

People. Places. Species. Knowledge.



Volunteer News 2017

For the Greater Kejimkujik Ecosystem

Thank you for your contribution to conservation in Atlantic Canada!



Thank you for your interest and your contributions to the Greater Kejimkujik Ecosystem of southwest Nova Scotia! This newsletter provides an update on the volunteer opportunities in and around Kejimkujik, in the Southwest Nova Biosphere Reserve. It describes the people, places and species that dedicated researchers and volunteers are working with in this fascinating region of our province.



In 2017, **242** volunteers gave over
11 160 hours of their time toward
environmental conservation.

Since 2000, we have recorded almost
181 000
volunteer hours!

This is an exceptional program made possible by the fantastic efforts of people like you! For this amazing and consistent dedication, we say thank you and congratulations!



When you're not outside in nature, "like" the Kejimkujik -Southwest Nova Volunteer Programs page, and check out the Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute and Friends of Keji groups to learn more about how you can get involved!

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Highlights from Last Year's Banquet



The dedicated individuals below coordinate our volunteer programs every year, and we thank them for their inspiring involvement! Look for their stories throughout the newsletter, and contact them to learn more about our programs. This program is funded by Parks Canada, MTRI, Friends of Keji, Acadia University, and their partners.



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Walk of Honour

Jennifer Eaton

The Walk of Honour, located behind the Keji Visitor Center, is a pathway of stones engraved with the names of those volunteers who have contributed over 250 hours (bronze), 1000 hours (gold), or 2000 hours (platinum) to various programs over the years.

Your contributions to environmental conservation and species at risk recovery are both inspiring and amazing. The Walk of Honour is one way of showing our appreciation for your work, your passion and your dedication. We couldn't do it without



Our Walk of Honour inductees this year were Becky Druhan, Craig Dalby, Eric Chaytor, Jessi Fillmore, Julie Smith, Sue Brown and Troy Grant. Moving from Bronze to Gold were James Neish, Jan Latter, Jeanette and Arlyn Turner as well as Lynda and Rick Kanne. Congratulations to all of you!

At this year's volunteer banquet, we will have ten volunteers inducted into Bronze, one move from Bronze to Gold and two volunteers move from Gold to Platinum. It is wonderful to see the continued support for the important programs this group of volunteers represent. Thank you so much to everyone involved this year. We look forward to working with you in the seasons to come.



Piping Plover Conservation

Kejimikujik Seaside

Holly Lightfoot



Piping Plovers have a long history using the white sand beaches of Kejimikujik's Seaside Adjunct. As early as the 1970's plovers have been spending their summers foraging, breeding, and raising young on Saint Catherine's River Beach. Each year as part of national monitoring efforts, Parks Canada staff with assistance from partners and volunteers complete beach surveys over the breeding season at both St. Catherine's River Beach and Little Port Joli Beach recording breeding success and Piping Plover use of the beach. Staff and volunteers also encourage responsible beach usage by encouraging visitors to respect closed signage and keeping dogs on leash.



THIS SEASON ...

Five pairs of Piping Plovers nested on St. Catherine's River Beach in 2017, but only successfully fledged four chicks. This is the lowest productivity at the park since 2007; we aren't exactly sure why but are looking in to possible explanations. No Piping Plovers were observed using the Little Port Joli Beach this year.

A recommencement of Environment and Climate Change Canada's banding program resulted in several banded Piping Plover being observed on the Park's beaches. One of the Park's nesting plovers was banded, the male from nest one received band P8. His nest unfortunately failed, but he did re-nest with a new female at Johnston's Pond. AA a female banded at Crow Neck, attempted a second nest at Keji, but her nest also failed. Migration, highlights included X2 the female from the White Point Beach nest; she spent the weekend at Keji during migration. A few weeks later, one of her chicks M0 also visited Saint Catherine's! However, the award for farthest distance travelled goes to Black 67 a female banded in Grand Bay West (near Port aux Basques), Newfoundland!

