

Nova Scotia Birds

A Quarterly Publication of the Nova Scotia Bird Society



Winter 2011
(The Birds of Autumn)

NOVA SCOTIA BIRD SOCIETY

Executive 2010-2011



President	Jim Cameron
Vice President	Terry Boswell
Past President	Patrick Kelly
Treasurer (acting)	Gillian Elliott
Secretary	Patricia McKay
Membership Secretary	Ulli Höger
Director	Chris Pepper
Director	Kathleen MacAulay
Director	Tuma Young
Director	Helene Van Doninck
Chair NSBS Sanctuary Trust	Bob McDonald
Honorary Solicitor	Tony Robinson
Honorary Auditor	Ruth E. Smith

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
 c/o Nova Scotia Museum,
 1747 Summer Street,
 Halifax, N.S. B3H 3A6

Rare Bird Alert: <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/NS-RBA/>
Email: nsbs@chebucto.ns.ca
Web: <http://nsbs.chebucto.org>

Inside This Issue:

Special points of interest:

- Puffin of The Year 2010
- Book Review - "Birding in New Brunswick"
- Hurricane "Earl" - September 2010
- Hypothetical Band-rumped Storm-Petrel at Baccaro Lighthouse
- Ash-Throated Flycatcher and Gray Kingbird at Lanark, Antigonish
- Upcoming Events

Bird Society News	4
President's Corner	4
Puffin of The Year 2010	5
Book Reviews	6
Autumn Bird Reports	7
Waterfowl	7
Galliformes	11
Loons through Grebes	12
Tubenoses through Cormorants	12
Hérons	15
Diurnal Raptors	16
Rails and Cranes	19
Shorebirds	19
Gulls through Alcids	26
Pigeons through Woodpeckers	33
Flycatchers through Thrushes	35
Mimics through Warblers	40
Tanagers through House Sparrows	44
Photo Galleries	9, 30, 49
Weather & Other Reports	50
Weather - Eastern Annapolis Valley - Autumn 2010	50
Hurricane "Earl" - September 2010	52
Hypothetical Band-rumped Storm-Petrel at Baccaro Lighthouse	53
Ash-Throated Flycatcher and Gray Kingbird at Lanark, Antigonish	54
Upcoming Events	58

Cover, clockwise from left: A BROWN PELICAN, another "Earl" victim, was present briefly (here 9 Sep) along the Saltmarsh Trail across Cole Hbr., HRM, before turning up in distress in Dartmouth, where it was captured for rehabilitation. [Photo Mike King] A number of lucky observers got to see the adult male MAGIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD brought by "Earl" 6 Sep to the mouth of Halifax Hbr. [Photo Mike King] The most outstanding bird brought here by "Earl" was this BRIDLED TERN, 4 Sep at Hartlen Pt., HRM. It was a first for Canada, and unfortunately (cont'd next page)

NOVA SCOTIA BIRDS

WINTER 2011

Editor

Blake Maybank

Production Assistants

P. A. Mills

L. A. Cormier

Records Editor

Lance Laviolette

Photo Editor

Ian McLaren

Events Editor

Suzanne Borkowski

Seasonal Bird Reports

John Belbin

Wayne P. Neily

Ulli Höger

Eric Mills

Ken McKenna

Ian McLaren

Susann Myers

Chris Field

Hans Toom

Banner Artist & Line Art

Trevor Herriot

Other Help

Ulli Höger

Chris Pepper

Bird Reports to

Lance Laviolette

RR #1, Glen Robertson, ON

K0B1H0

lance.laviolette@lmco.com

Photo Submissions to

Ian A. McLaren

Photo Editor, NS Birds

Biology Department

Dalhousie University

Halifax, NS, B3H 4J1

iamclar@dal.ca

All Other Items to

Blake Maybank

Editor, NS Birds

144 Bayview Drive

White's Lake, NS. B3T 1Z1

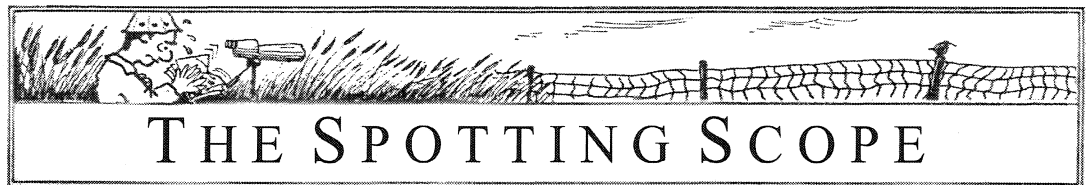
maybank@ns.sympatico.ca

Use of any material from NOVA SCOTIA BIRDS requires written permission from the Editor.

Cost of the publication of this periodical is partially borne by the Nova Scotia Museum.

ISSN 0383-9537.

Published four times a year.



Welcome to a very busy issue, presenting the birds of Autumn, 2010. But first, a belated thanks, and an apology. Hans Toom very graciously stepped in to do the Tanagers through Sparrows section for the birds of Spring, when Ian McLaren was indisposed. However, although Ian returned to write his section for the Birds of Summer, we neglected to change back the authorship of the Tanagers write-up to him. Our apologies. My fault, as always in such cases.

The Autumn of 2010 in Nova Scotia was one of the most exciting, ornithologically, in many years. In addition to the avian largesse courtesy of Hurricane Earl in early September, no fewer than four new species were added to the provincial list of birds. (The additions are provisional, at least with respect to the Nova Scotia Bird Society's Checklist Committee, as it has yet to give its opinion.) The four new birds are Greylag Goose, Bridled Tern, Snowy Plover, and Calliope Hummingbird, and while only the goose and the plover were "twitchable" (and consequently seen by many observers), all were photographically documented.

Such documentation is aided by the increasing proliferation of modestly-priced digital cameras that have an increasing array of features rendering them suitable for bird photography, especially zoom lenses and image stabilizing technology. It's rare, now, for rarities to NOT be photographed, though sometimes the images are still open to interpretation (read Ian's excellent article regarding the vagrant flycatchers in Antigonish County).

The internet is also aiding the dissemination of news regarding birds in the province, and more and more observers are now using eBird to report their sightings, and keep track of their life lists. Indeed, the number of sightings with which our Seasonal Editors now have to contend is growing exponentially, making their summarisation tasks much more time-consuming. While we certainly encourage all birders who are comfortable with using the internet to submit sightings via eBird (go to eBird.org), the quantity of sightings for common species will likely require that "Nova Scotia Birds" change how it summarises sightings for common species. But there will be more on this in the next issue, including a quick eBird users' guide.

In the meantime, Happy Spring Birding.

Blake Maybank
Editor



This mixed flock of "Earl" birds on Hirtle's Bch., Lun., includes at least four, maybe five, species. Can you spot them all? [Photo Blake Maybank]

departed soon after being found by the photographer and companion, although found and photographed some days later by a lucky third observer. The nearly black cap and narrow pale fringes on the gray mantle indicate that it was a rarely-seen winter adult, which spend their life at sea at this season. [Photo Karel Allard] When searching for the Snowy Plover on Hirtle's Beach, Lun., 6 Sep, Blake Maybank encountered many other Hurricane Earl waifs, including this saucy BLACK SKIMMER. [Photo Blake Maybank] After the hurricane most LAUGHING GULLS were in groups, but this bird at Hirtle's Beach, 6 Sep, briefly broke away from the crowd. [Photo Blake Maybank] One rarity is a delight, but a mixed flock of rarities is a special thrill. This group consisting of a BLACK SKIMMER, a FORSTER'S TERN, and several LAUGHING GULLS, was photographed by Blake Maybank on Hirtle's Beach, 6 Sep. [Photo Blake Maybank] A number of photographers obtained excellent images of the province's first SNOWY PLOVER, but the honour goes to its finder, who also photographed it, 4 Sep on Hirtle's Beach, Lun. [Photo Kevin Lantz]



President's Corner

I would like to express how honoured I am to take on the duties of President of the Nova Scotia Bird Society. I am also very humbled as I look around and see all the work being done to further the interests of the society and birds in general. The society can only exist because so many people are willing to contribute so much time and effort as board members, magazine producers, area representatives and all the society members who took the time to send in questions, photos and observations. I am looking forward to meeting as many members as I can and "talking birds". I hope everyone will let me know what they think and see regarding the protection and study of birds in Nova Scotia. I am as close as your phone, mailbox, or computer.

The first meeting of the Executive Board in the New Year welcomed two new members to the board; Gillian Elliott and Tuma Young. Gillian was appointed Acting Treasurer to replace Sunetra Ekanayake who stepped down as Treasurer at the end of the year. Tuma was appointed Director and will be working with Terry Boswell on the Membership Committee. On behalf of the society I would like to extend our appreciation to Sunetra Ekanayake for the work she did for the society during the last year.

The executive of the NSBS in the coming year will concentrate on two main areas. First the continuing decrease in society membership and second the conservation of birds in Nova Scotia. The executive has formed a Membership Committee which will be chaired by Terry Boswell. Terry along with Tuma Young and Wayne Neily (to date) will be consulting with members and the public to come up with plans to reverse the continuing decline in membership. Any ideas would be appreciated and can be directed to Terry (902)-445-0135 ta_boz@hotmail.com or to myself (902) 885-2970 jim.cameron@ns.sympatico.ca.

