

Wintering West –
Harlequin Duck, from the
2005 Wildlife Habitat Canada
Duck Stamp Series
Artist: W. Allan Hancock,
Courtney, British Columbia

Canadian HabitatMatters



Harlequin ducks occur in two North American populations, inhabiting mountainous streams on the Pacific and Atlantic sides of the continent. They are also found in eastern Asia, Greenland and Iceland. In North America, the Pacific population probably numbers over 200,000 while in the Atlantic, although increasing, they remain a species of special concern.

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Canada is a land of vast distances, rich natural resources and valuable wildlife habitat. The second largest country in the world, Canada boasts 25 percent of the earth's wetlands and provides refuge to 310 breeding bird species. Wetlands are among the country's most valued natural resources. According to Statistics Canada, Canadian wetlands provide the world with approximately \$1.6 trillion CDN annually in critical environmental services, such as climate control and water conservation. Nearly 10 percent of Canada's wetlands are registered under the Ramsar Convention as wetlands of international significance, totalling 37 different sites. The protection of these wetlands and the migratory birds that depend upon them, is the foundation of migratory bird conservation in Canada.

Like clockwork each spring and fall, most of the continent's birds migrate in swarms of thousands following a complex continental cycle, returning to critical wetlands, grasslands and forests. These seasons of transition when the sky fills with birds are impressed upon the Canadian psyche. Consequently, migratory birds and their wetland habitats have

become an integral part of the Canadian identity and economy. Statistics Canada estimates that Canadians spent over \$1.3 billion CDN on wildlife watching and another \$180 million CDN on bird hunting activities in 1996 alone.

North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) partners have long recognized the essential connection between wetland habitat and migratory bird conservation. The NAWMP partnership between Canada, the United States and Mexico began in 1986 as a concerted attempt to conserve the continent's waterfowl. Although highly successful, species of waterfowl such as lesser scaup and white-winged scoter are still declining. Other populations like the northern pintail, though stable, remain well below NAWMP goals, while the status of several sea duck species is uncertain. To reverse these trends, NAWMP partners constantly seek to improve their management approaches by depending upon sound science, landscape planning, strong partnerships, and most importantly, continued funding through Canadian and U.S. sources.

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North American Waterfowl
Management Plan
Plan nord-américain de
gestion de la sauvagine
Plan de Manejo de Aves
Acuáticas Norteamérica



National Overview

Terminology

Securement:

Protection of habitat through land title transfer, binding long-term conservation agreements or restrictive covenants.

Enhancement:

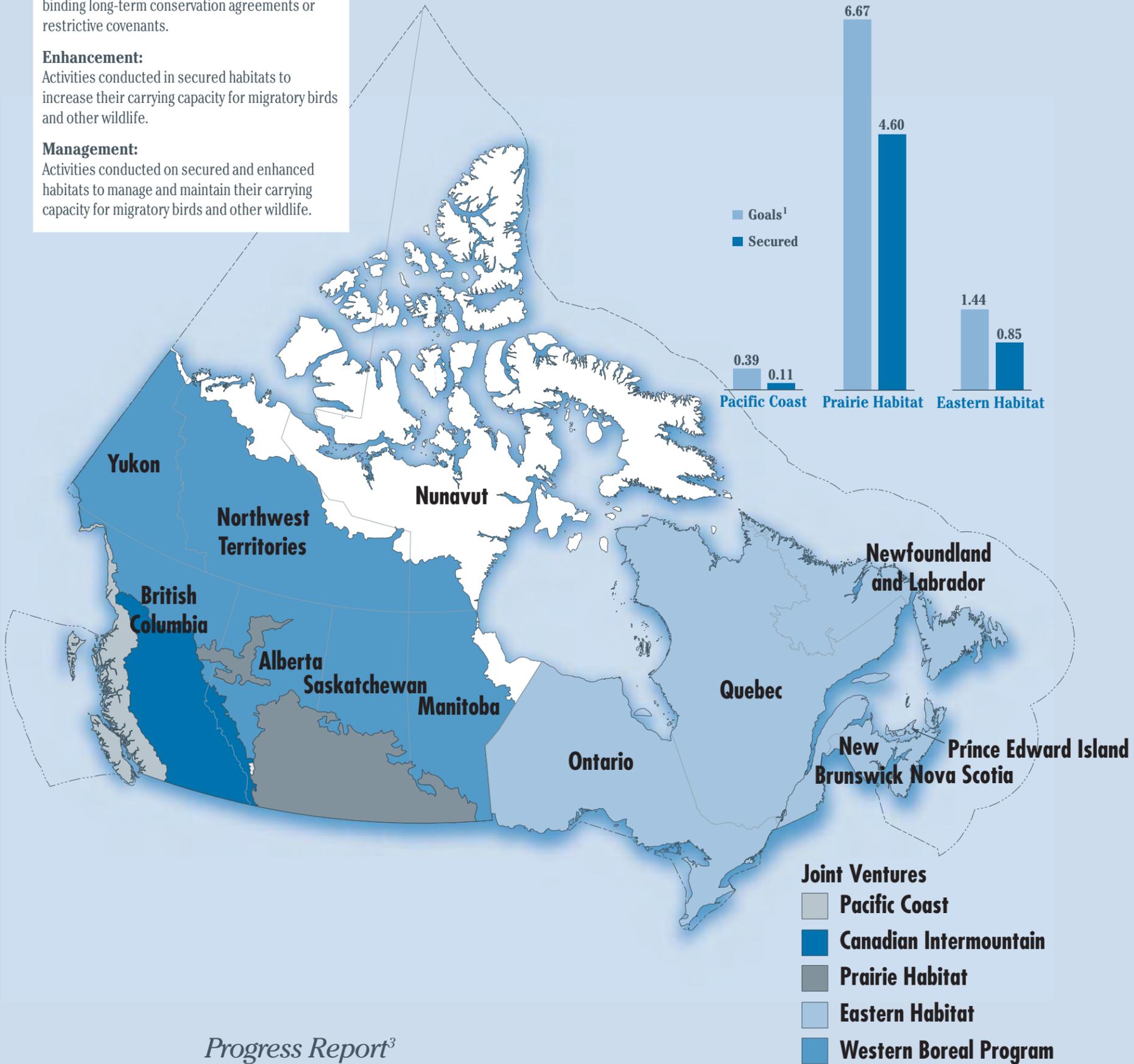
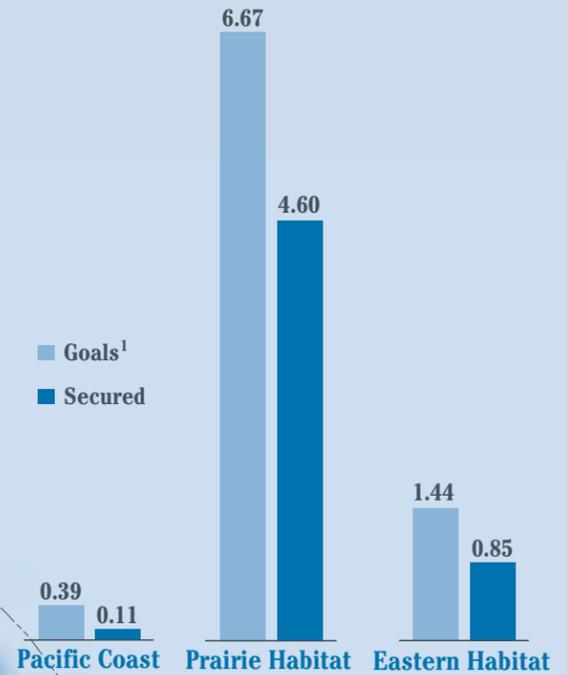
Activities conducted in secured habitats to increase their carrying capacity for migratory birds and other wildlife.

Management:

Activities conducted on secured and enhanced habitats to manage and maintain their carrying capacity for migratory birds and other wildlife.

NAWMP and NAWCA-funded Habitat Conserved

(Million Acres) – 1986 to 2004



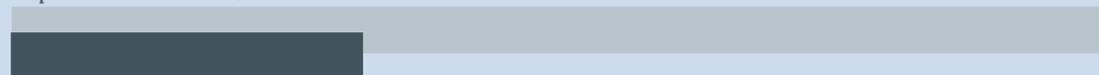
Progress Report³

Accomplishment Goal = 8.5M secured acres¹



Achieved: 5.6M acres (65%)

Expenditure Goal = \$Cdn. 3.1B^{1,2}



To date: \$Cdn. 0.98B (32%)

1. These goals are under revision as per the 2004 NAWMP Update.
 2. Based on \$Cdn. = \$U.S. 0.80.
 3. Data includes PHJV, PCJV and EHJV only.

