and we had taken that. I was intending to follow it until it intersected another old road that swung back east and to walk my way along until I picked up one of my own paths. Really, I had no such conscious intention – this was just another in an almost daily series of delightful rambles that I have been taking under the pretext of “giving the dog some exercise.”

As I said, it was a beautiful morning. I had last passed this way back in the spring – well, mid-June, which really is still spring up here in Winter Country – and had found several rather extensive patches of Painted Trilliums, so I guess that it was in the back of my mind to keep an eye on the ground for what I might find now that high summer had finally arrived. I was listening and watching for birds, too, and I was very aware that Sasha and I had had two very entertaining encounters with bears in this same area (subjects of another story perhaps) – again back in the spring. Perhaps she had them in mind too, but one never knows with Sasha: bears, bees, butterflies – all are subjects of intense curiosity to a year old Husky pup. Whatever she may have been thinking, she was contentedly exploring the area in her own way as we ambled (well, I ambled, she pranced) our way along.

We had hiked up a long, slight incline from the track through a cedar swamp and had just entered a

hardwood grove when I thought that I heard a bird in the branches overhead. I stopped to explore the possibility further, with no great success. While I looked through the branches and leaves however, the quiet beauty of the place took me up once again as these little spots so often do. Many of my neighbours are succumbing to the terrible lure of dollars being branched about by often-unscrupulous wood contractors and places like this are becoming increasingly rare.

This is not to say that this was virgin forest. On the contrary, it had been harvested regularly for a long time; old stumps and remnant piles of brush attested to that. However, it had not been cleared in a good while, as the current stand of fifty and sixty year old Sugar maples attested. My neighbour, an “absentee landlord”, has given permission to a couple of local fellows to operate a sugar bush in here each spring. Even now, in August, I could see signs of their work here and there, and I knew that I would find a plastic tubing pipeline a little further along the ridge.

The sun filtered down through the leaves, dancing a bit as they swayed in a light north-west breeze that was beginning to stir, promising a dry morning later on for work in the garden, and perhaps even an afternoon of dozing in my hammock under the trees by the house. It was beautiful, it was peaceful, Sasha was quietly doing her thing nearby, there was no reason to hurry along. So I lingered, long after I had given up on that elusive little bird in the treetop. I could hear a family of crows in the distance and, once, a squawk from a discontented raven – likely the target of the crows' animated conversations. Otherwise, it was



quiet, as I looked around me.

And then I saw it, noticed it that is, in contrast to simply taking it in as a part of the local scene. "That's Bugle weed", I said to myself, perhaps out loud (I'm never sure when I do that on these walks, except when Sasha suddenly stops what she is doing and looks at me to see what I want.). "What's it doing here?"

And then I noticed a clump of Coltsfoot leaves mixed in with the Bugleweed. A little further along the path, I saw a clump of vetch, and further yet, a couple of late dandelions. "Strange", I thought, "those are all aliens. What are they doing here?" I remembered, from reading Harold and others, that these so-called aliens almost always show up within a couple of hundred meters of disturbed land – farms, highways, and the like – and very rarely further back in the woods. My curiosity stimulated now, I stepped off the pathway to my right and looked about in the underbrush. There were only native plants there. I checked out the other side, and then moved down the path a few feet toward the second clump that I had seen and looked again. The same thing – there were no aliens except directly in the path itself.

Suddenly, everything changed. A cold wind blew across my neck as the last leaves of late fall fluttered to earth. Snow began to fall from a leaden sky even as I stood there, quickly turning the landscape white as it began to accumulate on the frozen ground. Sasha had disappeared but now I noticed two men, working quietly and efficiently at piling the last logs from the fall cutting onto a large pile. These were spruce logs, I could see, but further ahead, just around the bend in the path, was an impressive load of hardwood – maple, some beech, yellow birch, and ash – waiting to be hauled back to the farmyard to be blocked and split for firewood for the following year.

A raven coursed along the edges of the wind, taking in the scene below and sending a bell-like "clonk" in greeting before fading into the gathering snow. A squirrel scurried through the fallen leaves, searching for the last of the beechnuts to hoard before they were lost. A small flock of chickadees, together with a single nuthatch, flitted from tree to tree, intent on stocking up themselves before what was beginning to promise the first full snowstorm of the coming winter.

And then I saw the horses. There were two of them; one was black with a couple of white fetlocks, while the other seemed to be almost uniformly brown, except for a large white blaze on its muzzle. They were standing patiently beneath a huge old spruce, waiting

for the time when they would be called upon to contribute their efforts to the scene unfolding before me. The previous evening, their owners, likely the two men working and talking quietly at the woodpile, had fed them well, in anticipation of the hard day's work ahead. They had had some oats and a good bellyful of hay from the previous summer's harvest.

There had been some Coltsfoot and Dandelion mixed in with the hay that the farmers had cut along the ditches the previous July, early stuff to clear the edges of the fields before it became too heavy, and cured because the farmers realized its quality. When they cut their main crop – farmers of fifty or sixty years past rarely hayed before August – they cropped vetch, clover, Bugleweed and all sorts of other foreign plants, along with the equally alien Timothy. The seeds from these plants were now in the process of passing, unharmed and viable, through the horses' intestines to be deposited here, on this old haul road, together with sufficient fertilizer to ensure a strong germination the following spring.

As I watched, I could see small patches of steam rising from the horses' backs as the snow settled and then melted. I could also see smaller clouds from the deposits beneath the horses' tails, and in those smaller clouds, I could see the resolution to the puzzle that had prompted this reverie.

And then the vision faded. Sasha was once again scratching at the foot of a small birch, in a futile but enthusiastic effort to extract a vole or shrew from among its roots. Once again, I felt the warmth of the day, now beginning to penetrate the shade. Another small bird stirred in the leaves overhead and I could hear a Veery sound its warning from a nearby clump of small firs. I stood there, still partly caught in the epiphany, and realized that the little path that I had been following on and off for several years now was very likely older than I, that it was not originally a snowmobile path (which it is now) but an old farm road, and that it had been traced for horses to haul wood from land that had been used, but used well, for at least that long.

At last I stirred to continue our walk. As I did, I noted further evidence of my epiphany. Scattered here and there, but always on the pathway, I found more subtle evidence of a time and a lifestyle long past, but one that was not forgotten, at least here, in the moss and the detritus of a little, old, logging road in back of anywhere in rural New Brunswick.



## The Nature Journal

Frederick W. Schueler & Aleta Karstad

*Editor's Note: This article, originally titled "TheNatureJournal - designed and presented by Bishops Mills Natural History Centre and Little Rays Reptile Zoo" describes a product, and thus resembles a commercial advertisement. We feel it is of interest for its discussion of the importance of note-keeping. For more information on the product, visit [www.thenaturejournal.ca](http://www.thenaturejournal.ca)*

In 2003 Paul Goulet of Little Rays Reptile Zoo, and our archivist volunteer, Susan Peters, both suggested that our journalling methods should be exportable to others who want to keep track of what's going on, whether they've got specialized training or not. This gave birth to the idea of theNatureJournal, and after many months of designing, writing, and testing, and Little Rays' purchase of the first batch of custom binders, we now have in our hands a tool flexible enough for young and old, for novice and specialist - an archival system for keeping nature records.

### WHAT IS IT?

In a 7-ring binder, compatible with the Franklin-Covey and Daytimer planner formats, equipped with permanent-ink felt-tip pen, ruler, and section separators, you will find forms for journal, rough notes, tick-off habitat datasheet, catalog, and species accounts as well as blank pages - and a 42 page handbook of encouragement and guidance, which explains the Grinnell system of note-taking, and ways of combining it with computer text or databases.

### WHO NEEDS IT?

Students need it to contain and organize their nature journals, to keep records of habitat studies that will be comparable to studies done in the past and the future, and to contain notes and tips as they learn to identify plants and animals.

Birdwatchers need it to hold their simple lists and expand them with habitat and behavioural notes.

Hikers, climbers, canoeists, and explorers of all kinds need it to record expeditions and bring back sketches and maps and trail, water & habitat information, organized for future reference.

Gardeners and foresters need it to keep records from year to year on archivally stable materials.

Teachers need it for keeping class nature observations from year to year.

Public gardens, nature centres & naturalist clubs need it for archiving observations.

Longtime naturalists need it as a customizable and archival format for organizing their observations, species accounts, catalogs, and anything else they want to keep in a 7-ring binder.

Franklin and Daytimer users need it for either separating or integrating nature observations with their other planner functions.

Nature lovers who feel helpless in the face of species extinction and environmental degradation need it as one way they can give something back to nature - a "family album" of visits to special places made more special by close observation and careful description - to record a time and place so it may be useful in future research and conservation.

Environmental activists need it to record evidence, and for writing nature poetry.

Nature artists, young and old, need it for organizing and combining nature art with journalling. Biologists need it for field notes, to be data-based and then bound and archived in museums.

Children need it for doing their very best drawing and writing on the best materials, for keeps, because any careful observer is doing something important and useful.

Everybody needs it to remember that Joseph Grinnell taught us that observations are only of value when they are made to test a hypothesis - whether you have the hypothesis in mind now, or whether you are setting up somebody to test a hypothesis in the future.

### FRIENDLY, APPROACHABLE SPECIALISTS

Our early experience in knocking on the "back doors" of museums, with specimens and questions, opened up the world of specialists for both of us, and taught us how many obscure and mysterious creatures there are that have some one studying them. We also learned how many friendly, approachable scientists there are who are eager to hear news of their creatures in places they haven't visited, and who appreciate the efforts of amateurs who make careful observations and keep faithful records of date, location and habitat. When you offer a specialist news of his or her beloved



taxon, and show interest in it, you have a friend for life – well, at least an eager correspondent, more information than you imagined there was questions to, and suggestions for where and how you could take your next hike or holiday. In these latter days the internet offers almost the same access to specialists as we had through the museums' back doors. The internet is a window into realms of easily-answered questions that are only lacking observers, and provides contact with specialists whose own field work is frustratingly limited, and who are willing to put forth the effort to guide and encourage volunteers in making the kind of observations that are useful to them.

Public participation in the simple "presence or absence" tasks required by monitoring and atlasing programs such as "Frogwatch" and the "Ontario Bird Atlas" are important in gaining an overall picture of species survival and environmental health, but there is nothing like the gratification (and education!) one receives in contact with a specialist about the identification, or range, or behaviour of a particular species. A specialist spends a lifetime in gathering details that pertain to a very small part of nature, and few people realize how dependent the world is on all these specialists for our understanding of ecology and the environment. Even fewer people realize how easy it is for you to become the local specialist in an understudied field. Don't be shy to ask the questions; it's the only way we can find the answers!

#### SOME HISTORY: HOW WE ARRIVED AT theNatureJournal

It's generally believed that to get important scientific results you've got to have sophisticated and expensive equipment, and government funding. Ever since we took seriously the admonition that there would be no academic jobs in Canadian universities in the 1979-1980 season, we've conducted our long-term, large-scale studies of ecological change in Canada without the kind of funding that's usually associated with such work. Only once were we directly funded to do what had become our real work of natural history documentation, with the book *A place to walk: A naturalist's journal of the Lake Ontario Waterfront Trail*. (1995, Natural Heritage/Natural History, Toronto). This has meant that we've had to gather data in the course of daily life, and depend on the ongoing nature of the studies, rather than any specialized technology, to reveal the phenomena we've been interested in.

Among funded studies, a duration of three years is 'long-term,' but we're just getting ready to think about conclusions after a study has gone on for ten years. Fred had three undergraduate bases for this approach to natural history:

- \* Robert Wittaker's discovery that vegetation was ordered along environmental axes, rather than partitioned into classes, and generally that ordination is superior to partitions as a description of a continuously-varying real world.

