

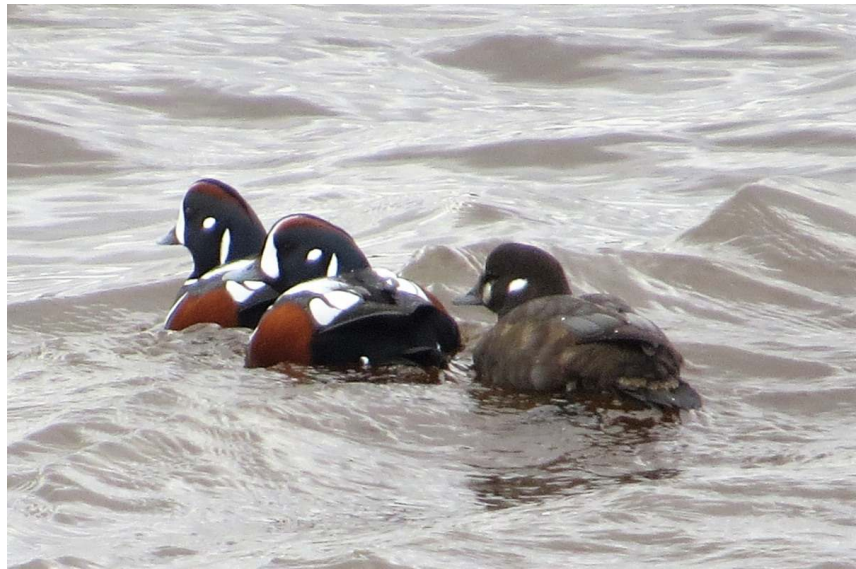
ISLAND NATURALIST

ISSUE # 228

OCT - DEC, 2018

SOME HIGHLIGHTS

- *Nominations Call;*
- *Nature PEI News;*
- *Nature PEI Field Trips;*
- *Wingless Mountain Beetle;;*
- *2018 Goose Banding on PEI;*
- *New NCC Executive Director;*
- *News from About;*
- *Blister Beetles at Afton Road;*
- *Brown Booby - First Record;*
- *Lobster and Bar Clam Wrack;*
- *2018 Bennett Autumn Birding Classic;*
- *Weather Events;*
- *Great sightings: Leatherback Turtle; Black-horned Tree Cricket; Ross's Goose; Cackling Goose; Eurasian Wigeon; Harlequin Duck; White-winged Dove; Red Phalarope; Brown Booby; Little Gull; Black Tern; American White Pelican; Cattle Egret; Short-eared Owl; Red-bellied Woodpecker; Gray Jay; White-breasted Nuthatch, and Northern Cardinal;*
- *Environmental Calendar*
- *Forest Bird Conservation;*
- *Shorebird Table PEI National Park.*



**NATURE PEI - 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 from October to June at 7:30 p.m. at **Beaconsfield's Carriage House, corner of West and Kent Street in Charlottetown**. Each meeting commences with a brief business meeting followed by a nutrition break and our 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 PE C1A 8C1. Annual membership is \$20 and renewals are due in January. Multi-year renewals are \$20 per year for which you wish to renew. Membership expiry dates are shown in the top right hand corner of the mailing label or by a notice provided to those receiving electronic newsletters.

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

2018 Executive:

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NEWSLETTERS are normally published quarterly and are available in Acrobat Reader colour format via E-mail or in black & white hard copy delivered by mail. Hard copies are printed on recycled paper. Articles, notes, reports, drawings, bird sightings, plant records, pictures, 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 nature observations recorded so that others may learn from them. All contributions should be sent by mail to Dan McAskill, Newsletter Editor, Nature PEI (NHSPEI), 368 Brazel Road, Donagh, P.E.I. C1B 0T9 or via E-mail to jdmcaskill@pei.sympatico.ca. The *next deadline* for articles, sightings, or other newsletter information is *February 10th, 2019*.

Illustrations/Pictures: Our thanks to Rosemary Curley, Bob Harding, Island Nature Trust, Danielle Jordan, Gerald MacDougall, Brett MacKinnon, Kathleen MacNearney; Donna Martin, Doug Murray, Nicole Murtagh, Dwaine Oakley, Heide Riley, Tanya Sheridan, and John te Raa for using of their photos or illustrations.

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: www.NaturePEI.ca

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/NaturePEI>

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

Cover Illustration:

It is quite unusual to see Harlequin Ducks in inland waters on PEI. These Harlequin Ducks were seen and photographed between the bridges on the Hillsborough River at Mount Stewart by John te Raa on October 31st, 2018. These blister beetles were found at Afton Road on September 29th by Dwaine Oakley and photographed by Danielle Jordan (see article in this issue).

NOMINATION CALL:

Nature PEI's Annual General Meeting is being held on January 8th. If you would be interested in contributing to its programs through service on its Executive Council or its working committees, please contact Ian Scott at scotts@pei.sympatico.ca or 902-892-5796.

NATURE PEI NEWS:

Summer seems long gone with our early storms and we're still celebrating autumn. Nature PEI's Executive Council has been busy on both the planning and implementation side of its activities. Its members were active in the following activities:

- **Executive Council** - three meetings of Nature PEI's Executive Council were held and the minutes were prepared. In addition, Bob Harding is collating the older minutes of the Society so that they can be conserved for posterity.
- **Speakers Schedule** - Connie Gaudet, our Program and Publicity Director, developed our public meeting speakers schedule for the October 2018 to June 2019.
- **Online Flora of PEI** - In September, Nature PEI submitted an application to the Wildlife Conservation Fund (WCF) for phase 2 of the Flora of PEI, namely: The Ferns, Clubmosses and Horsetails. We were successful in obtaining \$5,555 from the WCF of the requested \$7,995 from the WCF. Nature PEI Executive Council voted to contribute an additional \$300 towards this proposal. See the article below.
- **50th Anniversary** - 2019 marks the 50th anniversary of the Natural History Society of Prince Edward Island (aka Nature PEI). Work is underway to celebrate this occasion through the publication of a history on the Society's second 25 years (the first 25 year history is available on our web site), a bird identification course, a 50th year celebration, and other activities. If you would like to assist on the planning or delivery of the Society's 50th Anniversary Celebration, please contact Rosemary Curley.
- **Audit and Membership** - Francine Desmeules, our Treasurer, prepared an audit of Nature PEI's financial activities as well as a summary of the Society's memberships.
- **Nature PEI Representative to Island Nature Trust Board** - Gerald MacDougall, our Vice President, was appointed as Nature PEI's representative to the Island Nature Trust Board.
- **Donation** - In memory of Dr. Helene van Doninck's passing, the Society voted for a donation of \$50 towards the Cobequid Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre work which she spearheaded.
- **Flower Fly Project** - Thanks to financial support for collection materials from the WCF and the donation of time and travel from volunteers, sampling was conducted in a variety of areas across the Island.
- **Biodiversity Strategy** - The Society is working in conjunction with the Island Nature Trust and the PEI Invasive Species Council to encourage a government-led biodiversity strategy for PEI.
- **Wildlife Predation by Cats** - The Society continues to collect information on the predation of wildlife by domestic cats that are allowed to roam outside as well as feral (wild) cats.
- **Red Fox Designation** - As the Society helped spearhead the competition that led to the designation of the Blue Jay as PEI's Provincial Bird Emblem and the fact that the Blue Jay is an animal, Nature PEI asked the minister responsible to modify the designation of red fox as the mammal emblem rather than the Island's provincial animal emblem.
- **Proposed Sunday Hunting Legislation** - At its November meeting, the Society distributed information to 69 people present on the private members bill which is currently on the order paper at the Provincial Legislature. The addresses of MLAs and Ministers were also provided so that people could express their views.
- **Christmas Bird Counts** - the proposed dates was the annual Christmas Bird Counts were established.
- **Nominations Committee** - The Society struck its Nominations Committee. Ian Scott will chair the committee and Rosemary will serve on it with him. The position of the Field Trips Director will be open and, as set out in the Society's Bylaws (Constitution), nominations for other positions are open.
- **Newsletter** - Dan McAskill is developing and editing *Island Naturalist* Issue 228.
- **Autumn Birding Classic** - For the 23rd year, the Society co-hosted the Neil Bennett Autumn Birding Classic Fund Raiser with the Island Nature Trust. The Society voted a donation of \$100 towards this project which is an essential source of funds for the Trust's ongoing conservation programs.

NATURE PEI FIELD TRIPS:

Fall Colours

A fall colours field trip was held Saturday Oct. 13th at the Valleyfield Demonstration Woodlot, led by Dave and Kathleen MacNearney. The promo for this event noted that there would be fall colours and lots of mushrooms, thus our leaders walked the trail in advance and scouted for fungi. They collected many species and Dave worked to key them out before the event. On the big day, Dave brought several guides on mushrooms with him and soon had all 15 participants enthralled with mushroom beauty and diversity. Dave also brought note cards and led us to some obvious edible mushrooms like chanterelles. He also showed us the hedgehog mushroom. Yes, there was fall foliage too. A terrific event made so by our field trip leaders.



Hedgehog Mushroom at Valleyfield
Rosemary Curley photo



Nature PEI Fall Colours Field Trip
Kathleen MacNearney photo



Very large unidentified mushroom at Valleyfield Oct 13, 2018
Rosemary Curley photo

RE-DISCOVERED AFTER A CENTURY: WINGLESS MOUNTAIN GRASSHOPPER:

Edmund Walker, the granddaddy of Canadian entomology, first reported the Wingless Mountain Grasshopper *Booneacris glacialis* (Orthoptera: Acrididae) from Prince Edward Island way back in 1915. Despite several insect surveys over the years, it was never detected again in the province. That is, not until last year, when it was discovered by an expert visiting from British Columbia. And it was found again this past summer - confirming that it has been here all along, somehow staying just under the radar.

The Wingless Mountain Grasshopper - sometimes called the Northern Wingless Locust - is medium-sized, cylindrical and multi-coloured. It is unique among our grasshoppers in lacking any trace of wings as adults (which is diagnostic). Their colour is variable - they may be a mixture of green, gray, pink, black or red. They are found in low foliage around bogs and other wetlands.

In 1915, Walker published a note about Orthoptera records from PEI and the Magdalen Islands. It was based on a collection made by Mr. Bayard Long and it included a record of a female Wingless Mountain Grasshopper collected 26 August 1912 at Dundee, near Morell. In recent years, my attempts to find it in that area proved fruitless. But, in August 2017, James Miskelly, an Orthoptera expert from British Columbia was visiting Charlottetown to attend a conference. While here, he, John Klymko (Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre in Sackville, NB), and others visited a bog near Point Deroche and found the first Wingless Mountain Grasshopper seen on PEI in over a century. Then in September 2018, another one was found - I was fortunate to net a female while sweep netting some low vegetation at Ten Mile House. Apparently, PEI has a population of Wingless Mountain Grasshoppers after all!

Author's Note: Thanks to John Klymko, ACCDC for his assistance in confirming identifications and for providing information on Orthoptera in the region.

By Robert W. Harding



Wingless Mountain Grasshopper
Ten Mile House Sept. 2018
Bob Harding photo

2018 GOOSE BANDING ON PEI:

Adapted from Al Hanson CWS PowerPoint

The Canadian Wildlife Service has been banding Canada Geese breeding on Prince Edward Island since at least 2009 as part of its research on the temperate Canada goose population in the Atlantic Flyway. During the July 3rd to 10th period, thanks to assistance from volunteers and landowners, they banded 658 flightless goslings and adults at 14 locations spanning the area between Upton in Kings County and Lake of Shining Waters in Queens County. 457 of these were adults (after hatch year or AHY birds) while 201 were flightless goslings from 2018. 121 of these geese were recaptures and 79 of these were captured at PEI National Park sites. Three of the recaptures were banded in 2009, three in 2012, 6 in 2013, 8 in 2014, 5 in 2015, 22 in 2016 and 74 in 2017.

Reference: Al Hanson, Temperate Goose Banding, PEI July 3 to 10, 2018.

NEW NCC PEI PROGRAM DIRECTOR:

Adapted from NCC News Releases

During the spring of 2018, Julie Vasseur advised Nature PEI that she would be leaving the Island to move to Ontario where she became the Nature Conservancy Canada's acting Southwestern Ontario Region Program Director. NCC initiated a successful recruitment drive to find a skilled replacement. On October 12th, at a special luncheon was held at Red Shores Top of the Park, Julie introduce Lanna Campbell as Nature Conservancy of Canada's new Program Director for Prince Edward Island. Nature PEI was well represented by Rosemary Curley, Gerald MacDougall, Bob Harding,

Most recently, Lanna has guided NCC's work in Newfoundland and Labrador where she spearheaded several large acquisition and conservation projects including Caribbes River nature reserve. She has worked with NCC since 2013 and holds a Master's in Environmental Studies from Dalhousie University. One of her first projects in PEI will be the completion of the fund raising for a 234 acre marsh and woodland property in Kingsboro.

