

# Seen any nesting Great Blue Herons? Tell us about it!

*The Great Blue Heron Needs Your Help to Ensure its Conservation on BC's Coast*

**HOW YOU CAN HELP:**

**HERONS START NESTING AS EARLY AS FEBRUARY AND NEST INTO THE SUMMER MONTHS.**

**SEND US YOUR OBSERVATIONS OF ACTIVE HERON NESTS.**

**HERONS BUILD THEIR LARGE STICK NESTS HIGH UP IN MATURE TREES.**



Great Blue Herons on BC's Coast are a relatively common sight. These blue-grey wading birds can be over 1 m tall when standing. In flight, they can be identified by a large wingspan and neck folded in an "s" shape. They hunt for food in areas ranging from fresh and salt water marshes, streams, open grassy fields, to backyard ponds. They find quiet forests to build their nests in colonies and raise their young.

Colonies vary in size from a few nests to over 20. The main threats to herons include those that impact their ability to nest in these colonies. Issues include human disturbance, lost habitat due to development, and bald eagle predation.

The productivity of coastal herons is dropping. To help stop this decline, more information is needed about where these birds are building colonies and breeding.

**Please send sightings to:**

**[ec.pacific.hérons.ec@canada.ca](mailto:ec.pacific.hérons.ec@canada.ca)**