No volunteers participated in Piping Plover surveys this season; however, guided walks with the Nova Scotia Department of the Environment, and BioBlitz participants reached 30 interested folks. Additionally, over the season, fifty-three visitors were provided information about plovers by staff and volunteers to a positive response. During surveys, Park's staff and volunteers observed 14 dogs off leash (~45% of dogs observed). After being spoken to, all but one were put on leash. Lastly, a Piping Plover Volunteer Appreciation Day was also held Kejimikujik Seaside in partnership with Bird Studies Canada and Canadian Wildlife Service to thank all those who contribute many valuable hours to the conservation of this species!

Brook Trout Tagging

Ray Sanford & Reg Baird

During the National Park sport fishing season, the Brook Trout Tagging Program is carried out by fly-fishing volunteers. Program objectives are to chart trout movements and travel patterns, investigate trout growth rates and establish seasonal-use of critical aquatic habitats. The volunteer group of anglers catch & tag brook trout and record various data on location, date, fish size, etc. within the park.



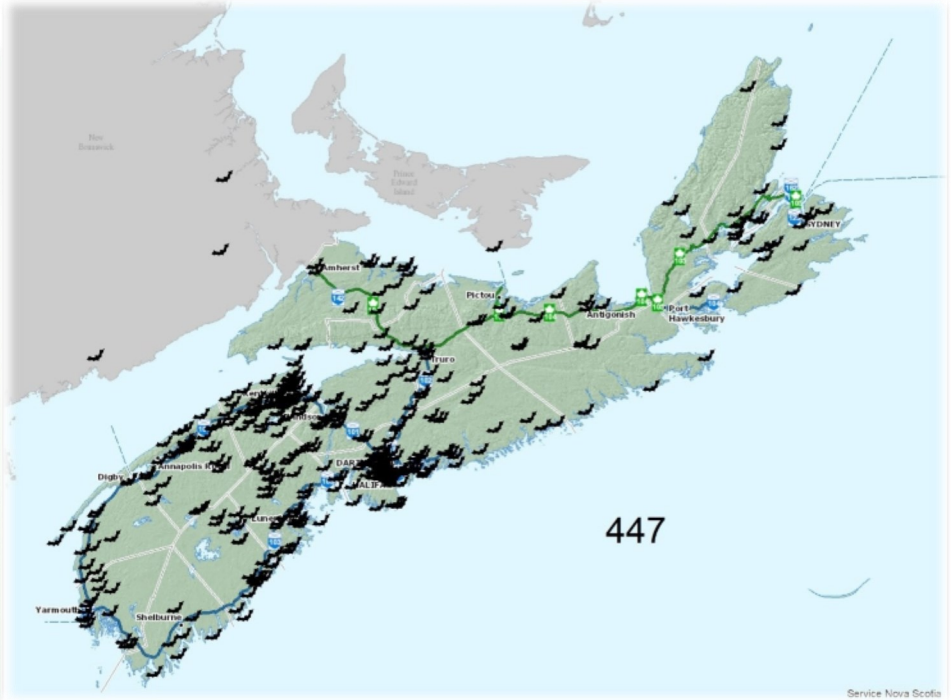
In 2017, a total of 403 trout tags were applied with 37 recaptures recorded. Significant recaptures in 2017 include a trout tagged at Peskowsk Brook in October of 2016 being recaptured at Black Rattle in May of 2017 and a two year old trout tagged at Peskowsk Brook in May of 2016 and recaptured in May of 2017 had grown 5cm and gained 125 grams. Tagging and recapture data provides valuable insight on trout growth, habits and ecology for use by the Resource Conservation department and the scientific community. Information collected in 2017 has been documented and will be available in the Brook Trout 2017 Field Report. The trout tagging volunteers dedicated their own time, effort and expense to participate in and contribute to the 2017 program. Their efforts are much appreciated by Parks Canada. Thanks to Darrin Reid, Chris McCarthy and Blaine Mailman for their continued support.