Helene Van Doninck (902)893-0253 or hvandoninck@cwrc.net will be researching conservation ideas which can be presented to the public to preserve and enhance bird populations in Nova Scotia. Helene would like to hear from anyone who has concerns about bird conservation in the province. All bird protection concerns are important, no matter how small.

During the coming months we will be continuing with our plan to have an electronic version of our magazine available to everyone. One advantage of an electronic version is that it will be published in colour. A coloured version will increase the attractiveness and value of our bird photos. A paper version of the magazine will continue to be published.

This spring will be the first in six years that many of us will not be heading out to collect data for the second Breeding Bird Atlas. I think most of us would agree that it was a great experience and a unique adventure. Much of the knowledge and experience we gained in our squares can now be directed towards problem areas that were identified because of our work. Perhaps we also identified gaps in our coverage that because of many reasons we were unable to complete. This could be the year to refine and direct our work to species that may be at risk. I think many of us during the last atlasing were rushing to complete the minimum requirements for our square and did not take time to go back and find that unidentified bird or that habitat that might be a problem. Now we know our square or squares, we know access, habitat, where birds are, where colonies are. We have the experience to make our work more directed.

One of the bird species identified during the second atlasing of being of concern was Chimney Swifts. To help direct attention to this bird and to promote the Pictou County area, the society will be holding its annual Out-of-Area meeting in New Glasgow, May 28 and 29. The town of New Glasgow is home to one of the largest known swift colonies in the Maritimes. This meeting will focus on Chimney Swifts. Speakers will present what is known of the status of Chimney Swifts in Nova Scotia and in North and Central America. The meeting will be held in the Temperance Street School in New Glasgow, also the location of the Chimney Swift roost. The event will begin Saturday afternoon with a bird walk along the East River (Samson Trail). People interested in doing the afternoon walk should meet at 1:00 PM at the Nova Scotia Museum of Trade and Industry located at 147 North Ford Street, Stellarton. This walk should last about 3 hours. The regular meeting will take place at 7:00 PM at the Temperance Street School at 361 Temperance Street and will end with the meeting adjourning to watch swifts return to their roosting site. The next day (Sunday) people will have a choice of field trips to various areas of Pictou County. For people from out of town New Glasgow has hotel accommodation by several well known chains including Country Inn and Suites, 700 Westville Road (928-1333); Holiday Inn Express, 86 Lawrence Boulevard (755-1020) or Comfort Inn, 740 Westville Road (755-6450). Other styles of

accommodation such as bed and breakfast units are also available in the New Glasgow and Pictou area. Please watch the list of Upcoming Events for further information on the Out-of-Area Meeting. The Temperance Street School is old and may soon be torn down. It is not too soon for the society to consider what can be done to try and preserve this swift roosting site for the future.

Jim Cameron
President, Nova Scotia Bird Society

The Puffin of the Year Award for 2010

By Pat Kelly

It is not often that someone who has only been a society member for a decade has made so many contributions to the Society as well as to birding in Nova Scotia.

She has been a participant in what is now called the Nova Scotia Migration Count and has done so for ten years, both coordinating activity in HRM as well as covering part of it herself on the day of the count. In a similar vein, she coordinates and checks on input for the Great Backyard Bird Count for all of Nova Scotia.

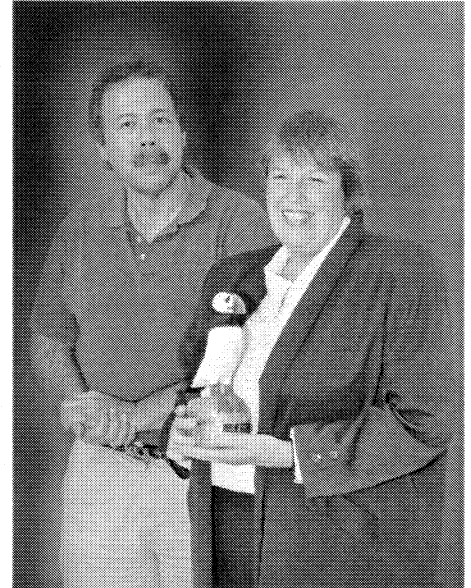
Not just a daytime birder, she participates in at least four nocturnal owl bird surveys per year and has done so since the program's inception in 2002. She then decided to start doing the same thing when it wasn't dark and has been doing a breeding bird survey route for the past five years. Cold weather also rarely slows her down as she has participated in at least three Christmas bird counts per year for the past eight to nine years. When back inside warming up, she also records data for Project FeederWatch.

She has coordinated the Society's field trips for many years, which alone is a tremendous amount of work as it involves contacting 50 or so potential trip leaders and speakers, attending many field trips, encouraging leaders to write up field trips, editing field trip reports, etc.

She was the Regional Coordinator for Region 20 Halifax–Musquodoboit for the Maritime Breeding Bird Atlas. That region has 91 squares and is heavily populated, which meant spending a lot of time communicating with a large number of atlasers on a near-daily basis. In addition to covering several squares herself, she visited many poorly surveyed squares in the region to carry out atlasing and point counts and often took new atlasers out into the field to train them personally.

She has served on the Society's board for eight years, including a four-year term as President, and is one of only three people to have served that long. During her tenure, she began many novel and interesting programs, such as writing profiles of executive members for Nova Scotia Birds, and setting up area representatives as a way to allow members from outside of HRM to stay in touch with the Society. She continues to serve on the board, as past-president, at least up until about 10 minutes ago when the new executive for 2011 was approved.

This year's recipient of the Puffin of the Year, in case you have not already guessed, is Suzanne Borkowski.





BOOK REVIEWS

Birding in New Brunswick

by Roger Burrows, with photographs by Merv J. Cormier.

2010. Goose Lane Editions, Fredericton, NB. 370 pp, illus. Can.\$27.95.

It's hard to know what to make of this book, by an author of several successive works on birds of Atlantic Canada. It is clearly meant to be a guide to birding sites, which are detailed within 15 major units consisting of some counties and other more natural units, and covering the entire province. It is usable in that role, with information on best places to visit within these large areas and seasons to do so. Each site is introduced by a general overview that generally includes little detail on how to navigate the site, but much more on general expectations of birds – breeding and migrant seabirds, waterfowl, and landbirds. The site introductions generally include anecdotes on particular past events or species, which offer little guidance but might be accepted as enlivening the prose. The book ends with a useful listing of local contacts and websites.

But the book is much more than a utilitarian site guide, and that is the problem. One feature is the inclusion of numerous excellent images of common and rare birds by an accomplished NB birder and photographer. While these images certainly add to the attractiveness (and presumably price) of the book, they will not be useful to birders equipped with standard field-guides. Each site covered includes generally useful and very short sections on "Access Routes" and "Birding Focus," but also lengthier accounts titled "Key Birds" for some or all seasons. These are largely highly repetitive lists of birds that occur widely in the province, and therefore not likely to be sought at particular sites. Some other birds are rated a "chance of" seeing. A much more serious issue is the listing of rarities and vagrants. Including such birds in site guides makes sense if they are regular visitors or breeders, but rare in wider contexts. For example, birders can be guided to Boundary Bay south of Vancouver in fall for a high likelihood of adding Sharp-tailed Sandpiper to their Canadian List; or to Cape Sable, NS, in spring through fall if they wish to add American Oystercatcher to their Canadian list; or to the heights of Big Bend National Park in Texas to add Colima Warbler to their North American list. However, this book simply raises false expectations of rarities at particular places and times.

Much more egregious are erroneous statements and records, including the following: on p. 15, it is claimed that Whip-poor-will (actually declining) and Red-headed Woodpecker (no breeding records in current Maritimes Atlas website) are "expanding their ranges, especially in New Brunswick"; on p. 41, it is claimed that Least Bittern "certainly nested" in an Atlas square where it is recorded on the Atlas website (by the author) as "T" (on territory) or merely "possible;" European Goldfinch (on 11 pages!) and Greylag Goose on Chaleur Bay (p. 264), and Ruddy Shelduck west of Grand Lake (p. 329) are included as vagrants, even though all North American records (the Greylag until recently) are rated as escapes; Ringed Turtle-Dove (p. 229) is not a vagrant, but a domesticated cagebird; Audubon's and "Little Shearwater" (now Macaronesian Shearwater) are claimed (p. 129) from the Saint John to Digby Ferry and European Oystercatcher (p. 218) for Kouchibouguac NP, neither of which is included in the "official" list of NB birds. The reader may find more such records in the extensive index.

In short, this book is reasonably up-to-date and usable as a site guide, but seriously flawed.



