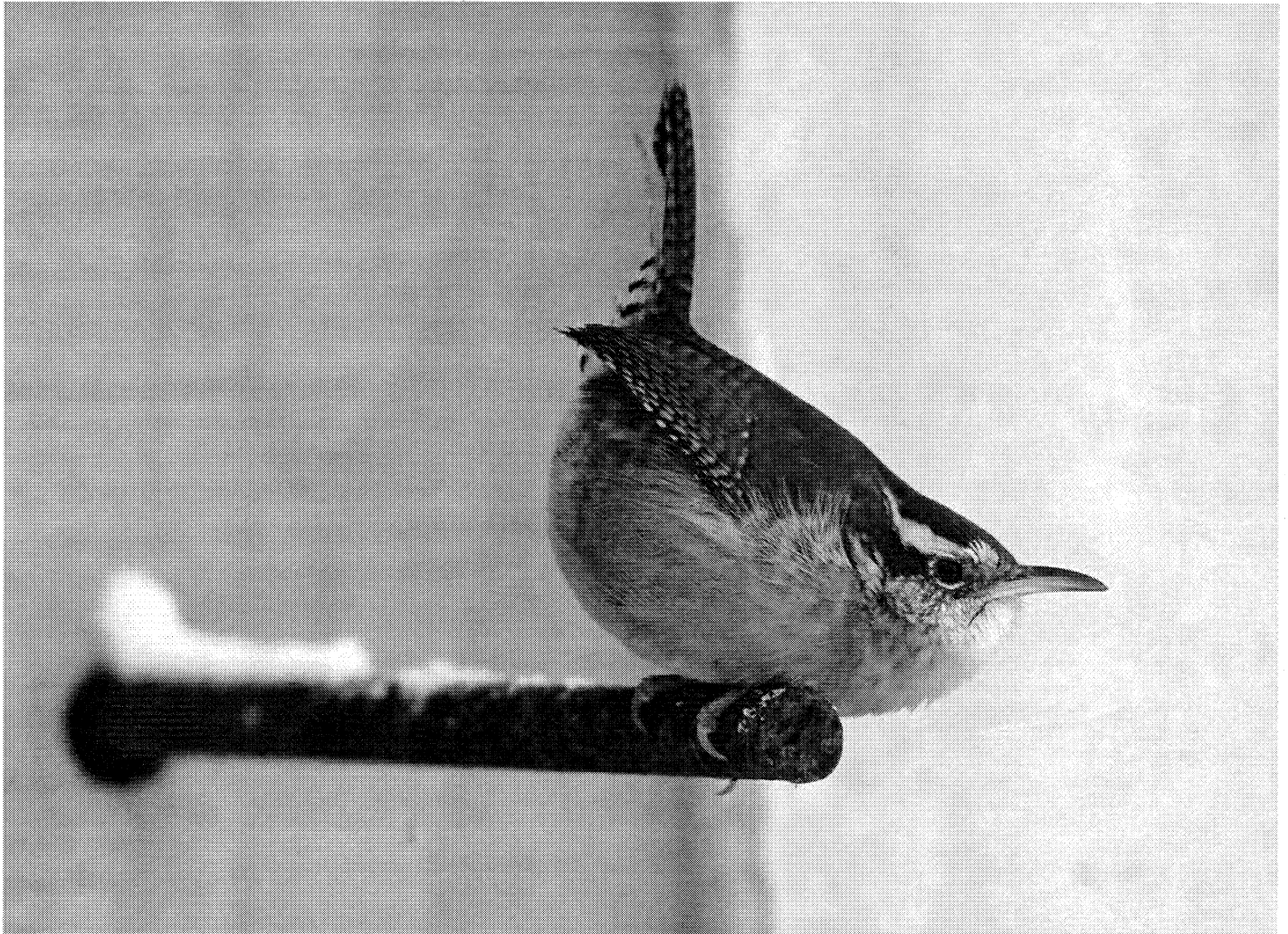


Nova Scotia Birds

A Quarterly Publication of the Nova Scotia Bird Society



Spring 2010

(The Birds of Winter)

NOVA SCOTIA BIRD SOCIETY

Executive 2009-2010



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Formed in 1955, the Nova Scotia Bird Society is a member of Nature Nova Scotia and Nature Canada. The activities of the Society are centered on the observation and study of the bird life of this province and the preservation of habitat.

Nova Scotia Bird Society
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Halifax, N.S. B3H 3A6

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This winter's CAROLINA WREN took up residence in a barn near Bridgewater, where it was "ticked" by a number of visiting birders, and beautifully caught in a classic wren pose on Jan. 19. [Photo Hans Toom]

NOVA SCOTIA BIRDS

SPRING 2010

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**THE SPOTTING SCOPE**

This sequence, Feb. 7 at Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth, follows a cooperative tail-tweaking by two ravens – but how they would have dealt with the bulky prey (a gull not yet dismembered) if the eagle abandoned it? [Photos Bernard Burke]



NORTHERN RAVENS are notably intelligent and notoriously cheeky. This group (with a crow in foreground?) hung around a coyote at Canning, Kings, during the Eagle Watch, probably hoping it will tear up carcasses from which they might snatch some scraps. [Photo Hans Toom]

We acknowledge the financial support of the Government of Canada, through the Publications Assistance Program, toward our mailing costs.



President's Corner

I wanted to touch of five main areas in my annual report.

Outreach: The society has improved its outreach to the public this year. This was done by a series of new birder walks which were held around the province, including a monthly walk in Halifax which has proven popular and will continue next year. We also had a huge turnout at the booth that was provided for us at the Atlantic Sports and RV Show in 2009. Ours was one of the busiest booths there and we were invited back in 2010 with equal success. The new society brochure was very popular and the first printing of 500 copies has already been distributed, including 300 copies just at the show.

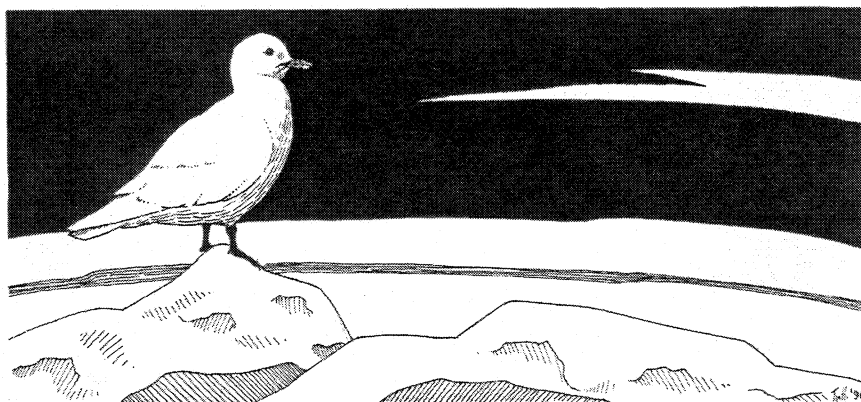
Communications: I have tried to improve communication with members via a monthly e-mail message to inform them of upcoming events. It has been well received. The executive profile feature in NS Birds is also a great way for people to learn more about the members of the executive, and to see that we really are just regular people, who have an interest in observing birds and promoting their conservation.

Breeding Bird Atlas: For many society members, this project has occupied a lot of their birding time in the springs and summers of the past several years. I hope that as many others have enjoyed working on this as much as I have. It has been a real impetus for me to learn a lot more and I know that many other have improved their birding skills considerably by working on this project. I hope that everyone will try to do as much as they can in the coming field year as it will be the last.

Society Executive: It has been a lot of fun meeting and working with this year's executive. There are several members who are stepping down. I would like to thank Mary Alward, Gali Bruhm, David & Janey Hughes, Gary Murray, and Susanne Myers for their contributions. We will have a lot of fresh faces, next year and hope to get some new ventures underway. I am also hoping to be able to involve more members in projects that interest them, as members do not need to be on the board, or able to attend meetings in Halifax, to help with some projects.

Thanks: As president, I have come to learn just how many people are involved, both in the workings of the society, and in observing and helping birds in general. I would like to thank everyone who has helped out, by working on the magazine, leading field trips, maintaining the web site, doing public outreach, sharing wonderful photographs, giving presentations, participating in counts, and surveys. and reporting what you see. It is the sharing of information among birders, that makes this hobby so much fun.

Patrick Kelly



Nova Scotia Bird Society Sanctuary Trust - Annual Report

23 November 2009

Bob McDonald, Sanctuary Trust Chair

NOVA SCOTIA BIRD SOCIETY SANCTUARY TRUST

INCOME STATEMENT

For the year ended September 30, 2009

(With comparative figures for the year ended September 30, 2008)

	<u>2008/09</u>	<u>2007/08</u>
Revenue		
Donations to the Trust Fund	2,040	1,540
GIC Interest	-	183
Bank Interest	1	1
Interest	-	-
Other (Revenue from Auction 2008)	557	-
	<u>2,598</u>	<u>1,724</u>
Total Revenue	<u>2,598</u>	<u>1,724</u>
Expense		
Bank Charges	-	-
Property Taxes	895	1,648
Insurance	500	500
Hope for Wildlife	-	500
Research Grant for Owl Nest Project	800	-
Cobequid Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre	400	-
Miscellaneous Expense	89	92
	<u>2,684</u>	<u>2,740</u>
Total Expense	<u>2,684</u>	<u>2,740</u>
Net Income	<u>- 86</u>	<u>- 1,016</u>
(Excess revenue over expenses/expense over revenue)		

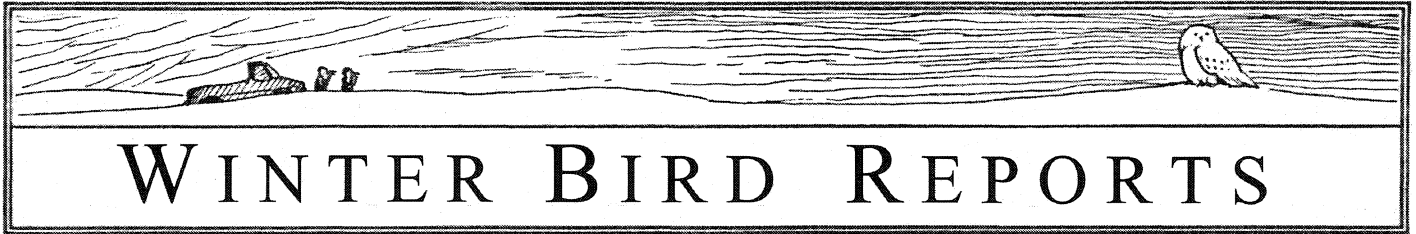
**NOVA SCOTIA BIRD SOCIETY
SANCTUARY TRUST**

**BALANCE SHEET
As at September 30, 2009
(With comparative figures as at September 30, 2008)**

	2008/2009	<u>2007/08</u>
ASSETS		
Current Assets		
Bank account	1,696	1,782
Term Deposits	17,000	17,000
Interest Term Deposits	1,079	
Land (see appendix A)	47,660	47,660
Total cash	67,435	66,442
Accounts receivable	-	-
Accumulated interest	-	-
Prepaid expense	-	-
Total Current Assets	67,435	66,442
Total Assets	67,435	66,442
LIABILITIES & EQUITY		
Current Liabilities		
Accounts payable	-	-
Deferred revenue	1,079	-
Total Liabilities	1,079	-
Members' equity		
Opening balance	66,442	67,459
Surplus (deficit)	- 86	- 1,017
Total members' equity	66,356	66,442
Liabilities and equity	67,435	66,442

Bob McDonald, Chairman
Ruth Smith, Auditor

Mary Alward, Treasurer



WINTER BIRD REPORTS

NOTE: The seasonal reports frequently use the following abbreviations (counties are in *italics*):

ad. = adult
 alt. = alternate plumage, i.e., breeding plumage
 Bch = beach
 BBS = Breeding Bird Survey
 ca. = *circa*, i.e., approximately
 CBC = Christmas Bird Count
 f. = female
fide = "according to" or "On the authority of"
 Hbr = harbour
 I. = Island
 imm. = immature
 juv. = juvenile
 L.R. = Local Record
 m.obs. = many observers
 m. = male
 nd = no details, i.e., unconfirmed by documentation
 NHS = National Historic Site
 NSMC = Nova Scotia Migration Count
 o-w = over-wintered
 PP = Provincial Park
 Pen. = Peninsula
 ph. = photographed
 pr = pair
 R. = River
 SP = Sewage Ponds
 spec. = specimen
 thr. = throughout the season
 Tr. = trail
 var.obs. = various observers
 w. = winter

Place Names

3 Fathom Hbr = Three Fathom Harbour, *HRM*
 APBS = Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary, *Cumberland*
 Ann. Royal Marsh = Annapolis Royal Marsh, *Annapolis*
 Apple River = Apple River, *Cumberland*
 Belleisle = Belleisle Marsh, *Annapolis*
 Blanche = Blanche Peninsula, *Shelburne*
 BPI = Bon Portage (Outer) Island, *Shelburne*
 Brier I. = Brier Island, *Digby*
 Canso = Town of Canso, *Guysborough*
 CBI = Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia
 CBHNP = Cape Breton Highlands National Park
CBRM = *Cape Breton Regional Municipality*
 Cherry Hill = Cherry Hill Beach, *Lunenburg*
 Cole Hbr. = Cole Harbour, *HRM*
 Conrad's = Conrad's Beach, *HRM*
 Crystal Crescent = Crystal Crescent Beach P.P., *HRM*
 CSI = Cape Sable Island, *Shelburne*
 Glace Bay = Glace Bay, *Cape Breton*
 Hartlen Pt = Hartlen Point, *HRM*
HRM = Halifax Regional Municipality
 Keji = Kejimikujik National Park
 Long I. = Long Island, *Digby*
 Louisbourg = Louisbourg, *Cape Breton*
 Martinique = Martinique Beach Provincial Park, *HRM*
 Musq. = Musquodoboit
 PPP = Point Pleasant Park, *HRM*
 Schooner Pond = Schooner Pond, *Cape Breton*
 Seal I. = Seal Island, Outer Tuskets, *Yarmouth*
 Sober I. = Sober Island, *HRM*
 Sullivan's Pd = Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth, *HRM*
 Taylor's Head PP = Taylor's Head Provincial Park, *HRM*
 Uniacke = Uniacke Estate Museum Park, *Hants*
 W. Lawrencetown = West Lawrencetown Marsh, *HRM*

Waterfowl

By John Belbin

JBO, on Dec 8, re-found the 2 **SNOW GEESE** that were in the Truro region since late November. One was a blue variant the other a white. Two others were later photographed at Sheet Harbour by JAC; both appeared to have relatively short necks. Three more showed up near the town of Digby over Christmas. **CANADA GEESE** were reported in excellent numbers all winter. By mid-February a flock of more than 1000 birds were getting a great deal of local attention in the Port Williams area. They joined an equal number of Black Ducks and Mallards who had been there most of the winter, to create a real spectacle.

GADWALLS were reported from several locations about *HRM* but they could well have been the same birds that were moving about. A number of them showed up in Yarmouth and Pictou Harbour on the CBCs.

Tuma Young, Nick Honig, Alan and Cathy Murrant located the 2 **REDHEADS** that have been in the Glace Bay area for most of the fall, in Renwick Brook. Several **EURASIAN WIGEONS** have also been in the same area. Another Eurasian Wigeon was

occasionally seen in the Windsor sewage lagoons, where American Wigeon are frequent visitors. A few more stayed at Sullivans Pond for an extended period, building up to more than 100 birds. An unusual and attractive AMERICAN WIGEON was well photographed at Sullivan's Pond, by BBU. It had distinctive pale cheeks, explained as being partially amelanistic. An occasional American Wigeon has shown up in Lunenburg this winter, an unusual location for this species.

Dominic Cormier and FLL found a young male **KING EIDER** at Ferguson's Cove, the only report for the season.

KJM found a male **TUFTED DUCK** near the outflow of the NS power plant in Trenton in time to be included in the local CBC count week.

JCZ and CLD spotted two groups of **HARLEQUIN DUCKS** at Prospect Point. One group consisted of 5f, 7m, the other 5f, 2m. The ones reported from Port Hawkesbury were in an unusual location for this species. These ducks seem to be more widely dispersed this year – hopefully a good sign. An amazing 92 individuals were reported on the Port L'Hebert CBC.

If you want to see mergansers then the Pictou-Caribou region is again the place to be. On Dec 5 KJM and CHK saw 1800 **RED-BREADED MERGANSERS** fly out of Pictou Harbour, and hundreds of **COMMON MERGANSERS** and **HOODED MERGANSERS** at Haliburton Gut.

Snow Goose

Dec 8	Salmon R., Truro, <i>Col.</i>	2	JBO
Dec 15, 18	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	2 ph	JAC
Dec 18	Summerville Beach, <i>Queens</i>	1	JAH
Dec 19	White Point, CBC	1	Sam de ruyter
Dec, 24	Digby, <i>Digby</i>	3	JOK
Jan 1	Sheet Hbr., CBC	1	JAC
Jan 7	Yarmouth	1	JON
Feb 4	Marriotts Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	PMA

Brant

Dec 2	CSI	4	JON
Dec 17	CSI	12	JON
Dec 19	CSI CBC	124	DAC
Jan 17	CSI	200	JON

Canada Goose

CBCs	provincewide	12136 (2101 at Antigonish)	
Dec 1	College Rd, Windsor, <i>Hants</i>	300	ELM
Dec 5	Windsor, <i>Hants</i>	200	JAH, DPO
Dec 13 -			
Feb 14	3 Fathom Hbr.	500	ELM
Dec 14	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	127	JAH
Dec 17	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	150+	JOB
Dec 17	Timberlea, <i>HRM</i>	50+	Debbie Stoddart-Pageau

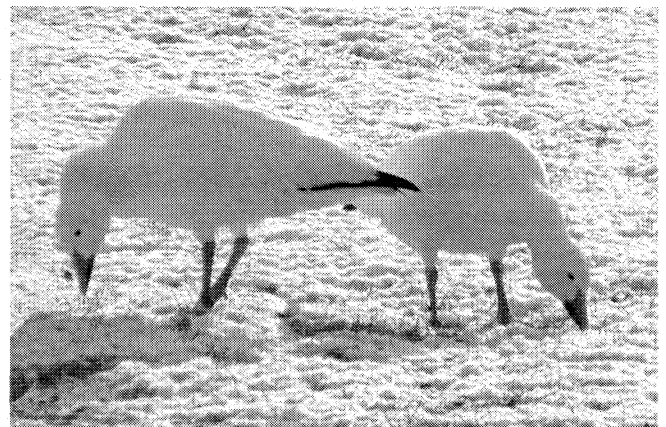
Dec 17	Fall River area, <i>HRM</i>	25+	John Loch
Dec 18	Kingston, <i>Kings, Ann.</i>	200+	PBG
Dec, 24	Digby	63	JOK
Dec 28	Conrads Bch	30+	Jane Schlosberg
Dec 28	Lower Truro marshes, <i>Col.</i>	85	ANH
Jan 10- end Feb	Riverport, <i>Lun.</i>	350-600	ELM
Jan 13	Kingston, <i>Kings</i>	20-30	SLH
Feb 13, 28	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	150	JAH
Feb 14	Port Dufferin, <i>HRM</i>	70	KJM, CHK
Feb 15	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1000+	Martin Thomas
Feb 20	Conrad's Bch	2-300	JOW
Feb 20	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	300	Derek Lovitch
Feb 27	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	145	JAH

Gadwall

CBCs	provincewide	16	
Dec 13	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Dec 21	Conrad's Bch	1f	IAM
Dec 27	Hartlen Pt	3	MIK
Jan 1	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Jan 7	Yarmouth	14	JON
Feb 21	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	3	DAC, MIK
Feb 23	Yarmouth	1pr	DPO

Eurasian Wigeon

CBCs	4 counts	8	
Dec 1	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	1	ELM



We don't often see the SNOW GOOSE doubly fulfilling its name, like this twosome Dec. 18 near Sheet Hbr., *HRM*. Both seem to be of the larger-billed "Greater" subspecies, and one stayed for the local CBC, four days later. [Photo James Cameron]

Dec 4-30	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	2	JUM
Dec 12	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	3m	BBU
Dec 17	Sherose I., <i>Shel.</i>	1	JON
Dec 23	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	2m,1f	Dominic Cormier
Dec 29	Little Bras d'Or, <i>CBRM</i>	1m	DBM
Jan 7	Yarmouth	1	JON
Feb 13	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	2	JAH
American Wigeon			
CBCs	provincewide	288 (168 on Halifax/Dartmouth)	
Dec 1	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	9	JOB
Dec 2, 23, 27	W. Lawrencetown	140, 10, 6	DMW
Dec 5	New Harbour, Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	2	CJF
Dec 17	Sherose I., <i>Shel.</i>	7	JON
Dec 28	Sullivan's Pd	100+	BBU
Jan 7	Yarmouth	100	JON
Jan, 25, 26	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	mostly males	CHP
Jan 28	Dartmouth Cove, <i>HRM</i>	30	Dave Schlosberg
Jan 30	Lunenburg waterfront	1	JAH
Feb 18, 19	Purdys Wharf, <i>HRM</i>	50	Derek Lovitch
American Black Duck			
CBCs	provincewide	12,587	
Dec 4	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	20	JWW
thr.	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	210+	JOB
Jan 1	Parrsboro Hbr., <i>Cumb.</i>	12	JCZ

Jan 30	Lunenburg waterfront	125	JAH
Feb 7	CSI	150	JON
Feb 13	Oxners Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	109	JAH
Feb 14	3 Fathom Hbr.	47	SEM
Feb 21	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	220	SEM
Mallard			
CBCs	provincewide	4927	
Dec 4	Port Williams SP, <i>Kings</i>	110	JWW
Dec 4	Saxon St. Pd, <i>Kings</i>	50	JWW
Dec 14	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	81	JAH
Feb 1; 27	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	300; 107	JAH
Blue-winged Teal			
Dec 13, 27	E. Passage; Hartlen Pt	1 m	MIK
Northern Shoveler			
Dec 6	CSI	1	JON
Dec 22	Rainbow Haven, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Jan 1	E. Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Northern Pintail			
CBCs	provincewide	25	
Dec 4	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	6	JWW
Dec 13	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>		MIK
Dec 19	Cole Harbour, <i>HRM</i>	1	IAM
Dec 19	Shag Harbour, <i>Shel.</i>	2	JAH
Dec 20	Brooklyn, <i>Queens</i>	1m	DPO
Jan 1-Feb 18	E. Passage Pond, <i>HRM</i>	2m	DOU, Derek Lovitch
Jan 9	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	7	JON
Jan 9	Sherose I., <i>Shel.</i>	2	JON
Jan 25	Westmount, <i>CBRM</i>	1m	DBM
Feb 13	Rainbow Haven, <i>HRM</i>	11 (nd)	Dennis Garrett
Feb 13	Oxners Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	1f	JAH
Feb 21	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	1f	SEM
Feb 27	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1m	JAH



A NORTHERN PINTAIL drake at Eastern Passage, photographed Jan. 10 during the second *HRM* "sewer stroll," is surely among the most elegant of waterfowl. Oddly, the Basic plumage (fall to spring) of male ducks is brighter than Alternate plumage (acquired when breeding), reflecting the inadequacy of terms like "breeding plumage" despite awkwardness of some formal plumage-classification schemes. [Photo Richard Stern]

Green-winged Teal			
CBCs	provincewide	59	
Dec 4	Saxon St. pond, <i>Kings</i>	30	JWW
Dec 14-15	Brier I.	1m	ELM
Dec 17	CSI	3	JON
Dec 17	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	3	JOB
Dec 18	White Pt Beach, <i>Queens</i>	3	JAH
Dec 19	Cole Harbour, <i>HRM</i>	sev.	IAM
Jan 7	Yarmouth	6	JON
Jan 24	W. Chezzetcook, <i>HRM</i>	2f	CJP, FLL
Feb 25	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH

Feb 27	Back Oler marsh, <i>Lun.</i>	2	ELM
Redhead			
Dec 2	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	2	Tuma Young, et al.
Jan 17	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	1	Bev Crowell
Ring-necked Duck			
Dec 9	Pembroke Area, <i>Yar.</i>	200+	JON
Dec 13, 14	Hirtles Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	18	JAH
Dec 19	Cole Harbour, <i>HRM</i>	2	IAM
Jan 5	Dartmouth Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	David Schlosberg
Jan 24	Head of St. Margaret's Bay, <i>HRM</i>	11	ELM
Feb 8	Fall River, <i>HRM</i>	1m	KAM
Tufted Duck			
Jan 4	Trenton, <i>PI</i>	1m	KJM
Greater Scaup			
CBCs	provincewide	4413 (2280 on Pictou)	
Dec 1	Head of Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1 f (1 st L.R.)	BLM
Dec 14	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	70	JAH
Dec 23	E. Passage, <i>HRM</i>	flock	Dominic Cormier
Dec 27	Crescent Bch, <i>Lun.</i>	333	JAH, DPO
Jan 9	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	480	JAH
Jan 10	Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	3	BLM
Feb 7	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	20	JON
Feb 11	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	2m	JOB
Feb 13, 28	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	310, 500	JAH
Feb 13	Feltzen South, <i>Lun.</i>	180	JAH
Feb 14	Moser R., <i>HRM</i>	5	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	3 Fathom Hbr.	24	SEM
Feb 27	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	500	JAH
Feb 28	Barrington W., <i>Shel.</i>	50+	RMC
Lesser Scaup			
CBCs	provincewide	72 (38 on Broad Cove)	
Dec 22	North Sydney, <i>CBRM</i>	4	DBM
Dec 23	E. Passage, <i>HRM</i>	flock	Dominic Cormier
Jan 9	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	24+	JAH
Jan 17	Daniels Head, <i>CSI</i>	4	JON
Feb 7	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	5	JON
Feb 14	3 Fathom Hbr.	8	SEM
King Eider			
Dec 31	Fergusons Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1m	Dominic Cormier
Common Eider			
CBCs	provincewide	8391	
Dec 1	Western Head, <i>Queens</i>	233	JAH
Dec 5	New Harbour, Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	a few	CJF
Jan 1	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	large raft	AND
Feb 14	Port Dufferin, <i>HRM</i>	10	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	14	KJM, CHK
Harlequin Duck			
CBCs	provincewide	145 (92 at Port l'Hebert)	
Dec 5	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	1f	CJF
Dec 5	Prospect Pt, <i>HRM</i>	19	JCZ, CLD
Dec 10	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	9m	RBS
Dec 28-Jan 15	Port Hawkesbury, <i>Inv.</i>	2	DBM, DJO
Jan 1	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	10	AND
Jan 5	Herring Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Jan 9	Cape St. Marys, <i>Digby</i>	1	RAS
Jan 11	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	15m, 3f	PBG
Feb 12	CSI	20	JON
Feb 20	Peggy's Cove, <i>HRM</i>	3	RIV
Feb 20	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	15	KJM
Feb 25	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	12	RBS
Scoter sp			
Feb 20	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	38	KJM
Surf Scoter			
CBCs	provincewide	474	
Jan 11	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	6	PBG
Feb 14	Port Dufferin, <i>HRM</i>	4	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	14	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	57	SEM
Feb 20	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	4	KJM

White-winged Scoter

CBCs	provincewide	854	
Jan 11	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	11	PBG
Feb 13	Hartlen Pt	20	JAH
Feb 14	3 Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	8	SEM
Feb 15	Aspotogan Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	10	DOU
Feb 20	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	2	KJM

Black Scoter

CBCs	provincewide	733	
Dec 27	Crescent Bch, <i>Lun.</i>	30	JAH, DPO
Feb 13	Hartlen Pt	30	JAH
Feb 20	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	5	KJM

Long-tailed Duck

CBCs	provincewide		
Dec 5	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	50+	CJF
Jan 1	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	many	AND
Jan 5	Dartmouth Cove, <i>HRM</i>	3	David Schlossberg
Jan 10	Bayswater, <i>Lun.</i>	70	CJF
Jan 11	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	3m	PBG
Jan 17	CSI	35	JON
Feb 14	Moser R., <i>HRM</i>	28	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	Port Dufferin, <i>HRM</i>	21	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	34	KJM, CHK
Feb 15	Aspotogan Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	8	DOU

Bufflehead

CBCs	provincewide	957	
Dec 5	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	a few	CJF
Dec 5	Waterside P.P., <i>Pic.</i>	2	KJM, CHK
Dec 13	3 Fathom Hbr.	6	SEM
Jan 1	Parrsboro Hbr., <i>Cumb.</i>	6	JCZ
Jan 1	E. Passage, <i>HRM</i>	2	DOU
Feb 8	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	BBU
Feb 14	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	6	KJM, CHK
Feb 21	3 Fathom Hbr.	8	SEM

