



ISLAND NATURALIST

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If you have not already done so, please renew your 2006 membership

**NATURAL HISTORY SOCIETY OF PRINCE EDWARD ISLAND
P.O. BOX 2346, CHARLOTTETOWN, P.E.I. C1A 8C1**

Meetings are held on the first Tuesday of the month (except July, August, and September) at 7:30 p.m. at the Farm Centre, 420 University Avenue, Charlottetown. Each meeting commences with a brief business meeting followed by a nutrition break and a guest speaker. Members and non-members are welcome.

Membership is open to anyone interested in the natural history of Prince Edward Island. Membership is available at any meeting or by contacting the Treasurer at P.O. Box 2346, Charlottetown C1A 8C1 (phone 569-1209). Annual membership is \$16 and renewals are due in January. Membership expiry dates are shown in the top right hand corner of the mailing label.

The Society is directed by a volunteer Executive elected from its members.

2006 Executive: President.....Dwayne Oakley, Crossroads 569-1815 oakleym@eastlink.ca
Vice-President.....Dan Kennedy, Vernon River 651-2926 dankennedy@islandtelecom.com
Past President.....David Seeler, West Royalty 566-4505 seeler@upei.ca
Secretary.....Fiep deBie, Stratford 569-1413 dfiep@hotmail.com
TreasurerRosemary Curley, Stratford 569-1209 rcurley@isn.net
Director - Program.....Bonnie McOrmond, Charlottetown 628-6994 bcmcormond@eastlink.ca
Director - Publicity.....Sharon Clark, Charlottetown 626-3566 sclark@upei.ca

NEWSLETTERS are normally published quarterly on recycled paper. Articles, notes, reports, drawings, bird sightings, plant records, etc. are welcomed from members and non-members. If you have seen anything unusual, please share it with us. It is important to have your observations recorded so that others may learn from them. All contributions should be sent by mail to Dan McAskill, Newsletter Editor, NHSPEI, Charlottetown RR # 5, Donagh, P.E.I. C1A 7J8 or via E-mail to nhspei@isn.net

The *next deadline* for articles, sightings, or other newsletter information is **September 15, 2006**.

Illustrations/Pictures: The Society extends a special thanks to Dwayne Oakley and Hal Hinds for their photographs and illustrations in this issue.

The Natural History Society gratefully acknowledges support from the Department of Education which enables distribution of newsletters to schools and libraries desiring it. The Natural History Society is an affiliate of the Nature Canada and has representation on the board of the Island Nature Trust. The Society is a registered, non-profit organization (Part 2, Companies Act). Tax receipts are issued for donations to the Society and these funds are used to further the work of the Society.

Reprinting: Editors of other newsletters and teachers wishing to copy classroom materials are welcome to reprint articles from the Island Naturalist (except when copyrighted). Due acknowledgment must be provided to the Island Naturalist, the author and illustrator.

Web page: The Society's web page is located at www.isn.net/~nhspei

Cover Illustration:

On May 28th, 2006 an American White Pelican was seen by Nancy Ching of Black Pond and she reported it to Rosemary Curley. Rosemary sent the sighting out to the listserver and, suddenly, the word was out amidst the birding community. Dwayne Oakley's photograph taken on the morning of May 29th officially documents this rare bird record. Based on the Natural History Society's records, this is the fourth sighting of this species on the Island. All the previous sightings were in late summer or autumn. The first report was at Malpeque Bay on August 13th, 1983 by Barry Martin, his brother, and Stephen Worth.

HARLEQUIN DARNER - New Dragonfly Species for PEI:

by Robert W. Harding

Until last summer, the Harlequin Darner (*Gomphaeschna furcillata*) had not previously been recorded in Prince Edward Island. On June 15, 2005 a newly-emerged female was found in a roadside bog along the Klondyke Road in Queens County. This was an unexpected find for me, as I did not really anticipate that this species would be found in the province. I have been studying dragonflies for over ten years now, yet they still continue to surprise me.

This medium-sized, slender member of the Darner (*Aeshnidae*) family flies early in the season and has a fairly short flight period. Its brown body with marbled greenish markings make it somewhat difficult to find, and its preferred habitat of sphagnum bog ponds makes it even harder to net.

The Harlequin Darner is rare in Canada, and until recently had only been known in our region in the southwest corner of New Brunswick and in a few sites in southern Nova Scotia. Then surprisingly, one specimen was found in Cape Breton in 1999, which extended the known limit of its regional range. And now this PEI record further extends the northern limit of the known range of this species in our region.

With the addition of the Harlequin Darner, the number of dragonfly species recorded in PEI stands at 69. If past experience is any indication, there are several more species yet to be added to the PEI list.

THANKS SHARON & FIEP!

The Society's Executive expressed its thanks to Sharon Clark and Fiep de Bie for their generosity and volunteerism on behalf of the Natural History Society. Since mid-2003, Sharon served as the Publicity Director for the Society and led many creative changes to its public relations programs including better publicity for Society events, the creation of an electronic distribution system to members and others for Society events, the liaison arrangements to allow testing of the distribution of the Island Naturalist to all Island libraries, the co-development of the Society's program brochure, and the organization of fund raising raffles. Fiep served as Secretary for the Society's meetings and as the Natural History Society's representative to the General Council of the Island Nature Trust for the last 2.5 years. In addition, she assisted with the U.P.E.I. Science Fair and many other projects. Both Fiep and Sharon were active contributors of sightings and participated in many Society field trips. On behalf of the Society's members, thanks Sharon and Fiep!

LIFE RETURNS TO GOVERNOR'S POND:

By Rosemary Curley

“Hey look! There's a brood of black ducks!”
“Did you see the muskrats? I saw four this spring.”

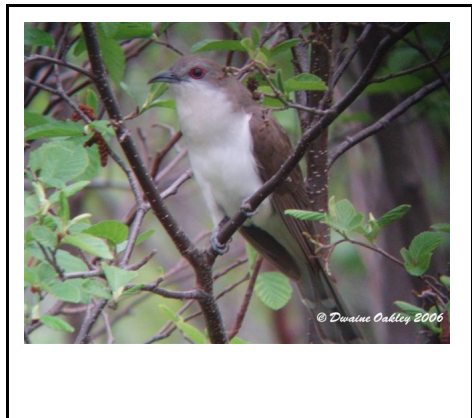
Life has returned to Governor's Pond adjacent to the government parking lot. It all began back in 2001 when the PEI Wildlife Federation decided that the pond could do with some natural pond vegetation. Prior to this decision, the pond emergent plants, such as cattails, bulrushes, etc. were routinely mowed and pond weeds were raked and killed. Then students hired by the Wildlife Federation took up the challenge to transplant a number of wetland plants like round stemmed bulrush, burreed, arrowhead and pond lilies to bring some life back to the pond. Soon afterward, a brood of black ducks was observed and photographed by former Lieutenant Governor, Gilbert Clements.

Now maintenance man Leo Dowling keeps a close eye on the wildlife and the pond vegetation. His interest in wildlife and natural history is contagious and Leo takes every opportunity to spread the good news about the various species of wildlife that now inhabit the wetland.