- \* Lamont Cole's assertion that ecology was mostly the science of the occurrence of organisms at particular times and places and Dick Root's understanding that evolution and ecology were really the same thing, and

- \* training in Grinnell-system field records written for the future in association with museum specimens.

In graduate school he learned the lesson that was being taught at the University of Toronto Zoology Department in the 1970's:

- \* translating biological hypotheses into the ritual language of multivariate statistics, and testing them by taking as many of the potential influences as possible into statistical consideration.

Our strategy of long-term superficial study with many variables means that our results complement those of more intense, funded studies, and it has required that we keep good records.

#### THE DATABASE

We've always tried to keep our written records on archival materials, and since 1991, we've kept our records in a database with the goal of having everything we've observed electronically available in a database formatted to hold both records of individual species and a coherent narrative of our activities. This database currently contains 63,500 records, and grows by about 3-5K records in most years. In 1997 the EOMF supported the Eastern Ontario Biodiversity Museum in transformation of Fred's database of specimens and observations into EOBase, the "Eastern Ontario Natural History Database" EOBase, and the Model Forest also hosts the NatureList, for naturalists across eastern Ontario to share nature observations. The Bishops Mills Natural History Centre operates both the NatureList and EOBase, and is collaborating with other databases and environmental monitoring programs. We regularly extract data to write reports and answer queries, although the major effort of extracting data from the NatureList has not yet been launched.



## The Nighttime Naturalist

Roy LaPointe

### Aurora Borealis - Part 1

The Aurora Borealis or Northern Lights have fascinated and sometimes frightened mankind for eons. We now know that they are not reflections of sunlight off icebergs in the far North as was told to me by my father about 50 years ago. It was only a short while after I heard that tale that we finally found their true source. Over the next three issues, I will talk about some of the history of the research into and the eventual discovery of the process that creates this spectacular phenomenon. This first installment will take us to the end of the 18<sup>th</sup> century and the second, to the final deciphering of the powerful engine that drives the auroras. A third part will describe how it works.

### Early research and hypotheses

Around 2,350 years ago, Aristotle classed auroras as meteorological phenomena produced in the atmosphere. His hypothesis stated that:

- a. the Earth produced emanations separated in layers according to their densities, the first earth and water, the second air and the third vaporous fumes he called elemental fire (see Figure);
- b. the upper layer, made up of flammable vapours, reached up to the limits of the sub-lunar layer, touching the heavens; and
- c. the celestial spheres rotated, causing the elemental fire to flow and ignite, presumably from friction, and thereby producing auroras.

Aristotle also believed that all interaction between Earth and Heaven was a monstrous impossibility, that nothing new could appear in the sky. This statement was later dubbed by Carl Sagan as the greatest mistake in the history of astronomy, responsible for a detour outside the realm of reality. This belief ruled astronomy for nine centuries after Aristotle's death.

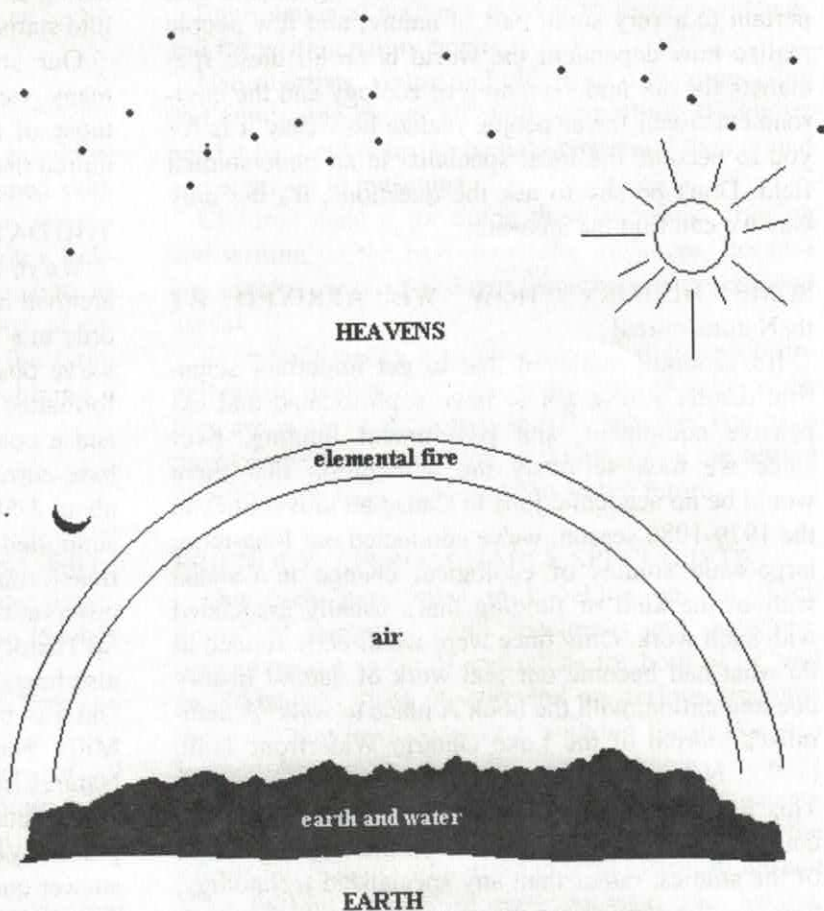
It wasn't until 1572 that Tycho Brahe made a discovery that put astronomy back on track. He observed a super

nova in the constellation Cassiopaea. Five years later he found a spectacular comet that was more distant than the moon.

Something new had appeared in the sky, and Aristotle's theory went up in a puff of elemental fire, opening the door to new theories.

Enter Galileo who, in the 17th century, hypothesized that the auroras were produced by air charged with vapour, rising above the Earth's shadow and reflecting sunlight. Not much better than Aristotle's or my father's beliefs, but Galileo describes for the first time these events as nordic auroras which he eventually called boreal auroras. This later led to the modern Latin term "auroras borealis".

In 1716 at the age of 54, Edmund Halley witnessed auroras for the first time. He was born during Maunder's Minimum, or the little ice age; a period during





which there was little auroral activity. He realized that auroras were not reflections but produced their own light. He wondered why they always appeared toward the North. Some 25 years before he had questioned magnetic declination and the variations in the needle of a compass.

Halley postulated, and this sounds like a bit of Jules Verne,:

- a. that the Earth was a hollow sphere with other concentric spheres within it;
- b. that the internal spheres had magnetic fields and were free to move causing variations in compass needles at the surface;
- c. since all creation held life (a religious belief at these times) and that life could not exist without light, the space between the spheres possessed a perpetual light source; and
- d. that every now and then this light could escape through cracks in the polar regions thereby producing the auroras.

What is important here is that Halley suggested a link between the Earth's magnetic field and the auroras.

In 1733 French physicist Jean-Jacques d'Ortous de Mairan believes in the sun as the source of auroras but has difficulty explaining the fluctuations in the auroras and why they are not visible between the Earth and the Sun.

For no justifiable reason he turns his thoughts towards the sunspots first observed by Galileo in 1610. He postulates that the sunspots produce some kind of a particle shower and wonders whether there might be a link between the frequency of sun spots and the appearance of auroras.

Without concrete argument, de Mairan's ideas are rejected.

On 1 March 1741 Olof Hiorter, a Swedish physicist, observes the simultaneous deflection of a compass needle and the appearance of auroras. His brother-in-law Anders Celsius (of temperature scale fame) confirms seeing the same phenomenon. After 6638 hours of data gathering, Hiorter discovers a link between auroras and magnetic perturbations. This is confirmed by English physicist John Dalton.

In 1768 another Swede, John Carl Wilke, concludes that auroral rays align with the Earth's magnetic field.

Toward the end of the 18th century, Benjamin Franklin proposes electricity as the cause of auroras. He hypothesizes that auroras are a result of an electrical discharge. He believes that the atmosphere in the

polar regions possesses large quantities of electricity. Since the polar regions are covered with ice through which the electricity cannot discharge, the electric currents rise toward space at the poles and return to Earth along the equator. At the poles the electric currents are concentrated and produce auroras that are visible, while at the equator they are too thinly spread out to create visible auroras.

The 18th century ends with a mix of ingredients, the three main ones being Earth's magnetic field, solar atmosphere and electricity. In this era only one solution was thought possible because, according to Newton, perfection in all divine creation was to be accomplished with the greatest simplicity.

Could Newton be wrong? Find out in the next episode of *The Invasion of the Fearsome Auroras*.

### Nighttime viewing for the period 1 January to 30 March 2005

#### The Planets

Mercury & Venus will be close together low in the SE about one hour before sunrise from 4 to 15 January. The best time to view Mercury in the new year will be from 7 to 19 March when it will be in the western sky about an hour and a quarter after sunset. Venus will pass behind the sun at the end of March therefore will not be visible for a few weeks around this time.

Mars passes behind the sun in February and is really not worth observing during this period.

Jupiter rises around 1 am at the start of the period and is moving toward opposition which it reaches on 4 April. It will be in the constellation Capricornus.

Saturn is at opposition on 13 January, rising in Gemini as the sun sets. By the end of the period, it will be high overhead at sunset.

When the Earth is directly between an outer planet and the sun, the planet is said to be at opposition. It rises as the sun sets, crosses the meridian at midnight and sets as the sun rises. It is also at its closest point to Earth for the year. The meridian is an imaginary line running from north to south and passing directly overhead (zenith).

#### Meteor Showers

Only one notable shower during this period, the Quadrantids with an active period of 1 to 5 January, peaking at 40 meteors per hour on the 4th. The radiant is R.A. 15h 20m and declination +49°.



## Calling all young naturalists!

(And the young at heart...)



New Brunswick has a Young Naturalists' Club! The Young Naturalists' Club (YNC) has been created in order to encourage youth from 6 to 12 years of age to explore and appreciate the natural world around them. Our new YNC magazine is full of exciting articles, games and activities designed to help youth learn about nature. In addition, local clubs all over the province will give young naturalists the opportunity meet with each other and explore the natural world first-hand.

### YNC's new magazine...

The YNC's bilingual magazine will be appreciated by youth, parents and teachers alike. The magazine makes an excellent gift for enthusiastic young naturalists! Nature educators are also sure to love the fascinating and informative articles written by naturalists across the province.

### Join us!

An individual or family membership costs only \$15 per year. Your family will receive a subscription to our quarterly magazine and each young naturalist will receive a membership pack and will be able to participate in all the fun activities offered by your local Club.

Classroom or library memberships are also \$15 per year, entitling the class or library to two copies of each issue of the YNC magazine.

To join, visit our website at [www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca) to download a membership form, or contact us by email at [federation@naturenb.ca](mailto:federation@naturenb.ca) or by phone at 459-4209.

## Appel aux jeunes naturalistes!

Et à ceux qui ont l'esprit jeune...

Nouveau-Brunswick a un Club des Jeunes Naturalistes! Le Club des Jeunes Naturalistes (CJN) a été créé pour encourager les jeunes de 6 à 12 ans à explorer et apprécier le monde naturel autour d'eux. Notre nouveau magazine du CJN est plein d'articles, de jeux et d'activités excitantes conçus pour aider les jeunes à apprendre sur la nature. En plus, des clubs locaux autour de la province donneront aux jeunes naturalistes l'occasion de se rencontrer et d'explorer le monde naturel sur place.

### Le nouveau magazine du CJN...

Le magazine bilingue du CJN sera apprécié par les jeunes, ainsi que leurs parents et professeur(e)s. Ce magazine fera un excellent cadeau pour les jeunes mordus de la nature. Les éducateurs, eux aussi, aimeront sûrement les articles fascinants et informatifs écrits par des naturalistes autour du province.

