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# *BioLink*

*The Official Newsletter  
of the Atlantic Society  
of Fish & Wildlife  
Biologists*

*September 2006*

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## **2006 Annual Meeting to be held in Norris Point Newfoundland at the Bonne Bay Marine Station surrounded by Gros Morne National Park**



**Gros Morne National Park** is located on the west coast of Newfoundland. At 1,805 km<sup>2</sup> (697 sq. mi.), it is the second largest national park in Atlantic Canada (surpassed by Torngat Mountains National Park's 9,600 km<sup>2</sup>). The park takes its name from Newfoundland's second-highest mountain peak (at 2,644 feet (806 m)) located within the park. Its French meaning is "large mountain standing alone," or more literally "great sombre." Gros Morne is a member of the Long Range Mountains, an outlying range of the Appalachian Mountains, stretching the length of the island's west coast. It is the worn-down remnants of a mountain range formed 1.2 billion years ago

The park's rock formations, made famous by Harold Williams, include oceanic crust and mantle rock exposed by the obduction process of plate tectonics, as well as sedimentary rock formed during the Ordovician Period, granite from the Precambrian and igneous rocks from the Palaeozoic Era. Western Brook Pond is a fresh water fjord which was carved out by glaciers during the most recent ice age from 25,000 to about 10,000 years ago.

The 30 km long narrow "pond" then filled in with fresh water. The water in the fjord is extremely pure and is assigned the highest purity rating available for natural bodies of water. Pissing Mare Falls, the highest waterfalls in eastern North America, flow into Western Brook Pond.

The Tablelands, found between the towns of Trout River and Woody Point in Gros Morne National Park, look more like a barren desert than traditional Newfoundland. This is due to the ultramafic rock - peridotite - which makes up the Tablelands. It is thought to originate in the earth's mantle and was forced up from the depths during a plate collision several hundred million years ago. Peridotite lacks the usual nutrients required to sustain most plant life, hence its barren appearance. The rock is very low in calcium, very high in magnesium, and has toxic amounts of heavy metals. Peridotite is also high in iron, which accounts for its brownish colour (rusted colour). Underneath this weathered zone, the rock is really a dark green colour.

Along the coast are forests of stunted and twisted spruce and balsam fir trees, known locally as "tuckamores," battered by storms and winds blowing from the sea. Wildlife in the park includes lynx, black bear, caribou, arctic hare, marten and a booming population of introduced moose. The coastal region supports whales and sea ducks including the Harlequin Duck.



# CALL FOR PAPERS

The 43rd annual meeting of the Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists will be held October 10th-12th, 2006 at the Bonne Bay Marine Station (Memorial University), Norris Point, Newfoundland and Labrador.

Abstracts for Papers/Posters due  
**September 27**

Please send to:

[Tom.Knight@pc.gc.ca](mailto:Tom.Knight@pc.gc.ca)

The **student** delivering the best paper is awarded \$100.00.

## Conference Organizers:

### **Tom Knight**

Parks Canada - Western Newfoundland and Labrador Field Unit Gros Morne National Park  
P.O. Box 130, Rocky Harbour, NL, Canada A0K 4N0. Phone: (709) 458-3551 Fax: (709) 458-2059 E-mail: [Tom.Knight@pc.gc.ca](mailto:Tom.Knight@pc.gc.ca)

### **Conrad Mullins**

Oceans Management Biologist Fisheries and Oceans Canada/Pêches et Océans Canada Oceans and Habitat Management Branch Newfoundland and Labrador Region 1  
Regent Square Corner Brook, NL A2H 7K6  
Phone: 709-637-4352 Fax: 709-637-4445  
Email: [mullinsc@dfo-mpo.gc.ca](mailto:mullinsc@dfo-mpo.gc.ca)

### **Leah Soper,**

Regional Ecologist Dept. of Natural Resources  
P.O. Box 2006, Massey Drive Corner Brook, NL A2H 6J8 Tel: 709-637-2399  
Fax: 709-639-1377  
E-mail: [mailto:lsoper@gov.nl.ca](mailto:mailto:lsoper@gov.nl.ca)