The pond supports waterfowl including broods of black ducks in summer and migrating waterfowl in fall, muskrats, red-winged blackbirds, and numerous wetland associated wild species, thanks to the wildlife habitat maintained by grounds-keeper Leo. At least 12 species of dragonflies and damselflies have been recorded in the pond.

The pond is here for all to enjoy. This past spring a fly casting clinic for novice fly fishers was held at the pond. Everyone enjoys watching the ducks, muskrats and other wild critters that now inhabit the pond. It serves as an educational tool to spread the good news that wetlands, even in the city, are to be protected and valued for their many benefits.

2006 BAIN BIRD COUNT: by Dan McAskill, Ray Cooke, Eric Marcum, Dwaine Oakley, Dan Kennedy, Gerald, Jean, & Richard MacDonald, Paul & Arlene McGuigan, and Cathleen Gallant



At 2:35 am, the first team out assembled in Charlottetown and commenced the 2006 Bain Bird Count. It was a warm, relatively calm, and cloudy with the temperature starting at ~15°C. A few light showers were experienced at some stops by early morning. By late morning, winds had risen and the temperature dropped so the coats were on well before we got to East Point. The Eastern Team of Gerald, Jean, & Richard MacDonald, Paul & Arlene McGuigan, and Cathleen Gallant seen coastal fog and they adjusted their outing to make the East Point a later stop. Thus, both teams were there at East Point in early afternoon. The winds were erratic and ranged from calm to 30+ km/hr with the strongest being experienced mid day. The sun came out and, with it, the black flies unless the breeze blew them off. Leaves were almost completely flushed so finding some species was difficult. The two teams birded in the central and northeastern parts of the Island for this

year's Bain Bird Count.

The participants are listed above. The Eastern team birded from ~8:15 am to 5:30 pm and tried for owls during the night. They drove about 70 km and walked more than a kilometre. With the exception of two members who had to leave at 5:45 p.m. and 6:40 p.m. respectively, the Central team went from 2:35 a.m. to 9:35 p.m. and covered some 477 kilometres by car and approximately 2 kilometres by foot. Together, the two teams observed and/or heard 144 species, a new record, and up from last year's 128 species total on the Bain Bird Count. Everyone had a great field day.

The most spectacular sightings of the day were: 2 Cliff Swallows at Allisary Creek, a White-crowned Sparrow at Monticello, a Black-billed Cuckoo at French Village, a Barred Owl which came within 4 metres, a group of 4 Merlin hunting over the water at East Point, and a group of 4 immature Bald Eagles sitting in short spruce trees at Savage Harbour. The Black-billed Cuckoo put on a great vocal and visual display and allowed some great images to be captured. For some members, this was their first sighting of this species on Prince Edward Island.

Needless to say, the species bolded in the text marked highlights of the day.

Red-throated Loon*	White-winged Scoter	Greater Yellowlegs
Common Loon	Black Scoter	Willet
Pied-billed Grebe	Long-tailed Duck	Spotted Sandpiper
Northern Gannet	Common Goldeneye	Ruddy Turnstone
Double-crested Cormorant	Common Merganser	Sanderling
Great Cormorant	Red-breasted Merganser	Semi-palmated Sandpiper
American Bittern	Osprey	Least Sandpiper
Great Blue Heron	Bald Eagle	White-rumped Sandpiper
Canada Goose	Northern Harrier	Short-billed Dowitcher
Wood Duck	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Wilson's Snipe
Gadwall	Northern Goshawk (2)	American Woodcock
American Wigeon	Red-tailed Hawk*	Bonaparte's Gull
American Black Duck	American Kestrel	Ring-billed Gull
Mallard	Merlin	Herring Gull
Blue-winged Teal	Ruffed Grouse	Iceland Gull
Green-winged Teal	Virginia Rail	Lesser Black-backed Gull
Ring-necked Duck	Sora	Great Black-backed Gull
Greater Scaup	American Coot	Common Tern
Lesser Scaup	Black-bellied Plover	Arctic Tern
Common Eider	Semi-palmated Plover	Black Guillemot
Harlequin	Piping Plover	Rock Pigeon
Surf Scoter	Killdeer	Mourning Dove

Black-billed Cuckoo	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Ovenbird
Eastern Screech-Owl*	Winter Wren	Northern Waterthrush
Great Horned Owl	Golden-crowned Kinglet	Mourning Warbler
Barred Owl	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Common Yellowthroat
Long-eared Owl*	Veery *	Wilson's Warbler
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Swainson's Thrush	Canada Warbler
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Hermit Thrush	Chipping Sparrow
Belted Kingfisher	American Robin	Savannah Sparrow
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	European Starling	Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow
Hairy Woodpecker	Cedar Waxwing	Song Sparrow
Northern Flicker	Tennessee Warbler	Lincoln's Sparrow
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Nashville Warbler	Swamp Sparrow
Eastern Wood Peewee*	Northern Parula	White-throated Sparrow
Alder Flycatcher	Yellow Warbler	White-crowned Sparrow
Least Flycatcher	Chestnut-sided Warbler	Dark-eyed Junco
Eastern Kingbird	Magnolia Warbler	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo	Cape May Warbler	Bobolink
Red-eyed Vireo	Black-throated Blue Warbler *	Red-winged Blackbird
Blue Jay	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Rusty Blackbird
American Crow	Black-throated Green Warbler	Common Grackle
Common Raven	Blackburnian Warbler	Brown-headed Cowbird
Tree Swallow	Palm Warbler	Purple Finch
Bank Swallow	Bay-breasted Warbler*	American Goldfinch
Cliff Swallow (2)	Blackpoll Warbler	Evening Grosbeak
Barn Swallow	Black-and-White Warbler	House Sparrow
Black-capped Chickadee	American Redstart	
Boreal Chickadee		

* seen or heard by less than a full team

BENEFICIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR RIPARIAN ZONES

by Paige Harris

Riparian zones are the lands immediately adjacent to streams, rivers, lakes, ponds, and wetlands. These are transitional lands, with no definite boundaries, between the body of water and more upland areas. Included in this area are the streambanks, the flood plain, and plant and animal communities. Riparian zones are characterized as being both ecologically diverse with both water-loving and upland plants.

Riparian zones are primarily recognized for their ability to offer a buffer between watercourses and surrounding land use practices such as agriculture, forestry, road construction, and land development. Unfortunately, riparian zones have often been heavily exploited and poorly conserved in the past. The remaining riparian zones are generally much narrower than naturally functioning riparian zones that are required to protect a river. As a result, many watersheds impacted by land use practices have major water quality concerns. Re-establishing, enhancing, and/or maintaining riparian areas, in addition to good land use practices beyond these zones, will help to improve water quality by trapping sediment and other contaminants, stabilize stream banks, regulate water temperature, increase and improve wildlife habitat and provide travel corridors for wildlife.

Forested riparian zones are very important in supporting nesting and feeding birds such as Eastern Kingbirds, American Woodcock and Tree Swallows. Mature white pine trees in well established riparian zones sometimes provide nesting sites for Bald Eagles. Barred Owls also use thicker trees in these areas for day-time roosts and large trees with cavities for nesting.