AUTUMN BIRD REPORTS

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

ad. = adult	APBS	Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary, <i>Cumberland</i>
alt. = alternate plumage, i.e., breeding plumage	Ann. Royal Marsh	Annapolis Royal Marsh, <i>Annapolis</i>
Bch = beach	Apple River	Apple River, <i>Cumberland</i>
BBS = Breeding Bird Survey	Belleisle	Belleisle Marsh, <i>Annapolis</i>
ca. = <i>circa</i> , i.e., approximately	Blanche	Blanche Peninsula, <i>Shelburne</i>
CBC = Christmas Bird Count	BPI	Bon Portage (Outer) Island, <i>Shelburne</i>
f. = female	Brier I.	Brier Island, <i>Digby</i>
<i>fide</i> = "according to" or "On the authority of"	Canso	Town of Canso, <i>Guysborough</i>
Hbr. = harbour	CBI	Cape Breton Island, Nova Scotia
I. = Island	CBHNP	Cape Breton Highlands National Park
imm. = immature	CBRM	<i>Cape Breton Regional Municipality</i>
juv. = juvenile	Cherry Hill	Cherry Hill Beach, <i>Lunenburg</i>
L.R. = Local Record	Cole Hbr.	Cole Harbour, <i>HRM</i>
m.obs. = many observers	Conrad	Conrad's Beach, <i>HRM</i>
m. = male	Crystal Crescent	Crystal Crescent Beach Provincial Park, <i>HRM</i>
nd = no details, i.e., unconfirmed by documentation	CSI	Cape Sable Island, <i>Shelburne</i>
NHS = National Historic Site	Glace Bay	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>
NSMC = Nova Scotia Migration Count	Hartlen Pt.	Hartlen Point, <i>HRM</i>
o-w = over-wintered	HRM	<i>Halifax Regional Municipality</i>
PP = Provincial Park	Keji	Kejimikujik National Park
Pen. = Peninsula	Long I.	Long Island, <i>Digby</i>
ph. = photographed	Louisbourg	Louisbourg, <i>CBRM</i>
pr. = pair	Martinique	Martinique Beach Provincial Park, <i>HRM</i>
R. = River	Musq.	Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>
SP = Sewage Ponds	PPP	Point Pleasant Park, <i>HRM</i>
spec. = specimen	Schooner Pond	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>
thr. = throughout the season	Seal I.	Seal Island, Outer Tusquets, <i>Yarmouth</i>
Tr. = trail	Sober I.	Sober Island, <i>HRM</i>
var.obs. = various observers	Sullivan's Pd.	Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>
w. = winter	Taylor Head PP	Taylor Head Provincial Park, <i>HRM</i>
	Uniacke	Uniacke Estate Museum Park, <i>Hants</i>
	W. Lawrencetown	West Lawrencetown Marsh, <i>HRM</i>
<u>Place Names</u>		
3 Fathom Hbr	Three Fathom Harbour, <i>HRM</i>	

Waterfowl

By John Belbin

A significant rarity, a single **GREYLAG GOOSE** was identified by ELM in a flock of 1-2000 Canada Geese feeding near Truro. It did not appear to be the common domestic form so often met. It was well photographed by JBO and several others, and appears to be of the Western European race *Anser anser anser*. This is the common wild goose of Europe, the ancestor of most domesticated types, and is normally found no closer to us than Iceland, wintering in Britain. The "Lag" part of its name is derived from its habit of being one of the last migratory geese to move south for the winter. This may be only the third record of this species in Canada and is, of course, the first for Nova Scotia. It stayed long enough for many people to view it despite the highly nervous condition of all the geese in the flock. These birds have been subjected to increased hunting pressures this year.

Usually guaranteed to attract attention, a group of **SNOW GEESE** were reported to be feeding with a flock of Canada Geese in Back Centre *Lun.*, in a report forwarded by JAH. However, they must have been just passing through as no other sightings were received.

Many of the huge numbers of CANADA GEESE appearing in the fields near Truro appear to have been the smaller, darker, *Branta canadensis interior* race that is normally from Quebec and more recently appeared in Greenland. A Greenland banded individual was seen with the flock. This was a bird banded in Greenland in summer of 2008 and last seen in Connecticut the following winter. It seems that we had only a few northern birds here by the first week of November and then their numbers dramatically increased. A **GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE** joined the hoards and was spotted by ELM. He described it as a classic Greenland White-Front with bright orange bill and legs, and plenty of dark barring on the belly. Two other yellow-collared Canada Geese were found in Onslow on 18 Nov by ELM. Both were ringed in Greenland in 2009.



Among the large CANADA GOOSE flocks in Cum., several (this one 6 Nov near North River) had been neck-banded in W. Greenland. Like many of those associating with the Greylag, it appeared to be of the subspecies *interior* – smallish and dark-breasted compared with our more white-breasted, largely coastal Atlantic subspecies *Canadensis*. They support the notion that the Greylag had wandered from Iceland to goose staging areas in s. Greenland, and followed the Canadas to Nova Scotia. [Photo Stuart Tingley]

An unusually large flock of 120 BLUE-WINGED TEAL was spotted in the East Chezzetcook marsh by DMC early in September. Large numbers of GREEN-WINGED TEAL are often found in the Kings County region of the province at this time of year.

The female AMERICAN WIGEON noted at Conrad's Island Beach, Lun., was an unusual sighting for that area. They are more frequently seen in the Annapolis Valley, the Halifax region and Cape Breton as noted below.

The HARLEQUIN DUCK seen at the Mackay Bridge in Halifax by RBS was a little unusual but may have been sheltering from the vicious winds of the day en route to a more normal habitat outside the harbour. Good numbers of these birds and many others were reported by TOC from a fishing boat some 5-6 miles out off Canso Harbour. They were travelling NE to SW showing just how much we miss from the shore.

Two **REDHEADS** were located by MIK in Bissett L., HRM, a good sighting of this still uncommon species. He also managed to find a highly unusual male **CANVASBACK** at the same location a day later. A day after that the REDHEADS had increased to 1 male and 2 females; and within a week to 4 pairs. Two others were found in Annapolis Royal. The only Redheads reported at this time last year were in Cape Breton.

An extremely large flock of RING-NECKED DUCKS built up in the Second Lake – Three Mile Lake area of Sackville; they attracted several other species, including a number of LESSER SCAUP.

A lone female BUFFLEHEAD was briefly seen in the Hubley's Cove portion of St. Margaret's Bay before flying off. Another showed up in the Windsor SP; both are unusual locations. Good numbers were present in the French Basin marshes of Annapolis Royal, which is becoming a traditional area for them.

The winter population of COMMON GOLDENEYE began appearing in the Province in the last week of October, with sightings in the Halifax region.

RED BREASTED MERGANSERS again flocked in large numbers to their haunts at Big Island, Pict. Large numbers of mergansers of all kinds once again gathered in the Pictou region, together with many other waterfowl, providing some spectacular viewing.

Two male **RUDDY DUCKS** were found near Lyons Brook near the Pictou Rotary by KJM, a rare sighting. Another was drawn in to accompany the large flock of Ring-necks in Sackville and stayed for a while. MIK found another in Bissett Lake which also stayed long enough for others to see it. A much larger group was reported from the French Basin marshes of Annapolis Royal by several different observers. This newly restored area is proving to be a great success at supporting threatened and unusual waterfowl.

Photo Gallery - What the Wind Blew In!



In any other year, this GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, clearly of the “Greenland” subspecies *flavirostris* from its orange beak and other characteristics, would have caused much excitement, but this one was taken as adding to the evidence for wild origin of the associated Greylag Goose. [Photo Eric Mills]

It was hard to select among the many fine available images of our first GREYLAG GOOSE by a number of our photographers; these two were obtained early November in the regions of North River and Onslow, *Cum.*, and are overwhelmingly convincing. [Photos: top - Hans Toom, bottom - Tuma Young]

TUNDRA SWAN (19th provincial record)

Nov 30 First L., Sackville, *HRM* 1 ph. LOC, m. obs

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE (17th provincial record)

Nov 10 - 29 Onslow area, *Col.* 1 ph. ELM, m. obs.

Snow Goose

Oct 4 Back Centre, *Lun.* some STH, JAH

Oct 4 Oakfield Golf Course, *HRM* 1 DAM

CACKLING GOOSE (14th provincial record)

Nov 12-26 Onslow, *Col.* 1 ph. PLC, SMB, MIK

Canada Goose

Sep 10	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	100+	JWW
Sep 21	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	45	JOB
Oct 5	Lakeville, <i>Kings</i>	Hundreds	BBT
Oct 6	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	300	JWW
Oct 18, 29	Silver L., <i>Kings</i>	80, 66	BBT, JCT
Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	560	KJM
Nov 3	Masstown, <i>Col.</i>	1-2000	ELM
Nov 4	Port Joli, <i>Queens</i>	140	MMI

Nov 6	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	450	KJM
Nov 10	Onslow area, <i>Col.</i>	4000	ELM
Nov 13	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1100	KJM
Nov 20	River Philip, <i>Cum.</i>	100	VIR
Brant			
Oct 31	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	5	JON
Nov 27	<i>CSI</i>	12	JON
GREYLAG GOOSE (First Nova Scotia record)			
Nov 3 - 30	Masstown, <i>Col.</i>	1 ph.	ELM, m. obs.
Wood Duck			
Aug 4	Belleisle Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	lots	Sydney Penner
Aug 8	Saxon St. Pond, <i>Kings</i>	8 m.	RBS
Sep 10	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	1 f.	JCT
Sep 13 - Oct 2	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2 m.	ALD, DOU
Sep 26	Liverpool, <i>Queens</i>	8	JCZ
Oct 2	Church St., Wolfville, <i>Kings</i>	3 pr.	JWW
Oct 3	Ann. Royal Marsh	many	RSM
Oct 7	Stevermans L., Lillydale, <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH, DAW
Oct 10	South Brookfield, <i>Queens</i>	2	JAH

Oct 14	Gesner's Pond, <i>Kings</i>	1 pr.	JWW	Nov 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	14	KJM
Nov 1	Ann. Royal Marsh	2	Lois Jenkins	Nov 13	Saxon St. Pond, <i>Kings</i>	20+	JCT
Nov 12	Edgett's Beach, <i>Cum.</i>	8	BLM, KFS	Nov 15	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	10	JCT
Gadwall				Nov 18	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	2	KFS
Aug 8	Saxon St. Pond, <i>Kings</i>	2	RBS	CANVASBACK			
Oct 3	Ann. Royal Marsh	1	RSM	Oct 24	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	MIK
Eurasian Wigeon				Redhead			
Sep 16	Red Bridge Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	TUY	Oct 23, 25	Bissett L. <i>HRM</i>	1 m., 2 f.	MIK
Nov 13	Red Bridge Pond, <i>HRM</i>	2	BBU	Oct 28	Ann. Royal Marsh	2m.	Lois Jenkins
Nov 19	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	1 m.	ELM	Oct 29	Bissett L. <i>HRM</i>	4 m., 4 f.	MIK, DAC
Nov 22	Sullivan's Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU	Nov 2, 13	Bissett L. <i>HRM</i>	11, 5	MIK
Nov 27	Beacon Street Dam, <i>CBRM</i>	1 m.	DBM	Nov 2-4	First Lake, Sackville	1	CSS
American Wigeon				Ring-necked Duck			
Aug 31	W. Lawrencetown Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	7	DMW	Sep 7	Kingsburg Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	11	JAH
Sep 10	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	2	JCT	Sep 11, 16	Red Bridge Pond, <i>HRM</i>	5, 2 f.	PLC, TUY
Sep 11	Red Bridge Pond, <i>HRM</i>	45+	PLC	Sep 26	Cherry Hill Pond, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JCZ
Sep 21	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	12	JOB	Oct 3	Ann. Royal Marsh		RSM
Sep 30	Conrad's Island Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	1 f.	JAH	Oct 9	Hirtles Pond, <i>Lun.</i>	44	JAH
Oct 5, 6, 19	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	7, 10, 23	JOB, JWW	Oct 23	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	20+	CSS
Oct 9	Hirtles Pond, <i>Lun.</i>	8	JAH	Oct 31	Ann. Royal Marsh	lots	Mark Langford
Oct 13	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	10+	JWW	Greater Scaup			
Oct 23	Sullivan's Pond, <i>HRM</i>	many	Terry Boswell	Sep 19	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	23	JAH
Nov 5, 21	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	14, 35	JOB	Oct 10	Midway L. Digby Neck	120	JAH
Nov 22	Sullivan's Pond, <i>HRM</i>	120+	DOU	Oct 25	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	3	MIK
Nov 23	Kiwanis Pond, Truro	25	ROH	Lesser Scaup			
Nov 27	Beacon Street Dam, <i>CBRM</i>	140	DBM	Oct 25	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	100	MIK
American Black Duck				Nov 20	Corkum's I., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Widespread and common				Common Eider			
Mallard				Aug 14, 31	Conrad Beach, <i>HRM</i>	25, 17	DMW
Sep 24	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	200	JCT	Oct - Nov	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	30+	var. obs.
Sep 26	Liverpool, <i>Queens</i>	14	JCZ	Oct 29	Canso area, Guys, offshore	3-4000	TOC
Sep 26	Green Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	6	JCZ	Nov 11	River John, <i>Pict.</i>	50+	KJM
Aug - Nov	Ann. Royal Marsh	many	var. obs.	Nov 27	Prospect barrens, <i>HRM</i>	80	BLM
Oct 5, 19	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	7, 21	JOB	Harlequin Duck			
Oct 18	Canard area ponds, <i>Kings</i>	110	RBS	Oct 23	Mackay Bridge, Halifax	1 m.	RBS
Oct 29	Saxon St. Pond, <i>Kings</i>	50+	JCT	Oct 26	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	3 m., 1 f.	RBS
Oct 30	Mader's Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	25	JAH	Oct 30	Canso, <i>Guys.</i> , offshore	14	TOC
Nov 7	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	25	JAH	Nov 8, 21	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	4 m., 4 f.	KJM
Nov 14	Kingston, <i>Kings</i>	130	PBG	Nov 12	Crystal Crescent PP	1	HAT
Nov 23	Kiwanis Pond, Truro	400	ROH	Nov 12	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	5	BBT
Blue-winged Teal				Nov 13	Prospect Barrens, <i>HRM</i>	8	ULH
Aug 8	Saxon St. Pond, <i>Kings</i>	several	RBS	Nov 15	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	4 m., 2 f.	PBG
Sep 1	Wallace Bay NWA, <i>Cum.</i>	40+	KAM	Nov 27	Prospect Barrens, <i>HRM</i>	49	BLM
Sep 5	E. Chezzetcook Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	120	DMC	Nov 30	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	12 m.	PBG
Sep 7	Hirtles Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	6	JAH	Surf Scoter			
Sep 10	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	1 m.	JCT	Oct 9	N. Point, Brier I.	200+	ELM, NSBS
Oct 3	Ann. Royal Marsh	many	RSM	Oct - Nov	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	max. 15	var. obs.
Oct 29	Gaspereau Valley, <i>Kings</i>	6	GWT	Nov 5	Louisbourg, <i>CBRM</i>	several	Bill Bussey
Northern Shoveler				Nov 8, 13	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	75	KJM
Sep 1	Wallace Bay NWA, <i>Cum.</i>	2	KAM	Nov 19	Head of Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	2 m.	BLM
Oct 3	Ann. Royal Marsh	1	RSM	First local record			
Oct 18	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	2	RBS	Nov 27	Louisbourg Harbour, <i>CBRM</i>	4	Bill Bussey
Nov 1	Ann. Royal Marsh	1	Lois Jenkins	Nov 30	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	5	PBG
Northern Pintail				White-winged Scoter			
Aug 28	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	4	ALD	Oct 9	N. Point, Brier I.	30	ELM, NSBS
Oct 9	Back Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	Dennis Garrett	Oct - Nov	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	max. 11	var. obs.
Oct 18	Canard area ponds, <i>Kings</i>	11	RBS	Oct 29	Canso area, Guys, offshore	a few	TOC
Oct 23	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, CSS	Nov 1	Cherry Hill Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	6	SJF
Oct 29	Saxon St. Pond, <i>Kings</i>	1 m.	JCT	Nov 8, 13	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	6	KJM
Nov 11	Lower Barneys R., <i>Pict.</i>	4	KJM	Nov 27	Louisbourg Harbour, <i>CBRM</i>	3	Bill Bussey
Green-winged Teal				Black Scoter			
Sep 7	Hirtles Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH	Oct 9	Northern Point, Brier I.	20	ELM, NSBS
Sep 10	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	200+	JCT	Oct 29	Canso area, <i>Guys.</i> , offshore	500	TOC
Oct 5, 19	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	8, 2	JOB	Long-tailed Duck			
Oct 10	Meadow Pond, <i>Hants</i>	8	RSM	Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	4	KJM
Oct 10	Seaforth, <i>HRM</i>	some	KAM	Nov 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	16	KJM
Oct 13	Canard Pond, <i>Kings</i>	50+	JWW	Nov 20	Dominion, <i>CBRM</i>	few	TUY, CAM
Oct 18	Canard area ponds, <i>Kings</i>	100	RBS	Nov 27	Prospect Barrens, <i>HRM</i>	5	BLM
Oct 19	Wolfville SP, <i>Kings</i>	dozens	JWW	Nov 30	Margaretsville, <i>Anna.</i>	7	PBG
Oct 23	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	6	CSS	Bufflehead			
Oct 24	Grand Pre, <i>Kings</i>	12	JCT	Oct 10	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	19	JAH, DAW
Oct 31	Daniels Head, CSI	51	JON	Oct 16	Hubley's Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 f.	Paul Boyer
Nov 1, 12	Ann. Royal Marsh	4, 12	Lois Jenkins	Oct 19	Windsor SP, <i>Hants</i>	1 f.	JOB
				Oct 23	Bissett L. <i>HRM</i>	2	MIK

Oct 30	Louisbourg, <i>CBRM</i>	7	Bill Bussey	Nov 27	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	7	JWW
Oct 30	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	19	JAH	Nov 28	Sangaree, Mira, <i>CBRM</i>	50	Ruth Clarke
Oct 31	Ann. Royal Marsh	lots	Mark Langford	Common Merganser			
Nov 12	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	5	DMW	Aug 11	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	25	DMW
Nov 27	Louisbourg Harbour, <i>CBRM</i>	15+	Bill Bussey	Aug 31 - Sep 1	Sandy Bottom L., <i>Anna.</i>	2 f.	MCR
Nov 27	East Port L'Hebert, <i>Queens</i>	32	JAH, DPO	Sep 12	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	small group	RSM
Common Goldeneye				Oct 10, 30	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	19	JAH, DAW
Oct 26	Three Mile Log, <i>HRM</i>	5	CSS	Nov 2	Bissett L. <i>HRM</i>	31	MIK
Nov 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM	Nov 6	Haliburton Gut, <i>Pict.</i>	60	KJM
Nov 20	Glace Bay Sanc., <i>CBRM</i>	40	TUY, CAM	Nov 10, 18	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	2, 13	KFS
Nov 20	Corkum's I., <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH	Nov 12, 19	Conrad Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	16, 15	DMW
Hooded Merganser				Nov 13	Chance Harbour, <i>Pict.</i>	100	KJM
Sep 1	Wallace Bay NWA, <i>Cum.</i>	several	KAM	Nov 21	River Philip, <i>Cum.</i>	30	VIR
Sep 7	Port Williams SP, <i>Kings</i>	1 f.	GFO	Red-breasted Merganser			
Oct 19	Port Howe, <i>Cum.</i>	many	VIR	Oct 11	Rossway, <i>Digby</i>	100+	KJM
Oct 28	Ann. Royal Marsh	1 pr.	Lois Jenkins	Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	500	KJM
Oct 29	Silver L., <i>Kings</i>	5	JCT	Nov 6	Gull I., <i>Pict.</i>	450	KJM
Oct 30	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	31	JAH	Nov 8, 13	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	160, 2200	KJM
Nov 1, 12	Ann. Royal Marsh	2, 7	Lois Jenkins	Nov 13	Chance Harbour, <i>Pict.</i>	Hundreds	KJM
Nov 1	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	16	RBS	Ruddy Duck			
Nov 6	Haliburton Gut, <i>Pict.</i>	250	KJM	Oct 23	Lyons Brook, <i>Pict.</i>	2 m.	KJM
Nov 6	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	9	KJM	Oct 24	Ann. Royal Marsh	11	Terry Crowell
Nov 7	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	25	JAH	Oct 25, 29	Bissett Lake, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Nov 13	Chance Harbour, <i>Pict.</i>	100+	KJM	Oct 31	Ann. Royal Marsh	6+	Mark Langford
Nov 14	Pleasantville, <i>Lun.</i>	5 m.	PBG	Nov 1	Ann. Royal Marsh	12	Lois Jenkins
Nov 19	Head of Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	10	BLM	Nov 20, 27	Beacon Street Dam, <i>CBRM</i>	1	TUY, CAM, DBM
Nov 20	Corkum's I., <i>Lun.</i>	20	JAH				
Nov 20	River Philip, <i>Cum.</i>	1	VIR				

Galliformes

By Wayne P. Neily

The GRAY PARTRIDGE clings to survival in the Province with at least one brood in the Truro area. In contrast, the RING-NECKED PHEASANT seems to have had a good breeding season, and is common in the agricultural regions of the province. All but nine of the 58 reports of pheasants were from the Annapolis Valley, Digby, Halifax, and Pictou counties, with only one from Cape Breton Island. The only exotic species reported this season were two escaped or released peafowl at Hebbville, *Lun.*, 14 August (*vide* JRH).

The grouse, on the other hand, seem to be still at fairly low points in their cycles, except perhaps in north-central N.S., with only six reports of SPRUCE GROUSE for the four months, five of them from Cumberland or Halifax counties, and only 25 of Ruffed Grouse, 18 of them from Pictou and Cumberland counties.

Gray Partridge (1 report of 7 birds)

Nov. 21	Truro area, NSAC by Vet. Path. bldg.	7	Jeffrey & Kathy Ogden
---------	---	---	--------------------------

Ring-necked Pheasant (58 reports of 148+ birds, from 11 Aug - 24 Nov) (Aug 6; Sep 15; Oct 21; Nov 16)

Aug. 11	Musquodobit Valley, <i>HRM</i>	6	Andrew Davis
Aug 20	Oxner's Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	4	KEL
Aug 30	Conrad Rd., Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	DMW
Aug 30	Willow Ave., Berwick, <i>Kings</i>	3 (hen with 2+ chicks about 1 week old)	SYP
Sep 6	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	4	KJM
Sep 8	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	1	ALD
"It's the second year the pheasants have been sighted after decades. It is believed that there are now two pheasant families - one near the MacLean farm, and one near our cottage."			
Sep 13	Waterside Beach P. P., <i>Pict.</i>	8	KJM
Sep 18	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	4	KJM, WPN, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 25	Waterside Beach P. P., <i>Pict.</i>	8	KJM
Oct 5	Conrad Rd., Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	6 (at least five males)	DMW
Oct 10	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	7	KJM
Nov 1	Truro, <i>Col.</i>	13+	Win & Ina Kettleson
Nov 6	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	RIV

Ruffed Grouse (25 records of 55 birds)

Aug 15	Wallace Bay NWA, <i>Cum.</i>	5	SYP
Aug 28	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	10	KJM
Sep 26	Milford Station, <i>Hants</i> "eating berries with robins".	1	KAM
Oct 14	Apple River, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Oct 17	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	1	SLH
Oct 18	Balancing Rock Tr., Long I., <i>Digby</i>	1	Sheila McCarthy & Charlie Nims
Oct 25	Joggins shore rd., <i>Cum.</i>	2	KFS
Oct 30	Glace Bay - Donkin area, <i>CBRM</i>	2	TUY
Nov 11	Pugwash, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 17, 19	Chignecto Game Sanct., <i>Cum.</i>	3, 9	KEL
Spruce Grouse (6 records of 9 birds)			
Aug 20	Aylesford Lake area, <i>Kings</i>	1 m., 2 f. or imm.	WPN
Aug 27	Lighthouse Rd. to Taylor's Head Bch. <i>HRM</i>	1 (photo)	Patricia Dix
Oct 10	Crystal Crescent Beach P. P., <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Oct 11	near Shulie, <i>Cum.</i>	1m	KFS
Nov 17	Chignecto Game Sanct., <i>Cum.</i>	3	Kevin Lantz; also 1 on 18th.

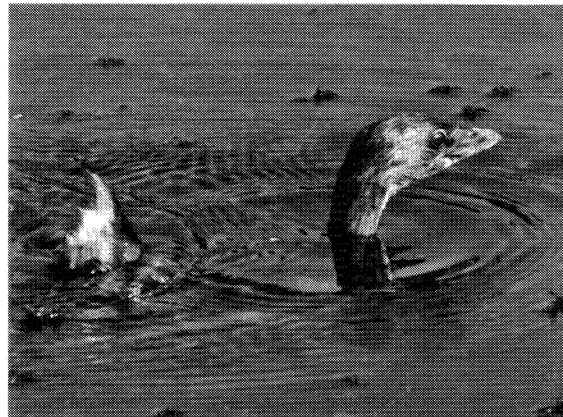
Loons through Grebes

By John Belbin

Big Island, on the Northumberland Strait of Pictou County, was once again the place to find many of these birds gathering after the breeding season was finished. RED-THROATED LOONS and HORNED GREBES were found in numbers that would astound observers in other regions. On 30 Oct TOC saw more than 50 Red-throated Loons from a fishing boat less than ½ mile from Canso Harbour: they were heading south.

The PIED-BILLED GREBE found at the St. Croix pond is presumably the same one that has been seen there since early in the springtime. The best place for seeing these diminutive and shy birds seems to be at the French Basin Trail in Annapolis Royal where they gather in numbers after the breeding season. Outside of that location, single birds are fairly widely seen by alert observers.

COMMON LOONS did not seem to begin their migration movements until the end of October, which is probably later than normal. There were very few sightings this fall.



PIED-BILLED GREBES, like this on Red Bridge Pond, Dartmouth, have remarkable ability to compress their feathers and sink into the water. [Photo Bernard Burke]

Red-throated Loon

Aug 14	Western Head,		
	Liverpool, <i>Queens</i>	1	ELM
Sep 8	McCormack's Beach, <i>HRM</i>	2	ABM
Oct 10	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	1	RBS
Oct 10	Northern Point, Brier I.	4	ELM
Oct 30	Canso, <i>Guys.</i> , offshore	50+	TOC
Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	27	KJM
Nov 6	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	45	KJM
Nov 6	Gull I., <i>Pict.</i>	7	KJM
Nov 8, 13	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	11, 12	KJM
Nov 12	West Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Nov 20	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	some	TUY, CAM
Nov 25	Daniel Head, <i>CSI</i>	6	JON

Common Loon

Aug 26	Fletchers L., <i>HRM</i>	6	Kelly Doney
Aug 30	Sandy Bottom L., <i>Ann.</i>	1	MCR
Sep 4	Carters Beach, <i>Queens</i>	2	RES
Sep 10	Bridgewater, <i>Lun.</i>	several	TUY
Oct 26	Sackville area lakes, <i>HRM</i>	a few	CSS
Oct 30	Mader's Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Nov 15, 30	Port George, <i>Ann.</i>	6, 3	PBG
Nov 21	Conrad Beach, <i>HRM</i>	2	DMW
Nov 27	Prospect Barrens, <i>HRM</i>	6	BLM
Nov 30	Margaretsville, <i>Ann.</i>	2	PBG

Pied-billed Grebe

Aug 14	Lockhartville Pond, <i>Kings</i>	2	JCT
Sep 1	Wallace Bay NWA, <i>Cum.</i>	several	KAM

Sep 11-16	Red Bridge Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	PLC, TUY
Sep 17	Digby Neck, <i>Digby</i>	1	JAH
Oct 3	Ann. Royal Marsh	lots	RSM
Oct 5	St. Croix pond, <i>Hants</i>	1	JOB
Oct 6, 7	Back Centre, <i>Lun.</i>	1	STH, JAH
Oct 10	Meadow Pond, <i>Hants</i>	1	RSM
Oct 17	The Guzzle, <i>CSI</i>	1	JON
Oct 18	Saxon St. Pond, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Oct 20	Donkin, <i>CBRM</i>	3	DBM
Oct 23	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	1	CSS
Nov 1	Ann. Royal Marsh	1	Lois Jenkins
Nov 11	Ostrea L., <i>HRM</i>	1	ROG
Nov 27	Beacon Street Dam, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM

Horned Grebe

Sep 19	East R., <i>Lun.</i>	10	ELM
Oct 30	Mader's Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	45	KJM
Nov 8, 13	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	14, 24	KJM
Nov 12	West Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Nov 27	East Port L'Hebert, <i>Queens</i>	2	JAH

Red-necked Grebe

Sep 19	East R. <i>Lun.</i>	9	ELM
Sep 28, 29	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	DOU
Oct 10	Sandy Cove, <i>Digby</i>	2	JAH
Oct 11	Rossway, <i>Digby</i>	1	KJM
Nov 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 19	Crystal Crescent PP	1	HAT
Nov 27	East Port L'Hebert, <i>Queens</i>	7	JAH

Tubenoses through Cormorants

By Eric Mills

The biggest event of the season, indeed of many seasons, was the passage of Hurricane *Earl* across the province on September 4. Many of the records that follow result from this storm, which is outlined more fully in the Gulls through Alcids section, the groups containing the majority of storm-driven species.

A BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL was reported from very close to shore at Baccaro Point on the day of the storm, and supported by detailed notes (but no photographs) that will be considered by the Nova Scotia Rare Birds Committee. Among the very first, and most conspicuous, of the strays, were several hundred LEACH'S STORM-PETRELS, many of which were seen over the road in the Hartlen's Point / Eastern Passage area, *HRM*; in Sambro Harbour and approaches; and at Crescent Beach, *Lun.* on September 4. That day, there were even a few over the lake in Fall River, *HRM*, and at Big Island on the Northumberland

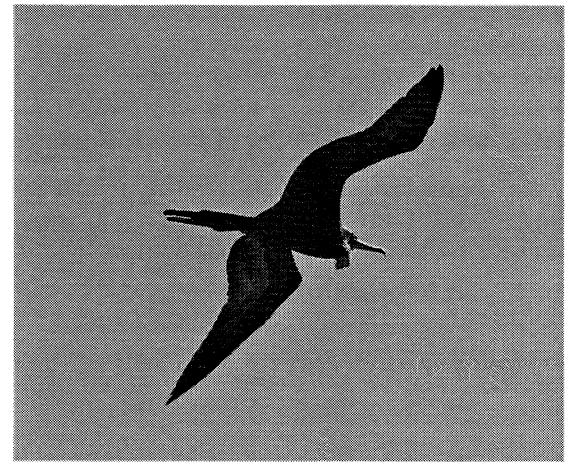
Strait shore. All had returned offshore within two days, unlike some of the species mentioned in the Gulls through Alcids section, which in a few cases continued to be seen for many weeks.

A **BROWN PELICAN**, no doubt also a storm stray, was found in Cole Harbour, *HRM*, on September 7, and seen there until the 9th, when it disappeared - only to reappear, apparently, on the roof of a Dartmouth pub, from which it was rescued and taken for rehabilitation to a wildlife shelter (where it remains at the time of writing). Another was reported from Lockeport, without details, only a day later.

[*Ed. Note: the pelican first landed on the roof of Ralph's Place, a Dartmouth strip club, then flew into traffic (and getting a bit bounced around), before visiting the parking lots of two different fast-food restaurants (receiving hand-outs in the process), before stunning itself after flying into the plate-glass window of a dollar store. In the minds of some observers the bird's habits suggested southern redneck origins. Hope Swiminer retrieved the pelican, subsequently nick-named Ralph, and took it into care at the Hope for Wildlife facility in Seaforth. At the time of this writing it seems that successful arrangements have been made to drive Ralph back to North Carolina, its presumed point of origin.*]

Earl seems to have brought only one **MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD**, a male present in outer Halifax Harbour from September 6 to about the 9th. This was perhaps the fourth Frigatebird of the season (see the listing below, which includes all the records from summer 2010, one of which was not identified to species), or perhaps only one widely-ranging female was responsible for the three SW Nova Scotian sightings in late July and early August.

Noteworthy non-hurricane related observations include an **ALBATROSS**, by description likely Black-browed or Yellow-nosed, in the Gulf of Maine/Bay of Fundy in early November, hundreds of **NORTHERN FULMARS** with thousands of Gannets and hundreds of Dovekies off Canso on October 29, a **CORY'S SHEARWATER** well offshore on a typical late fall date (and one reported earlier from Brier Island, where the species proves frustratingly hard to document, along with two other reports from more usual areas), large numbers of **NORTHERN GANNETS** off Brier Island in early October and very large numbers off Canso at the end of the month. An adult **BROWN BOOBY** that came aboard a small whale research vessel over The Gully on August 1, and was stunningly photographed, was only the second documented in Nova Scotian waters (the first was in 1941!).



A number of lucky observers got to see the adult male **MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD** brought by "*Earl*" 6 Sept. to the mouth of Halifax Hbr. [Photo Mike King]

ALBATROSS SP.				Manx Shearwater			
Nov 8	Entrance to Bay of Fundy	1	John Tramonto	Aug 20	Off Flint I., <i>CBRM</i>	5	CAM, ALM
Northern Fulmar				Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	6-8	KJM, DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Aug 20	Off Flint I., <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM	Aug 28	Off Flint I., <i>CBRM</i>	1 photo	CAM, ALM
Sep 6	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	1	DAC, <i>et al.</i>	Sep 6	Digby-Saint John ferry	2	OLB
Sep 18??	Off Brier I.	??	NSBS	Sep 18	Off Brier I.	1	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 29	Off Canso, <i>Gtys.</i>	500+	TOK	Sooty Shearwater			
ca. Nov 9	Scotian Shelf SE of Halifax	"many"	OLB	Aug 1	Off Brier I.	2	ELM
Cory's Shearwater				Aug 20	Off Flint I., <i>CBRM</i>	6	CAM, ALM
Aug 9	Off Shelburne	10	Dave Czupalak	Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	6	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Aug 27	Off Halifax	1 (no details)	Lukas Musher	Sep 4	Eastern Passage area, <i>HRM</i>	2	MIK
Sep 6	Off Brier I.	1	SYP	Sep 6	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	4	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Nov 7	Edge of shelf S of Halifax	1	OLB	Sep 6	Digby-Saint John ferry	2	OLB
Great Shearwater				Sep 8	Off Brier I.	6-25	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Aug 1	Off Brier I.	50+	ELM	Sep 24	Off Flint I., <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM
Aug 20	Off Flint I., <i>CBRM</i>	75+	CAM, ALM	Oct 8	Northern Pt., Brier I.	5	ELM
Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	~200	KJM, DAC, <i>et al.</i>	Oct 9	Northern Pt., Brier I.	4	ELM, KJM, NSBS
Sep 5	CSI	2	OLB	Oct 10	Northern Pt., Brier I.	1	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 6	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	75+	DAC, <i>et al.</i>	Nov 9	Scotian Shelf SE of Halifax	"a handful"	OLB
	Digby-Saint John ferry	80	OLB	Wilson's Storm-Petrel			
	Off Brier I.	30	SYP	Aug 1	Off Brier I.	10+	ELM
Sep 18	Off Brier I.	1500	KJM, <i>et al.</i>	Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	10-20	KJM, DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 26	Northern Pt., Brier I.	"many"	RBS	Sep 4	Riverport, <i>Lun.</i>	15	SYP
Sep 27	Off Brier I.	200	ELM		Sambro Hd., <i>HRM</i>	5	BLM
Oct 10	Northern Pt., Brier I.	3	ELM, KJM, NSBS	Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	2	MIK, FLL
Nov 9	Scotian Shelf SE of Halifax	"many"?	OLB	Sep 6	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	10	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Nov 18	Off Pt. George, <i>Anna.</i>	"many"	RBS				

Sep 18	Off Brier I.	30	DOC
Sep 26	Northern Pt., Brier I.	1	ELM
Oct 8	Northern Pt., Brier I.	1	ELM, NSBS

BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL (written report elsewhere in this issue)

Sep 4	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	1, notes	OLB, ISL
-------	-----------------------	----------	----------

Leach's Storm-Petrel

Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	4	KJM, DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 4	E. Passage area, <i>HRM</i>	200	MIK, DEG
Sep 4	Fall R., <i>HRM</i>	9	Eagle Eye
Sep 4	Sambro Hd., <i>HRM</i>	150+	BLM
Sep 4	Riverport, <i>Lun.</i>	2	SYP
Sep 4	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	170+	OLB, ISL
Sep 4	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	3	OLB, ISL
Sep 4	W. Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	21	OLB, ISL
Sep 4	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	4	OLB, ISL
Sep 4	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	ca. 8	KJM
Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	50+	MIK, FLL
Sep 18	Off Brier I.	2	DOC
Oct 2	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	DOU
Oct 9	Northern Pt., Brier I.	8	KJM, ELM, NSBS
Oct 30	Louisbourg area, <i>CBRM</i>	1	Bill Bussey

Storm-petrel sp.

Nov 11	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	STV, Amber Vines
--------	----------------------	---	---------------------

Northern Gannet

(Highlights from numerous reports submitted by e-mail and to eBird)

Aug 1	Off Brier I.	25	ELM
Aug 2	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	50	Dominique Gusset
Aug 14	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	30	ELM
Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	10	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 4	Broad Cove, <i>HRM</i>	20	OLB, ISL
Sep 5	Waterside PP., <i>Pict.</i>	200	KJM
	Blanche Pen., <i>Shel.</i>	10	OLB, ISL
	CSI	75	OLB, ISL
Sep 6	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	15+	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
	Digby-Saint John ferry	100	OLB
Sep 8	Pt. George, <i>Anna.</i>	2	Andy & Lelia Dean
Sep 13	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	1500	KJM
Sep 15	Caribou East Cove, <i>Pict.</i>	100	Jim McKay
Sep 18	Brier I.	60-100	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 20	Off Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	140	KJM
Sep 25	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	100+, mostly ad.	ELM
	Wagners Bch., <i>HRM</i>	15	BLM
	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	25	KJM
Sep 27	Off Brier I.	50+	ELM
Oct 9	Northern Pt., Brier I.	700-2000	ELM, KJM, NSBS
Oct 10 - 11	Northern Pt., Brier I.	200	ELM, KJM, NSBS
Oct 17 - 31	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	25	DAC, DOC
Oct 20, 26	Pt. George, <i>Anna.</i>	6, 1	RBS
Oct 29	Off Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	3000-3500	TOK
Oct 30	Aulds Cove, <i>Inv.</i>	25	KJM
Oct 31	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	150	DOC, NVG
Nov 7	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	7	KJM
Nov 18	Pt. George, <i>Anna.</i>	"many"	RBS
Nov 27	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	20-30	NSBS
	Prospect barrens, <i>HRM</i>	4	BLM
Nov 29	Seal I. area, <i>Yar.</i>	10+	KGI

BROWN BOOBY (sighting coordinates = 44.8138°N, 58.909°W)

Aug 1	The Gully	1 ad, ph.	Catalina Gomez
-------	-----------	-----------	-------------------

BROWN PELICAN (17th and 18th provincial records)

Sep 7-9	Cole Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	m. obs.
Sep 10	Lockport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	Bill Crosby, Wendy Langille <i>fide</i> DJC

Double-crested Cormorant

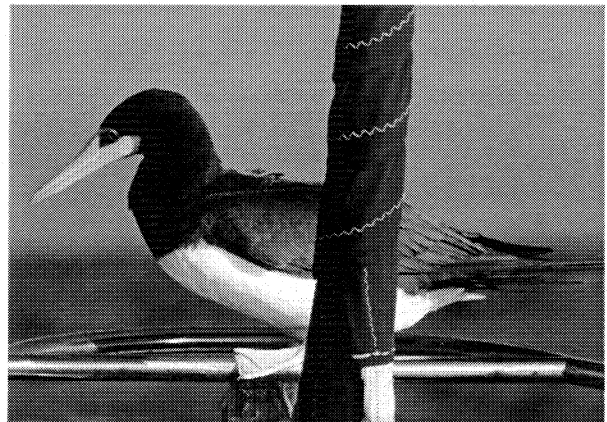
(Highlights from numerous reports submitted by e-mail and to eBird)

Aug 1	Gull Rock, S of Brier I.	30	ELM
Aug 7	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	75	Kevin Lantz
Aug 11	Conrads Bch., <i>HRM</i>	31	DOW
Aug 9 - 11	Bird Is., <i>Vic.</i>	100-200	Megan Westervelt, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 3	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	90	DBM
Sep 9	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	149	JRH
Sep 18	Brier I.	120	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 23 - 26	Hortonville, <i>Kings</i>	18	JWW
Sep 26	Brier I.	200	ELM
Oct 4	Three Sisters, <i>Cum.</i>	5	KFS
Oct 5 - 23	Conrads Bch., <i>HRM</i>	5-23	DMW
Oct 8	Brier I.	30-100	ELM, KJM
Oct 9	Brier I.	10	ELM
Oct 10	Brier I.	50	ELM
Oct 14	Waterside PP., <i>Pict.</i>	115	KJM
Oct 24	Browns Pt., <i>Pict.</i>	200	KJM
Oct 25	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	112	KJM
Oct 29	Brier I.	29 flying SW	ELM
Oct 30	Brier I.	5	ELM
	Aulds Cove, <i>Inv.</i>	125	KJM
Nov 4	Pt. George, <i>Anna.</i>	6	RBS
Nov 11	Barrachois, <i>Col.</i>	5	KJM
Nov 20	Lunenburg	1	JAH
Nov 27	Port Joli area	2	JAH, Sue Abbott
Nov 28	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Dec 1	West Beach, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS

Great Cormorant

(Highlights from numerous reports submitted by e-mail and to eBird)

Aug 9	Bird Is., <i>Vic.</i>	25	Megan Westervelt
Sep 12	Ballantynes Cove, <i>Ant.</i>	4	Robert LaCelle III
Sep 26	Brier I.	6 imm.	ELM
Sep 27	Brier I.	10 imm.	ELM
Oct 8	Brier I.	6	ELM
Oct 9	Brier I.	20	ELM, KJM
Oct 10	Northern Pt., Brier I.	25	ELM, KJM, NSBS
Oct 29	Brier I.	10 ad.	ELM
Oct 30	Brier I.	30+	ELM
Nov 2	Prospect Pen., <i>HRM</i>	6	BLM
Nov 12	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	5	DOC, NVG
Nov 27	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	6	NSBS



An adult **BROWN BOOBY**, only the third reported (and second photographed) in our waters, spent some time perched on a whale-research vessel, Aug 1 at The Gully, near Sable I. [Photo Catalina Gomez]

FRIGATEBIRD SP.

Jul 17	Off Carrs Brook, <i>Shel.</i>	1 fem.	<i>fide</i> FLS
MAGNIFICENT FRIGATEBIRD (26th & 27th records)			
Jul 21	Shag Hbr., <i>Shel.</i>	1 fem., ph.	<i>fide</i> JCZ

Jul 24	Off Brier I.	1 fem., ph.	JUS, Jamie Swift
Aug 4	Off Seal I.	1 fem., ph.	<i>fide</i> PRG
Sep 6-ca. 9	Hartlen Pt. & area, <i>HRM</i>	1 m., ph.	MIK, m. obs.

Hérons

By Ulli Höger

From Prospect we received a report of a flock of 6 immature YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERONS flying overhead. Subsequent scouting of the area failed to relocate the birds. However, this observation fits in the big picture of reports for this species; most if not all observers reported immature birds. The Fall season 2010 also saw a small invasion of CATTLE EGRETS. This species was reported from many parts of our province, and from other parts of the Maritimes.

American Bittern

Aug 4	Belleisle Marsh	1	SYP
Aug 10	APBS, Amherst, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Oct 15	CSI	1	JON, SAN

Great Blue Heron

Common in suitable habitat throughout season

Green Heron

Sep 18	Lwr West Pubnico, <i>Yar.</i>	1	RSD
--------	-------------------------------	---	-----

Great Egret

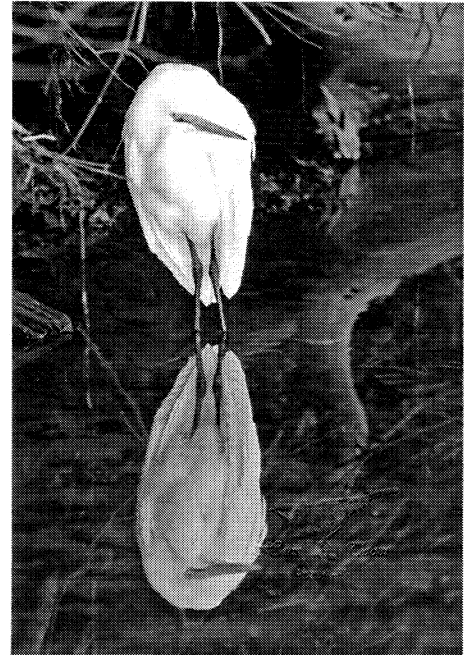
Sep. 5	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	2	PMC
Sep 16	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	2	HAT
Oct 3	Windsor, <i>Hants</i>	1	RBS
Oct 11 - 16	CSI	2	JON, SAN
Oct 20	Indian Point, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JOA
Oct 21	Digby, <i>Digby</i>	1	Cliff Sandeson
Nov 11	CSI	1	JON, SAN
Nov 15 - 16	Queensport, <i>Guys.</i>	1	var obs.
Snowy Egret			
June 9 - 10	Brier I.	1	Louise Garron, ELM
Aug 29	Bayfield, <i>Ant.</i>	1	David MacDonald
Sep 8	Durell Island, <i>Guys.</i>	1	MIK
Oct 11 - 16	CSI	2	JON, SAN
Oct 23	CSI	1	JON, SAN
Oct 25 - 28	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1	Kevin Lantz
Nov 6	First Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	1	Mark Lanford
Nov 7	First Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Nov 11	Hartlen Point	1	MIK

Little Blue Heron

Aug 29	3 Fathom Hbr	1 imm	SEM, CHP
Sep 5	E. Chezzetcook Marsh, <i>HRM</i>	1 imm.	DOC, NVG
Sep 7 - 10	Cherry Hill Bch.	1 imm.	JAH
Oct 11	Seawall, <i>Digby</i>	1 imm	JAH

Cattle Egret

Oct	Fox Harbour, <i>Col.</i>	2	Alison Jamieson <i>fide</i> SJF
Oct 16 - 23	Voglers Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	Mike Dowd
Oct 16	Keji Seaside Adjunct, <i>Queens</i>	1	CST
Oct 26	Clyde R., <i>Shel.</i>	1	TOC
Oct 28	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	2	CAH
Oct 30	Brier I., <i>Digby</i>	1	BES
Oct 31	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	2	Brad Woodworth
Nov 1	Brickton, <i>Anna.</i>	6	JSC
Nov 1	Petite Riviere, <i>Lun.</i>	4	JAH
Nov 4	First Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	2	



This image of a GREAT EGRET evokes a subtropical scene, but was obtained 14 Nov near Queensport, *Guys.* [Photo Hans Toom]

Nov 6	First Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	1	Mark Lanford
Nov 8	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	2	TOC
Nov 12	Pictou, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 19	River Bourgeois, <i>Rich.</i>	1	Ed Touesnard
Yellow-crowned Night-Heron			
Aug 2 - 8	Milton, <i>Queens</i>	1	DOP
Aug 3	CSI	1 imm.	MUN, Cindy Penney
Aug 19	CSI	1 imm.	JON, SAN
Sep 4	Bacarro, <i>Shel.</i>	2 imm	JAH
Sep 18	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	1 imm.	RIV
Oct 8 - 9	CSI	1	RAH
Oct 13	Prospect, <i>HRM</i>	6 imm.	Peter Browne

Diurnal Raptors

By Wayne P. Neily

Although we still do not have an organized hawkwatch in Nova Scotia, over 500 reports this season totaling 1240 raptors give us a fair insight into the autumn migration of these species. Room permits listing only representative samples of these below, but all are appreciated and contribute to the analysis. As usual a few rarities add some spice and will be treated first.

Of the four **BLACK VULTURE** reports, only the two Sandy Cove ones (likely of the same bird) were documented by good descriptions or photos, but the others are included as they were by knowledgeable observers who, we hope, will be submitting reports with descriptions to the Bird Records Committee. It is interesting to speculate on these birds' origin: as Pat Chalmers noted, one was seen at Houlton, Maine, four days before her observation at Sandy Cove. If, after a lay-over there, it had continued to the southeast, it could account for all this season's sightings. On the other hand, if the August one had not been seen there, the 4 Sep one might have been attributed to Earl, although the storm had little impact on the Bay of Fundy side of the province.

The other real rarity reported was a **GYRFALCON** at Hartlen Point on 14 Oct, seen by Mike King. No rare bird report has yet been received, and the only description was that it was a "dark adult". A Harris' Hawk reported by Anthony Publicover at McNab's Island on 6 Aug was possibly an escape. They have been used for bird control at Shearwater airport. **COOPER'S HAWK**, one of our most difficult identification challenges, is still considered rare enough to require documentation, but 8 reports of singles, all without descriptions, are included herein, extending from 13 Sep to 17 Nov, most in the HRM (where the Lower Sackville one may be the same as that photographed last autumn), but two are from Brier I. and one from Kings Co.

The **TURKEY VULTURE** is now established as a regular, as the 24 reports of 55 birds this season show. Twelve of these reports were from Digby Co., and the migration extended from mid-Sep to 3 Nov, with a peak of 25 on 9 Oct. Cumberland is the only other county with more than two records, not surprising given the recent increase in the species across New Brunswick.

OSPREYS were still around nest sites to the end of August, with migration on from early Sep to 10 Oct, and a straggler 29 Oct. Most were from the South Shore - Halifax area, and the absence of reports from east of Pictou Co. makes us wonder if they are being displaced in Cape Breton by the increasing eagle population.

BALD EAGLES were again the most-reported raptor, with more than 300 spread over all counties except Richmond, Hants and Yarmouth. Post-breeding concentrations at the Bird Islands are reportedly having an impact on the nesting species there that should be investigated. By mid-October good numbers were back at their eastern Kings wintering area.

The **NORTHERN HARRIER** was the second most-reported species, with most in the Annapolis Valley area; six of the ten November records were from Cumberland Co., suggesting their likely migration route. The **SHARP-SHINNED HAWK** was on the move by 5 Sep, with migration peaks 19 Sep and 11 Oct. Although **NORTHERN GOSHAWK** was sparingly reported as usual, with single migrants from early September to late November, an astonishing 20 were observed at Long Island on 19 Sep by James Hirtle *et al.* These were part of what he described as a "huge fall-out of hawks" that he had seen only once before. Most were **BROAD-WINGED HAWKS** (91 counted), then **RED-TAILED HAWKS** (36), and others, all coming from the west, heading (? back) toward Digby Neck. These were observed peaks for those two Buteos, as well, and tend to support the theory that many of the migrants of these species that avoid crossing water are immatures that find that Brier is a sort of dead end for the route that they were trying to follow, and head back up the coast when wind conditions allow. Two very early **ROUGH-LEGGED HAWKS** arrived 18-20 September, but the regular wintering ones arrived from 23 Oct on, mostly in November.

More **MERLINS** than **AMERICAN KESTRELS** were reported, but the migrations of both peaked the third week of September. Most kestrels were gone by 15 Oct, while most Merlins had left by 20 Oct. Of the 47 **PEREGRINE FALCON** reports, nearly a third were likely of one family that preyed regularly on the shorebird flocks at Evangeline Beach, but migrants were widely reported from early September on, with peaks the last week of that month and the first week of October.



A **BLACK VULTURE**, Sep 4 near Sandy Cove, Digby Neck, was engaged in its useful role in cleaning up a roadkill. [Photo Antoinette Neily]

BLACK VULTURE (4 reports totalling 4 birds in 3 counties from 14 Aug to 4 Oct)

Aug 14 Sandy Cove, *Digby* 1 PLC
 "black, flat-winged, with dark, naked head, and white patches on each wing, visible above and below, extending almost to the wingtips"

Sep 4 Sandy Cove, *Digby* 1 Larry & Antoinette Neily, WPN

feeding on a road-killed coyote (photo)
 Sep 30 Bridgetown, *Anna*. 1 DAC, Daniel Houghton

"circling over Hwy. 101 with kettle of Turkey Vultures"
 Oct 8 Guysborough, *Guys*. 1 MIK

Turkey Vulture (24 reports totalling 55 birds in 8 counties from 11 Aug to 27 Nov)

Aug 11 Maccan woods, *Cum*. 1 KFS

Aug 14 Sandy Cove, *Digby* 1 PLC

Aug 20 Big Tancook I., *Lun*. 1 JVM

Aug 27 Apple River, *Cum*. 1 KFS

Sep 6 Trout Cove Rd., *Digby* 1 SYP

Sep 11 Hwy. 102, Bedford, *HRM* 1 Jeff MacLeod

Sep 19 Long I., *Digby* 3 JRH, DAW

Sep 25 Digby Neck, *Digby* 2 KEL

Sep 30 Bridgetown, *Anna*. 11 DAC, Daniel Houghton

Oct 9 Brier I. 25 KJM

Oct 10 Sandy Cove, *Digby* 2 JRH

Oct 10 Canso, *Guys*. 1 MIK

Oct 12 Advocate, *Cum*. 1 KFS

Oct 19 Brier I. 3 SMC, CHN

Oct 24 near Middleton, *Anna*. 1 BLF, Sandra Forsythe

Oct 28 Milton, *Queens* 1 MAM

Nov 3 Aspy Bay area, *Vic*. 1 *vide* FMC

"feeding on a moose carcass"

Nov 27 Canso, *Guys*. 1 KJM, NVG, DOC

Osprey (50 reports totalling 67 birds in 9 counties from 4 Aug to 29 Oct)

Aug 4 Belleisle marsh, *Anna*. 2 (one young still in nest)

Aug 8 Big Island, *Pict*. 1 SYP KJM

Aug 12 Fairview Cove, *HRM* 1 LYK

Aug 12 - 14 west of Kentville, *Kings* 1 AND

Aug 15 Cherry Hill beach, *Lun*. 2 JRH

Aug 15 Chignecto WMA, *Cum*. 1 SYP

Aug 22 Halifax, *HRM* 1 (young at nest at busy intersection) Paul Lindgreen

Aug 27 Russell L., Dartmouth, *HRM* 2 (one young on nest) LYK

Aug 29 Middle R. of Pictou dyke 3 KJM

Sep 4 Kingsburg, *Lun*. 2 OLB

Sep 4 Dayspring / Oak Hill, *Lun*. 2 JRH

Sep 5 Hirtle's Beach, *Lun*. 2 KEL

Sep 5 Big Island, *Pict*. 3 KJM

Sep 5 Cape Sable I., *Shel*. 1 OLB

Sep 11 Abercrombie, *Pict*. 2 KJM

Sep 11 Western Head, *Queens* 1 MAM

Sep 19 Peajack Rd., Brier I. 2 WPN, JRH, *et al.*

Sep 20 Hartlen Pt. Area, *HRM* 1 KMA

Oct 4 Dartmouth, *HRM* 1 LYK

Oct 9 Brier I. 1 KJM

Oct 10 Shore Rd., Seaforth, *HRM* 1 KMA

Oct 11 Paddy's Head, *HRM* 1 BLM

Oct 29 West Pennant, *HRM* 1 DOU, ANM

Bald Eagle (129 reports totalling 302 birds in 15 counties from 4 Aug to 30 Nov)

Aug 9, 11 Bird Islands IBA, *Vic*. 15, 20 MEW, