



Long Point Bird Observatory

Fact Sheet

Welcome to LPBO

The [Long Point Bird Observatory](#) (LPBO) is North America's oldest bird observatory. It was founded in 1960 by the [Ontario Bird Banding Association](#). Subsequent regional and national expansions of LPBO programs resulted in the founding of [Birds Canada](#) (BIRDS CANADA) in 1998. LPBO is now a program of BIRDS CANADA and a founding partner of the [Canadian Migration Monitoring Network](#).

LPBO fosters and promotes investigative studies, training and education in field ornithology and bird conservation, as well the appreciation of birds and other aspects of natural history in the Long Point area.

LPBO runs five major projects that volunteers may participate in:

- Migration Monitoring Program (April 1-June 15 and August 15-November 15)
- Tree Swallow Project (May-early July)
- Breeding Bird Census (late May-June)
- [Doug Tarry Natural History Fund](#)'s Young Ornithologist Workshop and Young Ornithologist Internship (August)
- Collaborative and Independent Research Program

LPBO lies within an area of high biodiversity and ecological value. Long Point is the world's longest freshwater sand spit, stretching 40 km into Lake Erie, the thirteenth largest lake on Earth. Long Point is part of a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation [World Biosphere Reserve](#), a [Ramsar Wetland](#) of International Significance, an International Monarch Butterfly Reserve, and an [Important Bird and Biodiversity Area](#). Much of the point and the surrounding wetlands are protected by [Long Point](#) and [Big Creek](#) National Wildlife Areas, [Long Point Provincial Park](#), as well as privately owned and managed lands of the Long Point Company. At least 95 animals and dozens of plants which are designated as Extirpated, Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern by the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada, the Canadian Species at Risk Act or the Ontario Endangered Species Act occur at Long Point or on the surrounding Norfolk Sandplain. The list includes 45 birds (including 10 rarities), 15 fish, 13 reptiles, 10 insects (including two extirpated species), seven mammals, three amphibians (plus the unisexual *Ambystoma* complex) and two mollusks. Two Long Point animals are now extinct: The Passenger Pigeon was last recorded at Long Point in the late 1800's, and the Blue Pike (a subspecies of Walleye) was last recorded in Lake Erie in the late 1980's. Many other very rare Canadian animals and plants such as the Bleeding Flower Moth and Cucumber Tree are found here and nowhere else in the country. In addition to birds, other animals migrate through Long Point including Silver-haired, Hoary, and Eastern Red Bats, several species of dragonflies such as Common Green Darner and Black Saddlebags, and at least a dozen butterfly species, including Monarch and Common Buckeye.

Contact Information

LPBO Program Manager:

Office: 519-586-3531 X118

Cell: 519-429-0540

Email: lpbo@BirdsCanada-eoc.org

Volunteers and researchers may have mail sent to the following address:

Long Point Bird Observatory
c/o Birds Canada
P.O. Box 160, 115 Front Road
Port Rowan, Ontario, Canada. N0E 1M0
Old Cut Research Station: 519-586-3531, extension 200 or 201
BIRDS CANADA Headquarters: 1-888-448-BIRD

Email: lpbo@Birds Canada-eoc.org

LPBO Website: <http://www.Birds Canada-eoc.org/lpbo>

BIRDS CANADA Website: <http://www.birdscanada.org/>

Required Reading

Anyone who will be working with birds at LPBO, either in our lab, in a mobile private lab, or at one of our field sites (e.g., Tree Swallow grid) must read the following documents before handling any birds:

- [LPBO Migration Monitoring Protocol](#)
- [North American Banding Council Banders' Study Guide](#)
- [Understanding Molt: A Bander's Perspective](#)
- The introduction of *Identification Guide to North American Birds, Part I*, by Peter Pyle (available at LPBO)

Additional protocols will be available for volunteers who are participating in the Tree Swallow Project or the Breeding Bird Census.

Additional Reference Materials

Feel free to read these additional reference materials about molt, banding, aging and sexing:

- [Ageing North American Landbirds by Molt Limits](#) by Dan Froehlich
- [Birding by Feather: A Molt Primer](#) by Peter Pyle
- [Finding Order Amid the Chaos](#) by Steve Howell
- [The North American Banders' Manual for Banding Passerines And Near Passerines](#) by the North American Banding Council
- [The Variety of Molt Strategies](#) by Steve Howell
- [Piranga: a Bird-Bander's Aid to Identifying, Aging and Sexing Birds of the Western Hemisphere](#)

What to Bring

In addition to all of the usual things you would take travelling (e.g., toiletries and basic clothing), make sure to bring:

- Binoculars, Scope and Camera (as available/desired)
- Notebook
- Field Guides (Sibley or National Geographic are recommended)
- eBird app (not mandatory, but volunteers are strongly encouraged to submit their observations to [eBird Canada](#))
- Rain jacket, pants and rubber boots
- Hiking boots and indoor shoes/slippers
- Warm hat and gloves
- Sleeping bag, Single bed sheet set and pillowcase
- Alarm
- Headlamp

Warm and waterproof/windproof clothes are essential. You will be outside for many hours every day at one of the windiest places in Ontario. Boat trips to and from the Tip and Breakwater can be surprisingly cold and often very wet, especially in early spring and late fall. Waterproof bags are essential for keeping cameras and optics dry on boat trips. Garbage bags are usually sufficient to waterproof clothes and bedding, but real waterproof bags or bins are recommended for your expensive equipment. Be prepared to get wet, dirty, and sweaty on a daily basis.

Electronics such as laptops and cell phones may be used at the Tip and Breakwater when the solar power there has sufficient voltage. At certain times, particularly in October and November, there is not enough power to warrant charging these devices. There is insufficient power at the remote stations to warrant watching movies or other media on laptops at any time. Streaming video at the Old Cut Research Station is strictly forbidden.

Musical instruments, games and other such forms of old-fashioned entertainment are encouraged: bring them with you! Constant use of cell phones, computers and the internet is prohibited! Bring electronics if you must, but use them sparingly.

Food

In most circumstances, LPBO will provide basic food - nothing fancy, just good, nutritious food. We will attempt to meet anyone's dietary requirements. Advise the Program Coordinator of any dietary requirements or life-threatening allergies you have before you arrive at LPBO. Dinners are eaten communally at all stations; breakfasts and lunches are usually made at your own leisure. Alcohol, soft drinks, most snacks, fine foods, and any foods that you wish to have that can't normally be purchased in a small-town grocery store should be brought with you.

Getting to LPBO

Please note that the BIRDS CANADA office address given above is not the location of LPBO. LPBO is located about 10 km southeast of Port Rowan on Long Point proper. LPBO's address is **13 Old Cut Boulevard. Lat/Long: 42.58,-80.41.**

Driving Directions:

1. From Highway 401 at Woodstock, take Exit 232 south on Oxford County Road 59;
2. After about 11 km, turn right onto County Road 13
3. Follow County Road 13 south for about 11 km, jog through the intersection at Springford, and continue south on County Road 13 for another 8 km;
4. County Road 13 becomes Highway 59. Follow Highway 59 south for 34 km;
5. Now on Long Point, continue to follow Highway 59 (also called Erie Boulevard) through the townsite for another 3.5 km;
6. Turn left onto Old Cut Boulevard and go 215 m north. Look for the small grey LPBO sign on the right.

For those requiring transportation to LPBO from Toronto's Pearson International Airport (or airports in Hamilton or London) we recommend you use [Airlink](#) taxi service. You can book your travel online or by phone. A one-way trip from Toronto to LPBO usually costs about \$150.00 (May 2017 price). There is no public transport to LPBO. Free parking is available at LPBO.

Upon arrival, **contact the Program Coordinator** in person or by cell phone (**519-429-0540**). The Program Coordinator will show you around and get you settled in.

Local Services

[Port Rowan](#) is located 10 km from LPBO. It has a pharmacy, grocery store, post office, liquor store, beer store, laundromat (there are no laundry facilities at LPBO), a handful of small restaurants, hardware store and a feed mill. Simcoe is the nearest large centre, about 40 km away, and has a much broader selection of goods.

Volunteers

Long-term volunteers are those who stay one month or longer. All room, board and boat trip fees are covered by LPBO for long-term volunteers.

Short-term volunteers are those who stay for less than one month. Short-term volunteers are required to pay for their room and board. Boat trip fees to remote stations are normally covered as well. See fee schedule for prices (below).