Island Nature Trust, with funding from Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada's Greencover Canada Program, is developing a multi-media product promoting beneficial management practices (BMP's) for riparian zones in Atlantic Canada. The multi-media product will include provincial brochures, a regional handbook, resource CD, and two on-site demonstration sites and tours in each province. This information will be made available to landowners to assist them in aspects of farm management near watercourses.

This project is intended to create interest in BMP's for riparian zones. Practical solutions will be demonstrated to reduce agricultural impact on riparian areas and watercourses. These solutions are intended to be

used in addition to BMP's beyond these zones. Landowners will be informed of assistance that is available for implementing these practices. As well, demonstration tours will be developed to promote the acceptance of BMP's by landowners.

A Project Steering Committee has been formed with representatives from each of the four Atlantic Provinces. This committee will meet over the coming months to assist the Project Coordinator, Paige Harris, with the technical and managerial aspects of the project. Upon completion of the project, representatives from each province will have hosted demonstration tours and will be responsible for the distribution of the brochures, handbooks and resource CDS.

Island Nature Trust is looking forward to the coming year and anticipates a great deal of interest in this important project. If you have any comments or questions, please contact Paige at Island Nature Trust at 902-892-7513 or via E-mail at projects@islandnaturetrust.ca

NEWS FROM ABOUT:

Compiled by Dan McAskill

Congratulations go out to Rosemary Curley, the Natural History Society's Treasurer, on being selected as the winner of the Hon. J. Angus MacLean Natural Areas Award. This Award was presented to Rosemary on May 18th at the Island Nature Trust's Annual Meeting in recognition of her many years of volunteer support and her professional contributions supporting the conservation of species and enhancement of natural areas in Prince Edward Island.

As we approach the end of spring migration, we thank you for making the **2006 Great Backyard Bird Count** such a resounding success. You and other birdwatchers sent in more than 60,000 checklists from across the United States and Canada, with a record-breaking 623 bird species and more than 7.5 million individual birds! The Cornell Lab of Ornithology and National Audubon Society thank you for getting involved. You have made this the most comprehensive GBBC to date. We hope you'll look at the results which you can find at www.birdsource.org/gbbc

The Natural History Society received a letter from CBCL apologizing for the length of time it has taken for the environmental review on the proposed opening of the Robinson's Island causeway and advising that its report had been submitted to the Federal government. It should be available in the near future.

Audubon International has been advocating the "Audubon Cooperative Sanctuary Program" to promote ecologically-sound land management and the conservation of natural resources through education and certification programs that are tailored to a diversity of land uses within communities. One of their programs covers the greening of golf courses. Green Ontario's web site offers a list of environmental principles for golf courses in the United States. These principles include to: enhance local communities ecologically and economically; develop environmentally responsible golf courses that are economically viable, offer and protect habitat for wildlife and plant species, create desirable playing conditions through practices that preserve environmental quality; and educate golfers and potential developers about the principles of environmental responsibility and promote the understanding that environmentally sound golf courses are quality golf courses. It is hoped that more golf courses on Prince Edward Island will adopt these practices. (Adapted from an E-mail from Barb Currie and web based research on greening golf courses).

Thanks to the generosity of the birders and the donors during this May 13th event at Montague, Charlottetown and Summerside, the Society sent the donations to the Baillie Birdathon as part of Bird Studies Canada's fund raising efforts for bird science programs and a fund raiser for the Society..

Dan Kennedy spoke to members and brought information from the Sierra Club and the Yukon Conservation Society to the May NHS meeting thus providing members with some information regarding the MacKenzie Gas Project and an on-line petition against it.

The City of Charlottetown brought in consultants to evaluate ways and means to disperse the American Crow roost at Victoria Park. (Local media reports).

WEATHER EVENTS:

A snow storm deposited about 12 to 14 cm on Mar. 8 and this was followed by a thaw with temperatures of 8 degrees C. The Hillsborough River below the Charlottetown bridge was still 50% ice covered on Mar. 19 but clear of ice on Mar. 27 although very high tides brought in some drift ice on Apr. 2. The top end of Moore's Pond in

Stratford had a lens of open water but, otherwise, ice covered it on Mar. 19. The head of Tracadie Bay was 75% ice covered on Mar. 31. Small amounts of snow in shaded areas remained but, otherwise, the snow was gone from the woods on Apr. 1. Two dry periods in late March and the second week of April brought a rash of spring grass fires and a few cutover fires. Over 100 mm of rain on Easter Weekend calmed the burning conditions but low relative humidity and wind brought rapid drying. In mid-April, Ministerial warnings of the lowest well water levels in decades were issued and, shortly thereafter, a significant crown fire occurred at Frenchfort on May 11th (JDM).

ANIMAL AND PLANT SIGHTINGS:

Compiled by J. Dan McAskill

PLANTS: First crocus blooms were seen in Beaconsfield flower beds on Mar. 27 (RPh) and at Donagh on Mar. 31 (JDM). Pussy willows were in catkin stage on Apr. 3 at Beach Grove (JDM). Alder catkins were open on Apr. 9 in Donagh (JDM). Grape hyacinth was in flower on Apr. 14, bush honeysuckle leaves flushing, hazelnut catkins open, and lawn turning green through the winter's brown thatch on Apr. 15 in Donagh (JDM). Mayflower in bloom at Clarke's Creek on Apr. 29 (WCT). Daffodils in bloom on Apr. 24 at Bunbury and hawthorn leaf buds flushing in Donagh on Apr. 30 (JDM). First dandelions in bloom on May 1st in Charlottetown. Pin cherry, blue violets, service berry in flower on May 10th in Donagh (JDM). Marsh marigold and mayflowers in bloom at Frenchfort on May 11th. In Donagh, tulips were in bloom on May 12, white spruce was shedding pollen and choke cherry, hazelnut, and red-berried elder were in flower on May 17, red oak and bleeding heart were in flower on May 18, and lilac was in bloom, butternut leaves started flushing on May 19 (JDM). On May 27th, marsh marigold, hawthorne, and apple were in flower at Pisquid East, chokecherry, blueberry and lamb's kill were in flower at Anderson Road and other more eastern points, and wild mustard was in flower at Greenwich. Wild lily-of-the-valley, starflower, and painted trillium were in flower at Valleyfield, interrupted fern was in the spore stage and bunch berry were in flower at Macphail woods on May 29 (JDM). Water horsetail fertile at Anderson Road on May 27 (JDM). Mountain Ash and Butternut in flower at Donagh on May 31 (JDM).

INSECTS: The first few adult mosquitos appeared in Donagh on Apr. 17th (JDM). First spring azures (*Celastrina landon*) and first dragonfly a Hudsonian whiteface (*Leucorrhinia hudsonica*) were seen at Strathboghie Road on May 14th (RWH). First June bug of the season was at Donagh on May 15 (JP) & in Charlottetown & Stratford on May 17 (JDM, RWH).

