



ISLAND  
NATURE  
TRUST

**JUNE 2022**  
**#155**

*Dedicated to the Protection of  
Natural Areas in Prince Edward  
Island Since 1979*

**Quarterly**



**INNT**



# In this issue:

---

## **1-2 Sprinting Forward:**

Megan Harris, the Trust's Director of Conservation, reflects on a fast paced seven years of personal and Trust growth ahead of a permanent return to her BC home

## **3-4 Saving Our Island Campaign:**

INT relaunches its *Match A Patch* campaign with never-before-seen drone footage of recently acquired natural areas

## **5-7 Add A Patch:**

MacKay Family donates 278 acre peatland and bog in Haliburton

## **8 Supporting Landowners:**

The Trust relaunches its Private Stewards Support Program

## **9-10 Big Picture:**

Featuring stunning photographs of Island nature taken by staff & supporters

## **11-12 Passport to Nature:**

Six more events scheduled for this Summer & Fall

## **13-14 Land Stewardship**

Carbon monitoring in collaboration with Community Forests International

## **15 Species Conservation:**

Taking a look at species-at-risk - the bank swallow

## **16 New Online Shop Launch:**

Hoodies and touques galore!

## **17 Young Naturalists**

## **18 Our New Staff**

## **19 Hon. J. Angus MacLean Natural Areas Award Call For Nominations**





*Front and insert page:*

*A birds-eye view of the Midgell River Riparian Zone Natural Area. Purchased in 2021 thanks to cash donations from Islanders to the Match A Patch campaign.*





## A GOODBYE MESSAGE FROM MEGAN HARRIS

When Bianca asked me to write about my experiences with INT my first thought was “the newsletter isn’t that long”! In an attempt to tell a short story instead of a novel, I chose three words that I hope speak volumes:

- Soul-satisfying
- Attitude-bending
- Sprint

Seven years is a long time to sprint, but it did feel like the intensity of the work never subsided. Land conservation follows seasons and the patterns of nature. The summer is frantic. Field work maximizes daylight and aligns with the renewal of life and growth in our short season of warm maritime breezes.



The fall and spring are times to complete work that would create too much disturbance to wildlife during summer breeding – like forest plantation management or structure removals. And winter is a time to assess, consolidate and plan more work, making sure the funding is in place to resource it all. There is no down time.

Despite that, this is the kind of work that matters for human and earthly well-being. The people that work here understand that and care deeply about the natural world. It satisfies the soul when what you do every day feels like it is making a positive, tangible, and lasting contribution. In my time at INT, the most rewarding moments have happened while giving back to the land – planting native trees and shrubs, removing debris and exotics – knowing that the positive change will be lasting. Part of the reward comes from sharing those experiences of healing and restoration with other Islanders who join us in serving the land.

The people that have flowed into my life over those seven years have immeasurably enriched my world and caused me to think deeply about my own path. Who knew there were so many ways of knowing! This job has given me the privilege of sharing in people’s journeys with land – family land, traditional gathering grounds, business holdings – and that has taught me as much about human nature as it has about the rest of the natural world.

Islanders care so much about this glorious island of sandstone; their natural gift for storytelling isn’t always just on stage either! I’m so appreciative of the time I got to spend with them.



As a young adult, I leaned to righteous indignation – my mother says I don't suffer fools gladly (and mothers are usually right). As an older, hopefully wiser human, I find my views on everything have been weathered, with the edges rubbed smooth like sandstone by all these encounters with people who traveled different paths and yet still share common ground.

I leave INT feeling assured that the work and dedication for caring for the natural lands of PEI will carry on, full steam ahead. The structure of the organization is strong, the people are motivated and hungry to continue making a difference. They are supported by a formidable force of members, donors, volunteers, partners and neighbours who are committed to caring for the forests, shorelines, rivers and wetlands of the Island. The conservation of PEI is in good hands!

Wela'lin! Thank you for everything!

Megan



## THANKFUL FOR A LASTING IMPRESSION AS WE RACE ON

It's hard to think that it's been just under a year and a half since Megan stepped down as Executive Director to concentrate her efforts on strengthening the Trust's conservation outcomes. As our Director of Conservation she's played a pivotal role in mentoring and creating strong teams to continue her good work in land stewardship and species-at-risk monitoring, not to mention helping a number of us at the Trust navigate the sometimes daunting world of land acquisitions.

In just a couple short years the Trust has gone from having five permanent staff members to employing fourteen people in year-round positions. We've also increased the annual number of acres put under protection substantially. A catalyst to this success and growth is Megan and her ability to impart trust (no pun intended) among our staff, membership, donors, volunteers and partners.

In her farewell message Megan refers to her time with the Trust as a sprint. I look at it more like a relay race with Megan as a team member who picked up one of the longer legs and passed the baton in record time in an effort to help the rest of us cross the finish line. Megan will be terribly missed by all of us at the Trust. We're all better for having worked with her. It's been a pleasure and a privilege to learn from someone so knowledgeable and passionate about the work we do.

I speak for all staff when I say that we could not be more pleased with the way life seems to be working out for Megan. She's moving home to be with family, she'll be living off the grid (that could not be more on brand) and she'll continue to work in conservation. I hope the BC Department of Forestry appreciates that they're getting one of our best runners. I expect they're going to win some races they didn't even sign up for.

Bianca McGregor,  
Executive Director





# Saving Our Island: MATCH PATCH NATURAL AREAS FROM THE AIR



To celebrate the record-breaking success of last years Saving Our Island – Match A Patch campaign, the Trust is launching a series of short videos revealing a birds-eye view and first glimpse of some of the natural areas acquired in 2021.



The purchase of these ecologically rich properties was only made possible thanks to cash donations from Islanders.

To watch the first episode, visit <https://islandnaturetrust.ca/match/>

We are excited to share with you this unique perspective of your natural Island.

Since April 2021, The Trust has nearly tripled its yearly acquisitions by securing 21 ecologically sensitive properties across PEI. In that time, 1,822 acres of natural area were secured. This continues an impressive growth trajectory, which has seen the 40-year-old Trust acquire over a third of its total natural areas within three years.

Through the Saving Our Island campaign – first launched in September 2021 - the Trust asked Islanders to help connect PEI's patchwork landscape by either donating their land to **Add A Patch** or giving cash to **Match A Patch**, to see their contribution quadrupled by the Trust's conservation partners. Funds raised allowed the Trust to continue its mission to strategically secure a corridor of natural areas across PEI. Lastly, **Mend A Patch** used cash donations to ensure the long-term stewardship of the Trust's acquired natural areas.

1,304 acres were purchased by INT in 2021-22 and a further 518 acres donated thanks to the generosity of the Island community.

Ecosystem Services: A standout feature of these ecologically important acquired areas is the plethora of benefits they provide to Islanders, not just nature.

Crucially, the carbon sequestration potential of large forest blocks, wetland and marshland present in recent acquisitions are a natural defence to the rising effects of climate change.

*Below: Contiguous forest networks lying adjacent to multiple protected lands at the Midgell River Riparian Zone NA.*







*Crown Point Wji'kijek Natural Area in Alexandra*

The acquisitions, made possible from last years Match A Patch campaign, will all be protected in perpetuity under the PEI Natural Areas Protection Act and include:



**Wji'kijek – MapleCross Natural Area:** This property is an expansion to the Crown Point Wji'kijek Natural Area in Alexandra and hosts coastal Krummholz forest and a freshwater marsh that once connected to Jardines bay. The parcel's edge contains coastal bluffs that supports one of the Trust's focus species-at-risk, the bank swallow ([learn more on page 13](#)). Crown Point is associated with considerable cultural significance. Wji'kijek translates to "the place where stumps are found."

**MapleCross - Morell River Riparian Zone Natural Area:** Comprised of three connective properties that are an addition to the many protected areas along the Morell River. This waterway has been recognized for its ecological and cultural significance, reflected with a 60-meter conservation zone along much of its length. These new parcels are a haven for songbirds

and spring ephemerals that lie at the water's edge.

**Midgell River Riparian Zone Natural Area:** This is an addition to adjoining protected lands that make up the Martinvale - Corraville Wildlife Management Area. This headwater forest is dominated by mature black spruce, and supports a large number of rare species, including the nationally at-risk Eastern wood pee-wee.



*Marshland at Crown Point is a haven for countless birds and small mammals*

**Nebraska Creek Riparian Zone Natural Area:** This property is an addition to the Trust's natural areas within the Miscouche bog region, which is known for rare species richness and carbon sequestration potential. Also within the parcel is lowland forest passing through Nebraska Creek and a coastal salt marsh that borders Grand River.

The Trust just surpassed the 7,800-acre mark for protected natural areas and has a goal to acquire another 2,000 acres in 2022.

Thanks to conservation alliances with the Province of PEI and Ontario based, MapleCross Fund, we are excited to announce every dollar donated to the relaunched Saving Our IsLand campaign will be tripled! Our goal is to raise \$150,000 which will be matched to allow us to dedicate over \$450,000 to Island land conservation.

Learn more and donate to the campaign relaunch at [islandnaturetrust.ca/patchwork](http://islandnaturetrust.ca/patchwork)



# ADD PATCH: MacKay family donates 268 acre lowland and wetland property in Haliburton



Last year, five parcels were donated to the **Add a Patch** campaign to be protected in perpetuity. The largest of these properties was donated by the MacKay family - sitting next to Strang Road in Haliburton, Prince County – it features a sizeable area of carbon absorbing peatland and bog. The habitat is known to support Canada warbler, while housing several uncommon, tracked flora such as royal fern, Vermont blackberry, white fringed orchid and rose pogonia.

The 268-acre property was donated to the Island Nature Trust under the Government of Canada's Ecological Gifts Program, which provides enhanced tax incentives for individuals or corporations who donate ecologically significant land.

Gordon MacKay - also the President of Island Nature Trust - says that while the tax incentives offered by the Ecological gift program were appealing, his family was 'incredibly grateful to see their land protected for the benefits of both people and nature.'

Considering the impact of increased development and looming effects of climate change, Gordon believes that it was just the right time to donate his family's land to the Trust.

He adds, 'knowing that our donation of land will continue to provide benefits to the Island community in the face of global biodiversity loss and trusting that the land will be preserved in its natural state forever is comforting to our family.'

The ecologically diverse property was named the Jean and Stewart

MacKay Natural Area after Gordon's parents and features undisturbed peatlands within the eastern parcel. This area allows for continued carbon sequestration in an area of western Prince Edward Island experiencing dramatic loss of stored carbon through forest conversion to agriculture.



*'This donation is our family's gift to future generations.'*

*'In the knowledge that our grandchildren will have children of their own, it is our hope that they can experience the benefits of engaging with these spaces.'*

*Gordon MacKay,  
Add A Patch land donor*



The eastern portion of the natural area features a bog bordered with a rare stand of jack pine, while the western parcel supports red maple and black spruce lowland mixed wood forest and feeds groundwater through seeps to Dalton's Brook. This property forms a large block proximate to protected public land in the Haliburton Ironwood Natural Area and Locke Rd Jack Pine Woodland Natural Area.

'It was nice to receive a tax receipt but that wasn't our main motivation for the donation,' says Gordon.

'Two of my sisters are avid bird watchers and have enjoyed experiences of observing birds within their natural habitats. I once accompanied them on a guided tour into the Amazon wilderness of Peru and that really helped to open my eyes to the rich lives that birds have in ecologically diverse environments.'

Gordon understands the importance of sharing knowledge and engaging with the public on the topic of protecting wild spaces. He feels that the Trust has helped him recognize the far-reaching beneficial consequences of acquiring and protecting land on PEI. 'I see that the interactions between conservation staff, board volunteers, supporters and the wider public through outreach projects like the Trust's Passport to Nature, provides a continual learning environment. It's one we must nurture and develop to inspire people to contribute to protecting our Island in any way they can.'



*The MacKay family named the Jean and Stewart MacKay Natural Area after their parents*

In a province where almost 90% of land is privately owned, the Trust relies on land donors - such as the MacKay family - to ensure that ecologically important land is protected in its current state for future generations.

'The importance of what the Trust is trying to achieve cannot be overstated. It's protecting the future for ourselves and nature. If you can imagine for one second a world where our children don't

see or feel nature - it's not pretty. We need to make sure that doesn't happen.'

'It's so good for the soul to walk through the woods and nature. This donation is our family's gift to future generations. In the knowledge that our grandchildren will have children of their own, it is our hope that they can experience the benefits of engaging with these spaces.'

## Eco Gifts



As a registered charity, Island Nature Trust can issue a charitable tax receipt for the appraised fair market value of donated land. In Canada, gifts of land are still subject to capital gains tax, but an exemption may be possible through the federal Ecological Gifts program. Tax receipts may be applied to personal income tax returns in one year or over as many as ten years.

We can help donors through these steps but the advice and assistance of independent accountants and lawyers is also a must. If you are considering a donation of land and are an American taxpayer, we may be able to provide some tax incentives through our partnership with American Friends of Canadian Conservation. Please contact us at [admin@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:admin@islandnaturetrust.ca) for further details.





The bog habitat is known to support Canada Warbler.

Land Stewardship Program Manager, Amy Frost-Wicks standing alongside a stand of Jack Pine on the Jean and Stewart MacKay Natural Area.



Creeping Snowberry grows in the wetland and its fruits reportedly are edible.



Pale Bog Laurel is an evergreen shrub that grows in the bog.



# SUPPORTING LANDOWNERS:

## *Private Stewardship*

As anyone who experiences the natural beauty of Prince Edward Island can attest to, there is something special about the land in this province and the wildlife that calls it home. Whether it's the scenic coastal ecosystems, the vibrantly biodiverse wetlands, the stunning upland forests, or perhaps the unique combination of these on our landscape, every natural area in PEI has immense value both ecologically and culturally. However, in Prince Edward Island, where over 87 % of the land mass is in private ownership, the pressures from development are felt deeply.

Many Islanders feel an appreciation of PEI's natural areas in a unique and personal way and began to feel concerns over the effects of development on the land. Islanders advocated for a legislative mechanism to protect private land beginning in the 1970's and in 1988, after years of discussion and planning, they succeeded with the creation of the PEI Natural Areas Protection Act (NAPA). This provincial piece of legislation allows government, private land trusts, and individuals to protect land in perpetuity. That protection is provided through a restrictive covenant and management plan that is placed on the deed and follows with it, even when there are changes in land ownership.

NAPA protection provides a landowner with comfort that their beloved slice of Island heaven will endure in its natural state, experiencing change on natural and geological time scales instead of accelerated human ones. In recognition of the immense

ecological services that undeveloped land provides to all Islanders through contributions to clean air, rivers, and groundwater, NAPA protected land is exempt from provincial property taxes. Private land stewards take advantage of the option to designate their land under NAPA, allowing them to maintain ownership of their land but also ensuring that the land remains protected even when it eventually changes hands.

stewardship newsletter and a variety of workshops that cover topics such as best management practices, how to support local wildlife, new conservation tools, and how to manage natural areas for climate change resilience.

In a province where nearly all of the land is privately owned, we rely heavily on the efforts and contributions of private landowners to conserve the

### LAND PROTECTION STATUS IN PEI



**0.7% Protected, Privately Owned**

**86.3% Unprotected, Privately Owned**

**3.5% Protected, Publicly Owned**

**8.5% Unprotected, Publicly Owned**

**1% Other Conserved Land**

This year, with funding from PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund, the Province of PEI, and Environment and Climate Change Canada, INT has relaunched our Private Stewards Support Program. Through this program we aim to support private stewards in two ways. First, we assist those interested in protecting their land under NAPA to navigate the protection process.

Second, we provide education and support to private land stewards with a regular private

### PROTECTED & CONSERVED LAND BY TYPE



**3% Private Individuals**

**12% Private Land Trust's & Other ENGOs**

**32% Wildlife Management Areas**

**13% Federal**

**27% Provincial**

**8% Ducks Unlimited**

**5% Other**

beautiful forests, wetlands, and coastlines of the Island.

If you're interested in learning more about private land protection or the Private Stewards Support Program, please contact us by email at [stewardship@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:stewardship@islandnaturetrust.ca) or call us at (902) 892-7513.



# The Big Picture

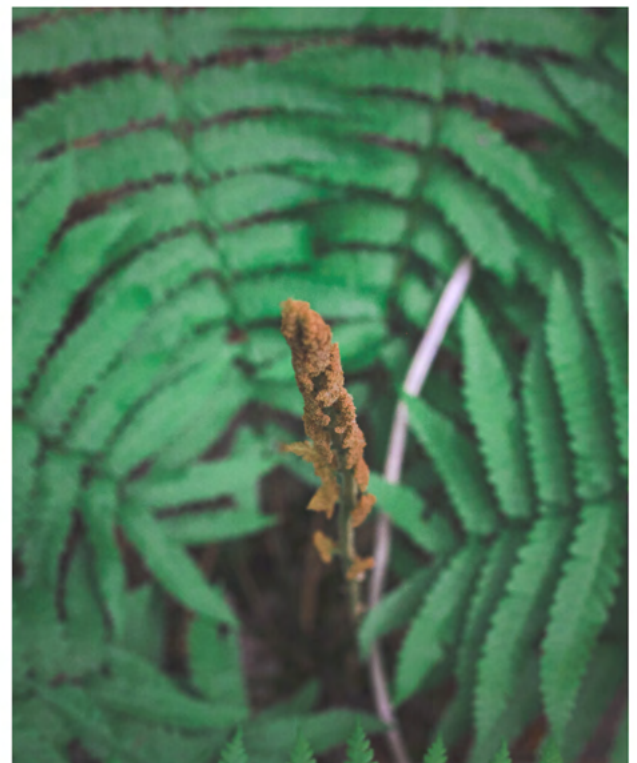
Since the beginning of April, 2022 I have been fortunate enough to be a part of the Island Nature Trust team as their Digital Content Specialist. By experiencing PEI's beautiful Natural Areas through the lens of my camera, my appreciation for these green spaces has only grown deeper.

"The Big Picture" is about capturing every scale on the spectrum of ecological connectivity. All ecosystems are built from the dynamic relationships between various forms of life. Flora, fauna and fungi each play an important role, together and independently, in the functionality of an ecological community.



