

# Request for Great Blue Heron Sightings

This is the second year of a project to collect sightings of Great Blue Heron in the Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton, and Lillooet areas. The goal of this project is define the distribution, abundance, and habitats used by this species so as to aid in its conservation. Last year a number of people submitted observations that provide a great foundation for building upon.

The Great Blue Heron is a large wading bird that's often seen standing still while foraging in open habitats (e.g., streams, lakes, wetlands, and fields) or flying overhead with slow, steady wingbeats and its neck tucked in. Individuals are commonly seen singly, but come together in the spring and summer to mate, nesting in colonies in trees. Birds are large, mostly grey, and have a long yellow dagger-like bill, neck, and legs. Adults have white on top of their head and feather plumes on the back of their head and chest. The coastal subspecies is unique in that it's non-migratory. Unfortunately its population has been decreasing.



**If you see or hear a Great Blue Heron in the Squamish, Whistler, Pemberton, or Lillooet, please record the date, time, specific location, number, and activity of the birds you observe. The direction birds are flying and any nesting activity (e.g., carrying twigs, young calling) is very valuable information. Please send your sighting information or questions about this project to [pembertonheron@gmail.com](mailto:pembertonheron@gmail.com)**

Thank you for your time and help.  
Greg Ferguson, [pembertonheron@gmail.com](mailto:pembertonheron@gmail.com)

Further Info: <http://www.sccp.ca/species-habitat/great-blue-heron-fannini-ssp>,  
[https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Great\\_Blue\\_Heron/lifehistory](https://www.allaboutbirds.org/guide/Great_Blue_Heron/lifehistory)