AMPHIBIANS/REPTILES: First wood frogs calling at Jenkins Road in Marshfield on Apr. 9 and first eggs seen on Apr. 11 (GK). Wood frogs calling at West Royalty on Apr. 10 (JDM). Numerous Wood Frogs and Spring Peepers calling at many locations from Mount Albion to St. Patrick's Road on Apr. 12 (WCT) and, at Maximeville on Apr. 12 which was 11 days earlier than last year (F&GM). Spring peepers started calling and in full chorus in Donagh on Apr. 13 (JDM). Numerous leopard frogs calling at Fullerton's Marsh on Apr. 23 (DO) and a few leopard frogs calling at Fullerton's Marsh and a few sluggish ones seen on Apr. 25 (DO). Green frog calling at Afton Road on May 27 (DO, JDM).

MAMMALS: 1 to 3 racoons daily at Donagh feeders in early March. Eastern chipmunk active at Watervale feeder on Mar. 20 (DD) and at Donagh on Apr. 15 (JDM). Snowshoe hare fully brown on Apr. 8 at Stanhope Lane (F&JC). Red fox sightings almost daily along road between Donagh and West Royalty in April (JDM). Silver fox with 4 silver pups and 1 red at Hillsborough Village seen on May 26 (EBM).

BIRDS: **Red-throated Loon** - at East Point on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS), 1 at West Cape on Apr. 12 (EBM); **Common Loon** - 1 at West Cape on Apr. 12 & 8 on Apr. 23 (EBM, FdB); **Pied-billed Grebe** - at Allisary Creek impoundment on Apr. 13 (DCS), at Fullerton's Marsh on Apr. 23 (DO); **Red-necked Grebe** - at Cardigan River on May 17 (SSi); **Northern Gannet** - 3 at West Cape on Apr. 9 (FdB), 15 at East Point on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS), 4 at Rice Pt. on Apr. 13 (EBM); **American White Pelican** - reported at Black Pond Migratory Bird Sanctuary on May 28 (NC via FRC, DO, LH, DCS); **Double-crested Cormorant** - 5 on Hillsborough Harbour rocks on Apr. 4 (DO), 2 flying at Hillsborough Bridge on Apr. 7 (JDM) & 20 on Hillsborough Harbour rocks on Apr. 11 (FdB); **Great Cormorant** - 3 at Howard's Cove on Apr. 1 (EBM, FdB), 7 at West Cape on Apr. 9 (FdB), at East Point on Apr. 1 (DCS); **American Bittern** - 1 at Dingwell's Mills on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW), 1 at Elliotvale on May 1 (DCS), 1 at Borden on May 18 (EBM); **Egret** spp - at East Point on May 17 (JHS); **Great Blue Heron** - 1 at Beach Point on Mar. 30 (JHS), several migrating at Howard's Cove on Apr. 1, 6 (EBM, FdB), 2 at Murray Harbour and 3 at Wood Island on Apr. 1 (DO), 5 at Ellen's Creek on Apr. 4 (EBM), at Bubbling Springs on May 6 (DCS); **Snow Geese** - several accompanying Canada Geese on the Hillsborough River in Mar. (TD); **Canada Geese** - 75 landing at Fullerton's Marsh on Mar. 11 (JDM), 1,000+ in corn field at Johnston's River on Mar. 14 & 2000 at Fort Augustus corn field on Mar. (TD, PW, DO, DCS, JDM), 700 at Indian River on Apr. 12 (EBM), 10 geese browsing in Afton Road hay field on May 27 (RC, JDM, DO, EBM, DK); **Brant** - 3 at Poverty Beach on Apr. 8 (JHS), 7 at Hillsborough River near Wright's Creek on Apr. 13 (EBM), at Black Pond run on May 17 (JHS); **Bar-headed Goose** - 2 probable escapees at Portage (date unknown) (DB); **Wood Ducks** - male at Fullerton's Marsh on Apr. 23