Common Goldeneye

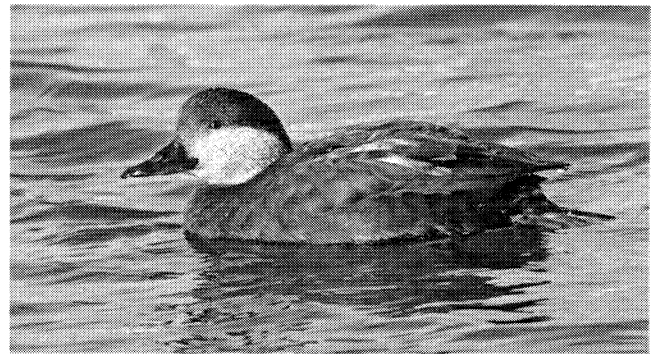
CBCs	provincewide	4222	
Dec 5	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	a few	CJF
Dec 14	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	71	JAH
Jan 10	Brule Point, <i>Col.</i>	200	JRO
Jan 10	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	40	CJF
Jan 24	Pugwash, <i>Cumb.</i>	30	BRS
Feb 7, 11	Dartmouth Cove, <i>HRM</i>	22, 8	PMU
Feb 13	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	10	JAH
Feb 13	Feltzen South, <i>Lun.</i>	221	JAH
Feb 14	Port Dufferin, <i>HRM</i>	59	JM, CHK
Feb 14	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	29	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	3 Fathom Hbr.	26	SEM
Feb 18, 23	Port Williams SP, <i>Kings</i>	10, 12	JWW, RBS

Barrows Goldeneye

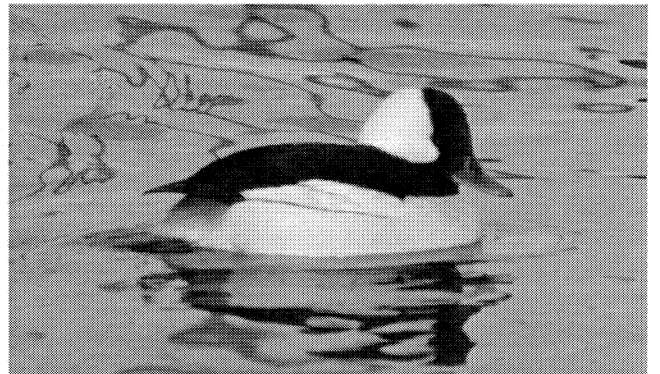
CBCs	provincewide	71	
Dec 23	E. Passage, <i>HRM</i>	2f	Dominic Cormier
Dec 27	Hartlen Pt	1	MIK
Dec 29	St. Anns Bay, <i>Vic.</i>	1m	DBM
Dec 31	Purcells Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1m	Dominic Cormier
Jan 6	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Jan 8	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Jan 17, 23	Tufts Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1m	DAC, MIK
Jan 18, Feb 23	Port Williams SP, <i>Kings</i>	2	RBS
Jan 21	Westmount, <i>CBRM</i>	8m, 3f	DBM
Jan 24	Pugwash harbour, <i>Cumb.</i>	2m	BRS
Feb 13	Feltzen South, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Feb 14	Brooklyn, <i>Queens</i>	1pr	DPO

Hooded Merganser

CBCs	provincewide	275	
Dec 1	Head of Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	10	BLM
Dec 2	W. Lawrencetown	12	DMW
Dec 4	Silver L., <i>Kings</i>	5	JWW
Dec 5	Haliburton Gut, <i>Pic.</i>	hundreds	KJM, CHK
Dec 14, 21	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	31, 50	JAH
Dec 19	Cole Harbour, <i>HRM</i>	several	IAM



We seldom get such fine close-ups, even with modern long lenses, of sea ducks like this female BLACK SCOTER at Glace Bay this winter. [Photo Allan Murrant]



A striking male BUFFLEHEAD gave a rare opportunity of a close-up on the Kinsmen Pnd, Truro, Jan. 23. [Photo Jeff Ogden]

Dec 22	Shelburne Harbour, <i>Shel.</i>	8	Mike Ocallaghan
Jan 5	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	2	DAM
Jan 18, Feb 8	Three Mile L., <i>HRM</i>	2	KAM
Jan 24	Salmon R., <i>HRM</i>	11	CJM, FLL
Feb 9-15	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1-3m	DJC
Feb 13	Lower Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH
Feb 14	Port Dufferin, <i>HRM</i>	10	KJM, CHK
Common Merganser			
CBCs	provincewide	1949	
Dec 1, 2	W. Lawrencetown	40	DMW
Dec 5	Haliburton Gut, <i>Pic.</i>	hundreds	KJM, CHK
Dec 14	Lake Micmac, <i>HRM</i>	5m	PMU
Dec 28	Bear R., <i>Ann.</i>	6m, 3f	MCR
Jan 6	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	5	DOU
Red-breasted Merganser			
CBCs	provincewide	3519	
Dec 1	Head of Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	9	BLM
Dec 5	Caribou I. Light, <i>Pic.</i>	1800	KLM, CHK
Dec 10, 14	W. Lawrencetown	14, 11	DMW
Dec 14	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	72	JAH
Jan 11	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	5+prs	PBG
Jan 11	Margaretville, <i>Ann.</i>	several prs	PBG
Jan 16, 28	Dartmouth Cove, <i>HRM</i>	8m, 3f	David Schlossberg
Jan 28	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	12	HAT
Feb 13	Feltzen South, <i>Lun.</i>	13	JAH
Feb 14	Moser R., <i>HRM</i>	37	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	Port Dufferin, <i>HRM</i>	65	KJM, CHK
Feb 14	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	37	KJM, CHK
Feb 27	Kingsport, <i>Kings</i>	1	SMB
Ruddy Duck			
Dec 21	Pomquet P.P., <i>Ant.</i>	1f	KJM

Galliformes

By Ulli Höger

Ring-necked Pheasant

CBCs	provincewide	630 (244 on Wolfville)	
All season	Conrad's Bch	several	DMW

Ruffed Grouse

CBCs	provincewide	135	
Dec 15	Brier I.	1	CBC
Dec 16	Mid. Musq. <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH

Dec 22	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	6	Chris Pepper
Jan 24	Mid. Musq., <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Feb 5	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH

Spruce Grouse

CBCs	5 counts	9	
Dec 22	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	2 m.	Chris Pepper
Jan 16	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	9	Chris Pepper

Loons Through Grebes

By John Belbin

Chris Pepper managed to get an excellent photo of the PIED-BILLED GREBE that wintered on Lake Echo, normally a difficult subject. There were a few other sightings around the HRM region, but in general this little bird is seldom noticed.

COMMON LOONS and HORNED GREBES seemed to be most plentiful in the Lunenburg region, although the various CBC's found them fairly widely dispersed.

Red-throated Loon

CBCs	six counts	24	
Dec. 5	Waterside P.P., <i>Pic.</i>	2	KJM, CHK
Dec. 5	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	NSBS
Dec. 14	Brier I.	1	ELM, AHM
Jan. 1	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	1	AND
Jan. 5	Silver Sands Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Jan. 6,7	Liverpool, <i>Queens</i>	1	DPO
Jan. 11	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	1	PBG
Jan. 11	Margaretville, <i>Ann.</i>	1	PBG
Feb. 5	Liverpool, <i>Queens</i>	1	DPO
Feb. 27	Kingsport, <i>Kings</i>	1	SMB

Common Loon

CBCs	provincewide	496 (90 on Cape Sable)	
Dec. 13	Brier I.	10	ELM, AHM
Jan. 1	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	sev.	AND
Jan. 25	Sober I. <i>HRM</i>	16	KJM
Jan. 28	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	4	HAT
Feb. 14	Sheet Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	12	KJM, CHK
Feb. 14	3 Fathom Hbr.	2	SEM

Pied-billed Grebe

Dec. 4	Bissett Lake, <i>HRM</i>	1	IAM
Dec. 27	St. Peter's, <i>CBC</i>	1	BID
Jan. 3	Dingle Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	Dominic Cormier
Jan. 15	Sambro Inner Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	CJF
Jan. 15	Lake Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1	CHP

Horned Grebe

CBCs	provincewide	101	
Dec. 14	Conrads I., <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
Jan. 11	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	3	PBG
Jan. 24	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	5	ELM
Jan. 25	Sober I. <i>HRM</i>	3	KJM
Feb. 14	Moosehead, <i>HRM</i>	5	KJM, CHK
Feb. 15	Aspotogan Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	10+	DOU
Feb. 16	Allendale Bay, <i>Shel.</i>	1	GLG
Feb. 20	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM
Feb. 21	Beach Meadows, <i>Queens</i>	3	DPO
Feb. 27	Lunenburg Hbr.	1	ELM

Red-necked Grebe

CBCs	provincewide	130 (44 on Louisbourg)	
Dec. 5	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	NSBS
Dec. 14	Conrads I., <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH
Dec. 19	Woods Hbr., <i>Shel.</i>	1	JAH, DPO
Jan. 1	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	2	AND
Jan. 5, 23	Purcells Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU, AGH
Feb. 14	Ecum Secum W., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM, CHK
Feb. 15	Aspotogan Pen., <i>Lun</i>	3	DOU
Feb. 20	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM
Feb. 27	Lunenburg Hbr.	1	ELM, IAM



Pied-billed Grebes, like this first-winter bird Jan. 16 on Lake Echo, *HRM*, are relatively rare here in winter. This one seemed to be using a virtual fur coat to stay snug. [Photo Chris Pepper]

Tubenoses through Cormorants

By Eric Mills

Two early winter shearwater records came to light, the first of a **GREATER SHEARWATER** at the almost-to-be-expected site of Duncan's Reef just S of Halifax, the other of a quite unexpected **SOOTY SHEARWATER** reported without details from a very urban part of Halifax harbour, a most unlikely location at a very unusual time of year.

Detailed information has recently come to light of a small gadfly petrel, likely a **BERMUDA PETREL** or possibly a **BLACK-CAPPED PETREL** (although it lacked the white collar and rump diagnostic of that species) seen by an experienced seabird observer on April 12, 2009, at 42.20° N, 61.1526° W (off the continental shelf about 320 km SE of Halifax, but apparently within Canada's 200 nmi. limit). This, which could be the first Bermuda Petrel seen within Canadian territorial waters, may just be one example of the remarkable post-breeding (summer) wandering of this species - data-loggers have shown birds from Bermuda going as far as the Bay of Fundy, the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and the Northeast Atlantic (see the account in the January 2009 *Newsletter of the Bermuda Audubon Society* at www.audubon.bm). There have been regular sightings off North Carolina for several years and one was photographed along the eastern margin of Georges Bank on June 28, 2009.

Zoe Lucas (*vide* Ian McLaren) found three dead **WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRDS** on Sable Island on Sept. 3, 2009, possibly the result of Hurricane Bill, which passed N of Sable Island on Aug. 23. And finally, a lone female **FRIGATEBIRD** was seen W of Seal Island on December 7 - probably a Magnificent Frigatebird, but as I have indicated in earlier discussions of similar remarkable records, more detailed observations are needed to eliminate the possibility of other species.

GREATER SHEARWATER

Dec. 2 Duncan Reef, *HRM* 1 HAT

SOOTY SHEARWATER

Dec. 13 Foot of Morris St., Halifax 1 Mac MacKay

BERMUDA (?) PETREL

Apr. 12, 2009 Scotian Shelf SW of Halifax 1 KAA

WHITE-TAILED TROPICBIRD

Sept. 3 Sable I. 3 dead ZOL

Northern Gannet

CBCs 13 counts 131 (71 on Brier I.)

Dec. 1 Western Hd., *Queens* 19 JAH

Dec. 12 Canso Causeway, *Inv.* 6 imm. BLM

Dec. 13 Northern Pt., Brier I. 20+ ELM, AHM

Dec. 13 Grand Desert, *HRM* 1 SEM

Jan. 5 Off Chebucto Hd., *HRM* 1 DOU

Double-crested Cormorant

CBCs 11 counts 37

Dec. 1 Eagle Hd., *Queens* 1 JAH

Dec. 14 Off Northern Pt., Brier I. 1 ad. ELM, AHM

Jan. 1 New Glasgow, *Pict.* 2 KJM

Jan. 10 downtown Halifax 1 ad. ELM
 Jan. 10 Morien Hbr., *CBRM* 3 CAM, ALM
 Jan. 11 Glace Bay hbr., *CBRM* 3 CAM, ALM
 Jan. 17 Daniels Hd., *CSI* 2 JON, SAN
 Jan. 22 Glace Bay hbr., *CBRM* 1 DBM

Great Cormorant

CBCs 16 counts 631 (127 on Brier I.)
 Dec. 1 Duncan Reef, *HRM* 1 HAT
 Jan. 9 Cape St Mary, Digby 1 Rachel Smith
 Jan. 14 Prospect Bay, *HRM* 12 BLM
 Jan. 25 Sober I., *HRM* 31 KJM
 Feb. 14 Sober I., *HRM* 17 KJM, CHK
 Feb. 15 Black Pt., *HRM* 1 DOU
 Feb. 19 Sambro Hbr., *HRM* 3 ELM, IAM, Lovitches

FRIGATEBIRD SP.

Dec. 7 25 km W of Seal I. 1 f. Roderick d'Entremont, *vide* TCD

Hérons

By Ulli Höger

As expected winter is the slow season for herons. GREAT BLUE HERONS lingered and few were regularly seen into mid-December. Later in the season observations of herons and their kin were restricted to few spots, mainly Nova Scotia's banana belt.

American Bittern

Jan 6-Feb 21 *CSI* 1 JON, SAN

Great Blue Heron

CBCs provincewide 21 (9 on *CSI*)

Dec 2- 12 Conrad Marsh, 1 DMW

Lawrencetown, *HRM*

Dec 19 Shag Hbr., *Shel.* 2 JAH, DPO

Jan 4 Martins River, *Lun.* 1 DAM

Jan 4, 6 *CSI* 2 JON, SAN

Jan 17, 21 *CSI* 1 JON, SAN

Black-crowned Night-Heron

Dec 6 *CSI* 1 JON, SAN

Diurnal Raptors

By Ulli Höger

The annual Cyril K. Coldwell Eagle and Raptors Count of Eastern Kings' County (CERC) was held on January 31, and seventeen parties counted a total of 427 BALD EAGLES in the area. This count has been held every year since 1979, and reveals the increasing number of wintering Bald Eagles in the area. The Valley became a prime wintering eagle spot in the early 1990s, when numbers surged from a few dozen into three digit figures. Even in recent "bad" years close to 300 individuals have been found.

During the Eagle Watch Festival weekends in late January and early February 50 – 150 eagles attended the primary feeding site. However timing was critical to witness the big show (not just dozing eagles sitting in trees), as the feeding frenzy lasted only for 45 minutes to an hour. The valley is not the only site where eagles congregate during the winter: Kathleen MacAuley reported 36 individuals from a feeding site near Shubenacadie. Unlike in the Valley the majority of individuals were subadult birds (29 out of 36).

For the third year in a row RBS reported a COOPERS HAWK visiting his backyard. The first year it was a subadult individual, and in the following years an adult. Is this the same bird returning to the same location during the winter? Another Valley "Regular" only seen during the winter season is the white RED-TAILED HAWK that has been spotted near Hortonville for many years now. Where do these birds go when spring comes?

Turkey Vulture

CBCs	provincewide	14 (12 Brier I.)	
Dec 1	Yarmouth, <i>Yar.</i>	3	PRG
Dec 6	Pembroke, <i>Yar.</i>	53	MUN
Dec 14-15	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	12	ELM, AHM
Dec 22	Antigonish, <i>Ant.</i>	1	CBC
Jan 17	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	BBU
Feb 23	Yarmouth, <i>Yar.</i>	3	DPO, <i>et al.</i>

Bald Eagle

CBCs	provincewide	815 (254 Wolfville)	
All season	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 ad + 1 imm.	DJC
Dec 14	Brier I.	1 ad	ELM, AHM
Dec 15	Brier I.	1 imm.	CBC
Jan 12	Cole Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	2	Liz Kyle
Jan 25	Sullivan's Pond	1 feeding on ice	BBU
Jan 31	Eastern <i>Kings</i>	427	CERC
Jan 31	Shubenacadie, <i>Hants</i>	36	KAM
Feb 6	Dayspring, <i>Lun.</i>	pair on nest site	JAH
Feb 7	CSI	2	JON, SAN
Feb 8	Conrad's Bch	2	DMW

Northern Harrier

CBCs	provincewide	16	
Dec 13-14	Brier I.	1 imm.	ELM, AHM
Jan 3	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Jan 23	Hartlen Pt.	1 male	AGH
All season	Hartlen Pt.	2	var. obs.
All season	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	1 - 2	var. obs.
All season	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	several	var. obs.

Sharp-shinned Hawk

CBCs	provincewide	46 (11 Wolfville)	
Dec 1, 10	Wolfville Ridge, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
Jan 16	Mid. Musq., <i>HRM</i>	1 juv.	VJH
Jan 23	Conrad's Bch	1	DMW
Jan 31	Eastern <i>Kings</i>	1	CERC

COOPER'S HAWK

Dec 17	Port Clyde, <i>Shel.</i>	1 unconf.	SAH
Dec 21	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1 ad.	RBS

Northern Goshawk

CBCs	provincewide	10	
Dec 4	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	DCO
Dec 5	Beach Meadows, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH DPO
Dec 6	Masons Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF, JSC
Dec 19	Mid. Musq., <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Jan 24	Cole Hbr.	1	FLL, Chris Pepper
Jan 30	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH

Broad-winged Hawk

CBCs	2 counts	2	
Mid January	Antigonish	1 conf.	Marilyn O'Brian



NORTHERN HARRIER males, this one Feb. 8 over Dartmouth, are found more often here during winter than females, but are seldom photographed. [Photo Bernard Burke]



Although one regrets the loss of a backyard Downy Woodpecker (why not a starling?), this adult SHARP-SHINNED HAWK, Feb. 5 in Lower Sackville, offered, in exchange, a portrait of fierce concentration. [Photo Don Codling]

Red-tailed Hawk				Dec 6	Pembroke, <i>Yar.</i>	6	MUN
CBCs	provincewide	316 (122 Wolfville)		Feb 7	CSI	1	JON, SAN
Dec 1	Yarmouth	1	PRG	Merlin			
Dec 13-14	Brier I.	2	ELM, AHM	CBCs	provincewide	12	
Dec 22	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC	All season	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	var. obs
Jan 18	Halifax Hbr.	1	PMC	Dec 18	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Jan 19	Mt. St. Vincent Univ. <i>HRM</i>	1	KAM	Jan 31	Eastern <i>Kings</i>	1	CERC
Jan 31	Mid. Musq., <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH	Feb 7	Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>	1	Dave Jane
Jan 31	Eastern <i>Kings</i>	54	CERC	Schlossberg			
Rough-legged Hawk				Feb 19	Wolfville	1	JWW
CBCs	provincewide	20 (7 Amherst)		Gyrfalcon			
Dec 13	Devil's I., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, FLL	Dec 28	Yarmouth	1 (nd)	JON, SAN
Dec 15	Brier I.	1	CBC	Peregrine Falcon			
Dec 18	Fox Hollow, <i>Inv.</i>	1	KAM	CBCs	provincewide	6	
Dec 19	Plymouth, <i>Pic.</i>	1	KJM	Dec - Jan	CBC Bldg Halifax	2	Denis Garrat
Dec 22	Caldwell Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1	CBC	Dec 8	CSI	1	JON, SAN
Jan 6	CSI	1	JON, SAN	Dec 13-15	Brier I.	1	AHM
Jan 11	Spa Springs, <i>Anna.</i>	2	PBG	Dec. 12	Hartlen Pt.	1	ULH
Jan 17	CSI	1	JON, SAN	Dec 28	Fort Point, <i>Lun.</i>	1	AHM
Jan 22	New Glasgow, <i>Pic.</i>	1	BRS	Jan 13	Armdale Rotary, <i>HRM</i>	1	AGH
Jan 23	Hartlen Pt.	2	AGH	Jan 16	Hartlen Pt.	1	GMU
Jan 31	Eastern <i>Kings</i>	4	CERC	Jan 25	Sullivan's Pond	1	BBU
Golden Eagle				Feb 8	Truro	1	JBO
Jan 17	Blandford, <i>Lun.</i>	1 possible	CJF	Feb 24	Halifax	1	JCZ
American Kestrel				Feb 27	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	NSBS
CBCs	2 counts	3					

Rails and Cranes

By Ulli Höger

The pair of SANDHILL CRANES that appeared in the Grand Pré area last fall lingered into the winter season, though they shifted to nearby West Hants, then back again. Compared with previous years' reports, American Coots were less common and there were no reports from some of the traditional sites (Sullivan's Pond, Red Bridge Pond).

American Coot				Ruffed Grouse			
Dec 5	First L., Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	RIV	CBCs	provincewide	135	
Dec 14	Bisset L., <i>HRM</i>	3	MIK	Dec 15	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	1	CBC
Dec 29	Wycogomagh, <i>Inv.</i>	1	DBM	Dec 16	Mid. Musq. <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Sandhill Crane				Dec 22	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	6	Chris Pepper
Dec 4 - 8	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	2	JCT, <i>et al.</i>	Jan 24	Mid. Musq., <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Early Dec -				Feb 5	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Jan 5	Centre Burlington, <i>Hants</i>	2	Derek Crosby	Spruce Grouse			
Jan 27	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	2	JCT, MPP	CBCs	5 counts	9	
Ring-necked Pheasant				Dec 22	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	2 m.	Chris Pepper
CBCs	provincewide	630 (244 on Wolfville)		Jan 16	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	9	Chris Pepper
All season	Conrad's Bch	several	DMW				

Shorebirds

By Susann Myers

Despite a mild winter season few shorebirds lingered into December and, other than purple sandpipers, very few overwintered. Eight species were recorded on Christmas Bird Counts, 2.5 species below the 10-year average, and most were present in below-average numbers. The shorebird total of 387 on the province's 34 CBCs was roughly half of the 10-year average.

The three BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERS seen on CBCs were well below the average of 19, but JSC reports that one hardy individual overwintered successfully at Crescent Beach. Five KILLDEER were a good CBC count, roughly twice the average, but none was reported to have wintered and there were no early arrivals in late winter.

The SPOTTED SANDPIPER found on the new Sheet Harbour CBC was a nice surprise, providing only the fourth CBC record for this species. Lingering GREATER YELLOWLEGS were unusually scarce, with only one individual reported for the season.

RUDDY TURNSTONES were also represented by only one laggard this season, and none was found on CBCs. A Turnstone has been spotted in only one of the past 5 CBC seasons, whereas they were regular in former years. No RED KNOTS were seen this season, a sad decline from previous years when they regularly lingered into December and often wintered, particularly at CSI. The average number found on CBCs for the past five years is three, down from an average of 23 for the previous five years.

SANDERLING numbers were also down, with few reports for the season. The CBC total of 58 was one-third of the 10-year average.

PURPLE SANDPIPERS, a welcome exception to this gloomy trend, were well-reported for the season, with a CBC total of 226, which is average. The largest flocks found on CBCs were in Cape Breton, but there were no other reports from CB this winter to indicate how they fared. The 90 DUNLIN on CBCs were half the average total. JSC reports that a small flock overwintered at Crescent Beach, as usual.

The season's only **LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER**, a rare winter transient, was spotted December 27 by MIK, who recorded it with excellent photographs. Dowitchers at this time of year are in basic or non-breeding plumage and can be challenging to identify to species. See IAM's notes in the caption with MIK's photograph on this page.

WILSON'S SNIPE and AMERICAN WOODCOCK lingered in their usual small numbers, and only one Woodcock was reported to have wintered successfully.



LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER is the default dowitcher in winter. This one in Basic plumage, Dec. 27 at Rainbow Haven PP, is readily recognizable by shape (long bill, chunky, round-backed body) and plumage (darkish gray breast, lack of strong flank barring, and broad black tail bars almost occluding the white). [Photo Mike King]

Black-bellied Plover

Dec. - Feb.	Crescent Bch., Lun.	1	JSC
Dec. 2-3, 18	CSI	2	JON
Dec. 19	Cape Sable CBC	2	
Dec. 28	Broad Cove CBC		1

Killdeer

Dec. 5	Hartlen Pt.	1	NSBS, MIK
Dec. 6	Ragged Hbr., Queens	1	MMI
Dec. 8	Lower Canard, Kings	2	N. Nickerson
Dec. 20	Shubenacadie CBC	4	
Dec. 28	Broad Cove CBC	1	

SPOTTED SANDPIPER

Dec. 22	Sheet Harbour CBC	1	
Dec. 12-13	Pembroke, Yar.	1	JON

Ruddy Turnstone

Dec. 18-19	The Hawk, CSI	1	JON, SAN
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Sanderling

Dec. 2-3	CSI	1	JON
Dec. 5	Waterside PP, Pict.	3	CHK, KJM
Dec. 13	Hartlen Pt.,	some	MIK, FLL, C. Pepper
Dec. 13-14	Kingsburg Bch., Lun.	3	DAW, JAH, DOP
Dec. 19	Cape Sable CBC	50	
Dec. 28	Broad Cove CBC	8	
Feb. 7	The Hawk, CSI	17	JON, SAN
Feb. 13	Conrad Bch., HRM	2	MIK, D. Garratt

Purple Sandpiper

Dec. 4	Duncan Reef, HRM	50-200	HAT
Dec. 5	Crescent Bch., Lun.	3	JSC
Dec. 9, 31	PPP	1, 2	var. obs.
Dec. 13, 30	Pollack Pt., Cherry Hill, Lun.	17, 6	SJF
Dec. 14-Jan. 5	8 CBCs	226 total	
Dec. 17	Stoddards I., Shel.	3	TEC
Dec. 19	Louisbourg CBC	37	
Dec. 26	Prospect, HRM	12-14	JCZ
Dec. 27	CBHNP CBC	68	
Dec. 28	Broad Cove CBC	15	
Dec. 28	Kingston CBC	25	
Dec. 30	Glace Bay CBC	26	
Dec. 31	Chebucto Head, HRM	ca. 30	D. Cormier, et al.
Jan. 10	Crescent Bch., Lun.	8	JSC
Jan. 19, 23	PPP	6, 7	AGH, H. Reers
Jan. 23, 30	Baccaro/Crow Neck, Shel.	12, 17	BJS, SIS
Feb. 5	Western Head, Lun.	3	JAH, DOP
Feb. 9, 13	Baccaro/Crow Neck, Shel.	1, 2	BJS, SIS

Feb. 14	Sober I., HRM	few	CHK, KJM
Feb. 24	PPP	ca. 30	HAT
Dunlin			
Dec. 1	Crescent Bch., Lun.	30	JAH
Dec. 5, 27	Crescent Bch., Lun.	23, 13	JSC
Dec. 19	Cape Sable CBC	75	
Dec. 28	Broad Cove CBC	15	
Jan. - Feb.	Crescent Bch., Lun.	13	JSC
Feb. 7	The Hawk, CSI	60	JON, SAN

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER

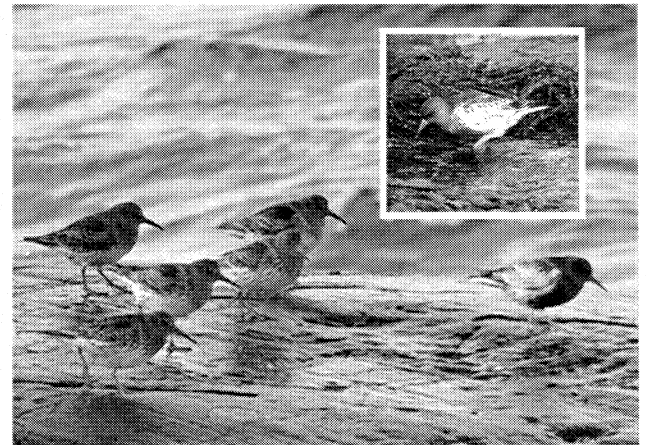
Dec. 27	Rainbow Haven, HRM	1, ph.	MIK
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Wilson's Snipe

Dec. 20	Halifax-Dartmouth CBC	2	
Dec. 27	West Hants CBC	1	

American Woodcock

Dec. 5	Voglers Cove, Lun.	1	SJF
Dec. 7, 9	Canso, Guys.	1	TOK
Dec. 27	St. Peter's CBC	1	
Jan. 13	Little Hbr., Shel.	1	DHY
Feb. 4 - 12	CSI	1	JON, TEC, et al.
Feb. 7	Belleisle, Anna.	1, dead	SHH



This partially white PURPLE SANDPIPER, on Sober I. during the SHEET HBR. CBC, appears to be the same individual that has turned up in there several past winters (e.g., insert, last winter). [Photo: Chase Moser; insert Ken McKenna]

Gulls Through Alcids

By Eric Mills

Are early winter jaegers, like the **POMARINE JAEGER** seen on the Brier Island CBC, more frequent now than in earlier years? Probably not: we now know to look for them at favored sites.