NEWS FROM ABOUT:

On September 28th, during the 19th Annual Recognition of Founders Ceremony, **Daryl Guignon and Dr. Ian MacQuarrie** were honoured as 2018 Founders of UPEI for their contributions to the University of Prince Edward Island and **Dr. Pierre-Yves Daoust** was bestowed the Honourable Eugene F. Whelan Green Hat Award for his contributions to the Atlantic Veterinary College. Our congratulations go to Daryl, Ian and Pierre-Yves! (UPEI Annual Recognition of Founders Ceremony invitation)

Since its inception in 1978, the **Baillie Fund** through its trustees have distributed \$785,000 in grants to 625 bird research and conservation projects across Canada. These projects engage amateur naturalists and volunteers in helping us understand, appreciate and conserve Canadian Birds in their natural environments. There are three classes of awards - see Bird Studies Canada's website (Adapted from Bird Studies Canada's "Funding available for Canadian bird research and conservation projects")

On November 21st, the Rotary Club of Charlottetown Royalty bestowed the **2018 Mentor Award** on Gary Schneider at a ceremonial dinner at the Rodd Charlottetown Hotel. Since 1991, Gary has been a leader in the delivery of educational programs on forest stewardship and publications at Macphail Woods. He has provided mentorship to 100s of students through from children to adults through children's summer camps, workshops, presentations, ecological forestry tours of university and college students, woodlot owners, and much more. In addition, he had provided advice to government through membership in various forums and developed planting programs for various communities. Nature PEI offers its congratulations to Gary for his very considerable work that led up to this award! (Adapted from email from Senator Diane Griffin and Guardian Nov. 28, 2018 article by Sally Cole)

Help a Species at Risk Youth Contest - Island Nature Trust and Parks Canada are launching a unique youth contest to help protect PEI's Species at Risk. Island youth are being asked to create a short public service announcement (PSA) about a species at risk of their choice. Island youth aged 12 to 16 (or grades 7 to 9) are invited to enter, and the contest is open to individuals, school classes and organized youth groups. Submission deadline is March 15, 2019. For prizes and contest details, please contact Island Nature Trust at (902) 892-7513 or Parks Canada at (902) 672-6422.

Gulls Simplified: A Comparative Approach to Identification (Paperback) by Pete Dunne and Kevin Karlson was released on November 13, 2018. A much awaited North American guide for birders, this photographic field guide utilizes a comparative identification approach depicting their size, structure and basic plumage features to simplify the challenges presented with the various age groups.

2019 marks the **60th anniversary of the Quebec-Labrador Foundation / Atlantic Centre for the Environment (QLF)**. This dynamic organization has provided experiential field learning opportunities to high school student volunteers and to university student interns through community-based conservation initiatives in Eastern Canada and New England. In this period, it has provided mentorship to 5,000 alumni. Its International Alumni are conservation leaders and practitioners who represent conservation organizations in 75 countries. (Adapted from QLF release)

Nature Nova Scotia (Nova Scotia Federation of Naturalists) held its Annual General Meeting and the **2018 Nova Scotia Celebration of Nature** at the Debert Hospitality Centre from Ma8 28th to 30th. 50 adults and a number of young naturalists participated in discussions on forest endangered species in Nova Scotia, early morning birding, raising monarch butterflies, and field trips on forest management (North Nova Forestry Demo Woodlot), geology, waterfalls, an old growth Acadian Forest ravine at Wallace River, and plant and animals. (Adapted from Doug Linzey's Nova Scotia Celebration of Nature 2018 in Blomidon Naturalists Society newsletter Vol 45 #3 Fall 2018)

The Island's largest tree, an American elm located in Victoria-by-the-Sea was cut down the week of November 5th, 2018. This stately elm, the winner of the Island's 2010 Great Big Tree Challenge, had a height of 108 feet, a circumference of 21 feet, and a canopy width of 129 feet. It became one of the most recent victims of Dutch elm disease here on Prince Edward Island. (Adapted from a Journal Pioneer article of September 22, 2010 and a Sarah MacMillan Nov. 5 CBC News Article).

BLISTER BEEILES MATING AT AFTON ROAD:

by Dwaine Oakley/Dan McAskil

On September 29th, Dwaine found clusters of blister bugs aka oil beetles (*Meleo impressus* Kirby) mating at Afton Road and collected photos. There were about 24 seen. These beetles often cluster together and feed on a variety of plant leaves including ash and a variety of cultivated agricultural and garden plants. During heavy infestations, they can defoliate plants. The adults are active from May through to October. After mating, they release their eggs into the soil where the larvae hatch out. Depending on the species, they feed on the eggs of grasshoppers, wild bee larvae, and other species. The larvae overwinter in the soil.

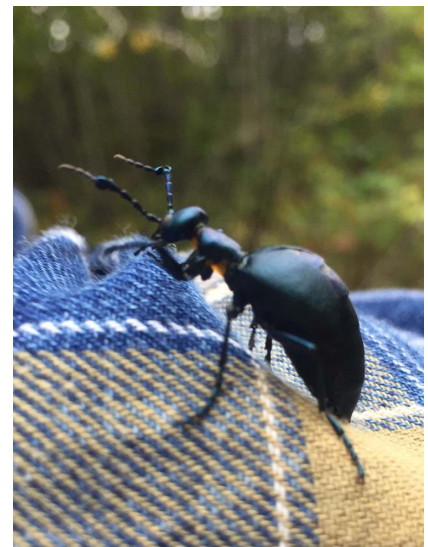
When these beetles are rubbed or damaged, hemolymph (the body fluid of many insects analogous to blood in vertebrates) is released from its joints. If this material becomes deposited on tender skin areas of humans (e.g. neck skin, arms, finger joints), blisters can form. Hence the name, blister bug. The blisters are caused by the presence of cantharidin, an odorless terpene (exo-1,2-cis-dimethyl-3,6-ep- oxyhexahydro-phthalic anhydride). Normally these blisters do not cause significant damage and fade away over time.

The cantharidin in dried and pulverized bodies of certain blister beetles was once used in human and veterinary medicine as a vesicant (blistering agent) and irritant for certain ailments such as warts. Taken internally, it can be poisonous to humans, domestic animals, birds and amphibians. It forms the base for the irritant known as Spanish fly.

On December 10th, John Klymko of the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre reviewed the pictures confirming the genus as *Meloe*. He sent them to Dr. Pinto who identified them to species. John found two iNaturalist images and one of these was the same species and from Anderson Road and one was *M. angusticollis* Say from Lot 42.

References:

University of Florida, Featured Creatures at http://entnemdept.ufl.edu/creatures/urban/medical/blister_beetles.htm
K. Ghoneim. 2013. "Cantharidin toxicosis to animal and human in the world: A review" at <https://pdfs.semanticscholar.org/7516/5b46873f6bf1cd9d250c72419ce81614ad62.pdf>



Blister Bug at Afton Road
September 29, 2018
Danielle Jordan photo

BROWN BOOBY AT WOOD ISLANDS - ISLAND'S FIRST RECORD:

On October 7th & 8th, the Island's first record of a Brown Booby (*Sula leucogaster*) was obtained on a ferry at Wood Islands. The bird landed on the ferry and was perched on the boat while it landed at Wood Islands. It remained there and it returned towards Nova Scotia. Fortunately, it was photographed while it was on the ferry and a picture was submitted by Megan Thorne! (Adapted from Cody MacKay posting on CBC News, Oct. 9 2018)



Brown Booby on Wood Islands Ferry Oct. 7 2018



Lobster washed up on Rustico Island in Nov. 29-30, 2018 storm



Bar clams washed ashore on Rustico Island in Nov. 29-30 storm

LOBSTER & BAR CLAM WRACK:

The severe winds which reached gusts of over 100 km on Nov. 29-30th and hourly sustained northerly winds from 35 to 47 km/hr, left huge numbers of lobsters and bar clams thrown up by the waves along the beach wrack line on the north shore of Robinson's Island, Savage Harbour and other communities.

NEIL BENNETT AUTUMN BIRDING CLASSIC:

Ray Cooke, Dan McAskill, Ron Arvidson, Jean Blanchard, Donna Martin, Megan Harris, Zack Metcalfe, Leanne Tol, Vicki Johnson, Emily Adams, Shirley Gallant, Sharon Clark, and Fiep de Bie

2018 marked the 24th anniversary of the Autumn Birding Classic which was designed as a long-term fund raising partnership for the Trust's land conservation program and as a bird migration monitoring count for early autumn. Nature PEI (Natural History Society of Prince Edward Island) and the Island Nature Trust commenced the Autumn Birding Classic in 1995. It was renamed the Neil Bennett Autumn Birding Classic in 2000 in memory of Neil's significant contributions to the Trust and bird conservation.

Ray Cooke and Dan McAskill commenced their birding day at 0300 hrs and continued through until dusk at 1845 hrs. Their day started amidst misty rain and a temperature of 11 C. Winds were light and sound carried well for owl play backs. This continued for a few hours. Cloudy conditions continued until noon when it switched over to partly sunny. The day ended with partly cloudy conditions, a spectacular sunset at Charlottetown Harbour and a temperature of 13 C.

Ray and Dan located and identified 82 species of birds during the day covering the area between Charlottetown and East Point and returning back to the starting point. They drove a distance of 311.3 km and walked about 1.5 km. Their highlights included a Long-eared Owl at Mickle Macum Road, a Razorbill, a Parasitic Jaeger, and 2 Pomarine Jaegers at East Point, a Lesser Great-black Backed Gull and a Gray Catbird at North Lake, a Hudsonian Godwit at Red Head Harbour, and, to cap off the day at least 5 Rusty Blackbirds amidst hundreds of Red-wing Blackbirds and Common Grackles at Pisquid. After trying all day to find one, they found House Sparrows singing at Red Shores Race Track. It was a great day to be exploring and we had a grand time.

There was a great flush of meadow mushrooms in northeastern PEI plus 1 fresh inky cap. Two bags of these large exquisite treasures were collected to be sauteed in the near future. ~25 Clouded Sulphur and ~10 Cabbage Whites were seen. There was a good crop of wild apples present but only two mountain ash were bearing berries. There was a fairly good fruit crop on wild raisin (*Viburnum* spp.) in Lakeville and North Lake, a few high

bush cranberries and a few dozen holly with a good crop of berries. In addition, there was a good crop of cones on some white spruce.

Mammals seen or heard in the northeast to central area were: red squirrels, 2 raccoons, a pack of coyote yelping at White Road, a very tame red fox and a striped skunk at the East Point parking lot, 1 jumping mouse leaping across the Selkirk Pond parking lot, 1 short-tailed weasel crossing the road at East Lake, 1 grey seal at East Point, and 1 harbour seal off Sheep's Pond beach. There was also a cat out foraging.

Ron Arvidson and Jean Blanchard were the members of the Birding on PEI team this year. They found 28 species of birds and covered a distance of 38 km driving. They had an impressive 30 Great Blue Heron along the beach between Hampton and Victoria. As well, they had a group of 18 Yellow-rumped Warblers travelling south from Noonan's Marsh. They recorded 6 of the very few American Robins seen during the day. In the evening, Ron picked up a Barred Owl calling.

This year, Team Dodo's birding effort was a three pronged approach that commenced at 6:30 am and ended 12 hours later at 6:30 pm. They covered 210 km by car and they walked approximately 5.5 km. Jackie Waddell, Emily Adams, and Shirley Gallant covered Watts Lane (Grand Tracadie), Tracadie, Corran Ban. Long Pond, West of Long Pond, Covehead Wharf, Oyster Bed Bridge Pond, Cymbria Loop, Upper Cavendish, Orby Head and Mayfield. They picked up 39 species of birds. Sharon Clark birded the Charlottetown area and Fiep de Bie birded Tea Hill. Sharon and Fiep added 14 more species of birds bringing Team Dodo's bird species count to 55 species. Their highlights included both Red-throated and Common Loons, Great Cormorant, Swamp Sparrow, Palm Warbler and Magnolia Warbler and a group of Cedar Waxwings.

