



Maligne Lake, AB. Photo by Anthony Dionigi. 2022 Lake Biodiversity Photo Challenge.

Summer Speaker Series starts with the Great Lakes!

Wednesday, June 22 • 3:30-4:30 pm PT / 6:30-7:30 pm ET

Are you curious about how citizen science helps us understand the health and biodiversity of the Great Lakes? Join us on June 22 for the first talk of the Summer Speaker Series! Guest speaker, Nancy Stadler-Salt, is a Lake Blitz volunteer and the Great Lakes Issue Coordinator with Environment and Climate Change Canada. Nancy will share how data collected through various citizen science programs contributes to the joint Canada-U.S. [State of the Great Lakes](#) report.

REGISTER

*This session will be recorded, emailed to everyone who registers, and posted to the [Lake Blitz event page](#).

How to Monitor & Upload Data in 2 minutes

Learning how to monitor for the Lake Blitz has never been easier! Here are two 1-minute videos to review the basics of monitoring your chosen lake:

1. [How to Monitor](#)
2. [How to Upload Your Data](#)

For a more in-depth overview, watch the 1.5 hour training session [here](#).

Our door is open every Tuesday

If you have any questions or concerns about your monitoring, come knock on our virtual office door. The Lake Blitz team will be available every Tuesday from 12-1 pm PT/ 1-2 pm MT / 3-4 pm ET in a Zoom meeting room. Register for office hours to receive reminders and add the meetings to your calendar.

JOIN OFFICE HOURS

If you're unavailable during office hours, but still want to connect, please reach out to lakeblitz@livinglakescanada.ca. For common questions about lake monitoring and data submission, check out our [FAQ section](#) on the Lake Blitz event page.



Kurt Swanson at Garbutts Lake, B.C.

We're back with our **Volunteer Spotlight series** to showcase some of our remarkable Lake Blitz volunteers! This month we're featuring Kurt Swanson, one of our volunteers based in B.C. who is monitoring Garbutts Lake. This is Kurt's first Lake Blitz. Read about why he decided to get involved.

READ KURT'S SPOTLIGHT

Data Stories



Wildlife living at Heffley Lake. Photos by Bill Jennejohn.

Located 30 minutes outside of Kamloops, B.C., [Heffley Lake](#) is a hub for water sports and fishing, and hosts a diversity of wildlife including painted turtles, rainbow trout, loons and more. That’s why we’re excited to welcome members of the Heffley Lake Stewardship Committee to the 2023 National Lake Blitz. Members are collecting water monitoring data, in addition to participating in their annual Heffley Lake Bird Count.

In 2009, a Heffley Lake Stewardship Committee member noticed a decline in the local bird population. This led to the creation of the Heffley Lake Bird Count to survey waterfowl, as well as turtles, seven times per monitoring season. Despite the noticeable decline in the total number of birds living in the Heffley Lake ecosystem, the [2022 findings](#) highlight the increase in turtle sightings.

“The most important thing is collecting data in a systematic way over time and recording numbers, species, and trends,” said Doug Broadfoot, Chair of the Stewardship Committee. “Another benefit of citizen science programs is that participants become more aware and knowledgeable about the birds they’re observing and care more about the overall health of the lake.”

Participation in the 3rd Annual National Lake Blitz will help the Stewardship Committee expand local citizen science efforts and raise awareness of climate change impacts on lake ecosystems.

[Learn more about the Heffley Lake Bird Count](#)



Kamanisseg Lake, ON. Photo by Pete Liukaitis. 2023 Lake Biodiversity Photo Challenge.

Need help identifying species while monitoring this season? [iNaturalist](#) is the perfect tool for the job. Download the app to your phone, snap a photo of a plant or animal and iNaturalist will help identify the species. Then join the [National Lake Blitz Observations project](#) on iNaturalist to share your observations and see what other volunteers are spotting at their local lakes. Over 180 observations have been submitted since the start of May!

Learn about algal blooms in a recently released documentary titled Expedition Nictau. The film explores the remote Nictau Lake in northern New Brunswick and the effects of herbicides on freshwater ecosystems. [Watch this free documentary.](#)

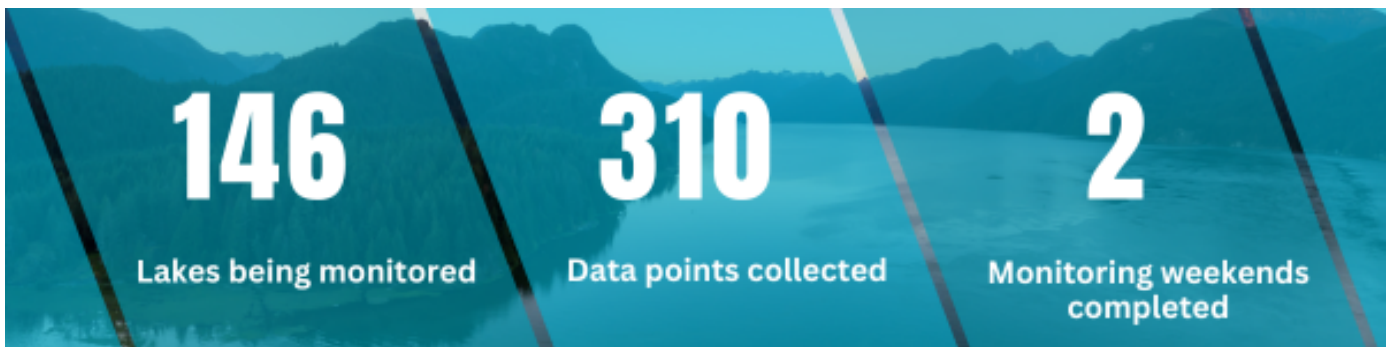


Other Opportunities

Co-hosted by Living Lakes Canada and [Central Kootenay Invasive Species Society](#), Protect our Water from Aquatic Invasive Species is a half-day workshop and weed pull on July 20 in Nelson B.C. will cover the following: Aquatic Invasive Species (AIS) 101 - what they are, impacts and how they spread; Best Management Practices when working/playing around water to prevent the spread; AIS identification, management and weed pulling. Register [here](#).

Led by Birds Canada, the Canadian Lakes Loon Survey invites volunteers to visit a local lake at least three days throughout the summer to help monitor chick hatch and survival. Visit the [Birds Canada website](#) for more information on how to participate.

June Lake Blitz Update:



Questions? Email Camille and Kaite at lakeblitz@livinglakescanada.ca

Office hours every Tuesday 12-1 pm PT / 1-2 pm MT / 3-4 pm ET

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