### Joignez-vous!

Un abonnement d'individuel ou de famille coûte seulement 15\$ par année. Votre famille recevra notre magazine trimestriel et chaque jeune naturaliste recevra un ensemble de membre et pourra participer dans toutes les activités amusantes offertes par votre club local.

Les abonnements de classe ou de bibliothèque coûtent aussi 15\$ par année, ce qui intitle le(la) professeur(e) ou bibliothécaire à deux copies de chaque édition du revue CJN.

Pour vous joindre, visitez notre site Web à [www.naturenb.ca](http://www.naturenb.ca) pour obtenir une formulaire d'abonnement, ou nous contacter à [federation@naturenb.ca](mailto:federation@naturenb.ca) ou par téléphone à 459-4209.

### Name the Magazine Contest

The YNC magazine needs a name!

You can help by sending your ideas to [federation@naturenb.ca](mailto:federation@naturenb.ca) or:  
NB Federation of Naturalists, 924 Prospect Street, Suite 110,  
Fredericton, NB, E3B 2T9.

The winner will get a free membership to the  
Young Naturalists' Club for a year!



### Concours Nommez le Magazine

Le magazine du CJN a besoin d'un nom!

Vous pouvez envoyer vos idées à [federation@naturenb.ca](mailto:federation@naturenb.ca) ou:  
Fédération des Naturalistes du N.-B., 924 rue Prospect, Suite 110,  
Fredericton, NB, E3B 2T9.

Le(la) gagnant(e) recevra un abonnement gratuit au  
Club des Jeunes Naturalistes pour un an!



## The Hammond River Angling Association – A Profile for the NB Naturalist

*Sandy MacKay*

Conservation works through Salmon restoration, community watershed awareness, riparian reforestation, public outreach and education.

The Hammond River Angling Association began in 1977, when a group of anglers began to notice changes in salmon populations on the Hammond. From that small group of anglers, the HRAA has grown into a 350+ member organization, and the work done by the group encompasses a wide variety of areas.

### Salmon Restoration

At the heart of the HRAA are issues dealing directly with Salmon. For years, HRAA has collected broodstock, to provide eggs and juvenile salmon for stocking purposes. As a result, the Hammond River is one of the last rivers in southern New Brunswick with a healthy and viable salmon population.

Salmon restoration and protection is at the heart of almost all HRAA programs. Specific salmon projects over the past 28 years have included: trapnets to determine adult populations, electro-fishing to determine juvenile densities, redd counts to determine egg disbursement through the system, and regular broodstock collections to provide eggs for each year's re-stocking. Over the years, the HRAA has stocked an estimated 100,000+ indigenous juvenile fish into the Hammond.



Volunteers attempt to capture salmon for broodstock

This regular concerted effort by volunteer anglers and staff may be one reason that the Hammond maintains a healthy population.

Partners involved in these programs include government bodies, like DFO and DNR, salmon-focussed groups like the Atlantic Salmon Federation, the New Brunswick Salmon Council, Oromocto First Nations, corporations like Potash Company of Saskatchewan and hundreds of volunteers.



Bands like 39 Toes (above) offer their services to bring excitement to HRAA community events

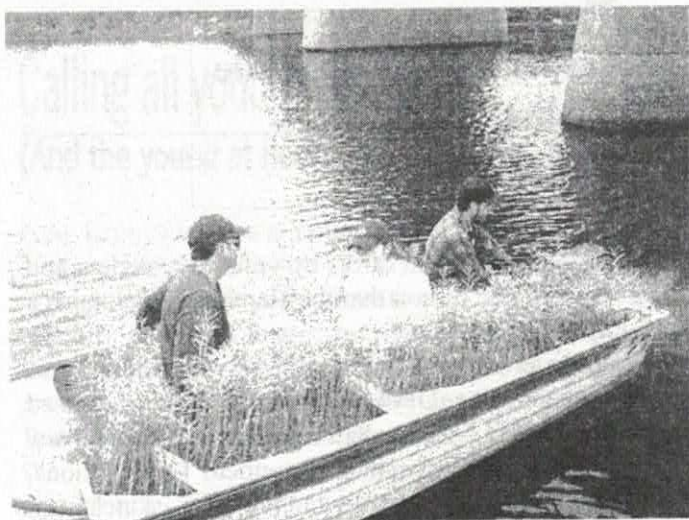
### Community Watershed Awareness

HRAA works hard to keep the community interested in ongoing activities. Regular social events create interest in conservation, and HRAA members utilize their fly-tying, angling and musical skills to reach out to the community.

Every Wednesday Night, the Hammond River Conservation Centre is open to members and guests for the Fish'N'Jam. Master fly-tier Andy Dollar teaches specific fly-tying techniques, and Mark Roberts hosts the Jam part of the Fish'N'Jam. Musicians are invited to bring their instruments to the Centre, and join in an informal jam session. Add a crackling fire to the mix, and it all adds up to a very convivial social evening.

Once a month, HRAA puts on a big affair, the Watershed CoffeeHouse. Prominent bands like 39 Toes, Brent Mason, Howling Trout, Jolene Erb and Matt Hayes play at these events to help raise funding and interest in the conservation work done by the Association.





Students head for the river banks with a load of silver maples and bank willows

Want more info on the HRAA's events? Why not give us a call at 832-1230, or check us out on the web: [www.hraa.ca](http://www.hraa.ca)

### Riparian Reforestation

HRAA's Riparian Reconstruction efforts have encompassed huge amounts of work. When river banks lack vegetation, erosion occurs causing sedimentation, covering fish eggs and allowing the river become wider, shallower and warmer. The health of a river can be determined by the health of its banks!

Every year, "problem sections" of the Hammond are identified. In the early 90's digger logs were placed in Palmer Brook with help from Kennebecasis Valley High School students. Later in the 90's, a huge project was undertaken to repair erosion at Meadow Brook farm. Similar large reparations have been built at four other sites on the Hammond, and many other smaller repairs have taken place.

Recently, riparian reconstruction also includes fencing streams to limit access by cattle, to reduce nutrients in the water and allow invigorated riparian growth.

HRAA has planted over 60,000 trees, including bank willows, mountain ash, apple, silver maple, cedar and black ash over the past 8 years, and constructed two nurseries to propagate trees. HRAA continues to plant experimental plots to assess various species' hardiness in floodplain zones, where ice and high water conditions often wreak havoc on bare banks.

In 2004, HRAA partnered with six area farmers, focusing on bare and eroding banks in hayfields. Farmers are committed to saving their fields from washing away in the spring freshet, and the trees will stabilize the banks and provide shade, lowering water temperatures. Boy scout troops planted almost 1500 willow clippings in spring 2004! Once again, HRAA will be using bank willows donated by Irving Trees as well as seedlings from our own nurseries. In total almost 9,000 trees were planted in 2004! Riparian planting in 2004 was funded by the Environmental Trust Fund!

Hayfields are hit hard by erosion, since the grass banks can't withstand the grinding force of spring ice and increased water velocity. Once the soil begins to move, it's hard to get it stopped. Local farmers are coming to HRAA requesting tree planting on eroding hayfield sites. Planting and maintaining a 5-metre buffer zone along the banks of the river and streams can arrest erosion and create stability.

### Public Outreach and Education.

HRAA presently hosts three different Youth Education Programs. The goal of HRAA's education programs is to create the next generation of committed conservationists. Our goal is to put children into close contact with the river: many children never experience places like the Hammond. The river's best stewards are people using the river for recreational purposes who are aware of the river's wildlife and habitat. HRAA is exporting this important mindset to children all over southern New Brunswick through Youth and Education programs.

The Fish Friends program has put Hammond River Salmon eggs into local classrooms since 1989. Children learn about habitat, migration and pollution problems that threaten salmon. Every year, hundreds of children come to the Hammond to release their "fry". Most of the fry enter the river with a name; all of the children leave with a sense of personal attachment to the future of N.B.'s Atlantic Salmon population. Twenty-two classes were involved in 2004 Fish Friends.

The 2004 Fish Splash event was a fantastic success—the presence of smolt in the satellite tanks let kids see what their fry will grow into!

Kids R Cool 4 Conservation is HRAA's groundbreaking summer camp. Children visit the Conservation Centre to go on kayaking expeditions, learn fly-tying and angling techniques, scientific water testing and participate in interactive activities. An average of





Participants in one of many HRAA youth programs

600 children a year visit HRAA to partake of these remarkable experiences!

HRAA hosts Wetland Tours in partnership with Ducks Unlimited. Forty-five classes visited the Conservation Centre for a unique, interactive look at New Brunswick's water resources. Children learn about N.B.'s remarkable wealth of fresh water and the importance wetlands play in wildlife habitat, flood control and water purification. We take children on a hike through Conservation Centre wetland areas, teaching about plants and animals that live in these areas. We also teach about the importance of healthy riparian zones, and give the kids an up-close look at salmon in the smolt stage. Some classes also tour the Hammond River Park, in cooperation with Town of Quispamsis' Recreation Services.

In 2004, HRAA hosted over 2,600 children through these programs!

## News for Naturalists – Nouvelles pour les Naturalistes

Sabine Dietz

### Parks and People Program / Ensemble pour nos parcs

Nature Canada (formerly Canadian Nature Federation), in cooperation with Parks Canada, has a call for proposals for the new Parks and People Program (deadline December 3<sup>rd</sup>). This program will provide funding to anybody who wants to undertake projects that will bring youth in contact with nature in natural areas. If you have a good idea, and are looking for some financing, contact Nature Canada at: [www.cnf.ca](http://www.cnf.ca), or call 1-800-267-4088. Information on the program is found at <http://www.cnf.ca/media/ParksCall.2.html>.

Nature Canada (auparavant la Fédération canadienne pour la nature), en coopération avec l'agence Parcs Canada, invite la soumission de demandes de subvention pour son nouveau programme «Ensemble pour nos parcs». La date limite est le 3 décembre. Ce programme offrira du financement aux gens qui aimeraient organiser des projets amenant des jeunes gens dans les endroits naturels. Si vous avez une idée, et vous cherchez du financement, contactez Nature Canada au : [www.cnf.ca](http://www.cnf.ca), ou composez : 1-800-267-4088. Pour les informations sur le programme : <http://www.cnf.ca/media/FREParksCall.2.html>.

### Christmas Bird Count / Recensement des oiseaux de Noël

Each year birdwatchers and people interested in birds go out to look for what birds are around at this time of the year. There is a specific count period (December 14<sup>th</sup> to January 5<sup>th</sup>), and there are people organizing these counts for many regions in the province.

Christmas Bird Counts give valuable information about which birds are present during the winter months and how this changes over the years. This data, collected over many years, provides insight into bird population changes. Around 1000 people participated in this activity in the winter of 2003/2004 (for last year's results, please refer to the NB Naturalist, Vol 31(1) 2004, page 18). For more information please see <http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/maryspt/CBC.html> or contact David Christie at 506-882-2100.

Chaque année les observateurs des oiseaux et des gens qui s'intéressent aux oiseaux sortent à Noël afin de vérifier quelles sortes d'oiseaux se trouvent aux alentours à ce temps de l'année. Il y a une période spécifique pour ce compte (le 14 décembre au 4 janvier). Il y a des organisateurs dans les différentes



régions de la province. Les recensements des oiseaux de Noël fournissent de l'information important sur les oiseaux présents durant ce temps de l'année, et sur les changements à travers les années. Ces données fournissent de l'information sur les changements des populations des oiseaux. À peu près 1000 personnes participent aux recensements au Nouveau-Brunswick chaque année (pour les résultats de l'année passée veuillez vous référer au Naturaliste du N.-B., Vol 31 (1) 2004, page 18). Pour plus amples informations veuillez voir : <http://personal.nbnet.nb.ca/maryspt/CBC.html>, ou contactez David Christie au : 506-882-2100.