(DO), at Long Pond on Apr. 25 (DCS); **Gadwall** - at Cavendish on Apr. 1 (DCS); **Eurasian Wigeon** - male at Brackley Marsh on May 28 (DCS); **American Wigeon** - 1 at Indian River on Apr. 12 (EBM), at Mt. Stewart on Apr. 13 (DCS), 2 at Hyde Creek on May 6 (EBM); **American Black Duck** - large numbers seen with some brood swimming in late May (DO, DCS, JDM); **Mallard** - many pairs seen in Central and Eastern PEI this spring (DO, DCS, JDM); **Blue-winged Teal** - pair at St. Peter's on Apr. 12 (JDM), 2 pr at Mt. Stewart Lagoons on Apr. 13 (DCS); **Northern Shoveler** - pair at Cornwall on Apr. 12 (EBM), pair at Alexandria on Apr. 27 (FdB), at Mt. Stewart Lagoon on May 1 (DCS); **Northern Pintail** - at Wood Island on Apr. 7 (DCS), 2 males & females at Mt. Stewart Lagoon on May 14 (DCS); **Common Teal** - 1 at Cornwall on Mar. 7 (EBM), **American Green-winged Teal** - 2 pair at Stratford Pond on Mar. 17 (FdB); **Redhead** - 1 at Stratford Pond on Mar. 18 to 21 (FdB, DO, DD, JDM, AMcG), 20 at Oyster bed Bridge on Mar. 18 (DC&ES); **Ring-neck Duck** - 1 at Ferry Road pond in Cornwall on Apr. 4 (EBM), at Dalvay & John Archies on Apr. 8 (DCS), at Black Pond on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS), 12 at Portage on Apr. 23 (FdB, EBM), many at Fullerton's Marsh on Apr. 23 (DO); **Greater Scaup** - 600+ at Oyster Bed Bridge on Mar. 18 (DC&ES), 5 at St. Peter's on Apr. 7 (CGa), female at Hyde Creek in Cornwall on Apr. 4 -16, May 24 (EBM, FdB); **Lesser Scaup** - male at Hyde Creek in Cornwall on Apr. 4 to May 27 (EBM, DO, RC, JDM); **Common Eider** - 1 at West Point on Mar. 7, 14 in 3 flocks at West Cape on Mar. 17 (EBM), 11 at West Cape on Apr. 9 & 175 on Apr. 12, 260 Apr. 23 (FdB, EBM); **Harlequin Duck** - male at Cardigan on Mar. 3 (DO), 6 at East Point on May 23 (DCS); **Surf Scoter** - 4 on Apr. 4, 8 on Apr. 9, & 65, some in courtship behaviour on Apr. 23 at West Cape (FdB), 3 at Rice Pt. on Apr. 13 (EBM); **White-winged Scoter** - 2 at Rice Pt. on Apr. 13 (EBM); **Black Scoter** - 5 at West Cape on Apr. 9 & 70 on Apr. 12 (FdB, EBM), 16 at Rice Pt. on Apr. 13 (EBM); **Long-tailed Duck** - on Apr. 23, almost the whole length from Cavendish through to N. Rustico, large flocks of long-tailed ducks, eider, scoters, mergansers, goldeneye, etc. in the water, and a constant migration of thousands upon thousands, mostly long-tailed ducks, heading from east to west (LH); **Bufflehead** - 1 at Cardigan Bay on Jan. 7 (SSi); **Bufflehead** - 3 at Long Pond on Apr. 7 & 8 (RC, DCS); **Common Goldeneye** - very few at Oyster bed Bridge on Mar. 18 (DC&ES); **Barrow's Goldeneye** - 6 males at Oyster bed Bridge on Mar. 18 (DC&ES); **Common Merganser** - 5 at Strathgartney on Apr. 7 (AMH), 4 male & female at Robinson's Island on May 15 (DCS); **Red-breasted Merganser** - good numbers at Cymbria loop on Mar. 18 (DC&ES), 6 at Rice Pt. on Apr. 13 (EBM), 11 at St. Peter's on Apr. 7 (CGa), 41 at Rice Pt. on Apr. 13 (EBM); **Osprey** - pair at Bonshaw River area since mid-March (AO via DCS), pair at Central Bedeque nesting platform on Apr. 14 (FdB), pair at Wright's Creek on Apr. 22 (DCS), at Robinson's Island on May 6 (DCS); **Bald Eagle** - adult circling near Covehead Marsh on Mar. 10, 13, & 14 (F&JC), 3 matures at Beacon Hill on May 4 (AD), very good numbers of eagles being seen in Central and Eastern PEI this year; **Northern Harrier** - male cruising the dunes between Brackley Beach and Robinson's Island on Mar. 30 to Apr. 1 (F&JC), 1 at Howard's Cove on Apr. 1 (EBM, FdB), 2 at National Park on Apr. 7 (RC), female at Robinson's Island on Apr. 8 (F&JC), at East Point on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS), female at Maximeville on Apr. 16 (F&GM), 1 male hunting fields 1 at Johnston's River on Apr. 22 (RPh, JDM), numerous on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW); **Sharp-shinned Hawk** - 2 at Howard's Cove on Apr. 1 (EBM, FdB), at East Point on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS), numerous on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW); **Northern Goshawk** - 1 at Rocky Point on Mar. 12 (LD), 1 near nesting area at Valley on Apr. 9 (GS); **Broad-winged Hawk** - 1 chasing 2 Bald Eagles near Portage on May 12 (FdB); **Red-tailed Hawk** - 1 at Vernon River in early March (DK), 1 at Johnston's River on Mar. 6 (JDM), pair at West Cape on Mar. 22 (EBM, FdB), 2 soaring at Valley on Apr. 9 (GS), 1 at West Cape on May 23 (EBM); **Rough-legged Hawk** - 1 in National Park on Apr. 4 (AP), 1 at Johnston's River hunting fields on Apr. 22 (RPh, JDM), 1 at Rocky Point feeders week of Apr 25 (LD); **American Kestrel** -1 at Upton Road in Charlottetown on Mar. 28 (BHo), pair at Charlottetown on Apr. 6 (CW), 1 at Naufrage on Apr. 7 (CGa), 1 at Wood Islands on Apr. 7 (DCS), 1 at Cymbria on Apr. 8 (DCS), 1 at West Cape on Apr. 9 (FdB), at East Point on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS), 1 on wires at Iona on Apr. 10 (GS), 6 in northeastern PEI on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW); **Merlin** - male scattered birds at Crossroads feeders on Apr. 6 (DO), 1 at Brackley Point on Apr. 13 (DCS), 1 at Mt. Herbert on Apr. 29 (JDM); **Peregrine Falcon** - 1 at East Point on May 17 (DCS); **Gray Partridge** - 2 in Mt. Herbert on Mar. 27 (JDM), 2 at Rice Pt. on Apr. 13 (EBM), 2 at Rocky Point on May 25 (LD), 2 at Brackley Salt Marsh on Jun. 3 (DCS, DO, JDM); **Ring-necked Pheasant** - 1 at West Point on Apr. 23 (FdB), 1 at Vernon River on ~May 11 (DK), at Emyvale on Apr. 30 (JWa); **Ruffed Grouse** - 1 at West Point on Mar. 7 (EBM), 10 to 15 at Monticello feeders on Mar. 19 (GM), drumming at West Cape on Mar. 22 (EBM, FdB), 1 in Lake Verde on Apr. 7 (JDM); **Virginia Rail** - at Elliotvale on May 1 (DCS, DO); **Sora** - at Elliotvale on May 2 (DCS, DO); **American Coot** - 1 at Martinvale Marshes on May 8 (RC via DCS), 1 at Allisary Creek on May 22 (DCS); **UID Shorebirds**: CB reported 6 unidentified shorebirds at Vernon Bridge in early March (via DK); **Black-bellied Plover** - 2 at Covehead on May 15 (DCS), 4 at Mt. Carmel on May 17 (F&GM), 51 at Borden on May 18 & 90 at Rice Point on May 23 (EBM); **Semipalmated Plover** - at Red Head sandbar on May 27 (EBM, RC, DO, JDM); **Piping Plover** - the first at the National Park this year was a lone banded bird seen at Cavendish Sandspit on Apr. 12 [the earliest date ever recorded in the Park was Apr. 7th](LT), 2 at Lakeside Run on Apr. 12 (MK), at Black Pond run on May 17 (JHS); **Killdeer** - 1 at Sherwood on Apr. 1 (RC), 6 at Wood Island on Apr. 1 (DO), 3 at Black Pond wrack line on May 18 (DC&ES); **Greater Yellowlegs** - at Allisary Creek impoundment on Apr. 13 (DCS), 2 in NE PEI on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW); **Lesser Yellowlegs** - 1 at Pigot's Trail in Mt. Stewart on May 11 (DCS); **Spotted Sandpiper** - 1 at Mill Stream on May 22 (DCS), at East Point on May 23 (DCS); **Upland Sandpiper** - 2 at Charlottetown Airport on May 28 (DCS); **Willet** - at PEI National Park on May 6 (DCS), 2 at Alexandria on May 14 (FdB), 2 at Black Pond Sanctuary wrack line on May 18 (DC&ES); **Ruddy Turnstone** - 1 at Black Pond Sanctuary wrack line on May 17 & 1 at Borden (DC&ES, EBM), 1 at Rice Point on May 23 (EBM); **Sanderling** - at Red Head sandbar on May 27 (RC, DO, EBM, DK, JDM); **Semipalmated Sandpiper** - at Souris Beach on May 23 (DCS); **Least Sandpiper** - 1 at Mount Stewart on May 11 (DCS), 16 at Black Pond Sanctuary wrack