An annual workshop is held each spring that provides an informative opportunity for our seasoned veterans and any new fishermen interested in getting involved with the program. It is also a chance for everyone to socialize, compare notes and exchange fish stories. Plans are now being made for 2018. As well as the tagging program, we will be in the third and last year of the three year Creel Census. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact the park. We look forward to continuing our efforts in 2018. Thanks again to all who helped make the tagging program a success.

Bat Conservation

Brad Toms



This was another amazing year for public reporting of bat sightings in Nova Scotia. Four hundred and forty seven reports were submitted to www.batconservation.ca in 2016. Over 250 reports have been submitted so far in 2017.

MTRI began a new project in 2017 to build on collecting reports of bat sightings since 2013. We will be working with landowners that submitted sightings with large concentrations of bats at either summer roost sites or maternity colonies to monitor those bats and reduce any impacts to them. MTRI will also be conducting an acoustic monitoring study using loggers that record and store bat calls. This data will be compared to a 2006 study that was conducted before White-nose Syndrome reduced the population in Nova Scotia to a fraction of what it once was.

In 2017 13 people contributed 73 hours helping to do dusk counts at large maternal colonies discovered in 2015. The highest count at one of those sites was 338 bats!



The Friends of Keji and Campground Hosts

Norm Green

The Friends of Keji Cooperating Association is a group of volunteers who work to enhance Kejimikujik's mandate and improve its facilities, services and programs as well as promote environmental conservation. The Friends run the "Tent Dwellers' Library & Tuck Shoppe", the "By the Mersey Gift Shop", the Merrymakedge Eatery and sell firewood and ice in the campground. All profits are invested back into Kejimikujik, as FOKCA sponsors special events including Canada Day, Keji's Birthday, and the popular pumpkin carving contest on Thanksgiving weekend. The group also holds an annual photo contest and provides WiFi hot spots at the Merrymakedge beach, Visitors' Centre and in the campground. The Campground Host program outlined below is an initiative of FOKCA. These programs and events would not happen without the hard work of these dedicated volunteers – many thanks!

Campground Hosts have been an integral part of camping at Kejimikujik for many years. Their great love for Kejimikujik and for camping make them ideal ambassadors. These friendly, outgoing individuals share their vast experience and passion for Keji with other campers for one or two weeks from mid-May until after Thanksgiving. Hosts help with special events and provide campers with warm welcomes and information on trails, programs and local services. Drop by site 31 next season and meet some of these dedicated folks!