All volunteers must sign a *Birds Canada Volunteer Participation Waiver*. Please inquire with the Program Coordinator if you have not yet received an email copy of this form.

International Volunteers

All volunteers should check on the requirements for a travel visa with Canada Customs (LPBO cannot provide up to date advice on border issues) well in advance of their proposed arrival. LPBO can provide a letter of support, outlining what activities you'll be undertaking as a volunteer and emphasizing that you will receive no financial remuneration for your work. Please request such a letter from the Program Coordinator if you'd like one well in advance of your visit.

A travel visa is recommended for international long-term volunteers depending on the country of origin and duration of stay. If one is not obtained, there is the risk of being turned back at Canada Customs. Specific details about how to obtain a visa; that information can be found on the [Canadian Border Security Agency website](#).

Researchers

LPBO welcomes ornithologists and other researchers to use our research stations (accommodations, lab space), or collaboration with any of our existing research and monitoring programs. LPBO seeks to be an active partner in most research that takes place at the observatory. Researchers are invited and encouraged to participate in the meal plan at LPBO, but owing to budget and scheduling challenges, may choose to provide their own food; cupboard and fridge/freezer space are available for that purpose. See the fee schedule (below) for basic research charges, but these are determined on a case by case basis. All researchers must sign a *Collaborative Research Agreement* and *Visiting Researcher Health and Safety Information* form. Please inquire with the Program Coordinator for copies of these forms.

Guests

LPBO personnel may occasionally wish to invite a friend or relative for a visit. This is permissible only if there is adequate space and permission is given by the Program Coordinator. The same fees apply to guests as short-term volunteers.

Payment

For volunteers, all accounts must be paid with the Program Coordinator or at the BIRDS CANADA headquarters before departing LPBO. LPBO can invoice researchers who do not wish to pay at their time of departure. Short-term volunteers and researchers can pay by cash, cheque, or credit card at any time.

| | Per Person |
|---|---|
| Long-term volunteer (1 month or more) | Free |
| Short-term volunteer and Guests | \$50.00/day |
| Visitors seeking formal training | \$150.00/day |
| Researchers (weekly rates may also apply) | \$50.00/day, \$250/week, \$500.00/month |

All non-scheduled boat trips are \$250.00 round trip (Old Cut to Tip and back).

General Rules

The rules and protocols for everything we do at LPBO are outlined in detail in the [Migration Monitoring Protocol](#). You must read and adhere to the protocol. Here is a very abridged version of what is expected of volunteers and researchers using the LPBO facilities:

- All personnel must help keep the stations looking presentable on a daily basis. Life at LPBO is a communal experience – everyone has to pitch in with regular maintenance and cleaning.
- Report all equipment breakdowns, supply deficiencies, emergencies, and minor problems immediately to the Program Coordinator or Assistant Program Coordinator.
- Do not break any laws.
- Candles are not permitted.
- When in doubt, **GO BIRDING!** Please post your observations to [eBird Canada](#).
- Be kind and courteous to all our neighbours and visitors, no matter what.
- Never trespass on the Long Point National Wildlife Area or the Long Point Company property. These properties are signed. Failure to comply with this rule will result in immediate dismissal!

Social Media

LPBO and BIRDS CANADA has a very active social media presence which you are encouraged to interact with. Please be very careful when posting photographs of LPBO operations on social media. There is a small but vocal group of people who believe bird banding, or other forms of research are unethical and will seize upon any photo or story posted on social media that will discredit our vocation. Consult the [North American Banding Council's Photographic Guidelines](#) before posting anything to social media related to your time at LPBO.

- Do not post photos of birds caught in or being extracted from mist nets. Birds in these situations invariably look distressed, and this can give the wrong impression to non-banders.
- You may post photos of birds in the hand, but only those being held in the proper bander's or photographer's grip.
- Do not post pictures of birds flapping, that are puffed up or that looked stressed.
- Do not post photos that may show LPBO in a bad light (e.g., no wild party photos).

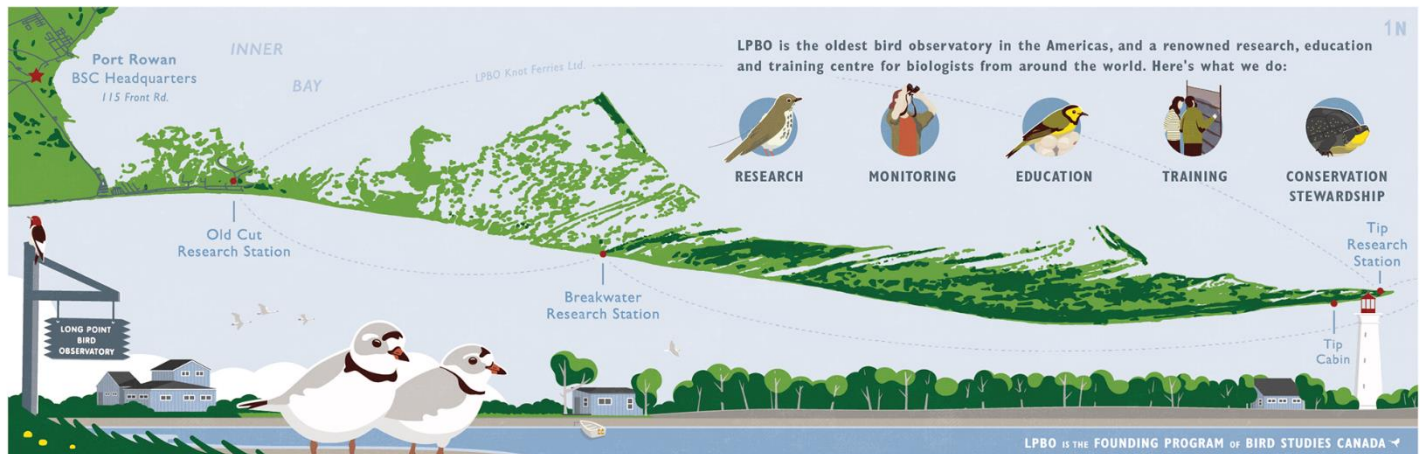
In short, never post anything that you don't think the communications officer at BIRDS CANADA would post on the organization's website. We do not monitor your postings on social media, but inappropriate content has a way of grabbing the attention of BIRDS CANADA staff, and worse, concerned members of the public. Think carefully before you post, and if in doubt, don't! Check us out on Facebook [@Long Point Bird Observatory](#), Instagram [@longpointbirds](#), and Twitter [@LongPointBirdObs](#).

Cell Phones

Cell phone coverage at the Tip is usually unreliable. If you are going to the Tip it is best to consider yourself out of cell phone range. Cell coverage at Breakwater and Old Cut is usually complete. Please do not use FaceTime, Skype or other video chat services at Old Cut; there is not enough Wi-Fi bandwidth. Use of cell phones is strongly discouraged during the standard migration monitoring period, or during communal meal times, and daily wrap-ups.

Migration Monitoring Stations

LPBO operates three permanent research stations on Long Point: The Tip, Breakwater and Old Cut.



The Tip: LPBO's longest-running research station was established in 1960. With data stretching back six decades, the Tip is the most important site for migration monitoring in all of Canada. As the name suggests, it is situated at the eastern Tip of Long Point. Access is by a 30 km boat trip, which usually takes between one to 1.5 hours depending on the weather and the amount of cargo on board. Migration typically oscillates between heavy influxes of birds and very slow periods with few to no migrants. When migration is in full swing, the number of birds can be astounding, and rarities show up frequently. Over 330 species have been recorded at the Tip, including Canada's only Chihuahuan Raven (May 1976). The Tip runs optimally with five or six people. While some beginner training takes place at the Tip, the personnel who reside there are typically the most experienced volunteers.

Breakwater: Established in 1962. The station is located about 12 km from the base of Long Point on property owned by the Long Point Company, a prestigious private hunting club. Access to Breakwater is by a 12 km long boat trip from Old Cut or an 18 km boat trip from the Tip. Although still very episodic, migration here is generally more consistent from day-to-day than at the Tip. Nearly 270 species have been recorded at Breakwater, including Canada's first ever Black-capped Vireo (April 1991) and Hooded Oriole (May 1992). Three people can easily run the station, although two experienced people are normally adequate.

