

Title

ENVIRONMENTAL ACTION FUND FOR YOUTH GROUPS - NEST BOX PROGRAM

Model Forest

Western Newfoundland Model Forest

From

September 1993

To

February 1996

Keywords

youth, public awareness, environment, wildlife conservation

Objective

The Western Newfoundland Model Forest (WNMF) initiated an Environmental Action Fund for Youth Groups, which provided funding for the development of a cavity nest box program. This program provided Youth Groups in the WNMF with an opportunity to participate in environmental activities and help provide nesting habitat for a variety of cavity nesting species.

Description

Over 120 bird species nest in Newfoundland each year. Of these, about 15 to 20 species, ranging in size from swallows to ducks, are cavity nesters. That is, they nest in the cavities of decayed trees and stumps. Generally, woodpeckers and chickadees excavate these cavities, making new holes each year, leaving the old ones for occupation by other nesting species. Natural nest sites are disappearing as a result of commercial and domestic logging; and consequently there is intense competition for nest holes, and the populations of cavity-nesting species are declining. By involving youth in the construction and placement of cavity nest boxes, we are increasing public awareness for environmental issues and wildlife conservation, not to mention an improved breeding habitat for cavity nesting species.

Reports and Products

Nest Boxes for Youth Groups: Project Overview. Bonnell, B. 1993. Western Newfoundland Model Forest, Corner Brook, Newfoundland. WNMF: 0-402-001, 8p.

Environmental Action Fund for Youth Groups: Nest Box Program. Parsons, G. 1996. Ducks Unlimited Canada, Pasadena, Newfoundland. WNMF: 0-402-002, 43p.