

*Free Public Lecture*

# **Population Trends of BC's Coastal Waterbirds: A Citizen Science Approach.**



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The B.C. coast is of international importance for waterbirds, especially during winter when huge numbers of seabirds, ducks and other waterbirds feed and roost in bays and estuaries. This presentation will describe preliminary results from 10 years of the British Columbia Coastal Waterbird Survey (BCCWS), one of several Citizen Science programs coordinated by Bird Studies Canada ([www.birdscanada.org](http://www.birdscanada.org)). This monitoring program involves local volunteers who conduct monthly counts of coastal waterbirds at specific locations along the coast. Based on 10 years of Citizen Science data, many coastal waterbird species appear to be in decline in BC, while a few others might be increasing. With increasing pressure from development and population expansion on coastal areas, long-term data on the abundance and distribution of BC's waterbirds is important to help identify population trends and conservation issues facing these species.

*Karen Barry works for Bird Studies Canada, Canada's leading non-profit bird research and conservation organization. She coordinates two coastal bird monitoring programs, the Coastal Waterbird Survey and the Beached Bird Survey program, and works on a relatively new initiative in Canada, the Important Bird Area program. Karen holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Biology from University of Waterloo and a Master's Degree in Biology from University of Victoria. Her education and background has focused on ecology and she is an avid birdwatcher with particular interest in habitat and species conservation.*

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**7:00 - 8:00 p.m.**

Vancouver Island University, Building 356, Room 109

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