The Wild Westerners team was led by Donna Martin with the assistance of Megan Harris and Zack Metcalfe. Their team started in Summerside at 8:09 am and they birded until dusk at 7 pm at Jacques Cartier Park although Megan picked up a Great Horned Owl at St. Catherine's at 5:55 am and Donna started birding at dawn at the Borden Lagoons. Their route encompassed Summerside, Locke Shore Road, Gunning Shore, St. Eleanors, Maximeville, Alaska, West Point, Seacow Pond, Tignish, North Cape, and Jacques Cartier Provincial Park and covered 254 km. In addition to finding 59 species of birds, they also seen red squirrel, 2 muskrats at Summerside Park, a mink at Howard's Cove, a red fox and Wood Frog at Cedar Dunes Provincial Park. Their birding highlights included Hudsonian Godwit at Locke Shore, 8 Red-throated Loon off Jacques Cartier Provincial Park, Killdeer at Seacow Pond, a Red-tailed Hawk at North Cape, 4 Nelson's Sparrow at Locke Shore, a Common Yellowthroat at Summerside, and a Boreal Chickadee at Cedar Dunes.

This year's Youth Bennett Birding Event was named Team Nut(hatch). It consisted of 4 members and was led by the Trust's Leanne Tol and Vicki Johnson. The team birded about 2.5 km of the Robinson's Island Trail System in the PEI National Park from 9:20 to 11:00 am. They confirmed 20 species of birds and had a glimpse of a probable American Redstart. They seen 6 red squirrels as well as the tents of the fall webworm.

From an outreach perspective, the Trust distributed a press release to The BUZZ and other media sites in September and put posts on its social media network as well as the Island Naturalist and the Island Nature Trust Quarterly's newsletters. Matt Rainnee interviewed Dan McAskill for CBC Mainstreet and Sarah MacMillan interviewed Dwaine Oakley for CBC radio. As well, Kevin Yarr posted a story and CBC covered the fund raiser on its social media platforms. The Guardian and Journal-Pioneer included a story. In addition, Birding on PEI, Nature PEI and the Fish and Wildlife Facebook sites provided very good coverage with multiple posts of the Bennett Bird Count poster.

Over the past 24 years, Nature PEI and Island Nature Trust partnership has raised just over \$45,100. Thanks to the generosity of this year's many donors, the Trust's pledge collectors and team members collected pledges of \$2,600. The four Corporate Sponsors, namely: City of Summerside, Nature PEI (Natural History Society of PEI); DCD Auto Electric; and PEI Department of Community, Lands and Environment contributed \$820 towards the 2018 Neil Bennett Autumn Birding Classic.

The full list of the 97 species of birds we seen is below.



The Trust's Team Nut(hatch) birding on Robinson's Island Trail

Canada Goose	Ruddy Turnstone (1)	Red-eyed Vireo
Wood Duck	Sanderling	Blue Jay
Blue-winged Teal	Pomarine Jaeger	American Crow
Northern Shoveler	Parasitic Jaeger (2)	Common Raven
Gadwall	Razorbill (1)	Black-capped Chickadee
American Wigeon	Black Guillemot (1)	Boreal Chickadee
Mallard	Bonaparte's Gull	Red-breasted Nuthatch
American Black Duck	Ring-billed Gull	Golden-crowned Kinglet
Northern Pintail (2)	Herring Gull	Ruby-crowned Kinglet
Green-winged Teal	<i>Lesser Black-backed Gull (1)</i>	American Robin
Ring-necked Duck	Great Black-backed Gull	Gray Catbird
Common Eider	Caspian Tern (6 at least)	European Starling
White-winged Scoter	Common Tern	House Sparrow
Black Scoter	Red-throated Loon	Cedar Waxwing
Common Merganser	Common Loon	Purple Finch (3)
Red-breasted Merganser	Northern Gannet	American Goldfinch
Ring-necked Pheasant	Great Cormorant (1 at East Point, 1 at North Cape & at Orby Head)	Savannah Sparrow
Ruffed Grouse	Double-crested Cormorant	Nelson's Sparrow (4 at Locke Shore)
Pied-billed Grebe	Great Blue Heron	Song Sparrow
Rock Pigeon (Dove)	Bald Eagle	Swamp Sparrow
Mourning Dove	Northern Harrier (2)	White-throated Sparrow
Black-bellied Plover	Sharp-shinned Hawk (3)	Dark-eyed Junco
Semipalmated Plover	Red-tailed Hawk (1 at North Cape)	Common Yellowthroat (3)
Killdeer (1 at North Cape)	Great Horned Owl (1)	American Redstart (1)
Dunlin	Barred Owl (2)	Magnolia Warbler (1)
Hudsonian Godwit (1 at Red Head Harbour & 1 at Locke Shore)	Long-eared Owl (1)	Blackburnian Warbler (1)
Least Sandpiper	Northern Saw-whet Owl (2)	Palm Warbler (1)
White-rumped Sandpiper	Belted Kingfisher (4)	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Semipalmated Sandpiper	Hairy Woodpecker	Red-winged Blackbird (~300)
Spotted Sandpiper (1)	Northern Flicker	Rusty Blackbird (5+)
Lesser Yellowlegs	American Kestrel (3)	Common Grackle (100)
Willet	Merlin (2)	Evening Grosbeak
Greater Yellowlegs		

Editor's Note: Over the past decade, the lead team has counted birds for the Neil Bennett Autumn Birding Classic in relatively the same communities although the dates have varied somewhat. Their bird species totals have been: 79 in 2017; 89 in 2016; 81 in 2015; 102 in 2014; 94 in 2013; 79 in 2012, 96 in 2011, 81 in 2010; 88 in 2009; and 108 in 2008.

WEATHER EVENTS:

Heavy rains on Sept. 28 (JDM). Heavy rain in central and eastern PEI and 5 to 10 cm of wet snow in western PEI on Oct. 25. Overnight freezing conditions part of the week of Oct. 25th (down to -5° C. which on Oct. 27 froze still freshwater ponds). Heavy rains on Oct. 3rd, 11th, 12th, 15th, 16th, 24th, 27th, & 28th brought 141.6 mm and a monthly total of 171 mm.

Severe southerly winds (up to 110 km/hr on Confederation Bridge) on Oct. 16 played havoc with power lines and trees (AES, CBC). Heavy rain on Nov. 1 to 3 and SW storm winds gusting to 100+ km/hr on Nov. 3-4 again played havoc with electrical transmission systems uprooting and snapping off trees and blowing yard furniture across yards and fields across the Maritimes (CBC, AES, JDM). Heavy rains on Nov. 2, 3, 6 and 10 totaled 102.5 mm. There was ~10 cm of wet snow and wind late on Nov. 13 that left much of the ground covered in snow in Donagh and another 20 cm on Nov. 16 (JDM). There was 3 cm of frost at Argyle Shore on Nov. 15 (LY). A cold snap occurred from Nov. 12th to 25th with temperature lows down to -12.2° C. Fullerton's Marsh froze over from bridge to cove on Nov. 17 and past the cove by Nov. 26 (JDM). White-out conditions on Nov. 22 at Mount Herbert and Baldwin's Road from powder snow and winds over 80 km/hr (JDM, ECof). Heavy melt and rain on Nov. 28 left fields 40 to 50% largely free of snow. Extreme tides completely covering Fullerton's and Glenfinnan River salt marshes on Nov. 28 (JDM). On Nov. 29-30, wet snow (10 to 12 cm), high NE winds (90+ km/hr) and storm surges along the north shore flooded wharves at French River and Covehead (CBC News) and Surfside Lane / Cottage Road Lane junction at Savage Harbour. With the severe winds on Nov. 29-30, the ice on Fullerton's Creek broke up and the creek was again open. At a total of 67.2 cm, November 2018 was the highest recorded monthly snowfall since records started in the 1870s (the highest was in 1967) (CBC Compass Dec. 3 2018). On Dec. 1st, fields in Donagh to Bunbury corridor had little snow left. Ice reformed on Fullerton's Creek on Dec. 6 (JDM).

ANIMAL AND PLANT SIGHTINGS:

Compiled by J. Dan McAskill

PLANTS: Grey Coral Fungus at Fullerton's Creek Conservation Park in Aug. (DMu). Vivid red leaf colour along the Monaghan Road at Watervale on Sept. 28 (JDM). First flush of 8 Meadow Mushrooms at Argyle Shore this summer on Sept. 28 (LY). Large flush of Meadow Mushrooms in northeastern PEI (Basin Head, North Lake and other areas) and a few Inky Caps at North Lake on Sept. 29 (JDM, RC). First flush of 8 Meadow Mushrooms at Argyle Shore this summer on Sept. 28 (LY). Golden Chanterelle Mushroom at Peakes on Oct. 5 (RWH). Fly Agaric (Amanita muscaria) flush and Butter-and-Eggs in flower along Confed Trail at Bedford on Oct 6 (JtR).



Fly Agaric at Bedford on Oct. 6, 2018
John te Raa photo



Bushy Beard Lichen at Corraville Nov. 11, 2018
Bob Harding photo

Lupins in flower at Crapaud on Oct. 13 (DD). Good flush of Inky Cap mushrooms along Bypass Highway at West Royalty (JDM). Autumn leaf colour peaked in the Bonshaw Hills the week of Oct. 8th and leaf fall commenced the weekend of Oct. 13th although leaf colour still fairly vibrant on Oct 21 in Bonshaw Hills (JDM). Lupin in flower at Crapaud on Oct. 13 & 1 with a few blooms at Marshfield on Nov. 7 (TS). Red Oak leaves started dropping at Donagh on Oct. 14 (JDM) but 70% of leaves still on trees on Oct 28 (JDM). Good crop of Red Oak at Canavoy and Afton Road but none at Donagh this autumn (BH, DO, JDM). Eastern Larch started changing yellow in a few by Oct 26 and most were turned golden in Central PEI by Oct. 31 (JDM). Bushy Beard Lichen at Corraville on Nov. 11 (RWH). Pussy Willows flower buds open (at China point/Earnscliffe on Nov. 19 (LM, JMcC).

Black-horned Tree Cricket at Ten Mile House on Sept. 27 (RWH). 1 **Elm Sawfly** caterpillar at Cable Head East on Oct. 13 (DO). 1 **Woolly Bear** at Canavoy on Oct. 20 (BH, JDM).

INSECTS: **Bronzed Tiger Beetles** at Waterside on Sept. 8 (RWH). **Dog-day Cicada** at Bangor on Sept. 13 (DO). **Drumming Katydid** at Summerville on Sept. 26 & Dalvay on Sept. 28 (RWH). **Wingless Mountain Grasshopper** and



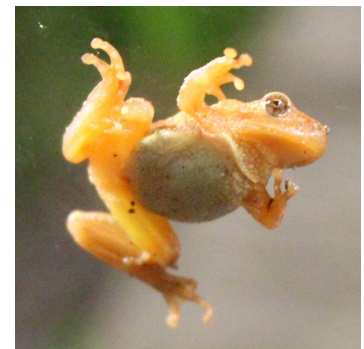
Dog-day Cicada at Bangor Sept. 13, 2018
Dwayne Oakley photo



Black-horned Tree Cricket mating pair at Ten Mile House Sept. 27, 2018
Bob Harding photo

AMPHIBIANS/REPTILES: **Spring Peeper** climbing window at York on Sept. 26 (HR) and 2 on steps at Stanhope on Oct. 23 (BH). **Garter Snake** on Pigot's Trail during Hillsborough River Ass'n and Go! East hike and photography event on Nov. 4 (FRC). **Red-bellied Snake** at Townsend Woodlot on Nov. 7 (KEM). 450 kg **Leatherback Turtle** found dead at Argyle Shore on Dec. 7, 2018 (PEI Fish & Wildlife Section, CBC News).

MAMMALS: **Beluga Whale** photographed by Dwayne Gormley & Ian Murray at Beach Point on Oct. 7 and seen the following week (Eastern Graphic Oct. 9/18). **Seals** on the Hillsborough between the Mount Stewart Main Street Bridge and Confederation Trail on Oct. 13 (JtR). **Raccoon** roadside at Johnston's River on Nov. 30 (JDM). **Minke Whale** at east Point on Nov. 7 (DO, WCT). **Coyote** photographed at Grand River on Dec. 2 (BAM). Lots of **Red Fox** being seen and reported at Nature PEI meetings.