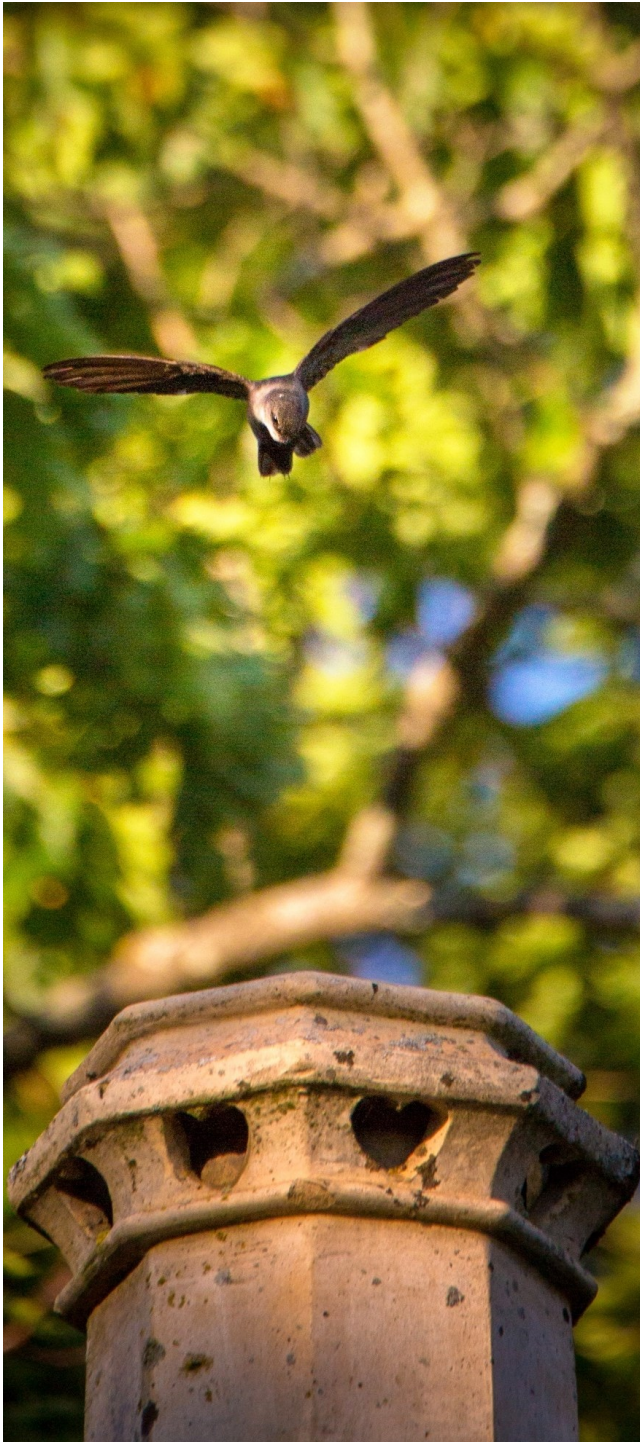
This year found us continuing the mentoring program for couples new to hosting. Many thanks to our 2017 returning campground hosts: Jessi Fillmore, Art and Sylvia Hamilton, Layton and Joan Hamilton, Rick and Lynda Kanne, Scott MacDonald and Cheryl Chambers, John and Irene Ferguson, David Murray and Andrea Gillis, Greg and Rosemary Pick, Gerry and Wendy Read, Greg Selig and Janis Power, Neil and Janet Northrop, and Vicki Smith.



Chimney Swift: Roosting and Nesting

Lori Phinney

MTRI has been monitoring the McGowan Lake Chimney Swift roosting site since 2011. This monitoring program is in partnership with Bird Studies Canada's Maritime SwiftWatch to track the population levels of swifts at various roosting sites on standardized dates throughout the Maritimes. McGowan Lake is one of ten known roosting sites in Nova Scotia. This year volunteers joined MTRI to conduct 10 counts with the largest count being 263, the lowest count was 91 and an average count of 175 swifts.



Although roost sites like McGowan are well monitored, few nest sites are monitored or even known which lead to MTRI initiating the Swift Walks! These were a series of citizen-scientist based surveys to identify Chimney Swift nesting sites in Southwest Nova Scotia. In July, 4 surveys were conducted in Annapolis Royal, Lunenburg, Shelburne, and Liverpool to survey for swifts during peak breeding activity. Volunteers travelled on foot surveying for Chimney Swifts after learning about their biology, including visual and audio identification. There were 60 volunteers in total that documented approximately 15 visual and audio observations. No nests were detected during the Swift Walks, but 7 were identified through Swift Walk participants, event advertising and social media. Of the 7 nests, 4 were located in chimneys while the other 3 in barns. Only 30 active nests were known in the province before the Swift Walks.

Thank you to all the volunteers who spent time coming out to the Swift Walks!

Coastal Restoration

Kejimikujik Seaside

Gabrielle Beaulieu

Many coastal ecosystems across the world are in decline and until recently, the estuaries at Kejimikujik Seaside were no exception. Marine invasive species, such as the European green crab (*Carcinus maenas*) are notorious for displacing and consuming native species and even altering natural processes in the most extreme cases. The Coastal Restoration Project at Kejimikujik Seaside offers a unique venue through which volunteers and visitors connect to Parks Canada and understand and contribute to the important conservation and restoration work that we do.



