



*Welcome* to  
 M'Clintock Bay and  
 Swan Haven  
 Interpretation Centre.  
 Each year about 10%  
 of North America's  
 Trumpeter Swans stop  
 here during spring  
 migration. And each  
 year about 10% of the  
 Yukon's people come  
 here to see the swans  
 and other waterbirds  
 and learn about what  
 makes this a very  
 special place.



*For more information contact:*

Wildlife Viewing Program  
 Box 2703  
 Whitehorse, YT  
 Y1A 2C6

(867) 667-8291  
<http://www.environmentyukon.gov.yk.ca>  
 Email: [wildlife.viewing@gov.yk.ca](mailto:wildlife.viewing@gov.yk.ca)

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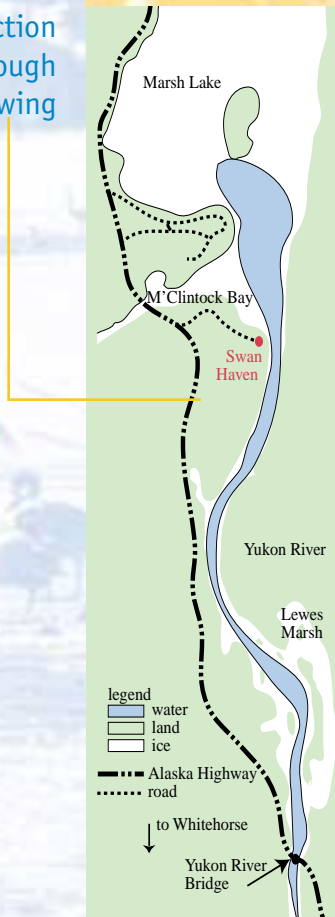


# Swan Haven

Important  
 spring  
 stopover  
 Migratory  
 birds

History  
 Partnerships  
 Education

Protection  
 through  
 viewing



Girl Guides of Canada Guides du Canada

Open water is the key for these returning birds. When the birds arrive in March, most Yukon rivers and lakes are locked under ice. But at M'Clintock Bay, they find shallow open water filled with much-needed food. Here, warmer water from the bottom of Marsh Lake is forced near the surface, keeping the bay ice-free in all but the coldest months.

Because the surrounding ice provides security from approaching predators, this spot offers everything that the migrating birds need: rest, food and security. M'Clintock Bay is one of the most important spring staging areas along the swans' flyway.

The open water is also very attractive to canoeists, boaters, fishers and others eager for the return of spring. Concern about how these activities disturb the birds first led to an education program in the late 1980s. As more people became aware of the birds' needs, activities in the water decreased. Now, a very supportive public takes a dim view of anyone who gets too close and disturbs the swans' much needed rest.



In April 1994, with the support of the Yukon Government's Wildlife Viewing Program, the Girl Guides of Canada and Ducks Unlimited Canada, Swan Haven Interpretive Centre was opened. Staff are available weekday evenings and weekend afternoons from early April to mid-May to share information about the swans and to help you discover what makes M'Clintock Bay the special place it is.

The annual Celebration of Swans, which began as a one-day event, has now grown to eight days. Held in the third week of April, this festival coincides with the peak in the swan migration. The festival includes birding tours in surrounding communities, children's games, special presentations, art contests, and great swan watching. School class visits have always been important to the success of Swan Haven. Each year nearly 1000 school children from grades 2 to 6 visit the centre with their classes and receive interpretive programs by Swan Haven staff.

Celebration of Swans-third week of April each year.



3000 ducks!  
2000 swans!  
1000 school kids!  
50 kinds of waterfowl!  
8 days of celebrating!  
1 special place!

