



*Slocan Lake, BC. Photo by Matt Sanders, 2023 Lake Biodiversity Photo Challenge.*

## Next up in the Summer Speaker Series

### **Sustainable Lake Recreation for Clean and Healthy Waters**

*Wednesday, September 27 • 3:30-4:30 pm PT / 6:30-7:30 pm ET*

Many of us enjoy summers' lakeside, but recreational activities can take a toll on these beautiful spaces. Join the next Summer Speaker Series and learn how you can help keep lakes clean and healthy for future generations!

In this 1-hour webinar, we will be joined by Emma Bowins, Program Manager of the [Lake Windermere Ambassadors \(LWA\)](#). You'll learn about sustainable lake recreation, how boats can impact lake health, and how to minimize your impact. Emma will also share the results from a recent LWA study that examined pollutants in the water and lake bottom to determine recreational impacts on lake health.

[REGISTER](#)

\*This session will be recorded, emailed to everyone who registers, and posted to the Lake Blitz event page.

## 2023 Lake Biodiversity Photo Challenge Winners

The results are in! After receiving 629 submissions and 1,609 votes, it's time to reveal the winners of the 2023 Lake Biodiversity Photo Challenge. Check out the winners gallery to see which photos took home the prizes for Judges and Public Favourites. Thank you to everyone who submitted photos and voted in this year's challenge.

[VIEW WINNERS](#)

## New! Lake Blitz Facebook Community Group

We've created a private group on Facebook for Lake Blitz volunteers just like you! It's a space for volunteers to receive updates from the Lake Blitz team, connect with other volunteers, exchange monitoring experiences and share content related to the program's activities. This community group aims to bring together people that share a love of lakes across Canada and want to contribute through citizen science!

[JOIN THE GROUP](#)



*Veronique Taylor at Scotch Lake, NB.*

This month's **Volunteer Spotlight** features Veronique Taylor, who is monitoring Scotch Lake in New Brunswick. Growing up near the salty waters of Chaleur Bay, freshwater lakes and ecosystems are new to Veronique. With many recent reports of cyanobacteria blooms in rivers and lakes across the province, Veronique is concerned about the potential impacts on Scotch Lake and keen to learn more about how to keep lakes healthy. Learn more about Veronique's experience monitoring on the east coast.

**READ VERONIQUE'S  
SPOTLIGHT**



*Plastic pollution at Lake Ontario. Photo by Sara Libman, 2023 Lake Blitz volunteer.*

One of the top issues and concerns identified by Lake Blitz volunteers is pollution. In particular, **plastic pollution**. In a picture shared by Sara Libman, you can spot multi-colour plastics littered amongst floating leaves. This isn't an uncommon sight along the shores of [Lake Ontario](#).

An [8-minute documentary](#) produced by Great Lakes Now shows how researchers from various sectors are working together to better understand the issue of plastics in the Great Lakes. One of the first to research the topic, Dr. Sherry Mason of Pennsylvania State University, found that approximately 4.5 billion pieces of plastic are present on the surface of Lake Ontario.

Macroplastics, like water bottles and plastic bags, break down into trillions of microplastics, which enter freshwater sources depended upon by communities and ecosystems. But, there's a way you can help. According to Dr. Mason, "the solution is reductions... if we use less plastic, we find less plastic in the environment."

We encourage all Lake Blitz volunteers to bring gloves and a bucket and pick up plastic pollution (if it is safe to do so when visiting your local lake).

# Resources



*Barn Swallows are classified as a Threatened species in Canada.*

In Canada, there are over 800 **species at risk** including Blanding's Turtle, Monarch Butterflies and Barn Swallows. If you want to learn more about species at risk in Canada, the Nature Conservancy of Canada has you covered! Their [Species at Risk 101 resource](#) will tell you what a species at risk is, who determines which species are at risk, and how they are classified and protected.

Keep an eye out for species at risk on your monitoring weekends and make sure to record these important observations!

# Other Opportunities

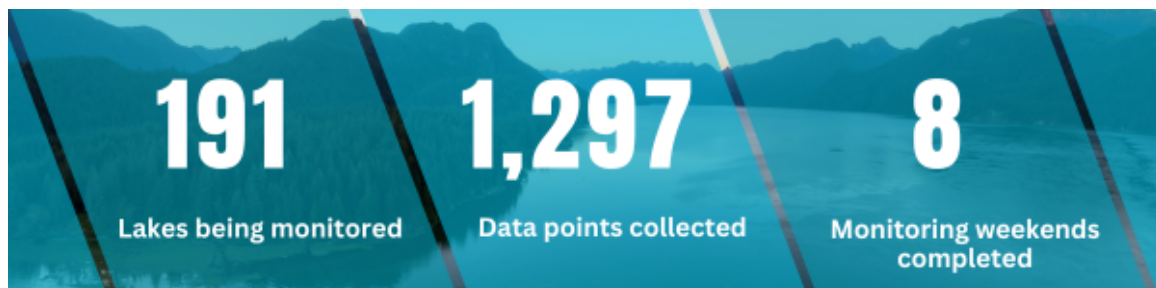


*Lake Blitz volunteers monitoring Kootenay Lake near Kaslo B.C.*

The 2023 National Lake Blitz is beginning to wind down, but you don't have to hang up your citizen scientist hat! The Government of Canada has a [Citizen Science Portal](#) that features programs from across Canada that welcome volunteers. It's a great resource to find more opportunities to grow your science skills, connect with like-minded volunteers and help researchers better understand the world around us!

## CHECK IT OUT

*September Lake Blitz Update:*



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

Questions? Email Camille and Kaite at [lakeblitz@livinglakescanada.ca](mailto:lakeblitz@livinglakescanada.ca)

Use LIVING23 at checkout to get 20% off Teadore's loose leaf tea products



*Stay informed! Follow us on social media for the latest updates.*



*Copyright (C) 2023 Living Lakes Canada. All rights reserved.*

Living Lakes Canada · 330 Baker Street, 202 A, Nelson, BC V1L 4H5, Canada  
If you no longer wish to receive these updates please unsubscribe.