The gull scene was perhaps a little quieter this winter than usual, but white gulls were omnipresent, giving lots of opportunity to study the variation of "Iceland" gulls, notably at the wonderful boil in Halifax harbour caused by the breakdown of the new downtown sewage treatment plant. A lone **LITTLE GULL** at Eastern Passage was certainly unexpected in late January. The only **MEW GULL** of the season was reported from CSI without details: this species seems to have been virtually absent from our area at least through February. There were two plausible reports of **EUROPEAN HERRING GULLS**, likely *Larus argentatus argentatus* of continental Europe (and likely specifically separate from the North American *L. a. smithsonianus*). The first was described as "a first year herring-ish gull with dark tips and clean checkering on its wings against a white background, like a European Herring Gull." The second was an adult studied for some minutes but at too great a range for good photographs; it showed a distinctly darker mantle than the nearby *smithsonianus* adults, an angular and rather flat-crowned head, a rather blobbed bill with a red spot and dark area extending to the upper mandible, and extensive black primaries with the white area restricted to a single spot in P10. Careful gull discrimination also yielded two hybrids, a Herring X Glaucous ("Nelson's" Gull) in *Kings*, and a Great Black-backed X Herring at Glace Bay, the latter likely the individual that has been there for several winters.

Only one of the two **THAYERS' GULLS** reported was documented, a bird at Eastern Passage, *HRM*, that was apparently dark-primaried, too dark-mantled for Iceland, and that had bright pink legs. An adult **GLAUCOUS GULL** photographed at Truro on Feb. 7, showed a very strikingly streaked head, said to be a feature of Western European individuals of this species, unlike North American birds which are usually paler.

Among the alcids, the larger ones (murre and Razorbill) were only sparsely present in our area through the winter, and Dovekies seemed to be less abundant than usual.

POMARINE JAEGER

Dec. 15 Off Northern Pt., Brier I. CBC 1 light ad. ELM

LITTLE GULL

Jan. 27 Eastern Passage, *HRM* 1 MIK

Black-headed Gull

CBCs 7 counts 100
 Dec. 2-24 Conrad's 1-8 DMW
 Dec. 5 Hartlen Pt 7 MIK, NSBS
 Dec. 6 Lockeport, *Shel.* 8 ad. DJC
 Dec. 14 Lwr. Rose Bay, *Lun.* 3 JAH, DPO
 Dec. 22 Halifax Hbr. 24 Dennis Garratt
 Jan. 15 Lunenburg Hbr. 1 imm. ELM
 Jan. 16 Causeway Rd, Seaforth, *HRM* 46 Chris Pepper
 Jan. 23 Lunenburg Hbr. 1 imm., 1 ad. ELM
 Feb. 7 Sullivans Pd. 11 IAM, ELM
 Feb. 12 Daniels Hd., CSI 1 JON, SAN
 Feb. 19 Halifax Hbr. 20 ELM, IAM, Lovitches
 Feb. 24 Halifax Hbr. ca. 35 Dennis Garratt
 Feb. 25 Sullivans Pd. 35 BBU

Bonaparte's Gull

CBCs 13 counts 282
 Nov. 29 Feltzen South, *Lun.* 3 JAH
 Nov. 29 Second Peninsula, *Lun.* 7 JAH
 Dec. 2-3 The Hawk, CSI 7 JON
 Dec. 5 Haliburton Gut, *Pict.* "hundreds" KJM, CHK
 Dec. 12 First South, *Lun.* 36 JAH
 Dec. 17 Conrads Bch., *HRM* 1 DMW
 Dec. 27 Hartlen Pt., *HRM* 1 MIK
 Jan. 9 First South, *Lun.* 6 JAH, DPO
 Jan. 30 Rose Bay, *Lun.* 6 JAH
 Feb. 19 Halifax Hbr. 1 imm. ELM, IAM, Lovitches

Feb. 24 Kingsburg bch., *Lun.* 3 ad. ELM
 Feb. 25 Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth 1 BBU

MEW (COMMON) GULL

Dec. 2-3 CSI 1 ad (no details) JON

Ring-billed Gull

CBCs 23 counts 658

Dec. 6 Lockeport, *Shel.* 6 DJC
 Dec. 7 Lockeport, *Shel.* "few dozen" DJC
 Dec. ? Daniels Hd., CSI 120 JON
 Dec. 13 Pond Cove, Brier I. 1 ad. ELM, AHM
 Dec. 14 Pond Cove, Brier I. 2 ad. ELM, AHM
 Dec. 15 Brier I. CBC 8
 Dec. 17 Conrads Bch., *HRM* 18 DMW
 Dec. 24 Conrads Bch., *HRM* 13 DMW
 Jan.-Feb. Lockeport, *Shel.* 1-3 DJC
 Feb. 7 Sullivan's Pd 50 IAM, ELM
 Feb. 19 Halifax Hbr. 30 ELM, IAM, Lovitches
 Feb. 24 Kingsburg bch., *Lun.* 1 ad. ELM, IAM

Herring Gull

CBCs 34 counts 17634
(EUROPEAN?) HERRING GULL
 Jan. 19 PPP 1, 1st-cy. AGH, Henrik Reers
 Feb. 7 Eastern Passage, *HRM* 1 ad. IAM, ELM
"Nelson's" (Herring X Glaucous Gull)
 20 February Canning, *Kings* 1, 1st-cy. Derek & Jeanette Lovitch

Lesser Black-backed Gull

CBCs 3 counts 3
 Nov. 28-
 Dec. 1 Grand Pré, *Kings* 1 ad. JCT, BLF
 Jan.-Feb. Prospect Bay, *HRM* 1 ad. var. obs.
 Jan. 1 New Glasgow, *Pict.* 1, 3rd-cy. KJM
 Jan. 7 Yarmouth Hbr. 1 ad. JON, SAN, TEC
 Jan. 25 Balls Creek, *CBRM* 1 ad. DBM
 Jan. 30 E. River, Pictou 1 ad. KJM
 Feb. 7 Louisbourg, *CBRM* 1, 2nd-cy. CAM, ALM

THAYER'S GULL

Dec. 4 Guysborough town, *Guys.* 1 ad. (no details) John Luce, *vide* BLM
 Dec. 20 Halifax-Dartmouth CBC 1 photo. Duncan Rand, AGH

Iceland Gull

CBCs	25 counts	2286	
Dec.-Feb.	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1-3 ad. (scarce)	DJC
Dec. 1	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	BLF
Dec. 5	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM, CHK
Dec. 15	Brier I. CBC	13	
Feb. 8	Conrad's	5	DMW
Feb. 19	Halifax Hbr.	358 (incl. <i>glaucooides?</i>)	
			ELM, IAM, Lovitches
Feb. 25	Halifax Hbr.	ca. 400	Dennis Garratt
Feb. 27	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	10 <i>kumlieni</i>	ELM, IAM
Feb. 27	Sambro Hbr.	"small flock"	PLC

Glaucous Gull

CBCs	11 counts	20	
Nov. 30	Duncan Reef, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Dec. 10	Pt. George, <i>Anna.</i>	1, 1 st -cy.	RBS
Dec. 12	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DAW
Dec. 20	Hartlen Pt. area, <i>HRM</i>	4	AGH, <i>et al.</i>
Dec. 27	Eastern Passage., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Jan. 4	Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth	1, 1 st -cy.	BBU
Jan. 17	Lunenburg Hbr.	1	JAH, DAP
Jan. 21	PPP	1 ad.	Henrik Reers, <i>vide</i> AGH
Jan. 24	Glace Bay sanc., <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM
Feb. 7	Louisbourg Hbr., <i>CBRM</i>	7	CAM, ALM
Feb. 15	Lunenburg Hbr.	2	JAH
Feb. 19	Sambro Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	2, 1 st -cy.	ELM, IAM, Lovitches
Feb. 20	Truro, <i>Col.</i>	1 ad. (photo)	Jeff Ogden
Feb. 27	Kingsburg Pond., <i>Lun.</i>	1, 1 st -cy.	ELM, IAM
Feb. 27	Sambro Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	PLC



This first-winter GLAUCOUS GULL was "doing its thing" Dec. 10 at deer carcass on a shoreline near Port George, *Kings*. We may assume that another two-legged predator was responsible for the kill. [Photo Richard Stern]

Great Black-backed Gull

CBCs 31 counts 3312

Great Black-backed Gull X Herring Gull

Dec. 30	Glace Bay CBC	1 ad.	
Jan. 24	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	1 ad.	CAM, ALM

Black-legged Kittiwake

CBCs	5 counts	89	
Dec. 12-13	Baccaro Pt., <i>Shel.</i>	2	JON
Dec. 14	Off Northern Pt., Brier I.	20	ELM, AHM
Dec. 15	Brier I. CBC	58	

Dovekie

CBCs	4 counts	18	
Jan. 5-7	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	1	DPO
Jan. 10	Bayswater, <i>Lun.</i>	4	CJF
Jan. 12	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Jan. 17	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
ca. Jan. 22	W. Pennant, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAM
Jan. 24	Herring Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	AGH, Henrik Reers
Jan. 28	Crystal Crescent	2	HAT
Jan. 28; 30	Sambro Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	3, 1	HAT, RSM, DOM
Jan. 31	Louisbourg, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM
Feb. 7	Louisbourg, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM
Feb. 20	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM, CHK

Common Murre

CBCs	2 counts	6	
Dec. 28	Halls Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	1	AND, Lelia Dean
Dec. 31	Ferguson Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	Dominic Cormier, <i>et al.</i>

Thick-billed Murre

CBCs	3 counts	7	
Dec. 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, NSBS
Dec. 31	Ferguson Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	Dominic Cormier, <i>et al.</i>
Feb. 14	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	2	KJM, Charlie Kendell

Razorbill

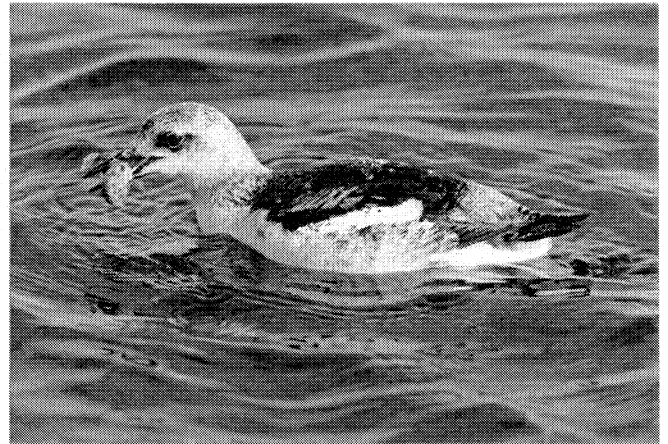
CBCs	2 counts	3	
Dec. 15	Brier I. CBC	1	

Black Guillemot

CBCs	18 counts	510	
Dec. 13	Grand Passage, Brier I.	20+	ELM, AHM
Jan. 10	Bayswater, <i>Lun.</i>	4	CJF
Jan. 25	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	4	KJM
Jan. 28	Sambro Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	12	HAT
Feb. 8-10	Dartmouth Cove	2	Paul Murray
Feb. 15	Black Point, <i>HRM</i>	2	DOU
Feb. 27	Lunenburg Hbr.	6+	ELM, IAM

Atlantic Puffin

Dec. 7	Off Duncan Reef, <i>HRM</i>	2	HAT
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BLACK GUILLEMOTS are perhaps readily photographed off the Sambro, *HRM*, wharf, but it takes skill and patience to get a close shot of one about to deal with a small but prickly sculpin. [Photo Hans Toom]

Gull Identification—Is It or Isn't It?

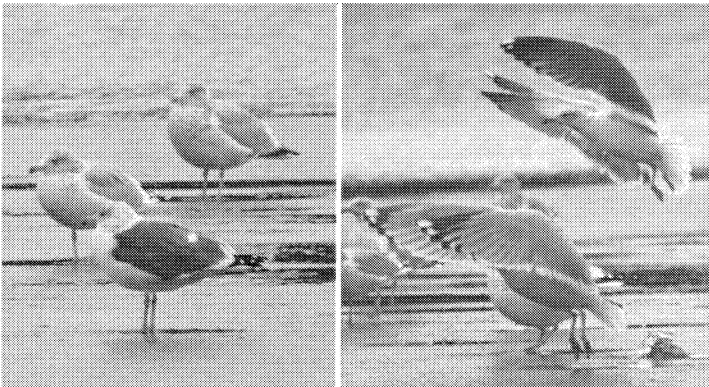
Individual gulls are a focus of endless speculation and argument among serious gull-watchers. Each of these seemed to pose questions, and perhaps some intriguing possibilities.



This on-line photo of an adult GLAUCOUS GULL, on the ice of an urban pond in Truro, was recognized as unusual by BBU, who noted that the w. European, and especially those wintering in the U.K., usually have much more heavily streaked heads than ours. Several committed gull watchers from here and elsewhere have indicated that they have never seen a N. American bird that looked like this one. [Photo Jeff Ogden]



This gull at Eastern Passage gave scant opportunity for study by ELM and IAM and only one distant digiscope photo before it fled into Halifax Hbr. It was pink-legged, but certainly darker backed and perhaps sturdier than any HERRING GULL in the area. The observers had in mind that the n. European subspecies *argentatus* turns up rarely but regularly in St. John's, NL. [Photo Ian McLaren]



This gull, early Jan. 9 at the head of Prospect Hbr., HRM, is probably the same one that has been recurrent there since first discovered by BLM a couple of years ago, and it continues to be puzzling. Although its dark gray back, yellow legs, and head-streaking fit a *graellsii* LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL, it seems too "chunky", too long-legged, and with shorter primary extensions for that gull. Yellow-legged Gull of w. Europe and the Azores (or a hybrid therewith) or Heuglen's Gull (usually taken as a race of Lesser-black-backed) of w. Siberia have been suggested, but it is probably best left as a probable, if slightly unusual, Lesser black-backed. [Photos Mike King]



This gull found at Eastern Passage during the Halifax-Dartmouth CBC seemed to have classic features of a fully countable THAYER'S GULL, but did not stay around for direct comparisons with Herring Gulls. Its dark primaries, Iceland-like head and bill, dark eye, and strongly pink legs were noted as evident in the field, and are evident in this distant image. [Photo Duncan Rand]

Pigeons Through Woodpeckers

By Chris Field

Looking at the results from the CBC, MOURNING DOVES were the 9th most abundant bird, with an average of 3.75 per party hour, up 15% from their 15 year average, which attests to their continued success in the province. There was a report of two **WHITE-WINGED DOVES** reported on a feeder watch in Barrington/Cape Sable with the homeowner giving a good description. They were not seen by any of the counters so we should probably view the report as tentative.

Fifty-two owls were reported on CBCs, with BARRED being the most common, followed by NORTHERN SAW-WHET and GREAT HORNED. There were two undocumented reports of BOREAL OWLS on CBCs, one from Halifax/Dartmouth and the second from Truro. It was a poor winter for SNOWY OWLS, with only two reported. SHORT-EARED OWLS were not noted on any CBC, but one was seen on Christmas day in Grand Desert with another January 10 in Brule Point.

There were a reasonable scattering of BELTED KINGFISHERS as might be expected and the numbers of NORTHERN FLICKERS (155) were in line with previous years. PILEATED WOODPECKER numbers seem to be holding up well and BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKERS (10) is the highest since 1974. Only two RED-BELLIED WOODPECKERS were reported both in Halifax/Dartmouth which is down from the most recent years.

Rock Pigeon			
CBCs	provincewide	7012	var.obs.
Mourning Dove			
CBCs	provincewide	7108	var.obs.
Dec.-Feb.	Mid. Musq., <i>HRM</i>	up to 20	VJH
Dec.-Feb.	Bridgetown, <i>Anna</i> .	up to 30	MCR
Jan.-Feb.	Wolville Ridge, <i>Kings</i>	up to 12	JCT
Dec.-Feb.	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	several	DMW
Dec.-Feb.	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	up to 20	SLH
WHITE-WINGED DOVE			
Dec.	Barrington, <i>Shel.</i>	2	feeder watch
Great Horned Owl			
CBCs	provincewide	12	var.obs.
Dec. 7	Clyde River, <i>Shel.</i>	1	J.Kenney
Dec. 12	Lockport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	Keith Snow
Snowy Owl			
Dec. 20	Barrington CBC	1	one obs.
Dec. 7-17	CSI	1	JON
Dec. 25	Weymouth, <i>Yar.</i>	1	J.Kenney
Barred Owl			
CBCs	provincewide	23	var.obs.
Jan. 6	Meaghers Grant, <i>HRM</i>	1	C.Pepper
Jan. 6	Higginsville, <i>HRM</i>	1	C.Pepper
Jan. 30	Brier I.	1	JUS
Feb. 24	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	1	SLH
Long-eared Owl			
CBCs	Two counts	4	var.obs.
Short-eared Owl			
Dec. 25	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	1	SEM
Jan. 10	Brule Pt., <i>Col.</i>	1	J.Trubinca
Boreal Owl			
Dec.-Jan.	CBC	2 (nd)	two obs.
Northern Saw-whet Owl			
CBCs	provincewide	14	var.obs.
Feb.16	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	1	SLH
Belted Kingfisher			
CBCs	provincewide	29	var.obs.
Dec.-Feb. 16	Widely	singles	var.obs.
Red-bellied Woodpecker			
Dec.	Halifax/Dartmouth	2	two obs.
Dec. 1-15	Jollimore, <i>HRM</i>	1	S.Hunt
Downy Woodpecker			
CBCs	provincewide	660	var.obs.
Dec.-Jan.	Widely	1-2	var.obs.
Hairy Woodpecker			
CBCs	provincewide	485	var.obs.
Dec.-Jan.	Widely	1-2	var.obs.

Black-backed Woodpecker			
CBCs	provincewide	10	var.obs.
Dec. 22,			
Jan. 16-23	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	1	C.Pepper
Jan. 14	3 Fathom Hbr	1	C.Pepper
Northern Flicker			
D CBCs	provincewide	155	var.obs.
Dec.-Jan.	Widely	1-2	var.obs.
Pileated Woodpecker			
CBCs	provincewide	92	var.obs.
Dec. 6	New Ross, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
Dec. 1, 10	Wolfville Ridge, <i>Kings</i>	1	JCT
Dec. 14	Westville, <i>Pict.</i>	1	L.Martin
Dec. 22	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	1	C.Pepper
Jan. 6, 27	Higginsville, <i>HRM</i>	1	C.Pepper
Feb. 25	Ashdale, <i>Hants</i>	1	D.Brazzell



This BARRED OWL appeared briefly and mysteriously (it is, after all, an owl) in early evening Jan. 30 at June Swift's backyard on Brier I. [Photo June Swift]

Flycatchers Through Thrushes

By Hans Toom

There were two reports of WESTERN KINGBIRD, unusually late for this flycatcher. The first one was reported on Dec 1 by Ally Manthorne at Port Bickerton, *Guys*. The other was a bird near JON's home in Lower Clark's Harbour, *CSI*. Even after most insects have disappeared kingbirds can survive on a diet of fruit, but prefer juniper berries.

The CAROLINA WREN at Laconia, *Lun*, as reported by Heather Tunna and Peter Churchill from Dec 7 to Jan 26, was a remarkable bird, attesting to its innovative survival skills. Apparently the wren had already been present for about six months before the first report was posted. The wren spent each night, at times with considerable snow on the ground, in either the hen coup, the horse barn, or the cellar door entrance. The wren constructed a cavity in exposed fiberglass insulation at the cellar door entrance and would disappear into this cavity to sleep. Peter used a flashlight to confirm that it was sleeping eight inches inside the fiberglass batting. This location provided both insulation for warmth, and protection from the elements. The wren would also spend a great deal of time in the woodshed, which likely hosted a habitat for various overwintering insects. The covered wood shed ensured that the wren could forage here in comfort. Heather added, "He/she also had other night time shelters, he sometimes is in the horse barn or the hayloft and another of his favourite spots is with our chickens in their coop. In this colder weather their coop is often closed so he can't access it, but in the warmer weather he figured that even if the coop door wasn't open he could access the building by going in through the chicken wire enclosed run and then through the hatch door that the chickens use to travel in and out. So we do agree that he is a most ingenious little fellow."

The second CAROLINA WREN this winter was reported Feb 27 by Ann Lambert and Tom Welch who heard it singing in Chester, *HRM*. Since there was a previous report by Ann of a wren in this location during the summer, it is probably the same bird that had chosen to over-winter.

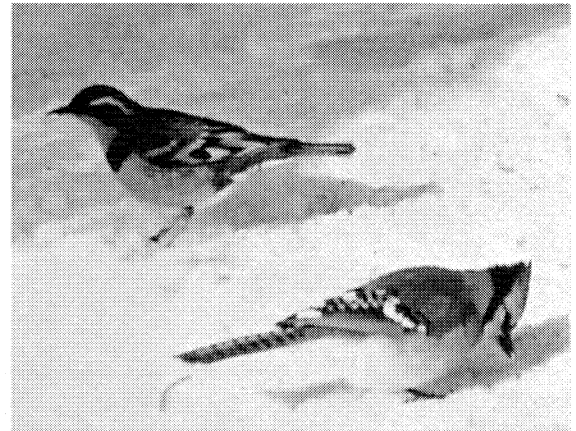
Dominic Cormier reported a HOUSE WREN at Bull Point at the entrance to Sambro Harbour. He was with a winter birding group looking for alcids when they discovered the wren "While searching, we heard multiple raspy call notes and then brought up a HOUSE WREN very briefly from a dense patch of stunted spruce trees right near the end of the road on the ocean side."

There was a remarkable report by JOS, Feb 7-12, of 6 male and one female EASTERN BLUEBIRD, at Central Cheboque, *Yar*. This thrush is known to bundle up together in cavities to conserve body warmth. This may be the same group that was reported earlier Nov 2-9 on Big Tusk Island, *Yar*.

The VARIED THRUSH, a very rare far western visitor, made two appearances this winter. The first was Jan 10 at Lwr. West Pubnico, *Yar*, as reported by TCD, and photographed at Christine and Anthony D'Eon's feeder. The second was Feb 10, at Avonport, *Hants*, as reported by VIR for Caroline Pope.

One good bird deserves another: while Dominic Cormier was stalking the Spotted Towhee on Dec 22 he spotted one of the very few Hermit Thrushes found this winter.

AMERICAN ROBINS, though not rare at any time of year, being both numerous and robust, turned up in large numbers this winter all over the province, often in groups of over 100 individuals. This phenomenon may be due to the long lasting fall weather which demotivated the start of their fall migration, the mild winter, or an abundant supply of food, or likely all of these conditions.



One of this winter's only two VARIED THRUSHES, of which only about 35 (mostly males, like this one) have been found in the province in past years, was photographed for the record in February by its "owner" near Avonport. [Photo Caroline Hope]

Western Kingbird			Blue Jay		
Dec 1	Port Bickerton, <i>Guys</i>	1	Ally Manthorne	province-wide	6844 (1470 at Wolfville)
Dec 1-3	Lower Clark's Hbr, <i>CSI</i>	1	JON, var. obs.	Mid. Musq., <i>HRM</i>	1-10 daily VJH
Northern Shrike				Thr. Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	4-16 daily HAT, LAE
CBCs	8 counts	8		Thr. Bridgetown, <i>Anna</i>	1-12 daily MCR
Dec 23-27	White Pt., <i>Queens</i>	1	MMI	Thr. White's Lake, <i>HRM</i>	25-40 daily BLM
Jan 17	Sandy Cove Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, DAC	Dec 17 Wolfville, <i>Kings</i>	1470 CBC
Jan 23	Tangier, <i>HRM</i>	1	Chris Pepper	American Crow	
				CBCs	province-wide 34,122 (4072 at Wolfville)

Common Raven

CBCs province-wide 1959 (304 on Wolfville)

Horned Lark

CBCs 8 counts 176 (70 on Amherst)
 Dec 1 Pond Cove, *Brier I.* 12 AHM
 Dec 19 Wolfville, *Kings* 43 CBC
 Jan 14 Grand Pre, *Kings* 12 AND,
 Lelia Dean

Black-capped Chickadee

CBCs province-wide 13,283 (1136 at Wolfville)
 Dec 1 Western Head, *Lun* 34 JAH

Boreal Chickadee

CBCs province-wide 299 (44 Sheet Hbr)
 Dec 1-Feb 28 Portuguese Cove, *HRM* 2-8 daily HAT, LAE
 Dec 14 Upper Kingsburg, *Lun* 9 JAH, DPO
 Dec 15 Brier I. 1 CBC
 Dec 19 Wolfville, *Kings* 2 CBC
 Dec 19 Wood's Hbr., *Shel* 2 JAH, DPO
 Dec 22 Tangier, *HRM* 21 Chris Pepper

Red-breasted Nuthatch

CBCs province-wide 583 (81 Bedford)
 Dec 1-Feb 28 Mid. Musq., *HRM* 2 VJH
 Dec 19 Wolfville, *Kings* 27 CBC

White-breasted Nuthatch

CBCs province-wide 272 (61 Kingston)
 Dec 1-Feb 28 Milton, *Queens* 2 DPO
 Dec 1-Feb 28 Bridgetown, *Anna* 2 MCR
 Dec 1-Feb 28 Wolfville Ridge, *Kings* 1 JCT
 Dec 19 Wolfville, *Kings* 60 CBC
 Jan 1 Sunrise Valley, *Vic* 1 *fide* FMC
 Jan 11 Clayton Park, *HRM* 1 RES

Brown Creeper

CBCs provincewide 78 (14 Bedford)
 Dec 10 Wolfville, *Kings* 2 CBC
 Dec 21 Lawrencetown, *HRM* 1 DMW
 Dec 22 Tangier, *HRM* 1 Chris Pepper
 Dec 27 Oakland, *Lun* 1 JAH, DPO
 Jan 14 Dawson Brook Falls, *Hants* 12++ HAT
 Jan 27 Higginville, *HRM* 2 Chris Pepper
 Feb 7 Martin's Pt., *Lun* 1 PMA

Carolina Wren

Dec 7-Jan 26 Laconia, *Lun* 1 Heather
 Tunnah, Peter
 Churchill,
 others
 Feb 27 Chester, *HRM* 1 Anne Lambert,
 Tom Welch

House Wren

Dec 31 Bull Pt., *HRM* 1 Dominic
 Cormier

Winter Wren

CBCs 3 counts 3
 Feb 2 Windsor, *Hants* 1 PKE
 Feb 16 Bear Pt., *Shel* 1 CST

Golden-crowned Kinglet

CBCs provincewide 1290 (150 Amherst)
 Dec 26 Mid. Musq., *HRM* 2 VJH
 Jan 17 Mid. Musq., *HRM* 1 VJH
 Feb 13 Mid. Musq., *HRM* 1 VJH

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

CBCs 4 counts 5
 Dec 15 Brier I. 1 JWW
 Dec 19 Wolfville, *Kings* 1 CBC
 Dec 19 Woods Hbr., *Shel* 1 JAH

Eastern Bluebird

Feb 7-8 Chebogue, *Yar* 7 JOS

Varied Thrush

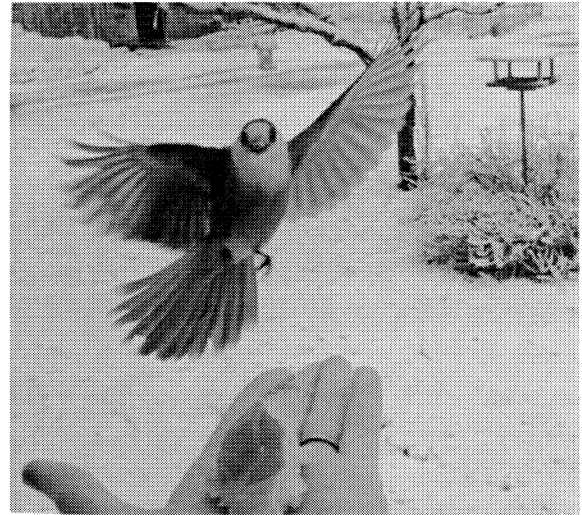
Jan 10-12 Lwr. West Pubnico, *Yar* 1m TCD, Christine
 D'Eon,
 Anthony
 D'Eon, others
 Feb 1+ Avonport Bch, *Hants* 1 thr Caroline Hope

Hermit Thrush

CBCs 3 counts 3
 Dec 22 Hatchet L., *HRM* 1 Dominic
 Cormier

American Robin

CBCs provincewide 716 (192 Cape Sable)
 Dec 19 Shag Hbr, *Shel* 41 JAH, DPO
 Dec 19 Woods Hbr., *Shel* 150 JAH, DPO
 Dec 26 Lockport, *Shel* 100+ *fide* DJC
 Jan 7 Yarmouth, *Yar* 150 JON, SAN,
 Edna Crowell
 Jan 10 Martin's Pt., *Lun* 12 PMA
 Jan 11 Lockport, *Shel* 20 DJC
 Jan 16 Judique, *Inv* 200 DJO
 Jan 17 Lunenburg, *Lun* 68 JAH, DAW
 Jan 17 Shore Drive, *Lun* 68 JAH, DAW
 Feb 10 Lockport, *Shel* 60 DJC
 Feb 18 Lawrencetown, *HRM* 12 Chris Pepper
 Feb 21 Boutiliers, *HRM* 17 Robins
 Suzann
 Feb 21 Eastern Passage, *HRM* 100 DAC, MIK
 Feb 27 Clayton Park, *HRM* 15-20 RSM



Most of us seldom see a GRAY JAY these days, let alone photograph one. This one coming to feeders Dec. 6 at Apple River was photographed literally at hand. [Photo Sapphire Brine-Spicer]

Mimics Through Warblers

By Ken McKenna

Nova Scotia's common mimic thrushes were all present this winter, but numbers were very insignificant. Only a single GRAY CATBIRD was noted, but it made it to the Halifax CBC. NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD numbers continue the low trend of the last few years with fewer than 10 individuals recorded over the winter. Only one bird was recorded on any CBC, in Halifax, while Great Backyard Bird Count noted 3, one each from Beaver Bank, Halifax and Port Williams. The BROWN THRASHER from the grounds of the McCulloch House Museum in Pictou, first discovered in mid-Nov., continued into Dec, and was recorded on the Pictou Hbr. CBC by Amber and Steve Vines. It was last seen Feb 1 -- the food supply of multi-flora rose was getting very thin and there was a Sharpshinned Hawk in the immediate vicinity (KJM).



