

4.7 Nature Appreciation

Opportunities for nature appreciation near or beside the Ottawa River are innumerable. Parks and conservation areas along the river, listed in Chapter 3.8.1: Parks Along or Near the Ottawa River, offer exceptional opportunities to view and appreciate nature all along the length of the Ottawa River. In addition, natural areas such as wetlands and forests with public access near the Ottawa River include Petrie Island's provincially-classified wetlands at Cumberland, Ontario; Stony Swamp Conservation Area in the National Capital area with its woods and wetlands; and the Shaw Woods at Lake Dore, Ontario, to name only a few.

Bird-watching is a popular way to observe nature along the river. A few examples of popular bird watching sites include Britannia Bay on Lac Deschênes, Ontario, particularly for migratory birds; the Britannia and Mud Lakes Forest, Rapids Basin, Ontario; Petrie Island at Cumberland, Ontario; and the Casey and Hilliarion Marshes on Lake Temiskaming. Quebec has plans to develop a bird-watching route in the Abitibi-Témiscamingue region.

Many nature-based clubs and organizations exist, including the following:

- Club des ornithologues de l'Outaouais
- The Ottawa Field Naturalists' Club
- The Ottawa Duck Club
- The Vankleek Hill Nature Society
- The Macnamara Field Naturalists (Arnprior)
- The Pembroke Area Field Naturalists
- Upper Ottawa Valley Nature Club (Deep River)
- Field Botanists of Ontario
- Ontario Field Ornithologists
- Société du loisir ornithologique de l'Abitibi
- Société d'ornithologie du Témiscamingue
- Club des observateurs d'Abitibi-Ouest

Figure 4.15 Grande Chute, Fort Coulonge



Source: Mr. Cheng