### **Christmas Mammal Counts / Recensement de Noël des mammifères**

For two years now interested people have gone out to look for mammals, or signs of their presence. The idea is similar to the Bird counts, in that the information contributes to our knowledge about mammal presence and populations in NB. Mike LeBlanc is responsible for organizing these counts, please contact him for information: 506-743-8485, or [pandion@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:pandion@nbnet.nb.ca).

Depuis deux ans, des gens intéressés se sont sortis l'hiver pour rechercher des indices de la présence de mammifères dans les différentes régions. L'idée suit le concept des recensements des oiseaux de Noël. Ce recensement a pour but de ramasser de l'information sur les mammifères et les changements dans leurs populations dans la province. Mike LeBlanc en est l'organisateur. Veuillez le contacter au : 506-743-8485, ou au : [pandion@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:pandion@nbnet.nb.ca).

### **Project FeederWatch / Projet FeederWatch**

This is a joint project of Bird Studies Canada and Nature Canada with the goal of gathering information on the change of bird populations in winter. It involves watching your bird feeders and recording, once every two weeks, what kinds of birds and how many come visit your feeder. There is a participation fee, which pays for the data entry sheets, a bird poster, a bird calendar, the Birdwatch Canada newsletter, an information booklet and an instruction booklet. For information contact Bird Studies Canada at: 1-888-448-2473 (toll-free), by e-mail at: [pfw@bsc-eoc.org](mailto:pfw@bsc-eoc.org), or register on-line at <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/national/pfw.html>.

Ceci est un projet conjoint de Nature Canada et ... tudes d'oiseaux Canada. Le but est de ramasser de



l'information sur le changement dans les populations des oiseaux en hiver. Le projet implique l'observation des oiseaux qui visitent vos mangeoires une fois toutes les deux semaines, du mois de novembre au mars, et à noter ces observations dans des formulaires d'entrée de données. Il y a des frais de participation de 35 \$. Vous recevrez un guide d'instructions, un guide d'information, un carnet de données, un calendrier, une affiche sur les oiseaux et quatre parutions du bulletin BirdWatch Canada. Pour plus amples informations veuillez contacter Études Oiseaux Canada : 1-888-448-2473 (sans frais), par courriel : [pfw@bsc-eoc.org](mailto:pfw@bsc-eoc.org), ou afin d'entrer vos données sur l'Internet : <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/national/pfwfr.html>.

### **New Brunswick Protected Natural Areas Coalition becomes Canadian Parks and Wilderness Society, NB Chapter - CPAWS-NB**

The NBPAC has been involved in the Endangered Spaces campaign since 2000, and more recently, in the advancement of the declaration of our Protected Natural Areas. The coalition has now evolved into a chapter of CPAWS, with a mandate to encourage the protection of ecosystems in parks, wilderness and similar natural areas, to promote awareness, and to work cooperatively with stakeholders.

For information please contact: Roberta Clowater, Executive Director, 180 St. John Street, Fredericton, NB E3B 4A9, Tel: (506) 452-9902, Fax: (506) 458-1047, Email: [cpawnsb@nb.sympatico.ca](mailto:cpawnsb@nb.sympatico.ca), Website : <http://www.cpawnsb.org>

La Coalition pour la protection des sites naturels au Nouveau-Brunswick devient la Société pour la nature et les parcs du Canada, le chapitre du NB (SNAP NB)



La coalition a été engagée dans la campagne pour la sauvegarde des espaces en danger depuis 2000. Plus récemment, la coalition a participé dans l'avancement de la déclaration de nos Zones naturelles protégées. La coalition a maintenant évoluée pour devenir un chapitre de la Société pour la nature et les parcs du Canada, avec le mandat d'encourager la protection des écosystèmes dans les parcs, les endroits sauvages, et des endroits naturels semblables, afin de sensibiliser les gens et de travailler en coopération avec d'autres intervenants. Pour plus amples informations veuillez contacter : Roberta Clowater, Directrice générale, 180 rue St. John, Fredericton, NB E3B 4A9, Tél : (506) 452-9902, Fax : (506) 458-1047, courriel : cpawnsb@nb.sympatico.ca, Site Web : <http://www.cpawnsb.org>

*Note: please send any newsworthy items to /  
Veuillez envoyer vos soumissions pour cette  
section à : S. Dietz (corvus@nbnet.nb.ca).*



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Mail to: The NB Federation of Naturalists Inc  
Jim Wilson, membership secretary  
2 Neck Road, Quispamsis, NB E2G 1L3  
Email: [jgw@nbnet.nb.ca](mailto:jgw@nbnet.nb.ca)



## Un hiver aux oiseaux

Roger LeBlanc

Certains prétendent qu'avec l'arrivée de l'hiver les observations d'oiseaux se font plus rares. À -10c ou -20c cela peut être moins agréable mais avec quelques bonnes couches de vêtement bien chaud et un peu de détermination tout devient possible. Pour ce qui est de la variété d'oiseaux, bien sûr qu'elle est moindre, mais par contre, la saison froide peut amener des phénomènes qui lui sont propre. Alors, enfillez vos bas de laine et vos tuques, et allons faire un tour dehors.

Laissez-moi vous raconter une belle aventure hivernale qui nous est arrivée à moi et Alain Clavette par une belle journée froide du mois de décembre dernier. Entre les villages de Dorchester et de Memramcook dans la vallée de la rivière du même nom, nous avons réussi à observer une trentaine d'oiseaux. Pas mal par -15C et ce, sans compter, le facteur éolien. Ce qui fut vraiment exceptionnel par contre et, qui n'aurait pas été possible au mois de mai, ce fut un spectacle de rapaces où la variété d'espèces, de formes et de comportements était d'une rare intensité. Sur la scène

qu'était devenue la vallée de la Memramcook ce jour-là, et en ne comptant que ceux qui étaient certainement des oiseaux différents, nous avons dénombré 4 Buses pattue (deux forme claire/ deux forme sombre), 5 Buses à queue rousse, 4 Hiboux des marais, 3 Busards St-Martin, 2 Pygargues à tête blanche, un Épervier brun et, la vedette du spectacle, un Faucon gerfaut de forme sombre qui y avait été découvert quelques temps plus tôt par Alain et Jean Sébastien Guénette. Loin de nous empêcher de faire de bonnes observations, le froid avait donc, en quelque sorte, rendu possible ce spectacle car, en plus d'avoir forcé certains des figurants à venir nous rejoindre à partir de leurs aires de nidifications nordiques (Buse pattue et Faucon gerfaut), les dures conditions hivernales obligeaient l'ensemble de ces prédateurs à se concentrer et même à se livrer bataille pour l'accès à la riche source de nourriture que devait receler les champs de la vallée.

**Veillez devenir membre de la Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau Brunswick, Inc. afin d'aider à éduquer les gens de la province de notre patrimoine naturel et de protéger sa flore, sa faune, et ses écosystèmes. Oui, je/nous désirons appuyer la Fédération des naturalistes du Nouveau Brunswick, Inc.!**

Ci inclus mon / notre donation à:

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Envoyez à: la Fédération des naturalistes du N-B, Inc.  
Jim Wilson, secrétaire des membres  
2 Neck Road, Quispamsis, NB E2G 1L3  
C.-élec.: jgw@nbnet.nb.ca





Faucon gerfaut  
Alain Clavette

Déjà de voir toutes ces espèces réunies sur un même territoire était exceptionnel, mais ce qui était encore plus spectaculaire, c'était l'interaction entre les oiseaux. Ainsi, à plusieurs occasions, nous avons le Faucon et une Buse pattue de forme sombre dans le même champ de vision, et à un moment donné, le Faucon est même allé se poser juste à côté d'une Buse pattue qui venait de capturer un rongeur. Après que le Faucon ait eu fait une tentative infructueuse pour débarrasser hâtivement la buse de son repas, les deux oiseaux se sont dévisagés pendant un bon 5 minutes à quelques mètres l'un de l'autre. Finalement, la buse a décidé d'aller déguster son repas loin de ce nouveau voisin un peu trop entreprenant et elle s'est envolé.

A un autre moment, les deux même oiseaux étaient perchés sur des poteaux de clôture et un Busard St-

Martin se promenait entre elles, se permettant même à l'occasion d'aller les houspiller. Une réaction normale, après tout, à cette invasion venue du Nord mais qui aurait, par contre, pu être un peu dangereuse pour celui qui, par droit d'occupation, se considérait sûrement comme le propriétaire légitime du terrain de chasse.

Plus tard, se furent les Hiboux des marais qui ont continué le spectacle autour de l'étang d'épuration de St-Joseph. Jusqu'à quatre individus nous volaient autour. À un moment donné, un de ceux-ci attrapa même devant nous un rongeur et alla se poser sur une clôture à environ 100 mètres pour l'avalier tout rond. Ensuite, le Faucon gerfaut que nous avons vu un peu plus tôt s'attaquer sans succès à un Faisan de Colchide, vient encore une fois semer la zizanie en s'en prenant à un des Hiboux des marais au vol. Ce dernier, après quelques acrobaties aériennes, s'en tira indemne mais décidément le grand Monsieur sombre venu du Labrador ne cherchait pas à ce faire de nouveaux amis ce jour-là.

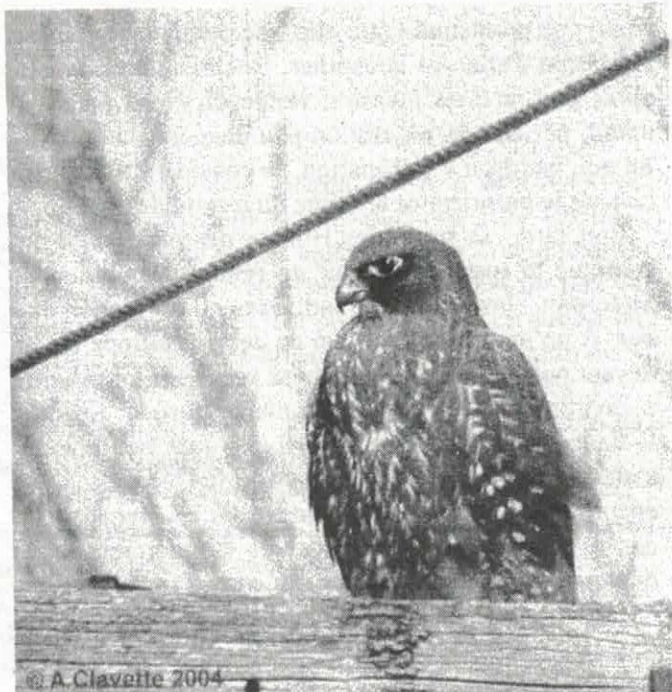
Donc, ne vous en faites pas si l'hiver est arrivé, il y encore de bien belles journées d'observation à faire, et puis.... le retour à la chaleur en fin de journée est tellement agréable.

## Winter Birding Roger LeBlanc

Some see winter as a slower period for bird watching. Well yes -10c to -20c temperatures have a tendency to makes it a bit harder to stand around watching birds. It can even make you feel a little jealous of their nice feathery insulation. But hey! just take your cue from them, bundle up, get out there and have some fun. Now it is true that there is less variety in winter but... when conditions are right you can have in the cold season some days that are just as exciting as any morning in May. Don't believe me? Well put on your mitts and heavy wool stockings and let's go have a look.