"Through the Eye of an Eagle" by Rudy Stocek recently published

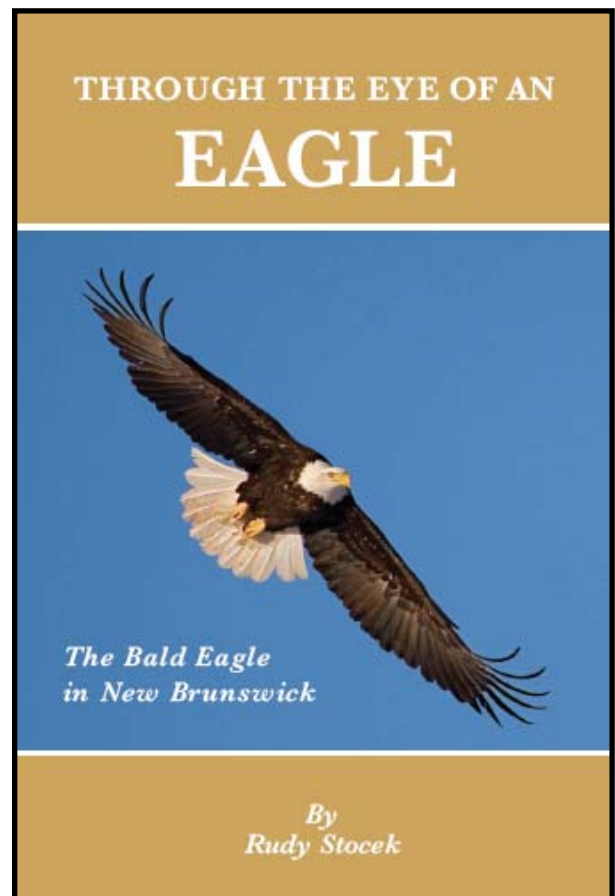
Submitted by: Lehanne Knowlton

Rudy Stocek, a retired wildlife biologist and fisheries scientist has recently published a compilation of 25 years of research on the bald eagle in New Brunswick. His book, "*Through the Eye of an Eagle*" encompasses a life time of watching and witnessing first hand the life cycle and life habits of this majestic raptor. It looks at eagle distribution and abundance, historical and current breeding populations, nesting habitat, eagle reproduction, winter and summer diet and mortality in the province.

Rudy retired in 2002 after teaching at the Maritime Forest Ranger School for 35 years. There he was also the director of the continuing education Fish and Wildlife Program, teaching resource ecology to forest rangers. He worked as both a seasonal fisheries biologist and wildlife biologist for the New Brunswick Fish and Wildlife Branch and, established and taught the Ichthyology and Fisheries Science course at the University of New Brunswick in the early 1980's.

Among his over 50 publications, Rudy's books and articles have included some of his research on the bald eagle, osprey, peregrine falcon, common loon, tree swallow, eastern cougar, muskellunge and fathead minnow. His book on identifying New Brunswick trees and shrubs in winter continues to be used in wildlife and forestry programs.

The Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists awarded Rudy their Professional Merit Award in 1995. Throughout his career and into retirement he continues to act as a consulting fish and wildlife biologist.



Anyone interested in obtaining a copy of this book can contact:

**Lehanne Knowlton**

Assistant - Research Office

St. Thomas University [knowlton@stu.ca](mailto:knowlton@stu.ca)



# ASFWB Merit Award

Each year, nominations are accepted for the ASFWB Merit Award, which is presented at the Annual Fall Meeting. This award formally acknowledges the achievements and contributions of a deserving individual to fish and wildlife biology.

## Criteria for Selection:

The award will be presented for distinguished service over a period of time or for recent outstanding achievement in the field of fish and wildlife biology. Candidates may be evaluated from a diversity of activities, including:

- i. their role in the conservation of rare and endangered species;
- ii. the conservation of important habitats;
- iii. the increase in public awareness of the importance of fish and wildlife management;
- iv. their contribution to professional societies; and
- v. the implementation of sound fish and wildlife management in the Atlantic Region.

Candidates must be residents of the Atlantic Region and members of ASFWB. An awards committee consisting of the ASFWB executive shall determine to whom the award will be presented. The award will only be presented if in the opinion of the committee, there is a nominee worthy of the award. No member of the current executive will qualify for the nomination. Nominations received in any year which are passed over, will automatically be considered in the subsequent two years. If you know someone who should be nominated, then please provide :

- Name and address of nominee;
- Brief explanation of the nature of his or her contribution or service to fish and wildlife biology; and
- Your name, address and signature.