When Parks Canada biologists first examined the health of the estuaries at the Seaside they observed significant evidence of European green crab damage in both the eelgrass (*Zostera marina*) and soft shell clam (*Mya arenaria*) populations. Both of these species are key players in maintaining the ecological integrity of the coastal ecosystem at Kejimikujik Seaside. By 2010, the extent of eelgrass in Little Port Joli Estuary had decreased to less than 2% of its historical expanse and was entirely lost from St. Catherine's River Estuary! The soft shell clam population was on the brink of collapse, with the observation of juvenile clams - those most vulnerable to predation by crab - being reduced to a rare occurrence in Little Port Joli Estuary. It was crucial to act



It was a busy final year for the Coastal Restoration Project at Kejimikujik Seaside in 2017! Volunteers were involved in everything from crab trapping to clam digging and Bioblitz-ing and even some sediment sampling for the very first attempt at estimating Blue Carbon in Atlantic Canada. This year, volunteers helped us start the crab trapping season with some much-needed TLC to our rowboats and traps as well as assisting during our 'dump' day where we baited and set 65 traps throughout Little Port Joli Estuary during the last week of May. These traps were fished and reset daily from May until October this year and with volunteers helping throughout the season both as scribes and trap haulers, we were able to achieve our project target of < 20 green crabs per trap by the end of the season!



Blanding's Turtle

Jeffie McNeil

The recovery program for the Endangered Blanding's turtle is primarily powered by volunteers and students. Annual activities include protecting nests and monitoring for emerging hatchlings, searching for new populations, monitoring known populations, and tracking individuals to determine habitat use. Nest protection is a cornerstone of the program: a team of volunteers protects turtle nests with enclosures in June and then watches the nests for emerging hatchlings in the fall. This reduces nest predation and increases the number of young turtles in the population. Locating new populations and documenting habitat use are also high priorities in helping the recovery team identify important areas for protection and landowner engagement. Monitoring is a long-term effort to assess how the population is responding to threats and recovery actions.



There was much excitement this year as the first known female from a protected nest matured in the Kejimikujik population. The turtle, named Dillon Lorraine, emerged from a protected nest on Atkins Beach in 1998. There was also sad news this year as a young female turtle named Jeanette died after being hit by a vehicle in Pleasant River. Also, a well-known female named Stub suffered an injury to her front leg, leaving her with only one fully intact limb. She was treated at Cobequid Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre in the summer and released back into her wetland in late August. She was re-found at her overwintering site on October 20 and 8 of her eggs that were laid in captivity, hatched in late September.



This year 49 nests were protected in the three populations and an additional nest was found at emergence. Nests were laid from June 1 (McGowan) to June 28, with an additional partly predated nested found on July 2 (Kejimikujik). Hatchling emergence began Sept 1 (McGowan) and extended to October 14 (Kejimikujik). Emergence success varied among populations, with Kejimikujik seeing higher success than population outside the park:

- ♦ Kejimikujik: 26 nests, 219 hatchlings from 300 eggs, 73% hatching rate
- ♦ McGowan: 14 nests, 42 hatchlings from 125 eggs; 34% hatching rate
- ♦ Pleasant River: 9 nests, 41 hatchlings from 84 eggs, 49% hatching rate
- ♦ Lower Medway: 1 nest, 0 hatchlings from 9 eggs; 0% hatching rate
- ♦ Route 8: 1 nest, 0 hatchlings from 13 eggs, 0% hatching rate

Blanding's Turtle continued



Work continued efforts to characterize and monitor the population on the lower Medway that was discovered in 2016. Twelve new turtles were found this year, bring the total marked to 57 turtles. Nine of these were radio tracked over the season. Researchers conducted 515 trap nights in and around the known areas to determine the extent of the population. Following the newly developed monitoring plan, intensive efforts were conducted at McGowan. 279 trap nights and 39 hours of visual and 180 hours of nesting surveys resulted in the capture of 58 individual turtles, including one new juvenile from a protected nest.