To date, \$1.1 billion CDN has been contributed to conserve 2.3 million hectares (5.6 million acres) in Canada.

continued from cover

The funding of wetland habitat conservation projects is essential to the Canadian NAWMP program. The *North American Wetlands Conservation Act* came into effect in 1989, enabling millions of dollars to flow to Canada to help facilitate waterfowl conservation. These funds are matched and leveraged by U.S. non-federal sources, as well as Canadian federal, provincial and nongovernmental organizations and administered through the North American Wetlands Conservation Council (Canada) Secretariat. To date, \$1.1 billion CDN has been contributed to conserve 2.3 million hectares (5.6 million acres) in Canada.

In 2004, Pacific Coast Joint Venture (PCJV) partners on both sides of the Canadian and U.S. border developed a mechanism for ranking estuaries based on PCJV habitat and migratory bird priorities. In central British Columbia, the Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture is setting a significant precedent as the first all-bird joint venture with diverse partnerships ranging from hydro companies to local rod and gun clubs. The Prairie Habitat Joint Venture continues its

stewardship for one of the most important migratory bird breeding grounds on the continent, focussing its conservation efforts on wetland and grassland protection. The Eastern Habitat Joint Venture partners are delving into new territory, making international Bird Conservation Region planning a priority. The Western Boreal Program has been instrumental in advancing the Edézhíe Candidate Protected Area of about 2.5 million hectares (6.1 million acres).

On a national level, significant new initiatives are in place that will contribute to the long-term success of Canada's conservation program. The emerging Canadian Wetland Inventory will result in the first comprehensive national inventory of Canada's wetlands, and the basis for future monitoring of wetland trends. Its goal is to achieve consistent and reliable wetland monitoring that will support indicator development for migratory bird and species at risk habitat conservation, watershed management, climate change impact assessment and a host of other applications.

Canada's Agricultural Policy Framework (APF) is being implemented with Environment Canada leading the 4-year National Agri-Environmental Standards Initiative, designed to become the key environmental target-setting mechanism within the APF. Environment Canada's Canadian Wildlife Service will play a key role on the steering committee of the National Agricultural Land Strategy, a cornerstone in setting agricultural policies of the future.

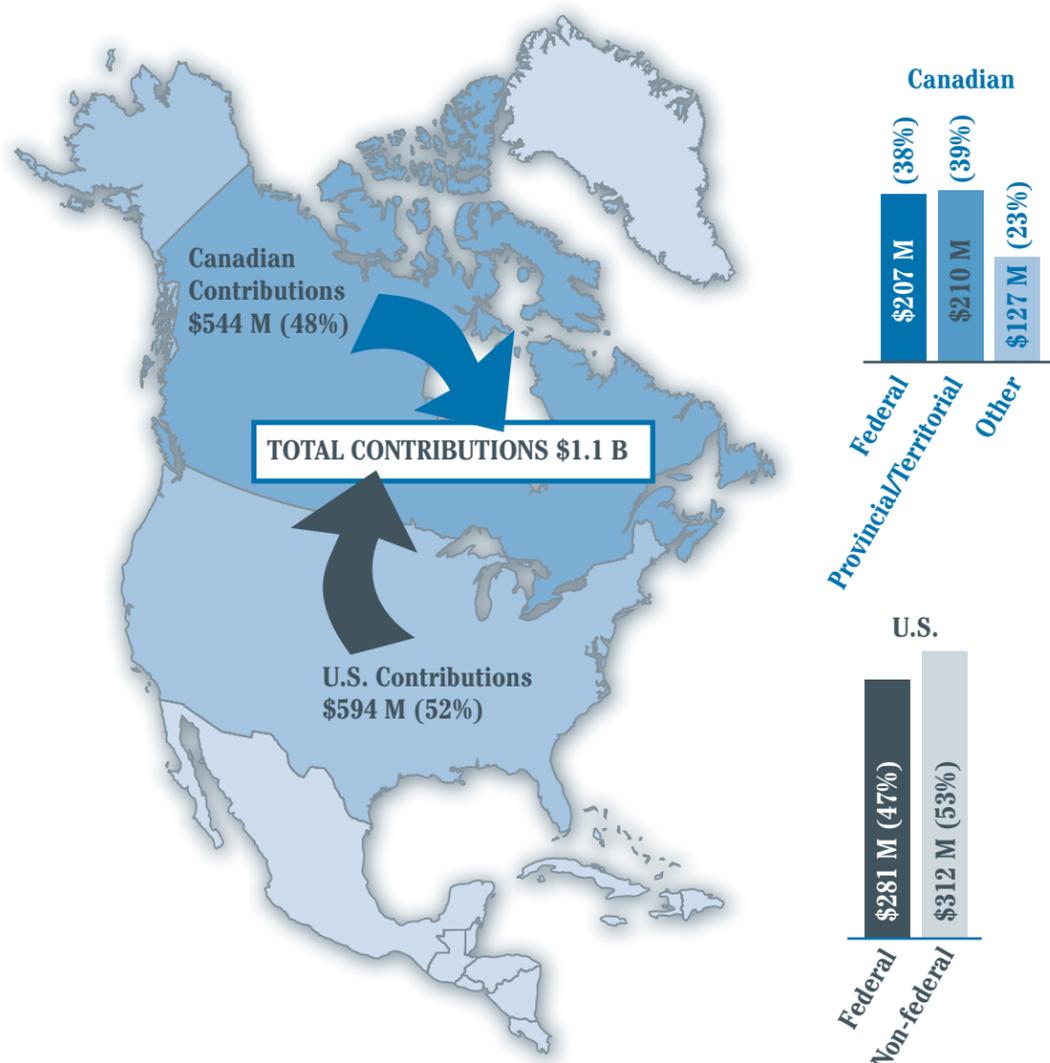
Additionally, Canadian Parliament is now considering legislation to address the problem of "Birds Oiled at Sea". Bill C-15 proposes to amend the *Migratory Birds Convention Act, 1994* and the *Canadian Environmental Protection Act, 1999* to ensure this legislation can be effectively enforced when ships discharge oily waste. Enforcement to the limits of Canada's Exclusive Economic Zone at the 200-nautical mile limit is proposed. Currently, it is estimated that 300,000 sea birds are killed annually by illegal discharge of contaminated bilge water off the Atlantic coast alone.

The emerging Canadian Wetland Inventory will result in the first comprehensive national inventory of Canada's wetlands, and the basis for future monitoring of wetland trends.

These national initiatives are a tremendous asset to the habitat conservation efforts of NAWMP and the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI). In the face of environmental challenges such as air pollution, acid rain, habitat fragmentation, contamination of waters and resource development pressures, NAWMP and NABCI partnerships continue to find inventive ways to ensure conservation success through sound science, landscape planning and partnership diversity.

This report highlights Canada's many conservation accomplishments and challenges in 2004. The continued support from the *North American Wetlands Conservation Act* and other U.S. and Canadian funding partners is essential for the success of migratory bird conservation in North America. We appreciate the efforts of all our partners and credit the thousands of individuals and organizations for helping to achieve our international conservation goals.

Total NAWMP and NAWCA Contributions to Canada 1986 to 2004 (\$Cdn.)



Habitat Joint Ventures



The Jefferson Moraine Project, pictured with the eastern slopes of the Rocky Mountains in the background, was the site for the July, 2004, U.S. and Canada North American Wetlands Conservation Council tour. The project, led by Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Nature Conservancy of Canada, exemplifies the land management treatments needed to restore pintail breeding habitat in southern Alberta.

D. Bowes

Prairie Habitat Joint Venture

While significant gains have been made through the PHJV program, partners continue to face challenges on the Canadian prairie landscape. Habitat programs are being adjusted and a range of opportunities are being explored.

A high priority for the Prairie Habitat Joint Venture (PHJV) has been to update its vision, mission and goals. Consequently, greater emphasis is now being placed upon large-scale landscape initiatives in prairie Canada. The new PHJV vision “*healthy prairie, parkland and boreal landscapes that support sustainable ecological and economic benefits for society*” recognizes the eminent role that natural resource conservation must play in achieving social, economic and ecological sustainability in the northern great plains.

Based on its strategic planning effort, the PHJV Board is finalizing new priorities and strategies. Part of the process has included two closely linked forums on science and policy. Experts from Canada and the United States were invited to the forums to address science and policy issues that are inherent to realizing the PHJV vision. Enhancing the interdependence between science and policy will facilitate greater understanding of the biological foundations driving issues such as climate change. As well, recently completed accomplishment, goal and landscape condition reports have helped the PHJV Waterfowl Working Group and other joint venture bird groups to develop habitat and population goals for the next 5-year period. From that, partners will create specific objectives and produce new North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) implementation plans.