Old Cut: Established in 1983. Old Cut is located near the base of Long Point. Old Cut is the public face of LPBO, providing educational opportunities to school groups and for visitors to view banding. It is also the operational hub for the other stations. On average, Old Cut bands the greatest number of birds per day and often has the highest bird diversity of all three stations. Over 270 species have been recorded at Old Cut, including Long Point's only Violet-green Swallow (Aug 2014). The migration program can be readily run by three experienced people. Volunteers first arriving at LPBO generally stay at Old Cut for a short period and this is where most of the training and orientation is conducted. Researchers are usually present at Old Cut, along with the migration monitoring volunteers, and Friends of LPBO.

Daily Schedule

We all take tremendous pride and pleasure from our work at LPBO, no matter how tedious or minor, from routine maintenance, to bird banding, to data entry, to data analysis, to report writing, it's all important. All staff and volunteers should immerse themselves in all these activities! Don't squander any of your time at Long Point! Remember, you are now a biologist at one of the most prestigious bird observatories in the world. Maximize your experience here by learning all there is to learn and contribute as much as possible. In the process, you'll undoubtedly build many new friendships and learn more than you ever expected about people, birds, science, conservation, technology, and yourself. Opportunities to learn and get involved won't necessarily be offered to you, you have to seek them out and get involved.

Although many of our volunteers come for the banding experience, the most important data we collect actually comes from the observations we make of free flying birds at the each of the three stations. Even if you are a confirmed bander, be prepared to **GO BIRDING!**

The day begins by opening nets and setting traps 0.5 hours before sunrise. Banding then proceeds for six hours, after which nets are closed and the lab is cleaned. A one hour-long morning watch should begin as soon as nets are open and traps are set. The purpose of the watch is to get a handle on the general level of migration and what species are moving through on any given day. A standardized census begins one hour after sunrise. The afternoon is spent doing chores (e.g., grocery shopping, boat trips, maintenance, etc.) and conducting one or more supplementary censuses. In fall, the supplementary census also includes a count of Monarchs at the Tip and Breakwater. Similar to the morning, an evening watch should be conducted for the hour around sunset. Later in the evening, estimated totals (ETs) are compiled. In fall, Northern Saw-whet Owl banding begins 0.5 hours after sunset and continues for at least four hours. All aspects of the daily routine are elaborated on in the [Migration Monitoring Protocol](#).

Appended to the end of this fact sheet is a detailed daily schedule for each LPBO's three migration monitoring stations. Take note, there are slight differences between all of the stations. Volunteers involved with the Tree Swallow Project or the Breeding Bird Census will have different schedules, based on their involvement in those projects at certain times of year. Independent researchers will also have alternative schedules. In general though, the average migration monitoring volunteer can expect to follow the following daily schedules.



LPBO ACTIVITIES AND EVENTS





1
82,000+

2
50,500+

3
50,000+

| | |
|--|--|
| APR. 1 TO JUN. 10 & AUG. 15 TO NOV. 15 <small>(Contact us to book education programs or group tours)</small> | Daily bird banding demonstrations All morning, every morning Daily birding hikes One hour after sunrise departing from Old Cut every day LPBO Shoppe Open 9-12 daily |
| MAY | Great Canadian Birdathon All month World Migratory Bird Day Second Saturday in May |
| AUG. | Youth training month Young Ornithologists' Workshop and Internship |
| OCT. | Owl nights Fair-weather nights, starting one hour after sunset |
| DEC. TO JAN. | Long Point Christmas Bird Count Port Rowan CBC4Kids |



4
42,000+



5
39,500+

BIRD STUDIES CANADA
ÉTUDES D'OISEAUX

OLD CUT
15 Old Cut Blvd.
Long Point, ON, Canada

Top five banded species since 1960

1. White-throated Sparrow
2. Ruby-crowned Kinglet
3. Yellow-rumped Warbler
4. Dark-eyed Junco
5. Tree Swallow

birdscanada.org/lpbo
 fb.com/LPBObs
 [@LongPointBirdOb](https://twitter.com/LongPointBirdOb)
 lpbo@birdscanada.org
 519-586-3531

