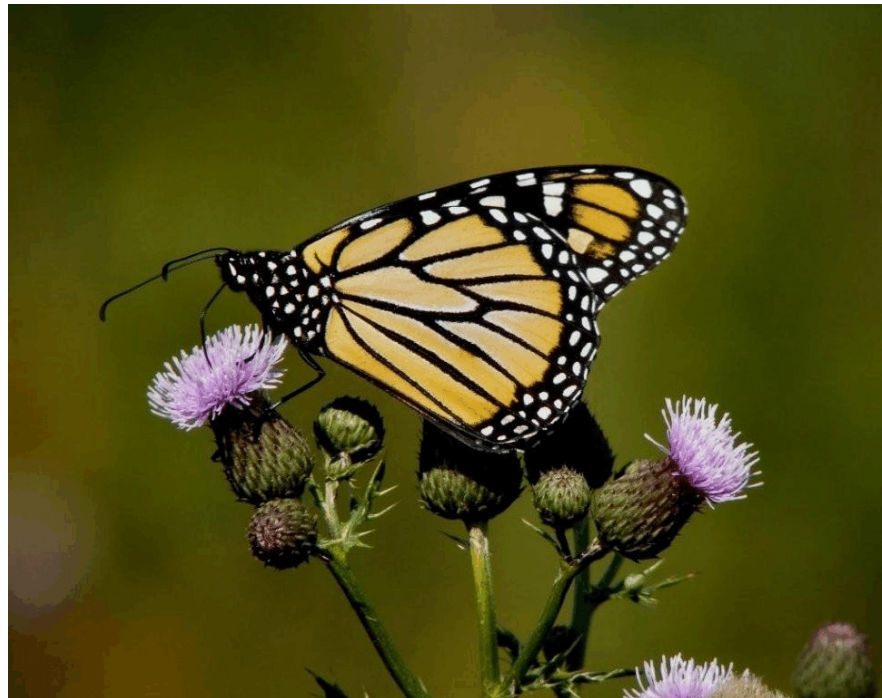




ISLAND NATURALIST

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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 \$20 and renewals are due in January. Membership expiry dates are shown in the top right hand corner of the mailing label or a notice provided by those receiving electronic newsletters.

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

2009 Executive:

President..... Fred McCardle, Kinkora, 887-2338, fmccardle@pei.aibn.com
Vice-President.....vacant
Past President.....Dwaine Oakley, Crossroads 569-1815 dwaine.oakley@pei.sympatico.ca
Secretary.....Beth Hoar, New Glasgow 621-0544 beth@greenthumbphoto.com
TreasurerRosemary Curley, Stratford 569-1209, rcurley@eastlink.ca
Director - Program.....vacant
Director - Publicity.....vacant

NEWSLETTERS are normally published quarterly and are available in Acrobat Reader format via E-mail or in hard copy delivered by mail. Hard copies are printed 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@npspei.org

The *next deadline* for articles, sightings, or other newsletter information is *Nov. 15, 2009*.

Illustrations/Pictures: The Society extends a special thanks to Sharon Clark and Dwaine Oakley for their photographs in this issue.

The Natural History Society gratefully acknowledges support from the Department of Education and Early Childhood Development which enables distribution of newsletters to schools and libraries desiring it. The Natural History Society is an affiliate of 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 Executive is currently working to reestablish its web page.

Cover Illustration:

The cover photo by Dwaine Oakley is a monarch butterfly photographed during a bird excursion trip to Grand Manan, New Brunswick. It was one of approximately 12 seen during the trip. Monarchs are migratory and can take multiple generations to make the trip to Mexico or California. See the story on page 4.

SOCIETY NEWS:

On August 20th, 2009, representatives of the Natural History Society participated in a meeting on the development of the All-Bird Conservation Plan for P.E.I. This work is being led by Environment Canada and the P.E.I. Department of Environment, Energy and Forestry. The plan will form the foundation of bird conservation programs on Prince Edward Island and will support Canada's commitments under the Migratory Birds Conservation Act as well as many other applications. This plan could have wide reaching implications such as identifying priorities for coordinated implementation of biodiversity and ecosystem conservation, assessing work proposals and projects under the Canadian Environmental Assessment Act, and identifying potential areas for acquisition or protection. The plan will be written based on a national template containing seven elements.

The Society contributed \$76.85 for the subscription for American Birds to the Roberston Library at UPEI.

THE 10th NEIL BENNETT AUTUMN BIRDING CLASSIC: by Dan McAskill, Ray Cooke, Dwaine Oakley, Fiep de Bie & Sharon Clark

The Natural History Society of Prince Edward Island and the Island Nature Trust designed the Autumn Birding Classic in 1995 as a long-term fund raiser partnership for the Trust's land conservation program and as a bird monitoring system for the autumn. In 1999, the Autumn Birding Classic was renamed the Neil Bennett Autumn Birding Classic in memory of Neil's significant contributions to the Trust. In the 14 years since its creation, this partnership has raised more than \$13,000.

Ray, Fiep, Dwaine, Sharon, and Dan met at 0300 hours on Saturday, September 26th, to commence the 2009 Neil Bennett Autumn Birding Classic. We started out from Sherwood with very little wind and a mostly clear and spectacular star filled night despite a brief downpour on the way to our first owling spot. It was approximately 9.7 degrees Celsius. The winds which were light before dawn increased to northerly 17 km/hr and rose to 22 by mid-morning with the wind shifting to the west. By mid-afternoon the wind ranged from 7 to 19 km/hr and shifted to southwest. It dropped to 6 to 7 km by late afternoon. By day's end at 2000 hrs, we had travelled 290 km, walked about 2 km, and the temperature had risen to 11.8 and subsequently dropped to 7 degrees Celsius.

The Team started birding at Lake Verde with our first bird being a Canada Goose calling. Fiep used a I-Pod and speakers to play the calls of Saw-whet Owl, Barred Owl, Long Eared Owl, Great Horned Owl, and American Bittern, We tried Lake Verde, Watervale (2 places), Dromore (2 places), Riverton, and Indian Bridge. We were successful in obtaining Northern Saw-whet Owl, Barred Owl, Long-eared Owl, and Great-horned Owl by 0530 hrs and had great views of several shooting stars in the clear sky.



Birding at East Point Beach
Photo by Sharon Clark

After a stop for sustenance before dawn at Souris, we started picking up birds in earnest. By the time we reached East Point around 7 am, we had strong northeast winds and warm clothes and gloves were in order. There was strong wave action so visibility on the water was poor except at close range. However, flying birds were clearly visible with the good lighting. The highlights of the day started with Parasitic and Pomarine Jaegers. One offered a successful chase for a small gull which regurgitated its foods thus enabling the jaeger to feast. There was a great flight of Northern Gannet offshore but, during the walk down along the beach to Beaton's Pond, we also found a Black-legged Kittiwake, a Baltimore Oriole and a White-crowned Sparrow. The spectacular show of migrants and raptors that often highlight an autumn visit to East Point were simply not there. In fact, we had a struggle throughout the day with finding woodland birds e.g. we recorded only one Red-breasted Nuthatch and one Black-capped Chickadee. Our first robin was located at dusk on the

Afton Road and we only recorded two for the day instead of the normal hundreds.

Besides those listed for East Point, the highlights of the day's outing were a Long-eared Owl at Watervale, a Hermit Thrush, one or two American Pipit, and an early American Tree Sparrow at East Point, 3 Common Goldeneye at Black Pond, a Palm Warbler and a Blackpoll Warbler at Souris, the high number of Ruby-crowned Kinglets and the almost absence of Golden-crowned Kinglets, the antics of a family of Merlin doing chases with each other and making several passes at a Blue Jay at North Lake, an American Golden Plover at Souris, three large coveys of Grey Partridge, a group of four Red Knot at Rollo Bay, and the closing of the day at twilight with an American Woodcock at Blooming Point. Thanks to Sharon's spotting, a spring peeper offered several of the group an opportunity gather photographs before releasing it back to its North Lake home.

In total, we observed 88 species down significantly from the 108 last year. In addition to the birds seen below, we also observed several foxes, four raccoons, a coyote, seals, and heard several red squirrels.

Thanks to the various donors, to the date of publishing this newsletter on October 2nd, the Trust's pledge collectors and team members contributed nearly \$1,000 for the 2009 Neil Bennett Autumn Birding Classic. The birds seen are listed below.

Red-throated Loon	Semipalmated Plover	Blue Jay
Common Loon	Greater Yellowlegs	American Crow
Pied-billed Grebe	Lesser Yellowlegs	Common Raven
Northern Gannet	Spotted Sandpiper	Black-capped Chickadee
Double-crested Cormorant	Ruddy Turnstone	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Great Cormorant	<i>Red Knot</i>	Golden-crowned Kinglet
American Bittern	Sanderling	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Great Blue Heron	Semipalmated Sandpiper	<i>Hermit Thrush</i>
Canada Geese	Least Sandpiper	American Robin
American Wigeon	Dunlin	European Starling
American Black Duck	<i>Pomarine Jaeger(1)</i>	<i>American Pipit</i>
Mallard	<i>Parasitic Jaeger(2)</i>	Cedar Waxwing
Blue-winged Teal	Jaegers (4+)	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Green-winged Teal	Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Palm Warbler</i>
Ring-necked Duck	Ring-billed Gull	<i>Blackpoll Warbler</i>
Greater Scaup	Herring Gull	Common Yellowthroat
Common Eider	Great Black-backed Gull	American Tree Sparrow
Surf Scoter	<i>Lesser Black-backed Gull</i>	Chipping Sparrow
White-winged Scoter	<i>Black-legged Kittiwake</i>	Savannah Sparrow
Black Scoter	Caspian Tern	Song Sparrow
Common Goldeneye	Common Tern	Swamp Sparrow
Red-breasted Merganser	Common Murre	White-throated Sparrow
Bald Eagle	Rock Pigeon (Dove)	<i>White-crowned Sparrow</i>
Northern Harrier	Mourning Dove	Dark-eyed Junco
Red-tailed Hawk	Great Horned Owl	Red-winged Blackbird
American Kestrel	Barred Owl	Common Grackle
Merlin	<i>Long-eared Owl</i>	Baltimore Oriole
Gray Partridge	Northern Saw-whet Owl	American Goldfinch
Black-bellied Plover	Belted Kingfisher	House Sparrow
<i>American Golden Plover</i>	Northern Flicker	

Note: Species in italics are rarely seen here at this time of year.