**"The forest is not a resource for us, it is life itself. It is the only place for us to live."**

— *EVARISTO NUGKUAG*









Help us build The Big Picture by sending in your photos of robust Natural Areas across PEI! Tag us and use *#givingbacktonature* on social media or send your photos to:

[bigpicture@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:bigpicture@islandnaturetrust.ca)

 [IslandNatureTrust](#)    [IslandNatureTrust](#)





# Passport to 2022 nature

Designed to help Islanders and visitors alike, the 2022 Passport to Nature presented by Island Nature Trust opens up the opportunity for you and your family to experience and learn more about PEI's wild spaces like no other! Join us on our many adventures this year as we walk, float or paddle our way through nature.

## HOW TO JOIN

[islandnaturetrust.ca/passport-to-nature/](https://islandnaturetrust.ca/passport-to-nature/)

### 1 CHOOSE

Decide on the event you wish to attend. Could be one, two or all of them! The more the better!

### 2 REGISTER

Navigate to our website either by phone or computer to register as soon as possible! Some events will fill up quickly with only a limited number of participants, so register early if possible!

### 3 ATTEND

Events can be best enjoyed if you wear the appropriate clothing and footwear. Be prepared to walk several kilometers for each event. Bring water and snacks.

### 4 SHARE

Post your experiences and new found knowledge with friends using **#givingbacktonature** on your social media updates. Pass the word along to friends and family about other events we're hosting!





# UPCOMING

## Passport to 2022 *nature* EVENTS

### JULY 18

---

#### ***Percival River Paddle***

The Percival River is home to the largest unbroken tract of salt marsh in PEI. As a small group, we'll paddle down the river of this magnificent place.

### AUGUST 9 & 10

---

#### ***St. Peter's Island***

Back by popular demand! Walk across the tidal flats with us and learn about the rich history of St. Peter's Island.

August 9th: *public*

August 10th: *members*

### SEPTEMBER 14

---

#### ***Medicine Walk***

Take a walk with Helena Perry, an Indigenous Chartered Herbalist, and learn about the fascinating healing properties of plants.

### OCTOBER 1

---

#### ***Mushroom I.D. Talk'n'Walk***

Enjoy an afternoon of learning and identifying mushrooms with Ken Sanderson!

### NOVEMBER 3

---

#### ***Trivia Night!***

Have a fun filled night surrounded by nature enthusiasts. Show off how much of a nature-nerd you are with this friendly competition trivia!

PRE-REGISTER AND LEARN ABOUT EACH EVENT MORE AT:  
[ISLANDNATURETRUST.CA/PASSPORT-TO-NATURE/](https://ISLANDNATURETRUST.CA/PASSPORT-TO-NATURE/)



# LAND STEWARDSHIP: *Carbon Monitoring*

During the first week of May, the Land Stewardship team was able to once again work closely with Community Forests International (CFI) on gathering carbon storage data in one of our Natural Areas. Thanks to the PEI Climate Change Fund and Nature Smart Climate Solutions Fund through Environment and Climate Change Canada, CFI has been working on providing a climate-adaptive silviculture prescription for several of our Natural Areas.

As our climate begins to shift sporadically into wet and warm conditions due to global temperature increase, the Acadian Forest type that dominates Atlantic Canada will begin to lose much of its diversity as many of our cold-adapted species will not be able to survive these conditions. Our forested areas provide unmeasurable environmental services, ranging from reducing soil erosion, increasing water quality, creating niche micro-climate habitats and providing carbon sequestration.

When managing for a climate change resilient forest, the biggest point of interest is tree mortality rate. When a tree dies and begins to decompose, much of the carbon it has stored throughout its life will then be released into the soil and also back into the atmosphere. Forest Program Director for CFI, Megan De Graaf, discussed the importance of the forests' ability to not only currently sequester and store carbon, but what potential there may or may not be in the future. Cold-adapted tree species such as Balsam Fir are expected to decline in the Maritimes within the next century, while Sugar Maple and Red Oak are among the species likely to prosper.





These factors — dominant species present vs. species adaptability, stand age, density and size — all play a role in the climate-adaptive silviculture prescription plan that will be presented to the Trust in the future. This is an opportunity to give our forests a fighting chance when it comes to mitigating climate change effects. By strategically planning the management of forests, we can reduce the likelihood of massive mortality rates of tree stands, which could otherwise displace various wildlife from their habitat. The Land Stewardship team will continue to work hard for these protected forests by planning, monitoring and taking action when necessary.

We'd like to thank Community Forests International for working with us and continuing to safeguard forests, both here on our precious island and globally!

To learn more about Land Stewardship please contact our Land Stewardship Program Manager — Amy Frost-Wicks at [land@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:land@islandnaturetrust.ca)





# SPECIES CONSERVATION:

# Bank Swallow

## HAVE YOU SPOTTED SOME BANK SWALLOW? LET US KNOW!

The Bank Swallow, a small aerial insectivore that nests in colonies on vertical cliff faces, is one of the coastal species that Island Nature Trust is working to conserve. All species of aerial insectivores have seen a dramatic decline in numbers in recent decades, and the Bank Swallow was listed under the federal species at risk act in 2017. At that time information on Bank Swallow distribution and abundance on PEI was lacking, and there are still many knowledge gaps.