In the next few years, PHJV partners will focus on thwarting the further loss of wetlands and native upland habitats, especially grasslands. Restoration of lost wetlands, in particular small wetland basins, will also be a priority. More effort will be devoted to increasing functional upland habitat for bird populations. This will be achieved through targeted and integrated landscape management that includes watershed planning.

Partnerships continue to be indispensable to the PHJV. Even more effort will be directed toward improving these strategic alliances. In particular, stronger ties with the broader agriculture and forestry community, as well as industry, will be needed to significantly influence the Canadian prairie landscape. The PHJV partnerships with the Prairie Pothole Joint Venture, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, state and

U.S. nongovernmental agencies, have always been fundamental to North America’s great plains breeding grounds. PHJV partners hope to further strengthen these ties to ensure even more progress towards achieving continental NAWMP goals.

... stronger ties with the broader agriculture and forestry community, as well as industry, will be needed to significantly influence the Canadian prairie landscape.

Contact Deanna Dixon, Prairie Habitat Joint Venture Coordinator, (780) 951-8652, deanna.dixon@ec.gc.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	17,594,985	196,291,040
U.S. Non-Federal	15,206,992	212,235,597
Canadian	15,643,648	219,045,491
Total	48,445,625	627,572,128

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	187,172	4,602,212
Enhanced	46,252	1,745,887
Managed	125,451	3,498,799
Total*	187,172	4,602,212

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

The boreal forest wraps around the entire northern hemisphere and makes up 11 percent of the planet's total surface area. It is home to 5 billion birds that migrate north to breed after wintering in warmer climates. In only a few acres of mixed boreal forest, up to 600 breeding pairs of birds can be found.

Ducks Unlimited Canada/
Wolitski



Western Boreal Program

It has been 8 years since Canadian and U.S. partners first joined forces to promote wetland and waterfowl conservation in the Western Boreal Forest. The core partnership between Ducks Unlimited Canada, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., the Canadian Boreal Initiative, Pew Charitable Trusts, Canadian Wildlife Service (CWS) and the *North American Wetlands Conservation Act*, has gained momentum. Now dozens of partners from forestry companies to private landowners to government departments are leading Canada's Western Boreal Program.

According to data compiled by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) and CWS spring breeding survey, the Western Boreal Forest, which extends from Alaska to western Ontario, is the second most important breeding area for waterfowl in North America. On average, 40 percent of the waterfowl breeding populations counted in the traditional USFWS and CWS survey area of the western part of North America occur in this vast forested region north of the prairies.

... without the financial resources provided by partners such as Aboriginal, provincial and federal governments, industry and foundations, this program would not succeed.

Partners have identified several key waterfowl areas that need protection or enhanced environmental practices by industry in order to ensure their sustainability and that of waterfowl in these regions. For example, in 2003, the Western Boreal Program was instrumental in advancing the Edézhíe Candidate Protected Area (Horn River Plateau/Mills Lake) to interim protection through the Northwest Territories Protected Areas Strategy. Edézhíe encompasses about 2.5 million hectares (6.1 million acres) including Mills Lake, the Horn River Delta and hundreds of smaller wetlands. It is vital to the continent's waterfowl populations. Meanwhile, south of the 60th parallel in what is often referred to as the "working forest" in British Columbia, Alberta, Saskatchewan and Manitoba, partnerships with industry and governments promote new beneficial management practices and sustainable resource activities around wetland habitat.

Partnerships are the cornerstones on which this program has been built. Protected areas will not move ahead in the northern boreal without Aboriginal communities and governments. Conservation of wetlands in the working forest cannot move forward in the southern boreal without industry and governments. Without the financial resources provided by partners such as Aboriginal, provincial and federal governments, industry and foundations, this program would not succeed. It is this partner dedication to conservation that will sustain the "other duck factory" in North America's Boreal Forest.

Contact Gary Stewart, Manager of Boreal Conservation Programs, Ducks Unlimited Canada, (780) 489-8110, g_stewart@ducks.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	2,138,602	7,347,004
U.S. Non-Federal	5,485,843	14,439,976
Canadian	3,058,137	23,399,538
Total	10,682,582	45,186,518

Accomplishments (Acres)*

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	—	6,227,214
Enhanced	—	—
Managed	—	214
Total*	—	6,227,214

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Background Image:

Pintails

Ducks Unlimited Canada

Eastern Habitat Joint Venture

Coastal habitats from the tip of Florida to the Canadian north are covered by the Eastern Habitat and Atlantic Coast Joint Ventures (ACJV). These habitats are crucial for a wide range of species, particularly waterfowl, that mainly breed in Canada and winter in the United States. The Delaware Bay area provides critical spring staging habitat for shorebirds as they migrate to Canadian breeding grounds, while the Bay of Fundy provides critical fall staging habitat to many of these same birds as they return to their winter homes. The needs of migratory birds make it natural to formalize these partnerships.

The designation of Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) throughout North America associated with the North American Bird Conservation Initiative (NABCI) has created the opportunity to expand existing partnerships as well as create new ones. Within the boundaries of the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) lie three cross-border BCRs (BCR 12, 13 and 14). To properly plan and manage these areas, Canada and the United States formed international BCR planning groups. For BCR 13, this included members of the ACJV, Upper Great Lakes Lower Mississippi Joint Venture and the EHJV. BCR 14 included both the ACJV and the EHJV, while BCR 12 has yet to be tackled.

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To properly address all needs from the national to the regional levels meant that there had to be a broad partnership sitting at the table. Membership included representatives from federal governments, state and provincial governments, nongovernmental organizations and academia. Meetings were pivotal in developing management plans for these cross border BCRs, fostering new relationships far beyond what was needed for each BCR. They provided the opportunity for individuals and groups to meet and discuss international bird conservation issues.

One highlight was the creation of cooperative habitat conservation projects, such as the South River Conservation Project in the Richelieu River-Lake Champlain corridor in Quebec. This is a priority area for both the EHJV and the ACJV. Funding is jointly provided by Canadian and U.S. partners with delivery under the leadership of Ducks Unlimited Canada in Quebec.

In July of 2005, the ACJV is hosting a joint EHJV/ACJV Management Board meeting where habitat issues in the adjoining BCRs, as well as other issues, will be discussed. This meeting will be the first time that the two joint venture boards have met collectively. It promises to be the beginning of a new cross-border working partnership.

Contact Reg Melanson, Eastern Habitat Joint Venture Coordinator, (506) 364-5036, reginald.melanson@ec.gc.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	5,804,860	51,924,864
U.S. Non-Federal	4,831,527	54,011,333
Canadian	5,528,610	136,687,097
Total	16,164,997	242,623,294

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	13,848	847,238
Enhanced	4,672	498,842
Managed	4,482	511,185
Total*	13,848	847,238

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.



Pacific Coast Joint Venture

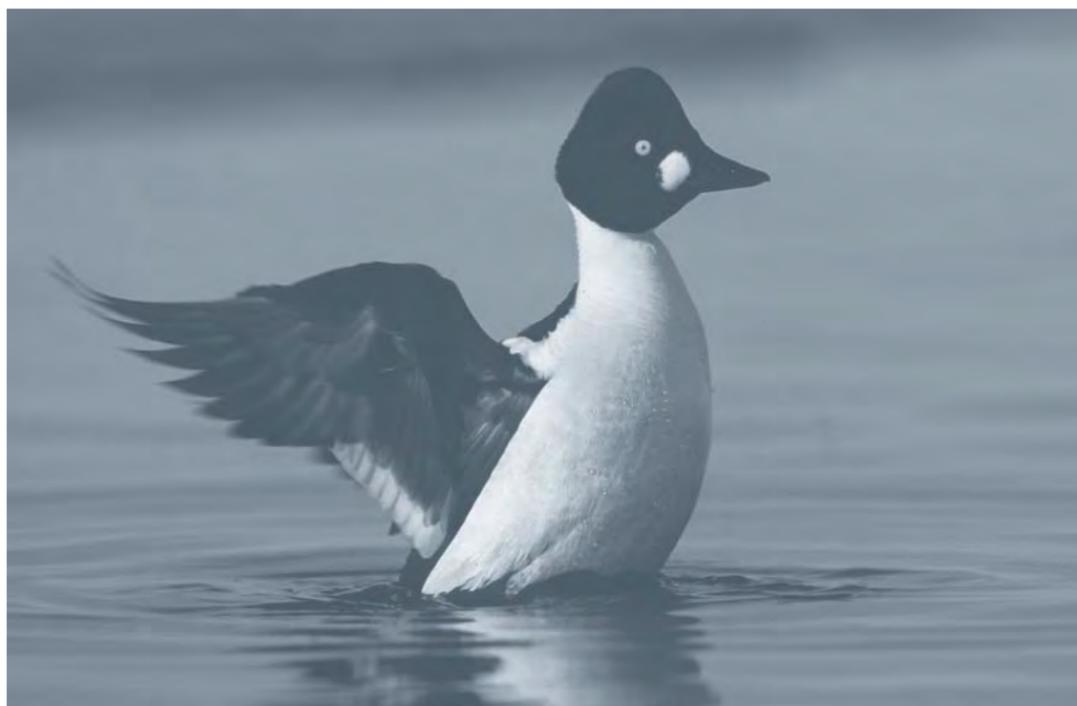
The biologically productive and diverse estuary habitat of the Pacific Coast has long been a conservation priority for the Pacific Coast Joint Venture (PCJV). In British Columbia, estuary habitat comprises less than 3 percent of the coastline, but supports a variety of species including marine and terrestrial mammals, waterbirds, fish, invertebrates and salt-tolerant plants. Hundreds of thousands of resident and migratory birds winter or stage here during spring and fall migration. These species depend on these habitats and near shore organisms for survival.