line on May 178 (DC&ES), 1 at Borden on May 18 (EBM); **White-rumped Sandpiper** - at Souris Beach on May 23 (DCS); **Dunlin** - at Covehead on May 28 (DCS); **Short-billed Dowitcher** - at Souris Beach on May 23 (DCS); **Wilson's Snipe** - winnowing at Watervale on Apr. 12 (WCT), 1 at Dingwell's Mills on Apr. 15 (DCS); **American Woodcock** - male doing displays at Cable Head East on Mar. 25 (MK), at St. Charles on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS); **Black-headed Gull** - 3 at Souris lagoon on Mar. 6 (SSi), at Winter River on Apr. 13 (DCS), at Covehead on May 28 (DCS), 2 doing courtship bill clicking and neck displays on Jun. 3 at Covehead sandbar (DCS, DO, JDM); **Bonaparte's Gull** - at Winter River on Apr. 13 (DCS), 15 at Covehead on May 28 (DCS), 4 on Jun. 3 (DCS, DO, JDM); **Mew Gull** - 1 at Stewart's Cove in Stratford on Mar. 20 (DO); **Ring-billed Gull** - dozens in fields around the Hillsborough in early April (JDM); **Herring Gull** - after very high tides earlier in the day, ~40 clustered along edge of saltmarsh bank at Fullerton's Marsh feeding on something on Apr. 3 (JDM), circling and plunging in water at Johnston's River flowage on Apr. 9 (JDM); **Iceland Gull** - ~20 at Hillsborough bridge feeding with Herring Gulls at bridge opening 1st week of April (JDM), 10 at Souris on May 23 (DCS); **Lesser Black-backed Gull** - 1 at Cardigan River in early Mar. (SSi), 1 adult at York Pt on Mar. 31 (EBM); **Great Black-backed Gull** - pair on Hillsborough Bridge piers on Mar. 27 (JDM); **Caspian Tern** - 1 at Mount Stewart on Hillsborough River on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW) & 1 on Apr. 23 (LH), 4 at Red Bridge in May 9 (EBM), 4 at Covehead Marsh on May 16 & Jun. 3 (DCS, DO, JDM); **Common Tern** - 3 at Hillsborough bridge piers on May 3 (DO), 5 at Hillsborough Bridge piers on May 5 & 15 on May 7 (DCS), 1 for second occasion on the Belvedere Pond tern raft on May 28 (FdB); **Razorbill** - 1 at East Point on May 23 (DCS); **Black Guillemot** - 2 at West Point on Mar. 7 (EBM) **Mourning Dove** - courtship display activity at Donagh on Mar. 11 (JDM), 9 at Stanhope on Mar. 18 (F&JC), fledglings at feeder in Ebenezer on May 24 (MW via FRC); **Black-billed Cuckoo** - 1 at French Village on May 27 (DO, EBM, RC, DK), 1 called at Auburn Demo Woodlot on Jun. 3 (DO, DCS, RC, EBM, JDM); **Snowy Owl** - 1 at North Bedeque on Apr. 2 (KLC), 1 at Wood Islands on Apr. 9 (RW), 1 at Locke Shore Rd on Apr. 25 & 27 (LH), 1 at Hampton Beach on May 20 (PBB); **Barred Owl** - 2 responded to calls at West Cape on Mar. 18 (FdB), 2 responded to calls at Avondale on Apr. 12 (WCT), 2 responded to calls during an Owl Hoot at Macphail and over 100 people attended the event on Apr. 22 (GS), at Macphail on May 31 (DO); **Great Horned Owl** - pair nesting at Meadowbank on Mar. 7 (DO); **Long-eared Owl** - 1 at Auburn on May 5 (RC); **Short-eared Owl** - 1 at East Point on Apr. 9 & 23 (DO, DCS, CW), 1 at Wood Islands on Apr. 10 (DO). 1 at Robinson's Island sandhills in May (via DCS); **Northern Saw-whet Owl** - 1 at Summerside on Mar. 21 (LH, BMa), at least one calling at Green Bay on Apr. 11 (JW); **Belted Kingfisher** - 1 at West Cape on Mar. 19 (EBM, FdB), 2 at Strathgartney on Apr. 7 (AMH); **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** - 1 at Mt. Carmel on May 12 with neighbour reporting one a few days earlier (F&GM), male at Mill River on May 14 (G&BM), 1 at New Dominion on May 18 (EB&RM), at North Lake Harbour on May 23 (DCS), 1 flying through a hose spray at Crossroads on May 31 (DO); **Red-bellied Woodpecker** - female at Cornwall on Mar. 10 & 15 (DDe); **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** - 1 at West Cape on Apr. 12 (EBM), at Dalvay Woodlands Trail on Apr. 13 (DCS), drumming on barbeque cover and dead larch on Apr. 24 in Donagh (JDM), male at Emyvale on Apr. 30 (JWa); **Hairy Woodpecker** - pair at West Cape on Mar. 22 (EBM, FdB), drumming on dead larch at Donagh on Mar. 23 (JDM); **Black-backed Woodpecker** - 1 at Fortune on May 8 (RC via DCS); **Northern Flicker** - 1 at Red Head on Mar. 10 & 20 (MK), 1 at Tea Hill on Mar. 18 (FdB), at Charlottetown suet feeder on Mar. 24 (EMu), territorial calls on Apr. 3 at Beach Grove & Crossroads (JDM, DO); **Pileated Woodpecker** - 1 heard at Valleyfield Demo Woodlot on May 7 (DC&ES); **Olive-sided Flycatcher** - 1 at Tryon on May 26 & Tryon on May 27 (DCS); **Eastern Wood Peewee** - 1 at Auburn Demo Woodlot on May 27 (JDM, RC), 1 at Macphail on May 31 (DO), 1 at Valleyfield Demo Woodlot on Jun. 1 (DCS); **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** - 1 at Deroche Pond on Jun. 3 (DCS, DO, RC, EBM, JDM); **Alder Flycatcher** - singing at Watervale on May 5 (RC), at Cavendish on May 29 (DCS); **Willow Flycatcher** - 1 at French Village on May 30 (DCS); **Least Flycatcher** - 1 at Highland Park Road on May 25 (JDM); **Eastern Kingbird** - 1 at Crown Point on May 7 (DC&ES), 1 at Hyde Creek in Cornwall on May 24 (EBM), at Allisary Creek impoundment and at French Village beaver dam on May 27 (DO, RC, EBM, JDM, DO); **Northern Shrike** - 1 at West Cape on Mar. 22 (EBM, FdB), 1 at Tea Hill on Mar. 27 (FdB), 1 at North Lake on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS), 3 in NE PEI on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW); **Blue-headed Vireo** - 1 at Hyde Creek on May 6 (EBM), 3 at PEI National Park on May 6 (DCS); **Red-eyed Vireo** - at French Village on May 27 (DCS); **Gray Jay** - 3 at Monticello on Mar. 19 (GM), 2 at Dromore on Jun. 3 (DCS, EBM, DO); **Blue Jay** - 12 daily in late Mar. & 6 to 8 daily in mid-April at Donagh feeders (JDM); **American Crow** - carrying nesting material on Mar. 27 & 29 at West Royalty (JDM); **Common Raven** - carrying stick at West Point on Mar. 7 (EBM), young ravens hatched at Winsloe on May 2 (B&RH); **Horned Lark** - 1 at Howard's Cove on Apr. 1 (EBM, FdB), 9 at West Cape on Apr. 12 (EBM); **Swallow** - 2 at East Point on Apr. 4 (AMH), 1 flying over Hillsborough River at the bridge in Charlottetown on Apr. 20 (JDM); **Tree Swallows** - returned to nesting boxes at Red Head & Mt. Stewart on Apr. 23 (MK, DCS), 2 at St. Margarets, 1 at Allisary Creek, & 1 at Mt. Stewart on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW) & on Apr. 23 (LH); **Bank Swallow** - at Allisary Creek on May 22 (DCS); **Cliff Swallow** - 2 at Allisary Creek on May 22 & 27 (DO, JDM, RC, DK); **Barn Swallow** - 1 at Cornwall on May 22 (DCS), on Apr. 23 (LH), at Hyde Creek on May 5 (EBM); **Boreal Chickadee** - 3 at West Cape on Mar. 19 (EBM, FdB); **Red-breasted Nuthatch** - 2 daily in early April at Donagh feeders (JDM); **White-breasted Nuthatch** - 1 at New Glasgow feeders on Mar. 23 (BeHo), 1 at South Melville feeder on Apr. 16 (RA); **Brown Creeper** - 1 at New Dominion on Mar. 16, 2 at West Cape on Mar. 18 with 1 singing (EBM) & 1 on Apr. 14 (FdB), 1 at New Glasgow feeders on Mar. 23 (BeHo); [*Carolina Wren - first P.E.I. record at Sherwood first week of April, 2006 by Kevin Teather and confirmed by DO with photos on Apr. 19.* (Also seen & heard singing by LH, DCS, EBM, D&JT, Fdb, JDM from Apr. 18 to 24)]; **Winter Wren** - 1 at West Point on Apr. 4 (EBM), 1 singing at Sherwood on Apr. 19 (DO); **Golden-crowned Kinglet** - at Monticello on Apr. 2 (CGa); **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** - 2 at West Cape on Apr. 24 (FdB), 2 at Bubbling Springs on

Apr. 29 & May 6 (DCS); **Veery** - 1 at Five Houses on May 23 (DCS), at Afton Road on May 27 (RC, EBM, JDM); **Swainson's Thrush** - at Valleyfield & Auburn on May 21 (DCS); **Hermit Thrush** - 1 at West Cape on Apr. 24 (FdB), 1 at Rte 25 on Apr. 20 (DCS), 1 at Auburn Demo Woodlot on May 6 (DCS); **American Robin** - 1 on Feb. 24 at Riverside Estates in Charlottetown (WFB, EM), 1 at Red Head on Mar. 9 (MK), 1 in tree top in Sherwood on Mar. 13 (JDM), 3 at West Cape on Mar. 19 (EBM, FdB), 50 at Goose River field on Mar. 31 (CGa), numerous at Howard's Cove on Apr. 1 (EBM, FdB), 200 at Monticello on Apr. 2 (CGa), 32 on Souris West lawn on Apr. 7 (CM), roadside in Avondale on Apr. 7 (JDM); **Gray Catbird** - at PEI National Park on May 6 (DCS) & at Millvale on May 27 (DCS); **Northern Mockingbird** - 1 at Cumberland on May 17 (DCS); **Brown Thrasher** - 1 at Red Head on May 30 (DCS); **European Starling** - fledglings at Crossroads on May 28 (DO); **Bohemian Waxwing** - 40 at Cornwall on Mar. 3 (EBM), 10 at Mermaid on Mar. 10 (JDM), 45 at West Cape on Mar. 22 (EBM, FdB), ~45 (large flock) at Montague on 8 & Mar. 26 (FRC, CN), at Maximeville on Apr. 16 (F&GM); **Cedar Waxwing** - at West Royalty on Apr. 23 (KM), at Rte 247 on May 19 (DCS), 6 feeding on apple blossoms at Crossroads on May 28 (DO); **Tennessee Warbler** - at New Dominion on May 24 & West Cape on May 29 (EBM); **Nashville Warbler** - 1 at West Point on May 18 (EBM), 1 at Valleyfield on May 21 (DCS); **Northern Parula** - at Forest Hill on May 14 (DCS), at Donagh on May 15 (JDM); **Yellow Warbler** - many at Borden on May 18 (EBM), at Millstream on May 19 & May 22 at MacEwen's Road (DCS); **Chestnut-sided Warbler** - 1 singing at West Point on May 16 (EBM, FdB), at Robinson's Island on May 19 (DCS); **Magnolia Warbler** - Robinson's Island on May 19 & 1 at Indian River on May 21 (DCS, LH); **Cape May Warbler** - at Auburn on May 21 (DCS); **Black-throated Blue Warbler** - at Valleyfield on May 21 (DCS), 1 at West Cape on May 23 (EBM); **Yellow-rumped Warbler** - back at Georgetown Royalty on Apr. 25 (SSi), at West Cape on May 2 (FdB), at Bubbling Springs trail on May 26 (DCS), at Auburn, Hyde Park Road, & Robinson's Island on May 6 (DCS); **Black-throated Green Warbler** - at Valleyfield Demo Woodlot on May 7 (DC&ES); **Blackburnian Warbler** - 1 at West Cape on May 23 (EBM); **Palm Warbler** - at Clarke's Creek on Apr. 29 (WCT), 1 at Rt. 5 & 216 on May 2 (DCS, DO); **Bay-breasted Warbler** - 1 at West Cape on May 28 (FdB); **Blackpoll Warbler** - 2 at Stratford on May 28 (DCS, DO), West Cape on May 29 (FdB, EBM); **Black-and-White Warbler** - at Clarke's Creek on Apr. 29 (WCT), one singing at West Point on May 12 (FdB), 1 at Crown Pt. on May 13 (DCS); **American Redstart** - at Valleyfield on May 21 (DCS); **Ovenbird** - at Clarke's Creek on Apr. 29 (WCT), 1 at Valleyfield on May 13 (DCS); **Northern Waterthrush** - at numerous locations on Rtes 333 & 321 on May 14 (DCS); **Mourning Warbler** - at Homestead Trail on May 29 (DCS); **Common Yellowthroat** - at Rte 235, Brackley Point, & Robinson's Island on May 19 (DCS); **Wilson's Warbler** - 3 at Robinson's Island on May 18 (DC&ES), at New Dominion on May 24 (EBM); **Canada Warbler** - 1 at Highland Park Rd. on May 25 (DCS), 2 at West Cape on May 28 (FdB); **American Tree Sparrow** - 5 to 7 daily in Mar. to Apr. 30 at Donagh feeders (JDM), at Maximeville on Apr. 16 (F&GM); **Chipping Sparrow** - 1 at Apr. 8 at New Glasgow (BeHo), 1 at Crossroads feeder on Apr. 29 (DO); **Vesper Sparrow** - 1 near Whitlock's Pond on May 8 (RC via DCS); **Lark Sparrow** - still at Murray Harbour North feeders on Mar. 30 (V&GM); **Savannah Sparrow** - 1 at St. Margaret's on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW), 1 at West Point on Apr. 23 (EBM, FdB); **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** - at Souris Causeway on May 23 (DCS); **Fox Sparrow** - 2 at Donagh feeders on Mar. 30 to Apr. (JDM), 1 at Murray Harbour North on Mar. 30 (V&GM), 1 at New Glasgow feeders this spring on Mar. 31 (BeHo), 1 scratching at Crossroads feeders on Apr. 2 (DO), at East Point on Apr. 9 (DO, DCS); **Song Sparrow** - 1 at New Dominion feeder on Mar. 31 (EBM), numerous at Howard's Cove on Apr. 1 (EBM, FdB), singing at Crossroads and Donagh on Apr. 3 (DO, JDM), at Maximeville on Apr. 16 (F&GM); **Lincoln's Sparrow** - at Lake Verde & Anderson Road on May 27 (DO, EBM, RC, JDM); **Swamp Sparrow** - 1 at Little Harbour on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW), at Fullerton's Marsh on Apr. 23 (DO); **White-crowned Sparrow** - 1 at Rocky Point on May 14 (LD), 1 at Rocky Point on May 25 (DCS), at Monticello on May 27 (GM, CGa); **White-throated Sparrow** - 2 at West Point on Apr. 23 (EBM, FdB), at Bubbling Springs Trail on Apr. 29 (DCS), back at Donagh on Apr. 29 (JDM), at South Melville on May 2 (RA); **Dark-eyed Junco** - nest building at Caledonia on Mar. 31 (JHS), sudden increase in numbers with 40+ at Iona on Apr. 2 (GS), lots at York Point feeder on Apr. 1 (AS), 30+ at New Glasgow feeders on Apr. 2 (BeHo); **Snow Bunting** - 300 festooning a tree with colour at North Enmore on Mar. 22 (EBM, FdB), 300+ in Fort Augustus corn field on Mar. 28 (JDM), 200 at Locke Road on Apr. 1 (LH), at Maximeville on Apr. 16 (F&GM); **Northern Cardinal** - male at Point Prim on Mar. 18 & 20 (KM, DO, BHo, CW, JJ), female at Emyvale on ~Mar. 23 (AA), 1 at New Dominion feeder on May 31 (EBM), male at Souris Line Road on May 24 (JG via GM); **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** - first male of season at Valley feeders on Apr. 23 (ML via GS), at New Dominion feeders on May 12 (EBM); **Indigo Bunting** - male at Margate on Apr. 26 (DaT, BMa, LH), 1 at St. Patrick's Rd. in Hunter River on May 24-6 (EL via JW, DCS); **Bobolink** - 2 at Argyle Shore on May 18 (EBM), at York Point & Mt. Stewart on May 19 (DCS), 1 at Milton on May 28 (AMH); **Red-winged Blackbird** - 3 at Crossroads feeders on Mar. 13 (DO), at West Point on Mar. 18 (FdB), first 3 females at New Glasgow feeders this spring on Mar. 21 (BeHo), 5 males and 1 immature male were the first of spring at Donagh feeders on Mar. 30 (JDM); **Rusty Blackbird** - Anderson Road on May 27 & carrying food on May 28 (DO, JDM, EBM, RC); **Common Grackle** - at Stanhope feeders on Mar. 11 (J&FC), first of spring back at New Dominion, Tea Hill, & Crossroads feeders on Mar. 13 (EBM, FdB, DO), a few in tree tops in Johnston's River & first of spring at Donagh feeders on Mar. 27 (JDM); **Brown-headed Cowbird** - male joined ever growing blackbirds at Crossroads feeder on Mar. 18 (DO), at West



Rusty Blackbird with mayflies

Royalty feeder on Apr. 13 (DCS); **Baltimore Oriole** - male at Crossroads feeder on May 28 (DO); **Pine Grosbeak** - 5 at West Cape on Mar. 22 (EBM, FdB), in NE PEI on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW); **Purple Finch** - singing at Crossroads on Apr. 4 (DO), at Maximeville on Apr. 16 (F&GM), in NE PEI on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW), very orange individual at Rocky Point feeders on May 2 (LD); **Red Crossbill** - 1 at Stanhope in Mar. (F&JC); **Common Redpoll** - 12 at Donagh feeder on Mar. 12 & 17 (JDM), 130+ at New Glasgow feeders this spring on Mar. 23 (BeHo), at Maximeville on Apr. 16 (F&GM); **Pine Siskin** - at Maximeville on Apr. 16 (F&GM), in NE PEI on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW), at East Point on May 23 (DCS); **Evening Grosbeak** - 18 at New Glasgow feeders on Mar. 23 (BeHo), male at Crossroads feeders on Apr. 11, the first at this location since last autumn (DO), in St Charles on Apr. 23 (DCS, DO, CW), female at New Dominion feeders on May 12 & May 24 (EBM), and 3 at Alexandria on May 14 (FdB).

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ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR:

Note: All Society presentations and field trips are open to the public.

Society meetings start at 7:30 PM at the Farm Centre on University Avenue in Charlottetown.

YN = young naturalists encouraged to attend or participate

- Jun. 6 - Discover the beauty of Butterflies** -- Bill Oehlke, shares his love and knowledge of these beautiful creatures. This Natural History Society's meeting starts at 7:30 pm at the Farm Centre, University Ave., Charlottetown. **YN**
- Jun. 10 - Tree and Shrub Identification Walk** - Gary Schneider will host a Macphail Woods event for participants to learn how to identify a variety of native species using leaves, fruit and seed. The tour includes a walk through the woods and begins at the Macphail Woods nursery at 9 am. **YN**
- Jun. 11** - David Suzuki's Island launch of his book *David Suzuki: The Autobiography* will be held at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel at 7 p.m. The Bookmart is hosting the event with tickets being sold for \$5. Net proceeds will be contributed to the Island Nature Trust.
- Summer Natural History Society Field Trips** - refer to the Society's web site for updates on field trips www.isn.net/~nhspei
- Jun. 25 - Medicinal Plants of PEI** - Margie Loo will host a Macphail Woods event on the medicinal values of native and non-native plants. Begins at the Macphail Woods Nature Centre at 2 pm **YN**
- Jul. 8 - Ferns of Prince Edward Island** - Kate MacQuarrie will lead a Macphail Woods event on the identification and natural history of native ferns. The tour begins at the Macphail Woods nursery at 10 am. **YN**
- Jul. 30 - Landscaping with Native Plants** - Gary Schneider will host this Macphail Woods event beginning at the Macphail Woods nursery at 2 pm. **YN**
- Aug. 12 - Plants of Prince Edward Island** - Kate MacQuarrie will lead a walk hosted by Macphail Woods on the identification of native and non-native plants. Begins at the Macphail Woods nursery at 10 am. **YN**
- Aug. 20 - Forest Restoration** - Gary Schneider will host this Macphail Woods event beginning at the Macphail Woods Nature Centre at 2 pm. **YN**

Oct. 3 - Foxes and Humans, a too cozy relationship? Sheldon Opps, Assistant Professor of Physics and Marina Silva, Assistant Professor of Biology, both from UPEI and working on mammal fragmentation on PEI, will do a presentation about the changing habitat of foxes. This Natural History Society's meeting starts at 7:30 pm at the Farm Centre, University Ave., Charlottetown. **YN**

For more information, comments and suggestions for future programs or field trips, please contact Program Coordinator, Bonnie McOrmond at bcmcormond@eastlink.ca or call 628-6994.

SHARE YOUR LOVE OF NATURE WITH OTHERS

The Natural History Society of Prince Edward Island is requesting donations of nature equipment, books or resources to allow others to enjoy the wonders of nature. If you have binoculars, field guides, butterfly nets etc., that you would like to donate, please contact Bonnie McOrmond or bring your donation to the monthly meeting of the Natural History Society, the first Tuesday of each month from October to June, at the Farm Centre on University.