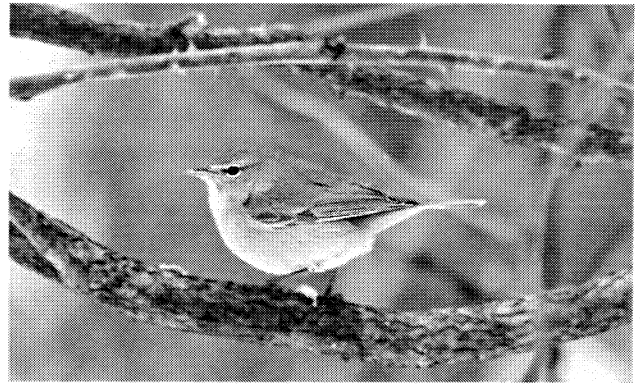
A sprightly NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD, Dec. 31 in a Halifax backyard, attested to the season by perching on a string of holiday lights. [Photo Don MacNeill]

The up-tick in EUROPEAN STARLING numbers on the CBC from last year did not hold and this years numbers are below the 10 and 15 year averages. On Dec 31, JOB described a starling with a grossly deformed bill two times longer than normal with the lower portion longer than the upper and upswept like an avocet. There were only a few AMERICAN PIPIT reports, found only on three CBCs, and in lower than average numbers. This was a slow year for BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS. Of the six counts reporting on the CBCs, five were in Cape Breton, and a low 593 were observed. There appeared to be a little bit of movement of Bohemians to the mainland in February. CEDAR WARWINGS lingered and were noted on 11 CBCs, three of these in Cape Breton, but the distribution was quite widespread through all the province.

Maybe because the winter report season did not start on a weekend, warbler variety was poor for this period. Only ten species were noted all winter with a paltry six species on the CBCs. The total of 193 warblers on the CBCs was on the low side.

Gray Catbird				Jan 7	Yarmouth	75	JON, SAN, TEC
Dec 20	Eastern Passage, HRM	1	AGH, et. al	Jan 16	Judique, Inv.	A few with robins	
Northern Mockingbird				Jan 25	Wolfville	20	BLF
Dec 1	Wolfville	1, thr.	BLF	Jan 31	eastern Kings	150	var. obs.
Dec 9	Halifax	1 thr.	DAM	Feb 4	Bridgewater, Lun.	a group	JAH
Dec 21-Jan 28	Grand Pre, Kings	1	JWW; AND	Feb 6	Lunenburg	a group	JAH
Jan 17	Bedford, HRM	1	R. Peckham	Feb 8	Wolfville Ridge	30 with 120 Bohemians	
Feb 28	Lower Sackville, HRM	1	RIV	Feb 20	Sheet Hbr., HRM	5	BLF
Brown Thrasher				Feb 21	Eastern Passage, HRM	4	KJM, CHK
Dec 5-Feb 1	Pictou (town)	1	KJM	Feb 25	Halifax	15	SEM
European Starling				Feb 27	Lunenburg	59	JAH
CBCs	33 of 34 counts	46,705		Feb, 27	Indian pt., Lun.	9	JAH
American Pipit				Feb 28	Dartmouth	80+	DAC
Dec 13	Hartlen Pt.	6	MIK, FLL, CHP	Orange-crowned Warbler			
Dec 14, 15	Brier I.	3, 11	ELM	Dec 2	Dorothea Dr, Dartmouth	1	BLM
CBCs	3 counts	15		Dec 2	Clarks Hbr., Shel.	1	CLS
Jan 28	Crystal Crescent	1	HAT	Dec 4	Halifax	1	PLC
Bohemian Waxwing				Dec 9+	Lower Sackville, HRM	1 thr.	LOC
Dec 7	Irish Mtn., Pict.	12	KJM	Dec 13	Brookdale, HRM	1	MIK
Dec 14	Brier I.	28 in 2 flocks	ELM, AHM	CBCs	4 counts	7	
CBCs	6 counts	593		Dec 19	Woods Harbour, Shel.	1	FLL, CHP
Jan 3	Bay St. Lawrence, Vic.	~200	FMC	Dec 22+	Dartmouth	1 thr	GAM
Jan 25	Wolfville	150	BLF	Dec 27	Mahone Bay, Lun.	1	JAH, DPO
Feb 7	Pictou (town)	100+	KJM	Dec 28	Bisset L., HRM	2	MIK
Feb 8	Wolfville Ridge, Kings	120	BLF	Northern Parula			
Feb 11	Glace Bay, CBRM	200	BES	Dec 9	Canso	1	TOK
Feb 18	Lawrencetown, HRM	1	CHP	Yellow-rumped Warbler			
Feb 21	Eastern Passage, HRM	21	MIK, DAC	Dec 5	Waterside PP, Pict.	2	KJM, CHP
Feb 28	Dartmouth	1 with 80 Cedars	DAC	CBCs	7 counts	170, Cape Sable-105	
Cedar Waxwings				Dec 18	Summerville Beach, Queens	19	fide JAH
Dec 2	East LaHave, Lun.	present	DWA, JAH	Dec 19	Woods Hbr., Shel.	6	JAH, DPO
Dec 5	Pictou (town)	250	KJM, CHK	Dec 20; 28	Rainbow Haven, HRM	10; ~100	MIK, et. al
Dec 16	Port Williams, Kings	40	RBS	Jan 9	Garden Lots, Lun.	10	JAH, DPO
Dec 19	New Glasgow, Pict.	16	KJM	Jan 17	Lunenburg	7	JAH, DAW
CBCs	11 counts	214		Jan 30	Trenton, Pict.	1	KJM
Jan 1	Pictou Hbr. CBC	50	fide KJM				

Feb 6	Martinique	1	CHP
Feb 13	Rainbow Haven, <i>HRM</i>	40	MIK, DEG
Feb 24	Lunenburg	11	JAH
Feb 28	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	JOK
YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER			
Dec 9	Dartmouth	1	<i>vide</i> BLM
Pine Warbler			
Dec 4	Canso	1 bright	TOK
CBCs	1 count, Pictou Hbr.	4, see below	
Dec 19	Pictou	1, also Jan 1	Elwin Hemphill
Dec 18-21	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JOA
Dec 27	Clearland Trail, <i>Lun.</i>	1	DPO, JAH
Dec 31	PPP	1	CJF
Jan 1	Trenton, <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM, <i>et. al</i>
Feb 7	PPP	1-2 1 bright 1dull	DOU, PLC
Prairie Warbler			
Dec 4	Canso	1	TOK
Palm Warbler			
Dec 1	Crystal Crescent	1 western	HAT
Dec 2	Stoney I., <i>Shel.</i>	1	CLS
Dec 9	Canso	1	TOK
CBCs	1 count, Cape Sable	1	
Black and White Warbler			
Dec 5	Halifax	1 also Dec 8 (ANM)	DAC, JOB, MIK, GDE
Common Yellowthroat			
Dec 5	PPP	1	DAC, JOB, GDE
CBCs	3 counts	3	
Dec 19	New Glasgow	1	KJM
Dec 20	Rainbow Haven, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, <i>et. al</i>
Yellow-breasted Chat			
Dec 13	Dartmouth	2	FLL, MIK, CHP
CBCs	4 counts	7, 4 on Hfx count	
Dec 18	Liverpool, <i>Queens</i>	1	JAH, DPO
Dec 20	Eastern Passage	1	AGH, <i>et. al</i>
Dec 21	Halifax	1	PLC
Jan 16	Halifax	1	SEM



Gayle MacLean's long-staying ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER paused briefly for its portrait on Jan. 10. [Photo Richard Stern]



The YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT is notoriously furtive, so this fine portrait, Dec. 28 during the Bedford-Sackville CBC, is a coup for the photographer. [Photo Duncan Rand]

Tanagers Through House Sparrows

By Ian McLaren

The somewhat paltry tabulated reports reflect reality: it was a mediocre birding winter. The only real rarity was the long-staying **SPOTTED TOWHEE** at Hatchet L., *HRM*, last seen in early February (G. Hawkins). It had had been missing for about 3 weeks prior to that last sighting, so may have been wandering more widely in the spring-like weather. As noted by DAC, our hard-working, long-time CBC editor, despite average effort, the counts also revealed shortages of our regular seedeaters. Some of these trends might be troubling, but unusually mild conditions in eastern Canada may have encouraged some species to linger further north and west. **AMERICAN TREE SPARROWS** on CBCs were fewest since the mid-1980s, hopefully because more wintered closer to their taiga breeding range. More worryingly, the **SAVANNAH SPARROW** has become a species of concern because of widely negative Breeding Bird Survey trends, and our CBC birders found fewer than in any winter since 1980. It is perhaps interesting that CBCs of **SONG** and **WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS**, both year-round residents, were within recent ranges, whereas the largely boreal and taiga nesting **FOX SPARROW** (only 1 bird!) and **DARK-EYED JUNCO** were fewest since the early 1990s. The "normal" counts of **SNOW BUNTINGS** and **LAPLAND LONGSPURS** might indicate that those arctic breeders instinctively bypassed the forested boreal zone regardless of the open winter. The single **LINCOLN'S SPARROW** at Broad Cove in January was noted as "dark" (SJF); although it has no formal subspecies, those from farther west and also from Newfoundland are said to be darker and more rufous.

An unusual **FOX SPARROW**, found Feb. 24 at Lunenburg by JAH, is described by him as follows.

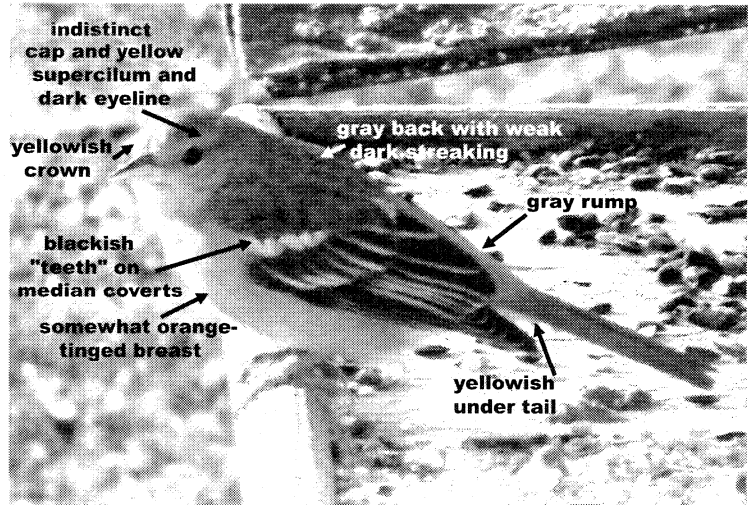
"It had heavy black striping on the chest with a noticeable variance [in colour] between the wing and the upper body. I did not get the bill color as my look was not long enough to determine that, and at the time I did not know that [it] could be a distinguishing feature. The bill was not massive, so I can rule out Thick-billed. Sooty can also be ruled out as the spots did not coalesce on the breast. There was heavy spotting on the chest and down the under-

parts, whereas the spotting of [a Fox Sparrow] seen the week before only ran part way down the chest and was orange rather than blackish.”

The description suggests a western bird, plausibly of the Slate-colored (*schiststacea*) subspecies group, an apparent individual of which was photographed during the 2007 CBC at Cape St. Mary’s Pt., NB. This winter, one thought to be of the Sooty (*unalaschenis*) group was photographed in New Hampshire. There is good reason to think that Fox Sparrows will be “split” into four species, and such vagrants are worth detailed documentation and photographs.

NORTHERN CARDINAL continued to build its population, but there were few of its colourful relatives this winter – no tanagers, one INDIGO BUNTING, and a couple of ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAKS.

Although blackbirds are considered to be declining – especially RUSTY, with merely two this winter – RED-WINGED BLACK-BIRD and BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD held their own, and some of the former seemed to be returning by the end of February. COMMON GRACKLE, however, produced the lowest CBC in a decade. Congratulations to SEM who nurtured the largest ever number of BALTIMORE ORIOLES through the winter in Halifax – nine of ten individuals, including one captured for successful rehabilitation at HVD’s facility in Truro. Michael Inkpin photographed our first seemingly convincing hybrid BALTIMORE X BULLOCK’S ORIOLE during the Kingston CBC. The reasons for believing it a hybrid, rather than a pigment-deficient young female Baltimore, which are quite regular here in fall-winter, are shown on the accompanying image and the more informative colour original. Its yellow-washed face and cap, yellow (but weakish) supercilium, gray rump and back (the latter perhaps too-streaked), were more-Bullock’s-like than Baltimore-like and the black “teeth” on the median coverts are a diagnostic Bullock’s feature. However, the orange tinged breast and yellowish undertail coverts are characteristic of Baltimore.



[Photo Michael Inkpin]

Although Ontario’s Ron Ridout hedged some bets in his annual winter-finch forecast, his overall prediction for the Maritimes, that finches would largely go elsewhere, was borne out. Most sightings in early winter, including the CBCs, were in Cape Breton and the n. mainland (where spruce crops were also noted as higher). Some observers reported complete absence of anything but AMERICAN GOLDFINCH through much of the season, with others noting some feeder arrivals after storms. We are used to wide fluctuations in these eruptive species, but the recent decline of PINE GROSBEAK (with its lowest CBC totals since 1964, with much less effort then) of is at best a troublesome example of northward range shift of this more boreal resident.

HOUSE SPARROW counts were lower on this year’s CBC than on last year’s, and thereby the lowest since 1960. Yet DJO at Port Hawkesbury noted an increase this winter of 40 compared with 10-12 in the past. We need a concerted regional census. Two almost white individuals visited Halifax feeders, one retaining a weak golden-brown wash of phaeomelanin and the other with restricted gray tinges of eumelanin (see photos on page 27).

Eastern Towhee

Early Nov. to
Feb. 21 Petite Rivière, Lun. 1 f., feeder Connie Dagley, et al.

SPOTTED TOWHEE

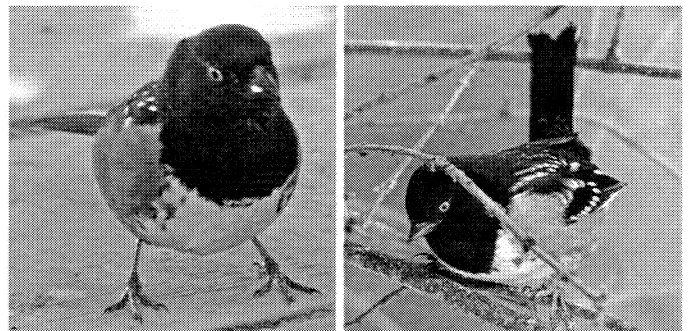
Nov. to
early Feb. Hatchet L., HRM 1 m. G. Hawkins, var. obs.

American Tree Sparrow

CBCs CBRM to Shel. 403
Dec. Widely, 4 repts. 1-2 each 4 obs.
Jan. 8 Broad Cove, Lun. nos. after death SJF
Jan. 26 White Pt., Queens 1 MMI
Jan. 31 Shubenacadie, Hants 3 KAM
Feb. 27 Old Barns, Lun. 10 ELM, IAM

Chipping Sparrow

CBCs Pictou-Yarmouth 35 21
Through winter Wolfville up to 5 JWW



The patience and photographic skills of Hans Toom have given us all some images to cherish, including close ups of this winter’s only “mega-rarity,” the SPOTTED TOWHEE at Hatchet Lake, in the early January snow. [Photos Hans Toom]

mid-Dec –				
mid-Feb.	Bridgetown, <i>Anna.</i>	up to 6	MCR	
Feb. 23	White Pt., <i>Shel.</i>	1 new	MM	
Clay-colored Sparrow				
CBC	White Pt., <i>Shel.</i>	1		
Lark Sparrow				
Feb. 6	Westmount, CBRM	1 (nd)	Barb. Glassey	
Savannah Sparrow				
CBCs	<i>CBRM.</i> to CSI	27		
Jan. 24	Grand Pré	nos.	Bob MacDonald	
Jan. 31	Shubenacadie	1	KMcAuley	
Early Feb.	Grand Pré	15	JWW	
Feb. 18	Grand Pré	few	JWW	
Savannah (“Ipswich”) Sparrow				
CBCs	<i>HRM,</i> Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	2		
3 Jan.	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	1 (photo)	Chris Pepper	
22 Jan.	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	4	Chris Pepper	
Feb. 2	Rainbow Haven Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1 (photo)	D. Abolit	
Grasshopper Sparrow				
CBCs	Dartmouth	1		
Fox Sparrow				
CBCs	Lunenburg	1		
Early Dec.	CSI	1 at feeder	JON	
Jan. 15	W. Sable Rd.	1	DHY	
Jan. 17	Lunenburg	1 (“taiga”)	JAH	
Jan. 20	S. Margarets Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	Eleanor Lindsay	
Feb. 19	Sambro Head, <i>HRM</i>	1	Bruce Curtis	
Feb. 26	Lunenburg	1 (“western”)	JAH	
Song Sparrow				
CBCs	<i>CBRM</i> to CSI	1085		
Through winter	Halifax	4 at feeder	SEM	
Dec.	widely, 4 repts	1s and 2s	3 obs.	
Dec. 1, 6	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	12, 20	BLF, JAH	
Dec. 31	Wolfville Ridge	1 st at feeder	JCT	
Jan.	Widely, 5 repts.	1s & 2s	4 obs.	
Jan. 8	Broad Coves, <i>Lun.</i>	nos. after dearth	SJF, JAH, DOP	
Jan. 28, Feb. 1	Halifax	2 singing	PLC, Lynn Karchewski	
Feb.	widely, 6 repts.	1s & 2s	4 obs.	
Lincoln’s Sparrow				
CBCs	Hfx.-D’mth., CSI			
Jan. 8	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF	
Swamp Sparrow				
CBCs	<i>HRM.</i> to <i>Yar.</i>	27		
Dec. 3-5	Dartmouth	3	BLM, NSBS	
Dec. 19	Shel.	1, 2	JAH, <i>et al.</i>	
Jan. 3, Feb. 15	Lunenburg	1,1	JAH	
White-throated Sparrow				
CBCs	CBH NP. to CSI	600		
Dec. 4	Wolfville	1 singing	JWW	
Dec.	Widely, 4 repts.	1s to 3		
Jan.	widely, 3 repts.	1s to 3		
Jan. 8	Broad Cove	Nos. after dearth	SJF	
Feb. 21	Boutiliers Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1 singing	Suzanne Townsend	
Feb. 21	Wolfville Ridge	1 tailless	JCT	
Feb. 27	Old Barns, <i>Lun.</i>	8	ELM, IAM	
White-crowned Sparrow				
CBCs	Annapolis Royal	3		
Dark-eyed Junco				
CBCs	CBH NP to CSI	6,131		
Dec.-Jan.	Widely, 6 repts	1-18 indivs., ca. 50 total		
Feb.	Widely, 5 repts.	1-8 indivs., ca 25 total		
Feb. 6	Martins Pt., <i>Lun.</i>	10	Paul MacDonald	
Feb. 7	PPP	8	DOU	
Feb. 9-11	<i>Ant., Lun.</i>	Influxes	JOK, AHM	
Feb. 23	Halifax	1 appeared	JCZ	



We should always look closely at first-winter *Spizella* sparrows. This one at Cherry Hill during the Wolfville CBC (Dec. 28) was, despite its fairly distinct pale crown stripe, readily diagnosed as a CHIPPING SPARROW from its pronounced eyeline continuing through the lores. [Photo Judy O’Brien]



We all know that WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS comes in two equally common morphs – dull and bright, which are maintained in balance because each, regardless of sex, chooses the opposite morph as a mate. This particularly dull bird, 10 Jan. in Dartmouth, is in its first winter. Young birds often show ancestral traits. This one has distinct breast striping and even a central breast spot, and there also is recent genetic evidence that the White-throated and relatives should be placed in the same group (i.e. genus) with the Song, Lincoln’s and Swamp Sparrows. [Photo Richard Stern]

Lapland Longspur

CBCs	<i>Col.</i> to <i>Anna.</i>	98	
Jan. 28	CSI	nos.?	JON, CST
Feb. 2	Rainbow Haven Bch., <i>HRM</i>	2	Darrell Aboit

Snow Bunting

CBCs	Glace Bay to Broad Cove.	1372	
1 Dec.	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	15+	BLF
Jan.	5 locs.	6-70+ = 300+	
Feb.	4 locs., 5 repts	10-70+	

Northern Cardinal

CBCs	Pictou to CSI	176	
Jan. 7	Yarmouth	16	JON, CST
9 Jan.	Selma, <i>Hants</i>	1 m, first	A. Kawalski

Jan. 24	Tremont	1 m	Sheila Hulford
Feb.	Bridgetown, <i>Anna</i> .	m, f.	MCR
Winter	Middleton, <i>Anna</i> .	m, f.	JCZ
Winter	Wolfville	up to 9?	JWW, <i>et al.</i>
Winter	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	up to 5	RBS
Winter	<i>Queens</i>	up to 7	DPO, <i>et al.</i>
Winter	Halifax	6+	var. obs.
Winter	Dartmouth	5+	var. obs.
Winter	Prospect Pen., <i>HRM</i>	1 f. (new)	<i>fide</i> BLM
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			
CBCs	Margaree,	1 imm. m at feeder	
Nov. 28 -			
Dec. 6	CSI	1 at feeder	JON
Indigo Bunting			
Dec. 9	<i>Antionish</i>	1 at feeder	RFL
Dickcissel			
CBCs	The Sydneys	1	
Mid-Dec.	Canso	3 at feeders	TOK
15 Feb.	<i>Richmond</i>	1 at feeder	Billy Digout
Red-winged Blackbird			
CBCs	Louisbourg to CSI	68	
Dec. 1	Grand Pré	50+	BLF
Dec. 14	Chocolate L., <i>HRM</i>	1	JCZ
Dec. 21	Doctors Brk., <i>Shel.</i>	3	TEC
Jan. 4, 5	Milton, <i>Queens</i>	6 f., 6 m	DPO
Feb. 23	White Pt.	"arrived"	MMI
Feb. 27	Maders Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	2 m	JAH
Eastern Meadowlark			
CBCs	Antigonish, Glace Bay	1, 1	
Dec. 24	CSI	1	CST
RUSTY BLACKBIRD			
CBCs	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1 (gone Jan. 8)	SJF
Dec. 22	Doctors Cove, <i>Shel.</i>	1	TEC
Common Grackle			
CBCs	<i>CBRM</i> to CSI	110	
Dec. 19	Shag Hbr., <i>Shel.</i>	1	JAH, DOP
Feb. 15	Milton, <i>Queens</i>	1	DPO
Brown-headed Cowbird			
CBCs	Kingston to Yarmouth	31	
Jan. 30	Tremont	4 m.	SLH
Baltimore Oriole			
CBCs	The Sydneys to CSI	14	
Thr. winter	Vienna St. Halifax	9-10	SUM
Thr. Winter	Bay Rd., Halifax	1 imm. m.	BOC
Dec. 13	Canso	8 imm. m, 1 f.	TOK
Dec.			
(non-CBC)	<i>CBRM</i> to CSI, 7 locs	9 inds.	var. obs.
Jan.	Halifax, Lunenburg	3	var. obs.
To early Feb	Lunenburg	1-2	JAH
End Feb.	Halifax	1	<i>fide</i> JCZ
Pine Grosbeak			
CBCs	<i>CBRM</i> to Boad Cove	21	
Feb. 20	Liscombe Sanct., <i>Guys.</i>	2 heard	KJM
Purple Finch			
CBCs	CBH NP to Broad Cove	120	
2 nd week Dec.	Canso	2	TOK
Jan. 15	Milton, <i>Queens</i>	1 m.	DOP
Jan. 25	Wolfville	1	BLF
Early Feb.	Port Greville, <i>Cumb.</i>	20	<i>fide</i> JCZ
2 nd week Feb.	<i>Ant.</i>	6	RFL
Feb. 19	Barrington, <i>Shel.</i>	1	RMC
House Finch			
CBCs	<i>HRM-Kings</i> to <i>Shel.-Yar.</i>	53	
Dec. 9	Yarmouth	"several"	JON
Dec. 13	Doctors Cove, <i>Ant.</i>	1 still present	JOK
Jan. 7	Yarmouth area	21	JON
Jan. 27	Halifax W. end	1 singing	PLC
Feb. 19	Barrington	1	RMC
Red Crossbill			
CBCs	Halifax-Dartmouth to CSI	5	
Feb. 20	Liscombe Sanc., <i>Guys.</i>	5	KJM

White-winged Crossbill

CBCs	CBH NP to Lunenburg	231	
Early Jan.	Springhill area	many	CIC
Jan. 24	Bayview, Caribou PP	many singing	KJM
Jan. 27,			
Feb. 14	Liscombe Game Sanct.	many singing	KJM
Feb. 5	River Rd., <i>Queens</i>	2	JAH

Common Redpoll

CBCs	Glace Bay to Yarmouth	77	
------	-----------------------	----	--

Pine Siskin

CBCs	<i>CBRM</i> to Lunenburg	150	
Dec. 31	Bridgetown, <i>Ann.</i>	1	MCR
Jan. 5	Hatchet L., <i>HRM</i>	1	DOM
Jan. 7	Yarmouth area	5	JON
Feb. 14	Liscombe Game Sanct.	some	KJM
Feb. 26	Milton, <i>Queens</i>	2 (occ. 1)	DOP

American Goldfinch

CBCs	all CBCs but 1.	11,745	
Dec.			
(non-CBC)	widely, 10 repts.	250+	var. obs.
Jan.	widely, 11 repts.	150+	var. obs.
Feb.	widely, 4 repts.	135=	var. obs.

Evening Grosbeak

CBCs	<i>CBRM</i> to Bridgetown	775	
Jan.	Gold R., <i>HRM</i>	150 at feeder	JAH
Jan. 12	Springhill	15-20	CIC
Jan. 16, 17	<i>Queens</i>	42, 31	JAH, DPO
Feb. 20	Lorne, <i>Pic.</i>	incr. at feeder	KJM

House Sparrow

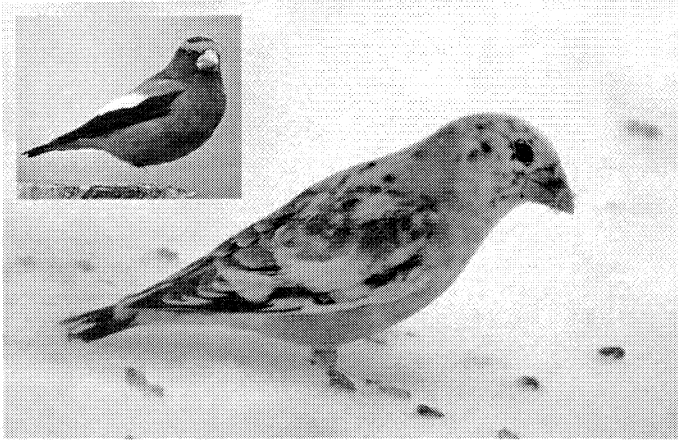
CBCs	<i>CBRM</i> to CSI	2344	
Winter	<i>CBRM</i> to CSI, 8 repts	flocks, 40 max	var. obs.