Forward all this information to:  
Andrew Boyne  
C/O Canadian Wildlife Service  
Environment Canada  
45 Alderney Drive, 16th Floor  
Dartmouth, N.S. B2Y 2N6



## ASFWB EXECUTIVE

**President** – Andrew Boyne  
[Andrew.Boyne@EC.GC.CA](mailto:Andrew.Boyne@EC.GC.CA)

**Past President** – Mary Beth Benedict  
[mb.benedict@nspower.ca](mailto:mb.benedict@nspower.ca)

**Secretary / Treasurer** – Andrew MacFarlane  
[Andrew.MacFarlane@EC.GC.CA](mailto:Andrew.MacFarlane@EC.GC.CA)

**VP Membership** – Rosemary Curley  
[Frcurley@gov.pe.ca](mailto:Frcurley@gov.pe.ca)

**VP Student Affairs** – Colin Garroway  
[cgarroway@hotmail.com](mailto:cgarroway@hotmail.com)

**VP Student Affairs** – Leslie Corning  
[lesley\\_corning@hotmail.com](mailto:lesley_corning@hotmail.com)

**VP Program (NFLD)** – Tom Knight

**Newsletter Editor** – Jason LeBlanc  
[leblanje@gov.ns.ca](mailto:leblanje@gov.ns.ca)

# CONFERENCE

## Atlantic Canadian Species at Risk Linking Science and Communities in Recovery

October 23-24, 2006  
Fisheries Museum of the Atlantic  
Lunenburg, Nova Scotia

### Conference Aim

The goal of the *Atlantic Canadian Species at Risk; Linking Science and Communities Conference* is to provide an opportunity for learning and knowledge sharing between policy makers, scientists, community groups, environmental managers, academia, and other individuals interested in the recovery of Species at Risk in Atlantic Canada.

### Second Call for Papers

Deadline: September 20, 2006  
[heather@coastalaction.org](mailto:heather@coastalaction.org)  
[www.coastalaction.org](http://www.coastalaction.org)

### Information for Authors

Authors are invited to submit abstracts for oral presentations and posters that address conference themes and subjects. Atlantic Canadian Species at Risk; Linking Science and Communities Conference has the following themes:

- Habitat loss/ disturbance/degradation
- Critical habitat for SAR
- Education/ outreach

### Abstract Submission Guidelines

Authors should submit abstracts of no more than 350 words which concisely outline the subject matter of their presentation or poster and its connection to a particular conference theme. The deadline for abstract submissions is September 20, 2006. Email abstracts to [heather@coastalaction.org](mailto:heather@coastalaction.org) and ensure the phrase "Abstract submission" is in the subject line of the email.

### Conference Registration

To register for the conference, contact the Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation at 902-624-9888 or visit [www.coastalaction.org](http://www.coastalaction.org)

*Bluenose Coastal Action Foundation's mission is to facilitate the necessary action to protect and enhance the environmental quality of the watershed and coastal areas, in full collaboration with and in support of a healthy and prosperous community. BCAF is a proud member of Environment Canada's Atlantic Coastal Action Program.*



# From the Archives

## ASFWB Newsletter / Bulletin

### Volume 7 Number 1 March 1991



A tragic motor vehicle accident in October, 1990 claimed the life of one of Harvey, New Brunswick's dedicated residents leaving friends and relatives in shock. Although he had lived in the area for only ten years, David Cartwright has readily earned the respect and acceptance of his adopted community.

Very modest about his professional and personal qualifications, Dave preferred to remain in the background while letting others shine in the limelight. However, as Acting Chief biologist for the New Brunswick Department of Natural Resources, he was widely respected by his peers and was generally recognised for his pioneering research into the toxic effects of PCBs on man, wildlife and the environment.

One of Dave's life-long passions was his love of wildlife. In his efforts to ensure the humane treatment of animals, he was the driving force behind the establishment of the New Brunswick Trappers Association. Through this organization, he worked to realistically harmonize the rights of the traditional trapper with the need to selectively and humanely harvest the province's many fur-bearing animals.