Spring peeper on window at York on Sept. 26, 2018
Heidi Riley

BIRDS: *This checklist order has been adjusted to conform with the November 2017 American Ornithological Society's Checklist of Northern and Middle American Birds.* **Snow Goose** - 4 flying at West Royalty on Dec. 3 (EFM); **Ross's Goose** - 1 at Searletown on Oct 6 (via GMal), 1 adult at Stead Road in new Glasgow on Oct. 15 (via DClA, DO); **Cackling Goose** - 1 taken on an undisclosed location on PEI on Oct. 23 (OJ via DO); **Canada Geese** - ~1,000 at Donagh grainfield on Sept. 28 (JDM), 600+ at Traveller's Rest grainfield and 100+ in a potato field on Oct. 20 (JDM), 1,500 at Hunter River Pond on Nov. 4 (JDM), 300+ at Crossroads & 100+ at Hazelbrook com fields on Nov. 17 (JDM, DO), 1,000 at Earnscliffe cornfield & 600 at China Point grain cornfield on Nov. 18 (JDM) & 1,000 on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS), 200 at Chapel's Creek on Nov. 24 (JtR), 200 concentrated by ice at Oyster Bed Bridge

causeway on Nov. 25 (JtR); **Wood Duck** - 1 at McKenna's Marsh on Oct. 7 (KMCK); **Gadwall** - 6 at Miscouche Lagoon on Oct. 10 (DRM), 4 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 12 (DRM), 2 at Stanhope on Oct. 13 (SCS), 11 at Summerside lagoon on Oct. 21 (DRM), 6 at Summerside on Oct. 23 (DRM), 4 at Borden on Nov. 3 (DRM), 7 at Chapel's Creek on Nov. 10 (JtR), 2 at Andrew's Pond in east Royalty on Nov. 18 (RP); **Blue-winged Teal** - 2 at Cavendish Farms treatment ponds in New Annan on Oct 4 (DRM); **Northern Shoveler** - 11 at Summerside Lagoon on Oct. 10 & 14 on Oct. 21 & 59 on Oct. 23 (DRM); **Eurasian Wigeon** - male at Cornwall lagoon on Oct. 2 (DD), 1 at Stanhope on Oct. 13 (SCS); **American Wigeon** - 80 at John Archie's Pond on Sept. 30 (JFJ) & 30 on Nov. 8 (DG), 70 in Morell Lagoon on Oct. 2 (JtR), 9 at Summerside Lagoon & 9 at Miscouche Lagoon on Oct. 10 (DRM), 24 at Stanhope on Oct. 13 (SCS), 110 at Wilmot River estuary on Oct. 31 (JDM), 11 at Stanhope on Nov. 10 (JtR), 7 at Hyde Park pond on Nov. 11 (BK), 9 at Ellen's Creek on Nov. 12 (BK) & 12 on Nov. 18 (RP), 3 at Chapel's Creek on Nov. 24 (JtR); **Mallard** - 78 at Summerside Lagoon on Oct. 10 (DRM), 28 at Dingwell's Mills on Oct. 18 (A&NM), 9 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 30 (DRM), 100 at Wilmot River estuary on Oct. 31 (JDM), 14 at Borden on Nov. 7 (DRM), 35 at Chapel's Creek on Nov. 10 & 25 on Nov. 24 (JtR), 63 at Hyde Park pond on Nov. 11 (BK), 2 at Ellen's Creek on Nov. 12 (BK) & 9 on Nov. 18 (RP), 3 at Rolling's Pond on Nov. 12 (DRM); **American Black Duck** - very low numbers being seen this autumn in most areas estuaries but a flock of ~200 was flying at North Rustico on Oct. 31 (JDM), 16 at Summerside Lagoon on Oct. 10 (DRM), 120 at Dingwell's Mills on Oct. 18 (A&NM), 40 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 29 (RA) & 21 on Nov. 7 (DRM), 59 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 30 (DRM), 100 at Wilmot River estuary on Oct. 31 (JDM), 40 at Anglo Rustico on Nov. 4 (SCor), 20 at Pisquid River WMA on Nov. 4 (JDM), 70 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 4 at Hyde Park pond on Nov. 11 (BK), 40 at Ellen's Creek on Nov. 12 (BK) & 20 on Nov. 18 (RO), 37 at Rolling's Pond on Nov. 12 (DRM), 35 at Westmoreland River on Nov. 15 (JDM), 200 at Earnscliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS), 24 at Black Pond & 85 at Souris West on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Northern Pintail** - 6 at Dingwell's Mills on Oct. 18 (A&NM), 2 at Summerside on Oct. 23 (DRM), 6 at Brackley Beach on Oct. 28 (VB), 20 (14 males & 6 females) at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 27 (MAM) & 18 on Oct. 30 (RA, DRM), pair at Wilmot River estuary on Oct. 31 (JDM), 4 at Borden on Nov. 7 (DRM), 40 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG) & 9 on Nov. 10 (JtR); **Green-winged Teal** - 54 at Summerside Lagoon & 19 at Miscouche Lagoon on Oct. 10 (DRM), 17 in Borden lagoons on Oct. 20 & 11 on Nov. 4 & 17 on Nov. 7 (DRM), 20 at New Glasgow Pond and 15 at Wilmot River estuary on Oct. 31 (JDM), 15 at Mount Stewart lagoon on Nov. 4 (JDM, DEJ, FRC), 8 at Ellen's Creek on Nov. 18 (RO); **Ring-necked Duck** - 45 at Cavendish Wetlands on Oct. 4 (DRM), 57 at Summerside Lagoon & 37 at Miscouche Lagoon on Oct. 10 (DRM), 115 at Borden on Oct. 19 & Oct. 28 & 110 on Nov. 3 (DRM), 2 at Mount Stewart lagoons on Nov. 4 (JDM), 16 at Campbell's Pond (PEINP) on Nov. 9 (RC); **Greater Scaup** - ~500 at Campbell's Pond in Cavendish on Oct. 8 (DO, WCT), 200 in PEINP on Nov. 17 (DG); **Lesser Scaup** - 1 at Sheep Pond on Oct. 20 (P&TS); **Common Eider** - 60 off Darnley on Oct. 6 (JLo), 65 off Orby Head on Oct. 10 (DRM), 11 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 12 (DRM), 5 at Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 300 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMCK) & 750 on Oct. 18 (A&NM) & 1,100 on Oct. 21 (SCS) & 250 on Nov. 4 (SCS, GS, FdB) & 500 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 600 on Nov. 18 (SCS, DO, NM), 16 at Cavendish on Oct. 13 (SCS), 30 at North Cape on Oct. 27 (JFJ) & 9 on Nov. 9 (DRM) & 1,500 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 3 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 28 (DRM), 3 off Orby Head on Oct. 29 (DRM),



Harlequins at North Lake on Nov. 18, 2018 Nicole Murtagh photo

18 at Judes Point (Tignish) on Nov. 22 (DEJ), 24 at Basin Head on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Harlequin Duck** - female at Souris Wharf on Oct. 19 & 24 (OJ via DO, SMe), 2 male and 1 female at Hillsborough River in Mount Stewart (between two bridges) on Oct. 31 (JtR), 7 at East Point on Nov. 7 (DO, WCT), 2 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS), 12 on Nov. 18 (DO, NM), & 3 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 2 at North Lake on Nov. 18 (DO, NM); **Surf Scoter** - 11 at Cabot Park on Oct. 4 (DRM) & 6 on Oct. 8 (KD) & 7 on Oct. 21 (DRM), 2 off Cavendish on Oct. 8 (VB), 4 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMCK), 2 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 28 (DRM), 2 off Orby Head on Oct. 29 (DRM); **White-winged Scoter** - 15 off Cabot Park on Oct. 4 (DRM), 15 off Darnley on Oct. 6 (JLo) & 6 on Oct. 8 (KD), 15 off Orby Head on Oct. 12 (DRM), 25 at East Point on Sept. 29 (SCS) & 11 to 40 on Oct. 13 (KMCK, DRM) & 3 on Oct. 21 & 22 on Nov. 4 (SCS, GS, FdB) & 2 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 6 on Nov. 18 (SCS), 8 off Cavendish on Oct. 13 (SCS), 3 at Basin Head on Nov. 26 (DG) & 28 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Black Scoter** - 11 at Linkletter Beach on Oct. 23 (DRM), 9 at

Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 80 at East Point on Sept. 29 (SCS) & 90 on Oct. 13 (KMCK) & 125 on Oct. 18 (A&NM) & 600 at East Point on Oct. 21 (SCS) & 650 on Nov. 4 (SCS, GS, FdB) & 260 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 1,200 on Nov. 18 (SCS) & 200+ on Nov. 18 (DO, NM) & 2,000 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 3 off Orby Head on Oct. 12 & 5 on Oct. 29 (DRM), 3 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 2 at Judes Point (Tignish) on Nov. 22 (DEJ), 15 at Basin Head on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Long-tailed Duck** - 11 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMCK) & 7 on Oct. 21 (SCS) & 80 on Nov. 4 (SCS, GS, FdB) & 100+ on Nov. 18 (DO, NM, SCS) & 2,500 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 1 at Borden on Nov. 3 (DRM), few at Hillsborough Bridge in mid-Nov. (BAM), 2 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 10 at Basin Head on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 10 at dalvay on Dec. 7 (SGC); **Bufflehead** - 10 at Black Pond on Oct. 21 (SCS), 3 at Brackley Beach area on Oct. 28 (VB), 2 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 30 (RA) & 7 on Nov. 12 (JDM), 2 at Borden on Nov. 3 & Nov. 7 (DRM), 12 at Black Pond on Nov. 7 (DO, WCT) & 2 on Nov. 26 (DG) & 4 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 2 at Basin Head on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Common Goldeneye** - 2 at Borden Lagoons on Oct. 20 (DRM), 1 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 1 at Hyde Park pond on Nov. 11 (BK), 6 at Oyster Bed Bridge causeway on Nov. 25 (JtR); **Barrow's Goldeneye** - 2 imm males at Hyde Pond on Nov. 1 (DG) & 3 males & 1 female on Nov. 11 (BK), 4

on Hillsborough River at Charlottetown on Nov. 17 (DO, NM), 30 concentrated by ice at Oyster Bed Bridge causeway on Nov. 25 (JtR); **Hooded Merganser** - 2 at East lake on Sept. 29 (SCS), 10 at Lake Verde on Sept. 24 (DO, WCT), 5 at Campbell's Pond in Cavendish on Oct. 8 (DO, WCT), 2 at Indian River Bridge on Oct. 21 (DRM), several at Black Pond at Campbellton on Oct. 21 (D&GM), 2 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 27 (MAM), 11 at Brackley Beach area on Oct. 28 (VB), at Hyde Pond on Nov. 1 (DG) & 1 on Dec. 4 (RA), 20 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 1 at Southampton on Nov. 11 (RWH), 23 at John Archie's Pond & 2 at Buoyer Pond (Bunbury) on Nov. 12 (BK), 1 at Rolling's Pond on Nov. 12 (DRM); **Common Merganser** - 3 at Cavendish Wetlands on Oct. 4 (DRM), 5 at Mount Hope on Oct. 6 (DEJ), 18 at Campbell's Pond (PEINP) on Nov. 9 (RC), 7 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 4 at Ellen's Creek on Nov. 18 (RP), 22 at East Lake on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Red-breasted Merganser** - 2 at East Point on Sept. 29 & 1 on Oct. 21 (SCS) & 17 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 1 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 5 at East Point on Nov. 4 (DRM, SCS, FdB, GS) & 12 on Nov. 18 (SCS), 9 at Victoria on Nov. 18 (RA), 17 at Souris West on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Gray Partridge** - 5 at Cavendish in mid-Sept. & 6 in mid-Oct. (HY), 9 at Rice Point on Oct. 26 (RA), 12 at Summerville on Nov. 16 (RWH), 11 at China Point on Nov. 18 (JDM), 10 at Stanhope on Nov. 20 (BH), 1 at New London on Nov. 21 (KDo), 4 at Park Corner on Nov. 30 (DEJ); **Ring-necked Pheasant** - male killed and partially eaten at Strathgartney Park on Oct. 14 (DD), 1 at Malpeque on Oct. 21 (DRM), 2 males at Donagh on Nov. 5 & Nov. 25 (JDM) & 1 male on Dec. 5 (JDM), 1 male at Bethel on Nov. 18 (JDM), 4 at Earncliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS); **Ruffed Grouse** - 1 at Savage Harbour on Sept. 27 (JDM), 1 at Canavoy and 1 at Goose River on Oct. 19 (BH, JDM), 1 at Selkirk on Oct. 26 (JGM), 2 at Scotchfort on Oct. 29 (JtR), 4 at Campbell's Pond and 2 at Farmlands on Nov. 9 (RC), 10 at MacMillan's Point on Nov. 19 (BR); **Pied-billed Grebe** - at John Archie's Pond on Sept. 30 (JFJ), 1 at Indian River on Oct. 4 & 3 on Oct. 21 (DRM), 1 at



