

### Fredericton Nature Club/ Club de la nature de Fredericton

PO Box 772, Station A Fredericton, New Brunswick E3B 5B4

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Newsletter

September - December 2013

## Dear Fredericton Nature Club Members!

Another summer has come and gone. The leaves are falling, the warblers are leaving, and the wooly bears are crossing the roads. Hopefully everyone had a nice summer; the weather was rather wet but the mosquitoes were happy. Speaking of mosquitoes, I only saw 1 Myotis bat all summer. It was hiding in the daytime on the wall outside Staples - I couldn't help thinking it could be one of the last I see in New Brunswick as mortality from White-nose Syndrome continues....By the end of winter 2012-2013, the total number of known hibernating Little Brown, Northern, and Tricolored Bats in NB was 79, down from 7473, 3 years ago. *GJF* 

Our webpage: fnc.gbnature.com

Phone:

### **FNC Executive**

President: Graham Forbes
Treasurer: Jo-anne Stillwell
Membership: Vacant (G. Forbes)
Newsletter: Vacant (G. Forbes)
Publicity: Vacant (G. Forbes)
Nature NB Rep: Ruth Rogers
Meeting Host: Graham Forbes

## Location and Meeting Times

Date: First Thursday of each

month (starting in October)

**Location:** The Stepping Stone Centre

15 Saunders Street

Fredericton NB E3B 5B4

Fredericton

(Across the road from old YMCA; lots of parking,

easy access)

Monthly meetings start

at **7 p.m.** 

Fredericton Nature Club Membership for 2013–2014	
Name(s):	\$20 Individual Membership \$25 Family Membership
	Please mail form to:
	Fredericton Nature Club PO Box 772, Station A

Email:

### **Calendar of Events**

### **Indoor Stuff**

All talks take place at The Stepping Stone Centre, **7 p.m**.

### October 10: Wildlife Use of the Highway 7 Underpasses

by Graham Forbes (UNBF)

Graham monitored the movement of wildlife (mainly moose, deer and bear) before and after the construction of the 'moose fence' and underpasses. Come see what was caught on camera!

# November 7: War, vulcanism, and seabirds: a trip across the Aleutian archipelago.

by Dr. Heather Major (UNB Saint John)

The Aleutian Islands are a string of volcanic islands extending over 17,500 km west from mainland Alaska. The region is largely a refuge for wildlife with over 20 species of seabirds breeding along the chain. Despite the isolation of the area, human activities have long impacted Aleutian shores. Arctic foxes were introduced over 100 years ago, and Norway rats were introduced during WWII. Together, these introduced predators decimated many seabird populations. Recent predator eradications have restored over 40 Aleutian Islands, permitting the recovery of the flora and fauna.

## **December 5: The IBA Programme** by Danielle Smith

Danielle is acting boss of Nature NB and will present an overview of the Important Bird Area programme. The IBA's are internationally-recognized sites but many of us know so little about them. Do we have any in New Brunswick? Why are they special? How are they managed?



### **Outdoor Stuff**

Most outings begin at the Odell Park parking lot. Times vary - check below.

### Sunday September 29 Birding in Saint John

The lovely sewage lagoon of Saint John beckons! And, we will take a look for birds at Saints Rest Marsh, and Courtenay Bay. We leave from Odell at 9:30 am.

### Saturday October 12 ESA Site Assessment - Mc-Gowan's Corner

Nature NB has been conducting inventories of the Ecologically Significant Areas (ESA) this summer and we thought it would be interesting for FNC to help out by inventorying the site near MacGowans Corner. We will describe the topography, vegetation, condition, threats, and whatever biological information we can. Meet at Odell Park parking lot at 9:30 am - best to wear boots.

### **November? TBA**

We could do with an outing or workshop in November and if anyone has an idea, please pass it along. The outdoors are shutting down for winter but maybe we could have an outing to identify trees and shrubs by buds and bark? Or a trip to Mactaquac and see who is still hanging around?

## Sunday December 15 Christmas Bird Count

The best thing about global warming will be all the painted buntings, brown pelicans, and keeled toucans that we will see in Fredericton during this year's Christmas Bird Count! I promise! (notice how I didn't actually promise anything?). But, there will be something to look at, and we have been doing it for many years so get out the winter (rain) boots, your touque (umbrella) and hope the river hasn't frozen because there may be a keeled toucan under the bridge. Contact Ron Wilson, the count coordinator (solidago123@gmail.com). Our pot-luck will follow at the Stepping Stone Centre at 6:30pm.