This year researchers and volunteers conducted surveys on either side of the park boundary near Cannon Brook. Outside the park, no Blanding's turtles were found during 44 person-hours of visual surveys and 116 trap nights of effort. Inside the park, one unmarked adult female Blanding's turtle was found during 230 trap nights. This turtle, named Willa, was outfitted with a radio transmitter.



Many thanks to the 134 people who contributed 5380 hours to help Blanding's turtles in 2017. We wish to particularly acknowledge those who contributed more than 50 hours this year: Norm and Sue Green, Bill and Jan Latter, Sue Brown, Greg and Wendy Murphy, David Murray and Andrea Gillis, Greg and Ellen Noddin, Elizabeth and Robert Aulenback, Clifford and Norma Snair, Sam Hudson, Art Hamilton, Wayne Andrews, James Neish and Troy Frech.

BioBlitz

Jennifer Eaton



A BioBlitz is a special event in which participants observe as many species as they can in an area within a certain amount of time. It is a great way to employ citizen science and to build a species inventory. As part of BioBlitz Canada 150, events were held across the country in cities and wild spaces alike.



The Kejimikujik BioBlitz ran from July 14-16 in partnership with Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute (MTRI) and the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC). The theme was “Celebrating Biodiversity” and we kicked off the BioBlitz weekend with MTRI’s Biodiversity Workshop. The workshop was a day filled with interesting talks and activities and it got everyone fired up for the weekend!

Hundreds of people came together to add to the species inventories for Keji and Keji Seaside, from experts on various flora and fauna to curious park visitors. There were a total of 2546 observations over the weekend!!! Notably we had 22 observations of 7 different species at risk and some exciting first finds. Pink Polygala (*Polygala polygama*) and Hudsonian Ladybird (*Mulsantina hudsonica*) were both a first in Kejimikujik. The Eastern Amberwing Dragonfly (*Perithemis tenera*) was a very exciting first find for Atlantic Canada! To see the observations check out the BioBlitz pages for Keji and Keji Seaside on www.iNaturalist.org

The event was a lot of fun and a great success. We are looking forward to hosting more BioBlitz events in the future.



Mi'kmaw Communities and Species at Risk

shalan joudry



Wela'liq (thank you) to the youth, Elders and community members who helped again with this year's Kespukwitk Species at Risk projects (for Acadia First Nation and L'sitkuk/Bear River).

Various community members helped by providing information and guidance to our team through community meetings and gatherings. This year volunteers assisted us with Chimney Swifts, Eastern Ribbonsnakes, special plants, Nighthawks and Eastern Wood-Pewees.

Wela'liq to everyone who contributed thoughts and physical work. And thank you to our funders: Aboriginal Fund for Species At Risk; Acadia and Bear River First Nations.

For more information, contact shalan joudry: envirobrfn@eastlink.ca



Eastern Ribbonsnake

Jeffie McNeil

Research for the Threatened Eastern ribbonsnake has two primary objectives: searching for overwintering sites and understanding their provincial distribution. Ribbonsnakes must find suitable underground sites to avoid freezing during winter. However, it is not known how far snakes will travel from their summer wetland or if there are specific habitat features characteristic of these sites. Similarly, little is known about the full distribution in the province.



The known ribbonsnake range in Nova Scotia occurs in the SW interior, primarily on the Mersey and Medway watersheds. Though they are known in relatively dense concentrations at a few sites, their occurrence on most waterbodies is known only from a few sightings. Research efforts include searching for new areas containing ribbonsnakes and re-visiting known areas to monitor their occurrence.



