

# The Canadian Field-Naturalist

## News and Comment

Compiled by Amanda E. Martin

### Upcoming Meetings and Workshops

#### Association of Field Ornithologists and the Wilson Ornithological Society Joint Annual Meeting

The joint annual meeting of the Association of Field Ornithologists and the Wilson Ornithological Society to be held 7–9 July 2026 at Salve Regina University,

Newport, Rhode Island. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://afowos2026.org/>.

#### Mycological Society of America Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Mycological Society of America to be held 11–15 July 2026 at the Double-Tree, Portland, Oregon. The theme of the meeting is:

‘Bridging Mycology Across Communities and Disciplines’. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://msafungi.org/>.

#### North American Congress for Conservation & Restoration

The North American Congress for Conservation & Restoration, hosted by the Society for Conservation Biology North America, the Society for Ecological Restoration (SER), and SER Midwest-Great Lakes, to be held 12–16 July 2026 at the Baird Center,

Milwaukee, Michigan. The theme of the conference is: ‘Conservation & Restoration for People & Nature’. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://scbnorthamerica.org/index.php/naccr-2026/>.

#### Animal Behavior Society Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Animal Behavior Society to be held as a hybrid event, in-person meeting 14–18 July 2026 at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza, Cincinnati, Ohio and online content available

starting 27 July 2026. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://www.animalsocietymetings.org/2026/index.php>.

#### Mothapalooza

Mothapalooza to be held 17–19 July 2026 at the Shawnee Lodge & Conference Center, Shawnee State Forest, Ohio. Registration is currently open.

More information is available at <https://www.arcofappalachia.org/mothapalooza>.

#### Ecological Society of America Annual Meeting

The 111th annual meeting of the Ecological Society of America to be held 26–31 July 2026 at the Salt Palace Convention Center, Salt Lake City, Utah. The

theme of the meeting is: ‘Ecology in an Era of Uncertainty’. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://esa.org/saltlake2026/>.

#### Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Annual Meeting

The Northeast Partners in Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Annual Meeting to be held 29–31 July 2026 at the Paul Smith’s College, Paul Smiths, New

York. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://www.northeastparc.org/index.php/meetings>.

#### Botany 2026

Botany 2026 to be held 1–5 August 2026 at the JW Marriott Tucson Starr Pass Resort & Spa, Tucson, Arizona. The theme of the conference is: ‘Biodiversity at

the Boundaries’. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://www.xcdsystem.com/botany/program/QCq9cvK/index.cfm>.

### American Ornithological Society

The annual meeting of the American Ornithological Society to be held 3–7 August 2026 at the University of Massachusetts, Amherst, Massachusetts.

### American Fisheries Society Annual Meeting

The 156th annual meeting of the American Fisheries Society to be held 30 August–3 September 2026 at the Hyatt Regency Downtown, Columbus, Ohio. The theme of the meeting is: ‘The Heart of Sustainability:

Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://meeting.americanornithology.org/>.

Habitat as the Foundation of Productive Fisheries’. Registration is currently open. More information is available at <https://afsannualmeeting.fisheries.org/>.

## James Fletcher Award for *The Canadian Field-Naturalist* Volume 138

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 ninth 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 138 of CFN and came up with a list of five papers. From these, the committee ranked the papers and selected the top paper. The award for Volume 138 of CFN goes to:

**Thomas Edward Reimchen.** 2024. The carcass zone: salmon contribution to tree rings in old-growth Sitka Spruce (*Picea sitchensis*) throughout coastal British Columbia. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 138(2): 145–162. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v138i2.3301>

- In this paper, the author uses data spanning from 1945 to 1999 and covering 79 watersheds in three regions of British Columbia, Canada, to find a fascinating contribution of salmon-derived nutrients to tree growth.

Congratulations to Tom for their excellent paper.

### Honourable Mentions (in chronological order):

**Bruce D.S. Taylor, Michaela C. Strüder-Kypke, and Ferry J. Siemensma.** 2024. A new species of testate amoeba, *Arcella prismatica* sp. nov. (Amoebozoa: Arcellinida), from peatlands in Ontario and Quebec, Canada. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 138(1): 1–15. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v138i1.3195>

- In this paper, a new species of animal was discovered in a protected wetland in the nation’s capital, Ottawa, the Mer Bleue Bog Conservation Area, suggesting that not all is yet known about Canada’s biodiversity.

**Mike C. Rodtka, Chad S. Judd, and Peter K.M. Aku.** 2024. Displacement of migratory Bull Trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) spawning by a newly constructed beaver (*Castor canadensis*) dam in a west-central Alberta stream. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 138(2):

125–129. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v138i2.3265>

- In this paper, the authors make a novel observation of a newly constructed beaver dam impeding the spawning behaviour of threatened Bull Trout, highlighting a possible threat to this species.

**Melissa J. Reynolds-Hogland, Carly Brooks, Gus Seward, Alan B. Ramsey, Rebecca A. Durham, Kirsten Terkildsen, Madison Vastine, and Philip W. Ramsey.** 2024. Video-documentation of American Black Bear (*Ursus americanus*) foraging on algae in livestock tanks on a conservation property in western Montana, USA. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 138(2): 133–144. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v138i2.3349>

- This paper provides the first records of American Black Bears consuming freshwater algae, based on camera-trapping data from a conservation property in western Montana, USA. This contributes to our understanding of black bear diet and the role of algae in the terrestrial food web.

**Catriona Hayes Morris and Todd J. Morris.** 2024. The history of commercial freshwater mussel harvest in southern Ontario: a short-lived fishery with long-lasting consequences. *Canadian Field-Naturalist* 138(3): 205–216. <https://doi.org/10.22621/cfn.v138i3.3391>

- In this paper, the authors use historical sources including newspapers to see if the lingering effects of the commercial harvest of freshwater mussels in southern Ontario at the turn of the 20th century for the button industry could have contributed to their current imperilled status.

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 138 of *The Canadian Field-Naturalist*.

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