Here is my story about an exciting winter adventure that happened to me and Alain Clavette on a very cold





Gyr Falcon  
Alain Clavette

day last December. While birding in the Meramcook valley between the village of the same name and Dorchester, we were lucky enough to observe some 30 species. Not bad with -15C weather and wind chill. But what really made the day special was a raptor extravaganza that I would wager would not have happened in warmer conditions. We were treated to a spectacle of species, morphs and hunting behaviors, the likes of which I have rarely seen. On the marsh, just counting the birds that we were sure of, we saw 4 Rough-legged Hawks (2 light/ 2 dark morphs), 5 Red-tailed Hawks, 4 Short-eared Owls, 3 Northern Harriers, 2 Bald Eagles, one Sharp-shinned Hawk and the star of the show, the dark phase Gyr Falcon that Alain and Jean-Sébastien Guénette had discovered there a couple of days earlier.

Now I would say that far from making these observations harder the cold had in fact made them possible. For starters it was surely old man winter that had convinced the Rough-legged Hawks and the Gyr Falcon to come pay us a visit. Also I would think that the

harsh conditions had something to do not only with the presence of all these raptors on the marsh by having made some source of nourishment more accessible but also with the fierceness with which they seemed to compete for it.

Now just to get to see all these raptors from basically the same viewpoint was already quite a treat, but what really but the cherry on the sundae (and we actually felt like we were standing in a freezer) was the interactions happening between the raptors. For instance, several times we had the falcon and one of the dark phase Rough-legged Hawks flying in the same field of view. It was nice to compare the colors and flights. Then at one point the falcon even landed very near the Rough-legged Hawk to try and separate it from a very recently procured rodent meal. You can imagine those acrobatics. After that both birds just stood their ground for maybe five minutes with barely a couple of meters between them. I could almost hear that music from *High noon* playing. Finally the Rough-legged seemed to decide that these quarters were kind of cramped for dining and took off with its lunch.

Later on, both predators having perched on neighboring fence posts, a male harrier was flying between them taking pokes now and again at the newcomers. Now I guess that was a normal reaction from this poor guy who was seeing his territory invaded by this northern usurper... but even if he had right on his side, in his place, I would have thought twice before trying to bully the Gyr.

The next part of the show was offered by Short-eared Owls hunting around the lagoon in St-Joseph. Several birds were flying around and sometimes very close to us. At one point one even caught a rodent and proceeded to perch just in front of us to gulp it down. But even with the light fading that was not the last act. The Gyr Falcon, which we had watched a bit earlier trying unsuccessfully to catch a Pheasant, seemed still determined to create havoc on the marsh and came in fast after one of the Owls. Now the smaller predator almost became the "predated" but did manage to get away after some spectacular aerial maneuvers. Still it was evident that the big guy from Labrador was not on the marsh to make friends on that day.

So anyway, my point is, don't get the winter blues; just get out there and you might find that like me you'll have just as much fun as in any other season. Plus after a full day out there, what a nice feeling to come back in to your warm house.



## Nature News Invertebrates – June 1 to August 30

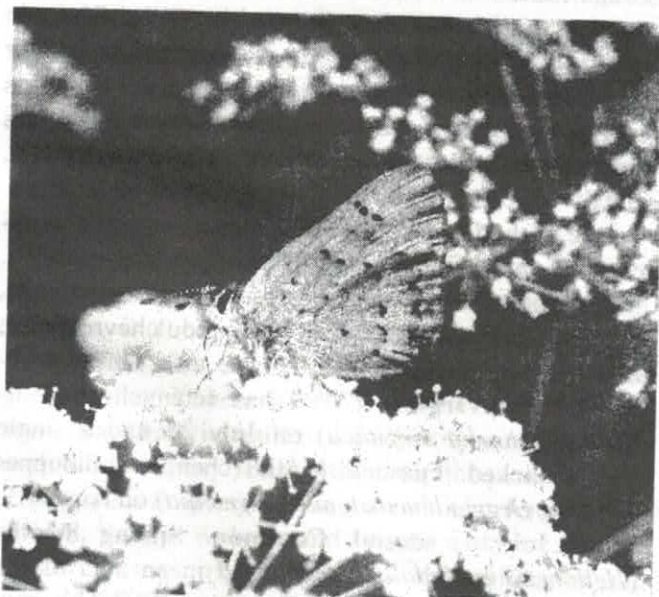
Dwayne L. Sabine

Invertebrate activity seemed much less than would be expected this summer. Despite an auspicious start, with warm, sunny weather in early spring (I was out looking for tiger beetles in late March!), weather conditions took a turn for the worse in mid-June. First it was cold and cloudy, and then the rain began with a vengeance in early-July and continued through much of the summer. Numbers for most species seemed very low.

Despite these poor conditions, there were a wealth of invertebrate observations reported. As I began to compile this report, I found myself sorting through more than 90 pages of emails, letters, and NatureNB postings! Needless to say, it was difficult to narrow them down to the few pages you will read below, and many interesting observations could not be included. It is great to see so much interest - please keep the reports flowing in.

### Lepidoptera (Butterflies and Moths)

The biggest butterfly finds of the summer were of Coppers. Kate Bredin, Jim Edsall and Reggie Webster found a new population of **Clayton's Copper** (cuivre de la potentille; *Lycaena dorcas claytoni*) near Lak-



Salt Marsh Copper  
Photo by Dwayne Sabine

eville on August 5, bringing the total number of known sites in the province to just five. This subspecies of the **Dorcas Copper** is endemic to eastern Maine and western New Brunswick, and occurs in calcareous fens where the larval host plant Shrubby Cinquefoil (potentille frutescente; *Pentaphylloides floribunda* [*Potentilla fruticosa*]) grows. This is a very rare habitat type. The discovery occurred during surveys by the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC), funded by the Environmental Trust Fund to investigate the insect communities of calcareous fens and rich Appalachian hardwood forest - another rare habitat in NB. During these surveys Clayton's Copper was also found at a previously known population in a fen at Browns Mountain near Canterbury on July 21 (KB, JE, DS, RW).

**Bronze Coppers** (bronzé; *Lycaena hyllus*), which had been found in NB perhaps only 5 or 6 times in the past, turned up at a few sites this summer: at Marys Point on July 7 during surveys for the Canadian Wildlife Service (RW); Sackville Waterfowl Park on July 11 (JE) and on July 26 (DG); and at Cape Jourimain National Wildlife Area on July 31, during surveys by the ACCDC funded by the Wildlife Trust Fund (KB).

Plant and invertebrate surveys of Portage Island in Miramichi Bay by the ACCDC for the Canadian Wildlife Service turned up a new population of **Salt-marsh Coppers** (cuivre des marais salés; *Lycaena dospassosi*) on Aug. 3-6 (CR, SB, BW, WG). This is one of only two species of butterflies in Canada that strictly inhabits salt marshes, and it is found only in the Maritimes and the Gaspé. Another infrequently-seen eastern species that is closely associated with salt marshes, the **Short-tailed Swallowtail** (papillon queue-court; *Papilio brevicauda*), was also found at Portage Island by the ACCDC team.

Don Gibson found the very rare **Banded Hair-streak** (porte-queue du chêne; *Satyrrium calanus*) at Fredericton on July 12: the fifth consecutive year that he has found the species there. This species should be looked for near oaks, on which the larvae feed. A **Striped Hairstreak** (porte-queue à bandes brisées; *Satyrrium liparops*), another rare find, turned up in Jim Edsall's yard in Moncton on Aug. 2.



**Bog Fritillary** (*boloria des tourbières*; *Boloria eunomia*) were flying at a site south of Charlo on July 7 (JC). This is one of only two known sites for this boreal species in the province.

The rare **Silvery Checkerspot** (*damier argenté*; *Chlosyne nycteis*) was reported just once: Jim Edsall found six at Shediac Bridge on June 22.

A very unusual form of **White Admiral** (*amiral*; *Limenitis arthemis*) with no white markings was found in Fredericton on July 4, feeding on dog droppings with two typical White Admirals (DS, MS). There are two subspecies of White Admiral in eastern Canada. One is the white-marked subspecies (*Limenitis arthemis arthemis*) which occurs here in NB. The other is subspecies *Limenitis arthemis astyanax*, or **Red-spotted Purple**, which lacks white wing bands and is found across much of the eastern US and into southern Ontario. The Fredericton specimen closely resembles the *astyanax* subspecies, and is likely a genetic anomaly that is only rarely expressed here. It seems very unlikely that a Red-spotted Purple wandered into NB from a southern population.

A few years ago the **Little Wood Satyr** (*petite satyre des bois*; *Megisto cymela*) was known from only a few sites in NB, almost all of which were in the southwest of the province. They have been turning up with increasing frequency in recent years. Reports this summer were all from eastern NB, and included Pellerin on June 21 (DD); Shediac Bridge on June 22, where it was the most common of 15 species reported (JE); again at Shediac Bridge on June 27 (NP); Allardville on June 28 (JE, JiW, JeW); and Bouctouche on July 1, where it was abundant (Bouctouche Dune Butterfly Count).

**Jutta Arctics** (*nordique des tourbières*; *Oeneis jutta*) were once thought to be uncommon, but it appears that they are present in many peatlands throughout the province. The key is looking for them during their brief flight season in early summer. Jutta Arctics were reported from seven widely distributed sites this summer by numerous observers (DS, JC, JE, JeW, JiW, NP, SM, RW). Every now and then they must wander out of the bogs; Reggie Webster had a female Jutta Arctic flying around his lawn in Charter Settlement on June 11.

**Monarchs** (*monarque*; *Danaus plexippus*) were notable for their abundance last summer, but this year only one report was received: Ken MacIntosh found a single Monarch larva on Common Milkweed (*herbe à cotton*; *Asclepias syriaca*) at Taymouth on Aug. 2.

The locally rare **Roadside Skipper** (*hespérie violacée*; *Amblyscirtes vialis*) was reported twice: Shediac Bridge on June 22 (JE) and Allardville on June 28th (JE, JiW, JeW).

The Bouctouche Dune Butterfly Count occurred on July 1. This event has taken place annually since 1999 with the exception of two years when it was rained out. The counting group tallied 838 butterflies representing 27 species. Interestingly, the five most common species represented 2/3 (67%) of the counted butterflies. These were **Inornate Ringlet** (*satyre fauve*; *Coenonympha tullia inornata*) (254 counted); **Little Wood-Satyr** (*petite satyre des bois*; *Megisto cymela*) (105); **Harris' Checkerspot** (*damier de Harris*; *Chlosyne harrisii*) (87); **Silvery Blue** (*bleu argenté*; *Glaucopsyche lygdamus*) (66); and the **Dreamy Dusky-wing** (*hespérie givrée*; *Erynnis icelus*) (53). Butterfly counts are an interesting idea - it would be nice if it spread to other parts of the province.

Nelson Poirier's moth light attracted many interesting species this summer, many of which were reported on NatureNB. Among his many visitors were six **Luna Moths** (*papillon lune*; *Actias luna*) at Upper Blackville on June 10. This was the most Lunas he had ever seen in one spot, and must have been very impressive. Also attracted to the light that night were two **Cecropias** (*saturnie cécropia*; *Hyalophora cecropia*). Scott Makepeace found a Cecropia emerging from its cocoon in a thicket in an old field on the Grand Lake Meadows on June 4. This large and attractive species was also observed by Gilles Rioux in mid July in the Restigouche area. Another of our spectacular giant silk moths, the **Polyphemus** (*polyphème d'Amérique*; *Antheraea polyphemus*) was reported from Mactaquac on June 17 by John Rankin, and at Notre-Dame on July 14 by Brian Branch.

