



Photo Credit: Dale Williams

THE MIRACLE OF MIGRATION

We still do not know with certainty why birds migrate or how they find their way.

Why? It is believed that birds migrate north in the spring to take advantage of the abundant food available to raise their young during the temperate summer. By migrating, they avoid competition with resident species, which are also raising their young.

How? It is thought that birds use the sun as a compass during the day and the stars at night. They also appear to use the earth's magnetic field and landmarks. Many birds return unerringly to the place where they hatched year after year.



Black-and-white Warbler
Photo Credit: Alan Hogue

Processing Birds at LMBO
Photo Credit: A.R. Smith

Thank you to our Supporters!

We are grateful to and salute our dedicated donors, volunteers, professionals and program partners who are making the Observatory a legacy for future generations to build upon and to enjoy.

Supporting Organizations:

- SaskEnergy
- SaskPower
- Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment—Fish and Wildlife Development Fund
- Environment Canada—Canadian Wildlife Service
- Bird Studies Canada
- Murray and Edna Forbes Foundation

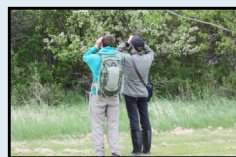


Photo: Dianna Tronstad-Mutafov

To learn more about the

Last Mountain Bird Observatory, contact:



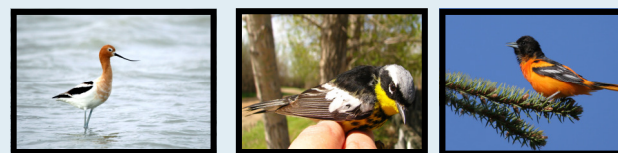
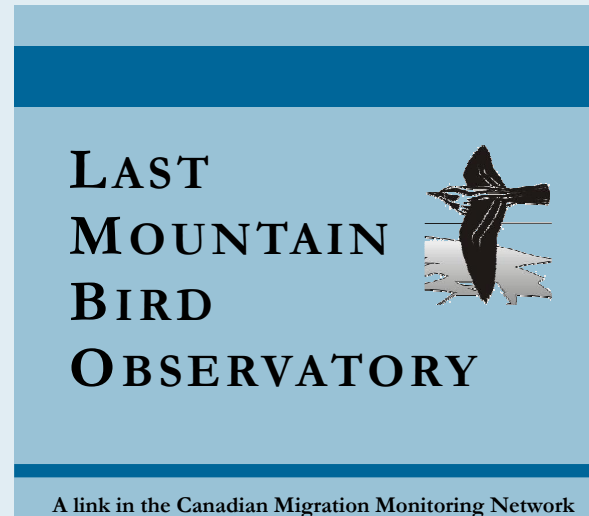
206-1860 Lorne St.
Regina, SK S4P 2L7
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Nature Saskatchewan receives funding from:



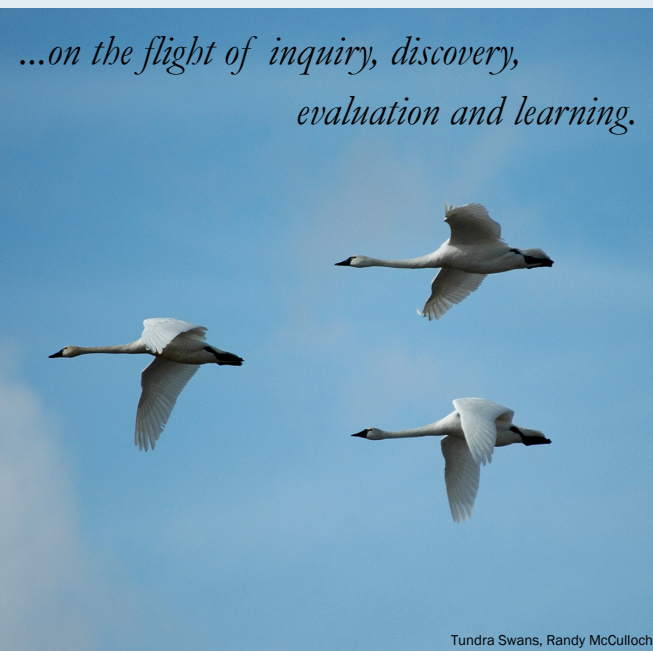
July 2011



American Avocet, R. McCulloch

Magnolia Warbler, S. Fisher

Baltimore Oriole, N.Saunders



Tundra Swans, Randy McCulloch

Monitoring, Banding, Education



Nature
SASKATCHEWAN

LMBO AND YOU

Volunteers and visitors are welcome at the observatory.



Tree Swallow: Kris Mutafov

Times of operation are:

- ♦ 7:00 a.m. (volunteers) or 9:00 a.m. (visitors) to 1:00 p.m.
- ♦ Open May 9-31 (spring) and August 4 to September 30 (fall).

NOTE: The mist nets to catch birds will be closed if the wind is over 30km/h or if it is raining. Please check the weather before coming at:

www.weatheroffice.ec.gc.ca
(select: Last Mountain Lake)

HOW YOU CAN HELP...

Volunteers in our monitoring and educational programs are a welcome help!

Support through donations is important to continue valuable monitoring and educational work at LMBO.

FLIGHT PLAN PARTNERS (FPP)

The 5-year Flight Plan Partner campaign, from April 2008 – March 2013, will provide funds to continue the valuable work of LMBO into the future. Co-managed with the Canadian Wildlife Service from 1989-2007, LMBO is now under the wing of Nature Saskatchewan.

A FPP is an individual or organization who has donated or pledged \$500 or more to LMBO in one or more payments over the campaign period. To join the flock of FPPs, and to be recognized with a FPP certificate and in other ways, mail the attached form or contact Nature Saskatchewan.



Whooping Cranes

Photo Credit: Nick Saunders

MONITORING PROGRAMS:

- Songbirds and other birds migrating from the boreal forests are monitored as they pass through the LMBO area in spring and fall. Many songbirds are in serious decline due to loss of breeding and wintering habitat.
- The Christmas Bird Count, Breeding Bird Survey and Nocturnal Owl Monitoring programs in Saskatchewan are under the wing of LMBO. LMBO is well poised to enhance provincial promotion and coordination of these national programs.



Birding Workshop at LMBO
Photo Credit: Margaret Skeel



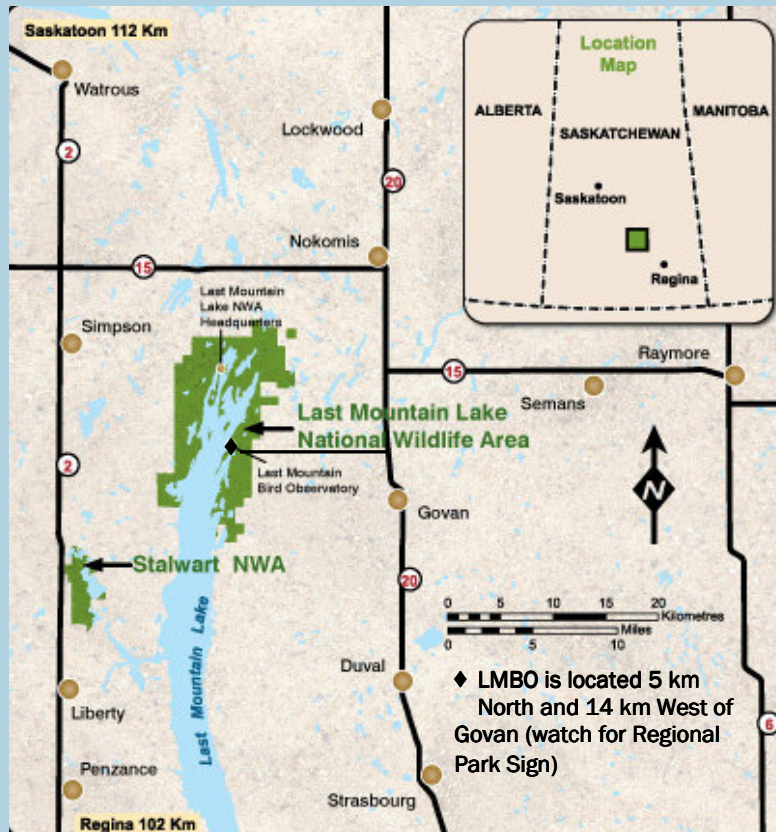
Processing Birds at LMBO
Photo Credit: A.R. Smith