This interest in animals also led to another one of his passions - - raising livestock -- which he indulged by developing and raising

a herd of Herefords on his hobby farm at Magaguadavic.

These passions aside, perhaps David's most abiding love was that of sports. Although he enjoyed and played baseball, his first love had to be hockey. An avid player, he was dismayed upon his arrival to the Harvey area to note that there was no indoor rink where the community residents could play and attend games. So, it was not unreasonable that when the Harvey Memorial Recreation Centre committee was formed, David became an active member.

From the moment the first sheet of ice was in place, David became a fixture at rink-side. He worked diligently to develop and subsequently expand the Harvey Minor Hockey Association. Organizing the local area youngsters, he began teaching them his hockey techniques, and every season thereafter was behind the bench of one of the local teams.

Above all, David Cartwright was a devoted family man, a husband to his wife Wendy, a father to their children - daughter Hilary (then 15) and a son Daniel (then 11), a son to his parents John and Vivienne of Christie Ridge and a brother to Paul of Frog Lake Road.

With his passing, his family, the community at large and the wildlife profession have lost a vital contributor who will be sadly missed.

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***The David J. Cartwright Memorial Scholarship was established by the ASFWB in 1991. The 1-year Scholarship is awarded annually and is open to full-time students on the Fredericton campus of the University of New Brunswick (UNB) entering the final year of Forestry (Wildlife Option) or Science (Biology Option). The award was established in the fall of 1994, and was first disbursed in 1996.***

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.....also in Vol. 7 No. 1 March 1991

- A strategy for enhancing and managing the Atlantic salmon resource in the Bay of Islands - Humber River Ecosystem *by Conrad Hiscock*
  - An experimental trapline system for all species of Newfoundland furbearers *by Ivan Pitcher*
  - Eider ducks and gulls: Is there a problem *by R. Ian Goudie*
  - Sediment freeze coring in the aquatic environment *by Dave Robbins*
  - ASFWB Merit Award presented to *Diane Griffin*
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## Student Profile

- no submissions for this issue

Please send submissions for the student profile to [leblanje@gov.ns.ca](mailto:leblanje@gov.ns.ca) and write **ASFWS Student Profile** in the subject line. Students continue to be an active and important part of our Society. Please consider highlighting their contributions and research through our newsletter.

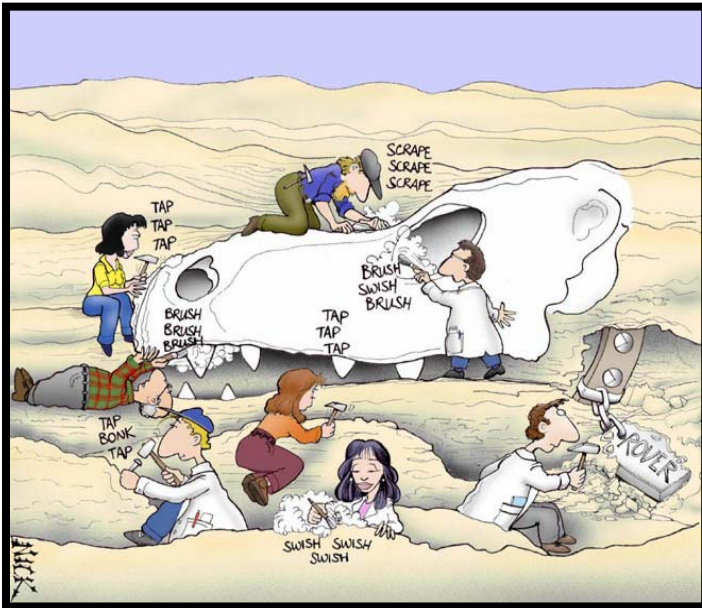
## A Community-Based Monitoring Framework for Nova Scotia

by Cathy Conrad and Tyson Daoust, Saint Mary's University.

The current state of Community-Based Monitoring (CBM) in Nova Scotia was explored in a 2005-06 study of CBM groups throughout the province. One goal was to modify the Pollock and Whitelaw conceptual CBM framework (2005) into a more functional CBM framework for stewardship groups in Nova Scotia. An 18 question survey and interview of 15 participants, representing 11 different CBM groups were conducted. The survey aided the researchers in identifying current gaps and problems related to CBM in Nova Scotia from the community's perspective.