One of the few Lepidoptera reports from northwestern NB came from Benoit Clavette in Edmundston, who reported the rarest of our three Clearwing moths, the **Honeysuckle Clearwing** (*sphinx du chèvrefeuille*; *Hemaris diffinis*), on June 16. He also reported observing two **Virginia Ctenuchas** (*cténuche de Virginie*; *Ctenucha virginica*) on July 25 and a single **Whitemarked Tussock Moth** (*chenille à houppes blanche*; *Orgyia leucostigma intermedia*) on August 3.

On July 1 several **Common Spring Moths** (*Helimata cycladata*) were found in an area of old mine tailings near Minto (RW, VW, DS). This species has only been found here on a couple of occasions, both in the immediate area of Grand Lake. It is



probably not native to NB given that its larval host plant here is the exotic species Black Locust (robinier; *Robinia pseudoacacia*), whose natural range lies to our south.

The **Gold-spotted Ghost Moth** (*Sthenopsis auratus*) was found at the Bell Forest near Jackson Falls on July 13 during ACCDC insect surveys of rich Appalachian hardwood forest (KB, JE, RW). The larvae of this species bore into the roots of Ostrich Fern (matteuccie fougère-à-l'autruche; *Matteuccia struthiopteris*), and it has only been recorded in the province on two other occasions.

Jim Edsall and Ramsey Hart turned up two new moth species for New Brunswick during the ACCDC surveys - on the same day no less. In the early hours of Aug. 27 several **Bride Underwings** (*Catocala neogama*) were attracted to their moth light at the Bell Forest. This is a rather large and attractive species that feeds on **Butternut** (arbre à noix longue; *Juglans cinerea*). Later in the day they found a number of **Milkweed Tiger Moth** larvae (*Euchaetes egle*) in a patch of Milkweed near Woodstock.

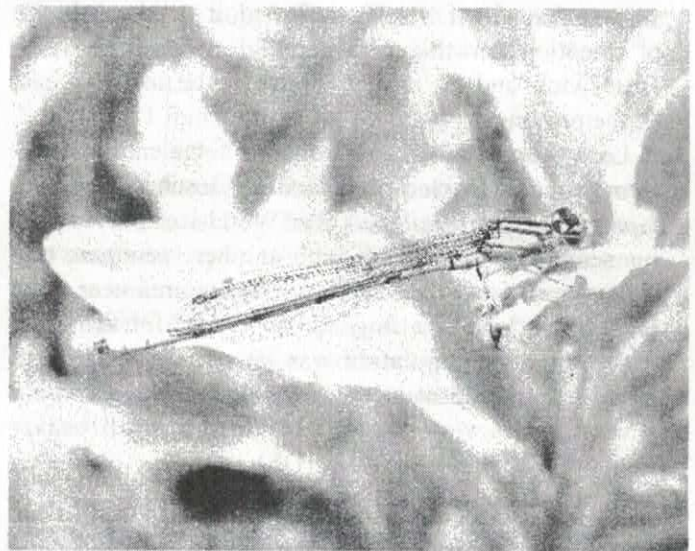
### Odonata (Damselflies and Dragonflies)

It was a strange year for odonates. Large numbers of adults present in early summer before the weather deteriorated, and many exuviae (the larval 'skins' left behind by emerging dragonflies and damselflies) were found throughout summer. It appeared that emergence was on time if not slightly early despite the weather, and the numbers emerging were about what would be expected. However, post-emergence mortality due to the cold wet weather must have been extreme, as it was very difficult to consistently locate many adults on the wing after mid-June. Despite that, a number of interesting finds were reported.

Two early reports described the huge numbers of dragonflies observed in some areas before the weather turned. On June 5, Scott Makepeace found tens of thousands of dragonflies, mostly **Whitefaces** (leucorrhine; *Leucorrhinia* sp.), Four-spotted Skimmers (la Quadrimaculée; *Libellula quadrimaculata*) and a few **Spiny Baskettails** (épithèque épineuse; *Tetragoneuria spinigera*) in a marsh near Jemseg. On June 8, Reggie Webster and I found a similar congregation of tens of thousands of dragonflies in and around a fen near First Eel Lake, consisting mostly of **Spiny Baskettails**, **Lancet Clubtails** (gomphe exilé; *Gomphus exilis*); **Chalk-fronted Corporals** (la Juli-

enne; *Libellula julia*) and a few **American Emeralds** (cordulie de Shurtleffer; *Cordulia shurtleffi*). At the latter site, the wing noise from foraging dragonflies became quite noticeable at times.

The **Azure Bluet** (*Agrion saupoudré*; *Enallagma aspersum*) was thought to be rare in the province, but experience this year indicates that survey timing may be partly responsible for the lack of records. During lake surveys in the Nerepis Hills on Aug. 29, Azure Bluets were the most common species on all four lakes visited (DS, VDG, JG). Despite the late date, they were actually emerging in large numbers, more than two months later than the typical emergence timing for other bluet species. Most survey activity for odonates occurs in June and July, so it is possible that this species has been overlooked in the past. Paul Brunelle also found Azure Bluets this summer in a bog lake near Plaster Rock in mid-August.



Azure Bluet  
Photo by Dwayne Sabine

On July 10 Scott Makepeace found **Tule Bluets** (agrion des scirpes; *Enallagma carunculatum*) at the mouth of the Nerepis River, just the 5<sup>th</sup> site for New Brunswick.

The **Eastern Red Damsel** (agrion rougeâtre; *Amphiagrion saucium*), one of our rarest and most stunning damselflies, was found at three new sites this year: at Minto on July 8 (MS); Charters Settlement on



July 17 (RW), and in the Killarney Lake area on July 22 (AWT). This species seems to prefer small trickles of cold water, and two of these sites were 'artificial' habitats: ditches channelling cold water from a well-overflow and from the bottom of a strip-mine pond. The addition of these sites brings the total number of known sites in NB to only 12.

A spectacular calcareous fen found near Shea Lake on August 20 by Paul Brunelle harboured three of our less-common Darner species: **Zigzag Darner** (aeschne à zigzags; *Aeshna sitchensis*), **Subarctic Darners** (aeschne subarctique; *Aeshna subarctica*), and **Green-striped Darner** (aeschne verticale; *Aeshna verticalis*). Paul was surveying in northern NB for the ACCDC, with the support of the Wildlife Trust Fund, to gather distributional data for the forthcoming atlas of Odonata in the Acadian region.

A probable **Sedge Darner** (aeschne des jones; *Aeshna juncea*) larva was found in a fen near Castaway on June 14 (DS). If confirmed, it will be only the 6<sup>th</sup> location for this rare subarctic species in New Brunswick, and the only record from the southern half of the province.

Last year, Kevin Craig found a female of the extremely rare **Harlequin Darner** (aeschne pygmée; *Gomphaeschna furcillata*) near Woodstock. This year his search effort paid off with another specimen, this time a male from the Magundy Stream area near Lake George on June 15 - only the 6<sup>th</sup> record for the province. Another population was later discovered 5 km away on June 22 at a large peatland complex, where several males were found patrolling a small beaver pond along the edge of a fen (DS).

Scott Makepeace followed up on his discovery in 2003 of **Lilypad Clubtails** (gomphe fourchu; *Arigomphus furcifer*) in Jemseg, a first NB record, with yet another site this year: Babbitts Meadow on July 1. However, credit for the second NB record goes to Reggie Webster, who found the species at the Portobello Creek National Wildlife Area just two days earlier on June 28, during surveys for the Canadian Wildlife Service.

The **Cobra Clubtail** (gomphe-cobra; *Gomphus vastus*), a stunning dragonfly that seems to be limited to the lower Saint John River in this province, was reported from several sites between the old Upper Gagetown Ferry and Jemseg on June 27 (GB). The even rarer and equally spectacular **Skillet Clubtail** (gomphe ventru; *Gomphus ventricosus*) was reported from several sites in the same area: a dozen or so at

Thatch Island on June 22 (SM), an equal number near Upper Gagetown on the same day (SM), a few at Portobello Creek on June 28 (RW), and at McGowans Corner on June 28 (RW).

Shadowdragons are named for their propensity to be active only near dawn and dusk. A group of **Broad-tailed Shadowdragons** (épithèque à queue large; *Neurocordulia michaeli*) was observed hunting over the Magaguadavic River at noon in bright sunshine on June 11 - an extremely unusual occurrence (DS). The **Umbur Shadowdragon** (épithèque cuivrée; *Neurocordulia obsoleta*) was newly reported for NB and Canada in 2002 based on the discovery of exuviae at several locations in the Fredericton area. However, exuviae are notoriously difficult to identify so it was comforting to see the species finally turn up this year in its unmistakable adult form, when Tony Thomas found a newly-emerged specimen along the Nashwaak River on June 18.

Reggie Webster's Portobello Creek National Wildlife Area surveys turned up the fourth provincial record of the **Mantled Baskettail** (*Tetragoneuria semiaquea*) on June 5.

David Makepeace, already a seasoned "dragon hunter" at age 7 with two years experience under his belt, had an exciting encounter with the rare **Delicate Emerald** (cordulie de Franklin; *Somatochlora franklini*) in his yard at Central Hampstead on June 13. His yard list is quite impressive, and largely a result of independent effort (with a little help with identification of course).

Jim Edsall made a great find on July 21 when he tallied NB's fifth record of the **Clamp-tipped Emerald** (cordulie ténébreuse; *Somatochlora tenebrosa*) near Browns Mountain during the ACCDC surveys.

The **Ebony Boghaunter** (cordulie bistrée; *Williamsonia fletcheri*) is one of NB's earliest-emerging species, and has been considered to be quite rare with only 7 sites known prior to this year. It appears possible that it may be reasonably common and widely distributed. Its habitat - sphagnum-lined pools - is quite common, as it has been found breeding in habitats ranging from pristine bog ponds to sphagnum-filled skidder ruts. The key is to survey those habitats before the flight season ends in late June. Five reports were received this year: near Minto on June 8 (AWT); Upper Gagetown on June 13 (SM); near Magundy on June 22 (DS); Jemseg on June 27 (GB); and a very late ovipositing female near Pokiok Stream on July 7 (DS, KC).



Eileen and Roy Pike reported the pretty little **Calico Pennant** (cé lithème indienne; *Celithemis elisa*) from a site near Pennfield on July 11.

The **Elfin Skimmer** (nanno thème d'elfe; *Nannothemis bella*), the tiniest dragonfly in North America, is another peatland inhabitant that was considered to be quite rare in NB until this year. Stu Tingley and Scott Makepeace each found a new site for the species in 2003, doubling the list of known NB sites to four! Their finds stimulated further searches, and Elfin Skimmers proved to be present in almost every peatland we searched from mid June to mid July. Nine new sites were found scattered between Plaster Rock and St. Stephen, with some populations numbering in the thousands (AWT, DS, KC, PMB, SM, RW).

### Coleoptera (Beetles)

The ACCDC surveys of Portage Island on Aug. 3-6 resulted in the discovery of a new beetle species for the province, and indeed for all of Atlantic Canada: the **Red-blue Checkered Beetle** (*Trichodes nutalli*), a member of the Clerid (Checkered Beetle) family (CR, SB, BW, WG).

Reggie Webster found a new species of Carabid beetle for the province at Mary's Point on July 7: *Cymindis limbatus*. Reggie's efforts to document the Carabidae fauna of NB have added many species to the provincial list over the past few years.

ACCDC surveys in the Bell Forest on July 13 resulted in the discovery of a small population of what appears to be *Sanfilippodytes pseudovilis*, a tiny Dytiscid (Predaceous Diving Beetle) found in cold springs and seeps (RW, KB, JE). If confirmed, it will be the first record for NB and the first record from east of the Ottawa River. It is definitely a new species for the province even if not *S. pseudovilis*, as none of the 11 Canadian species of *Sanfilippodytes* are currently known from NB.