EDUCATION PROGRAMS:

- LMBO offers educational programming to youth and adults. Spend half a day at the Observatory participating in bird banding and bird identification.
- Youth groups, for example Girl Guides and Scouts, are welcome to come out to LMBO to have fun learning and earn badges at the same time!
- An annual Baillie Birdathon is held one day in May at LMBO. Watch the Nature Saskatchewan website for news on the birdathon and other workshops to increase your birding skills and to learn about bird conservation.

***BOOK PROGRAMS BY CONTACTING
NATURE SASKATCHEWAN**

at 1-800-667-4668 or 780-9273 in Regina



LAST MOUNTAIN LAKE NATIONAL WILDLIFE AREA AND MIGRATORY BIRD SANCTUARY

The oldest bird sanctuary in North America, Last Mountain Lake National Wildlife Area and Migratory Bird Sanctuary was founded in 1887. It was first recognized as an important waterfowl breeding ground, and later for its importance as a migratory stopover for waterfowl and other groups of birds, including Sandhill and Whooping Cranes, shorebirds, birds of prey and landbirds.

Birds travelling through at least 40 different countries, from Siberia and Arctic Canada south to Chile and Argentina use the area's varied habitats to rest and feed.

LAST MOUNTAIN BIRD OBSERVATORY (LMBO)

An enclave within the National Wildlife Area, LMBO was established in 1989. It is part of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network, and together with other Observatories keeps track of the numbers of landbirds migrating between their breeding grounds in the boreal forests of Alaska and Canada, and wintering grounds from the southern United States to central South America.

Since 1989 over 65,000 birds of 115 species have been banded at LMBO. Data gathered from these birds have been used to answer a number of important questions about landbird migration through LMBO and the prairies.

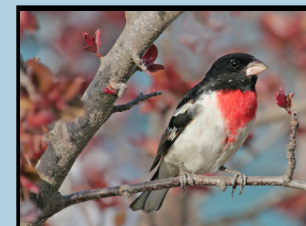
Once captured in "mist nets", each bird is tagged with a uniquely numbered aluminum band on its leg, and then aged, measured, fat content determined, and weighed before it is released.



Baillie Birdathon at LMBO, 2011
Photo Credit: Kris Mutafov



Western King Bird
Photo Credit: Shelly Fisher



Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Photo Credit: Nick Saunders



Showing youth a bird up close
Photo Credit: Shelly Fisher

Yes, I want to support Last Mountain Bird Observatory!

Enclosed is my gift of:

\$50 \$100 \$200 Other _____

OR

I want to be a Flight Plan Partner (min. \$500)

Enclosed is my first gift of \$_____ of my pledge to donate a total of \$_____ to LMBO. I understand I will be sent a reminder for the remaining support in following years.

I would like to be contacted as a potential volunteer for LMBO!

I want to receive the *Black & White Warbler*, the newsletter of LMBO.

Name _____

Address _____

Province _____ Postal Code _____

Phone # _____

Email _____

Please charge to my: Visa MasterCard

Card #: _____

Expiry Date: ____ / ____ Amount: \$ _____

OR

Enclosed is my cheque payable to:

Nature Saskatchewan
206-1860 Lorne St. Regina, SK S4P 2L7
Please note that it is a donation to LMBO.

Receipts for tax purposes will be issued for gifts of \$10 or more.