Despite their importance and rarity, current estimates indicate that over 50 percent of British Columbia's estuaries are threatened by coastal development, modification and pollution. Conserving biologically important areas under increasing development pressure requires the achievement of two long-term goals: a) an objective, landscape-level scientific assessment to identify the most important areas for sustaining populations; and b) timely and efficient allocation of resources to conserve habitat.

In response to these needs, from 2001 to 2004 an initiative to identify, map and prioritize estuaries for conservation was undertaken by Ducks Unlimited Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Service, with support from PCJV partners. This effort was intended to update and build upon previous work that guided earlier conservation activities. At the landscape level,

Common goldeneye, or "whistlers" as they are known in eastern Canada, are a favoured diving duck by hunters and bird watchers alike. An extensive nest box program for "whistlers" has been established on New Brunswick's Saint John River floodplain.

Ducks Unlimited Canada





Kingcome River Estuary is one of the largest estuaries within the Pacific Ranges ecoregion along British Columbia's central coast. It is highly ranked owing to its large size, habitat diversity and species abundance. To date, over 810 hectares have been secured by PCJV partners.

André Breault,
Canadian Wildlife Service

442 estuaries were located and mapped according to standardized criteria, using geographic information system tools. In April 2004, the complete set of estuary maps and attributes were released to stakeholders.

Concurrent with this initiative, several spatially explicit biophysical data sets for coastal British Columbia were located, reviewed and collated. Existing data from these were overlaid on the estuary maps and attributes that overlapped each estuary were extracted and analyzed. From these analyses, each estuary was assigned a conservation ranking based on its individual contribution to provincial totals for the following categories: size, habitat composition, vegetation characteristics, waterbird abundance and herring spawn. Estuaries with the highest biological and physical values were identified from this process. Additionally, areas with missing data were flagged for future monitoring.

For PCJV planning, estuary ranking helps joint venture partners target resources toward prominent habitats for migratory bird populations that use estuaries on both sides of the border. A decision-making framework that integrates both landscape and biological information will serve as a useful model for prioritizing estuaries and other habitats for conservation action across the PCJV planning region. Such assessments also strengthen the landscape and biological foundations for decision-making in accordance with PCJV and North American Waterfowl Management Plan goals.

Contact Saul Schneider, Pacific Joint Venture Coordinator, (604) 666-2342, saul.schneider@ec.gc.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	1,541,244	17,244,657
U.S. Non-Federal	1,080,897	17,939,251
Canadian	80,686,034	123,454,145
Total	83,308,175	158,638,054

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	6,985	106,943
Enhanced	1,482	88,446
Managed	1,482	84,698
Total*	6,985	106,943

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture

The Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture (CIJV) is advancing habitat conservation efforts in British Columbia's Intermountain Region. One of the CIJV's priority areas is the Upper Columbia River Valley.

Extending 180 kilometres (112 miles) in length, the Valley is nestled in the Rocky Mountain Trench, between the Rocky and Purcell Mountains. It forms one of the longest contiguous wetland complexes in North America. The wetlands and grasslands that carpet the valley bottom are life-sustaining refuges for hundreds of thousands of migratory birds.

In spite of the apparent natural beauty of the Valley, numerous threats lurk in its midst. The Upper Columbia is the only portion (less than 10 percent) of the Columbia River system not directly impacted by hydroelectric impoundments. A history of fire suppression has generated the encroachment of forests into grasslands, while timber harvesting and urban development have imperilled wetlands and other habitat.

Since much of the Valley is privately owned, landowners are some of the CIJV's most important partners. The Nature Conservancy of Canada, in cooperation with the Province of B.C. Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, the Columbia Basin Trust, and other organizations and individuals, has secured over 2,000 hectares (5,138 acres) through acquisition and covenant of Thunderhill Ranch, Kootenay River Ranch and a private property adjacent to Kootenay River Ranch. These ranches, located near the Columbia River headwaters, are prime wetland and riparian habitat with open upland bench and forested bench habitat. Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine forests, savannah and woodlands with spruce forests in wetter areas, make the landscape ideal for warbler, waterfowl and shorebird species.



Douglas fir and Ponderosa pine forests, savannah and woodlands with spruce forests in wetter areas make the landscape ideal for warbler, waterfowl and shorebird species.

Another conservation feat in the Columbia Valley is the acquisition of one of the most coveted pieces of wildlife habitat on private land in British Columbia—the 4,037-hectare (9,976-acre) Hofert/Hoodoos property located near the Fairmont Hot Springs. This property harbours many species including numerous species at risk. It includes 124 hectares (306 acres) of the Columbia River wetlands, extensive grasslands, clay gullies, hoodoos, aspen forest and dense stands of young conifers. The landscape supports vital winter range, migration corridors and staging grounds for a multitude of birds and wildlife.

The Nature Trust of British Columbia, Columbia Basin Fish & Wildlife Compensation Program (B.C. Hydro, Province of B.C. and Fisheries and Oceans Canada), Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, Ducks Unlimited Canada, B.C. Conservation Foundation, Kootenay Wildlife Heritage Fund and local rod and gun clubs partnered to purchase the Hofert/Hoodoos property. It is through their funding and the generous, ongoing assistance from the *North American Wetlands Conservation Act* that the CIJV partners have been able to advance habitat conservation in British Columbia.

Contact Saul Schneider, Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture Coordinator, (604) 666-2342, saul.schneider@ec.gc.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	1,342,344	1,978,621
U.S. Non-Federal	3,364,779	3,527,958
Canadian	1,933,998	8,187,146
Total		13,693,725

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	16,201	283,609
Enhanced	6,864	22,012
Managed	7,566	23,073
Total*	16,201	283,609

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

The Upper Columbia Valley is internationally paramount as a staging area for waterfowl on the Pacific flyway. Single day counts in its wetlands have revealed over 15,000 ducks in autumn and more than 1,000 tundra swans in spring.

Larry Halverson, Parks Canada



In Durango, Mexico, Jesus Arroyo, a University of Chihuahua student and Dan Nieman of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, read neck bands to help answer questions about continental snow goose migration patterns.

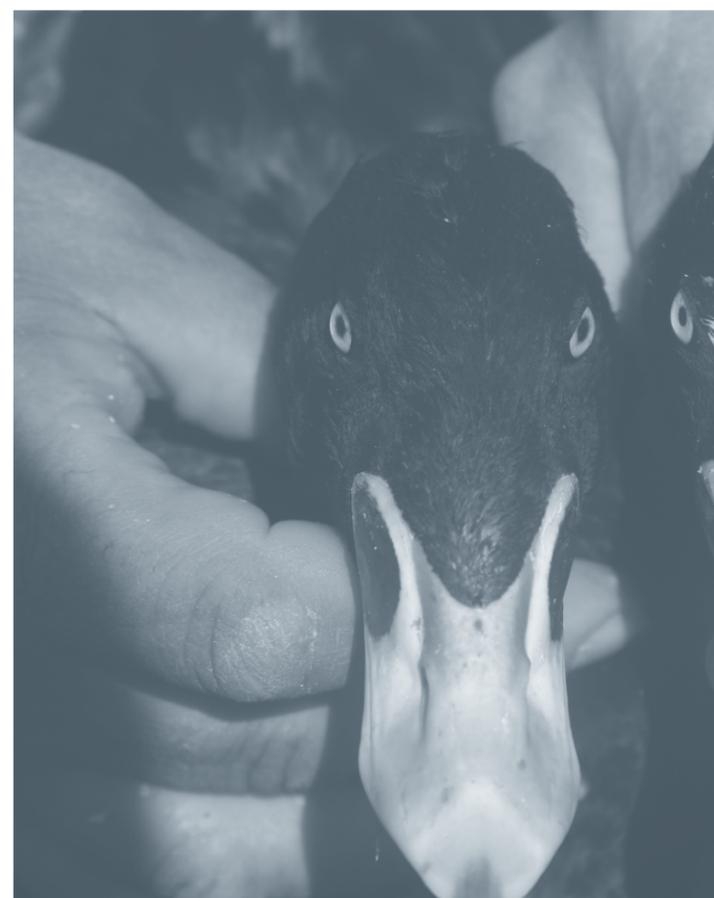
Keith Warner,
Canadian Wildlife Service

Sea Duck Joint Venture

The Sea Duck Joint Venture (SDJV) epitomizes international cooperation. Not only are many projects in Canada and the United States cost shared, they are often implemented by researchers from both countries. Given the elusive nature of sea ducks and the lack of historical data for this species, these efforts are not without their challenges. However, research and fundraising are progressing. United States Congressional appropriations increased to \$520,989 (US) of which \$419,870 was made available as seed money for sea duck projects. This generated matching funds of \$1,217,731 to support various projects on both coasts and in the Arctic.