Reggie Webster found his 5<sup>th</sup> population of *Acilius sylvanus*, another Dytiscid, at Portobello Stream on June 5. He first found this species in NB just last year, and all sites have been in the Grand Lake Meadows area thus far. It is not known from anywhere else in the Maritimes.

The first NB record for the **Locust Leafminer** (*Odontota dorsalis*), a Chrysomelid (Leaf Beetle) was recorded from Minto on July 1, in a stand of Black Locust on strip mine tailings (RW, VW, DS). This beetle is probably not native, but was likely either acciden-

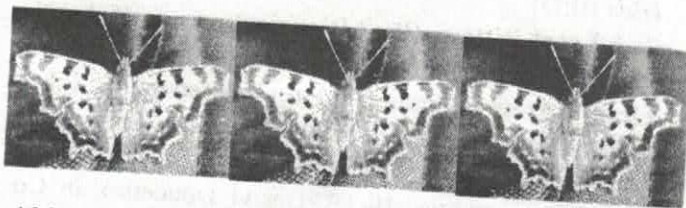
tally introduced or spread here on its own sometime after Black Locust was introduced to the province.

Extensive searches for the **Cobblestone Tiger Beetle** (*Cicindela marginipennis*) throughout Grand Lake and the Saint John River (funded by the Wildlife Trust Fund) resulted in the discovery of just two additional sites on Grand Lake (RW, DS, PG, VW, MG). This species, which was new to NB and to Canada when discovered at Grand Lake last year, may turn out to be one of the rarest insects in Canada.

### Miscellaneous species

Marie-Andrée Giguère found adults and larvae of a new species of mosquito for NB, *Aedes japonicus*, during mosquito surveys in the Fredericton area this summer. This is an introduced species (native to Asia) that has been spreading up along the east coast since its discovery in New York and New Jersey in 1998. There has been some conjecture that this may be the mosquito species that carried West Nile Virus to North America.

Finally, I found a tick on my pants on June 10 after walking through a field along the Nashwaak River. It was sent to Jim Goltz for identification, and proved to be an **American Dog Tick** (tique américaine du chien; *Dermacentor variabilis*). This species is quite common in southwestern Nova Scotia, where one quickly gets into the habit of stripping down for a "tick check" after spending any time outdoors in June. American Dog Ticks are very rarely encountered in NB; hopefully this does not change!



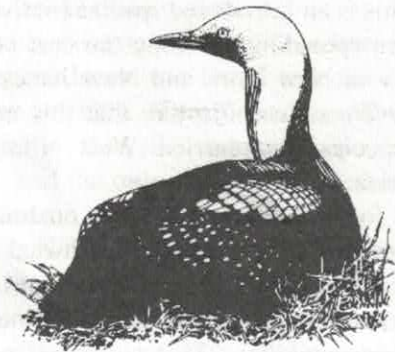
**Abbreviations:** AWT Tony Thomas, BW Becky Whittam, CR Carl Rothfels, DD Denis Doucette, DG Don Gibson, DS Dwayne Sabine, GB Gilles Belliveau, JC Jim Clifford, JE Jim Edsall, JG Jim Goltz, JeW Jean Wilson, JiW Jim Wilson, KB Kate Bredin, KC Kevin Craig, MG Mischa Giasson, MS Mary Sabine, NP Nelson Poirier, PG Pascal Giasson, PMB Paul M. Brunelle, RW Reggie Webster, SB Sean Blaney, SM Scott Makepeace, VDG Dedreic Grecian, VW Vincent Webster, WG William Godsoe



## Nature News – Birds; July 25 to Oct. 13

Pierrette Mercier

The strange weather this summer has brought some very interesting visitors in the province. I also notice a decrease in observation of many species of gulls, shorebirds and passerines. Mike Lushington also commented on an important decrease in the Tern population on the Restigouche and Bay of Chaleur. He notes that the colony in Dalhousie has disappeared and the one on Heron Island is in bad shape. However he did note and increase in second year Great Cormorants among the Double-crested on Bon Ami Rocks.



A **Pacific Loon** (Plongeon du Pacifique) was among some **Common Loons** (Plongeon huard) off Gull Cove, GMI (JGW and others).

Two **Cory's Shearwaters** (Puffin cendré) were spotted off the north end of Grand Manan on Aug 15 (*fide* BED).

A **Least Bittern** (Petit Blongios) was spotted at the Lars Larsen Marsh on Sept. 18 (MGD and others). **Great Egrets** (Grande Aigrette) were spotted at Inkerman marsh on July 27 (MD), at Quaco Marsh in St-Martins on Aug. 8 (Ted & Nancy Sears), on the Shediac River on Aug. 10-11 (Darryl Doucette), in Cocagne near the arena on Aug. 19 (Louis-Émile Cormier), in the Restigouche area on Aug. 30 (MGD), on the Madawaska River in Edmundston on Aug. 31 (JDB), at Indian Point on Aug. 31 (*fide* Tracey Dean), at Taylor's Island in Saint-John on Sept. 4 (Janet Whitehead), near Cap Bimet on Sept. 5 (SIT and others), at Cap Brûlé on Sept. 20 (Julie Pellerin).

A **Snowy Egret** (Aigrette neigeuse) was in front of Rick Hopkin's house in Pennfield at the end of July through mid August.

This late summer's big star was naturally the juvenile **Wood Stork** (Tantale d'Amérique) which was first spotted by Juliette and Jack Hickman on Aug. 7 at Musquash Marsh. The bird stuck around for a few days and was seen by many people and was even happy to pose for the paparazzi (CBC cameras). It is the first official report in 93 years for a Wood Stork in New Brunswick. It was last seen on Aug. 15.

Earlier this year, the American Ornithologists' Union newly recognized the smaller race (*Branta hutchinsii*) of the Canada Goose as a distinct species known as the **Cackling Goose** (Bernache de Hutchins). Frank Branch and Roland Robichaud spotted a small goose among other Canada Geese in Pokemouche on Oct. 5. It is very likely that this bird was indeed a Cackling Goose.

Reports of **Turkey Vultures** (Urubu à tête rouge): two at Riverside-Albert on July 23 (DSC), one in Lamèque on Aug. 1 (IA), ten over Hebron on Aug. 7 (Jim Blewett), two in Harvey on Aug. 21 (DSC), one in Rothesay on Sept. 20 (Hansons), four over Harvey on Sept. 24 (DSC, MM). The Turkey Vultures seem to have bred successfully near Saint-John this year as Ian Cameron spotted an immature Vulture circling over the nesting site on Aug. 26.

A **Coopers Hawk** (Epervier de Cooper) was spotted by Ivy Austin on Aug. 5. An immature Cooper's Hawk was on Grand Manan Island near the airport on Aug. 23 (JGW). Other Cooper's Hawks were reported on the Fundy Trail on Sept. 6 (MJC), and at North





Head on Oct. 6 (JGW). A **Golden Eagle** (*Aigle royal*) was flying over the Saint-John River between St-Leonard and Grand-Falls on Oct. 11 (RLA).

Bob and Sharon Blake had a couple of **Spruce Grouse** (*Tétra du Canada*) visit their yard in Second North River on Aug. 14. Five other Spruce Grouse were spotted on Route 16 between Chipman and Harcourt on Aug. 15 (NP).

There was an unconfirmed report of a **Yellow Rail** (*Râle jaune*) on Grand Manan on Aug. 2 (*fide* BED). A **Common Moorhen** (*Gallinule poule-d'eau*) was seen at the Lars Larson Pond on Sept. 8 (Nancy Sears & others).

Two **Upland Sandpipers** (*Maubèche des champs*) were observed near the Moncton airport July 30 (AC). MD counted 129 **Ruddy Turnstones** (*Tournepierré à collier*) at Malbaie Nord on Aug. 9 which is a single day record for that area. There was an unconfirmed report of a **Western Sandpiper** (*Bécasseau d'Alaska*) at Mary's Point on Aug. 26 (*fide* DSC). JGW and Rick Peacock saw a juvenile **Baird's Sandpiper** (*Bécasseau de Baird*) on Long Pond Beach, GMI on Aug. 27 and two were spotted on Aug. 29 (DG). Other Baird's Sandpiper were observed at Jones Lake in Moncton on Sept. 3 (SIT), and two at Malbaie Nord on Sept. 6 (MD). Several **Stilt Sandpipers** (*Bécasseau à échasses*) were reported: three on July 27 (MD) at Inkerman marsh, one at Jones Lake on Sept. 4 (SIT), three at Malbaie Nord on Sept. 18 (MD), one at the Irving Nature Park on Sept. 15 (MJC), two in Bayfield on Sept. 18 (RL), one in Memramcook on Oct. 6 (AC). A **Buff-Breasted Sandpiper** (*Bécasseau roussâtre*) was seen at Saint's Rest Marsh on Sept. 7 (SIT). Two **Long-Billed Dowitchers** (*Bécassin à long bec*) were identified by PAP on White Head Island on Aug. 28; other Long-Billed Dowitchers were three at the Sackville waterfowl park on Sept. 5 (SIT and others), one at the Dorchester sewage lagoon on Sept. 25 (RL), one at Jones Lake on Sept. 23 (SIT), one in Memramcook on Oct. 6 (AC). A pair of **Red-Necked Phalaropes** (*Phalarope à bec étroit*) were seen at the Dorchester penitentiary sewage lagoon on Aug. 28 (DG, *fide* Valmont Bourque). A **Wilson's Phalarope** (*Phalarope de Wilson*) was spotted at Cape Jourimain on Sept. 23 (Alex Bond).

Reports of the fall shorebird migration: DSC reports 30,000+ birds roosting at Mary's Point on Aug. 3 and 100,000 birds north of Grindstone Island on July 25. About 150,000 birds were at Johnson's Mills on Aug. 4 (RL).

DI reports a **Great Skua** (*Grand Labbe*) and a **South Polar Skua** (*Labbe de McCormick*) on a pelagic trip southeast of Gannet Rock on the Bay of Fundy on Sept. 1 & 2. Three **Little Gulls** (*Mouette pygmée*) were at the Tracadie sewage lagoon on Sept. 1 (IA and others). Five or six **Black-headed Gulls** (*Mouette rieuse*) were seen at Deer Island Point on Aug. 14 (*fide* BED). Another was at the Cap Brûlé sewage lagoon on Sept. 5 (SIT and others). PAP reports a dark-backed race of the **Lesser Black-Backed Gull** (*Goéland brun - Larus Fuscus intermedius*) on White Head Island on Sept. 16. The more commonly seen "graellsii" race Black-backed Gulls were seen on the Bay of Fundy on Sept. 1 (DI), one at Riverview on Sept. 4 (DSC). Two **Sabine's Gulls** (*Mouette de Sabine*) were seen on the St-John River in Fredericton on Aug. 23 (Gilles Belliveau), and another on Mactaquac Lake on Aug. 28 (BJS). **Caspian Terns** (*Sterne caspienne*) were seen at (2) Cape Tourmentine on Aug. 29, (MJC), one at Cape Jourimain on Sept. 4 (Ramsey Hart), at Johnson's Point on Sept. 5, 8 adults and 2 juvenile on Sept. 5 at Cape Tormentine (SIT and others), at the Irving Nature Park on Sept. 13 (MJC). A **Forster's Tern** (*Sterne de Forster*) was at Long Pond in mid-August (Bruce MacTavish, *fide* JGW).