Daily Schedule - Old Cut

| | Spring | Fall |
|-----------------------|---|---|
| 0.5 hr before sunrise | Banding (20 min net rounds) and birding | Banding (20 min net rounds) and birding |
| Sunrise | | |
| 1 hr after sunrise | | |
| 5.5 hr after sunrise | | |
| 2 PM to 5PM | Chores and additional birding | Chores and additional birding |
| 1 hr before sunset | | |
| 0.5 hr after sunset | | |
| 4.5 hr after sunset | Owl Banding (60 min net rounds) | Owl Banding (60 min net rounds) |
| | | |

| Spring | Fall |
|---|---|
| Open mist nets and set traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 mist nets 4 ground traps and J-trap (April 10-May 21 only) | Open mist nets and set traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 14 mist nests 1 hawk net 4 ground traps and J-trap (October 1-Nov 15 only) |
| Morning watch* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Platform for 1 hr | Morning watch* <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Platform for 1 hr |
| Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hr maximum 1-3 people Add data to daily log sheet Report census results to the Tip and Breakwater | Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 hr maximum 1-3 people Add data to daily log sheet Report census results to the Tip and Breakwater |
| Close all nets and flip open all traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean banding lab Flip bird bags Record banding and recapture totals, and effort data on daily log sheet Double check nets | Close all nets and flip open all traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Clean banding lab Flip bird bags Record banding and recapture totals, and effort data on daily log sheet Double check nets |
| Supplementary census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No limits on time or observers | Supplementary census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> No limits on time or observers |
| Data entry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compile additional data as needed. | Data entry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Compile additional data as needed. |
| Additional Chores | Additional Chores |
| Evening watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Platform for 1 hr | Evening watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Platform for 1 hr |
| Daily wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lock buildings and check nets Radio call Listen for nocturnal birds ETs | Begin standard owl banding protocol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 3 owl nets Mist nets 2, 3, 7, 13, 14 1 hawk net |
| | Daily wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Lock buildings and check nets Radio call Listen for nocturnal birds ET's |
| | End standard owl banding protocol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Close nets or continue banding until up to 1 hr before sunrise Recharge MP3 player |

***Monday is garbage day:** Put all garbage and recycling at the bottom of the driveway immediately after opening nets.

Daily Schedule - Breakwater

| | Spring | Fall |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| 0.5 hr before sunrise | Open mist nets and set traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 13 mist nets • 2 ground traps and J-trap (April 10-May 21 only) | Open mist nets and set traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 14 mist nests • 1 hawk net • No ground traps or J-trap |
| Sunrise | Morning watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deck and/or lake for min. 1 hr | Morning watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deck and/or lake for min. 1 hr |
| 1 hr after sunrise | Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hr maximum • 1-2 people • Add data to daily log sheet • Report census results to the Tip and Old Cut | Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1 hr maximum • 1-2 people • Add data to daily log sheet • Report census results to the Tip and Old Cut |
| 5.5 hr after sunrise | Close all nets and flip open all traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean banding lab • Flip bird bags • Record banding and recapture totals, and effort data on daily log sheet • Double check nets | Close all nets and flip open all traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean banding lab • Flip bird bags • Record banding and recapture totals, and effort data on daily log sheet • Double check nets |
| 2 PM to 5PM | Supplementary census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No limits on time or observers Data proofing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof completed banding datasheets, retrap cards and past daily log sheets Additional Chores | Supplementary/Monarch census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No limits on time or observers • Record all Monarchs on daily log sheet Data proofing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Proof completed banding datasheets, retrap cards and past daily log sheets Additional Chores |
| 1 hr before sunset | Evening watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deck for min. 1 hr | Evening watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Deck for min. 1 hr |
| 0.5 hr after sunset | Daily wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio call • Listen for nocturnal birds • ETs | Daily wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio call • Listen for nocturnal birds • ETs |