For example, in 2004 one of the first attempts to study the moulting ecology of sea scoters in North America was undertaken. The project involved diverse partners including the International Nickel Corporation, the Labrador Inuit Association, universities and three regions of the Canadian Wildlife Service. In the first year, Canadian researchers developed techniques to capture moulting scoters. These techniques were highly effective; 630 scoters were banded, almost doubling the banding results for this species over the past 50 years. Scoters, along with eiders, dominated SDJV partner efforts as these are the species showing the steepest population declines.

Other projects in Canada included breeding surveys on Victoria Island in the Arctic; winter ecology of Barrow's goldeneye in Quebec; breeding ecology of white-winged scoters in the Mackenzie River Watershed; assessment of Pacific coast black scoters



Species Joint Ventures

Arctic Goose Joint Venture

The Arctic Goose Joint Venture (AGJV) took steps this past year to strengthen partnerships with Mexico. A meeting was held in Victoria, Tamaulipas, with government and nongovernmental organizations, universities and private individuals representing regions throughout Mexico, to better understand current and historic snow goose work in Mexico and to explore opportunities for future collaboration.

Recommendations from that meeting were developed and actions are now underway. A few highlights include:

- *Review the Mexico Winter Waterfowl Survey.* A meeting in Mérida, Mexico, was held in January, 2005. Canadian, Mexican and U.S. representatives met to review current tri-annual winter counts, assess migratory bird inventory needs of each country and determine how to proceed in designing subsequent surveys.
- *Improve information and capabilities regarding migratory bird band reporting in Mexico.* There has long been a need to facilitate the reporting of migratory bird bands recovered in Mexico. A toll-free band reporting number (011-327-BAND) is now available in Mexico with bilingual operators to ensure accurate data collection and a timely response to callers who have recovered bands. An extensive communications effort is now in place to encourage hunters and others who may encounter banded birds or bird bands to call the banding number.
- *Improve communication among Mexico, the United States and Canada regarding migratory bird harvest data and assessments to develop operational Harvest Surveys in Mexico.* The Canadian Wildlife

The Canadian Wildlife Service is leading efforts to determine the harvest of waterfowl in Mexico by working with government agencies, commercial waterfowl hunting camps, Ducks Unlimited Mexico and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Service is leading efforts to determine the harvest of waterfowl in Mexico by working with government agencies, commercial waterfowl hunting camps, Ducks Unlimited Mexico and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In Mexico, this survey is near completion and will be used to implement an operational program.

- *More formal representation by Mexico is needed in the flyway process.* Mexico has been unable to regularly participate in international flyway meetings. There is a need for more involvement from Mexico, particularly at Pacific and Central flyway meetings. A document that describes the flyway process and how Mexico could best be involved is in draft form.

Contact Deanna Dixon, Arctic Goose Joint Venture Coordinator, (780) 951-8652, deanna.dixon@ec.gc.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)*

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	489,132	4,232,622
U.S. Non-Federal	403,989	6,812,677
Canadian	1,058,750	13,782,748
Total	1,951,871	24,828,047

*These contributions contain no NAWCA funding.

Each spring, a 3-person crew of waterfowl surveyors spends 3 weeks in the field in central and northeastern Ontario, conducting helicopter surveys to determine management plans for black duck populations.

Ken Ross,
Canadian Wildlife Service



In the first year, Canadian researchers developed techniques to capture moulting scoters. These techniques were highly effective—630 scoters were banded, almost doubling the banding results for this species over the past 50 years.

in British Columbia; and breeding common eider survival studies in Quebec. Considerable progress is being made towards acquiring the data necessary to better manage continental sea duck populations. The results will likely gain even more momentum when they are presented and discussed at the second Sea Duck Conference to be held in Annapolis, Maryland in November, 2005.

Contact Keith McAloney, Sea Duck Joint Venture Coordinator, (506) 364-5013, keith.mcaloney@ec.gc.ca, www.seaduck.org.

Contributions (\$CN)*

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	407,493	1,152,471
U.S. Non-Federal	20,000	150,769
Canadian	652,941	2,492,354
Total	1,080,434	3,795,594

*These contributions contain no NAWCA funding.

Black Duck Joint Venture

Have black duck populations rebounded from their steady decline in the 1970s? To answer that question, the black duck's core breeding range in eastern Canada's boreal forest has been surveyed by Canadian Wildlife Service biologists since 1990. According to this year's results, black duck numbers were slightly higher than last year in Quebec, where they are doing well. However, numbers are down in the Atlantic Provinces as well as in Ontario, for a second consecutive year.

Within the Black Duck Joint Venture there is growing concern over the apparent decline of black ducks in the western portion of their range, particularly in northeastern Ontario. Lower counts of black ducks during the Ontario survey, combined with the steady decline of individuals being banded, are difficult to explain given the abundant, high quality breeding habitat in this part of their breeding range. Considering the declining trend of black ducks observed on the survey and numbers banded, potential causes will be explored by joint venture partners and special management actions may become necessary to reverse this decline.

Over the long-term (1991-2004), the black duck population as a whole continues to increase significantly across its range.

Over the long-term (1991-2004), the black duck population as a whole continues to increase significantly across its range. However, the uncertainty surrounding the reasons for the decline in the western portion of the range is evidence of the missing pieces still needed to solve the biological puzzle of this highly prized waterfowl species.

Contact Brigitte Collins, Black Duck Joint Venture Coordinator, (613) 952-2408, brigitte.collins@ec.gc.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)*

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	—	1,314,360
U.S. Non-Federal	255,000	3,079,850
Canadian	345,200	5,886,345
Total	600,200	10,280,555

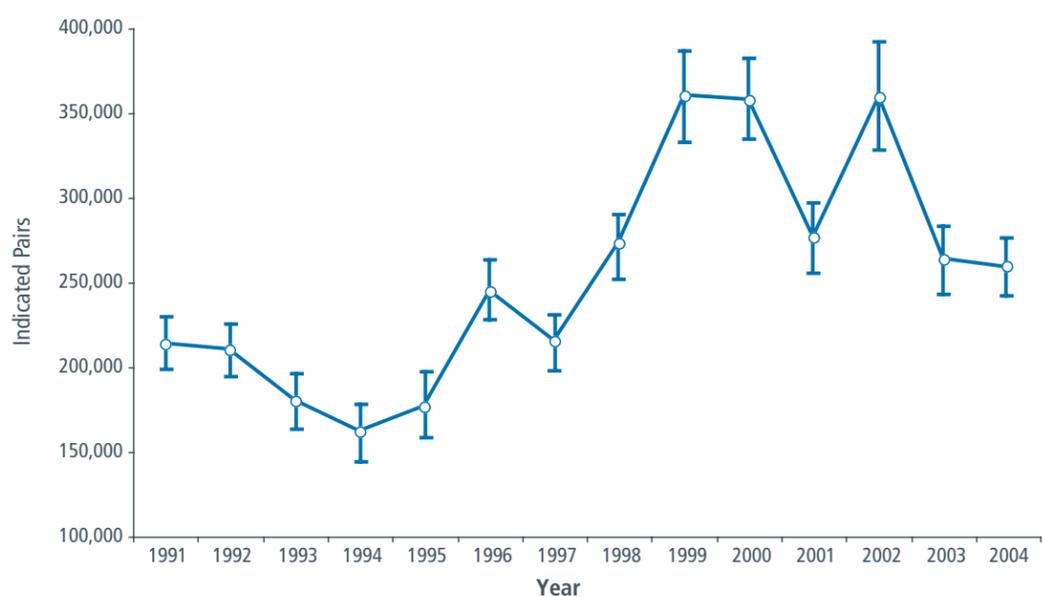
*These contributions contain no NAWCA funding.