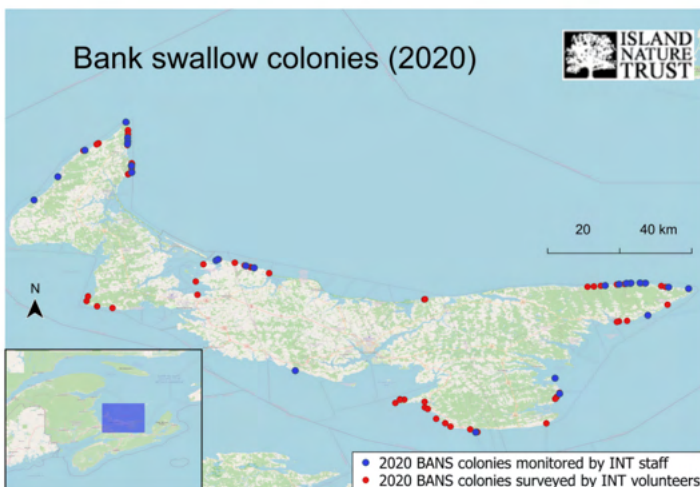
Island Nature Trust first conducted strategic surveys for Bank Swallow in 2013, but this work has picked up in recent years with the official listing of this species. In 2020, with the help of partners (Parks Canada, provincial Forest, Fish and Wildlife and several watershed groups across PEI) and many volunteers we were able to carry out the most comprehensive survey to date for this species. As a result, we covered more than 320km of shoreline and identified 95 active Bank Swallow colonies. This was only possible thanks to a caring group of volunteers.



In 2022 we are re-visiting the larger of these colonies and collecting more important data that will contribute to a larger data set for the region.

Although this species is declining, they are still widespread across the island and we can't find all of the colonies alone. We need your help to identify new colony locations!

We invite members of the public to report any known active colonies to [jmerth@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:jmerth@islandnaturetrust.ca)





# NEW MERCH

Check out our new collection of Island Nature Trust clothing! From hats to hoodies, we've got you covered.

SHOP NOW

ORDER ONLINE AT — [ISLANDNATURETRUST.CA/SHOP](https://islandnaturetrust.ca/shop)





# YOUNG NATURALISTS

Feel free to share your achievements on social media by using hashtag:

#givingbacktonature

islandnaturetrust

Island Nature Trust

Welcome to the Young Naturalists page. Learn about one of the Islands species, solve puzzles and express your creative side!

## NORTHERN

## RED OAK *Quercus rubra*



DID YOU KNOW?

Northern Red Oaks can live anywhere between

**80 - 600**

years old!



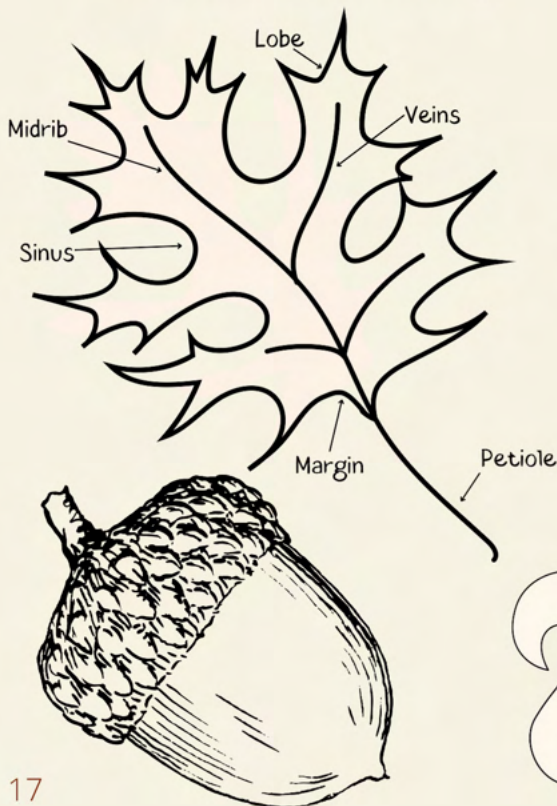
These trees provide food, nesting and roosting sites for a variety of small mammals and birds. In turn, the wildlife aid in spreading the oak seeds.



They are native to the PEI and have been declared the provincial tree for PEI since

**1 9 8 7**

Northern Red Oak Anatomy



Don't forget to colour me in!



Leaves  
Acorn  
Provincial

Conservation  
Oak  
Northern

Red  
Pointed  
Native  
Shelter

N	O	P	H	V	I	O	R	T	A	I	O	N	T
E	S	O	N	A	C	O	R	N	R	R	N	L	E
R	A	L	R	O	O	I	V	E	A	O	A	D	T
O	S	R	E	D	O	R	S	A	I	R	T	N	D
N	H	I	O	C	K	A	O	T	E	D	I	I	O
I	E	E	A	K	T	I	A	I	N	I	V	A	V
H	L	L	T	N	C	V	E	H	H	R	E	E	R
R	T	V	D	O	R	A	D	E	N	T	A	A	C
I	E	V	E	E	N	N	R	E	H	T	R	O	N
P	R	C	S	P	N	A	A	K	R	N	E	R	R
A	E	N	C	P	R	O	V	I	N	C	I	A	L
E	O	T	H	A	R	L	E	A	V	E	S	V	S
C	D	D	D	E	N	I	C	V	A	R	I	E	T
O	C	H	N	V	E	I	P	O	I	N	T	E	D



# OUR NEW STAFF



**JOHANNA MERTH**  
ENGAGEMENT COORDINATOR

Johanna has joined Island Nature Trust to help support volunteers as Engagement Coordinator. Originally from British Columbia, she is completing her MA in Environment and Management through Royal Roads University and is a graduate of Dalhousie University with a double major in International Development Studies and Political Science (BA '11).

Johanna believes that a reframing of Western perception of nature (and our relationship with it) is required as we navigate the societal and ecological dilemmas facing the world today. Another way is possible. She is encouraged and energized by the hard work, passion and commitment of others working to conserve and protect the landscapes and species we share this place with.

Johanna is thrilled to be a part of the INT community and looks forward to meeting all the volunteers and members this summer!

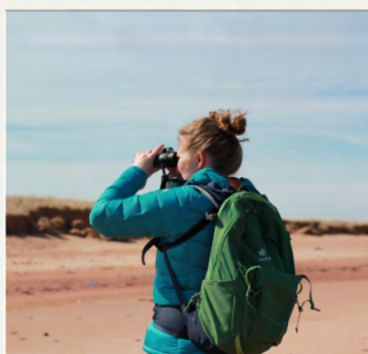
Benjamin joined Island Nature Trust as the Farmland Bird Program Coordinator where he will be monitoring bobolink and barn swallow across the Island. Hailing from Nova Scotia, he graduated from Acadia with a BSc in Biology and Environmental Science in 2021.

In his free time, Benjamin enjoys rock climbing, swimming, biking, and camping.

With a background mostly with fish, Benjamin is feeling a little out of his element (quite literally) but is excited about becoming more familiar with these amazing birds!



**BENJAMIN HENEGER**  
FARMLAND BIRD  
COORDINATOR



**SARAH HIRTLE**  
COASTAL SPECIES-AT-  
RISK COORDINATOR

Sarah joins the Island Nature Trust as the Coastal Conservation Program Coordinator. Originally from Quispamsis, New Brunswick, Sarah is a biologist and a graduate of the University of New Brunswick (BSc '17) and the University of Lethbridge (MSc '22). She is excited to bridge her background working in freshwater aquatic ecosystems to the coastal environment, which supplies valuable ecosystem services and hosts a rich diversity of migratory shorebirds and seabirds. Sarah looks forward to engaging with volunteers who are integral to stewarding the coastal environment, as well as promoting awareness and education amongst the general public about how to minimize human-wildlife interactions. In her spare time, she enjoys cross-stitching, landscape photography, and cooking fancy pizza at home. Don't hesitate to say hi if you see her on the beach this summer!





# HON. J. ANGUS MACLEAN AWARD



## CALL FOR NOMINATIONS



Island Nature Trust is seeking nominations for the 2022 Hon. J. Angus MacLean Natural Areas Award. This award is named in honour of the former Premier and devoted conservationist, J. Angus MacLean.

It was established in 1987 by Island Nature Trust, to recognize outstanding contributions to natural areas protection in PEI.

In addition to Mr. MacLean himself in 1990, some previous winners include Dr. John and Christine Andrew for restoring a pond located in East Royalty and creating a space where residents could enjoy nature and wildlife can thrive, Jeanne Maki for protecting 95 acres of Acadian Forest in Southeastern Kings County and Randy Dibblee for spearheading the mapping of wetlands with scores based on wildlife values for PEI.

Potential recipients are individuals or groups who:

1. Establish protected areas or work to steward natural areas
2. Raise public consciousness regarding natural areas by innovative educational programs or publicity efforts
3. Seek to influence or establish public policies that protect our natural environment and climate
4. Do innovative research relating to natural areas protection

### Nomination Guidelines:

Nominations must be significant in a provincial context:

1. Must be documented with descriptions of contributions or projects relating to natural areas protection
2. Maps, photos, newspaper clippings, links, or publications to inform the selection process
3. Personal information regarding education, community work, other awards are helpful

### Closing Date:

Nominations must be received by Friday, July 15th, 2022, and should include contact information about both the nominee and the nominator.