A SEPTEMBER BIRDING TRIP TO GRAND MANAN:

By Dwaine Oakley

Sometimes you just need to bird somewhere new every once and in a while so Dave Seeler and I spent a week (August 31 - September 4) birding Grand Manan, New Brunswick. Of course it was planned well in advance to try and time the start of the fall migration period but nothing is a sure thing. This was our second visit to Grand Manan and just like the last it was well worth the time and investment. Besides the wonderful array of seabirds and

scenery we had great sunny weather all week. Not the best weather for migrating songbirds but it was great to bird all week in shorts and a t-shirt. We also booked a sea watch tour to get closer looks at the many pelagic birds surrounding Grand Manan. Of course the bounty of whales was hard not to notice as well. Our only chance at finding some rare songbirds was banking on the fact that Tropical Depression Danny passed through the area the day before we arrived. So here is a brief list of some of the more interesting birds we encountered.

Greater Shearwater - Hundreds viewed from the ferry, sea watch tour, and from Long Eddy Point Lighthouse.

Sooty Shearwater - Half as many as the Greaters in the same locations.

Manx Shearwater (3) - On the ferry crossing.

Northern Fulmar (1) - Seen while on sea watch tour.

Wilson's Storm-petrel (1000's) - Rafts of them resting and feeding everywhere in the Bay of Fundy during the sea watch tour.

Snowy Egret (1) - Castalia Marsh

Black-crowned Night Heron (25+) - Watched as they left their roost at Castalia Marsh.

Turkey Vulture (2) - Flying over North Head on our first morning there.

Broad-winged Hawk (4) - Seen at both the north and south ends of Grand Manan.

Peregrine Falcon (2) - Pestering shorebirds in Castalia.

Semipalmated Sandpiper (leucistic) - Sanderling-like plumage on White Head Island

Red-necked Phalarope (~100) - During sea watch tour with one other off the Grand Manan ferry and 6 others off the White Head Ferry.

Pomarine Jaeger (4+) - Grand Manan ferry and chasing kittiwakes off of Long Eddy Point.

South Polar Skua (probable) - Flew over while on sea watch but photographs taken were inconclusive.

Black-legged Kittiwake (100's) - Seen daily from Long Eddy Point.

Lesser Black-backed Gull (1) - Roosting with kittiwakes at Long Eddy Point.

Atlantic Puffin (~10) - On the ferry crossings with a couple others on the sea watch tour.

Common Nighthawk (12+) - Hawking insects one evening at Castalia Marsh.

Ruby-throated Hummingbird (3) - Over the Bay of Fundy while on the sea watch tour.

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER - At North Head ferry terminal. A southwestern US species which turned out to be our second best find of the week!!!

SAY'S PHOEBE - Only the third reported for Grand Manan and the second documented!!! Another wayward western species that we found on our first day there.

Eastern Phoebe - One on White Head Island.

Carolina Wren - Our last species for the trip that was singing near the ferry terminal in North Head.

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher - Another birder alerted us to this beauty hanging out at the old dump on the Whistle Road.

Eastern Bluebird - A young male on White Head Island.

Northern Mockingbird - Perched on the wires at Grand Harbour. We almost missed the White Head Ferry due to going back for better looks at this one :)

Philadelphia Vireo - One at the old dump near the "Whistle" and another on the Whistle Road.

Lark Sparrow - We found a tattered one feeding at the side of the road near Long Eddy



Says Phoebe at Grand Manan
Photo by Dwaine Oakley

Point Lighthouse.

Baltimore Oriole (6) - Moving through a section of woods on White Head Island.

Of course the whales and other marine mammals:

Humpback Whale (6+)

Finback Whale (12+) - Some were feeding close to shore near Long Eddy Point Lighthouse.

Northern Right Whale (2) - Brief looks and only one photo of a fluke.

Harbour Porpoise - Several seen from the ferry crossings, sea watch tour, and from scoping Long Eddy Point.

I Almost forgot the Monarch Butterflies - ~12 between the parking lot to Southwest Head Lighthouse and Southern Head Beach Road. Photos of some of the above can be seen at this link <http://www.pbase.com/dwayneoakley>

SICK AND DYING BIRDS IN YOUR YARD:

By Scott McBurney

Over the past two summers, the Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre (CCWHC), Atlantic Region has received numerous reports of sick and dying birds around bird feeders and water baths in people's yards throughout the Maritimes. The primary species affected are purple finch and American goldfinch, and a microscopic parasite, *Trichomonas gallinae*, causes their illness which is known as trichomoniasis (trichomonosis). This summer has been no different with widespread mortality of finches occurring throughout the region around people's homes. The CCWHC is interested in tracking this emerging disease problem to better understand its impact on wild bird populations and would like to examine as many of the dead birds as possible. The CCWHC cannot advise or encourage members of the general public to handle dead birds. However, if an interested individual was inclined to collect a specimen, the following procedure should be practiced:

1. Place a plastic bag over hand and pick up the dead bird with hand covered by the plastic bag.
2. Invert the plastic bag over the bird and tie the top of the plastic bag.
3. Wash hands well with warm water and soap.
4. Deliver the dead bird in the bag to the local Department of Natural Resources, Fish and Wildlife or Canadian Wildlife Service office where it will be frozen and held for pick up at a later date.

Biologists, conservation officers and wildlife technicians have busy schedules and limited freezer space so it is up to their discretion to facilitate a request to hold a dead bird for submission. Therefore, in Nova Scotia (NS) and Prince Edward Island (PEI), it is advisable to call the office prior to handling a dead bird to obtain their consent to cooperate. All submitted samples should have the following information included with them:

1. Submitter's name, address, telephone number and e-mail address (if available).
2. Location where dead bird was found.
3. Date dead bird was found.
4. Number of dead or sick birds observed.

Unfortunately, at this time, New Brunswick (NB) Department of Natural Resources is unable to participate in this targeted surveillance program. As a result, we would appreciate you recording any mortality that might occur in NB by completing a Garden Bird Health Survey found on the CCWHC, Atlantic Region website (<http://atlantic.ccwhc.ca/>).

At a date later in the Fall 2009, the CCWHC will pick up the birds that have been submitted in NS and PEI and examine them. Subsequently, a full diagnostic report will be sent to the person who submitted the bird(s) as well as the agency that held the specimen(s). This work would not be possible without public participation and the involvement of provincial and federal wildlife agencies so the CCWHC greatly appreciates your assistance. If you require any further information about this project or have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us directly at 902-628-4314 or e-mail Drs. Scott McBurney (smcburney@upeji.ca) or Maria Forzan (mforzan@upeji.ca).

COMMISSION ON THE LAND AND LOCAL GOVERNANCE REPORT UNDERWAY:

Last Winter, the Hon. Ralph Thompson, former provincial court judge, was appointed as Commissioner to conduct a Commission on the Land and Local Governance on P.E.I. He was asked to inquire into various issues surrounding land use and municipal government and to recommend approaches which might be taken in dealing with

these issues. Over the years, numerous recommendations have been made to Government by previous Commissions. In preparation for public hearings, those recommendations and their current implementation status were posted on the Commission website and were also made available to the public by other means. Public input was requested and a series of public hearings were held. Commissioner Thompson is now working on the preparation of his report which is anticipated late in 2009.

CONSERVATION CAN WORK!

Bird Studies Canada Release

When conservation action is put in place, certain species can be saved. The Lear's Macaw (Brazil), Chatham Petrel (New Zealand), and Mauritius Fody (Mauritius) have all been down listed from the Critically Endangered category as a result of dedicated conservation efforts. Visit the **BirdLife International website to learn more.**

EAGLE TRACKING:

Bird Studies Canada Release

Bird Studies Canada is pleased to announce new additions to our online Eagle Tracker. In June 2009, five young Bald Eagles from across southern Ontario were fitted with satellite transmitters. This year's satellite-tagged eaglets (Delhi, Thor, Neetu, Hal, and Moose) have now dispersed from their nesting sites. Go to <http://www.bsc-eoc.org/organization/bscnews.html> and click on the viewing site to follow their movements online. (BSC Release dated 18 September 2009)

2009 BAIN BIRD COUNT:

by Dan McAskill, David Seeler, Dwaine Oakley, Gerald, Christopher, & Carolyn MacDonald, Paul & Arlene McGuigan, and Jean Watts

The weather forecast was ominous with 5 to 10 mm of rain and strong winds in the offing. The organizers decided to give it a go due to other commitments for Sunday. Thus, amidst light rain and a good breeze, the Central team assembled and headed out at 2:30 am on May 30th. The Eastern team assembled and headed out from Gerald's home in Monticello.

The first birds were Double-crested Cormorants on the Hillsborough Bridge piers. By our first owling stop in Lake Verde, it was raining in earnest but playback listening conditions were good under the canopy afforded by the truck rear door. A very distant Northern Saw-whet Owl was heard by one member but, otherwise it was a Canada Goose, the partial of spring peepers and then a northern leopard frog that accompanied our listening. Dromore brought our first good owl responses with a Long-eared Owl responding to the Boreal Owl tape and later a Barred Owl calling in to the Barred Owl playback. An Ovenbird was spontaneously calling and the rain had reduced to light mist to add to the ambiance.

The marsh and woodlands at the River Meadows marsh at Five Houses found a chorus of Swamp Sparrows in song, spontaneous calls of American Bittern and Sora, and the playback response of Virginia Rail in rapid succession. Usually either the north shore or south shore affords a tide level that allows good shore birding opportunities but this was not the case this morning with high tides at Rollo Bay, Souris, East Point, and North Lake. We did not get reasonable tidal conditions until the evening tides at Tracadie Bay and Covehead.