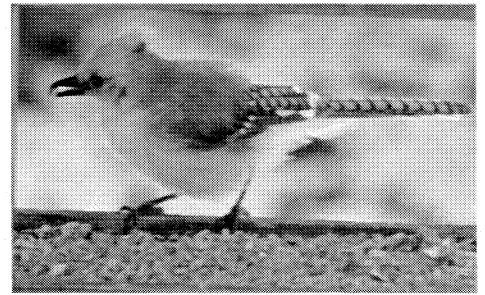
Five of a record nine BALTIMORE ORIOLES nurtured through winter by Susann Myers in Halifax, paused between feeding bouts on Feb. 17 to decorate a backyard tree. [Photo Derek Lovitch]

Plumage Variants

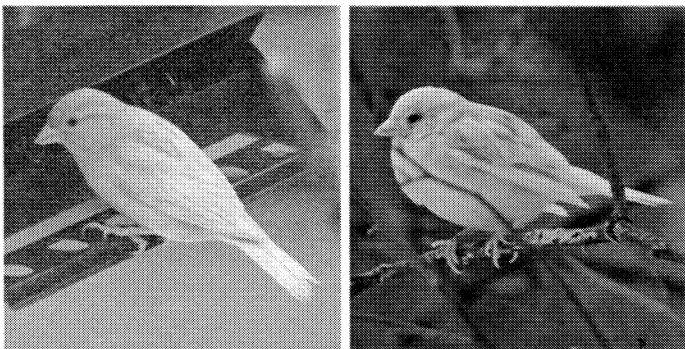
When you're weary of ticking new species for your life list, you can always seek plumage variants to admire and think about. "Variant" is the term used for birds with unusual and often variable plumage traits, whereas "morph" is the agreed term for widespread and regular forms like the "Blue" Snow Goose. Most of the variants below and on the following page were once called "partial albinos" or "leucistic," although this explains little. A closer look might reveal the missing pigments and other feather deficiencies involved. To avoid the arcane terminology, you may prefer the suggestion by Eric Mills, that all are "pigmentally challenged."



Most winters there are reports of all-yellow EVENING GROSBEAKS. This patchwork male lacks the brown forms of melanin (phaeomelanins) on the nape, neck and back, as well as black pigments (eumelanins) on darker parts of the head. Those normally blackish parts are left as white on the bird. In contrast, the underlying yellow feathering remains on the browner parts that become more yellow in older males. Finally, it also seems to retain the underlying brown pigments on some feathers of the back that are normally saturated with black pigments. In short, it's a mess. [Photo Jeff Hiltz; insert Richard Stern]



These two BLUE JAYS lack black pigments (eumelanin) of feathers on the back and head, which are a very washed-out blue-gray, without the usual black markings. This is because the blue is not a pigment, but is produced by refraction of light by tiny feather structures. It also depends on scattering of light by tiny particles of eumelanin to produce a full blue hue. Lack of melanin is also known to make feathers more readily degraded by ultra-violet light and the ravages of feather mites, and the back and crown feathers of the jay above do seem particularly messy. [Photos: above, Fritz McEvoy; below, David Currie]



These two "white" HOUSE SPARROWS in Halifax, are subtly different in plumage. The one at left (Jan. 8 at Gareth Harding's feeder) is golden buff, suggesting that it was able to produce a small amount of phaeomelanin that produces the normal brown plumage. The one at right (Feb. 19 in SUM's backyard) retains a few smudgy gray feathers in the scapulars and coverts, reflecting small doses of eumelanin. Both also lack dark pigments in their bill and legs, which are attractively orange-yellow. Neither is, of course, an "albino" – note the dark eyes. [Photos: left, Ian McLaren; right Derek Lovitch]



This white crow has been frequenting the Cambridge, *W. Hants*, region for some time (here late winter). Some such crows have a rather attractive buff tones, indicating that they retain the small dose of the brown pigments generally also present in black plumages. The slightly dingy-gray plumage of this one indicates it has produced a trace of eumelanin, but no phaeomelanin. Its bill and legs are dark, although these are covered with keratin similar to that of feathers. [Photo Jennifer Herrick]



Some birds have just a touch abnormal feathering, like this white-cheeked AMERICAN WIGEON, Dec. 28 at Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth. Such minor variations, if they are inherited and cause no difficulties (like greater risk of predation for a pure white bird) and might, for example, even prove particularly attractive to females, are the very foundation of evolutionary change. [Photo Bernard Burke]

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Thanks to all of our contributors, including:

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Dean, Andy	AND	Crosby, Donna	DJC	Waldron, Joan	JOW
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Burke, Bernard	BBU	MacLaughlin, Don	DOM	Swift, June	JUS
Sarty, Bev	BES	Doull, Elizabeth	DOU	Wolford, Jim	JWW
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The photographer managed the tricky task of keeping the focus on this long-staying, but furtive BROWN THRASHER Jan. 15 in Pictou. [Photo Steve Vines]



Weather - Eastern Annapolis Valley* - Winter 2009 - 2010

By Larry Bogan

Monthly Averages of Weather Data (from Environment Canada)

	Average Temperature			Prec (mm)	SOG (cm)
	Max	(C) Min	Mean		
December	0.9	-6.4	-2.8	35	4
<i>30 yr avg</i>	<i>1.6</i>	<i>-6.5</i>	<i>-2.5</i>	<i>130</i>	<i>8</i>
January	-0.3	-7.1	-3.7	79	20
<i>30 yr avg</i>	<i>-1.2</i>	<i>-9.8</i>	<i>-5.5</i>	<i>127</i>	<i>21</i>
February	0.4	-5.0	-2.3	89	29
<i>30 yr avg</i>	<i>-0.9</i>	<i>-9.5</i>	<i>-5.2</i>	<i>102</i>	<i>25</i>
Season	0.4	-6.2	-2.9	203	17
<i>30 yr avg</i>	<i>-0.1</i>	<i>-8.57</i>	<i>-4.37</i>	<i>359</i>	<i>18</i>

(Data from Environment Canada - The 30 year averages are for 1970-2000
SOG = Snow On the Ground - Prec = total precipitation in water)

Temperature

The Annapolis Valley had a relatively mild winter this year. December, however, started colder than average, but what a pleasure it was to have both following months warmer than usual. January averaged 1.8° C above normal while February was 2.9° C warmer. That caused the average winter seasonal temperature to be 1.5° C warmer than normal.

The daily temperatures graph shows how December and January fluctuated between -10 and 0° C at irregular intervals. After a cold and clear period in early February, the temperatures rose above -5° C and continued to climb. That is the reason February was so unusual.

Sunshine

The warmer air this winter carried more moisture and the season was generally cloudy. In January the first full sunny day of the month was not until the 17th. We had a lot of cloudy weather that month and only a few sunny days. I wish I had the bright sunshine hour data quantify this.

Precipitation

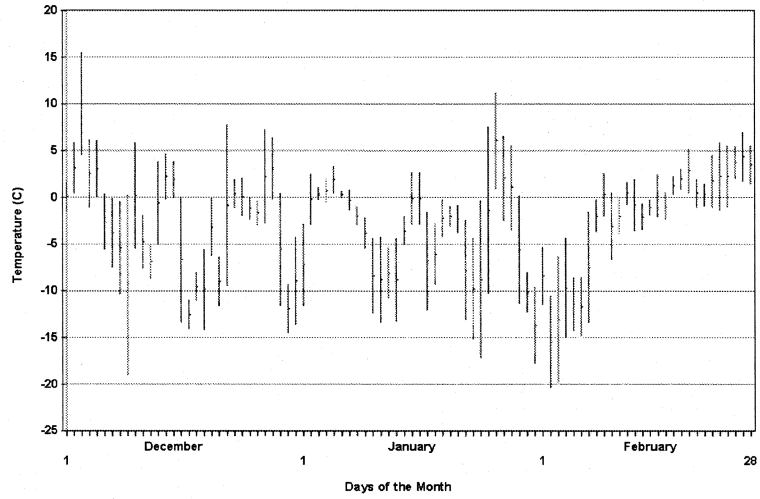
Rain and snow fall accumulations over the season were well below average, only 56% of normal. All three months were below average but December was the lowest, only 35 mm compared to the typical 130 mm. Despite this record the snow pack was nearly average. The graph of snow depth on the ground for the season shows how snow built up in December and stayed through into March. We had snow on the ground all winter except for four very brief periods of almost clear ground near the end of each month. February had above-average snow depth but December had less the average.

This winter most of the storms went out to sea south of the Maritimes and we missed much of the snow and rain that fell in the mid-Atlantic States. Those areas had record-breaking snowfalls though out February.

* This report does not have the advantage of the direct weather data from the Kentville agricultural research station that I usually have. It uses the data available on the internet from Environment Canada. The disadvantage is that this data does not include the daily bright sunshine hours nor the daily snow fall amounts. LDB

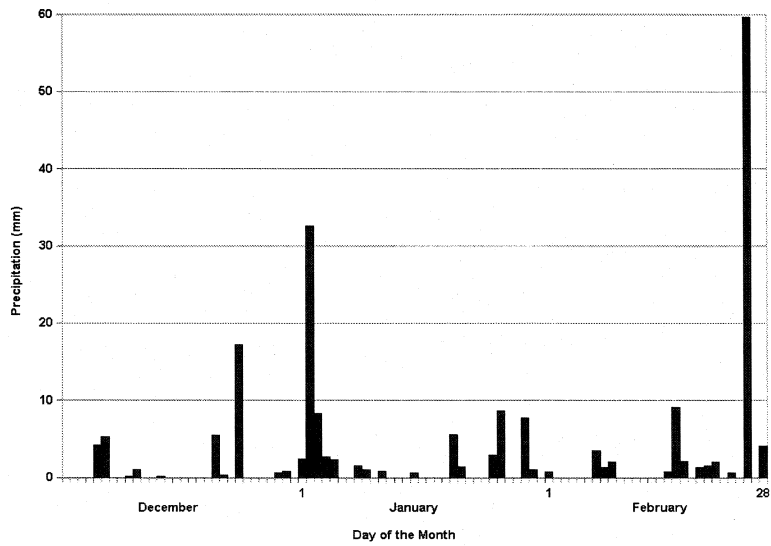
Daily Temperatures - Dec Jan Feb 2009-10

Kentville, Nova Scotia



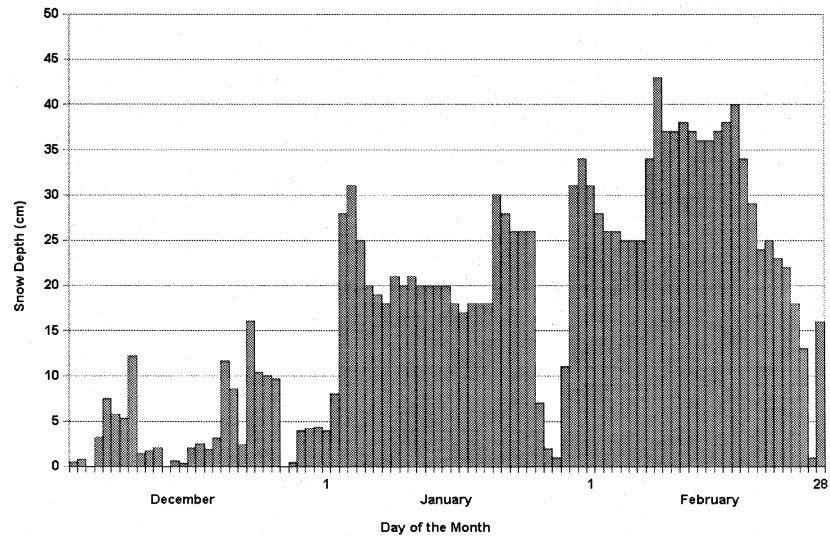
Total Daily Precipitation -Dec Jan Feb 2009-10

Kentville, Nova Scotia



Snow Depth on the Ground - Dec Jan Feb 2009-10

Kentville Nova Scotia



Nova Scotia Christmas Bird Counts

2009-2010

By David Currie and Michael King

After almost 20 years of my writing this summary this is the first year we have failed to add a new species during a CBC in Nova Scotia. However we added two new hybrids to the list, with the Great Black-backed Gull X Herring Gull during the Glace Bay Count and the Baltimore Oriole X Bullock's Oriole hybrid at Kingston. It is a marvelous credit to observers to be able to see ever-so-slight differences and cautiously submit these for the record.

This year we welcome Sheet Harbour as another venue to monitor trends. It was there we had the Province's only Spotted Sandpiper this year, one of the two Snow Geese, and a Marsh Wren, so it might be tough to top those results next year.

What was so obvious this season was how few birds of any type there were. Although we had comparable party hours, more observers, traveled further to count in exceptionally good weather, we had about 50,000 fewer birds to count than average. Astounding!

I welcome Mike King to the provincial CBC compilation duties. Hopefully, with his help this year, you will find fewer spelling mistakes in the summary below.

Twenty most abundant species by party hour with corresponding fifteen year average for each species.

Species	Actual 2009	15 yr. Avg	Species	Actual 2009	15 yr Avg
European Starling	24.645	31.656	Rock Pigeon	3.7001	4.2427
American Crow	18.005	21.787	Mallard	2.5999	1.9270
Herring Gull	9.3050	15.609	Greater Scaup	2.3286	2.5187
B-capped Chickadee	7.0091	6.1869	Common Goldeneye	2.2278	1.5187
American Black Duck	6.6419	8.7249	R-breasted Merganser	1.8569	1.7590
Canada Goose	6.4039	6.5871	Gr-Black-backed Gull	1.7477	3.7458
American Goldfinch	6.1976	4.6645	Dark-eyed Junco	1.2590	2.8342
Common Eider	4.4277	3.2181	House Sparrow	1.2369	2.5975
Mourning Dove	3.7507	3.2814	Long-tailed Duck	1.2321	1.3998
Blue Jay	3.6114	3.1421	Iceland Gull	1.2062	1.0480

Results/Effort with Corresponding 15 Year Averages

Results/Effort	Actual 2009	15 Yr. Average
Total Species Seen	156	163
Total Individual birds	233,809	280,578
Observers in Field	676	629
Feeder Watchers	636	579
Number of Hours	1814.6	1849.2
Number of Kilometres	12675.8	12535.1

AMHERST, Dec 16; 7:45 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -10 to 2° C. Wind calm. Snow 2-5.9 cm. 25 field observers in 9-17 parties. Total party hours 85.25 (53.5 on foot, 31.75 by car). Total party kilometres 625.50 (74.30 by foot, 551.20 by car).

Canada Goose 60; American Black Duck 6; Common Eider 8; Common Merganser 75; Ring-necked Pheasant 36; Ruffed Grouse 6; Bald Eagle 32; Northern Harrier 3; Red-tailed Hawk 5; Rough-legged Hawk 7; Ring-billed Gull 19; Herring Gull 1041; Iceland Gull 12; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 187; gull species 17; Rock Pigeon 220; Mourning Dove 142; Downy Woodpecker 14; Hairy Woodpecker 6; Pileated Woodpecker 3; Northern Shrike 1; Blue Jay 99; American Crow 690; Common Raven 70; Horned Lark 70; Black-capped Chickadee 513; Boreal Chickadee 18; Red-breasted Nuthatch 37; Brown Creeper 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 150; American Robin 41; European Starling 1290; Bohemian Waxwing 4; Cedar Waxwing 3; American Tree Sparrow 17; Song Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 17; Snow Bunting 481; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Pine Grosbeak 1; Purple Finch 1; White-winged Crossbill 63; Common Redpoll 10; Pine Siskin 6; American Goldfinch 171; Evening Grosbeak 2.

Total Species 47, about 5,662 individuals. Sean Blaney, Greg Campbell, Roland Chiasson, Donald Colpitts, Mickey Comeau, Vicki Daley, Kevin Kelly, Patrick Kelly, Andrew Kennedy, John Kymko, Christie MacDonald, Andrew MacFarlane, Colin MacKinnon, Bryan Martin, Adam McPherson, Julie Paquet, Kate Robinson, Sara Robinson, Al Smith, **Becky Stewart (compiler)**, Jennifer Stewart, Kyle Wellband, Becky Whittam, John Wile.

ANNAPOLIS ROYAL, Dec 19; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Temp. -7 to 5° C. Wind NW 10 kph. Snow 5cm. Still water partly open, moving water partly open. A.M. cloudy, light snow. P.M. cloudy. 22 field observers in 13 parties, 59 at feeders. Total party hours 39.5 (23.5 on foot, 16.25 by car). Total party kilometres 277 (29.25 by foot, 247.75 by car).

Canada Goose 116; American Black Duck 345; Mallard 117; scaup species 15; Common Eider 8; Surf Scoter 21; White-winged Scoter 25; Black Scoter 10; scoter species 36; Long-tailed Duck 27; Bufflehead 109, Common Goldeneye 107; Barrow's Goldeneye 5; Hooded Merganser 2; Common Merganser 10; Red-breasted Merganser 12; duck species 3; Ring-necked Pheasant 27; Ruffed Grouse 4; Common Loon 6; Horned Grebe 3; Red-necked Grebe 1; Great Cormorant 1; Bald Eagle 6; Red-tailed Hawk 7; Merlin 1; hawk species 2; Bonaparte's Gull 7; Herring Gull 359; Great Black-backed Gull 18; gull species 138; Dovekie 1; Common Murre 5; Rock Pigeon 135; Mourning Dove 300; Barred Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 22; Hairy Woodpecker 20; Black-backed Woodpecker 1; Northern Flicker 2; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 208; American Crow 402; Common Raven 17; Black-capped Chickadee 297; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; White-breasted Nuthatch 12; Golden-crowned Kinglet 3; American Robin 20; European Starling 848; Cedar Waxwing 5; American Tree Sparrow 8; Song Sparrow 6; White-throated Sparrow 9; White-crowned Sparrow 3; Dark-eyed Junco 42; sparrow species 8; Northern Cardinal 11; Purple Finch 9; House Finch 6; Pine Siskin 4; American Goldfinch 237.

Total Species 62, about 4,194 individuals. (CW: Great Blue Heron, **Osprey (nd)**, Northern Goshawk, Gray Jay, Northern Mockingbird, Bohemian Waxwing, Common Grackle, Evening Grosbeak). **David Tinker (compiler)**.

ANTIGONISH, Dec 20; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -6 to -3° C. Snow 3 cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies cloudy all day. 13 field observers in 6-7 parties and 14 at feeders, 3.35 hours and 70.8 km. owling. Total party hours 38 (15 by foot, 23 by car). Total party kilometres 265.5 (17.2 by foot, 248.3 by car).

*Canada Goose 2101; Gadwall 1; American Wigeon 1; American Black Duck 857; Mallard 53; American Black Duck/Mallard hybrid 3; Green-winged Teal 1; Greater Scaup 2; Common Eider 3; Surf Scoter 12; White-winged Scoter 10; Black Scoter 4; scoter species 7; Long-tailed Duck 22; Bufflehead 8; Common Goldeneye 197; Hooded Merganser 1; Common Merganser 104; Red-breasted Merganser 689; merganser species 16; **Ruddy Duck 1**; duck species 19; Ruffed Grouse 2; Red-throated Loon 1; Horned Grebe 6; Red-necked Grebe 1; Northern Gannet 8; **Turkey Vulture 1**; Bald Eagle 50; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 12; Rough-legged Hawk 1; hawk species 1; Black-headed Gull 40; Bonaparte's Gull 48; Ring-billed Gull 23; Herring Gull 968; Iceland Gull 48; Great Black-backed Gull 26; gull species 109; Rock Pigeon 161; Mourning Dove 196; Barred Owl 1; Northern Saw-whet Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 2; Downy Woodpecker 14; Hairy Woodpecker 13; Blue Jay 193; American Crow 585; Common Raven 109; Black-capped Chickadee 306; Boreal Chickadee 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; White-breasted Nuthatch 3; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 59; American Robin 5; European Starling 1179; American Tree Sparrow 25; Song Sparrow 18; Swamp Sparrow 3; White-throated Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 47; Snow Bunting 160; **Eastern Meadowlark 1**; Common Grackle 1; American Goldfinch 211; finch species 30; Evening Grosbeak 49; House Sparrow 5.*

Total Species 65, about 8,859 individuals. Martha Brown, Leslie Buckland-Nicks, David Garbary, Marilyn Gerriets, Leslie Klapstein, Dorothy Lander, Oona Landry, **Randy Lauff (compiler)**, Peter MacEachern, Lynda MacLellan, Harriet MacMillan, Allison Manthorne, Chris Marchand, Bill Marshall, Richard Mash, Paul McClung, Jean McGee, Ken McKenna, John Monkman, Josephine Monkman, Kerstin Mueller, Mary Murphy, Marilyn O'Brien, Martha Palmer, John Graham Pole, Mark Pulsifer, Bunny Smith.

APPLE RIVER, Dec 31; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -17 to -6° C. Winds calm. Snow cover 12 cm. Still water partly open, moving

water partly open. A.M. clear. P.M. partly cloudy. 5 field observers in 3 parties. Total party hours 22 (15 on foot, 7 by car). Total party kilometres 175.5 (19.5 by foot, 156 by car)

American Black Duck 139; Mallard 1; Common Eider 2; White-winged Scoter 2; Black Scoter 1; Long-tailed Duck 9; Common Goldeneye 11; Common Merganser 7; Red-breasted Merganser 3; Ruffed Grouse 1; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 2; loon species 1; Bald Eagle 2; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Herring Gull 107; Great Black-backed Gull 5; Black Guillemot 2; Mourning Dove 64; Great Horned Owl 1; Barred Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 20; Hairy Woodpecker 5; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 5; Blue Jay 39; American Crow 88; Common Raven 14; Black-capped Chickadee 96; Boreal Chickadee 7; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 6; European Starling 169; American Tree Sparrow 15; Song Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 8; Snow Bunting 1; Common Grackle 18; White-winged Crossbill 37; Pine Siskin 5; American Goldfinch 98.

Total Species 43, about 1,003 individuals. (CW: Purple Sandpiper). Sapphire Brine-Spicer, Debbie Fillmore, Edie Fillmore, Brandon Hicks, Andrew MacFarlane, Jane Mills, Cindy Smith, Craig Smith, **Kathleen Spicer (compiler)**, Lauralie Spicer.

BARRINGTON BAY/CAPE SABLE ISLAND, Dec 19; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -4° C. Wind NW 5-20 kph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies clear all day. 16 field observers in 7 parties. Total party hours 40 (7 on foot, 33 by car). Total party kilometres 420 (25 by foot, 395 by car).

*Brant 124; Canada Goose 1129; Gadwall 1; Eurasian Wigeon 2; American Wigeon 8; American Black Duck 652; Mallard 73; Northern Pintail 6; Green-winged Teal 11; Greater Scaup 28; Lesser Scaup 8; Common Eider 384; Surf Scoter 8; White-winged Scoter 16; Black Scoter 27; Long-tailed Duck 83; Bufflehead 200; Common Goldeneye 32; Barrow's Goldeneye 2; Hooded Merganser 8; Common Merganser 21; Red-breasted Merganser 96; Ring-necked Pheasant 5; Ruffed Grouse 1; Red-throated Loon 5; Common Loon 90; Horned Grebe 9; Red-necked Grebe 38; Northern Gannet 3; Double-crested Cormorant 5; Great Cormorant 124; Great Blue Heron 9; Bald Eagle 2; Northern Harrier 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Merlin 1; Black-bellied Plover 2; Sanderling 50; Dunlin 75; Bonaparte's Gull 38; Ring-billed Gull 8; Herring Gull 842; Iceland Gull 2; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 391; Thick-billed Murre 1; Black Guillemot 32; Rock Pigeon 172; *White-winged Dove 2 (nd); Mourning Dove 270; Snowy Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 6; Downy Woodpecker 7; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Northern Flicker 17; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 139; American Crow 492; Common Raven 7; Horned Lark 15; Black-capped Chickadee 222; Boreal Chickadee 6; Red-breasted Nuthatch 6; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 41; **Ruby-crowned Kinglet 2; thrush species 1; American Robin 192; European Starling 871; Orange-crowned Warbler 3; Yellow-rumped Warbler 105; Palm Warbler 1; American Tree Sparrow 24; Chipping Sparrow 1; Savannah Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 69; Swamp Sparrow 11; White-throated Sparrow 96; Dark-eyed Junco 16; Northern Cardinal 10; Red-winged Blackbird 4; Common Grackle 10; Baltimore Oriole 1; Red Crossbill 1; American Goldfinch 114; Evening Grosbeak 1; House Sparrow 14.***

Total Species 86, about 7,626 individuals. (CW: Northern Goshawk, Peregrine Falcon, Purple Sandpiper, **Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow**, Fox Sparrow). Raymond d'Entremont, Paul Gould, Edna Crowell, Terry Crowell, June Graves, James Hirtle, Ethelda Murphy, **Murray Newell (compiler)**, Johnny Nickerson, Sandra Nickerson, Cindy Penney, Lillian Perry, Dorothy Poole, Aileen Smith, Julie Smith, Sid Smith, Clyde Stoddart.

**note – White-winged Doves were first seen at a feeder on Count Day but not seen by local birders that day or soon after. There was another sighting from the homeowner in February. Identification was based on feeder-watcher's convincing description that led to them being included here as a possibility.*

BEDFORD/SACKVILLE, Dec 28; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 1 to 7° C. Wind W 5 kph. Snow 0-2 cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water partly frozen. Skies partly cloudy all day. 38 field observers in 27 parties, 24 at feeders. Total party hours 122.8 (67.3 on foot, 55.5 by car). Total party kilometres 811 (116.2 by foot, 694.8 by car).

*Canada Goose 39; American Black Duck 497; Mallard 118; American Black Duck X Mallard hybrid 1; Green-winged Teal 2; Greater Scaup 1; Long-tailed Duck 10; Bufflehead 11; Common Goldeneye 126; Barrow's Goldeneye 11; Hooded Merganser 5; Common Merganser 4; Red-breasted Merganser 32; Ring-necked Pheasant 18; Ruffed Grouse 2; Spruce Grouse 1; Common Loon 6; Double-crested Cormorant 3; Great Cormorant 3; Bald Eagle 5; Sharp-shinned Hawk 3; Red-tailed Hawk 6; Black-headed Gull 1; Ring-billed Gull 63; Herring Gull 815; Iceland Gull 4; Great Black-backed Gull 28; Rock Pigeon 506; Mourning Dove 346; Northern Saw-whet Owl 3; Belted Kingfisher 2; Downy Woodpecker 67; Hairy Woodpecker 38; Northern Flicker 2; Pileated Woodpecker 6; Gray Jay 4; Blue Jay 226; American Crow 7167; Common Raven 48; Black-capped Chickadee 1159; Boreal Chickadee 13; Red-breasted Nuthatch 81; White-breasted Nuthatch 18; Brown Creeper 14; **Winter Wren 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 92; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; American Robin 5; Northern Mockingbird 2; European Starling 2381; Orange-crowned Warbler 1; Common Yellowthroat 1; American Tree Sparrow 1; Chipping Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 94; Swamp Sparrow 2; White-throated Sparrow 11; Dark-eyed Junco 149; Snow Bunting 2; Northern Cardinal 4; Common Grackle 2; White-winged Crossbill 27; Pine Siskin 22; American Goldfinch 721;***

House Sparrow 52.

Total Species 64, about 15,088 individuals. (CW: Great Blue Heron, **Cooper's Hawk**, Barred Owl, Cedar Waxwing, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Baltimore Oriole, Purple Finch). Bill Billington, Eileen Billington, Elaine Black, Suzanne Borkowski, Yvette Buckley, Marilyn Challis, Patricia Chalmers, Wendy Chalmers, Margaret Clark, Don Codling, Lois Codling, Charles Cron, Davina Davis, Daryl Degaust, Brian Field, Chris Field, Nelson Field, Renee Field, Talia Field, Bev Gammon, Jean Hartley, Andy Horn, Jonathan Kenney, Bill Hughes, Shirley Hughes, David Hughes, Susan James, Lynn Johnson, Rita Kinney, Carol Klar, Fulton Lavender, Pat Leader, Peter LeBlanc, John Loch, Don MacLaughlin, Don MacNeill, Edna Matthews, Andrew McDonald, **Bob McDonald (compiler)**, Wendy McDonald, Bernice Moores, Julie Morris, Gary Murray, Maureen Nowlan, Allan Owen, Glorina Patterson, **Richard Peckham (compiler)**, Anita Pouliot, Duncan Rand, Walter Regan, Carolyn Renton, Barry Sawyer, Walter Scott, Ruth Smith, Clarence Stevens Jr., Clarence Stevens Sr., Rita Viau, Azor Vienneau, Dottie Welch, Nelida Young.

BIG POND/ESKASONI, Dec 26; 7:45 a.m. to 6 p.m. Temp. -1 to 1° C. Wind NE 15-20 kph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies partly clear all day. 17 field observers in 9 parties, 2 at feeders. Total party hours 44.5 (22 on foot, 22.5 by car). Total party kilometres 324.8 (27 by foot, 297.8 by car).

Canada Goose 61; American Black Duck 86; Mallard 2; Ring-necked Duck 1; Greater Scaup 66; White-winged Scoter 47; Common Goldeneye 138; Common Merganser 160; Red-breasted Merganser 396; Ruffed Grouse 3; Common Loon 2; Great Cormorant 4; Bald Eagle 23; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 14; Bonaparte's Gull 39; Ring-billed Gull 10; Herring Gull 119; Iceland Gull 5; Great Black-backed Gull 7; Rock Pigeon 14; Mourning Dove 5; Great Horned Owl 1; Barred Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 2; Downy Woodpecker 5; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 61; American Crow 210; Common Raven 21; Black-capped Chickadee 176; Boreal Chickadee 14; Red-breasted Nuthatch 15; White-breasted Nuthatch 2; Brown Creeper 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 137; American Robin 1; European Starling 378; Song Sparrow 14; Dark-eyed Junco 7; Pine Grosbeak 2; Purple Finch 4; Common Redpoll 25; American Goldfinch 250; House Sparrow 19.

Total Species 47, about 2,556 individuals. George Ball, Barbara Cash, Billy Digout, George Digout, Sharon Digout, Barb Glassey, Dave Harris, John MacInnis, Tracey MacIsaac, Blaise MacNeil, **Jack MacNeil (compiler)**, Weldon MacPhail, Dave McCorquodale, Laurie Murchison, Bernard Murphy, Allan Murrant, Cathy Murrant, Christine Thomson, Melvin White.

BRIDGETOWN, Dec 30; 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. -7 to -11° C. Wind NNW 25-30 kph. Snow 5-15 cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies partly clear all day. 12 field observers in 6 parties, 32 at feeders. Total party hours 24 (5 on foot, 19 by car). Total party kilometres 331.5 (8.5 by foot, 323 by car).

*American Black Duck 1; Common Eider 32; Surf Scoter 19; White-winged Scoter 12; scoter species 5; Long-tailed Duck 47; Common Goldeneye 2; Red-breasted Merganser 12; duck species 3; Ring-necked Pheasant 11; Common Loon 3; Red-necked Grebe 1; Northern gannet 4; Double-crested Cormorant 2; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 2; Red-tailed Hawk 8; Purple Sandpiper 1; Herring Gull 187; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 7; **Black-legged Kittiwake 15**; Rock Pigeon 254; Mourning Dove 343; Downy Woodpecker 30; Hairy Woodpecker 22; Northern Flicker 1; Blue Jay 191; American Crow 267; Common Raven 103; Black-capped Chickadee 351; Red-breasted Nuthatch 5; White-breasted Nuthatch 10; Golden-crowned Kinglet 1; European Starling 906; American Tree Sparrow 33; Chipping Sparrow 6; Song Sparrow 6; White-throated Sparrow 14; Dark-eyed Junco 147; Snow Bunting 20; Northern Cardinal 15; Red-winged Blackbird 20; Pine Siskin 21; American Goldfinch 1116; Evening Grosbeak 18; House Sparrow 5.*

Total Species 47, about 4,290 individuals. (CW: Sharp-shinned Hawk, Barred Owl, Northern Shrike). Thelma Bent, Joyce Burbridge, Bill Caudle, Pearl Chambers, **David Colville (compiler)**, Annette Colville, Patricia Croscup, Viola Doucette, Marilyn Durling, Noel Durling, Marie Gaul, Bill Goucher, Joyce Grant-Smith, Avora Harding, Cyril Harding, Sharon Hawboldt, Steve Hawboldt, Christopher Hiltz, Donna Jones, Ron Jones, Phil Kent, John Main, Lynn Main, Bev Marshall, Ernie Marshall, Fred Marshall, Heather McCormick, Hilda Messinger, Roger Mosher, Wayne Neilly, Anne Parker, Doug Parker, Carl Phinney, Linda Phinney, Maggie Rice, Ian Rooseby, Christine Ross, Jean Smith, Les Smith, Alberta Wade, Jane Wrightman, Lib Woolaver.

BRIER ISLAND, Dec 15; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 4 to 8° C. Wind SSE 10 kph. No snow cover. Still water partly frozen, moving water partly open. A.M. cloudy, light rain. P.M. cloudy. 3 field observers in 3 parties, .5 hr. owling. Total party hours 15.25 (13.25 on foot, 2 by car). Total party kilometres 87.5 (23 by foot, 64.5 by car)

*Canada Goose 9; American Black Duck 103; Mallard 5; Green-winged Teal 1; Common Eider 61; Surf Scoter 3; White-winged Scoter 10; Black Scoter 2; Long-tailed Duck 106; Bufflehead 3; Common Goldeneye 35; Red-breasted Merganser 29; Ring-necked Pheasant 5; Ruffed Grouse 1; Common Loon 45; Red-necked Grebe 6; Northern Gannet 71; Double-crested Cormorant 2; Great Cormorant 127; **Turkey Vulture 12**; Bald Eagle 1; Northern Harrier 1; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Peregrine Falcon 1; **Pomarine Jaeger 1**; Ring-billed Gull 8; Herring Gull 812; Iceland Gull 13; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 287; Black-legged Kittiwake 58; Razorbill 1; Black Guillemot 24; alcid species 40; Rock Pigeon 4; Mourning Dove 33; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 13; American Crow 93; Common Raven 11; Black-capped Chickadee 32; Boreal Chickadee 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 22;*

Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; European Starling 52; American Pipit 11; American Tree Sparrow 11; Song Sparrow 2; White-throated Sparrow 1; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Common Grackle 25; Brown-headed Cowbird 3; American Goldfinch 5.

Total Species 52, about 2,207 individuals. (CW: Red-throated Loon, Horned Lark, Bohemian Waxwing). Anne Mills, Eric Mills (compiler), Jim Wolford.

BROAD COVE, Dec 28; 7:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Temp. 4 to 7° C. Wind NW 5 kph. No snow cover. Still water partly frozen, moving water partly open. Skies clear all day. 21 field observers in 10 parties, 4 at feeders. Total party hours 72 (45 on foot, 27 by car). Total party kilometres 360 (51 by foot, 309 by car).

*Canada Goose 394; American Black Duck 150; Mallard 376; Northern Pintail 1; Green-winged Teal 1; Ring-necked Duck 1; Greater Scaup 450; Lesser Scaup 38; Common Eider 127; Surf Scoter 122; White-winged Scoter 15; Black Scoter 153; Long-tailed Duck 200; Bufflehead 92; Common Goldeneye 143; Hooded Merganser 41; Common Merganser 27; Red-breasted Merganser 115; Ruffed Grouse 15; Red-throated Loon 2; Common Loon 55; Horned Grebe 16; Red-necked Grebe 3; Great Cormorant 12; Great Blue Heron 3; Bald Eagle 3; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Peregrine Falcon 1; hawk species 1; Black-bellied Plover 1; Killdeer 1; Sanderling 8; Purple Sandpiper 15; Dunlin 15; Ring-billed Gull 24; Herring Gull 516; Iceland Gull 9; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 109; Black Guillemot 13; Rock Pigeon 155; Mourning Dove 211; Belted Kingfisher 2; Downy Woodpecker 13; Hairy Woodpecker 6; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 262; American Crow 329; Common Raven 29; Black-capped Chickadee 591; Boreal Chickadee 21; Red-breasted Nuthatch 54; White-breasted Nuthatch 12; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 47; European Starling 362; Yellow-rumped Warbler 3; American Tree Sparrow 1; Chipping Sparrow 3; Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 42; White-throated Sparrow 16; Dark-eyed Junco 269; sparrow species 2; Lapland Longspur 37; Snow Bunting 70; **Rusty Blackbird 1**; Common Grackle 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; Purple Finch 12; Pine Siskin 5; American Goldfinch 868; Evening Grosbeak 20.*

Total Species 74, about 6,726 individuals. (CW: Barrow's Goldeneye, Turkey Vulture, Merlin, Thick-billed Murre, American Robin, **Eastern Towhee**). Bruce Allen, Chris Brown, Mary Brown, Barbara Byrd, Shirley Cohrs, David Currie, Gillian Elliott, Jim Elliott, Donna Ensor, Eric Ensor, **Sylvia Fullerton (compiler)**, Dennis Garratt, Pat Gladman, Blair Hodgman, Michael Langille, Nelson Melling, Andrew McLaren, Ian McLaren, Anne Mills, Eric Mills, Eileen Morrison, Judy O'Brien, Dorothy Poole, Nellie Snyder, Dave Walmark.

CALEDONIA, Dec 20; 7:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Temp. -8 to -3° C. Wind NW 20-40. Snow 5 cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly frozen. A.M. cloudy. P.M. cloudy, heavy snow. 23 field observers in 16 parties, 28 at feeders. Total party hours 36.75 (27.75 on foot, 6.5 by car, 2.5 by ATV). Total party kilometres 178.5 (48 by foot, 105.5 by car, 25 by ATV).

*Canada Goose 28; American Black Duck 6; Ruffed Grouse 12; Bald Eagle 2; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Herring Gull 1; Mourning Dove 53; Barred Owl 2; Downy Woodpecker 17; Hairy Woodpecker 24; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 4; Blue Jay 93; American Crow 82; Common Raven 31; Black-capped Chickadee 318; Red-breasted Nuthatch 9; White-breasted Nuthatch 27; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 11; **Hermit Thrush 1**; European Starling 68; Song Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 23; Purple Finch 13; Common Redpoll 1; Pine Siskin 5; American Goldfinch 207; Evening Grosbeak 271.*

Total Species 29, about 1,316 individuals. (CW: Belted Kingfisher, American Tree Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow). Don Baker, Jane Barker, Rick Brunt, Sarah Chisholm, Eric Cole, Judy Cole, Harry Delong, Rod Ford, Nancy Frayle, Charlie Hearn, Heather Hearn, Marguerite Holdright, Myra Holdright, Pamela Hopper, Steve Hopper, Jackie Jorisson, shalan joudrey, Mary Keirstead, Rod Keirstead, Breagh Lane, **Amanda Lavers (compiler)**, Tammy Lewis, Danny Mansfield, Nadine Mansfield, Pierre Martel, Alexi Payzant, Elliot Payzant, Barb Rogers, Peter Rogers, Terje Rogers, Althea Rowter, Kyle Rowter, Sheila Sheppard, Tom Sheppard, David Small, Rick Swain, Rachel Thibodeau, Elizabeth Weagle.

CAPE BRETON HIGHLANDS, Dec 27; 8 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Temp. -2 to 2° C. Wind W 6 kph. Snow 5 cm. Still water partly open, moving water open. Skies clear all day. 18 field observers in 5 parties, 9 at feeders. Total party hours 34.5 (15.5 on foot, 19 by car). Total party kilometres 195 (28 by foot, 167 by car).

American Black Duck 17; Common Eider 51; Harlequin Duck 1; Surf Scoter 8; White-winged Scoter 51; Long-tailed Duck 92; Common Goldeneye 177; Barrow's Goldeneye 8; Hooded Merganser 1; Common Merganser 10; Red-breasted Merganser 47; merganser species 2; Ruffed Grouse 2; Spruce Grouse 2; Common Loon 2; Double-crested Cormorant 6; Great Cormorant 13; Bald Eagle 4; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Purple Sandpiper 68; Ring-billed Gull 8; Herring Gull 87; Iceland Gull 12; Glaucous Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 17; Dovekie 2; Common Murre 1; Black Guillemot 8; Rock Pigeon 25; Mourning Dove 1; Great Horned Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 3; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 39; American Crow 87; Common Raven 14; Black-capped Chickadee 78; Boreal Chickadee 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch 13; Golden-crowned Kinglet 11; European Starling 87; Bohemian Waxwing 29; Cedar Waxwing 14; White-throated Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 3;

Snow Bunting 13; White-winged Crossbill 5; American Goldfinch 50.

Total Species 49 about 1,183 individuals. (CW: Black Scoter, Northern Gannet, Red-tailed Hawk, Barred Owl, Purple Finch). James Bridgeland, John Grainer, Linda Grainer, Jesse Grainer, Ryan Grainer, Maxine Hardy, Clare Johnson, Ruth McLagan, Eric Muntz, Philip Muntz, Fritz McEvoy, Ken Murray, Linda Murray, Gord Rideout, Marie Sradeski, Josh Sradeski, Jonathan Sradeski, Elaine Wallace, **Todd Windle (compiler).**

CHETICAMP, Dec 21; 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Temp. 0 to 4° C. Wind N-NNE 17-19 kph. Snow 10-15 cm. Still partly open, moving water partly frozen. Skies cloudy all day. 3 field observers in 2 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party hours 12 (2 on foot, 10 by car). Total party kilometres 170 (3 by foot, 167 by car)

American Black Duck 99; Mallard 2; White-winged Scoter 3; Common Goldeneye 75; Barrow's Goldeneye 17; Common Merganser 30; Northern Gannet 4; Bald Eagle 10; Bonaparte's Gull 2; Herring Gull 46; Great Black-backed Gull 38; Black Guillemot 4; Rock Pigeon 15; Mourning Dove 38; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 2; Blue Jay 33; American Crow 106; Common Raven 6; Black-capped Chickadee 18; American Robin 1; Bohemian Waxwing 88; Dark-eyed Junco 36.

Total Species 24, about 768 individuals. (CW: Common Redpoll). Heather Davis, **Gordon Delaney (compiler)**, Lena LeBlanc, Walter Maillat.

GLACE BAY, Dec 30; Temp. -7to -5° C. A.M. cloudy, light snow. P.M. cloudy, light snow. 17 field observers in field. Total party hours 54.

Canada Goose 667; Eurasian Wigeon 2; American Wigeon 91; American Black Duck 1104; Mallard 154; Green-winged Teal 12; Redhead 1; Greater Scaup 945; Lesser Scaup 15; Common Eider 170; Surf Scoter 67; White-winged Scoter 55; Black Scoter 13; Long-tailed Duck 61; Bufflehead 89; Common Goldeneye 117; Hooded Merganser 5; Common Merganser 26; Red-breasted Merganser 48; Ring-necked Pheasant 8; Ruffed Grouse 8; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 2; Horned Grebe 8; Northern Gannet 1; Double-crested Cormorant 6; Great Cormorant 75; Bald Eagle 10; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Northern Goshawk 2; Purple Sandpiper 26; Black-headed Gull 3; Bonaparte's Gull 10; Ring-billed Gull 11; Herring Gull 796; Iceland Gull 680; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 119; Great Black-backed Gull X Herring Gull hybrid 1; Dovekie 4; Thick-billed Murre 3; Black Guillemot 2; Rock Pigeon 135; Mourning Dove 142; Downy Woodpecker 8; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Northern Flicker 1; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 155; American Crow 375; Common Raven 54; Black-capped Chickadee 330; Boreal Chickadee 6; Red-breasted Nuthatch 2; Brown Creeper 1; Winter Wren 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 10; European Starling 1409; American Tree Sparrow 4; Savannah Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 6; White-throated Sparrow 1; Dark-eyed Junco 9; Lapland Longspur 1; Snow Bunting 40; Eastern Meadowlark 1; Baltimore Oriole 1; Purple Finch 4; Common Redpoll 14; American Goldfinch 266; Evening Grosbeak 14; House Sparrow 197.

Total Species 73 plus 1 hybrid, about 8,635 individuals. (CW: Northern Harrier, Red-tailed Hawk, Horned Lark) **Catherine Murrant (compiler).**

HALIFAX/DARTMOUTH, Dec 20; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. -5 to -3° C. Wind N-NE 11-25 kph. Snow 0-6. Still water frozen, moving partly frozen. A.M. cloudy. P.M. cloudy, light/heavy snow. 94 field observers in 36-44 parties, 73 at feeders, 6 hours and 159.6 km owling. Total parties hours 238.25 (169.5 by foot, 69.25 by car). Total party kilometres 1200 (240.8 by foot, 959.2 by car).

Canada Goose 1954; Gadwall 2; Wood Duck 2; Eurasian Wigeon 4; American Wigeon 168; American Black Duck 1801; Mallard 987; American Black Duck X Mallard hybrid 1; Northern Shoveler 1; Northern Pintail 8; Green-winged Teal 10; Ring-necked Duck 1; Greater Scaup 86; Lesser Scaup 3; scaup species 37; Common Eider 2283; Harlequin Duck 3; Surf Scoter 19; White-winged Scoter 26; Black Scoter 33; scoter species 5; Long-tailed Duck 67; Bufflehead 89; Common Goldeneye 320; Barrow's Goldeneye 2; Hooded Merganser 31; Common Merganser 13; Red-breasted Merganser 140; duck species 10; Ring-necked Pheasant 43; Ruffed Grouse 3; Spruce Grouse 3; Red-throated Loon 6; Common Loon 24; Horned Grebe 3; Red-necked Grebe 7; Northern Gannet 16; Double-crested Cormorant 3; Great Cormorant 29; Great Blue Heron 3; Bald Eagle 23; Sharp-shinned Hawk 8; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 7; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Merlin 1; Peregrine Falcon 1; Purple Sandpiper 1; Wilson's Snipe 2; Black-headed Gull 44; Bonaparte's Gull 12; Ring-billed Gull 261; Herring Gull 2731; Thayer's Gull 1; Iceland Gull 394; Glaucous Gull 4; Great Black-backed Gull 267; Black-legged Kittiwake 5; gull species 7; Razorbill 2; Black Guillemot 25; alcid species 20; Rock Pigeon 1402; Mourning Dove 454; Great Horned Owl 2; Barred Owl 1; Long-eared Owl 3; Boreal Owl 1; Northern Saw-whet Owl 6; Belted Kingfisher 1; Red-bellied Woodpecker 2; Downy Woodpecker 72; Hairy Woodpecker 22; Northern Flicker 16; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 517; American Crow 1608; Common Raven 76; Horned Lark 4; Black-capped Chickadee 1336; Boreal Chickadee 22; Red-breasted Nuthatch 13; White-breasted Nuthatch 13; Brown Creeper 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 89; Hermit Thrush 1; American Robin 23; Gray Catbird 1; Northern Mockingbird 1; European Starling 5284; American Pipit 2; Cedar Waxwing 15; Orange-crowned Warbler 2; Yellow-rumped Warbler 20; Common Yellowthroat 1; Yellow-

breasted Chat 4; warbler species 1; American Tree Sparrow 34; Grasshopper Sparrow 1; Savannah Sparrow 11; Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 269; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 109; Dark-eyed Junco 116; sparrow species 2; Lapland Longspur 60; Snow Bunting 307; Northern Cardinal 27; Dickcissel 1; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Common Grackle 8; Baltimore Oriole 7; Purple Finch 6; House Finch 32; Red Crossbill 2; White-winged Crossbill 4; Common Redpoll 7; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 645; House Sparrow 1016.

Total Species 112, about 25,752 individuals. (CW: Northern Harrier, Thick-billed Murre, Sanderling, Pileated Woodpecker, Northern Shrike, Pine Warbler, Evening Grosbeak). Sue Abbott, Carel Allard, Mary Alward, Nicole Arsenaault, Deborah Austin, Brenda Bale, Laurel Banks, Lucas Berrigan, Terry Boswell, Andrew Boyne, Valerie Brimicombe, Gail Bruhm, Mark Butler, Bonnie Carmichael, Patricia Chalmers, Gavin Charles, Tony Charles, Eric Chaytor, Elizabeth Claas, Robie Cooper, Dominic Cormier, Alan Covert, Carolyn Crawford, Charles Cron, David Currie, Cheryl Davis, Manon Dube, Gillian Elliott, Jim Elliott, Derek Fenton, Meredith Flannery, Nazo Gabrielian, Sally-Jo Gallant, Dennis Garratt, Jessica Gerrits, Glen Gibson, Cathy Grandi, Gereth Harding, Richard Hatch, Andrew Horn, Mary Joyce, Lynn Karchewski, Fred Keating, Zachary Keating, Paul Kemster, **Michael King (compiler)**, Henk Kwendt, Elizabeth Kwendt, **Fulton Lavender (compiler)**, Peter LeBlanc, Sarah Lindsay, Nancy MacDonald, Gail MacLean, Chris Majka, Karen March, Blake Maybank, Pat McKay, Karen McKendry, Julie McKnight, Ian McLaren, Bob McQueston, Dianne McQueston, Eric Mill, Doug Milsom, Scott Milsom, Julia Montgomery, Ann Morrison, Maureen Nowlan, Peter Oickle, Richard Peckham, Scott Pelton, Chris Pepper, Karen Potter, Duncan Rand, Marie Reid, Rick Reid, Ron Reid, Jenn Rock, Doug Sherman, Cindy Staicer, Bob Thomas, Hans Toom, Michel Viau, Rita Viau, Azor Vienneau, Richard Wassersug, Dottie Welch, Anne Wetmore, Irene Wilkinson, Sarah Wong, Scott Yetman, Guan Yue, Marty Zelenietz.

KINGSTON, Dec 28; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. -2 to 6° C. Wind S 10-18 kph. Snow 0-8 cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy. P.M. partly clear/cloudy. 22 field observers in 9 parties, 89 at 56 feeders, .75 hours and 2 km owling. Total party hours 65.5 (25 on foot, 40.5 by car). Total party kilometres 780.5 (30 by foot, 750.5 by car)

*Canada Goose 1; American Black Duck 188; Mallard 235; Common Eider 13; Surf Scoter 7; White-winged Scoter 3; Black Scoter 1; Long-tailed Duck 100; Red-breasted Merganser 11; Ring-necked Pheasant 35; Ruffed Grouse 3; Common Loon 2; Red-necked Grebe 3; Northern Gannet 1; Bald Eagle 12; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 16; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Merlin 1; Purple sandpiper 25; Herring Gull 310; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 12; Black-legged Kittiwake 10; murre species 3; Rock Pigeon 247; Mourning Dove 673; Great Horned Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 74; Hairy Woodpecker 50; Northern Flicker 4; Pileated Woodpecker 4; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 411; American Crow 1440; Common Raven 256; Black-capped Chickadee 888; Red-breasted Nuthatch 43; White-breasted Nuthatch 61; Brown Creeper 8; Golden-crowned Kinglet 11; American Robin 4; European Starling 3183; American Tree Sparrow 8; Chipping Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 15; White-throated Sparrow 8; Dark-eyed Junco 94; Northern Cardinal 8; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Common Grackle 2; Brown-headed Cowbird 92; **BaltimoreXBullock's Oriole hybrid 1**; Pine Grosbeak 5; Red Crossbill 2; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 832; Evening Grosbeak 6; House Sparrow 19.*

Total Species 59, about 9,451 individuals. (CW: Peregrine Falcon, Barred Owl, Northern Shrike, Purple Finch). Ron Baker, Sharon Baker, Debbie Baldwin, Brian Barkman Gloria Blizzard, Bob Campbell, Karen Campbell, Bill Caudle, Tony Chaulk, John Collins, David Colville, Keegan Colville, Cathy Crook, Kenneth Crowell, David & Edna Curry, Ella & Howard Dalton, John DeCoste, Paul Despres, Valerie Despres, Bea Deveau, Claire Diggins, Daniel Diggins, David Diggins, Ed Dodd, Joyce Dodd, Jean Dixon, Joyce Elliott, Shirley Fahie, Harry Folks, Paul Gertridge, Barbara Giffin, Patrick Giffin, Carol Gregory, Leonard Gregory, Mark Hamilton, Lilli Hand, Frank Hawkins, Thelma Hawkins, Donna Hill, Ron Hill, Shirley Harris, Chris Hiltz, Patricia House, Marilyn Hudgins, Sheila L. Hulford Sheila R. Hulford, Sibella Hulford, Michael Inkpen, Jack Keddy, Karen Keddy, Don Kelly, Cathou Laroque, Andrea Leeson, Mark MacFadyen, Flora MacKenzie, Judy MacKenzie, Colleen MacKinnon, Mary MacMillan, Patricia MacMillan, Ethel McLane, Sandy Morrison, Jacquie Muers, Jon Muers, Gary Myers, Ruth Myers, **Wayne Neily (compiler)**, Marie O'Toole, Adora Parsons, Dan Paterson, John Paull, Susan Paull, Gerry Pellerin, Lillian Pellerin, Daniel Penner, Mable Robar, Twila Robar-DeCoste, Wendy Rodda, Gail Rogerson, Ron Rogerson, Daphne Roseby, Ian Roseby, Christine Ross, Shirley Sanford, Kay Sanford, Howard Selig, Helen Sharp, Roger Short, Millie Skanes, Herb Snell, Judy Snell, Elizabeth Stern, Richard Stern, Ralph Swinamer, Barb Thompson, Charles Tye, Doris Tye, Judy Uhlman, Malcolm Uhlman, Christopher Waldner, Jake Waldner, Margaret Waldner, Mel Waldner, Margot Walker, Mary Lou Ward, Audrey Wellwood, Jane White, Beverly Wolfe, Robert Wolfe, Noel Woolgar.

LOUISBOURG, Dec 19; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -4 to -2° C. Wind SW 10-15 kph. Trace of snow. Still water frozen, moving water open. Skies partly cloudy, flurries all day. 22 field observers in 15 parties, 9 at feeders, 1.5 hours and 1 km owling. Total party hours 70 (50.5 on foot, 16.5 by car, 3 by bicycle). Total party kilometres 239.3 (62.8 by foot, 160.5 by car, 16 by bicycle)

American Black Duck 81; Mallard 1; Greater Scaup 1; Common Eider 2986; Harlequin Duck 1; Surf Scoter 52; White-winged Scoter 93; Black Scoter 323; scoter species 7; Long-tailed Duck 179; Bufflehead 69; Common Goldeneye 70; Common Merganser 9; Red-breasted Merganser 92; duck species 7; Ruffed Grouse 10; Spruce Grouse 1; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 11; Horned Grebe 8; Red-necked Grebe 44; Northern Gannet 9; Great Cormorant 47; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 10; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Rough-legged Hawk 1; Purple Sandpiper 37; Bonaparte's Gull 24; Ring-billed Gull 1; Herring Gull 72; Iceland

Gull 12; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 4; gull species 21; Dovekie 11; Thick-billed Murre 2; Black Guillemot 120; Rock Pigeon 1; Mourning Dove 38; Great Horned Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 3; Downy Woodpecker 5; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Black-backed Woodpecker 2; Northern Flicker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 17; Blue Jay 47; American Crow 158; Common Raven 20; Black-capped Chickadee 154; Boreal Chickadee 40; Red-breasted Nuthatch 17; White-breasted Nuthatch 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 55; European Starling 219; Song Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 5; Dark-eyed Junco 3; sparrow species 4; Snow Bunting 1; Baltimore Oriole 1; Purple Finch 2; White-winged Crossbill 9; Pine Siskin 5; American Goldfinch 52; House Sparrow 18.

Total Species 66, about 5,308 individuals. (CW: Merlin, Brown Creeper, Red-winged Blackbird). Sandy Anthony, Brent Baker, Joanne Baker, Mary Lou Blunden, Rob Boone, **Bill Bussey (co-compiler)**, Dianne Bussey, Eddie Bussey, Maureen Cameron-MacMillan, George Crowell, Billy Digout, **Ken Donovan (co-compiler)**, Sheila Fudge, Tom Fudge, David Harris, Bethsheila Kent, John Lahey, Elizabeth LaLonde, Gerry LaLonde, Pat Lewis, Miles MacDonald, Patsy MacDonald, Weldon MacPhail, Loretta Magee, Pearl Magee, Philip Magee, Dave McCorquodale, Joan Mills, **Susann Myers (co-compiler)**, Terry Power, Lee Ann Reeves, Bev Sarty, Laura Saunders.

LUNENBURG, Jan 3; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -1 to 2° C. Wind N 15 kph. Snow 60 cm. Still water open, moving water open. A.M. clear. P.M. clear, light rain. 21 field observers in 9 parties, 10 at feeders, 1.75 hours and 22km. owling. Total party hours 55.5 (18.5 on foot, 37 by car). Total party kilometres 427.3 (14.5 by foot, 412.8 by car).

*Canada Goose 175; Gadwall 1; American Wigeon 4; American Black Duck 285; Mallard 649; Northern Pintail 2; Green-winged Teal 7; Greater Scaup 303; Common Eider 41; Surf Scoter 5; White-winged Scoter 3; scoter species 2; Long-tailed Duck 515; Bufflehead 79; Common Goldeneye 162; Hooded Merganser 65; Common Merganser 12; Red-breasted Merganser 206; duck species 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 32; Ruffed Grouse 2; Red-throated Loon 6; Common Loon 64; Horned Grebe 14; Red-necked Grebe 5; Northern Gannet 1; Great Cormorant 58; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 17; Northern Goshawk 2; **Broad-winged Hawk 1**; Red-tailed Hawk 8; American Kestrel 2; Purple Sandpiper 4; Bonaparte's Gull 4; Ring-billed Gull 6; Herring Gull 1134; Iceland Gull 42; **Lesser Black-backed Gull 1**; Glaucous Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 166; Black-legged Kittiwake 1; Dovekie 1; Black Guillemot 102; Rock Pigeon 195; Mourning Dove 398; Barred Owl 1; Northern Saw-whet Owl 2; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 33; Hairy Woodpecker 22; Northern Flicker 12; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 1; Blue Jay 244; American Crow 406; Common Raven 57; Horned Lark 15; Black-capped Chickadee 805; Boreal Chickadee 22; Red-breasted Nuthatch 63; White-breasted Nuthatch 12; Brown Creeper 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet 15; American Robin 1; European Starling 1182; American Pipit 1; **Orange-crowned Warbler 1**; Yellow-rumped Warbler 4; **Yellow-breasted Chat 1**; American Tree Sparrow 31; Savannah Sparrow 1; **Fox Sparrow 1**; Song Sparrow 88; Swamp Sparrow 4; White-throated Sparrow 60; Dark-eyed Junco 717; sparrow species 4; Northern Cardinal 7; Red-winged Blackbird 2; Pine Grosbeak 1; White-winged Crossbill 5; Pine Siskin 51; American Goldfinch 757; Evening Grosbeak 1; House Sparrow 2.*

Total Species 83, about 9,376 individuals. (CW: **Cackling Goose**, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Rough-legged Hawk, Black-headed Gull, Pine Warbler, Palm Warbler). Joyce Allen, Greg Amos, Bill Billington, Eileen Billington, Edyth Burgess, David Currie, Brian Delaney, Kelly Delaney, Martha Farrar, Chris Field, Pat Gladman, **James Hirtle (compiler)**, Brenda Hiltz, Joanne Hubley, Brian Kennefick, Janice Kennefick, Michael King, Fulton Lavender, Carol MacNeill, Don MacNeill, Dorothy Poole, Laura Roblee, Steve Shewchuk, Clarence Stevens Sr., Azor Vienneau, David Walmark, Dottie Welch, Robert Weld, Shirley Woods.

MARBLE MOUNTAIN, Dec 19; 7 a.m. to 4 a.m. Temp -8 to -7° C. Wind NW 5 kph. Snow 3 cm. Still water partly frozen, moving partly frozen. A.M. partly clear. P.M. partly cloudy, light snow. 10 field observers in 2 parties, 6 at feeders. Total party hours 10 (2 on foot, 8 by car). Total party kilometres 52 (4 on foot, 48 by car)

Mallard 1; Common Merganser 38; Ruffed Grouse 2; Bald Eagle 34; Bonaparte's Gull 13; Herring Gull 11; Mourning Dove 1; Hairy Woodpecker 1; Gray Jay 6; Blue Jay 19; American Crow 52; Black-capped Chickadee 81; Dark-eyed Junco 12; Pine Siskin 4; American Goldfinch 37.

Total Species 17, about 331 individuals. (CW: Red-tailed Hawk, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Cedar Waxwing). Martin Boston, Debbie Campbell, Carolyn Chant, George Chant, **Alice Gowans (compiler)**, Marilyn MacIver, Heather Richardson, Charles Spangenberg, Carl Zimmerman, Lynn Zimmerman.

MARGAREE, Dec 18; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -6 to -5° C. Wind NW 15 kph. Snow 20 cm. Still water frozen, moving water open. A.M. cloudy. P.M. partly clear. 5 field observers in 3 parties, 7 at feeders. Total party hours 17.6 (5.5 by foot, 12 by car). Total party kilometers 231 (6 by foot, 225 by car).

Canada Goose 7; American Black Duck 9; Bufflehead 47; Common Goldeneye 70; Common Merganser 152; Ruffed Grouse 3; Northern Harrier 30; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Rough-legged Hawk 1; American Kestrel 1; Herring Gull 143; Iceland Gull 5; Great Black-backed Gull 24; Rock Pigeon 53; Mourning Dove 40; Downy Woodpecker 2; Hairy Woodpecker 5; Pileated Woodpecker 3; Gray Jay 7; Blue Jay 69; American Crow 188; Common Raven 28; Black-capped Chickadee 80; Boreal Chickadee 2; American Robin 1; European Starling 569; Bohemian Wax-

wing 370; *American Tree Sparrow* 3; *Dark-eyed Junco* 15; **Rose-breasted Grosbeak** 1; *Northern Cardinal* 16; *Common Grackle* 17; **Baltimore Oriole** 1; *Pine Grosbeak* 5; *Purple Finch* 2; *Common Redpoll* 2; *American Goldfinch* 33; *Evening Grosbeak* 48; *House Sparrow* 9.

Total Species 39, about 2,065 individuals. Steven Basker, Clifford Collins, Heather Curley, Ann Earle, Barrie Fraser, Debbie Hart, Eunice Hart, **Frances Hart (compiler)**, Karen Hart, David Ingraham, Colonel MacLellan, Verna MacMillan.

PICTOU HARBOUR, Jan 1 7 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. -12 to -1° C. Wind NE 20 kph. Snow 8 cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water partly frozen. Skies cloudy all day. 16 field observers in 9-12 parties, 20 at feeders, 1.5 hours and 10 km owling. Total party hours 53 (23 on foot, 30 by car). Total party kilometres 587 (28 by foot, 457 by car).

Canada Goose 667; **Gadwall** 10; *American Wigeon* 9; *American Black Duck* 2280; *Mallard* 159; *American Black Duck x Mallard hybrid* 7; *Northern Pintail* 2; *Green-winged Teal* 5; *Greater Scaup* 2280; *Lesser Scaup* 6; *Common Eider* 4; *Surf Scoter* 4, *White-winged Scoter* 9; *scoter species* 15; *Long-tailed Duck* 77; *Bufflehead* 34; *Common Goldeneye* 1187; *Barrow's Goldeneye* 6; *Hooded Merganser* 67; *Common Merganser* 709; *Red-breasted Merganser* 952; *duck species* 150; *Ring-necked Pheasant* 16; *Ruffed Grouse* 1; *Common Loon* 1; *Horned Grebe* 1; *Double-crested Cormorant* 2; *Bald Eagle* 105; *Northern Harrier* 1; *Sharp-shinned Hawk* 3; *hawk species* 1; *Bonaparte's Gull* 2; *Ring-billed Gull* 8; *Herring Gull* 986; *Iceland Gull* 79; **Lesser Black-backed Gull** 1; *Great Black-backed Gull* 83; *gull species* 26; *Rock Pigeon* 294; *Mourning Dove* 326; *Barred Owl* 1; *Belted Kingfisher* 5; *Downy Woodpecker* 28; *Hairy Woodpecker* 35; *Northern Flicker* 12; *Pileated Woodpecker* 10; *woodpecker species* 3; *Northern Shrike* 1; *Blue Jay* 226; *American Crow* 2749; *Common Raven* 152, *Black-capped Chickadee* 633; *Red-breasted Nuthatch* 22; *White-breasted Nuthatch* 5; *Brown Creeper* 5; *Golden-crowned Kinglet* 44; *American Robin* 149; **Brown Thrasher** 1; *European Starling* 1433; *Cedar Waxwing* 50; *Yellow-rumped Warbler* 3; *Pine Warbler* 4; *American Tree Sparrow* 16; *Savannah Sparrow* 1; *Song Sparrow* 48; *White-throated Sparrow* 3; *Dark-eyed Junco* 82; *Snow Bunting* 3; *Northern Cardinal* 1; *White-winged Crossbill* 2; *Pine Siskin* 1; *American Goldfinch* 483; *House Sparrow* 61.

Total Species 69 about 16,860 individuals. (CW: **Tufted Duck**, *Rough-legged Hawk*, *Boreal Chickadee*). Carolyn Brennan, Brenda Chisholm, Bonnie Davidson, Rick Ferguson, Barbara Ann Grant, Bob Hanes, Carol Harris, Elwin Hemphill, Janet Hemphill, Charlie Kendell, Randy Lauff, Jane MacCarthy, Duncan MacMaster, Cathy Madore, Pat McCarron, Jim McKay, **Ken McKenna (compiler)**, Cheryl McLane, Bernice Moores, Susann Myers, Martha Palmer, Joan Panting, Dan Panting, Curtis Purdy, Janet Purdy, Margie Reid, Rob Reid, Tee Roberts, Doreen Snow, Henry Snow, Amber Vines, Steve Vines, Pat Wilson.

PORT L'HEBERT, Dec 27; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. -1 to 6° C. Wind E 15-45 kph. Snow 2-4cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. A.M. partly clear. P.M. cloudy, light snow. 11 field observers in 7 parties. Total party hours 30.5 (14 on foot, 13 by car). Total party kilometres 347 (28 by foot, 319 by car).

Canada Goose 1239; *American Black Duck* 88; *Mallard* 22; *Green-winged Teal* 1; *Common Eider* 72; *Harlequin Duck* 92; *Surf Scoter* 32; *White-winged Scoter* 11; *Black Scoter* 31; *Long-tailed Duck* 46; *Bufflehead* 24; *Common Goldeneye* 23; *Red-breasted Merganser* 24; *Ruffed Grouse* 6; *Common Loon* 45; *Horned Grebe* 1; *Red-necked Grebe* 1; *Double-crested Cormorant* 5; *Great Cormorant* 77; *Great Blue Heron* 1; *Bald Eagle* 6; *Northern Harrier* 1; *Merlin* 3; *Ring-billed Gull* 1; *Herring Gull* 289; *Great Black-backed Gull* 118; *Black Guillemot* 6; *Rock Pigeon* 18; *Mourning Dove* 61; *Downy Woodpecker* 3; *Hairy Woodpecker* 1; *Northern Flicker* 2; *Blue Jay* 57; *American Crow* 134; *Common Raven* 14; *Black-capped Chickadee* 81; *Boreal Chickadee* 1; *Red-breasted Nuthatch* 4; *White-breasted Nuthatch* 2; *Golden-crowned Kinglet* 4; *American Robin* 27; *European Starling* 174; *Yellow-rumped Warbler* 16; *Song Sparrow* 22; *White-throated Sparrow* 25; *Dark-eyed Junco* 43; **Baltimore Oriole** 1; *Common Redpoll* 4; *American Goldfinch* 93; *House Sparrow* 20.

Total Species 50, about 3,072 individuals. (CW: *Belted Kingfisher*). **Bill Crosby (compiler)**, Donna Crosby, Russel Crosby, Glen Demolitor, Danny Mason, Howard Roszel, Clyde Stoddart, Aaron Swim, Robert Turner, David Young.

ST. ANN'S BAY, Dec 18; 8 a.m. to 3:34 p.m. Temp. -4 to -2° C. Winds E light. Snow 10 cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water partly frozen. Skies cloudy, snow squalls all day. 11 observers in 8 parties, 11 at feeders. Total party hours 29 (26 on foot, 3 by car). Total party kilometres 143.7 (33.5 by foot, 110.2 by car)

Canada Goose 123; *American Black Duck* 107; *Greater Scaup* 1; *Common Eider* 12; *Surf Scoter* 32; *White-winged Scoter* 28; *scoter species* 8; *Long-tailed Duck* 22; *Bufflehead* 4; *Common Goldeneye* 223; *Common Merganser* 9; *Red-breasted Merganser* 72; *Ruffed Grouse* 3; *Common Loon* 6; *Red-necked Grebe* 3; *Northern Gannet* 1; *Bald Eagle* 9; *Ring-billed Gull* 13; *Herring Gull* 74; *Iceland Gull* 4; *Black Guillemot* 9; *Mourning Dove* 8; *Downy Woodpecker* 1; *Hairy Woodpecker* 4; *Pileated Woodpecker* 1; *Northern Shrike* 1; *Gray Jay* 1; *Blue Jay* 44; *American Crow* 103; *Common Raven* 6; *Black-capped Chickadee* 83; *Boreal Chickadee* 7; *Red-breasted Nuthatch* 7; *Brown Creeper* 2; *Golden-crowned Kinglet* 19; *European Starling* 14; *Bohemian Waxwing* 21; *Song Sparrow* 1; *Dark-eyed Junco* 7; *American Goldfinch* 19; *Evening Grosbeak* 2.

Total Species 39, about 1,113 individuals. Dan Banks, Diana Banks, Jitka Bordillon, Bev Brett, Heather Dauphinee-Wilson,

Donna Fizzell, Harold Frizzell, **Bethsheila Kent (compiler)**, David McCorquodale, Susann Myers, Fenella Nicholson.

ST. PETER'S, Dec 27; 7:15 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Temp. -5 to -1° C. Wind SW 10-25 kph. Trace of snow. Still water frozen, moving water partly frozen. A.M. clear. P.M. partly cloudy. 15 field observers in 8 parties, 18 at feeders. Total party hours 32 (17 on foot, 15 by car). Total party kilometres 213.5 (20 by foot, 193.5 by car).

Canada Goose 39; American Black Duck 24; Mallard 8; Ring-necked Duck 1; Lesser Scaup 1; Common Eider 1738; Harlequin Duck 2; Surf Scoter 37; White-winged Scoter 39; Black Scoter 80; Long-tailed Duck 144; Bufflehead 6; Common Goldeneye 96; Common Merganser 62; Red-breasted Merganser 166; Ruffed Grouse 4; Red-throated Loon 1; Common Loon 32; Pied-billed Grebe 1; Horned Grebe 14; Red-necked Grebe 6; Double-crested Cormorant 1; Great Cormorant 2; Bald Eagle 15; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 4; Purple Sandpiper 2; American Woodcock 1; Black-headed Gull 7; Bonaparte's Gull 13; Herring Gull 310; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 24; gull species 7; Thick-billed Murre 3; Black Guillemot 17; Rock Pigeon 62; Mourning Dove 92; Great Horned Owl 1; Barred Owl 1; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 5; Hairy Woodpecker 6; Black-backed Woodpecker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 2; woodpecker species 3; Gray Jay 25; Blue Jay 111; American Crow 246; Common Raven 24; Black-capped Chickadee 140; Boreal Chickadee 20; Red-breasted Nuthatch 19; Brown Creeper 1; Golden-crowned Kinglet 31; European Starling 614; Cedar Waxwing 1; American Tree Sparrow 3; Savannah Sparrow 3; Song Sparrow 6; Dark-eyed Junco 1; Pine Grosbeak 1; Purple Finch 1; White-winged Crossbill 4; Pine Siskin 15; American Goldfinch 104; Evening Grosbeak 4; House Sparrow 63.

Total Species 67, about 4,621 individuals. (CW: Ring-billed Gull, Snow Bunting). Tony Burke, David Cotie, Mary Cotie, April Digout, **Billy Digout (compiler)**, George Digout, Sharon Digout, Sheila Digout, Margaret Herdman, Billy Holmes, Martha Holmes, Wendell Holmes, David Johnston, Greta Keigan, George Kyte, Eva Landry, Gordon Landry, Helen MacDonald, Elaine MacNeil, Jack MacNeil, Weldon MacPhail, David McCorquodale, Emily Meyers, Susann Myers, Daniel Nightingale, Frances Oram, Norman Oram, Hilary Pate, Jeannie Shermerhorn, Bernie Sockett, Sheila Sockett, Donnie Sutherland, Ricky Wambolt.

SHEET HARBOUR, Dec 22; 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 2 to 6° C. Wind NW 5-15 kph. Snow 0- 2.5 cm. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. Skies cloudy all day. 18 field observers in 8 parties, 9 at feeders. Total party hours 49 (34 on foot, 15 by car). Total party kilometres 234.1 (49.5 by foot, 184 by car)

*Snow Goose 1; Canada Goose 28; American Black Duck 84; Greater Scaup 16; Common Eider 49; Harlequin Duck 44; Surf Scoter 7; White-winged Scoter 10; scoter species 12; Long-tailed Duck 451; Common Goldeneye 109; Hooded Merganser 19; Common Merganser 7; Red-breasted Merganser 149; Ring-necked Pheasant 38; Ruffed Grouse 7; Spruce Grouse 2; Common Loon 32; Horned Grebe 14; Red-necked Grebe 2; grebe species 3; Great Cormorant 9; cormorant species 8; Bald Eagle 8; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Spotted Sandpiper 1; Purple Sandpiper 47; Herring Gull 177; Great Black-backed Gull 4; gull species 8; Black Guillemot 22; Rock Pigeon 52; Mourning Dove 22; Belted Kingfisher 1; Downy Woodpecker 5; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Black-backed Woodpecker 4; Pileated Woodpecker 3; Gray Jay 9; Blue Jay 61; American Crow 138; Common Raven 15; Black-capped Chickadee 205; Boreal Chickadee 44; Red-breasted Nuthatch 8; Brown Creeper 2; **Marsh Wren 1**; Golden-crowned Kinglet 63; European Starling 129; American Pipit 3; Song Sparrow 4; White-throated Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 6; sparrow species 2; White-winged Crossbill 30; American Goldfinch 175; House Sparrow 1.*

Total Species 52 about 2,357 individuals. Julie Adamson-Miller, Bill Armsworthy, Donald Batstone, Patricia Batstone, Lucas Berrigan, Suzanne Borkowski, **Jim Cameron (compiler)**, Patricia Chalmers, George Child, Thelma Crowell, Lil Cruikshank, Warren Cruikshank, Bill Clark, Sharon Clark, David Currie, Gillian Elliott, Jim Elliott, Patricia McKay, Chase Moser, Robert Moser, Sandy Moser, Warren Parson, Chris Pepper, Devon Query, Azor Vienneau, John Wood, Kris Wood.

SHUBENACADIE, Dec 20; 7:15 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. -6 to 0° C. Wind NE slight. Snow 3-5 cm. Still water frozen, moving water party open. Skies cloudy all day. 47 field observers in 26 parties, 21 at feeders, .45 hours and 4 km owling. Total party hours 61 (22.15 on foot, 38.45 by car). Total party kilometres 362.7 (88 by foot, 274.7 by car).

Canada Goose 435; American Black Duck 60; Mallard 21; Common Merganser 140; Ruffed Grouse 6; Bald Eagle 45; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Red-tailed Hawk 10; Merlin 3; Killdeer 4; Ring-billed Gull 11; Herring Gull 30; Great Black-backed Gull 3; gull species 125; Rock Pigeon 502; Mourning Dove 436; Barred Owl 3; Downy Woodpecker 32; Hairy Woodpecker 34; Pileated Woodpecker 4; Gray Jay 5; Blue Jay 580; American Crow 738; Common Raven 127; Black-capped Chickadee 613; Red-breasted Nuthatch 5; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 30; American Robin 3; European Starling 2631; Cedar Waxwing 5; American Tree Sparrow 39; Song Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 6; Dark-eyed Junco 39; Snow Bunting 30; Red-winged Blackbird 3; Brown-headed Cowbird 4; Purple Finch 12; Pine Siskin 13; American Goldfinch 1082; Evening Grosbeak 108; House Sparrow 48.

Total Species 43, about 8,033 individuals. Barbara Aitken, Mark Anthony, Fred Ashley, Wylie Barbreck, Suzanne Borkowski, Barbara Bower, Rob Cameron, Terry Carrol, Carol Goswell, Brenda Grantmyre, Myrna Hambleton, Audrey Hungerford, John Hungerford, Irene Isenor, **Myrna Isenor (compiler)**, Philip Isenor, Donnie Langille, Kathleen MacAulay, Anne MacDonald,

Roslyn MacPhee, Sharon MacPhee, Jack Mackey, Joan Mackey, Elsie McCulloch, Linda McCulloch, Roland McCulloch, Pam McInnis, Jenna Marshall, Muriel Miller, Pat Moore, Juanita Murphy, Carolyn Myers, Jacques Perron, Christine Queripel, Earl Reid, Nancy Reid, Roby Scammell, George Searle, Dale Smith, Scott Smith, Connie Stott, Blanche Tanner, Julie Towers, Faye Wallace, Lorne Weaver, Arthur West, Myrna West, Bernice Williams, Frank Woodworth.

SPRINGVILLE, Dec 19; 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -14 to -7° C. Wind calm. Snow cover 2 cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly frozen. Skies clear all day. 6 field observers in 5 parties, 16 at feeders. Total party hours 37 (13 on foot, 24 by car). Total party kilometres 435 (19 by foot, 416 by car).

*Canada Goose 150; American Black Duck 66; Mallard 8; Common Merganser 2; Ring-necked Pheasant 9; Ruffed Grouse 9; Bald Eagle 10; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 13; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Ring-billed Gull 64; Herring Gull 153; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 7; Rock Pigeon 394; Mourning Dove 216; Barred Owl 2; Downy Woodpecker 26; Hairy Woodpecker 38; Northern Flicker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 10; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 3; Blue Jay 217; American Crow 3825; Common Raven 116; Black-capped Chickadee 674; Boreal Chickadee 21; Red-breasted Nuthatch 43; White-breasted Nuthatch 10; Brown Creeper 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet 57; American Robin 52; European Starling 619; Cedar Waxwing 31; **Common Yellowthroat 1**; American Tree Sparrow 20; Song Sparrow 16; Swamp Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 27; White-winged Crossbill 14; American Goldfinch 209; Evening Grosbeak 55; House Sparrow 121.*

Total Species 44, about 7,323 individuals. Harry Brennan, Jean Brennan, Mark Brennan, Ed Cormier, Sonny Cyr, Lyla Dort, Rick Ferguson, Claire Foote, Ralph Foote, Trudy Grant, Charlie Kendall, Sandy MacGregor, John MacKearney, Ken McKenna, Helen Melanson, Fred Polly, Sally Polly, Judy Schuhlein, Grant Stewart, Sue Uhren, Amber Vines, **Steve Vines (compiler)**.

STRAIT OF CANSO, Dec 28; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp. 11 to 7° C. Winds SW 3-10 kph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. A.M. partly clear, light rain. P.M. partly cloudy. 12 field observers in 10 parties, 12 at feeders. Total party hours 31.5 (26 on foot, 9.5 by car). Total party kilometres 176.5 (19 by foot, 157.5 by car).

*Canada Goose 85; American Black Duck 105; Mallard 4; Greater Scaup 9; Common Eider 37; Harlequin Duck 2; Surf Scoter 15; White-winged Scoter 5; Black Scoter 1; scoter species 30; Long-tailed Duck 20; Bufflehead 27; Common Goldeneye 304; Hooded Merganser 2; Common Merganser 211; Red-breasted Merganser 125; Ruffed Grouse 1; Common Loon 20; Horned Grebe 2; Red-necked Grebe 7; Bald Eagle 25; Northern Harrier 1; **Broad-winged Hawk 1**; Red-tailed Hawk 3; Black-headed Gull 3; Bonaparte's Gull 82; Ring-billed Gull 7; Herring Gull 253; Iceland Gull 103; Great Black-backed Gull 28; Black Guillemot 115; Rock Pigeon 105; Mourning Dove 22; Great Horned Owl 1; Pileated Woodpecker 2; woodpecker species 3; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 14; Blue Jay 76; American Crow 352; Common Raven 8; Black-capped Chickadee 172; Boreal Chickadee 12; Red-breasted Nuthatch 7; Golden-crowned Kinglet 21; American Robin 1; European Starling 200; Cedar Waxwing 15; Song Sparrow 6; Dark-eyed Junco 5; sparrow species 2; Purple Finch 5; American Goldfinch 46; Evening Grosbeak 25; House Sparrow 36.*

Total Species 52, about 2,770 individuals. (CW: Downy Woodpecker, American Tree Sparrow). Clark Brander, Beth Cameron, Maureen Cameron-MacMillan, Maureen Demone, Billy Digout, David Fifield, Freda Fifield, Brian Johnston, **David Johnston (compiler)**, Mary Johnston, Tanya King, Allan MacMillan, Weldon MacPhail, Thelma MacPherson, Trueman MacPherson, Allison MacRury, Lorna MacRury, David McCorquodale, Susann Myers, Betty Talbot, Louis Talbot, Marilyn Talbot.

SYDNEY'S, Dec 21; 7:15 a.m. to 4:15 p.m. Temp. 0 to 2° C. Winds NE 20-35 kph. Trace of snow. Still water partly frozen, moving water open. Cloudy, light rain or snow all day. 28 field observers in 13 parties, 49 at feeders. Total party hours 49 (26.75 on foot, 22.25 by car). Total party kilometres 386.25 (19.25 by foot, 367 by car)

*American Wigeon 2; American Black Duck 1129; Mallard 366; American Black Duck/Mallard hybrid 35; Northern Pintail 2; Ring-necked Duck 1; Greater Scaup 225; Lesser Scaup 1; Common Eider 1; White-winged Scoter 354; Long-tailed Duck 35; Bufflehead 44; Common Goldeneye 436; Barrow's Goldeneye 19; Common Merganser 25; Red-breasted Merganser 47; Ring-necked Pheasant 15; Ruffed Grouse 3; Common Loon 1; Northern Gannet 4; Great Cormorant 44; Bald Eagle 20; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 2; Bonaparte's Gull 1; Herring Gull 1202; Iceland Gull 848; Glaucous Gull 6; Great Black-backed Gull 364; gull species 6; Black Guillemot 4; Rock Pigeon 608; Mourning Dove 149; Belted Kingfisher 3; Downy Woodpecker 21; Hairy Woodpecker 12; Northern Flicker 9; Pileated Woodpecker 1; Blue Jay 263; American Crow 1031; Common Raven 72; Black-capped Chickadee 663; Boreal Chickadee 4; Red-breasted Nuthatch 4; Brown Creeper 2; Golden-crowned Kinglet 128; European Starling 2637; Bohemian Waxwing 81; **Yellow-breasted Chat 1**; American Tree Sparrow 7; Savannah Sparrow 1; Song Sparrow 41; Dark-eyed Junco 42; **Dickcissel 1**; Common Grackle 6; **Baltimore Oriole 1**; Pine Grosbeak 2; Purple Finch 25; Pine Siskin 10; American Goldfinch 147; Evening Grosbeak 67; House Sparrow 382.*

Total Species 61, about 11,671 individuals. (CW: Northern Goshawk). Claire Andrea, George Baillie, George Ball, Ed Barrington, Rob Beresford, Mary Lou Blunden, Heather Brown, Bill Bussey, Maureen Cameron-MacMillan, Irene Campbell, Robert Campbell, Judy Cartwright, Don Courage, Rose Courage, Andre Crepeau, Joan Cunningham, Vince Cunningham, Randy David-

son, Billy Digout, Ken Donovan, Donald Dunbar, Mary Jane Elliott, David Forrester, Daniel Francois, Gwen Gardner, Betty Gentile, Barb Glasey, Cyndie Glogowski, Troy Glogowski, Nancy Haley, Terry Haley, David Harris, Sana Kavanaugh, Emmanuel Keagan, Abbey Keeping, Jeannie Keeping, Bethsheila Kent, Jailah Laffin, Terry Laffin, Andrew MacDonald, Arthur MacDonald, Barbara MacDonald, James MacDonald, Miles MacDonald, Yvonne MacDonald, Paul MacDougall, Sam MacDougall, Gordon MacFadden, Joan MacFadden, John W. MacInnis, Lillian MacKeigan, Wendy MacKeigan, Margaret Ann MacKinnon, Edwin MacLellan, Allen MacLeod, Jeff MacLeod, Juana MacLeod, Jack MacNeil, **David McCorquodale (compiler)**, Keith Miles, Joan Mills, Jane Monahan, Laurie Murchison, Al Patterson, Terry Power, Bill Reeves, Mona Reeves, Gordon Sampson, Laura Saunders, Jennifer Stephen, Roger Tobin, Chris Thomson, Les Urban, Lydia Urban, Albert Zwicker.

TRURO, Dec 29; 7 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. 1 to 2° C. Winds NW 10 kph. No snow cover. Still water partly open, moving water open. A.M. partly clear. P.M. cloudy, light snow. 11 field observers in 8 parties, 4 at feeders, 2 hours and .5 km. owling. Total party hours 47.25 (19.75 on foot, 27.5 by car). Total party kilometres 626 (39 by foot, 587 by car).

*Canada Goose 266; American Wigeon 1; American Black Duck 49; Mallard 503; Bufflehead 1; Gray Partridge 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 25; Ruffed Grouse 11; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 10; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 2; Northern Goshawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 10; Ring-billed Gull 1; Herring Gull 97; Iceland Gull 2; Great Black-backed Gull 13; Rock Pigeon 439; Mourning Dove 157; Barred Owl 1; Boreal Owl 1; Downy Woodpecker 8; Hairy Woodpecker 3; Black-backed Woodpecker 1; Pileated Woodpecker 2; Blue Jay 198; American Crow 4234; Common Raven 27; Black-capped Chickadee 268; Boreal Chickadee 12; Red-breasted Nuthatch 49; Brown Creeper 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 65; **Hermit Thrush 1**; European Starling 3096; American Tree Sparrow 19; Song Sparrow 6; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 2; Dark-eyed Junco 11; Northern Cardinal 2; Pine Grosbeak 4; Purple Finch 15; White-winged Crossbill 11; Pine Siskin 1; American Goldfinch 390; Evening Grosbeak 15; House Sparrow 15.*

Total Species 51, about 10,061 individuals. (CW: Belted Kingfisher, Gray Jay, White-breasted Nuthatch). Linda Hall, **Ross Hall (compiler)**, Joan Hudgins, Fulton Lavender, Betty Lynds, Martha MacLaughlin, Marilyn MacWha, Allister Mombourquette, Jeff Ogden, Chris Pepper, Anne Richard, Brian Russell, Millie Russell, Cliff Sandeson, Rose Selwyn-Smith, Harold Stewart, Sheila Stewart.

WEST HANTS, Dec 27; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -2 to 3° C. Wind variable 10 kph. Snow 0-5 cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. A.M. partly cloudy. P.M. partly clear. 17 field observers in 10 parties, 2 at feeders, 2.2 hours owling. Total party hours 65.5 (21.2 on foot, 44.3 by car). Total party kilometres 666 (47 by foot, 619 by car).

*Canada Goose 321; American Wigeon 1; American Black Duck 749; Mallard 37; Common Goldeneye 1; Ring-necked Pheasant 60; Bald Eagle 30; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 4; Red-tailed Hawk 38; Rough-legged Hawk 2; **Sandhill Crane 2**; Wilson's Snipe 1; Ring-billed Gull 20; Herring Gull 411; Great Black-backed Gull 170; Rock Pigeon 268; Mourning Dove 596; Great Horned Owl 1; Barred Owl 2; **Long-eared Owl 1**; Northern Saw-whet Owl 2; Downy Woodpecker 16; Hairy Woodpecker 19; Northern Flicker 16; Pileated Woodpecker 11; Northern Shrike 1; Gray Jay 2; Blue Jay 361; American Crow 1384; Common Raven 119; Black-capped Chickadee 584; Boreal Chickadee 1; Red-breasted Nuthatch 20; White-breasted Nuthatch 15; Brown Creeper 6; Golden-crowned Kinglet 37; American Robin 84; European Starling 6465; American Tree Sparrow 84; Savannah Sparrow 2; Song Sparrow 30; White-throated Sparrow 21; Dark-eyed Junco 98; Snow Bunting 9; Northern Cardinal 4; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Common Grackle 1; White-winged Crossbill 9; Common Redpoll 3; American Goldfinch 903; Evening Grosbeak 41; House Sparrow 113.*

Total Species 55, about 13,100 individuals. (CW: Fox Sparrow). John Belbin, Suzanne Borkowski, Gail Davis, Glenn Davis, Andrew Harvie, **Patrick Kelly (compiler)**, Fulton Lavender, Neil Robarts, Sheila Robarts, John Robertson, Liz Stern, Richard Stern, Jim Wolford, Everett Woolaver, Frank Woolaver, Scott Yetman.

WHITE POINT, Dec 19; 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Temp -5 to 3° C. Wind NE 35 kph. No snow cover. Still water frozen, moving frozen. A.M. cloudy, light snow. P.M. partly cloudy, light snow. 3 field observers in 2 parties, 1 at feeder. Total party hours 14.4 (2.5 on foot, 11.9 by car). Total party kilometres 136 (4 on foot, 132 by car).

***Snow Goose 1**; Canada Goose 465; American Wigeon 1; American Black Duck 105; Mallard 50; Green-winged Teal 3; Common Eider 269; Surf Scoter 4; White-winged Scoter 24; Black Scoter 45; Long-tailed Duck 18; Bufflehead 20; Common Goldeneye 9; Barrow's Goldeneye 1; Red-breasted Merganser 45; Common Loon 6; Red-necked Grebe 2; Northern Gannet 8; Double-crested Cormorant 2; Great Cormorant 6; cormorant species 20; Bald Eagle 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Red-tailed Hawk 1; Black-headed Gull 2; Ring-billed Gull 10; Herring Gull 155; Iceland Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 24; Black Guillemot 4; Rock Pigeon 25; Mourning Dove 73; Downy Woodpecker 8; Hairy Woodpecker 4; Northern Flicker 3; Northern Shrike 1; Blue Jay 56; American Crow 103; Black-capped Chickadee 65; White-breasted Nuthatch 4; Golden-crowned Kinglet 8; European Starling 152; Yellow-rumped Warbler 19; **Yellow-breasted Chat 1**; American Tree Sparrow 5; Chipping Sparrow 2; **Clay-colored Sparrow 1**; Song Sparrow 10; White-throated Sparrow 26; Dark-eyed Junco 13; Northern Cardinal 6; Red-winged Blackbird 1; Brown-headed Cowbird 1; American Goldfinch 17.*

Total Species 53, about 1,907 individuals. Sam de Ruyter, (compiler), Sylvia Fullerton, James Hirtle, Marg Millard, Dorothy Poole.

WOLFVILLE, Dec 19; 7:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Temp. -10 to -6C. Wind WNW 10-50kph. Snow 5-15cm. Still water partly open. Moving water open. A.M. cloudy, light snow. P.M. partly, clear. 57 field observers in 31 parties, 92 at feeders. Total party hours 260 (86.5 on foot, 173.5 by car). Total party kilometres 854.5 (73 by foot, 781.5 by car).

Canada Goose 915; American Black Duck 1255; Mallard 574; Northern Pintail 4; White-winged Scoter 3; Common Goldeneye 7; Common Merganser 69; Red-breasted Merganser 2; Ring-necked Pheasant 244; Ruffed Grouse 4; Common Loon 2; Horned Grebe 2; Great Blue Heron 1; Bald Eagle 254; Northern Harrier 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 11; Red-tailed Hawk 122; Rough-legged Hawk 2; Merlin 2; Peregrine Falcon 3; Ring-billed Gull 27; Herring Gull 2063; Iceland Gull 4; Lesser Black-backed Gull 1; Great Black-backed Gull 624; gull species 59; Rock Pigeon 502; Mourning Dove 1119; Barred Owl 4; Downy Woodpecker 88; Hairy Woodpecker 70; Northern Flicker 50; Pileated Woodpecker 7; Blue Jay 1470; American Crow 4070; Common Raven 304; Horned Lark 43; Black-capped Chickadee 1136; Boreal Chickadee 2; Red-breasted Nuthatch 27; White-breasted Nuthatch 60; Brown Creeper 3; Golden-crowned Kinglet 21; Ruby-crowned Kinglet 1; American Robin 94; European Starling 7163; Cedar Waxwing 25; American Tree Sparrow 55; Chipping Sparrow 2; Savannah Sparrow 3; Song Sparrow 229; Swamp Sparrow 1; White-throated Sparrow 122; Dark-eyed Junco 267; Snow Bunting 217; Northern Cardinal 26; Red-winged Blackbird 4; Common Grackle 3; Purple Finch 9; White-winged Crossbill 11; Common Redpoll 6; Pine Siskin 8; American Goldfinch 1343; Evening Grosbeak 30; House Sparrow 123.

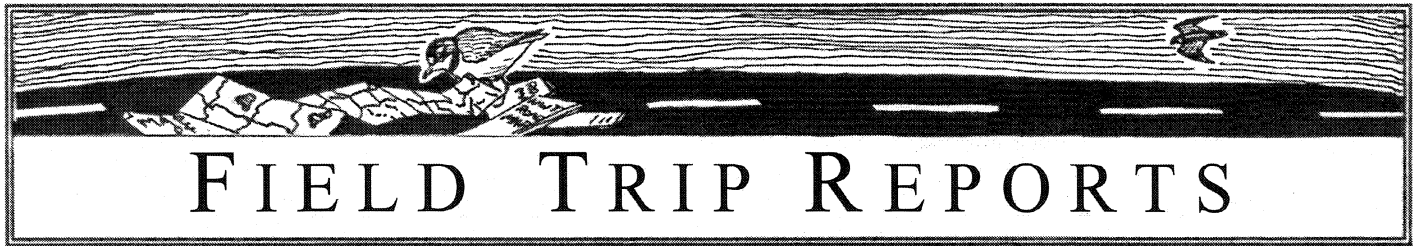
Total Species 64, about 25,194 individuals. (CW: Northern Mockingbird). Derek Allerton, George Alliston, Margaret Alliston, Jim Amos, Fred Archibald, Helen Archibald, Peter Austin-Smith Jr., Peter Austin-Smith Sr., Joanne Bezanson, Charlane Bishop, Diana Bishop, Sue Bissix, Sherman Boates, Fen Boates-Bishop, **Alison Bogan, (compiler)**, Larry Bogan, Soren Bondrup-Nielsen, Sharon Borden, Mike Boudreau, Heather Brown, Mike Brylinski, Carol Buckley, Nancy Burbidge, Scott Burbidge, Andrew Cameron, Diane Cameron, Andy Cann, Ken Cheslock, Lana Churchill, Karen Cloghesy, Neil Cloghesy, Murray Colbo, Chris Cox, Peggy Crawford, Pat Davis, Andy Dean, Lelia Dean, Claire Diggings, Pat Dix, Huu Duy, Joan Eaton, Mark Elderkin, Paul Elderkin, Wendy Elliott, George Forsyth, George F. Forsyth, Harold Forsyth, Bernard Forsythe, Sandra Forsythe, Hilma Frank, Hedley Fulton, Jean Gibson-Collins, Glenys Gibson, Jamie Gibson, Merritt Gibson, Mary Sue Goulding, Art Hamilton, Charlotte Harper, Eileen Harris, Lorna Hart, Avril Harwood, Heather Hennigar, Maxine Hill, Dennis Hippert, Bob Horne, Marg Horne, John Horton, Winnie Horton, Jeff Isenor, Lana Isenor, Ryosuki Ishigami, Ari Kalkman, Patrick Kelly, Sharon Kinsman, Jean Leung, Doug Linzey, Phil Long, Jake MacDonald, Janey MacWha, Ron Margeson, Angus MacLean, Stella MacLean, Don Marston, Shirley Marston, Eleanor Mason, Janet McClain, Sheila McCurdy, Rosaleen McDonald, Pat MacLeod, Randy Milton, Terri Milton, Adele Mullie, Pat Murphy, Terry Murphy, Gary Ness, Alisa Nguyen, Eliina Nguyen, Leo Nguyen, Nancy Nickerson, Mike O'Brien, Carol Paterson, George Paterson, Ian Paterson, Dorothy Perkin, Mary Pratt, Cecil Pulsifer, Stan Riggs, Gordon Robart, Jacquie Roche, Barry Sabeau, Linda Sacouman, Kathie Schaffner, Dave Shutler, Darrell Slaunwhite, Steven Slipp, Andrew Steeves, Richard Stern, Elizabeth Stern, Ed Sulis, Mary Anne Sulis, Bill Thexton, Brenda Thexton, Martin Thomas, Dianne Thorpe, Jean Timpa, Christine Toplack, Dave Tracy, Kurtis Trzeinski, Judy Tufts, Allison Webster, Dave Webster, Rick Whitman, Sherman Williams, Jim Wolford, Don Wright, Irene Wright, Shirley Wright, Earl Young, Sheila Young.

YARMOUTH, Dec 20; 7:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Temp. -7 to -4 °C. Wind NE 19-30 kph. Snow 2-23 cm. Still water frozen, moving water partly open. Skies cloudy, heavy snow all day. 17 field observers in 7 parties, 14 at feeders. Total party hours 25.75 (3.25 by foot, 22.5 by car). Total party kilometres 394.8 (3.8 by foot, 391 by car).

Canada Goose 655; Gadwall 1; American Wigeon 2; American Black Duck 60; Mallard 401; Common Eider 35; Long-tailed Duck 4; Bufflehead 1; Common Goldeneye 45; Hooded Merganser 28; Common Merganser 17; Red-breasted Merganser 9; duck species 2; Ring-necked Pheasant 3; Common Loon 18; Turkey Vulture 1; Sharp-shinned Hawk 1; Ring-billed Gull 54; Herring Gull 314; Iceland Gull 3; Great Black-backed Gull 138; gull species 4; Black Guillemot 1; Rock Pigeon 49; Mourning Dove 83; Downy Woodpecker 11; Hairy Woodpecker 5; Northern Flicker 1; Blue Jay 66; American Crow 188; Common Raven 4; Horned Lark 29; Black-capped Chickadee 135; Golden-crowned Kinglet 2; American Robin 12; European Starling 848; Cedar Waxwing 50; American Tree Sparrow 22; Chipping Sparrow 18; Song Sparrow 31; White-throated Sparrow 58; Dark-eyed Junco 15; sparrow species 2; Northern Cardinal 36; Red-winged Blackbird 29; Common Grackle 16; Brown-headed Cowbird 30; Baltimore Oriole 1; House Finch 15; Common Redpoll 5; American Goldfinch 64; House Sparrow 5.

Total Species 49, about 3,627 individuals. (CW: Surf Scoter, Red-throated Loon, Bald Eagle, Northern Harrier, Pileated Woodpecker, White-breasted Nuthatch, **Fox Sparrow**). Howard Bain, Martyn Bowler, Sandy Bowler, Raymond d'Entremont, Ted D'Eon, Ed Doherty, Susan Doherty, June Graves, Helen Hall, Hubert Hall, Fenton Henry, Teresa Henry, Carol Jacquard, Vivian Kennedy, Blair Kirchner, Angela LeBlanc, David Mahoney, Ethelda Murphy, Leah Murray, Dermot O'Sullivan, Sally O'Sullivan, Arthur Porter, Dick Pothier, Melvin Pothier, Mike Pothier, Marcie Rogers, **Barbara Ruff (compiler)**, **Eric Ruff (compiler)**, Rachelle Smith, Stewart Smith, David Sollows, Judy Sollows, Vera Sollows, Bernice Trask.

David Currie/Michael King ed.



Birds of Eastern King's County
25 April 2010, Leader: Jim Wolford

Our day started out not so good, with early morning showers. But the field trip weather stayed dry, with the day gradually brightening and then in mid-afternoon becoming sunny and clear and fairly warm (16 C).

We started with 25 people at the home of Bernard Forsythe on Wolfville Ridge. Bernard thinks the female barred owl of his backyard pair is a relatively new replacement for a road-killed owl about three years ago. For the past two years this pair laid no eggs, but this year they have produced two. Bernard put on his crash-helmet, climbed to the nest-box, and the female flew off a short distance and perched in a deciduous tree. Bernard reached into the box and pulled out a very tiny hatchling barred owl, covered in whitish down. He said the hatchling was only one day old, which made the incubation period for that first egg about 31 days. Prey items in the nest-box were two meadow voles and a song sparrow.

After the "owl show", about 20 of us drove Van Nostrand's Pond, where we were pleased to see 5 Yellow-rumped Warblers actively fly-catching in the flowering willows. Waterfowl were mostly absent (2 Green-winged Teals, 1 Mallard), but highlights included 2 Great Blue Herons, a Merlin, a Female Red-winged Blackbird, a Swamp Sparrow and a Kingfisher heard by Patricia Chalmers. There was also a male bullfrog.

Along Canard St. we saw an active raven nest in a red maple along the road, and an active bald eagle nest in a deciduous tree, with 2 adults on it.

Next was Canard Pond, which was a disaster -- I blame myself for not telling everyone to stay inside the cars. As it was, Pat Kelly and I in the lead car saw some good ducks, which all flushed as soon as a few people got out of their cars. Only a few of us, therefore, saw 20 Green-winged Teals, seven American Wigeon, and one Male Gadwall.

The caravan of about six cars drove via Saxon St. to the Canning Aboiteau. There were 10 Canada Geese in the Habitant River (and 20 more along in river in Canning). Patricia and Luke spotted a singing Savannah Sparrow for us too. In Canning along the river at the Legion we saw a single Greater Yellowlegs and about 5 Cedar Waxwings, plus House Sparrows in nest cavities in buildings.

Our final group stop was Harris' Pond behind the Baptist Church in Canning. We saw at least 12 basking Painted Turtles, a flicker (which may have been excavating a cavity in a dead stump?), a single unidentified swallow, and only a few of us saw a lovely male Wood Duck fly in and land on the far side of the pond and quickly disappear into shoreline plants. Pat Kelly spotted a perched and basking Milbert's Tortoiseshell butterfly.

Thanks very much to Bernard Forsythe for his generous sharing of his barred owls with us, and to Helen and Fred Archibald for the donation of their home for our lunch and rest stop.

Jim Wolford



Field trips are open to non-members as well as members. Feel free to phone or E-mail the field trip leader or contact person ahead of time to obtain further information, directions or restrictions (e.g. dogs are not normally allowed on field trips). The area code for Nova Scotia is 902. NSMNH = The Nova Scotia Museum of Natural History, 1747 Summer Street, Halifax.

Ideas and suggestions for future trips are welcome. You do not need to be an expert to lead a field trip, and the trip does not need to last all day. You just need to share your favourite birding spots. Any questions, comments or suggestions, as well as all field trip reports should be directed to The Events Editor, Suzanne Borkowski 445-2922. E-mail: suzanneborkowski@yahoo.ca

Fri 25 June 2010 - 6th Annual Tern Festival

West Pubnico, Yarmouth & Acadian Shores

Contact: Bernice d'Entremont 762-3380 E-mail:

musee.acadien@ns.sympatico.ca

Complete details and a schedule of events can be found on the NS Tourism website:

www.NovaScotia.com Check under "What to do" then "Festivals & Events".

Sat 03 Jul 2010 – New Birders' Walk – Point Pleasant Park - Halifax

Trip Leader: Bonnie Carmichael, E-mail:

bonniecarmichael@hotmail.com

Meet in the Lower parking lot at the end of Point Pleasant Drive by the wall overlooking Black Rock Beach at 9:30 am. We'll take a leisurely walk around part of the park to look for birds in their natural habitat on land and on the water. Duration: 2 hours.

No rain date.

Sat 10 July 2010 - Abrahams Lake Bird Walk

Leaders: Jim Cameron 885-2970 E-mail:

jim.cameron@ns.sympatico.ca and Warren Parsons 772-2207

E-mail: rosalieeast@ns.sympatico.ca

This will be a joint walk with the Friends of Taylor Head Prov. Park Society. Meet at 9 a.m. in Sheet Harbour at the N.S. Tourist Bureau (Old MacPhee House). As you come from Halifax this is the first building on your right as you cross the bridge on the West River. Abrahams Lake Preserve is owned by the Nature Conservancy of Canada and is located 38 km. from Sheet Harbour in the Liscomb Game Sanctuary. This preserve has one of the few old growth forests in the province and birds nesting by the trail include Ravens, Goshawks, Hairy Woodpeckers, Black-backed Woodpeckers, Swainson Thrush, and Bay-breasted Warblers. Birds nesting in the sanctuary are Greater Yellowlegs, Red-tailed Hawks and Common Mergansers. We will spend about 3 hrs. on the 6.5 km. of trail and eat lunch by Abrahams Lake. Bring a lunch.

No rain date

Sat 10 July 2010 – Herbert River Trail

Leader: Patrick Kelly 494-3294 (w) 472-2322 (h)

patrick.kelly@dal.ca

This easy walk follows the rail bed of the former train line that ran from Windsor to Truro via Kennetcook. It runs along the Herbert River for a good part of its length. Meet at the Newport Rink parking lot at 9:00 a.m. Take Exit 5 from Highway 101 and follow Highway 14 east for about 10 km to the village of Brooklyn. At the cenotaph, keep left and follow Highway 14 north for just under 1 km. At the intersection (Petro Canada station) Highway 14 turns right. Continue straight on Highway 215 (Note the YIELD sign. You do NOT have the right of way)! The rink is on the right as soon as you exit the intersection. Bring insect repellent. We should be done by lunchtime.

Rain date Sun 11 July.

Sun 11 July 2010 – Wallace Bay

Leader: Paul MacDonald 627-2568 E-mail:

paulrita2001@yahoo.com

Meet at the Wallace Wharf, at 8:30 a.m. Take Hwy #104 to exit #11, then Hwy #4 North to Wentworth Centre; then Hwy #307 to Wallace. The wharf is right in front of you when you reach the end of #307 at Rte#6. Primary points of interest are the impoundments at the Wallace Bay National Wildlife Area. The morning will consist of a three-hour walk along a woodland trail, so come prepared with sturdy footwear, water, and a lunch. Birds of interest in 09 were Virginia Rail and Laughing Gull.

No rain date.

Sun 18 July 2010 - Beginning Birders Field Trip

Leaders: Jim Cameron 885-2970 E-mail:

jim.cameron@ns.sympatico.ca and Warren Parsons 772-2207

E-mail: rosalieeast@ns.sympatico.ca

This will be a joint walk with the Friends of Taylor Head Park Society. Meet at 10 a.m. at the end of the Taylor Head Prov. Park access road. Taylor Head Park is situated 100 km. from Halifax in Spry Bay and 11 km. before Sheet Harbour on the # 7 Hwy. Prior to the walk we will discuss equipment, guide books, and audio and visual aids useful to birders. We will take a casual walk along Powers Pond and look at nesting birds such as Common Terns, Willets, Lincoln's Sparrows, and Spotted Sandpipers. The Walk will take about three hours and we will eat lunch on the trail. Take binoculars if you have them and a lunch.

No rain date.

Sat 31 Jul 2010 – Mahone Bay

Leader: James Hirtle 764-2182 E-mail: jrhbirder@hotmail.com
 Meet at 8:00 a.m. across from the three churches in Mahone Bay, Lunenburg County. We'll explore a variety of habitats. Bring a lunch. The trip will conclude about 3:00 p.m.
 No rain date.

Sat 07 Aug 2010 – Beginning Birders Trip – Windsor, Hants County

Leader: Patrick Kelly 494-3294 (w) 472-2322 (h) E-mail: patrick.kelly@dal.ca

Limited registration. Pre-registration is required.

These trips are geared for those who have always had an interest in bird watching, but were not sure how it was actually done. Bring binoculars and field guides, if you have them. Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the parking lot for the Windsor Tourist Bureau, which is just north of Exit 6 (Water Street) on Highway 101. We should be 1–2 hours and will visit a few different types of habitat in the town of Windsor.

Sat 07 Aug 2010 – New Birders' Walk – Point Pleasant Park - Halifax

Trip Leader: Bonnie Carmichael, E-mail: bonniecarmichael@hotmail.com

Meet in the Lower parking lot at the end of Point Pleasant Drive by the wall overlooking Black Rock Beach at 9:30 a.m. We'll take a leisurely walk around part of the park to look for birds in their natural habitat on land and on the water. Duration: 2 hours.
 No rain date.

Sat 07 August 2010 - Taylor Head Provincial Park Walk

Leaders: Jim Cameron 885-2970 E-mail: jim.cameron@ns.sympatico.ca and Warren Parsons 772-2207
 E-mail: rosaliecast@ns.sympatico.ca

This will be a joint trip with the Friends of Taylor Head Prov. Park Society. Meet at the end of the park access road (last parking lot) at 9 a.m. Taylor Head Park is 100 km. from Halifax and 11 km. before Sheet Harbour. Taylor Head has over 17 km. of trails. We will do Spry Bay Trail in the morning and eat lunch by Powers Pond. We will watch nesting and brooding Common Tern, Cormorants, Com. Eiders, Willets, and Spotted Sandpipers. Migrating Whimbrels should be present along with other waders. Terrain is rugged so sturdy boots are recommended. Take a hearty lunch. An optional walk to the Headland after lunch is offered.
 No rain date.

Sat 22 Aug 2010 - Point Michaud

Leaders: Billy Digout 535-2513 E-mail: william.digout@strait.ednet.ns.ca and Weldon MacPhail 535-3458.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. in front of the Transportation building at the Exit to Hwy #247 (just east of St. Peters Canal, Richmond County). Lots of shorebird species and beautiful scenery are in store on this always-popular field trip. Lunch to follow at 1:00 pm at the home of George and Sharon Digout in River Bourgeois.

Sat Sep 4 2010 – New Birders' Walk Walk – Point Pleasant**Park - Halifax**

Trip Leader: Bonnie Carmichael, E-Mail: bonniecarmichael@hotmail.com

Meet in the Lower parking lot at the end of Point Pleasant Drive by the wall overlooking Black Rock Beach at 9:30 am. We'll take a leisurely walk around part of the park to look for birds in their natural habitat on land and on the water. Duration: 2 hours.

Fri 03 Sep to Mon 06 Sep 2010 – Bon Portage Island

Leader: Claire Diggins 825-6152. E-mail: claire_diggins@hotmail.com

Trip will be limited to 10-12 participants. **Pre-Registration is Necessary!**

This trip is not suitable for small children or pets. Depart 6:00 p.m. on Friday from the Prospect Point Wharf in Shag Harbour, Shelburne County. Bring food, drinking water, warm clothing, footwear for rough (beach cobble) and wet terrain, a flashlight, mattress sheet, and a sleeping bag. Carry gear in waterproof bags or containers. Field guides are available on the island, as are cooking pots, utensils and dishes. There is a charge of \$45.00 for three nights accommodation for NSBS members plus a donation for the boat trip.

Sat Sep 11 2010 - Cape Breton Shorebirds

Leader: Susann Myers 431-9123 E-mail: myerss@eastlink.ca. Meet at the fence at the Sydney Airport to the right of the terminal building at 8:30 a.m.. Experience a great variety of species, both shorebirds and others, at Sydney Airport and nearby sites. This is our annual opportunity to get out on the airport runways and see good numbers of Buff-breasted Sandpipers, American Golden-Plovers and others in the company of birding friends. Bring a lunch.
 Rain date: Sun 12 Sept.

Fri 17 Sep to Sun 19 Sep 2010 – Brier Island Weekend

Leaders: James Hirtle 764-2182 e-mail: jrhbirder@hotmail.com; and Wayne Neily 765-2455 e-mail: neilyornis@hotmail.com.

Pre-register if possible, by e-mail to both leaders, indicating when you expect to arrive. **Confirm your arrival** with a leader at your first event and provide a telephone number where you can be reached on the Island in case of last minute changes. For all bird outings meet in the parking lot of the Brier Island Lodge, near the restaurant entrance.

Schedule:

Friday - 20:30 (8:30 pm) – Registration, introductions, and outing for owls and other nocturnal birds.

Saturday - 06:30 – Early birding - to catch possible migrant arrival and pelagics at North Point.

08:00 - 09:00 - breakfast (on your own) for those who want a break.

09:00 – 12:00 - Birding the Island Hot Spots.

12:30 pm or 1:30 pm – Whale and Seabird Cruise. Please make your own reservations at: <http://www.novascotiawhalewatching.ca> to book with Mariner Cruises (12:30 pm departure) **or:** <http://www.brierislandwhalewatch.com> to book with Brier Island Whale and Seabird Cruises (1:30 pm departure). Cost is about \$45/person, with discounts for seniors and children. Those who don't wish to take a pelagic cruise are

free to bird on their own.

21:30 (9:30 p.m.) - owling outing (depending on weather).

Sunday - 06:30 - Early birding - as Saturday.

09:00 am - More island birding - areas missed yesterday or re-check hot spots / rarity sites.

12:00 - Lunch and trip list compilation, Westport

p.m. - home, or another chance for a cruise or anything missed!

The ferries leave Digby Neck for Long Island every hour on the half hour and Long Island for Brier every hour on the hour. To reach Westport in time for the first outing, you need to leave the mainland at East Ferry no later than 19:30 (7:30 p.m.).

For weekend accommodations try: Brier Island Hostel:

www.brierislandhostel.com

The Brier Island Lodge: (NSBS members get 10% discount)

www.brierislandlodge.com

The Dock & Doze Motel: <http://www.brierisland.org>

Bay of Fundy Inn: <http://www.novascotiawhalewatching.ca>"

Sat 25 Sep 2010 - Editor's Field Trip - Peggy's Cove Loop

Leader: Blake Maybank 852-2077 E-mail

maybank@ns.sympatico.ca

Explore some little known trails and birding sites between White's Lake and Indian Harbour. Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the White's Lake Legion parking lot (junction of Rte 333 and Prospect Village Rd) - 30 minutes from downtown Halifax.

No rain date.

Sat 02 Oct 2010 - New Birders' Walk - Point Pleasant Park - Halifax

Leader: Bonnie Carmichael, E-Mail:

bonniecarmichael@hotmail.com

Meet in the Lower parking lot at the end of Point Pleasant Drive by the wall overlooking Black Rock Beach at 9:30 am. We'll take a leisurely walk around part of the park to look for birds in their natural habitat on land and on the water. Duration: 2 hours.

Sat 16 Oct 2010: Cheticamp Island Field Trip

Leader: Gordon Delaney (224-2490; gordon.delaney@pc.gc.ca).

Meet at 9:00am at the Visitors' Centre, C.B. Highlands National Park Headquarters. Join us for a tour of Cheticamp Island, where we will see migrating seabirds and shorebirds, as well as do some forest birding.

No rain date.

Sat 30 Oct 2010: Field trip in Port Hawkesbury

Leaders: David Johnston (625-1534; dwj.jem@ns.sympatico.ca) and Dave McCorquodale (563-1260;

david_mccorquodale@capebretonu.ca).

Field trip: Meet at 9:00 am at the Tourist Information Building in Port Hastings. At the Canso Causeway there are frequently concentrations of gulls, eagles and gannets that are feeding on migrating skipjacks (aka billfish) in mid-November. In addition we will check out the waterfront for loons, grebes, alcids and waterfowl, feeders for lingering migrants, and a few fields and creek valleys for sparrows and warblers. Lunch will follow at David and Mary Johnston's home.

Rain Date: November 6.

Sat 06 Nov 2010: New Birders' Walk- Point Pleasant Park - Halifax

Leader: Bonnie Carmichael, E-mail:

bonniecarmichael@hotmail.com

Meet in the Lower parking lot at the end of Point Pleasant Drive by the wall overlooking Black Rock Beach at 9:30 a.m. We'll take a leisurely walk around part of the park to look for birds in their natural habitat on land and on the water. Duration: 2 hours.

Sun 28 Nov 2010 - Antigonish Coastal Waters

Leader: Randy Lauff 867-2471 E-mail: rlauff@stfx.ca.

Meet at 8:00 a.m. at the Dragon Fly Café on the TCH #104, just east of exit #35 (Lower South River). This trip covers the waters of St. George's Bay and Antigonish Harbour. We'll end the day at Ogden's Pond which has hosted thousands of gulls, ducks and, in some years, inland gannets.

No rain date.



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