The bill and head ornamentation indicate different ages and stages of moulting for these male surf scoters; the left is a sub-adult and the right is an adult.

Scott Gilliland,
Canadian Wildlife Service

**American Black Duck – Eastern Canada
BDJV CWS Helicopter Survey (1991-2004)**



Data analysis provided by Brian Collins, Senior Biostatistician, National Wildlife Research Centre, Ottawa, ON.

Once upon a time in 2001, a cranberry farm was planned for the Codd Wetland. Now, thanks to a change of plans by the Aquilini Investment Group, a different land use is being envisioned.

Ducks Unlimited Canada



Provinces

British Columbia

In the heart of British Columbia's Lower Mainland, close to Vancouver's sprawling population of nearly 3 million, lies the 100-hectare (250-acre) Codd Wetland. It is one of the largest remaining freshwater intertidal wetlands on Canada's west coast and one of the last undiked floodplain wetlands in the Lower Mainland.

The Codd Wetland is a refuge of important regional biodiversity for migrating waterfowl in the Pacific Flyway. Critical fens, riverine and marsh areas are habitat for over 191 species of birds, mammals and amphibians. It has long been recognized as an environmentally sensitive area and now it will remain that way. A partnership with the Canadian Wildlife Service, the B.C. Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection, the B.C. Ministry of Transportation, Habitat Conservation Trust Fund, Greater Vancouver Regional District, the District of Pitt Meadows, Ducks Unlimited Canada, The Land Conservancy of B.C. and local interest groups, has secured its future. The partners purchased Codd Wetland from Aquilini Investment Group, a property holding company that generously donated \$700,000 toward the \$4.5 million purchase.

Critical fens, riverine and marsh areas are habitat for over 191 species of birds, mammals and amphibians.

In addition to waterfowl and wildlife habitat, the Codd Wetland supports significant fisheries resources. A tidal stream connecting to the Pitt River provides a continuous waterway for chum and coho salmon and steelhead that use it for spawning and winter rearing habitat. The Codd Wetland purchase closes the gap in the Lower Mainland's wetland habitat complex, linking several other Lower Mainland conservation areas where North American Waterfowl Management Plan projects are already underway.

Contact Saul Schneider, Pacific Coast Joint Venture/Canadian Intermountain Joint Venture Coordinator, (604) 666-2342, saul.schneider@ec.gc.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	3,409,940	22,625,164
U.S. Non-Federal	8,188,976	32,439,275
Canadian	82,825,653	132,854,735
Total	94,424,569	187,919,178

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	24,571	411,826
Enhanced	9,467	122,391
Managed	10,169	119,126
Total*	24,571	411,826

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Background Image:

Great Blue Heron

Ducks Unlimited Canada

Along with Ducks Unlimited officials, Don Young (right), Gordon Edwards (centre) and California State Senator Mike Thompson (left) display the California State Resolution that establishes California as a sister state to Alberta in 1997, based on the importance of Alberta as breeding grounds for many waterfowl that winter in the state.

Ducks Unlimited Canada



Saskatchewan supports a wealth of waterfowl and other biodiversity, earning the province the reputation as one of the most important areas for prairie habitat conservation.

Saskatchewan

Saskatchewan supports a wealth of waterfowl and other biodiversity, earning the province the reputation as one of the most important areas for prairie habitat conservation. Accordingly, there is a long and vibrant history of habitat conservation activity in the province, stretching back 60 years or more. Since the formation of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP), habitat conservation activity in Saskatchewan has reached unprecedented levels, with Plan partners working on habitat issues in target areas. Coordination and communication of partner activities are essential for efficient program delivery and prevention of landowner confusion regarding conservation organizations.

After the Saskatchewan Wetland Conservation Corporation was integrated into the Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, the Saskatchewan NAWMP Implementation Committee was formed. Comprised of members from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Canadian Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited Canada, Nature Conservancy of Canada, Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization, Saskatchewan Environment and Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, the Committee addresses issues related to waterfowl habitat in Saskatchewan, and raises the profile of NAWMP activities to private producers. With the 2004 NAWMP Update and Prairie Habitat Joint Venture's Strategic Plan Update to be completed in 2005, the Committee anticipates setting new habitat goals to be achieved through increasingly efficient NAWMP program delivery in Saskatchewan.

Contact Sharon Metz, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority, (306) 787-9290, smetz@swa.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	7,235,844	82,331,865
U.S. Non-Federal	6,605,057	90,348,746
Canadian	6,355,607	70,557,989
Total	20,196,508	243,238,600

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	151,316	1,717,021
Enhanced	11,236	660,486
Managed	93,736	1,105,112
Total*	151,316	1,717,021

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Saskatchewan's North American Waterfowl Management Plan Implementation Committee meets to discuss the implementation of a strategy to create a greater awareness among private producers in Saskatchewan. From back row, left to right: Keith Le Poudre, Ducks Unlimited Canada; Larry Lenton, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada; Glen McMaster, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority; Conrad Olson, Sask Environment. From seated row left to right: Cheri Sykes the Nature Conservancy of Canada; Bob Carles, Saskatchewan Watershed Authority.

Saskatchewan Watershed Authority

California legislation dictates that a portion of the state's Duck Stamp revenue goes to Canada. California adds funds from the Comprehensive Wetland Program and directs them to southern Alberta where significant northern pintail production occurs.

conditions of the past 8 years. The California funds, which are matched by Ducks Unlimited, Inc. and NAWCA, have been instrumental in the North American Pintail Action Plan in Alberta.

Since the passing of NAWCA, new U.S. based partners including The Nature Conservancy, have come on board to support the Alberta North American Waterfowl Management Plan program and its established U.S. partners such as Ducks Unlimited, Inc. These partnerships enable the Alberta NAWMP Partnership Board of Directors to move the provincial NAWMP program ahead towards achieving the broader Prairie Habitat Joint Venture vision.

Contact Brett Calverley, Alberta North American Waterfowl Management Plan Coordinator, Ducks Unlimited Canada, (780) 930-1244, b_calverley@ducks.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	8,451,047	85,067,396
U.S. Non-Federal	6,962,400	91,160,718
Canadian	6,718,732	103,392,455
Total	22,132,179	279,620,569

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	12,061	1,551,098
Enhanced	16,994	918,992
Managed	12,289	1,376,312
Total*	12,061	1,551,098

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Alberta

Cross border partnerships to help protect waterfowl habitat date back to the 1930s in the Province of Alberta. That legacy is stronger than ever today. Indeed, without U.S. based support, waterfowl could be in dire straits in Alberta. Initially, it was American sportsmen who stepped forward with financial help. Hunt clubs, waterfowl associations and state governments have carried on this tradition ever since. With their support, the *North American Wetlands Conservation Act (NAWCA)* was passed in 1989.

State governments, like California, have been supporting waterfowl habitat programs in Alberta every year since 1973. California legislation dictates that a portion of the state's Duck Stamp revenue goes to Canada. California adds funds from the Comprehensive Wetland Program and directs them to southern Alberta, where significant northern pintail production occurs. The pintail, an important species to California, has not responded to improved habitat



Since 1999, Manitoba NAWMP partners have secured over 250 conservation easements with funding assistance from the North American Wetlands Conservation Act and other sources in the U.S. and Canada.

Tim Sopuck



Manitoba

Long-term protection of key habitat in priority landscapes needs to be complemented by conservation-friendly programs and policies at all levels of government. The Province of Manitoba took a major step in this direction by becoming the first jurisdiction in Canada to establish a government department solely focused on water.

The new Department of Water Stewardship enables the Manitoba government to provide a more comprehensive response to water issues. It includes regulatory authorities that influence water quality and quantity, water management expertise and the two main provincial agencies that deliver landscape conservation programs—Manitoba Conservation Districts and the Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation (MHHC). The latter group also coordinates the North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) in Manitoba.

As well, a new Water Strategy for Manitoba has been developed. One key element is enshrining Integrated Watershed Planning and Management (IWPM) as the basis for water management. NAWMP partners have worked hard to ensure that wetland and riparian area conservation become central considerations in that process.

The province will also enact a new Water Protection Act that will lay the groundwork for action on issues like source water protection, articulation of water management zones and IWPM implementation.

The new department has created linkages between landscape conservation groups and water regulatory authorities. Conservation of natural landscape features, like wetlands and associated habitat, will be inextricably linked to one of the top-of-mind environmental issues of the day: water quality.

