

The Canadian Field-Naturalist

News and Comment

Compiled by Amanda E. Martin

Upcoming Meetings and Workshops

The Society for Integrative & Comparative Biology Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Society for Integrative and Comparative Biology to be held 2–6 January 2024 at the Seattle Convention Center, Seattle, Washington. Reg-

istration is currently open. More information is available at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/sicb/program/11Kr23t/index.cfm>.

Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference

The 84th Midwest Fish & Wildlife Conference, hosted by South Dakota Game, Fish & Parks, to be held 28–31 January 2024 at the Denny Sanford PREMIER Center & Sheraton Sioux Falls, Sioux Falls,

South Dakota. The theme of the conference is: 'Habitat: Working Today to Benefit Tomorrow'. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://www.midwestfw.org/>.

Society for Range Management Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Society for Range Management to be held 28 January–1 February 2024 at The Nugget, Sparks, Nevada. Registration is currently

open. More information is available at <https://rangelands.org/annual-meeting-2024/>.

Stewardship Network Conference

The 17th Stewardship Network Conference to be held 29–30 January 2024 at The Kellogg Hotel & Conference Center, East Lansing, Michigan. Registration

is currently open. More information is available at <https://conference.stewardshipnetwork.org/>.

Wetland Science Conference

Wisconsin Wetlands Association's 29th annual Wetland Science Conference to be held 20–22 February 2024 at the Radisson Hotel & Convention Center,

Green Bay, Wisconsin. More information is available at <https://conference.wisconsinwetlands.org/>.

Society for Canadian Aquatic Sciences Annual Meeting

The second annual meeting of the Society for Canadian Aquatic Sciences to be held 21–24 February 2024 at the Fredericton Convention Centre, Fredericton,

New Brunswick. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://www.scas-scsa.ca/CONFERENCE>.

Forests Ontario Annual Conference

The annual conference of Forests Ontario to be held 28 February 2024 in Vaughan, Ontario. More infor-

mation is available at <https://forestsontario.ca/en/event/annual-conference>.

James Fletcher Award for *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* Volume 136

The James Fletcher Award is awarded to the authors of the “best” paper published in a volume of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* (CFN). The award is in its seventh year. The award honours James Fletcher, founder of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists’ Club (OFNC) and the first editor of CFN’s earliest iteration, *Transactions of the Ottawa Field-Naturalists’ Club*. The editorial team of CFN sifted through all papers in Volume 136 of CFN and came up with a list of the top seven papers. From these, the committee ranked the papers and, because of the difficult decision and high quality of the papers, selected the two, tied, top papers. The joint award for Volume 136 of CFN goes to:

Noémie Pelletier, Janice E. Arndt, Rachel Darvill, and Marc-André Cyr. Natural and human-made nesting habitat use by Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) in Canada. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 136(3): 228–236. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v136i3.2779>

- Analysis of data collected from a range of sources, revealing a reversal in the dominant nesting habitat type for the Threatened Bank Swallow, from human-made to natural habitats.

Marjorie Wonham, Catherine Gerstle, and Colin Bates. Combining current and historical biodiversity surveys reveals order of magnitude greater richness in a British Columbia marine protected area. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 136(4): 348–360. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v136i4.2903>

- A combination of historical and current survey data, covering three intertidal habitats and 43 years, are used to increase the list of taxa observed in the Átl’ka7sem/Howe Sound United Nations Biosphere Reserve (British Columbia, Canada) by an order of magnitude (to 99).

Congratulations to Noémie and Marjorie and co-authors for their excellent papers.

Honourable Mentions (in chronological order):

Richard J. Staniforth and Daniel F. Brunton. A synopsis of lycophytes in Manitoba, Canada: their status, distribution, abundance, and habitats. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 136(2): 107–121. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v136i2.2669>

- A synthesis of information on the abundance, distribution, and habitats of Manitoba’s lycophytes, based on collections made throughout the province since 2008 in combination with more than 1000 herbarium specimens.

Cassandra A.B. Simone, Erica A. Geldart, Christina A.D. Semeniuk, Oliver P. Love, H. Grant Gilchrist, and Andrew F. Barnas. Conspecific nest

attendance behaviour of Common Eider (*Somateria mollissima*) in response to Polar Bear (*Ursus maritimus*) foraging activity: error or intent? *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 136(3): 247–253. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v136i3.2807>

- Interesting observations of female eiders attending nests of other females when a predator was present.

Michael J. McTavish, Alexandra Rossi, Robert S. Bouchier, and Sandy M. Smith. Quantifying seeds egested by field-collected earthworms: a dynamic and overlooked pool in forest soil seed banks. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 136(3): 262–267. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v136i3.2873>

- A novel pairing of field collection and laboratory assay to determine the importance of including plant seeds ingested by earthworms when studying the soil seed bank.

Cherisse Du Preez, Heidi N. Gartner, Hawilh-Wayanis (Joshua Watts), Lindsay Clark, Shelton Du Preez, and Tammy Norgard. Salmon Shark (*Lamna ditropis*) scratching behaviour using floating anthropogenic debris. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 136(3): 274–280. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v136i3.2949>

- A novel observation of Salmon Sharks scratching themselves, but with an interesting twist, because they were using human debris, which has some obvious conservation concerns regarding marine litter; the study also went a step further to compare their findings with traditional ecological knowledge.

Sage Raymond, Julius Strauss, and Nancy Flood. Observations of Grizzly Bear (*Ursus arctos*) associated with abundance of spawning Kokanee (*Oncorhynchus nerka*) at an inland river, British Columbia, Canada. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 136 (4): 337–347. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v136i4.2559>

- Combining citizen observations of Grizzly Bears and government aerial surveys expands our understanding of the close interaction between salmon and bears previously observed in coastal systems.

Congratulations to these finalists. We would also like to show our appreciation to all authors who chose to share their interesting and valuable field-based studies with the readers of Volume 136 of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*.

WILLIAM HALLIDAY, AMANDA E. MARTIN,
and DWAYNE A.W. LEPITZKI
OFNC Publication Committee

In Memoriam for four long-standing Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club members

The year 2023 has seen the passing of four long-standing Ottawa Field-Naturalists' Club (OFNC) members.

Robert (Bob) W. Nero, 26 December 1922–23 January 2023. Bob was an OFNC member since 1961 (Keith 2023) and an Honorary Member since 1987 (OFNC 2023). A short tribute to Bob will appear in the January–March 2024 issue of *Trail & Landscape* (T&L), the Ottawa Valley regional publication of OFNC. Nature Manitoba's tribute to Bob can be found at <https://www.naturemanitoba.ca/news-articles/tribute-robert-w-nero>.

Ron Pittaway, 2 June 1947–7 August 2023. Ron was an OFNC member since 1964 (Keith 2023). A tribute to Ron will appear in the January–March 2024 issue of T&L. Some of his contributions to birding can be found at the Finch Research Network's tribute at <https://finchnetwork.org/a-passing-of-a-legend>.

Linda Jeays, 27 June 1944–10 September 2023. Linda was an OFNC member since 1993 and a prolific contributor of poems to T&L. She was awarded the OFNC Anne Hanes Natural History Award in 2006 (OFNC 2007). A “farewell” poem will appear in the January–March 2024 issue of T&L. Her obituary is available at <https://ottawacitizen.remembering.ca/obituary/linda-jeays-1088851799>.

Allan Reddoch, 19 January 1931–10 October 2023. Allan and his wife Joyce were OFNC members since 1967 (Keith 2023) and Honorary Members since 2000 (OFNC 2023). Their *Canadian Field-Naturalist* Special Issue publication on the orchids of Ottawa (Reddoch and Reddoch 2010) is available at the Biodiversity Heritage Library. His obituary is available at <https://beechwoodottawa.ca/en/services/allan-harvey-reddoch>.

Literature Cited

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- Reddoch, J.M., and A.H. Reddoch.** 2010. The orchids in the Ottawa District: floristics, phytogeography, population studies and historical review. *Canadian Field-Naturalist Special Issue* 111: 1–181. Accessed 7 December 2023. <https://www.biodiversitylibrary.org/page/32418417>.

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