By 5:30 am, the rain had dropped to a cold mist. First light showed that the leaves on trees and shrubs were only mostly flushed but the birds of these habitats were very cooperative on this day. Some of the day's best sightings included incredible views of a Yellow-bellied Flycatcher at Lakeville, a female Black-and-White Warbler on East Tarantum Road, a Canada Warbler and a Northern Waterthrush at New Harmony Road, a male Baltimore Oriole at Mt. Stewart, an Upland Sandpiper at Anderson Road, a Veery at Afton Road, a Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow at Tracadie Harbour saltmarsh. The more distant but spectacular colours of four drake Wood Ducks and four Ruddy Ducks at Pigot's Trail. In addition to these highlights, two of the male Ruddy Ducks were displaying for the single female we could see.

On the flowering side of life, there were wonderful flushes of dandelion in some areas while others showed a mix with some plants already gone to seed. Marsh marigold, wild strawberry, rhodora, alder, pin cherry, service berry,

red elder, and a few apple were all in flower. Cedar Waxwings were actively feeding on flowers at Pigot's Trail at the Allisary Creek Impoundment.

Overall the day's weather turned out quite well. A cold southerly wind chilled the participants at East Point and along the route back to Souris but the wind had dropped by mid-day and temperatures increased to the late teens by early evening. There was almost no wind during the Pigot's trail walk and the well known swarms of mosquitos along the salt marsh modified the earlier ambiance. Shortly thereafter, the breeze returned and we were afforded good biting insect conditions.

The two teams birded in the central and northeastern parts of the Island for this year's Bain Bird Count. The Eastern team ended off their day with a traditional lobster feast topping of the meal with coconut cream pie. They offered a toast to the memory of the late Nora Longworth, one of the founders of the Society, who loved participating in the Bain Bird Count and other outings.

The participants are listed above. One team birded for 9 hours and drove approximately 70 km. The other team went from 2:30 am to 8:45 pm and covered some 379 kilometres by vehicle and about 2 km of walking. Together, they observed and/or heard 127 species, compared to the 130 of 2007 and 2008 on the Bain Bird Count. There was lots of laughter and camaraderie as all good birding days should have.

2009 Bain Bird Count List:

The numbers of warblers were relatively low but there was pretty good diversity.

The species bolded in the text marked highlights of the day.

Common Loon (1)	Sora	Hairy Woodpecker
Red-throated Loon (8)	American Coot	Northern Flicker
Pied-billed Grebe	Black-bellied Plover	Olive-sided Flycatcher
Northern Gannet (~450)	Semipalmated Plover	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher
Double-crested Cormorant	Killdeer	Alder Flycatcher
Great Cormorant	Greater Yellowlegs	Least Flycatcher
American Bittern	Lesser Yellowlegs	Eastern Kingbird
Great Blue Heron	Willet	Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo
Canada Goose	Spotted Sandpiper	Red-eyed Vireo
Wood Duck (4)	Upland Sandpiper (1)	Blue Jay
Gadwall	Ruddy Turnstone (2)	American Crow
American Wigeon	Red Knot (4)	Common Raven
American Black Duck	Short-billed Dowitcher (3)	Tree Swallow
Mallard	Wilson's Snipe	Bank Swallow
Blue-winged Teal	Bonaparte's Gull	Cliff Swallow
Northern Shoveler (3 males)	Ring-billed Gull	Barn Swallow
Northern Pintail	Herring Gull	Black-capped Chickadee
Green-winged Teal	Iceland Gull	Boreal Chickadee
Ring-necked Duck	Great Black-backed Gull	Red-breasted Nuthatch
Greater Scaup	Caspian Tern	Golden-crowned Kinglet
Common Eider	Common Tern	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Black Scoter	Razorbill (15)	Veery
Hooded Merganser (4)	Black Guillemot	Swainson's Thrush
Red-breasted Merganser	Rock Pigeon	Hermit Thrush
Ruddy Duck (5)	Mourning Dove	American Robin
Osprey	Barred Owl	Gray Catbird
Bald Eagle	Long-eared Owl	European Starling
Northern Harrier	Northern Saw-whet Owl*	Cedar Waxwing
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Tennessee Warbler
American Kestrel	Belted Kingfisher	Nashville Warbler
Merlin	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Northern Parula
Virginia Rail	Downy Woodpecker	Yellow Warbler

Chestnut -sided Warbler	Northern Waterthrush	Dark-eyed Junco
Magnolia Warbler	Mourning Warbler	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Cape May Warbler	Common Yellowthroat	Bobolink
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Canada Warbler	Red-winged Blackbird
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Chipping Sparrow	Common Grackle
Black-throated Green Warbler	Savannah Sparrow	Brown-headed Cowbird
Blackburnian Warbler	Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow	Baltimore Oriole
Palm Warbler	Song Sparrow	Purple Finch
Blackpoll Warbler	Lincoln's Sparrow	Pine Siskin
Black-and-white Warbler	Swamp Sparrow	American Goldfinch
American Redstart	White-throated Sparrow	House Sparrow
Ovenbird		* heard by 1 person

A cross fox, a beaver, raccoon, a muskrat and red squirrels were also seen during the day.

NEWS FROM ABOUT:

The Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC) has recommended that two more bird species be added to Canada's list of species at risk: Horned Grebe and Whip-poor-will. Last assessed by COSEWIC 10 years ago, Roseate Tern and Least Bittern were also reconfirmed as Endangered and Threatened, respectively. (Bird Studies Canada Latest News May 8, 2009)

BSC is pleased to announce that we have officially joined as a full partner of the Raptor Population Index partnership, a group that also includes the Hawk Migration Association of North America, Hawk Mountain Sanctuary, and HawkWatch International. The RPI Project was conceived to contribute to conservation by using raptor migration counts to produce assessments of population status to be shared widely through public outreach and education. BSC's roles will include the development of analytical methods and tools for analyzing population trends based on migration counts, and promotion of the RPI approach as a method for monitoring raptor populations. (Bird Studies Canada Latest News May 8, 2009)

BirdLife International's latest evaluation of the world's birds has revealed that more species than ever are threatened with extinction. The annual Red List update, on behalf of the IUCN, now lists 192 species of bird as Critically Endangered, the highest threat category, a total of two more than in the 2008 update. New additions to this category include the Gorgeted Puffleg (a recently-discovered hummingbird from Colombia); the Sidamo Lark from Ethiopia (uplisted to this category due to changes in land use); and the Medium Tree-finch, one of the Galapagos finches (partly as a result of an introduced parasitic fly). A staggering 1,227 species (12%) are classified as Globally Threatened. In eastern North America, the once-common Chimney Swift has suffered continent-wide declines of nearly 30% in the last decade alone, and has been uplisted to Near Threatened. On the latter point, BSC has initiated a Chimney Swift monitoring program in Ontario and are looking for volunteers in areas across Ontario. (Bird Studies Canada Latest News May 14, 2009)

A special presentation was made to a long-time Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) volunteer at the banquet of the Nature NB annual general meeting. David Christie of Hillsborough, NB was recognized for having run over 100 BBS routes since the survey started in 1966. David is only the third person in Canada to ever reach the 100 mark. The presentation was made by Tony Erskine, who was the original coordinator of the BBS in the Maritimes and the national BBS coordinator for some time. Since 1966, David has run a number of different BBS routes in NB, but the route he has run the most often is Penobsquis. In honour of his long-standing commitment to the survey and his many contributions as a volunteer, David was presented with a carving of a Red-eyed Vireo, carved by award-winning New Brunswick-based carver Jim Edsall. The Red-eyed Vireo is number eight on David's top 10 list of most commonly counted birds on his Penobsquis route. (Bird Studies Canada Latest News June 6th, 2009)

Acting on a report from the Committee on the Status of Species at Risk in Ontario, the Ontario Ministry of Natural Resources is adding 10 species, removing one species, and reclassifying eight species on the Species at Risk in

Ontario list. The Chimney Swift and Whip-poor-will are being added to the list of Threatened species. Four additional bird species are being added as Special Concern: Common Nighthawk, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Canada Warbler, and Horned Grebe. (Bird Studies Canada Latest News August 11th, 2009)

In 2010, the Manitoba Breeding Bird Atlas will begin and already much progress has been made on laying the groundwork for the first year of data collection. BSC is partnered with Environment Canada, Manitoba Conservation, Nature Manitoba, and The Manitoba Museum on the Steering Committee of this ambitious project. (Bird Studies Canada Latest News September 15th, 2009)

WEATHER EVENTS:

The breaching of Scales Pond dam on April 4th, 2009 left 2" to 3" of soil in the lower ends of the fields and shrubs around the nature trail were scoured by the water and ice (FMcC, RA). Hurricane Bill passed off the southeast coast of Nova Scotia but dropped 19.3 mm at Harrington, 23 mm of rain on Charlottetown and 66 mm at Alliston on August 23-4. A week later, Tropical Storm Danny dropped 99.9 mm of rain at Harrington between 8 pm and 7 am (JDM).