White-winged Dove at Stratford
Nov. 17, 2018
Nicole Murtagh photo

Seaview on Oct. 7 (JLo); **Red-necked Grebe** - 2 at East Point on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS), 1 at Basin Head on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Rock Pigeon** - 11 at Winsloe South feeders on Oct. 7 & 17 on Nov. 13 (DEJ); **White-winged Dove** - 1 photographed at Reeves Estate on Nov. 17 (DO, NM) & on Nov. 18 (DO, JDM) & on Nov. 19 (G&SF) & on Nov. 21 (DO); **Mourning Dove** - 5 at Winsloe South feeders on Oct. 7 & 3 on Nov. 13 (DEJ), 10 at Hermitage Creek on Nov. 5 (ZT) & 12 on Nov. 11 (BK) & 30 on Dec. 2 (ZT), 10+ daily at Reeve's Estates in Nov. (DO), 18 to 23 at Home's Cross Road feeders on Nov. 18 & 23 (VB); **Ruby-throated Hummingbird** - last at Clearview Estate feeder was Sept. 16 (DMu); **Sandhill Crane** - 3 at Doc's Marsh in Forest Hill WMA on Oct. 3 (DCI), 8 at Prince Town Point on Oct. 24 (GW); **Black-bellied Plover** - 25 at Tracadie on Sept. 30 & 3 on Nov. 4 (DRM), at Brackley Beach on Sept. 30 (SGC), 12 at Desable on Oct. 8 (KD), 28 at Souris West causeway on Oct. 15 (SCS), 12 at Dingwell's Mills on Oct. 18 (A&NM), 2 at Cymbria on Oct. 20 (JDM), 1 at North Cape on Oct. 21 (D&GM); **American Golden Plover** - 1 at Souris West causeway on Oct. 15 (SCS); **Semipalmated Plover** - 25 at Covehead Wharf on Sept. 30 (PAd), 19 at Robinson's Island on Oct. 14 (DEJ), 32 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 24 (RA) & 11 on Oct. 28 (DRM), 4 at Dingwell's Mills on Oct. 18 (A&NM), 4 at Rolling's Pond beach on Oct. 27 (MAM) & 7 on Oct. 30 (DRM), 1 at Tracadie Harbour on Nov. 4 (DRM); **Hudsonian Godwit** - 7 at Tracadie on Sept. 30

(DRM), 1 photographed at Noonan's Marsh on Oct. 22 (BP); **Ruddy Turnstone** - at Brackley Beach on Sept. 30 (SGC), 4 at Campbell's Cove on Oct. 14 (DRM), 1 at North Cape on Oct. 16 (DEJ) & 2 at North Cape on Oct. 21 (D&GM), 12 at Dingwell's Mills on Oct. 18 (A&NM), 2 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 28 (DRM) & 1 on Oct. 29 (RA), 1 at Rolling's Pond beach on Oct. 12 & 1 on Oct. 30 (DRM); **Red Knot** - 55 at Tracadie on Sept. 30 & 35 on Nov. 4 (DRM), 2 at Dingwell's Mills on Oct. 18 (A&NM); **Sanderling** - 85 at Campbell's Cove on Oct. 14 (DRM), 45 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 24 (RA), 145 to 200 at Rolling's Pond beach on Oct. 30 (DRM, RA) & 39 on Nov. 12 (DRM), 250 at North Rustico on Oct. 30 (RA); **Dunlin** - 75 at Tracadie on Sept. 30 & 60 on Nov. 4 (DRM), 7 at Dingwell's Mills on Oct. 18 (A&NM), 18 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 24 (RA), 9 on Oct. 28 (DRM), 40 to 200 at Rolling's Pond beach on Oct. 30 (DRM, RA), 250 at North Rustico on Oct. 30 (RA), 100 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 7 at Campbell's Cove on Nov. 18 (DO, NM); **Purple Sandpiper** - one in breeding plumage at North Lake in May (VJ); **Least Sandpiper** - 1 photographed at Rolling's Pond beach on Nov. 12 (DRM); **White-rumped Sandpiper** - 4 at Campbell's Cove on Oct. 14 (DRM), 7 at Malpeque (Kier's Shore Rd.) on Oct. 21 (DRM), 8 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 9 at Borden Carleton (RA) & 17 on Oct. 28 (DRM) & 7 on Oct. 29 (RA), 70 to 200 at Rolling's Pond beach on Oct. 30 (DRM, RA), 100 at North Rustico digging vigorously in clusters in sand on Oct. 30 (RA), 15 at Tracadie Harbour on Nov. 4 (DRM), 1 at Rolling's Pond beach on Nov. 12 (DRM); **Pectoral Sandpiper** - 3 at Cavendish Wetlands on Oct. 4 (DRM), 1 at Kier's Shore Rd in Malpeque on Oct. 21 (DRM); **Semipalmated Sandpiper** - 5 at Souris Causeway on Sept. 29 (SCS); **Short-billed Dowitcher** - 1 at Covehead Wharf on Sept. 30 (PAd), 1 at Cabot Park on Oct. 4 (DRM); **American Woodcock** - 1 photographed at Dromore on Nov. 11 (MSw); **Solitary Sandpiper** - 1 photographed at Breadalbane on Oct. 8 (KD); **Lesser Yellowlegs** - 3 at Cavendish Wetlands on Oct. 4 (DRM), 1 at Stanley Bridge pond on Oct. 7 (JLo), 4 at South Rustico farm pond on Oct. 20 (JDM); **Greater Yellowlegs** - 55 at Cavendish Wetlands on Oct. 4 (DRM), 14 at Stanley Bridge pond on Oct. 7 (JLo), 3 at Chapel's Creek on Oct. 20 (JDM), 3 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 29 (RA), 1 at Borden on Nov. 7 (DRM), 2 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG); **Red-necked Phalarope** - 6 observed from trawler and seen on water feeding on a line of

seaweed on Northumberland Strait off White Sands on Sept. 21 (J-FR); **Red Phalarope** - 1 seen on the water and in flight observed from trawler and in Northumberland Strait off White Sands on Sept. 21 (J-FR); **Parasitic Jaeger** - 2 at East Point on Sept. 29 (SCS) & 2 on Oct. 18 (A&NM) & 1 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS); **Common Murre** - 12+ at East Point on Nov. 18 (SCS, DO, NM); **Razorbill** - 35 at East Point on Nov. 4 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 40 on Nov. 7 (DO, WCT) & 3 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 180 on Nov. 18 (SCS, DO, NM) & 1 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS) & 500+ observed in 1.5 hours (DO, WCT); **Black Guillemot** - 1 at East Point on Oct. 15 (SCS) & 7 on Nov. 4 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 2 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 20+ on Nov. 18 (SCS, DO, NM) & 3 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 1 on Hillsborough at Charlottetown on Nov. 9 (JFJ); **Atlantic Puffin** - 1 off Cape Bear sitting on water observed from a nearby fishing boat on Sept. 21 (J-FR); **Black-legged Kittiwake** - 3 at East Point on Sept. 29 (SCS) & 7 on Oct. 13 (KMcK) & 12 on Oct. 15 (SCS) & 14 on Oct. 21 (SCS) & 5+ on Nov. 18 (SCS, DO, NM); **Bonaparte's Gull** - 60 at MacMillan's Point Road on Sept. 30 (BR), 120 at Wood Island's on Oct. 8 (KMcK), 600 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 12 (DRM), 450 at Borden on Oct. 20 (DRM), 80 at Chapel's Creek on Oct. 20 (JDM), 80 at Souris causeway on

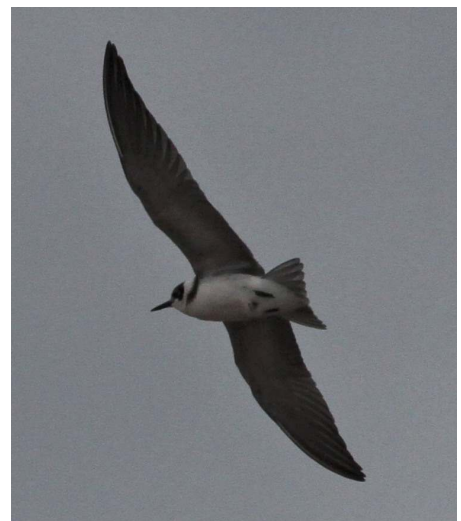


Little Gull at Rollings Pond Beach on Oct. 12, 2018 Donna Martin photo

Nov. 4 (SCS, GS, FdB), 70 at Borden on Nov. 3 (DRM), 120 at East Point on Nov. 4 & Nov. 11 (SCS), 40 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 18 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 17 at Ellen's Creek on Nov. 12 (BK), 10 at Basin Head on Nov. 26 (DG) & 4 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Black-headed Gull** - 1 at MacMillan's Point Road on Sept. 30 (BR), 1 photographed at Souris Causeway on Nov. 4 (SCS, FdB, GS); **Little Gull** - 1 photographed at Rolling's Pond (North Rustico) on Oct 12 (DRM); **Ring-billed Gull** - hundreds in fields in late Oct. to mid-Nov. in Queens County & eastern Prince County (JDM), 250 at Borden on Nov. 7 (DRM); **Herring Gull** - 170 at Borden on Nov. 7 (DRM), 200 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 250 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM); **Iceland Gull** - 1 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 12 (DRM), 15 at East Point on Nov. 4 (DRM) & 125 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 35 on Nov. 18 (SCS), 5 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM); **Lesser Black-backed Gull** - 10 at Victoria Park & 27 in Darnley on Oct. 6 (AB), 1 at Rolling's Pond beach on Oct. 13 (SCS), 1 at East Point on Nov. 18 (SCS); **Great Black-backed Gull** - 8 at Victoria Park on Oct. 6 (AB), 11 at Tracadie

Harbour on Nov. 4 (DRM) 30 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 75 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM); **Caspian Tern** - 1 at Covehead Wharf on Sept. 30 (PAd), 2 at MacMillan's Point Road on Sept. 30 (BR), 1 at Cavendish on Oct. 5 (KD), 1 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 12 (DRM), 2 at East Point on Sept. 29 & 1 on Nov. 4 (SCS, FdB, GS);

Black Tern - 1 photographed at East Point on Oct. 13 (DRM); **Common Tern** - 4 at Wood Island's on Oct. 8 (KMcK), 45 at Annandale Wharf on Oct. 13 (AC&LH), 3 at Tracadie Harbour on Nov. 4 (DRM); **Red-throated Loon** - 1 off Darnley & 24 off Cousin's Pond on Oct. 8 (KD), 12 off Orby Head on Oct. 12 (DRM), 24+ off Cavendish East week of Oct. 8 (DO, WCT) & 23 on Oct. 8 (VB), 2 at Linkletter Beach on Oct. 23 (DRM), 2 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMcK) & 3 on Oct. 21 (SCS) & 14 on Nov. 4 (SCS, GS, FdB) & 5+ on Nov. 18 (DO, NM) & 3 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 1 at West Point & 15 off Cape Egmont on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 1 off Rolling's Pond beach on Oct. 30 (DRM), 16 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 2 at Basin Head on Nov. 26 (DG) & 1 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Common Loon** - 1 off Darnley on Oct. 8 (KD), 1 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMcK) & 1 on Oct. 21 (SCS), 1 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ); **Greater Shearwater** - none off Rustico this fishing season (HY); **Northern Gannet** - 250 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMcK) & 120 on Oct. 21 (SCS) & 800 on Nov. 4 (SCS, GS, FdB) & 200 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 35 on Nov. 18 (SCS, DO, NM), 2 at Basin Head on Nov. 26 (DG); **Brown Booby** - 1 photographed Island's first record at Wood Islands on Oct. 7 & 8 (MT, Cody MacKay - CBC, DO); **Double-crested Cormorant** - the hundreds of cormorants seen daily in early Nov. at the Hillsborough River Piers but left piers on Nov. 7th (JDM), 45 at Tracadie Harbour on Nov. 4 (DRM), 3 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 8 at East Point on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 2 on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 4 on Hillsborough River at Charlottetown on Nov. 17 & 1 at North Lake & 3 at Souris Wharf on Nov. 18 (DO, NM); **Great Cormorant** - 1 at Wood Islands Provincial Park on Sept. 30 (PAd), 2 at Seaview on Oct. 7 (JLo), 3 at Orby Head on Oct. 12 & 1 on Oct. 29 (DRM), 4 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMcK) & 2 on Oct. 15 (SCS) & 1 on Oct. 18 (A&NM) & 25 on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS) & 2 on Nov. 18 (SCS); **American White Pelican** - 1 flew over Summerside on Oct. 18 (G&SF); **Great Blue Heron** - 3 at Chapel's Creek on Oct 20 (JDM), 6 at Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 17 at Brackley Beach on Oct. 28 (VB), 1 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 2 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 2 at Chapel's Creek on Nov. 10 (JtR), 1 at Oyster Bed Bridge on Nov. 13 (JDM); **Cattle Egret** - 1 photographed in potato field at Oyster Bed Bridge on Nov. 9 (KSh via DMO & DO); **Turkey Vulture** - 1 eating road killed raccoon at Stanhope on Sept. 26 (BAM); **Osprey** - 1 at Morell nest on Oct. 2 (JtR); **Bald Eagle** - 10 at Earnscliffe/China Point on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS), lots of sightings especially central and eastern PEI;