Based on the results of the research, a functional CBM framework was prepared, with the common themes of those interviewed groups incorporated into the content and design. The framework addresses many of the concerns identified in the surveys. It is believed that this multi-party framework has the potential to be adopted and modified to suit CBM groups across the country. An honours thesis completed in the Department of Geography at Saint Mary's University describes the results in full.

Of the challenges identified by the research participants, the current gap between CBM groups and decision makers is noted as one of the greatest barriers to effective CBM in Nova Scotia. Future work will include creating a concise exercise to accompany the framework that CBM groups can work through in their efforts to accomplish their intended goals of protection, preservation and enhancement of their natural environments. For more information contact Cathy Conrad at [cconrad@smu.ca](mailto:cconrad@smu.ca)



## Upcoming Events

### Canadian Council of Ecological Areas 2006 National Workshop

"Apples and Oranges: Applying the IUCN Categories to Canada's Protected Areas"  
October 2-5, 2006, Oak Island Resort, Nova Scotia [www.ccea.org](http://www.ccea.org)

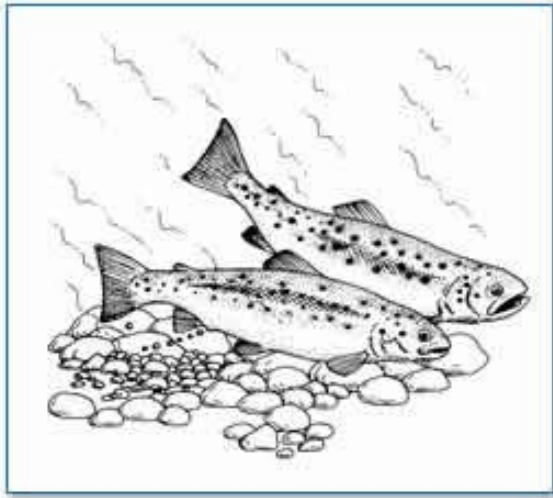
### Call for Papers: 2006 EMAN National Science Meeting

Nov 20-25, 2006. The Fairmont, Winnipeg.  
<https://www.emanrese.ca/eman/reports/meetings/national2006>

### Challenges for Diadromous Fishes in a Dynamic Global Environment

Date: 17-24 June, 2007  
Location: Halifax, Nova Scotia  
<http://www.anacat.ca>





# Please renew your membership or become a new member of the ASFWB

Membership to the Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists is open to residents of New Brunswick, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island and Newfoundland and Labrador. Regular (\$15) and student (\$5) memberships are available. To become a member contact Andrew MacFarlane [Andrew.MacFarlane@EC.GC.CA](mailto:Andrew.MacFarlane@EC.GC.CA) or Rosemary Curley [Frcurley@gov.pe.ca](mailto:Frcurley@gov.pe.ca) or fill out the form on the back page and submit.

## Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists

E-Mail: [ASFWBweb@chebucto.ns.ca](mailto:ASFWBweb@chebucto.ns.ca)

ASFWB Home Page: <http://www.chebucto.ns.ca/Environment/ASFWB>

### MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL FORM / APPLICATION

Date: .....

NAME : .....

TITLE: .....

AFFILIATION: .....

TELEPHONE: (H).....(O).....

MAILING ADDRESS:.....

.....

.....

EMAIL:.....

REGULAR MEMBER (\$15): \_\_\_\_\_ STUDENT (\$5): \_\_\_\_\_

*Besides newsletters, I would like to receive notices, announcements, etc. by:  
email \_\_\_\_\_ regular mail: \_\_\_\_\_  
(Newsletters will be mailed out and available online).*

Mail a completed copy of this form along with a cheque (payable to **Atlantic Society of Fish and Wildlife Biologists**) to: **Andrew Macfarlane, c/o Canadian Wildlife Service, Environment Canada, P.O. Box 6227, Sackville, N.B., E4L 1G6** or contact Rosemary Curley [Frcurley@gov.pe.ca](mailto:Frcurley@gov.pe.ca)

### Newsletter Submissions

Please forward any articles, photos, updates, or notes of interest to [leblanje@gov.ns.ca](mailto:leblanje@gov.ns.ca)  
**NEXT ISSUE - January 2007 Deadline for submissions is January 5, 2007**