Contact Tim Sopuck, Manager of Operations, Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation, (204) 784-4357, tsopuck@mhhc.mb.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	2,740,406	30,628,806
U.S. Non-Federal	2,534,925	31,856,746
Canadian	4,401,612	57,771,611
Total	9,676,943	120,257,163

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	22,410	1,312,819
Enhanced	16,901	154,476
Managed	18,305	1,006,020
Total*	22,410	1,312,819

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Ontario

The land around Ontario's Atocas Bay, near Ottawa, is home to a 22-fold increase in waterfowl breeding pairs. This progress is not a natural phenomenon. It is the result of partners uniting from as far as Alabama, to transform the vision of a restored landscape into a reality.

Ducks Unlimited Canada, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources, the Canadian Wildlife Service, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the State of Alabama and Ducks Unlimited, Inc. partnered in 2001 to restore Atocas Bay's wetlands—80 percent had been lost due to land clearing and agriculture. As a result of this partnership, 713 hectares (1,762 acres) were purchased and 250 wetland basins restored. Conservationists and agriculturalists are working hand-in-hand to achieve the mutually beneficial results that the Atocas Bay Conservation Project offers the community and the continent. The Atocas Bay Conservation Project exemplifies the collaborative nature of North American Waterfowl Management Plan partner initiatives. For example, the State of Alabama has invested nearly \$750,000 (US) since 1988 to conserve several provincially important Ontario wetlands, including Hilliardton Marsh, Pigeon Marsh, Oshawa Second Marsh and Atocas Bay. This generous contribution to Ontario's habitat program has been matched many times over by partners on both sides of the border.

State of Alabama Governor Robert Riley said it best: "This project is a testament to the power of partnerships in action. I am proud to see that Alabama's Department of Conservation and Natural Resources is a partner in this effort and that we are contributing to the perpetuation of North America's waterfowl and wetland resources."

Conservation of natural landscape features, like wetlands and associated habitat, will be inextricably linked to one of the top-of-mind environmental issues of the day: water quality.

Background Image:

Wood Ducks

Ducks Unlimited Canada

The South River lies within a priority wetland habitat retained by the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture and the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture for Bird Conservation Region 13.

André Michaud, Ducks Unlimited Canada



Since being identified as a priority habitat by the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Quebec Wildlife Branch in 1966, through the conservation efforts of the 1980s to the present, the ecological value of this endangered wetland complex is now widely recognized.

Contact Ron Maher, Manager, Provincial Operations, Ducks Unlimited Canada, (613) 389-0418, r_maher@ducks.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	2,688,975	25,457,444
U.S. Non-Federal	2,273,047	26,749,050
Canadian	1,867,334	88,035,035
Total	6,829,356	140,241,529

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	522	480,947
Enhanced	536	403,350
Managed	645	416,334
Total*	522	480,947

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Quebec

The South River Wetland Conservation Project in Quebec is a true cross-border partnership initiative. It is situated in the Richelieu River-Lake Champlain corridor targeted by the Atlantic Coast Joint Venture (ACJV) and the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) and is a priority wetland habitat of Bird Conservation Region 13.

South River is a vast wetland complex covering 1,157 hectares (2,860 acres) of marshlands and moist riparian forest. The rich mosaic of wild rice, sedge and cattail results in high biological productivity with an abundant diversity of wildlife, including several species at risk, such as the least bittern.

There is a long history of unsuccessful conservation efforts behind the South River wetlands. Since being identified as a priority habitat by the Canadian Wildlife Service and the Quebec Wildlife Branch in 1966, and through the conservation efforts of the 1980s to the present, the ecological value of this endangered wetland complex is now widely recognized.

Thanks to a successful cross-border partnership involving financial support from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Ducks Unlimited, Inc., New Jersey Division of Fish and Wildlife, Georgia Wildlife Resources Division, and local, regional and Quebec EHJV partners, close to half of the wetland complex has already been secured under Ducks Unlimited

Canada's leadership. Besides securement activities, the conservation project now includes restoration (the invasive water chestnut has been successfully eradicated), extension and education activities.

Contact Raymond Sarrazin, Ducks Unlimited Canada, (418) 623-1650, r_sarrazin@ducks.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	1,805,104	13,323,574
U.S. Non-Federal	1,804,786	14,042,728
Canadian	1,839,354	19,748,950
Total	5,449,244	47,115,252

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	4,163	44,862
Enhanced	200	24,028
Managed	—	26,371
Total*	4,163	44,862

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Conservationists and agriculturalists are working hand-in-hand to achieve the mutually beneficial results that the Atocas Bay Conservation Project offers the community and the continent.



Partners gather at the unveiling of the Atocas Bay Conservation Project plaque. From left, Karen Brown, Assistant Deputy Minister, Environmental Conservation Service, Environment Canada; Robert Riley, Governor of Alabama; Jack Messer, President, Ducks Unlimited Canada; Forrest Fitts, Alabama State Chairman, Volunteer; Honourable David Ramsay, Minister, Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources; Paul Cellucci, U.S. Ambassador to Canada.

Ian Parsons, Environment Canada

Wetlands within these landscapes are the most productive in the region and have been significantly impacted by human activities since European settlement some 350 years ago.

The Tantramar Dykelands are located on the Chignecto Isthmus at the head of the Bay of Fundy, between New Brunswick and Nova Scotia. This former 8,100-hectare (20,000-acre) salt marsh is now primarily an agricultural landscape.

Todd Byers



New Brunswick

Scattered throughout central and southeastern New Brunswick are numerous agricultural lowland landscapes. Wetlands within these landscapes are the most productive in the region and have been significantly impacted by human activities since European settlement some 350 years ago. In recent years, North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) partners have focused on improving the region's wildlife habitat diversity through their Small Marsh Restoration Program.

This program is designed to restore or enhance small 0.8 to 1.6-hectare (2 to 4-acre) wetlands located in the fertile soil zones of the province's private agricultural lands. The approach is simple. Shallow, open water ponds, leaving some vegetation as cover are created. Buffer strips are left around the shoreline and livestock access is controlled.

Conservation agreements have been signed securing the wetland and an upland margin (buffer strip) for 30 years. The upland margin provides additional habitat for nesting waterfowl and protects the wetland from rapid infilling by sediment, thereby providing habitat for many other species such as songbirds. These projects have maintained ample water and vegetation interspersed over at least 7 years and have required minimal maintenance.

Through the NAWMP method of matching funds, the States of Delaware and North Carolina's financial contributions to this program have enabled the New Brunswick Eastern Habitat Joint Venture to complete 65 projects thus far. The investment of these two states represents 25 percent of the total program cost. Their support is essential to the delivery of New Brunswick's wetland conservation program.

Contact Todd Byers, Program Manager, New Brunswick Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, (506) 453-2440, todd.byers@gnb.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	363,321	5,483,963
U.S. Non-Federal	233,321	5,435,114
Canadian	654,648	7,937,259
Total	1,251,290	18,856,336

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	1,514	67,266
Enhanced	777	19,036
Managed	777	26,137
Total*	1,514	67,266

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Nova Scotia

The Nova Scotia Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) has two new partners to add to its roster for 2005—BHP Billiton and Lafarge North America.

BHP Billiton will work with the Nova Scotia EHJV to deliver community-based conservation on Cape Sable Island on Nova Scotia's southern tip. The Cape Sable Island Habitat Conservation Project will protect about 40 hectares (100 acres) of coastal habitat through private landowner and municipal stewardship conservation agreements.

Cape Sable Island comprises 1,500 hectares (3,700 acres) and is Canada's gateway to the Gulf of Maine. It is a key foraging and staging area for nearly 200 species of migratory birds. Much of Cape Sable Island's coast is privately owned with little or no opportunity for legislated protection of critical habitats. BHP Billiton's role as a local funding partner will help secure habitats including sand dunes, beaches, saline ponds, mudflats and salt marshes.

Lafarge North America will lead the Lafarge Agricultural Landscape Wetlands Conservation Initiative. This initiative will enhance wetlands and associated upland habitat on Lafarge land and nearby private land. At Lafarge's quarry, 2 hectares (5 acres) of reclaimed land will be enhanced to create shallow marshes and adjoining upland habitat. In cooperation with landowners, 35 hectares (90 acres) of wetland and associated upland habitat in the surrounding agricultural landscape will be enhanced.

Cape Sable Island, Nova Scotia

Glen J. Parsons



These types of corporate partnerships are a testament to the diversity within the Nova Scotia EHJV program. Conducting wetland business is now, more than ever, dependant upon the business world to achieve our goals.

Contact Glen J. Parsons, Nova Scotia Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, (902) 679-6223, parsongj@gov.ns.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	465,137	4,185,311
U.S. Non-Federal	228,015	4,322,539
Canadian	655,293	9,612,434
Total	1,348,455	18,120,284

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	2,507	86,536
Enhanced	2,560	21,680
Managed	2,437	28,815
Total*	2,507	86,536

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

The Cape Sable Island Habitat Conservation Project will protect 100 acres of coastal habitat through private landowner and municipal stewardship conservation agreements.