Black Tern at East Point on Oct. 13, 2018 Donna Martin photo

Northern Harrier - 1 at Tracadie on Sept. 30 (DRM), 2 most days at Cavendish on Oct 3 through 12 (JDM, HY), 1 at Cabot Park on Oct. 4 (DRM), 1 at Cousin's Pond on Oct. 8 (KD), 1 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 20 (DRM), 1 at Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 1 at Anglo Rustico on Nov. 4 (SCor), 2 at China point/Earnscliffe on Nov. 17 (DO) & 1 on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS), 1 at MacMillan's Point on Nov. 18 (BR); **Sharp-shinned Hawk** - 1 at East Point on Oct. 21 (SCS), 1 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 1 almost daily at Reeve's Estates in Nov. (DO), 1 at Heritage Creek on Nov. 12 (BK) & Dec. 4 (ZT), 1 at Priest Pond on Nov. 20 (IF), 1 at Monticello on Nov. 25 (JGM), 1 took a Dark-eyed Junco at Donagh feeder area on Nov. 29 (JDM), 1 at Basin Head on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **Northern Goshawk** - 1 at Cavendish on Oct. 20 (JDM, HY), 1 at Priest Pond on Oct. 10 (LK), 1 at Cameron Island Road on Oct. 19 (DO, WCT), 1 at Charlottetown on Oct. 28 (BK), 1 on Nov. 4 (SCS, GS, FdB), 1 in PEINP on Nov. 17 (DG), 1 at Home Cross Road feeder area on Nov. 23 & 24 & Dec. 8 (VB), 1 at Hermitage Creek on Nov. 25 (BK); **Red-tailed Hawk** - 1 at Home Cross Road on Oct. 21 & Nov. 24 (VB), 1 at Hopefield on Oct. 21 (CMP), 1 at Strathgartney on Oct. 24 (RA), 1 at Fort Augustus on Oct. 25 (JDM), 1 at Desable on Oct. 26 (RA), 1 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 2 flying and working the storm winds at Cavendish on Nov. 4 (JDM, HY), 1 at Heritage Creek on Nov. 12 (BK) & 1 on Dec. 4 (ZT), 2 at Rolling's Pond beach on Nov. 12 (DRM), 5 at China Point/Earnscliffe on Nov. 17 (DO) & 2 on Nov. 19 (LM, JMcC) & 3 on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS), 1 dark morph at Chapel's Creek on Nov. 23 (JtR), 3 at Earnscliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS), 1 periodically at Clyde River in Nov. (JDM, BH, RA), 1 regularly at Stratford in Oct. To early Dec. (DO, FdB, JDM), 1 at Alexander on Dec. 2 (FdB); **Rough-legged Hawk** - 1 dark phase at Mayfield on Oct. 27 (JDM), 1 at Earnscliffe-China Point on Nov. 19 (LM, JMcC); **Great Horned Owl** - 1 photographed in Victoria Park on Nov. 9 - 10 (DP), 2 calling at St. Margaret's on Nov. 19 (GA via JGM); **Snowy Owl** - 1 on Confederation Bridge on Nov. 5 (JLZ); **Barred Owl** - 1 at Munn's Road on Oct. 11 (WB), 1 at Bull Creek Road on Nov. 17 (JMacD), 1 at Suffolk on Nov. 19 (WBTBWA), 1 at Hermitage Creek on Dec. Dec. 4 (ZT); **Short-eared Owl** - 1 in Lorne Valley on Oct. 19 (KK via DO); **Northern Saw-whet Owl** - 1 at South Melville on Oct. 5 (PF); **Belted Kingfisher** - 1 at Basin Head & 1 at Black Pond on Sept. 29 (SCS), 1 at McKenna's Marsh on Oct. 7 (KMCK), 1 at Desable on Oct. 8 (KD), 1 at Robinson's Island on Oct. 14 (DEJ); **Red-bellied Woodpecker** - 1 at West Royalty on Oct. 7 (DCS), 1 photographed in western PEI on Nov. 8 & Dec. 1 (VC-G); **Yellow-bellied Sapsucker** - 1 at Breadalbane on Oct. 5 (KD); **Downy Woodpecker** - 1 at Farmlands on Nov. 9 (RC), 3 daily at Reeve's Estates in Nov. & 4 in early Dec. (DO), 1 at Stratford on Nov. 22 (A&PM); **Hairy Woodpecker** - 1 at Farmlands on Nov. 9 (RC), 2 daily at Reeve's Estates in Nov. & 4 in early Dec. (DO); **Black-backed Woodpecker** - 1 at Farmlands on Nov. 9 (RC); **Northern Flicker** - male at Stratford feeder on Nov. 14 (MZ), 1 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), male at Reeve's Estates feeders on Nov. 17 (DO, DCS, RC, JDM) & 2 in early Dec. (DO), 2 at Priest Pond on Nov. 18 (DO, NM), 1 at Stratford on Nov. 22 (A&PM), 5 at Priest Pond on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS), 1 at Hermitage Creek on Dec. 4 (ZT); **Pileated Woodpecker** - 1 drumming on snag at Selkirk on Oct. 24 (JGM), 1 at Reeves Estates on Nov. 14 (DO), 1 excavating long sections of tree at Mount Buchanan (ET); **American Kestrel** - 4 at Belle River on Sept. 25 (DEJ), 1 at Union Road on Sept. 27 (VB), 1 at Basin Head on Sept. 29 (SCS), 1 on wires at Vernon Bridge on Sept. 28 (JDM), 1 at St. Peter's on Sept. 29 (PAd), 2 at Dundas on Oct. 18 (A&NM), 1 at South Rustico on Oct. 27 (JDM) 1 at Argyle Shore on Oct. 24 (RA), 1 at Pownal on Nov. 19 (LM); **Merlin** - 1 at MacMillan's Point Road on Sept. 29 (BR), 1 at Cavendish on Sept. 30 (JDM, HY), 1 at Wood Islands on Sept. 30 (PAd), 1 at Seaview on Oct. 7 (JLo), 1 at Greenwich on Oct. 6 (KD), 1 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 12 & Oct. 30 (DRM), 1 at East Point on Oct. 21 (SCS) & 1 carrying a small passerine on Nov. 7 (DO, WCT), 1 at Tea Hill on Nov. 7 (FdB), 1 at Home Cross Road feeder area on Nov. 23 (VB), 1 at Earnscliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS); **Peregrine Falcon** - 1 at East Point on Sept. 29 (SCS), 1 photographed at Cabot Park on Oct. 4 (DRM), 1 off Orby Head on Oct. 12 (DRM), 1 at Malpeque on Oct. 21 (DRM), 1 at Borden on Oct. 24 (RA), 1 at North Rustico on Oct. 30 (RA), 1 at Stanhope on Nov. 12 (BK), 1 hunting starlings at Hillsborough Bridge on Dec. 2 (FdB); **Northern Shrike** - 1 at Reeves Estates on Nov. 18 (JDM, DO), 1 at Glenfanning & 1 at Priest Pond on Nov. 18 (DO, NM), 1 at Home Cross Road feeder area on Nov. 23 (VB), 1 at Stanhope on Nov. 25 (D&GM), 1 at Monticello



Sharp-shinned Hawk
on Nov. 22, 2018
Dwayne Oakley photo



Downy Woodpecker in hole it
excavated in buoy Nov. 6, 2018 at
Red Point Road, PE
Tanya Sheridan photo

on Nov. 25 (JGM), 1 at Hermitage Creek on Nov. 25 (BK); **Blue-headed Vireo** - 1 at Georgetown Royalty on Sept. 24 (SCS), 1 at Flat River on Sept. 30 (PAd); **Red-eyed Vireo** - 2 at Georgetown Royalty on Sept. 24 (SCS), 1 at Black Pond on Sept. 29 (SCS); **Gray Jay** - 1 at Selkirk on Oct. 27 & 2 on Nov. 11 (JGM); **Blue Jay** - 35 at East Point on Oct. 21 (SCS), 30+ daily at Reeve's Estates in Nov. (DO), 21 at Home's Cross Road feeders on Nov. 18 (VB); **American Crow** - west Nile virus

discovered in 3 Island crows at AVC in Oct. 10 (BPEI, CBC); 1 chased a male Mallard in three circles around a corn field at Earnscliffe & 600 feeding on Nov. 18 (JDM), thousands at Victoria Park roost on Nov. (EC), 100s moving to Victoria Park roost on Nov. (JDM), 1,500 at Cornwall moving towards Charlottetown on Dec. 3 (DG); **Common Raven** - 4 at Earnscliffe on Nov. 18 (JDM); **Horned Lark** - 7 at Earnscliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS); **Swallows** - 2 at East Point on Nov. 11 (SCS); **Black-capped Chickadee** - 36 at Greenwich on Oct. 26 (SCS), 12 at Farmlands on Nov. 9 (RC), 10 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 10+ daily at Reeve's Estates in Nov. (DO), 13 at South Melville on Nov. 20 (RA), leucistic individual photographed at Cornwall on Nov. 20 (JC); **Boreal Chickadee** - 1 at East Lake on Sept. 29 (SCS), 6 at Tea Hill on Nov. 1 (FdB), 1 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 1 at Selkirk on Nov. 11 (JGM); **Red-breasted Nuthatch** - 10 at Greenwich on Oct. 26 (SCS), 8 at Farmlands on Nov. 9 (RC); **White-breasted Nuthatch** - 1 at Riverview Estates on Oct 1 (WFB, EM), 1 at Breadalbane on Oct. 8 (KD), 1 photographed at Montague on Nov. 14 (DMur), a male at Cornwall on Dec. 3 (DG), 1 at QEH trail on Dec. 3 (MLa); **Brown Creeper** - 1 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG), 1 at Summerville on Nov. 17 (RWH), 1 at Keppock on Nov. 18 (MAM); **Golden-crowned Kinglet** - 10 at PEINP on Nov. 8 (DG); **Ruby-crowned Kinglet** - 3 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMck) & 5 on Oct. 21 (SCS), 4 at Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 1 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ); **Swainson's Thrush** - 1 at Greenwich on Oct. 8 (JFJ); **Hermit Thrush** - 3 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMck) & 1 on Oct. 21 (SCS), 1 at Goose River on Oct. 19 (JDM), 2 at Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 1 at West Point & 1 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 1 at Fountain Head Nov. 10 (WB); **American Robin** - after seeing relatively few this autumn, 8 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMck), ~25 roadside between Goose River and Stanhope on Oct. 19 (JDM, BH), 8 at Mayfield on Oct. 20 (JDM, HY), 80 at East Point woodland on Oct. 21 (SCS), 26 at Greenwich on Oct. 26 (SCS), 15 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 19 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 28 (DRM), 20 at Georgetown Royalty on Oct. 31 (SCS), feeding on holly berries on Nov. 11 (SGC), 12 at Father James Road on Nov. 18 (SCS); **European Starling** - 1,000s murmuring at Hillsborough Bridge roost in Nov. (JDM); **Bohemian Waxwing** - 10 at Cameron Island on Oct. 19 (DO, WCT), 20 at Summerside on Oct 29 (G&SF), 12 at Pigot's Trail on Nov. 4 (DEJ, FRC), 5 at Souris wharf on Nov. 18 (DO, NM), ~15 near Fullerton's Creek in Stratford on Dec. 8 (BAM); **Cedar Waxwing** - 1 at Priest Pond on Dec. 2 (FdB, SCS); **House Sparrow** - 3 at Charlottetown on Oct. 6 (JFJ), 30 at Traveller's Rest feeders on Oct. 20 (JDM), 10 at Earnscliffe on Nov. 18 & 6 at Charlottetown (Phillips Feeds) on Nov. 19 (JDM); **American Pipit** - 1 photographed at North Lake in May (VJ identified by DO), 3 at Borden wrack line on Oct. 20 (DRM) & Oct 23 (BAM, VJ, NM), 1 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ); **Evening Grosbeak** - 8 at Tea Hill on Nov. 7 (FdB), 1 heard at East Point on Nov. 7 (DO, WCT), 2 at Reeve's Estates on Nov. 9 (DO), 5 at Hermitage Creek on Nov. 20 (ZT) & 13 on Nov. 25 (BK) & on Dec. 2 (ZT) & 3 on Dec. 3 (ZT), 1 at Priest Pond on Dec. 6 (IF); **Pine Grosbeak** - 5 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 2 at East Point on Nov. 7 (DO, WCT), at least 3 photographed on Confed Trail at Baltic on Nov. 14 (HB), female at Montague eating crab apples on Nov. 18 (DMur), 6 at Dundas & singing at Reeve's Estates on Nov. 18 & Nov. 20 (DO, NM), 8 at Father James Road on Nov. 18 (SCS), 7 eating larch buds in St. Charles on Nov. 25 (JGM); **Purple Finch** - 1 at Farmlands Trail on Oct. 7 (RC), 15 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 1 at Winsloe South feeders on Oct. 31 (DEJ), 1 at Reeves Estates in Nov. (DO), 1 at South Melville on Nov. 17 (RA), 3 at Tea Hill feeders on Nov. 18 (FdB); **Red Crossbill** - 1 at East Point on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS); **White-winged Crossbill** - 12 at Selkirk trails on Oct. 19 & 10 on Oct 26 (JGM), 5 at Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 5 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ); **Common Redpoll** - 15 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ); **Pine Siskin** - 2 at McKenna's Marsh on Oct. 7 (KMck), 50+ at Rollings Pond & 100+ at Orby Head the week of Oct. 8 (DO, WCT), 110 at Orby Head on Oct. 29 (DRM), 12 in early Nov. at



Snow Bunting at East Point on Nov. 6, 2018
Donna Martin photo

Reeves Estates (DO), 4 at Tea Hill on Nov. 1 (FdB), 20 at Stanhope on Nov. 1 (JtR), 80 at Borden on Nov. 3 (DRM), 37 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 60 at Cavendish on Nov. 17 (BAM), 20+ at East Point on Nov. 18 (SCS, DO, NM), 3 at Keppock on Nov. 18 (MAM), 6 at South Melville feeders on Dec. 1 (RA); **American Goldfinch** - 40+ daily at Reeve's Estates in Nov. (DO), 26 at Charlottetown on Nov. 13 (BK), smaller numbers reported at many feeders; **Lapland Longspur** - 1 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMck), 6 at Earnscliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS); **Snow Bunting** - 2 at North Cape on Oct. 21 (D&GM) & 6 on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 3 at East Point on Nov. 11 (SCS, FdB, GS, DRM), 35 at Earnscliffe & 2 at Vernon Bridge on Nov. 18 (JDM), 120 at Glenfanning on Nov. 18 (DO, NM), 18 at Glenroy on Nov. 24 (JtR), 80 at Earnscliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS); **American Tree Sparrow** - at North Cape on Oct. 21 (D&GM) & 1 on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 1 at Selkirk on Oct. 26 (JGM), 1 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), first of winter at Donagh on Nov. 16 & 2 on Nov. 19 (JDM), influx at Summerside boardwalk on Nov. 17 (DRM), 3 at Earnscliffe-China Point on Nov. 18 (JDM) & 2 on Nov. 19 (LM) & 10 on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS), 1 at Hermitage Creek on Dec. 4 (ZT); **Chipping Sparrow** - 1 at Home Cross Road on Sept. 27 & Sept. 29 (VB), 1 at McKenna's Marsh on Oct. 7 (KMck), 1 at Belfast on Nov. 17 (KMacP); **Fox Sparrow** - 1 at Farmlands Trail on Oct. 7 (RC), 1 at Winsloe South on Nov. 4 (DEJ), 3 at Summerside boardwalk on Nov. 17 (DRM), 1 at Tea Hill feeders on Nov. 18 (FdB), 1 at South Melville on Nov. 20 (RA), 1 at Stratford on Nov. 22 (A&PM), 1 at Home Cross Road feeder area on Nov. 23 (VB); **Dark-eyed Junco** - 5 at Breadalbane on Oct. 5 (KD), ~20 seen roadside between Goose River and Stanhope on Oct. 19 (BH, JDM), 18 at Greenwich on Oct. 26 (SCS), 8 at Tea Hill on Nov. 1 (FdB), 20+ daily at Reeve's Estates in Nov. (DO), 15 at Tea Hill feeders on Nov. 18 (FdB), 13 at Home's Cross Road feeders on Nov. 18 & 19 on Nov. 23 & 23 on Dec. 8 (VB), 9 at South Melville on Nov. 20 (RA), 14 at

Stratford feeders (highest ever) on Nov. 22 (A&PM), 32 at Earncliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS); **White-crowned Sparrow** - 3 at Greenwich on Oct. 8 (JFJ), 3 at Orby Head on Oct. 10 (DRM), 3 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMCK) & 5 on Oct. 21 (SCS), 13 at Summerside boardwalk on Oct. 21 (DRM), 1 at Monticello on Oct. 26 (JGM), 1 at East Point on Oct. 21 (SCS), 1 at Linkletter Beach on Oct. 23 (DRM), 3 at Greenwich on Oct. 26 (SCS), 1 at North Point & 5 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 1 at North Rustico on Oct. 27 (MAM), 1 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ); **White-throated Sparrow** - 12 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMCK), 6 at North Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 15 at Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 40+ at Reeve's Estates feeders on Oct. 10 (DO) & 3 in Nov. (DO), 3 at Hermitage Creek on Nov. 5 (ZT), 5 at Borden on Nov. 7 (DRM), 2 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 5 at Hermitage Creek on Nov. 12 (BK) & 3 on Nov. 20 (ZT), 1 at Tea Hill feeders on Nov. 18 (FdB), 2 at South Melville on Nov. 20 (RA), 1 at Sherwood on Nov. 20 (RP), 1 at CRHS on Nov. 23 (ZT), 2 at Home Cross Road feeder area on Nov. 24 & 1 on Dec. 7 (VB), 2 at Earncliffe on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS); **Savannah Sparrow** - 15 off Darnley on Oct. 6 (JLo), 2 at Rolling's Pond on Oct. 12 (DRM), 2 at Campbell's Cove on Oct. 14 (DRM), 2 at Summerside boardwalk on Oct. 21 (DRM), 1 at North Cape on Oct. 21 (D&GM) & 1 on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 6 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMCK) & 1 on Oct. 21 (SCS); **Nelson's Sparrow** - 2 at Tracadie on Sept. 30 (DRM); **Song Sparrow** - 22 at Larkin's Confed Trail on Oct. 8 (SCS), 20+ foraging along Mayfield hedge on Oct. 20 (HY, JDM), 7 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMCK) & 10 at East Point on Oct. 21 (SCS), 1 at Tea Hill on Nov. 1 (FdB), 1 at East Point on Nov. 4 (DRM), 2 at Borden on Nov. 7 (DRM), 2 at North Cape on Nov. 9 (DRM), 2 at Hermitage Creek on Nov. 12 (BK) & 2 on Nov. 20 (ZT) & 3 on Dec. 4 (ZT), 3 at Charlottetown on Nov. 13 (BK), 1 at Reeve's Estates on Nov. 17 (DO, DCS, RC, JDM), at Summerside boardwalk on Nov. 17 (DRM), 3 at Earncliffe-China Point on Nov. 19 (LM) & 9 on Nov. 25 (FdB, SCS), 1 at Sherwood on Nov. 20 (RP); **Lincoln's Sparrow** - 1 at Hermitage Creek (Raider's Road feeders) on Nov. 25 (BK); **Swamp Sparrow** - 11 with some singing at McKenna's Marsh on Oct. 7 (KMCK), at Hermitage Creek on Oct. 5 (SGC), 2 at Larkin's Confed Trail on Oct. 8 (SCS), 7 at Orby Head on Oct. 10 (DRM), 3 at East Point on Oct. 13 (KMCK), 2 at Summerside boardwalk on Oct. 21 (DRM), 2 at Cabot Park on Oct. 21 (DRM), 8 at Robinson's Island on Oct. 21 (DEJ); **Red-winged Blackbird** - 5 at Summerside boardwalk on Oct. 21 (DRM), 1 at Home Cross Road on Oct. 21 (VB), 65 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 28 (DRM), ~200 at Donagh standing corn field on Nov. 16 (JDM); **Rusty Blackbird** - 1 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ), 1 at Sherwood on Nov. 20 (RP); **Common Grackle** - 250 at Tea Hill on Oct. 5 (FdB), ~800 at Avondale with about 200 Red-winged Blackbirds on Oct. 20 (DO), 500 at Home Cross Road on Oct. 21 & 1 on Dec. 7 & 8 (VB), 55 at Borden Carleton on Oct. 28 (DRM), 600 at Scotchfort cornfield on Oct. 29 (JtR); **Brown-headed Cowbird** - 2 at West Point on Oct. 6 (SH), 9 at Reeve's Estates feeders on Nov. 17 (DO, RC, DCS, JDM) & 28 on Dec. 9 (DO), 1 at Sherwood on Nov. 26 (RP); **Ovenbird** - 1 at Georgetown Royalty on Sept. 24 (SCS); **Orange-crowned Warbler** - 1 at East Point on Oct. 21 (SCS); **Nashville Warbler** - 1 at Mellish Pond on Oct. 7 (FdB); **Common Yellowthroat** - 11 at McKenna's Marsh on Oct. 7 (KMCK), 1 at East Point on Oct. 21 (SCS); **Palm Warbler** - 1 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ); **Yellow-rumped Warbler** - 30 at East lake on Sept. 29 (SCS), 11 at Greenwich on Oct. 8 (JFJ), 7 at Malpeque on Oct. 21 (DRM), 3 at West Point on Oct. 27 (JFJ); **Prairie Warbler** - 1 first year at East Point on Sept. 23 (SCS, GS); **Black-throated Green Warbler** - 1 at Dixon Road on Oct. 4 (KD); **Northern Cardinal** - female at Tryon on Oct. 21 (TA), 1 at Black Pond in Oct. (FC), male at Miminegash on Nov. 9 (CH-D), female at Red Point (760 Baltic Road) on Nov. 1 (DEJ), female at Stratford feeder on Nov. 12 (MZ), female at Tignish on Nov. 16 (via JBI), 1 female in West Prince on Nov. 21 (JAR); **Indigo Bunting** - 1 female at Summerside on Oct. 6 & 7 (G&SF).

Old Records: **Harlequin** at Pisquid River circa 2016 (SCo).

ERRORS & CORRECTIONS: In issue #227 Inner Cover under Illustration and Pictures, Brian McInnis was the photographer rather than Brian Simpson. The **Lark Sparrow** as photographed and reported by Fred and Kay Zagst was seen on Sept. 8, 2018 (Ebird via DCS).

Thanks to the following contributors who provided records for this listing, namely: GA - Gail Avery; JAI - Judi Allen; JAR - Jodi Arsenault; L&RA - Lenore & Roger Andrew; PAd - Paul Adamus via Ebird; RA - Ron Arvidson; TA - Thomas Albrecht via BPEI; AB - Anton Butie via Ebird; HB - H el ene Blanchet; JBI - Jean Blanchard; VB - Vanessa Bonnyman; WB - Wanda Bailey; WFB - Bill Bowerbank; AC&LH - Andr e Coulture & Louise Hardy via ebird; DCI - Doug Clarey; DClA - Danny Clark; EC - Elwood Coakes; ECof - Estelle Coffin; FC - Fred Cheverie; FRC - Rosemary Curley; JC - Jim Coady via BPEI; RC - Ray Cooke; SGC - Sharon Clark; SCo - Stephen Cousins; SCor - Susan Corrigan; VC-G - Val Campbell-Gallant; BD - Billy Dockendorff; BPEI - Birding on PEI/Nature PEI Field Trip; FdB - Fiep de Bie; DD - Daphne Davey; KD - Kathleen Dvorak via Ebird; KDo - Kathie Doiron via BPEI; G&SF - Greg & Sandra Feetham; IF - Isabel Fitzpatrick; PF - Peter Feldstein; W&SF - Warren & Sherron Foulkes; CGa - Connie Gaudet; DG - Don Graham via Ebird; BH - Ben Hoteling; CH-D - Carol Hillier-Deagle; RWH - Robert Harding; SH - Sonya Hinds via BPEI; DEJ - Don Jardine; JFJ - Jean-Fran ois Jett e; OJ - Owen Jackson; VJ - Vicki Johnson; BK - Brendan Kelly; JK - John Klynko; JLo - John Lock via Ebird; KK - Kevin Kelly; LK - Lois Kilburn; MLa - Michele Lawlor via BPEI; A&NM - Andrea & Neil MacLeod; A&PM - Arlene & Paul McGuigan; BAM - Brett MacKinnon; BMacN - Ben MacNeil; D&GM - Don & Glenda McLelland; DRM - Donna Martin; DMO - Denise Motard; DMu - Doug Murray; DMur - Dale Murchison; EFM - Emmett McKenna; EM - Evelyn Martin; GMal - George Mallett; JDM - Dan McAskill; JGM - Gerald MacDonald; JMa - Jeanne Maki; JMacD - Jody MacDonald; JMcC - Jill McCormack; KEM - Kate MacQuarrie; KMacP - Kathie MacPhee via BPEI; KMCK - Ken McKenna; LM - Lucas McCormack; MAM - M.A. McCar; NM - Nicole Murtagh; SME - Sandra Meade; WJM - Wade MacKinnon; DO - Dwaine

Oakley; BP - Brenda Penak; CMP - Caroline Marie Palmer via BPEI; DP - David Power; LP - Luke Peters; RP - Roberta Palmer; SP - Shirley Prowse; BR - Brian Rolek via Ebird; HR - Heidi Riley; J-FR - Jean-François Rousseau via Ebird; JtR - John te Raa; DC&ES - David & Elaine Seeler; GS - Gary Schneider; IS - Ian Scott; JDS - John D. Somers; KS - Kathy Stewart; KSh - Kevin Shaw; MSw - Mandy Swim; P&TS - Pat & Theresa Schiller via eBird; SCS - Scott Sinclair; TS - Tanya Sheridan; ET - Liz Townsend; MT - Megan Thorne; RT - Reg Thompson; ZT - Zack Trefry; AW - Anne Wootton; GW - Geoff Wood; JW - Jackie Waddell; WBTBWA - Winter Bay Tracadie Bay Watershed Association; WCT - Wildlife Conservation Technology Class; EY - Evan Young; HY - Harry Yeo; LY - Lorne Yeo; JLZ - Julie-Lynn Zahavich; and MZ - Mike Zbihlyj.