ANIMAL AND PLANT SIGHTINGS:

Compiled by J. Dan McAskill

PLANTS: Mayflower in flower at Lakeside on Apr. 27 (DMC). First forsythia and a few ornamental Amelanchier in flower at Bunbury on May 3 (JDM). First few white wood violets starting to flower in Donagh on May 4 with full flush on May 12 (JDM). White cockle which was stable for years in the Middleton area has starting invading cultivated fields and is difficult to control (FMcC). Mt. Ash buds open and leaves just breaking out and red elderberry compound leaves visible, on May 4 in Donagh. Coltsfoot flowering nearing completion on May 4 NE PEI (BH). First dandelions in flower at West Royalty on May 9 and in Donagh on May 10 (JDM). Fern fronds expanded ~8" in height on May 10 (JDM). First 4 blue violets flowering in Donagh and leaf flush showing a light green haze in deciduous trees and shrubs in Donagh vicinity on May 12. Marsh Marigold in flower at Corraville (BH, DO) and Mermaid on May 11 (JDM). First tulips in flower at Donagh on May 16 (JDM). Dandelion flush at Donagh on May 14 and daffodils continuing in flower until May (JDM). Spirea and bush honeysuckle leaves open, red elderberry flower cluster showing purple tinge, European ash and raspberry starting to leaf out, and oak buds swelled but no leaves showing yet in Donagh on May 15 (JDM). Flush of blue violets in Donagh on May 16 (JDM). Amelanchier in flower at Donagh, Fort Augustus, & Maple Hill on May 17 (JDM). Mt. Ash flower buds open in Donagh and being browsed by Purple Finch on May 18 (JDM). Painted trillium in full flower at Valleyfield on May 15 (DCS, DO). Red oak in flower at Donagh and first rhodora in flower in Johnston's River on May 25 (JDM). See also plant report of May 30th Bain bird count. Pink Lady Slipper and Blue Bead Lily in flower in Brookvale on Jun. 10 (RA, JWa).

INSECTS: The first black flies were bouncing off the body on May 4 at Summerville (RWH) and in Donagh on May 5 (JDM). The black flies started swarming in Donagh on May 10? Mosquitos starting in Donagh on May 28th but swarms present at Pigot's Trail on May 30 (JDM).

AMPHIBIANS/REPTILES: First American toad reported singing at Vernon River on May 4 (DK). Leopard frogs on rainy night on May 17th on Fort Augustus Road and Donagh Roads.

MAMMALS: 4 Eastern chipmunk at St. Charles feeders on May 4 (W&SF). Flying squirrel at St. Charles feeder in May (W&SF). A cross fox at Allen Street in Charlottetown on May 23 (JDM) and 1 at Dalvay on May 30 (DO, DCS, JDM).

BIRDS: Note: See Bain Bird Count Report: Common Loon - 2 at Blooming Point on Jun. 12 (CJL); **Pied-billed Grebe** -1 at Allisary Creek Impoundment in Mt. Stewart & 1 at Leslie's Pond in Sourison May 3 (DCS), 10+ at Pisquid Pond on May 20 (DCS), at MacKey's Pond in Stanley Bridge on May 22 (RP); **Wilson's Storm Petrel** - 3 at Cavendish & North Rustico on Jul. 1 (OB); **Northern Gannet** - 27 at East Point on May 3 (DCS), ~400 feeding vigorously at East Point on May 30 (JDM, DO, DCS), 1



flying over land at Orwell Corner on Jul. 3 (GS), 2 to 47 off-shore at Dalvay, Stanhope or Covehead in Jul. (DCS); **Double-crested Cormorant** - carrying stick over the Hillsborough Bridge in Charlottetown on May 21 & nesting on bridge piers in Jun. (JDM), 4 to 120 at Covehead Harbour in Jul. & 32 to 100+ in Aug. (DCS); **Great Cormorant** - 1 at Little Harbour on May 3 (DCS); **American Bittern** - at River Wetlands in Five Houses on Apr. 26 (DCS); **Great Blue Heron** - 5 at Brackley West Marsh & 3 at Covehead Bay on Apr. 29 (DCS), 15 feeding at low tide in Belvedere pond on Jun. 5 (JDM), 1 to 59 at Covehead Harbour in Jul. (DCS); **Great Egret** - 1 at Little Harbour on May 10 (WHL); **Cattle Egret** - 1 in breeding plumage photographed at Souris near Leslie's Pond on Jun. 3 (R&JC via WHL), 1 in northeastern PEI on Jun. 7 (Cathy Woods via WHL); **Turkey Vulture** - 1 at on Ebenezer on Sept. 18 (GSt); **Snow Geese** - 3 with a large flock of Canada Geese on lawn at Cavendish on Sept. 30 (GSt); **Canada Geese** - 6 at Farmington on May 26 (WHL, FCh), 2 to 14 at Covehead Marsh & Brackley North Marsh on Jul. 4-6 & 32 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 25 (DCS), 13 to 26 at Covehead Marsh on Aug. 1, 72 on 7th, 96 on 8th, 120+ on 25th (DCS), at Wilmont River on Sept. 18 (GMcC); **Wood Ducks** - 2 males at Dalvay lagoon on May 17 (DCS, DO), 1 at Allisary Creek Impoundment on May 25 (DCS, DO) & 5 on 30th (DCS, DO, JDM), 2 at Mount Stewart on Jun. 13 (FdB), at Borden on Aug. 31 (RA, FdB, SGC); **Gadwall** - female with 9 young at Covehead Pond on Jul. 19 & female with 7 young at Covehead Marsh on Aug. 1 to 17th (DCS); **European Wigeon** - male at North Lake Harbour on May 22 (CW, TM); **American Black Duck** - female with 9 juveniles at Brackley West Marsh on Aug. 1 (DCS), 15 at Covehead on 2nd, 100+ on 25th (DCS); **Mallard** - female with 12 eggs in nest at Suffolk hedgerow in May (GDC), female with young at Glen Valley on Jun. 3 (EC); **Blue-winged Teal** - male at Priest Pond on Apr. 26 (DCS), pair at Sheep Pond on May 3 (DCS), female on 7 eggs on May 28 (MM, MA) & 12 eggs at Mount Stewart on May 30 (JDM, DO); **Northern Shoveler** - 2 pair at Mt. Stewart Lagoons & 2 at Leslie's Pond in Souris on May 3 (DCS), males & female at Hyde Park on May 10 (FdB, SGC) & 2 pair on May 13 (DCS, DO), and 2 pair on May 30 (SGC); **Northern Pintail** - pair at Allisary Creek Impoundment on Jun. 6 (JDM); **Green-winged Teal** - 10 at Rollo Bay & 10 at Little Harbour on May 3 (DCS), only ones found on May 30 & Jun. 6 big days were pair at Mount Stewart marsh on May 30 & Jun. 6 (JDM, RC, DCS, DO); **Greater Scaup** - 200+ at Corran Ban on May 7 (DCS); **Common Eider** - 45 at East Point on May 27 (DCS), 3 at Dalvay Beach on Jul. 19 (DCS); **Surf Scoter** - 200 at East Point on May 3 (DCS) & 2 on May 30 (DO, DCS, JDM); **Black Scoter** - 100+ at East Point on May 3 (DCS); **Bufflehead** - 3 at Black Pond on May 3 (DCS); **Hooded Merganser** - pair at Little Harbour on May 27 (DCS), May 30 (DCS, DO, JDM), & Jun. 6 (DCS, DO, RC, JDM); **Ruddy Duck** - 2 pair & immature male at Pigot's Trail in Mt. Stewart on May 20 (BP, DCS, DO) & 4 males with 2 displaying to female on May 30 (DO, DCS, JDM), 6 males & female on Jun. 6 (DCS, DO, JDM, RC), 4 on Jun. 13 (FdB, JDM, TW, SG), 2 at Borden Lagoons on Sept. 8 (G&SF, DO); **Osprey** - 1 electrocuted at Brackley week on May 6th (FRC), 1 building nest on Brackley National Park entrance sign on May 9 (JtR), on nest in Jul. at Cavendish Campground entrance, Cymbria & Grand Pere Point (DCS), 10 feeding at Victoria on Aug. 2 (RA); **Bald Eagle** - 2 adults & immature at Middleton on May 3 (FdB, MK), juvenile at Coran Ban on May 3 (EC); **Northern Harrier** - 1 hunting at Bear River on May 5 (WHL), reported at Donagh, Covehead Marsh, Brackley, Robinson Island, North Lake in May (DCS, DO, JDM, RC), at Brackley North Marsh, Covehead Pond, Brackley West Marsh, Fullerton's Marsh, Johnston's River in Jul. (DCS); **Sharp-shinned Hawk** - took Tree Swallow at Crossroads on May 12 (DMu), at Pleasant Grove feeder on May 16 (SG), at Bayfield on Apr. 26 (DCS), 8 at East Point on May 3 (DCS); **Broad-winged Hawk** - adult at Pinette on Jul. 1 (OB); **Red-tailed Hawk** - 1 at Donagh on May 15 (JDM), at Pisquid on May 25 (DCS, DO), 2 at Stratford on Jun. 15 (GS), 1 at Kingston on Jul. 2 (LD); **Rough-legged Hawk** - 1 at Meadowbank on May 27 (LD); **American Kestrel** - at Dunstaffnage on Apr. 26 (DCS), 1 at Rte. 303, 2 at Rte. 337, 2 at East Lake, and 1 at East Point on May 3 (DCS), female at Vernon River nest box killed on May 5 but second bird at nest box on May 12 (DK), at MacMillan Point Road, Rte. 6/Union Road on Jul. 1 (DCS), BH & DO banded young and collected banding data for kestrel nests erected by Jim Jenkins & Dave Johnston; **Merlin** - male took Red-breasted Nuthatch over the water at East Point on Jun. 8 (DO), 1 at Newtown Cross on Jul. 3 (GS), 1 at North Rustico on Jul. 14 (DCS), 1 hunting Covehead Marsh on Aug. 2 & 29 (DCS), 1 at Covehead on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK); **Peregrine Falcon** - 1 at Robinson's Island on Sept. 30 (GSt), 1 seen near Richmond on Sept. 30 (KC); **Gray Partridge** - 6 pair on the McCauley Farms in the Middleton Kinkora area in early May (FMcC), 1 at Vernon River on May 4 (DK), pair dusting at Rocky Point on May 2 with the female rolling in the dust like a cat and the male watching (LD), 1 at New Glasgow on Jun. 10 (RA), 42 at Marie on Sept. 26 (JDM, DO, RC, FdB, SGC); **Ring-necked Pheasant** - at New Glasgow on May 10 (RP), 1 at Johnston's River on May 28, Jun. 6, & early Sept (JDM); **Ruffed Grouse** - female with 11 young at Green Park on Jun. 6 (L & JH); **Sharp-tailed Grouse** - 4 at St. Margarets on Apr. 23 and 1 or 2 periodically till early May (W&SF), 2 at MacEwen Road in Dundee on May 20 (DCS, DO); **Virginia Rail** - at Little Harbour on May 27 (DCS), 1 at River Wetlands in Five Houses on May 30 (DO, DCS, JDM), at McKie's Pond Campbellton on May 30 & Jun. 7 (TW); **Sora** - at Mt. Stewart on May 3 (DCS), at MacKey's Pond in Stanley Bridge on May 22 (RP); **American Coot** - at North Lake Harbour on May 22 (DO), at Allisary Creek Impoundment on May 25 (DCS, DO) & May 30 (DCS, DO, JDM), & Jun. 13 (FdB, JDM); **Sandhill Crane** - 2 at Baltic & Darnley on Aug. 31 (LH via G&SF, Dave Smith); **American Oystercatcher** - 1 possible at ?? **Black-bellied Plover** - 1 at Covehead on May 3, 13 on May 25, 71 on May 22, 22 on May 30, 3 on Jun. 6 (DCS), 2 at Greenwich on May 25 (DO, DCS), 50 at Covehead Marsh on May 28 (DCS, DO), 12 at Covehead on Jun. 19 (DCS), 1 at Covehead & 2 at Stanhope Cape Beach on Aug. 1, 53 at Tracadie Harbour, 30 at Covehead Bay, & 217 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 14, 115 on 15th, 80 on 25th, and 30 on 29th at Covehead Bay (DCS), 1 at Little Harbour, 10 at Souris Causeway, ~20 at Rollo Bay & 5 at Red Head Harbour on Aug. 6 (DO), 80 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 25 at Covehead, 30+ at Tracadie Harbour, 3 at Savage Harbour & 21 at Canavoy Inlet on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK), 3 at East Point on Aug. 22 (DO); **American Golden Plover** - 1 in breeding plumage at Covehead Marsh on May 28 (DCS), 2 at Brackley North Marsh area on May 29 (DO), 2 at Covehead Marsh on May 28 (DCS, DO), 3 at Covehead on Aug. 20 (DCS); **Semipalmated Plover** - 11 at Brackley on May 21 & 1