Daily Schedule - Tip

| | Spring | Fall |
|------------------------------|---|---|
| 0.5 hr before sunrise | Banding (30 min net rounds) and birding | Open mist nets and set traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 15 mist nets • 4 ground traps and 2 J-traps (April 10-May 21 only) |
| Sunrise | | Morning watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Block building for 1 hr • Shanty for 30 min |
| 1 hr after sunrise | | Census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1.25 hr maximum • 1-3 people • Add data to daily log sheet • Report census results to Old Cut and Breakwater |
| 5.5 hr after sunrise | | Close all nets and flip open all traps <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Clean banding lab • Flip bird bags • Record banding and recapture totals, and effort data on daily log sheet • Double check nets |
| 2 PM to 5PM | Chores and additional birding | Supplementary census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No limits on time or observers |
| | | Data entry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter completed and proofed banding datasheets and today's recapture cards in Band Manager |
| | | Birding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake watch at Shanty • Raptor watch at Cabin • Shorebird Survey in NWA • TRES grid monitoring |
| | | Additional Chores |
| 1 hr before sunset | | Supplementary/Monarch census <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • No limits on time or observers • Record all Monarch data on daily log sheet |
| | | Data entry <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Enter completed and proofed banding datasheets and today's recapture cards in Band Manager |
| | | Birding <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lake watch at Shanty • Raptor watch at Cabin • Shorebird Survey in NWA • TRES grid monitoring |
| | | Additional Chores |
| 0.5 hr after sunset | | Evening watch <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Block building or Tip for 1 hr |
| | | Daily wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio call • Listen for nocturnal birds • ETs |
| 4.5 hr after sunset | | Begin standard owl banding protocol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 3 owl nets • Mist nets 2, 3, 7, 13, 14 • 1 hawk net |
| | | Daily wrap-up <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Radio call • Listen for nocturnal birds • ET's |
| | | End standard owl banding protocol <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Close nets or continue banding until up to 1 hr before sunrise • Recharge MP3 player |
| | | Owl Banding (60 min net rounds) |

**BY SIGNING THIS DOCUMENT YOU MAY BE WAIVING CERTAIN LEGAL RIGHTS, INCLUDING THE RIGHT TO SUE.
PLEASE READ CAREFULLY!**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT AND ASSUMPTION OF RISKS

AND

**RELEASE OF LIABILITY BY _____
Name of Volunteer (the "Releasor")**

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____ Email: _____

With respect to the Volunteer's participation in the activities and field programs (the "Program") carried on by **BIRDS CANADA** (the "Releasee"), at and/or connected with Long Point Bird Observatory at Long Point, Ontario or elsewhere, the undersigned Releasor on behalf of him or herself, heirs, executors and legal guardians, hereby acknowledges and agrees as follows:

1. To assume all risks pertaining to the Program which may include but are not limited to, traveling by boat, back country travel and living, and field work and the use of BIRDS CANADA facilities in field locations from which communications may be difficult and that rescue and medical treatment may be delayed.

I also acknowledge that the Program may be carried on in areas where there may be some health hazards including a risk of contracting Lyme Disease.

2. That I have received, read and understood the operations manual provided to me by BIRDS CANADA with respect to its safety and operations rules and regulations pertaining, but not limited to, wearing a government approved personal flotation device while in a watercraft and the health risks associated with and some precautions against contracting Lyme Disease.

3. That I am not an employee, servant or agent of Birds Canada.

4. That I will abide by all Federal, Provincial, Municipal or any other law pertaining to said activities participated in by me.

5. That I hereby waive, release and indemnify BIRDS CANADA and each of the respective directors, officers, employees, servant and agents, professional advisors, independent contractors and consultants and their successors and assigns (the "Releasee") from all manner of actions, suits, loss or injury of every nature and kind arising, including death, from my participation, either directly or indirectly in any Program of the Releasee except to the extent that same were caused by the negligence or default of the Releasee.

6. I hereby acknowledge that I have been advised by BIRDS CANADA to seek independent legal advice and have had sufficient time and opportunity to do so prior to my executions of this document and I hereby acknowledge that I fully understand the terms of this documents and there has been no representation of fact or opinion, threat or inducement which has affected my decision to execute this document.

7. To the best of my knowledge I have fully disclosed my medical problems and disabilities and dietary restrictions which are listed below:

8. This document shall be interpreted in accordance with the laws of the Province of Ontario.

Dated this ____ day of _____, 20____.

Volunteer's Name: _____
(Please print name) (Signature)

*Witness Name: _____
(Please print name) (Signature)

*Parent or Guardian if Volunteer is under 18 years of age

Birds Canada: _____
(Please print name) (Signature)

Witness Name: _____
(Please print name) (Signature)