

Tatlayoko Field Station Society Box 22 Tatlayoko Lake, BC VOL1W0

June 5, 2025

Dear TLBO supporter:

The Tatlayoko Lake Bird Observatory is seeking funding for its 2025 field season. To date, \$14,000 of a required \$32,000 has been raised. Would you consider partnering with us and donating to this important conservation project?

Tatlayoko Lake Bird Observatory (TLBO) conducts population monitoring of migratory birds each autumn as they fly south to wintering grounds in western/southern USA and Central America. Located in the west Chilcotin region of British Columbia, TLBO lies on an important migratory flyway on the eastern side of BC's Coast Range. TLBO is a member of the Canadian Migration Monitoring Network and fills an important geographical gap in data collected by the other three CMMN stations in BC.

TLBO is a project of the Tatlayoko Field Station Society (TFSS), a local volunteer group which also operates the newly-established Tatlayoko Field Station (TFS). TFSS is a registered BC society (S0071453) and a registered CRA charity (#78912-3072-RR0001). More information about TFSS and its work is available at www.tatlayokofieldstation.org.

TLBO was founded in 2006. Each season TLBO birders record nearly 30,000 individual sightings. TLBO data is now an important contribution to Canadian and international population

assessments, including those under the Species-At-Risk Act. All data collected by TLBO is publicly available from the Canadian Wildlife Service's Bird Banding Office, as well as on the Nature Counts website (www.naturecounts.ca) operated by Birds Canada.

The TLBO blog at https://tatlayokobirds.wordpress.com includes daily updates from monitoring seasons beginning in 2009. It also hosts a collection of TLBO annual reports (posted in the "Migratory Bird Count" tab).

In conjunction with its bird monitoring efforts, TLBO conducts a volunteer program which provides important training opportunities for aspiring biologists. Typically, two or three volunteers work with the banders at any one time. Past volunteers have gone on to pursue studies and careers in conservation and biology using field skills obtained during their time at TLBO.

TLBO also operates an outreach program for local elementary and middle-school students, as well as for visitors. Over the years, several hundred local students have visited the lab and had an opportunity to observe and be part of operations at the banding lab, including gathering birds from the nets, measuring and weighing them, banding them, and releasing them back into the wild.

Monitoring birds during migration is a highly cost-effective means of assessing bird populations. Traditional methods such as the Breeding Bird Survey provide little information on birds that breed across the remote and inaccessible Boreal region, which is where the majority of Canada's songbirds spend their summers. Taking advantage of their passage during migration provides the opportunity to sample large numbers of birds quite efficiently.

Operational requirements for TLBO 2025 are \$32,000, including building and equipment maintenance and all banders' salaries. To date, TFSS has secured nearly half of this amount. We are seeking partners and donors to match these funds and support this critically important work.

We hope you will join with TFSS on this important long-term conservation project. We will be very pleased to send more information about TLBO, including a detailed budget, should you be interested. We look forward to your reply.

Thank you very much for your consideration.

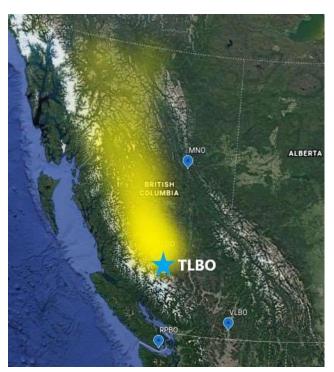


Fritz Mueller, Chair Tatlayoko Field Station Society









Canadian Migration Monitoring Network stations in BC. The TLBO "catchment area" is shown in yellow.