at Brackley North Marsh on May 28 (DCS), at New Glasgow on May 22 (RP), 1 at Stanhope Cape Beach, 14 at Dalvay Beach, & 1 at Stanhope Beach on Jul. 1 (DCS), 37 at Cavendish Sandspit on Jul. 26 (DCS), 203 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 1 (DCS), 1 at Little Harbour, 50 at Rollo Bay & 8 at Red Head Harbour on Aug. 6 (DO), 481 at Cavendish Sandspit & 111 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 8 (DCS), 119 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 14th, 282 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 15th, 240 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 16th, 73 at Covehead Bay & 106 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 25th, 40 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 3 at East Point on Aug. 22 (DO), 20 at Blooming Point & 5 at Tea Hill on Sept. 20 (FdB); **Piping Plover** - 2 adults at Cavendish on Jul. 9 (DCS), adult with juvenile at Cavendish Sandspit on Aug. 8 (DCS); **Killdeer** - pair at New Glasgow pond on May 22 (RP), 2 at Cavendish Sandspit on Jul. 26 (DCS), 3 at Little Harbour & 1 at Rollo Bay on Aug. 6 (DO); **Greater Yellowlegs** - 1 at Covehead Marsh & 5 at Brackley North Marsh on Apr. 26 (DCS), 30 at Brackley North Marsh on May 12, 4 on May 21, 1 on May 28 (DCS), at Midgell on May. 3 (RT), at New Glasgow on May 22 (RP), 1 at Covehead on Jul. 6 to 8, 3 at Stanhope Marsh & 3 at Covehead on Jul. 11, 10 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 16, 29 at Covehead & 12 at Covehead on Jul. 29 (DCS), few at DeSable estuary on Jul. 28 (RA), 1 at Brackley West Marsh & 8 at Covehead Marsh on Aug. 1 & 87 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 4, (DCS), 3 at Little Harbour & 150 at Rollo Bay on Aug. 6 (DO), 19 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 10 (DCS), 20 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 16 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 15 (DCS), 50+ at Covehead on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK), 3 at Brackley North Marsh & 48 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 25 (DCS), 5 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 29 (DCS); **Lesser Yellowlegs** - 4 back at PEINP on May 8 (DCS), 3 at Grand River on May 13 (GMcC), 2 at Brackley West Marsh on Jul. 11, 11 at Brackley North Marsh & 2 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 20, 13 at Covehead Bay & 12 at Brackley North Marsh on Jul. 21 (DCS), lots at DeSable estuary on Jul. 28 (RA), 6 at Covehead Marsh, 13 to 65 at Brackley North Marsh & 2 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 1 (DCS), 10 at Little Harbour & 6 at Rollo Bay on Aug. 6 (DO), 35 at Brackley West Marsh on Aug. 11, 16 on Aug. 29 (DCS), 15 at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 11, 112 on Aug. 22, 3 on Aug. 27, & 2 on Aug. 29 (DCS), 3 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 10 at Covehead on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK); **Solitary Sandpiper** - 1 at manure pond in Rustico on Aug. 6 & 2 on Aug 8, 7 juvenile on Aug. 26 (DCS); **Willet** - at Little Harbour on May 3 (DCS), 1 at Cardigan River estuary on May 4 (SCS), at Covehead on May 6 (DCS), at Tea Hill on May 9 (FdB), 17 apparent adults at Covehead Bay on July 12 - movement begun (DCS), adult with ½ grown juvenile at Brackley West Marsh on Jul. 4 (DCS), good numbers in Covehead Bay/Brackley marshes are in Jul. (DCS), 2 to 20 at Covehead Marsh, 9 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 1 (DCS), 5 at Mount Stewart on Jun. 13 (FdB), 8 at Little Harbour on Aug. 6 (DO); **Spotted Sandpiper** - 1 at New Glasgow on May 10 (RP), 2 at East Point on Aug. 22 (D0); **Upland Sandpiper** - 1 responded to playback at Anderson Road on May 30 (DCS, DO, JDM); **Whimbrel** - 2 at Locke Shore on Jul. 20 (LH), 3 at Savage Harbour Shore on Jul. 26 (JDM), 1 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 26 (DCS), 40 at North Cape on Aug. 8 (LH), 1 at Cavendish Sandspit on Aug. 8 & 1 at Covehead Bay Aug. 9 to 16 (DCS), 30 at Lot 16 on Aug. 10 (LH, GH, BM), up to 15 flying at Savage Harbour shore in August (JDM), 4 at Little Harbour on Aug. 6 (DO), 45 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 1 at East Point on Aug. 22 (D0), 24 at Covehead on Aug. 29 (DCS); **Hudsonian Godwit** - 1 at Brackley North Marsh on Jul. 12 & 2 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 13 & 1 on Jul. 20, (DCS), 1 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 1, 5 on Aug. 10, 9 on Aug. 11, 7 on Aug. 16, 2 on Aug. 21, & 1 on Aug. 29 (DCS), 1 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 2, 6 on Aug. 8, & 2 on Aug. 27 (DCS), 56 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 16 (LH, GH, BM); **Ruddy Turnstone** - at Greenwich on May 25 (DO, DCS), 1 at Brackley North Marsh on May 28 (DCS), 1 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 20, 1 at Covehead on Jul. 21, 1 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 23, 2 on Jul. 24, & 3 on Jul. 26 (DCS), 7 at Tracadie Harbour & 32 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 1 (DCS), 26 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 4, 34 on Aug. 6, 20 on Aug. 14, 8 on Aug. 23, & 1 on Aug. 29 (DCS), 20 at Rollo Bay on Aug. 6 (DO), 30 at Augustine Cove on Aug. 31 (RA, FdB, SC), 15 at Point Prim on Sept. 21 (FdB); **Red Knot** - 6 at Covehead Marsh on May 28 (DCS, DO), 2 at Covehead on Jun. 19 (DCS), 1 at Tracadie Harbour on Jul. 24 & at Cavendish Sandspit on Jul. 26 (DCS), 1 at Tracadie Harbour with white ring above left foot and flag higher up on Aug. 1, 13 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 8 and 23 on Aug. 27 (DCS), 1 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 2, 1 on Aug. 8, 6 on Aug. 9, 1 on Aug. 15, 1 on Aug. 27, & 9 on Aug. 29 (DCS), 55 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 1 at Covehead on Aug. 27 (DCS), significant numbers at Tracadie Bay and PEI National Park in week of Jul. 21 (DCS), 2 at East Point on Aug. 22 (D0); **Sanderling** - 10 at Little Harbour on Aug. 6 (DO), 139 at Cavendish Sandspit on Aug. 8 (DCS), 1 at East Point on Aug. 22 (D0), 2 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 26 (DCS), 2 at Tracadie Harbour & 8 at Dalvay on Aug. 27 (DCS), 35+ at Blooming Point at Sept. 20 (FdB), 20+ at Point Prim on Sept. 21 (FdB); **Semipalmated Sandpiper** - 5 at Brackley to Covehead on May 13 (DCS), 2 at Covehead Marsh on May 31 (DCS), 1 at Little Harbour beach on Jun. 6 (DCS, RC, DO, JDM), 6 at Covehead Marsh on Jul. 18, 38 on Jul. 24 at Tracadie Harbour, 11 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 25, & 85 at Cavendish Sandspit on Jul. 26 (DCS), 368 at Tracadie Harbour & 7 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 1 (DCS), 1 at Little Harbour, 50 at Rollo Bay & 20 at Red Head Harbour on Aug. 6 (DO), 10 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 151 at Covehead Bay, 1 at Brackley North Marsh, & 120 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 15 (DCS), 20 at Covehead on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK), 20 at Covehead, 20 at Tracadie Harbour, & 2 at Canavoy Inlet on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK), 9 at East Point on Aug. 22 (D0), 175 at Covehead Bay & 2 at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 29 (DCS); **Least Sandpiper** - 2 back at Brackley North Marsh on May 8, 15 at Covehead Bay on May 14, 133 at Brackley North Marsh on May 10, 92 on May 12, 27 on May 13, 13 on May 17 (DCS), and 11 at May 21 (DCS), 6 at Hyde Park lagoons on May 10 (FdB, SGC), 1 at Pisquid Pond on May 20 (DCS), 1 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 1, 1 on Jul. 16 & 2 on Jul. 26 at Brackley North Marsh, (DCS), 1 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 1, 10 on Aug. 2, & 30 on Aug. 15