Overwintering efforts this year focused on monitoring the two sites at Grafton Lake and McGowan Lake. Snakes were found at all four known sites. In spring, snakes were found at overwintering sites from April 7 to April 10. In fall, the first sighting at overwintering sites was October 2; however, there was little effort before this date. Excitingly, a snake was found at a new location at McGowan Lake on October 24. This may represent a third site in this population.



Through a study funded by Nova Scotia Power, MTRI staff and volunteers conducted ribbonsnake surveys on the Tusket River watershed. Researchers conducted a total of 40 person-hours of surveys, covering approximately 16 km of shoreline, as well as some upland habitat, on 9 waterbodies. No ribbonsnakes were found during the surveys.

44 person-hours of visual surveys for turtles and snakes near the Kejimikujik boundary resulted in four ribbonsnake sightings on Paddy Brook, a new location for the species. A ribbonsnake was also observed on Rocky Lake, Queens County, a first sighting on this waterbody.

Many thanks are extended to all the volunteers, staff and interns who helped in the search for these elusive snakes including Ethan Whynot, Troy Frech, Seth McFrech, James Neish, Avery Nagy-MacArthur, Tarissa Holmes, Leonia Roueau, Dominique Lussier, Magalie Bouherer, Alexandre Chene.



Nova Scotia Piping Plover Conservation Program

Bird Studies Canada

Sue Abbott

NS Piping Plover Conservation Program aims to recover endangered Piping Plovers and conserve beach habitat in Nova Scotia. Through a network of volunteers and partners across the province, we:

- Monitor beaches to locate Piping Plovers and identify threats;
- Reduce threats by fostering stewardship among beach goers and communities;
- Build support and engagement in recovery and conservation efforts.

Beaches in southwestern NS are particularly important to the recovery of Piping Plovers because they support about two thirds of the province's breeding pairs. We rely upon a dynamic team of volunteers and partners from Cape Sable Island to Cape LaHave Island to support recovery efforts in SW NS!



In 2017, the plover population in NS was 43 pairs – a decline of five pairs compared to 2016. We are still well below our 60 pair provincial recovery goal. In SW NS, including Keji Seaside National Park, 30 pairs nested (-3 compared to 2016). Productivity (1.33 fledglings produced per monitored pair) was slightly higher than 2016, but below the annual target of 1.65. A pair of Piping Plovers nested for the first time in 15 years at Carter's-Wobamkek beach, which is a proposed provincial Nature Reserve! Unfortunately, the nest did not hatch (egg predation likely). Despite the growing popularity of Carter's, there was positive response and excellent respect of signs protecting the nesting area among beachgoers.

We send a huge thanks to all 40 volunteers in SW NS who contributed 407 hours supporting plover monitoring and conservation in 2017. We particularly acknowledge individuals who contributed over 10 hours and reached significant milestones this year: Eric Chaytor, Wendy Coolen, Nazo Gabrielian, James Hirtle, Jeannie Kerr, Natasha Poirier, Karen Potter, Diane Rosatti, Aileen Smith (>250 hr milestone!), Julie Smith, Emily Swim, Karen Umphrey, Chris Walker, Sylvia Fullerton. We also thank our fantastic partners at Friends of Keji Cooperating Association, Parks Canada Agency, Environment Canada, NS Environment, NS Natural Resources, NS Nature Trust, Nature Conservancy of Canada and White Point Beach Resort.



Help us recover Piping Plovers by joining us on the beach in 2017!

Contact us at nsplovers@gmail.com and facebook.com/ploverconservation.

Keji LoonWatch

Donna Crossland

Kejimikujik LoonWatch is carried out with a heavy reliance on a large and faithful volunteer family who survey 19 park lakes during a three hour period, twice a year. Volunteer numbers for LoonWatch were lower than usual this past year, especially in August, with approximately 18 LoonWatchers to assist with surveys. Busy schedules and family commitments don't always allow folks to turn out for a full day of Loon watching. Keji staff and a large number of students filled in the gaps and aided with logistics and we have welcomed some new and highly motivated LoonWatchers to our ranks recently. Among the noted list of volunteers were retired park staff, Steve Hopper and Ross Dobson, our first Chief Park Interpreter for Kejimikujik.