The MacLean Award will be presented to the winner at Island Nature Trust's Annual General Meeting in September.

Please send submissions to the attention of the Executive Director at the following address:

Island Nature Trust  
P.O. Box 265  
Charlottetown, PE  
C1A 7K4

To submit by email, please send your nominations to [admin@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:admin@islandnaturetrust.ca)



# NEWS

INT is excited to announce a new partnership with Lone Oak Brewing Co. for the launch of their new Kolsch beer called "Monarch" - a light bodied easy drinking summer lagered ale.

A portion of the proceeds will go to the Trust to support its species-at-risk stewardship programs.

Keep an eye out on our social media channels for details on an official launch very soon!



## SAVE THE DATE

**Bennett Birding Classic**  
September 24th, 2022

**INT AGM**  
Beaconsfield Carriage House  
September 20th, 2022



20

## MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL

Please take a moment to fill out the form below and return it to the address above with your membership fee. You can also renew and pay easily online at: [www.islandnaturetrust.ca](http://www.islandnaturetrust.ca) Thank you for your support!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Mailing Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

### Membership Category:

Student (\$10)  Single (\$20)  Family (\$25)  Life (\$500)  Donation \$: \_\_\_\_\_

*(Tax receipts will be issued for all donations)*

**Payment Method:** Cheque  Money Order  Visa  Master Card

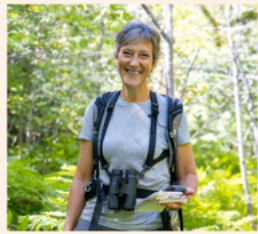
Card Number: \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



# OUR TEAM



**Bianca McGregor**  
Executive Director  
[exdir@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:exdir@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Megan Harris**  
Director of Conservation  
[conserve@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:conserve@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Janell Smith**  
Business Services Manager  
[finance@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:finance@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Ben Russell**  
Communications Manager  
[comms@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:comms@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Shannon Mader**  
Species-At-Risk Program Manager  
[species@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:species@islandnaturetrust.ca)



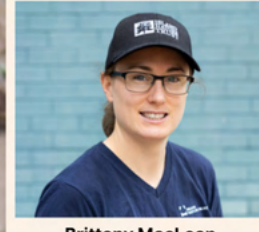
**Amy Frost-Wicks**  
Land Stewardship Program Manager  
[land@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:land@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Charlotte Thompson**  
Fund Development Coordinator  
[development@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:development@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Jordan Smith**  
Office Coordinator  
[admin@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:admin@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Brittany MacLean**  
Stewardship Field Operations  
Coordinator  
[brittany@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:brittany@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Michael Speelman**  
Conservation Coordinator  
[stewardship@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:stewardship@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Simon Andrea**  
Land Acquisition Coordinator  
[acquisition@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:acquisition@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Benjamin Henger**  
Farmland Bird Coordinator  
[landbirds@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:landbirds@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Sarah Hirtle**  
Coastal Species-At-Risk  
Coordinator  
[shirtle@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:shirtle@islandnaturetrust.ca)



**Johanna Merth**  
Engagement Coordinator  
[jmerth@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:jmerth@islandnaturetrust.ca)

Read online



and share!

## WHO ARE WE...?

Island Nature Trust is a non-profit, membership-driven, private registered charity dedicated to permanent protection of natural areas in Prince Edward Island. We acquire lands through purchase and donation for protection and help private landowners protect their own properties through legislation and promotion of good land management practices. We also protect species-at-risk, restore lands and undertake public nature education.

### Contact Us:

112 Longworth Avenue  
PO Box 265 Charlottetown,  
PE C1A 5A8  
Phone: 902-892-7513  
E-mail: [admin@islandnaturetrust.ca](mailto:admin@islandnaturetrust.ca)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive: *President – Gordon MacKay, Vice President – Marie-Ann Bowden, Treasurer – George Mason, Secretary – Patricia Caporaso, Past President – June Jenkins Sanderson*

Group Representatives: *Keila Miller - PEI Wildlife Federation, Lindsey Burke- Nature PEI*

General Directors: *Andrea McManus, Bruce Craig, Joyce Dewar, Kim Horreht, Roger Coffin*

Find Us Online: [www.islandnaturetrust.ca](http://www.islandnaturetrust.ca)



[linkedin.com/company/island-nature-trust](https://www.linkedin.com/company/island-nature-trust)



[facebook.com/islandnaturetrust](https://www.facebook.com/islandnaturetrust)



[instagram.com/islandnaturetrust](https://www.instagram.com/islandnaturetrust)



# INT