(DCS), 33 at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 2 (DCS), 2 at Rollo Bay on Aug. 6 (DO), 21 at Covehead Marsh & 7 at Cavendish Sandspit on Aug. 8 (DCS), 35 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 37 at Covehead Bay & 6 at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 15 (DCS), 30+ at East Point on Aug. 22 (D0), 3 at Brackley North Marsh, 1 at Covehead, 6 at Covehead Bay, & at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 29 (DCS), a few at Blooming Point on Sept. 20 (FdB), a few at Point Prim on Sept. 21 (FdB); **White-rumped Sandpiper** - 3 at Rollo Bay on Aug. 6 (DO), 2 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 2 (DCS), 4 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 29 at Cavendish Sandspit on Aug. 8 (DCS), 10 at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 22 & 4 on Aug. 23-4 (DCS), 2 at Covehead Marsh on Aug. 23 (DCS), 2 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 23 & 8 on Aug. 24 (DCS); **Baird's Sandpiper** - 2 at East Point on Aug. 22 (DO), 1 at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 22 (DCS); **Pectoral Sandpiper** - juvenile at Brackley West Marsh on Aug. 27 (DCS); **Dunlin** - 13 at Brackley to Covehead on May 14 (DCS), 1 at Covehead Marsh on May 28 (DCS, DO); **Stilt Sandpiper** - 1 at Covehead on Aug. 20 (DCS); **Short-billed Dowitcher** - 2 at Covehead Marsh on May 28 (DCS, DO), 6 at Brackley North Marsh on May 31 (DCS), 9 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 1, 10 at Covehead Marsh on Jul. 4, 16 at Brackley North Marsh on Jul. 6, 15 on Jul. 11 & 26 on Jul. 14 (DCS), 21 at Tracadie Harbour on Jul. 24 (DCS), 50 at DeSable estuary on Jul. 28 (RA), 6 at Covehead Marsh, 24 at Brackley North Marsh, 26 at Covehead, 29 at Covehead Bay, & 8 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 1 (DCS), 30 at Rollo Bay on Aug. 6 (DO), 35 at southern Malpeque Bay on Aug. 14 (LH), 20+ at Covehead on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK), 28 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 26 & 8 on Aug. 29 (DCS); **Wilson's Phalarope** - 1 at Little Harbour on May 27 (DO, DCS), 1 at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 3, 4 & 6 (DCS); **Red-necked Phalarope** - 1 at Borden Lagoons on Sept. 8 (DO), 1 at Borden Lagoons on Sept. 26 (SF); **Parasitic Jaeger** - immature at Cavendish & North Rustico on Jul. 1 (OB); **Black-headed Gull** - 2 at Covehead marsh on Jul. 11 (DCS), 1 at Tracadie Bay on Aug. 27 (DCS); **Bonaparte's Gull** - 1 in non-breeding plumage at Hyde Park in Cornwall on May 13 (DCS, DO), 11 at Covehead, 20 at Covehead Bay, & 5 at Stanhope Cape Beach on Jul. 1 & 5 at Covehead Bay on Jul. 12 (DCS), 1 at Covehead on Aug. 1 (DCS), 25 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 2 & 15 on Aug. 15 (DCS), 50 in feeding frenzy along with 20 Herring Gulls, 100+ Ring-billed Gulls, 20 Herring Gulls, 50 Great Black-backed Gulls, and 50 Common Terns on young gaspereau & alewife at Little Harbour on Aug. 4 (DO), 350 at Borden Lagoons on Sept. 8 (DO); **Iceland Gull** - immature at Alberton Harbour on Jun. 3 (FRC), 1 at Souris on Jun. 6 (DCS, DO, JDM, RC); **Lesser Black-backed Gull** - 1 at Souris on Jun. 6 (DCS, DO, JDM, RC), 1st year summer individual on Jul. 1 (OB); **Black-legged Kittiwake** - 1st summer at Port Borden on Jun. 30 (OB), 1 at East Point on Sept. 26 (D0, JDM, FdB, RC, SGC) **Caspian Tern** - 1 at Hyde Park in Cornwall on May 13 (DCS), 20+ at Covehead Harbour on May 28 (DO), 2 on May 30 (DCS, DO, JDM), 1 to 8 at Covehead Bay on Jul. (DCS), 1 at Covehead, 2 at Tracadie Harbour, 1 at Savage Harbour on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK), 2 to 15 at Covehead Bay & 7 at Tracadie Harbour in Aug. (DCS); **Common Tern** - several at Hillsborough Bridge on May 15 & ~100 on May 16 (JDM), 0 on May 20 (JDM), 2 at Allisary Creek Impoundment on May 30 (DCS, DO, JDM), on platform on Jun. 6 (DCS, DO, JDM, DC), 2 to 38 at Covehead Harbour in Jul. with colony appearing disrupted on Jul. 2 with 12 adults & 26 present on Jul. 5 (DCS), 10 at Covehead on Aug. 1 (DCS, 15 to 250+ at Covehead Bay in Aug. (DCS), & 111 at Tracadie Harbour on Aug. 8 (DCS), 80+ each at Tracadie Harbour & Savage Harbour on Aug. 16 (FdB, MK), 2 at East Point on Aug. 22 (D0); **Arctic Tern** - 3 at Cavendish Sandspit on Jun. 30 (OB); **Razorbill** - 15 at East Point on May 30 (JDM, DCS, DO); **Black Guillemot** - 2 at Little Harbour on May 27 (DCS) & 4 on Jun. 6 (JDM, DCS, DO, RC), 1 at East Point on Aug. 22 (D0); **Mourning Dove** - courtship behaviour at Donagh on May 16 (JDM); **Black-billed Cuckoo** - 1 at St. George's on Jul. 29 (JDS via FRC); **Snowy Owl** - 1 at Pleasant View near Nail Pond in late Apr. (JBI), 1 at Charlottetown Airport on May 5 (JA), 2 at St. Eleanors throughout summer and early autumn (DO, LH), 1 at Alberton Harbour on Sept. 11 (JW); **Barred Owl** - pair at Dromore week of May 4th (GDC), at Middleton on May 13 (FdB), 2 calling in Provincial Forest at Valley on May 13 (GS), 2 calling at Tea Hill/Alexandria on May 16 (FdB), calling at St. Charles on May 17 (W&SF); **Boreal Owl** - 1 photographed at Murray Harbour in May but it died the next day (A&DS); **Long-eared Owl** - 1 at Dromore on May 30 (DO, JDM, DCS) & Jun. 6 (RC); **Northern Saw-whet Owl** - calling at Red Point Harbour on May 13 (MK), calling at St. Charles on May 17 (W&SF); **Common Nighthawk** - at Monticello on Jun. 7 & 8 (GM); **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** - 1 at Montague on May 5 (WHL), birds at Bonshaw on May 7 (MH via DO) & 9 (PM via DO), at Maximeville on May 11 (G&FM), at Tea Hill, Mill River, St. Charles, & St Catherine's (NE PEI) on May 12 (FdB, G&BM, W&SF, TS), 10 to 15 at Stanhope Bay on Aug. 5 (GF), 1 chased a Semipalmated Sandpiper off Dalvay beach and out of water on Aug. 25; **Belted Kingfisher** - 1 at Route 254 on May 31 (EC), 3 at Mt. Stewart on Jun. 13 (FdB), reported at Fullerton's Marsh, Covehead, Donagh, Savage Harbour in Jul. (DCS, JDM); **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** - pair at Middleton on May 3 (FdB, MK), pair at Kingsboro on May 5 (WHL); excavating inside poplar tree at York on May 20 (JTR), at Nine Mile Creek on Jun. 19 (LD); **Downy Woodpecker** - female at West Royalty for weeks on Aug. 21



Juvenile alewife or gaspereau from feeding frenzy site at Little Harbour
Photo by Dwaine Oakley