To prove just how unstoppable LoonWatchers really are, they conducted August LoonWatch without the aid of a bridge to cross the mighty Mersey River to access southern survey lakes. The year 2017 witnessed the construction of a new steel, single-span bridge at the Eel Weir.

The Common Loon experienced another relatively successful breeding year on the lakes of Kejimikujik National Park and National Historic Site. A total of seven chicks have likely survived to adulthood on the following lakes: Frozen Ocean, Beaverskin, George, Grafton, Puzzle, Kejimikujik, and Loon Lake.

We lost a long-lived male Loon in August. One of our longest participating LoonWatchers, Winifred McCarthy, found him washed up on Merrymakedge Beach. He was at least 10 years old according to banding records. A necropsy is being completed at the Atlantic Veterinary College, where the bird is undergoing tests for lead poisoning and other diagnostics.

This was the second year to feature two of MTRI's loon nest platforms in localities where there have been consistent failed nest attempts; one on the Mersey and the second on eastern Peskowesk Lake. Though Loons have not yet utilized the platforms, we remain hopeful that the platforms may mitigate nest flooding/stranding issues from rapidly fluctuating water levels that may become more frequent under climate change and/or forest practices within the Mersey watershed.

We thank all LoonWatch volunteers who have spent a day or two dedicated to Loons in Kejimikujik in 2017. We hope you will continue to monitor our Common Loon populations in the future. LoonWatch continues to present volunteers with memorable opportunities to spend some quiet time in the wilds of Keji's backcountry.



Shelburne River Project

Amy Buckland-Nicks

Eight paddlers left Kejimikujik National Park on May 9th to canoe part of the Asoqmamkiajk (or Shelburne) River as part of a Canada-wide celebration of Heritage Rivers during Canada 150. The Shelburne Heritage River flows 53 km from the Tobeatic Wilderness Area headwaters to Lake Rossignol and is home to some of the last remaining old growth hemlock, pine, and spruce forests in the province. The Shelburne River was designated as a Canadian Heritage River in 1997 for its outstanding recreational and cultural values. The group consisting of two MTRI staff, an NSCC instructor, mother and daughter from PEI, First Nations youth, and two young outdoors enthusiasts (see picture below) got to enjoy the remote stretch of river that has been chronicled in the famous 1908 novel "Tent Dwellers" by Albert Bigelow Paine about a fishing trip through the Tobeatic wilderness.



The trip took five days altogether and started off with a day of rain, so Mason's cabin was a welcome sight at the end of the day. The group wound their way up the semi flooded river to Cofan cabin for a night, which was recently restored and is accessible to any visitor of the wilderness area (first come, first serve). On Day 3, they paddled back down river and through old growth maple floodplains to Irving Lake and camped there for a night. They went back through Kejimikujik National Park on Day 4 and stayed at Wilbowil cabin, then on their last day paddling to Eel Weir they saw a mother bear and 2 cubs in a tree at Cobrielle Lake. They also saw an American Bittern, red-tailed hawk, several loons, and many blackflies.



The tired and happy team was welcomed back from the trip at Merrymakedge with a BBQ and opening ceremony led by Melissa and Todd Labrador, local Mi'kmaw artists and canoe builders. The Shelburne River was celebrated prior to the canoe trip with two public presentations from avid canoers in Liverpool and Bear River, where public applications to the trip were welcome and attendees were shown the basics of how to pack for and prepare for multi-day canoe trips.

We will be visiting a couple farmer's markets this summer with the hopes of spreading more awareness about this beautiful river in our backyard and reminding everyone the importance of protecting our rivers and enjoying all that they have to offer.

Related Links



[Canadian Heritage Rivers System](#)



[Canadian Heritage Rivers](#)



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[Mersey Tobeatic Research Institute](#)



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