Fall Colours Nature PEI Field Trip - leaf colours and a high wasp nest
Kathleen MacNearney



John Calder receiving speakers mug from Connie Pound, Program Director, at Nature PEI October, 2018 meeting
Gerald MacDougall photo

ENVIRONMENTAL CALENDAR:

Note: All Society presentations and field trips are open to the public. Society meetings start at 7:30 PM at Beaconsfield, the Carriage House, corner of West and Kent Street, Charlottetown. YN = young naturalists encouraged to attend or participate

- Dec. 14th to Jan. 5th - The Audubon Christmas Bird Counts.** These are held annually across Canada, United States, Latin America and the Caribbean. Nature PEI hosts four of these 24 km diameter count circles:
- Dec. 15th (Saturday) - The East Point Christmas Bird Count.** Please contact Dwaine Oakley at 393-6223 or dwaine.oakley@gmail.com for details and to register. The date may change in the advent of severe weather so please contact your coordinator.
- Dec. 16th (Sunday) - The Prince Edward Island National Park Christmas Bird Count** - Please contact Dan McAskill at 569-4351 or E-mail at jdmcaskill@pei.sympatico.ca for information or to register. The date may change in the advent of severe weather so please contact your coordinator.
- Dec. 26th (Wednesday) - The Hillsborough Christmas Bird Count.** There will be a pot-luck after the event for participants at 6 PM. Please contact Dan McAskill at 569-4351 or E-mail at jdmcaskill@pei.sympatico.ca for information or to register. The date may change in the advent of severe weather so please contact your coordinator.
- Dec. 30 (Sunday) - The Montague Christmas Bird Count.** Please contact Scott Sinclair via E-mail at scsinclair@pei.sympatico.ca for information or to register. The date may change in the advent of severe weather so please contact your coordinator.
- Jan. 8th - A Midsummer Night's Screen: Moths at the Back Door** - Bob Harding will be our guest speaker for the Society's Annual meeting which starts at 7:30 PM at Beaconsfield's Carriage House, corner of West and Kent, Charlottetown. YN
- Jan. 12th - Winter Birds Around Town** - Nature PEI birding field trip focused on feeder birds, gulls and waterfowl with field trip leader Brendan Kelly. Meet at Charlottetown Rural High School parking lot at 8:00 am.
- Jan. 15th - James Baillie Memorial Fund** - Small Grant applications close. For more information, search

<https://www.birdscanada.org/news/funding-available-for-canadian-bird-research-and-conservation-projects-2>

- Feb. 5th - Nature PEI's Member's Night** - All are welcome to share photography, poetry and maybe even a few natural history tall tales with Nature PEI members. This Nature PEI meeting starts at 7:30 pm at Beaconsfield, the Carriage House, corner of West and Kent Street, Charlottetown. Please submit pictures and natural history items to Gerald MacDougall at eagle.dynasty@gmail.com YN The Carriage House, 7:30 p.m.
- Feb. 9th - 7th Annual PEI Winter Woodlot Tour** - will be held from 9 am to 1 pm. The location will be available in the new year at PEI Winter Woodlot Tour on Facebook.
- Feb. 10th - Winter Waterfowl Identification** - Nature PEI birding field trip focused on identification of overwintering waterfowl with field trip leader Brendan Kelly. Meet at 8:00 am at the corner of the Grand Pere Point Road near the Lobster Shack in Cymbria.
- February 15th to 18th - 2019 Great Backyard Bird Count** - This free 4-day annual event allows bird watchers to contribute their sightings be it in their backyard or on a field trip. The GBBC creates a real-time snapshot of where the birds are. Anyone can participate, from beginners to experts. You can count for as little as 15 minutes on a single day, or for as long as you like each day of the event. It's free, fun, and easy - and it helps the birds See <http://gbbc.birdcount.org/> YN
- Feb. 15th - James Baillie Memorial Fund - Student Research Award** applications are due. These are administered by the Society of Canadian Ornithologists. See <https://www.birdscanada.org/news/funding-available-for-canadian-bird-research-and-conservation-projects-2>
- Mar. 5th - Red Foxes of Summerside** - Donna Martin will be Nature PEI's guest speaker. Meeting starts at 7:30 pm at Beaconsfield, the Carriage House, corner of West and Kent Street, Charlottetown. YN The Carriage House, 7:30 p.m.
- Mar. 15th - Help Species at Risk Youth Contest** - Submission deadline for a species at risk public service announcement contest for youth aged 12 to 16 (i.e. Grades 6 to 9) sponsored by Island Nature Trust and PEI National Park (For more information see News from About in this issue).
- Apr. 2nd - Birds of Hawaii** - Denise Muttard will be Nature PEI's guest speaker. Meeting starts at 7:30 pm at Beaconsfield, the Carriage House, corner of West and Kent Street, Charlottetown. YN The Carriage House, 7:30 p.m.
- May 7th - Urban Ponds** - Norman Dewar will be Nature PEI's guest speaker. Meeting starts at 7:30 pm at Beaconsfield, the Carriage House, corner of West and Kent Street, Charlottetown. YN The Carriage House, 7:30 p.m.
- Jun. 4th - Mammals of PEI** - Rosemary Curley will be Nature PEI's guest speaker. Meeting starts at 7:30 pm at Beaconsfield, the Carriage House, corner of West and Kent Street, Charlottetown. YN The Carriage House, 7:30 p.m.

FOREST BIRD CONSERVATION IS FOR EVERYONE:

by Julie-Lynn Zahavich
Island Nature Trust's Forest Bird Program

PEI is in the Acadian forest region. The Mi'kmaq named the forest here "Wapane'kati" which means "Land of the Dawn" or "Land of First Light". Visit a rich woodland at sunrise, and you will come to understand this name; dawn is when our forests come alive – dew droplets hang like diamonds on needles and leaves, there is an anticipation of the warmth the sun will bring, and birdsong fills the air. However, increasing pressure on our bird populations means this chorus is dwindling.

According to The State of Canada's Birds, published in 2012 by The North American Bird Conservation Initiative, forest bird populations overall have declined by 10% since 1970. Changing forestry practices, degradation of wetlands, loss of insect prey, habitat loss on wintering grounds are considered threats for many species. Climate change is having an impact now and, its impact over time, is projected to be large for certain species.



Canada Warbler
July 18, 2018
Brett MacKinnon photo

Through funding from the PEI Wildlife Conservation Fund, Island Nature Trust staff has been conducting early morning bird surveys over the last two summers in INT natural areas and provincially-owned properties across PEI. They are learning more about our forest bird communities and species at risk, and connecting with private woodlot owners who want to help protect and enhance bird habitat.

Recognizing that most of the bird species that nest in our forests are insect eating, long-distance migrants, they are also trying to promote mindfulness amongst islanders of how our consumer choices and everyday behaviours impact birds. How can you help? Here's things you can do. And, if you are a woodlot owner interested in receiving forest bird updates, send your contact information to Julie-Lynn at julielynn@islandnaturetrust.ca or call 902-892-7513.

Land Owners & Land Managers	Members of the Public
Limit forest management activities during critical periods (May—August) when forest birds are nesting and rearing young. Forest management activities (e.g. cutting, land clearing, thinning, etc.) can directly impact forest birds by destroying nests and individuals, or causing nest abandonment.	Support environmentally conscious companies, for instance, shade-grown coffee and chocolate producers. These products come from South and Central America, where many of our migratory birds spend their winter. By supporting companies that support healthy overwintering habitat, you can help to protect important wintering habitat for many North American forest bird species.
Leave understory shrubs intact. Shrubs provide cover for nesting sites and protection from predators. A healthy and diverse shrub layer also provides excellent foraging habitat for certain forest birds and may assist in retaining soil moisture in summer or trapping water borne silt.	Make your windows visible to birds! Although we can see windows just fine, our feathered friends cannot. Placing decals or special films to protect from bird window-strikes on windows and glass door will help minimize birds do not collide with them.
Leave dead standing trees (i.e. snags) or, if there are few, create snags. Snags provide habitat for many insect, arthropods, birds and other species. Several bird species prefer excavating cavities in snags and these cavities are used by other species. Many species of songbirds use snags as perches to sing from.	Keep pets on-leash in natural habitats. Many bird species nest on or near the ground, meaning their eggs and young are vulnerable to disturbance and possibly predation.
Maintain or create treed buffer zones, preferably wider than the legislated 15 m, along rivers, streams, ponds and forest wetlands. These areas are hotspots for bird diversity. Many insect species begin their lives in freshwater and, when they emerge from the water phase, these buffer zones can host insects that can be an important food source in many forest birds' diets.	Keep cats indoors or construct an outdoor enclosure for them to use. While we love our furry friends, roaming house cats kill millions of songbirds and small mammals. Keeping cats indoors or on-leash hen outside will keep them and birds safe!
Use management techniques that eliminate or minimize pesticides (insecticides, herbicides, fungicides, etc.).	Participate in citizen science! Sign up for E-Bird Canada online and submit your bird sightings from your property or while travelling off your property or use I-Naturalist to report other species.

Editor's Note: The *Forest Wildlife Manual* which is available free at the Forests, Fish and Wildlife Division office on Upton Road provides many more ideas on bird conservation techniques for both forest bird species and backyards.

Weekly Minimum Shorebird Numbers Observed in the PEINP During 201

94 Excursions from 14th April to 17th November

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Species	April			May			June			July			August			September			October			November															
	16	23	30	7	14	21	28	4	11	18	25	2	9	16	23	30	6	13	20	27	3	10	17	24	1	8	15	22	29	5	12						
BBPL				52	55	76	95	25				1	27	23	205	62	79	130	109	22	23	8	18	19	19	53				9							
AMGP					2	2																															
SEPL				9	13	15						83	118	226	411	209	37	148	3	15	7	3															
PIPL																1																					
KULL																																					
WHIM												1	7	1																							
HUGO																																					
RUTU				1	3	5	5					15	9	15	21																						
REKN												1	1	8			1	2	61	3																	
RUEF																																					
STSA																																					
SAND																																					
DUNL				6	7	11	7																														
BASA																																					
LESA												76	187	141	49	248	532	283	381	135	2	14	2														
WRSA															5	49	7	31	17	22	1																
PESA																																					
SESA				4	41	40						26	485	111	69	155	448	450	184	383	98	9	20	18	3												
SBDO												3	34	81	87	161	56	70	51	13																	
LBDO																																					
SFSA																																					
LEYE				43	66	40	20	3				11	1	46	52	32	16	64	25	36	23	11	6	9	7												
WILL				3	3	5	7	9	8	6	7	6	10	7	15																						
GRYE				2	9	47	32	20	6	1		3	6	22	40	55	24	32	35	25	28	32	8	17	1	15	3										

In Co-operation with Prince Edward Island National Parks—Parks Canada and the Canadian Wildlife Service, Government of Canada