(DCS) **Hairy Woodpecker** - feeding young suet at Rocky Point on Jun. 21 (LD), female at Dalvay on Aug. 8 & female at West Royalty on Aug. 23-4 (DCS); **Northern Flicker** - 2 males within 6 inches of each other on a branch calling loudly and thrusting heads down repeatedly for 10 minutes at Donagh on May 13 (JDM); **Pileated Woodpecker** - calling at Woodlands trail near Dalvay lagoon in PEINP on May 15 (DCS, DO); **Common Nighthawk** - 1 at Donagh on Jun. 6 (RP, DO), 2 at Lorne Valley on Jun. 6 (DO, RC, DCS, JDM); **Whip-poor-will** - 1 at Fairview on May 31 (RP, LT); **Olive-side Flycatcher** - at Dromore on May 25 (DO, DCS), 1 at Desable on May 26 (RA); **Eastern Wood Peewee** - at Valleyfield on May 29 (DO), at Strathgartney on Jun. 14 (RA, JBl, FdB, SGC) & at Fort Amherst on Jun. 15 (RA); **Yellow-bellied Flycatcher** - 1 at Lakeville on May 30 (DO, DCS, JDM); **Alder Flycatcher** - at Allisary Creek Impoundment at Mt. Stewart on May 24 (RP), at Mooney Road in Bangor on May 25 (DO, DCS), in Brookvale on Jun. 10 (RA, JWa); **Least Flycatcher** - at Valleyfield on May 23 (DCS), 2 in Brookvale on Jun. 10 (RA, JWa); **Eastern Phoebe** - 1 at Indian Bridge on May 25 (DO, DCS); **Eastern Kingbird** - at Hyde Park on May 14 (DCS, DO), on May 20 (DCS), & May 30 (SGC), 1 at Pigot's Trail in Mt. Stewart on May 20 (DCS, DO); **Blue-headed Vireo** - 1 at Middleton on May 3 (FdB, MK), at Rte. 303 on May 3 (DCS), at Trout River on May 10 (RP), in Brookvale on Jun. 10 (RA, JWa), 1 at Cavendish Grove on Sept. 30 (GSt); **Red-eyed Vireo** - 2 at Bangor on May 25 & 2 at Robinson's Island on May 28 (DCS); **Gray Jay** - 2 at Dromore on May 20 & May 25 (DCS, DO), pair in nesting habitat at New Harmony Road on Jun. 6 (DO, JDM, DCS, RC), pair of adults and juvenile at Dingwell's Mills on Aug. 22 (DO); **Blue Jay** - 20+ making repeated flights towards Cape Breton but returning to the safety of the trees (DO); **American Crow** - carrying dog hair at Rocky Point on May 25 (LD); **Common Raven** - nest with young at Winsloe on May 5 (BH), nest with young at Bonshaw on Wayside Trail on May 16 (RA); **Boreal Chickadee** - at Cavendish on May 14 (RA, JBl), 1 at South Melville on Jun. 5 & Aug. 1 (RA); **Tree Swallow** - first 4 pairs at Red Head on Apr. 24 & 8 pair on Apr. 29 (MK), many at Hyde Park on May 10 (FdB, SGC) & ~20 on May 13 (DCS, DO), 2 at Milton & 4 at New Glasgow on May 10 (RP), pairs carrying nesting material to two nest boxes at Red Point Harbour on May 13 (MK), at MacKey's Pond in Stanley Bridge on May 22 (RP), 5 pair competing for 4 nest boxes at Kingsboro on May 14 & red squirrel predated young of one nest box on Jul. 12 and only 2 nest boxes still with swallows (WHL), recently fledged swallows at South Melville on Jul. 16 (RA), 6 adults in nest boxes at Red Head Harbour were successful in raising 3 to 5 young each (MK), 8 to 10 successful nesting pairs at Bunbury (RT), 50 at Borden on Aug. 31 (RA, FdB, SC); **Bank Swallow** - 1 at Hyde Park in Cornwall on May 14 (DCS, DO), 2 at Pisquid Pond on May 20 (DCS, DO), 10 at Argyle Shore on Jun. 15 (RA), 15+ at Stanhope Campground colony on Jul. 19 (DCS), 1 at Covehead Bay on Aug. 8 & 12 & 3 at Cavendish Sandspit on Aug. 8 (DCS); **Barn Swallow** - at Hyde Park in Cornwall on May 10 & 2 on 13 (FdB, SGC, DCS, DO), 2 at Milton on May 10 (RP), 2 at Allisary Creek Impoundment, 3 at Pisquid Pond & 1 at Bangor Road on May 20 (DCS, DO), recently fledged swallows at South Melville on Jul. 16 (RA); **Black-capped Chickadee** - carrying food at Junction Road on Jun. 3 (EC); **Red-breasted Nuthatch** - very scarce this spring; 2 at Bubbling Springs and 1 at Dalvay on May 17 (DCS), 1 periodically at feeder in early to mid May in Donagh (JDM), only 1 responded to mobbing calls or was heard on May 30th & none responded or were heard on Jun. 6 big days (DCS, DO, JDM, RC), in Brookvale on Jun. 10 (RA, JWa), 1 at Strathgartney on Jun. 14 (RA, JBl, FdB, SGC), very low numbers reported this summer and early autumn; **White-breasted Nuthatch** - 1 at Middleton on May 16 (FdB); **Brown Creeper** - at Valleyfield on May 23 (DCS), 1 singing at Canavoy in early Aug. (DS); **Winter Wren** - at Dalvay Woodland Trail on May 3 & 18 (DCS), at Middleton on May 9 (FdB), at Dixon Road on Jun. 3 (EC), 3 at Strathgartney on Jun. 14 (RA, JBl, FdB, SGC); **Golden-crowned Kinglet** - relatively common in May (DCS, DO, JDM); **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** - 1 at Goose River on Apr. 26 (DCS), at Rte 303, Rte 337, Little Harbour, & MacVane's Creek in Bothwell on May 3 (DCS); **Swainson's Thrush** - at Bubbling Springs trail PEINP on May 18 (DCS, DO); **Eastern Bluebird** - 7 in one group hawking insects with at least 1 being a male at St. Andrews/French Village on Jun. 6 (DO, JDM, DCS, RC), 6 on Jun. 7 (RP), pair at Cape Wolfe on Jun. 27 (OB); **Veery** - 1 at Afton Road on May 30 (DCS, DO, JDM); **Swainson's Thrush** - at Dalvay on May 17 (DCS); **Hermit Thrush** - 1 at Middleton on May 3 (FdB, MK), at Rte. 337 on May 3 (DCS), 1 at Milton on May 10 (RP); **Gray Catbird** - at Hyde Park on May 13 (G&SF) & 2 on May 30 (SGC), 1 at Middleton on May 17 (FdB, SGC), at Cavendish on May 22 (RP), at Pt. Deroche on May 25 (DO, DCS); **Northern Mockingbird** - 1 in Charlottetown on May 2 & 6 (SGC), 1 at Cavendish on May 22 (RP), 1 at Cable Head on May 24 (CGa); **European Starling** - tending two nest boxes at Argyle Shore on May 3 (LY, JDM), carrying food to cavity in poplar at Glen Valley on Jun. 3 (EC); **Cedar Waxwing** - 17 at East Point & small number eating flower buds at Pigot's Trail on May 30 (DO, DCS, JDM), 20 eating crab apple blossoms on Jun. 3 in South Melville (RA), adult feeding young mulberries in Summerside on Jul. 26-30 (KC); **Tennessee Warbler** - 1 at Head of Hillsborough on May 20 (DCS, DO), at Highland Park Road in Nine Mile Creek on May 22 (DCS); **Orange-crowned Warbler** - at New Harmony on May 27 (DO, DCS); **Nashville Warbler** - at Bubbling Springs trail PEINP on May 18 (DCS, DO), 2 at MacEwen's Road & 2 at Pt. Deroche Road on May 20 (DCS, DO), 1 at Monticello on May 16 (CGa), in Brookvale on Jun. 10 (RA, JWa), at South Melville yard on Aug. 1 (RA); **Northern Parula** - 1 at Tarantum Road (Eastern Kings) on May 3 (WHL), at Trout River on May 10 (RP), at Middleton on May 13 (FdB), at South Melville yard on Aug. 1 (RA), carrying lichen (nest building) at Junction Road on Jun. 3 (EC); **Yellow Warbler** - 1 at Stratford on May 4 (A&PM), 1 at Robinson's Island on May 16 & 2 on May 21 (DCS), nest with young at Glen Valley on Jun. 3 (EC); **Chestnut-sided Warbler** - at Culloden on May 16 (GS), at Middleton on May 17 (FdB, SGC), at MacEwen Road in Dundee & Pt. Deroche Road on May 20 (DCS, DO); **Magnolia Warbler** - at Valley on May 13 (GS), at Dalvay on May 16 (DCS), at Middleton on May 17 (FdB, SGC); **Cape May Warbler** - at Bubbling Springs trail PEINP on May 17 (DCS, DO), at Middleton on May 17 (FdB, SGC); **Black-throated Blue Warbler** - 1 at Valleyfield on May 15 (DO), at MacEwen Road on May 20 (DCS, DO); **Yellow-rumped Warbler** - at Five Houses on Apr. 26 (DCS), 1 struck window and recovered at Bunbury on May 9 (RT), 20 at Trout River on May 10 (RP), carrying nesting material at Glen Valley on Jun. 3 (EC); **Black-throated Green Warbler** - 3 at