A highlight of the 2004 EHJV Program was the continued popularity and success of the Small Marsh Program.

Prince Edward Island

For over a decade, the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) has focused on conserving and enhancing wetlands in the island landscape by supporting programs for soil conservation, fencing livestock from waterways and wetlands, small marsh enhancement, and by land acquisition. The EHJV has had a dual focus in Prince Edward Island: first, to enhance and conserve wetlands in support of North American Waterfowl Management Plan goals, and second, to correct the causes of wetland habitat degradation at their source.

A highlight of the 2004 EHJV Program was the continued popularity and success of the Small Marsh Program. This program has been delivered since 1991 by Ducks Unlimited Canada and enhances existing small wetlands in the agricultural landscape, that have been degraded as a result of decades of poor land use practices.

Key partners in this program include the P.E.I. Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry and local landowners. Since the initiation of the program, 246 projects involving 340 landowners were completed by the end of 2003, enhancing 425 hectares (1,050 acres) of small wetlands. In 2004, 20 more projects were completed. A delegation from the State of Delaware visited the province in September to observe the results of their generous contribution.

Contact Alan McLennan, Program Coordinator, Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, (902) 368-4667, admclennan@gov.pe.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	362,449	2,293,298
U.S. Non-Federal	262,484	2,307,262
Canadian	112,692	5,944,888
Total	737,625	10,545,448

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	337	34,547
Enhanced	508	24,836
Managed	532	7,531
Total*	337	34,547

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Newfoundland and Labrador

Labrador, the northern mainland portion of the Province of Newfoundland and Labrador, is often referred to as the “big land.” It is larger than Nova Scotia, New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island combined, yet it is remote and sparsely populated with less than 28,000 inhabitants. Canada’s Boreal Forest comprises the majority of the landscape. Access is increasing and forestry, mining and hydro development opportunities are continually being explored.

Mining companies, while engaged in the required stabilization of mine tailings, have taken the initiative to go beyond legislative requirements and are maximizing biodiversity. Maximizing biodiversity is also maximizing habitat for waterfowl and other wetland associated species. The Iron Ore Company of Canada is partnering with the Eastern Habitat Joint Venture (EHJV) and the community to provide conservation education for the local young people. This relationship has helped the town of Labrador City to commit to wetland stewardship through the EHJV Municipal Wetland Stewardship Program.

Coastal communities are adjacent to offshore islands where eiders and other bird species congregate. Good will Coastal Stewardship Agreements with these communities encourage the adoption of “Best Practices” by resource users when engaged in activities within waterfowl habitat during sensitive times of the year.

A State of Delaware delegation and Canadian NAWMP partners came together on the Confederation Trail, Mount Stewart Wildlife Management Area, to recognize Delaware’s contribution to the success of Prince Edward Island’s Small Marsh Program.

Alan McLennan

Mining companies, while engaged in the required stabilization of mine tailings, have taken the initiative to go beyond legislative requirements and are maximizing biodiversity.

Labrador is one of the world’s last wild places, but things are changing rapidly. Working together will ensure that resource developers, communities and land users respect the landscape and accept their roles as stewards of the big land.

Contact Gerry Yetman, Eastern Habitat Joint Venture, Newfoundland and Labrador Program Manager, (709) 637-2013, gerryyetman@gov.nl.ca.

Contributions (\$CN)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
U.S. Federal	119,874	1,181,274
U.S. Non-Federal	29,874	1,154,640
Canadian	399,289	5,408,531
Total	549,037	7,744,445

Accomplishments (Acres)

	2004	Total (1986-2004)
Secured	4,805	133,080
Enhanced	91	5,912
Managed	91	5,997
Total*	4,805	133,080

* Secured, enhanced and managed acres are not additive. Acres are first secured, may then be enhanced and are subsequently placed under management.

Common Mergansers are the most familiar cavity nesting duck in Newfoundland and Labrador, where they are also a favoured game species.

Ducks Unlimited Canada



Thank you to all our partners who supported the Canadian program by contributing in 2004:

Canada

Acadia University
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada
Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada-Prairie Farm Rehabilitation Administration
Aguila Exploration Consultants
Alberta Conservation Association
Alberta Fish and Game Association
Alberta Sport Recreation Parks & Wildlife Foundation
Alberta Sustainable Resource Development
Alberta Transportation
Alberta Treasury
Alberta-Pacific Forest Industries Inc.
Alonsa Conservation District
Alta Energy Corporation
Amett & Burgess Oilfield Construction
Anderson Exploration Ltd.
Apache Canada Ltd.
ARC Resources Ltd.
Aspen Endeavour Resources Inc.
Atco Electric Ltd.
BP Canada Energy Company
Baytex Energy Ltd.
BC Hydro
Bonavista Energy Trust
Boyd Petro Search
Brigus Resources Ltd.
British Columbia Ministry of Transportation & Highways
British Columbia Ministry of Water, Land and Air Protection
Burlington Resources Canada Energy
Canada Malting Co. Ltd.
Canadian Natural Resources Ltd.
Canadian Pacific Railway
Canadian Water Resources Association
Cargill Foods Ltd.
Centrica Canada Limited
Chamaelo Energy
Complete Land Services Ltd.
Corporation of Delta
Crispin Energy Inc.
Delta Waterfowl Foundation
Dominion Energy Canada Ltd.
Ducks Unlimited Canada
E-Bay Oilfield Contracting Inc.
Edmonton Springer Spaniel Club
EnerMark Inc.
Environment Canada - Canadian Wildlife Service
Environment Canada - EcoAction 2000
Environment Canada - Habitat Stewardship Program
Equatorial Energy Inc.
ExxonMobil Canada Energy
Fisheries and Oceans Canada
Fondation de la faune du Québec
Forest Products Association of Canada

Friends of Cornwallis River Society
Grand Petroleum Inc.
Greater Vancouver Regional District
Gwich'in Renewable Resource Board
Habitat Conservation Trust Fund
Human Resources Development Canada
Inco Limited
Indian and Northern Affairs Canada
Inuvialuit Game Council
Iron Ore Company of Canada
Island Nature Trust
Kimberly-Clark Nova Scotia
Kings County (Municipality of)
Kings County Economic Development Agency
Lockhorn Exploration Ltd.
Logistex Land Services Ltd.
Longstaff Land Surveying Ltd.
Lucas Bowker & White
Manitoba Agriculture, Food and Rural Initiatives
Manitoba Conservation
Manitoba Habitat Heritage Corporation
Manitoba Hydro
Maverick Land Consultants (87) Inc.
Melfort (City of)
Minco Gas Co-op Ltd.
Ministère de l'Éducation du Québec
Ministère de l'Environnement du Québec
Nanaimo (Regional District of)
Native Plant Society of Saskatchewan
Natural Resources Canada - Polar Continental Shelf Project
Natural Science & Engineering Research Council of Canada
Nature Conservancy of Canada
Nature Saskatchewan
Nature Trust of British Columbia
New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
New Brunswick Department of Environment and Local Government
New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources
Newfoundland-Labrador Department of Environment and Conservation
Newport Petroleum Corporation
Niven and Associates Inc.
Nordic Pressure Services Inc.
Northrock Resources Ltd. (Canada)
Northwest Territories Department of Resources, Wildlife and Economic Development
Nova Scotia Department of Agriculture and Fisheries
Nova Scotia Department of Environment and Labour
Nova Scotia Department of Natural Resources
Nova Scotia Habitat Conservation Fund
Nova Scotia Nature Trust
Nunavut Wildlife Management Board

Omera Resources Limited
Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources
Outlook Energy Corporation
Pan Canadian Petroleum Limited
Parks Canada
Pengrowth Corporation
Pioneer Land Services Ltd.
Poplar Hill Resources Ltd.
Prince Edward Island Department of Transportation and Public Works
Prince Edward Island Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Aquaculture
Prince Edward Island Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry
Quebec Waterfowler's Association
Richland Petroleum Corporation
Rife Resources Ltd.
Sahtu Renewable Resource Board
Saskatchewan Agriculture, Food and Rural Revitalization
Saskatchewan Council for Community Development
Saskatchewan Environment
Saskatchewan Finance
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Arizona Game and Fish Department
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission
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Colorado Division of Wildlife
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Idaho Fish and Game Department
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Massachusetts Division of Fisheries and Wildlife
Minnesota Department of Natural Resources
Mississippi Department of Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks
Mississippi Flyway Council
Missouri Department of Conservation
Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks
Nebraska Game and Parks Commission
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In Memory of Kenneth W. Cox
1944 - 2004

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