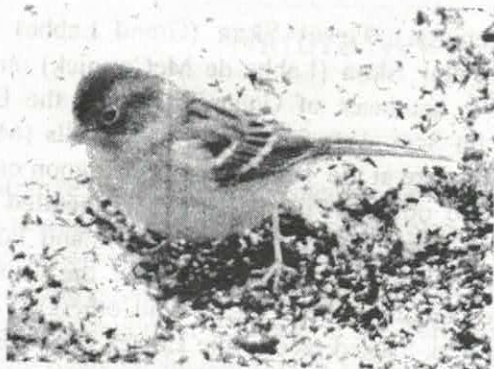
Jude Larocque identified a **White-winged Dove** (*Tourterelle à ailes blanches*) in Ste-Marie-St-Raphaël (Lamèque Island) on Aug. 4 (*fide* RD).

**Yellow-Billed Cuckoos** (*Coulicou à bec jaune*) were spotted on Grand Manan on Sept. 27 (MJC) and on Oct. 2 at Pette's Cove, at Swallowtail on Oct. 3, at the Marathon Inn on Oct. 5 (JGW and others).



Bairds Sandpiper  
Photo by J. S. Guénette





Field Sparrow  
Photo by Roy laPointe

Hilda Kennedy had a hypomelanistic **Ruby-Throated Hummingbird** (Colibri à gorge rubis) at her feeders in Moncton. There was an unconfirmed report of a **Rufous Hummingbird** (Colibri roux) at Long Pond on Grand Manan the first week of August (fide BED). There was another report of a Rufous Hummingbird on Sept. 10 & 11 in St-Andrews (fide JGW). This bird was photographed.

There was a **Red-Headed Woodpecker** (Pic à tête rouge) at Dark Harbour on Oct. 1 (BED). Other Red Headed Woodpeckers were seen by PAP (fide MJC) at Coleson Cove on Oct. 8, by JGW and others at Long-Eddy Point, GMI, by Jennifer Day-Elgee on Route 854 on Oct. 9, by Doreen Rossitter in her yard on Oct. 11..

BED spotted a very pale flycatcher at Southwest Head on Grand Manan on Sept. 23. It may have been an **Ash-throated Flycatcher** (Tyran à gorge cendrée) but Brian wasn't sure. Roland Robichaud reports a **Say's Phoebe** (Moucherolle à ventre roux) at Miscou on Sept. 25. There was a possible sighting of a **Western Kingbird** (Tyran de l'Ouest) at the Hazen Creek sewage lagoon on Sept. 24 (Ken MacIntosh). Another Western Kingbird was reported on Miscou Island on Sept. 25 (fide DSC).

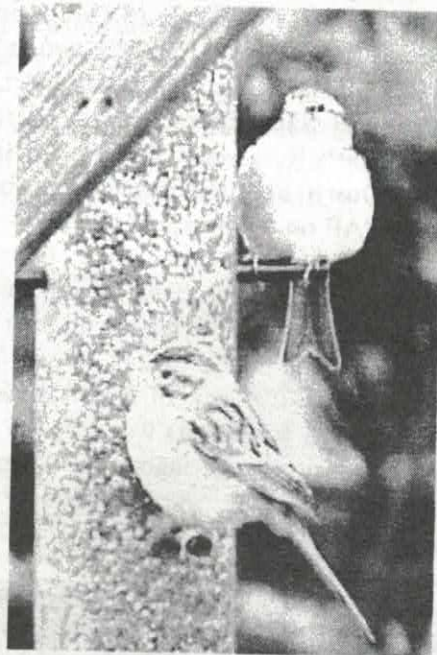
There is a report of a **Carolina Wren** (Troglodyte de Caroline) in Fredericton on Aug. 28 (Ruth Rogers) and another at North Head on GMI on Oct. 2 (JGW). A **House Wren** (Troglodyte familier) was reported, also at North Head on Oct. 2 (JGW and others).

**Blue-Gray Gnatcatchers** (Gobemouches gris-bleu) were seen on Aug. 22 and Sept. 7 in Saint-John (MJC), on Grand Manan in mid-Aug (fide JGW), at Kouchibouguac Park on Sept 5 (RL), at Cape Jourimain on Sept. 10 (Ramsey Hart), at Pat's Cove on GMI on Sept. 26 (MJC), at Deep Cove, GMI on Oct. 1

(SIT and others), at Bear's Den on GMI on Oct. 5 (Ron Steeves, Rick Peacock), at Lorneville on Oct. 7 (MJC), and at the PLBO on Oct. 12 (RB). The **Eastern Bluebirds** (Merle bleu de l'Est) fledged two young at Dale Haskin's this summer. Maureen Hopper counted a group of 16 Eastern Bluebirds at her home in Dawson Settlement on Sept. 7. BED caught a **Swainson's Thrush** (Grice à dos olive) at his banding station on Sept. 24 that was first banded there in 1999. This is the oldest bird Brian has ever caught.

A **Brown Thrasher** (Moqueur Roux) was on the Reversing Falls trail on Sept. 7 (MJC). Another was spotted in Edmundston on Sept. 12 (RLP and others).

A **Blue-Winged Warbler** (Paruline à ailes bleues) and a **Golden-Winged Warbler** (Paruline à ailes dorées) were spotted on Whistle road on GMI on Aug. 24 & 23 (JGW and others). **Orange-crowned Warblers** (Paruline verdâtre) were seen on Grand Manan on Sept. 27 (MJC) and Oct. 2 (Ron Steeves), two at Lorneville on Oct. 10 (MJC), and at the Irving Nature Park on Oct. 12 (MJC). **Yellow-Throated Warbler** (Paruline à gorge jaune) were seen at Net Point on GMI on Oct. 1 (Ron Steeves) and on Whistle Road on Oct. 2 (Peter Wilshaw). **Prairie Warblers** (Paruline des prés) were reported on Lorneville Rd on Aug. 22 (MJC), at the Hole-in-the-Wall Campground on GMI



Clay-coloured Sparrow with Chipping Sparrow  
Photo by Roy laPointe



on Aug. 23 (JGW), at Long Pond (fide JGW), at the PLBO on Sept. 22 (RB & BJS), four in the Saint-John area on Sept. 23 (MJC), two on Black Beach Rd in Lorneville on Oct. 4 (MJC), near Gull Cove, GMI on Oct. 4 (JGW and others), at the Irving Nature Park on Oct. 12 (MJC). MJC reports a western subspecies of the **Palm Warbler** (Paruline à couronne rousse) at Red Head on Oct. 4. A male **Kentucky Warbler** (Paruline du Kentucky) was briefly observed by Ken Edwards Jr on Whistle Road on GMI (fide BED). A **Hooded Warbler** (Paruline à capuchon) was identified by a tourist from Ontario at Great Pond on GMI on Aug. 28 (fide SIT). A **Yellow-breasted Chat** (Paruline polyglotte) was caught at the banding station in St. Andrews on Sept. 25 (TD). Other Y-B Chats were reported on Grand Manan on Sept. 28 & Oct. 1 (MJC & JGW).

A **Blue Grosbeak** (Guiraca bleu) was seen at Net Point on GMI on Oct. 1 (JGW). An **Indigo Bunting** (Passerin indigo) was seen on GMI on Aug. 26 (JGW), and on Sept. 30 (SIT). A **Dickcissel** (Dickcissel d'Amérique) was also seen on GMI on Aug 23 (JGW), and five more were seen on GMI from Oct. 3-5 (JGW and others). Another Dickcissel was seen at the PLBO on Oct. 9 (Gilles Belliveau).

Two **Rufous-sided Towhees** (Tohi à flanc roux) were on Black Beach Rd in Lorneville on Oct. 4 and one was seen on the Quaco Lighthouse Road in Lorneville on Oct. 10 (MJC). Three **Clay-coloured Sparrows** (Bruant des plaines) were seen in Fredericton on Sept. 24 (MJC) and one was at Southern Head on GMI (JGW and others). A **Field Sparrow** (Bruant des champs) was spotted on July 25 off Waasis Road in Oromocto (BJS) and another was seen at Coleson Cove on Oct. 9 (MJC). PAP reported a **Lark Sparrow** (Bruant à joues marron) on White Head Island on Aug. 10. Other Lark Sparrows were seen on Machias Seal Island around Aug. 8 (still present on Aug. 19 - DI), on the Old Airport road on GMI on Sept. 17 (fide Laurie Murison), in Harvey on Sept. 24 (DSC, MM), at Eel Brook on GMI on Sept. 30 (SIT and others), and at Pettes Cove on GMI on Oct 1 (Elsie Gallant). There was a **Lapland Longspur** (Bruant Lapon) among a flock of sandpipers at Saint's Rest Marsh on Sept. 30 (DG).

There was an unconfirmed report of a **Yellow-Headed Blackbird** (Carouge à tête Jaune) on Grand Manan around Sept. 4. (fide BED).

En fin d'été la rareté la plus célèbre était certainement la **Tantale D'Amérique** qui été observée par personne au marais de Musquash dans la région de St-Jean en début août.

Une **Grande Aigrette** a été observée au Marais d'Inkerman le 27 juillet (MD), et une autre sur la rivière Madawaska à Edmundston (JDB).

Le 5 oct., Frank Branch et Roland Robichaud ont aperçu une petite bernache à Pokemouche et il est fortement possible que cette oiseau était une **Bernache de Hutchins**, une espèce nouvellement reconnu par le American Ornithologists' Union.

Un **Urubu à tête rouge** a été vu au vol au dessus de Lamèque le 1 août (IA).

Marcel David a compté 129 **Tounepierres à collier** le 9 août à Malbaie Nord. Ceci est un record dans la région. Deux **Bécasseaux de Baird** étaient à Malbaie Nord le 6 sept. (MD). Marcel rapporte aussi des **Bécasseaux à échasses**: 3 le 27 juillet au marais d'Inkerman et 4 à Malbaie Nord le 25 sept. Un **Bécasseau à long Bec** se trouvait à l'étang d'épuration de Dorchester le 25 sept (RL). Deux **Phalaropes à bec étroit** étaient à la lagune du pénitencier de Dorchester le 28 août (BG fide Valmond Bourque).

Trois **Mouettes pygmées** ont été observées sur l'étang d'épuration de Tracadie le 1 sept (IA et autres).

Une **Épervier de Cooper** a été observer par IA le 5 août.

Roland Robichaud a observé une Moucherolle à ventre roux à Miscou le 25 sept.

Jude Larocque a identifié une Tourterelle à ailes blanches le 4 août à Ste-Marie-St-Raphaël (fide RD).

Un Gobe-moucheron gris-bleu a été observé au Parc Kouchibouguac le 5 sept. (RL).

Un Moqueur roux a été observé à Edmundston le 12 sept (RLP).

Abbreviations : AC – Alain Clavette, BED – Brian Dalzell, BJS – Bev Schneider, DG – Don Gibson, DI (Durlan Ingersoll), DSC – David Christie, GMI – Grand Manan Island, IA – Ivy Austin, JDB – J. Denys Bourque, JGW – Jim Wilson, MGD – Margaret Gallant-Doyle, MJC – Merc Cormier, MD – Marcel David, MM – Mary Majka, NP – Nelson Poirier, PAP – Peter Pearce, PLBO – Point Lepreau Bird Observatory, RB – Richard Blacquièrre, RD – Roger Dumaresq, RL – Roger LeBlanc, RLP – Roy LaPointe, SIT – Stu Tingley, TD – Tracey Dean



## Nature News – References / Info Nature – Références

Nature News relies on NBFN members to report their various nature finds. The following people work as a team to ensure that this section is as complete as possible. Please send your observations to the appropriate compiler.

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### Birds / Oiseaux

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