Middleton on May 9 (FdB), at Robinson's Island on May 10 & 2 on May 16 (DCS), at Valley on May 13 (GS), at South Melville yard on Aug. 1 (RA); **Blackburnian Warbler** - at Dromore on May 20 (DCS, DO), at Trout River on May 22 (RP), at Highland Park Road on May 22 (DCS); **Palm Warbler** - 1 at Rte. 303/304, Rte 304 and Dromore marshes on May 3 (DCS), 1 at Milton & 3 at Trout River on May 10 (RP); **Bay-breasted Warbler** - at Mooney Road in Bangor & Grant's Bridge on May 25 (DO, DCS) **Blackpoll Warbler** - 1 at Pt. Deroche on May 20 (DCS, DO), at Grant's Bridge on May 25 (DO, DCS) **Black-and-White Warbler** - 1 at Middleton on May 3 (FdB, MK) & 1 at Tarantum Road (Eastern Kings) on May 3 (WHL), at Valley on May 13 (GS), 2 at Strathgartney on Jun. 14 (RA, JBl, FdB, SGC), at South Melville yard on Aug. 1 (RA); **American Redstart** - at Red Point Harbour Road on May 5 (MK), at Robinson's Island on May 21 (DCS), at Trout River on May 22 (RP); **Swainson's Warbler** - at East Baltic Bog on Jul. 12 (GM); **Ovenbird** - first at Middleton on May 13 (FdB), at Valleyfield on May 15 (DO), 2 at Bonshaw on May 16 (RA), 8 at Brookvale Demo Woodlot on Jun. 10 (RA, JWa), at South Melville yard on Aug. 1 (RA); **Northern Waterthrush** - 1 at Dalvay lagoon on May 18 (DCS, DO), at Pt. Deroche Road & 2 at Afton Road on May 20 (DCS); **Mourning Warbler** - at Indian River & High Bridge (Pisquid) on May 25 (DO, DCS), at Hardy Pond north on May 31 (JtR), 1 at Dixon Road on Jun. 3 (EC); **Common Yellowthroat** - 2 at Cavendish on May 14 (RA, JBl), 3 at Dalvay, 1 at Covehead, 1 at Brackley North Marsh, & 3 at Robinson's Island on May 16 (DCS), at Cavendish on May 22 (RP); **Wilson's Warbler** - 1 at Miltonvale on May 27 (RP); **Canada Warbler** - 3 at Afton Road on May 25 (DCS, DO); **Summer Tanager** - 1 in Sherwood on May 27-8 (C&BM, DO, DC&ES); **American Tree Sparrow** - 7 at New Harmony Demo woodlot on May 20 (WHL); **Chipping Sparrow** - at Queens County on May 3 (DCS), 1 at St. Charles on May 4 (W&SF), 1 at Stratford & 1 at Kingsboro on May 5 (A&PM, WHL), 2 at Milton on May 10 (RP), at Valley on May 13 (GS), pair at Route 254 on May 31 (EC); **Vesper Sparrow** - at Norway on May 9 (BD); **Savannah Sparrow** - at Brackley North Marsh on May 3 (DCS); **Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrow** - at Covehead Marsh on May 24 (DCS), at Mount Stewart on Jun. 13 (FdB), 1 at Brackley North Marsh on Aug. 2 (DCS); **Song Sparrow** - at Five Houses on Apr. 26 (DCS), adult with young at West Royalty on Jul. 5 (DCS); **Lincoln's Sparrow** - 3 at MacEwen Road in Dundee & 1 at Pt. Deroche Road on May 20 (DCS, DO); **Swamp Sparrow** - 2 at River Wetlands in Five Houses on Apr. 26 (DCS), at Mount Stewart on Jun. 13 (FdB), at Brackley North Marsh on 16th, Covehead on Jul. 18, & Covehead Marsh on Jul. 26 (DCS); **White-throated Sparrow** - 6 at Bunbury on Apr. 25 (RT), 8 at Donagh feeders on May 6 (JDM); **White-crowned Sparrow** - 1 at North Cape on May 9 (BD), 2 at Monticello on May 13 (CGa); **Snow Bunting** - 2 at Basin Head on May 2 (WHL); **Northern Cardinal** - at South Lake on May 15 (WHL), male at Blooming Point on May 24 (CJL); **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** - at Stanhope in late April (via SGC), Crossroads on May 7 (DO), at Valley on May 13 (GS), first pair at Donagh feeders on May 17 (JDM), pair at Vernon River on May 27 (DK); **Indigo Bunting** - male at Bonshaw on May 20-21 (H&MM via DO), 1 at Grand Tracadie on May 27 (RMcN via DO); **Bobolink** - at Red Point Harbour on May 13 (MK), 2 at Pt. Deroche on May 20 (DCS, DO), 20 at North Lake on May 22 (DO), 1 at South Melville on Jun. 5 (RA), 6 at Horne's Creek Marshfield on Jun. 8 (GK), 2 at Mount Stewart on Jun. 13 (FdB), 1 at Argyle Shore on Jun. 15 (RA); **Red-winged Blackbird** - first female at Donagh feeders on May 17 & several on May 18 (JDM); **Common Grackle** - tending young at Rocky Point on May 25 (LD); **Brown-headed Cowbird** - 2 males & female at Red Head Harbour on May 5 (MK), song sparrow feeding young cowbird at Summerside on Jul. 30 (FRC); **Baltimore Oriole** - male at Rocky Point on May 10-12 (LD, DCS, DO), at Fortune Bridge feeding on black oil seed feeder on May 16 (WHL, FCh), at Hyde Park on May 17 (JBl, SGC), May 28 (RP, via JW), & pair on May 30 (SGC), at Souris on May 17 (JD via WHL), male at Mt. Stewart on May 28 (PS), on May 30 (DCS, DO, JDM), on Jun. 6 (DCS, DO, RC, JDM), on Jun. 14 (TW, SG); **Pine Grosbeak** - 2 at Stratford on May 3 (JC); **Purple Finch** - 10 to 12 at Stratford on May 3 (JC), 24 at St. Charles on May 4 (W&SF), 1 to 2 at West Royalty feeders Aug. 2 to 5 (DCS); **Pine Siskin** - at St. Charles on May 4 (W&SF); **Evening Grosbeak** - 8 at St. Charles on May 4 (W&SF), pair at Donagh feeders on May 15 -18 (JDM), at St. Charles on Jun. 1 (W&SF), male at St. Charles on Jun. 6 (DCS, DO, RC, DO).

Older Reports: RT reported that 7 to 8 of 14 - 16 Tree Swallow nest boxes were successful in 2008 based on cleaning out nest boxes at Bouvyer Pond in Bunbury in May, 2009.

Thanks to the following contributors who provided records for this listing, namely: JA - Jason Affleck; RA - Ron Arvidson; JBl - Jean Blanchard; OB - Olivier Barden; WFB - Bill Bowerbank; AC - Alma Currie; EC - Elwood Coakes; FCh - Fred Cheverie; FRC - Rosemary Curley; JC - James Crombie; KC - Kevin Cook; RC - Ray Cooke; R&JC - Rhonda & Joe Carter; SGC - Sharon Clark; FdB - Fiep de Bie; GD - George Dowdle; JD - Joanne Dunphy; LD - Lois Doan; G&SF - Greg & Sandra Feethan; W&SF - Warren & Sherron Foulkes; CGa - Cathleen Gallant; SG - Shirley Gallant; RH - Rick Hawkins; B&RH - Ben & Rosalie Hoteling; BeHo - Beth Hoar; L&JH - Les & Joan Homans; GK - Glen Kelly; DK - Dan Kennedy; WHL - Waldrom Leard; BM - Barry Martin; EM - Evelyn Martin; G&FMa - Gisele & Fred Martin; C&BM - Cindy & Boyd MacMaster; GM - Gerald MacDonald; DGM - Gerald MacDougall; G&BM - Garth & Bonnie MacIsaac; H&MM - Herb & Marie MacDonald; TM - Trevor MacKinnon; WJM - Wade MacKinnon (formerly WMacK); MM - Matt MacKenzie; FMcC - Fred McCardle; GMcC - Gail McCourt; JDM - Dan McAskill; SMCB - Scott McBurney; A&PM - Arlene & Paul McGuigan; EMu - Elaine Murley; DO - Dwaine Oakley; SP - Shirley Prouse; RP - Roberta Palmer; JtR - John te Raa; A&DS - Alma & Don Steeves; DC&ES - David & Elaine Seeler; GS - Gary Schneider; GSt - Greg Stroud; JDS - J.D. Somers; PS - Peter Sheppard; SCS - Scott Sinclair; TS - Tara Stewart; RT - Reg Dutch Thompson; CW - Chris Wagner; JW - Jackie Waddell; JWa - Jean Watts; TW - Trevor Wadman; LY - Lorne Yeo.

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 at 420 University Avenue in Charlottetown.

YN = young naturalists encouraged to attend or participate

- Oct. 5 to 9 - Amphibian Week** with Introductory lectures (“**The amphibian brain**” & “**Amphibian species in decline**” by Gillian Gouchie; “**Impact of disease on wild frog populations**” by Dr. Maria Forzán) at the Atlantic Veterinary College Lecture Theatre A on Oct. 5 at 8 - 8:30 pm and a lunch time daily lectures series in Lecture Theatre B from 12:30 - 1:20 pm as follows: **Oct. 6 - “Diseases of Frogs**” by Dr. Maria Forzán, Canadian Cooperative Wildlife Health Centre; **Oct. 7 - “Amphibians at risk from pesticides**” by Dr. Natacha Hogan, Canadian Rivers Institute; **Oct. 8 - “Adaptations of anuran larvae**” by Dr. Richard Wassersug, Dalhousie University; **Oct. 9 “Amphibian biology in microgravity: What we know (and don’t know) on behaviour and development of vertebrates in weightlessness**” by Dr. Richard Wassersug.
- Oct. 6 - Invasive Species of the Insect World** - Donna Giberson of the UPEI Biology Department will be the guest speaker for the Natural History Society’s meeting which starts at 7:30 pm at the Farm Centre, 420 University Ave. Charlottetown. **YN**
- Oct. 10 - Bog Walk!** From 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, Jackie Waddell will lead participants through MacKinnon’s Bog, Corraville (south of St. Peter’s), Kings County, while bog colours are at their best. Featuring carnivorous plants, sphagnum moss and ericaceous shrubs. Snacks and water provided but bring clothing and footwear for wet walking as there are no trails or facilities on site. No pets please. Call 892-7513 or email exdir@islandnaturetrust.ca to register, arrange car pools or get directions.
- Oct. 24 - Woodland Walk** From 10:00 am to 12:00 noon, Jackie Waddell will lead participants for this walk through the hardwoods of the Blooming Point area. Sturdy walking footwear and clothes for the weather are a must. Snacks, water, and small binoculars provided. There are no trails or facilities on site. Call 892-7513 or email exdir@islandnaturetrust.ca to register, arrange car pools or get directions.
- Nov 3 - "Bird feeders and bird health, is there a connection?"** by Maria Forzán and Scott McBurney (AVC) will be the guest speakers for the Natural History Society’s meeting which starts at 7:30 pm at the Farm Centre, 420 University Ave. Charlottetown. **YN**
- Nov. - dates to be determined! Phillips Feed Service Annual BIRD SEED SALE** at 18 Exhibition Drive, Charlottetown - a portion of the proceeds of all bird seed sales all year around is donated to Island Nature Trust land acquisition and other programs.
- Dec 2 - Boreal Owls and Their Relatives-** Randy Lauff (St FX) will be the guest speaker for the Natural History Society’s meeting which starts at 7:30 pm at the Farm Centre, 420 University Ave. Charlottetown. **YN**
- Jan 5 - Members Night** will be the guest speaker for the Natural History Society’s meeting which starts at 7:30 pm at the Farm Centre, 420 University Ave. Charlottetown. **YN**

For more information, comments and suggestions for future programs or field trips, please contact a member of the Society’s Executive

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 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.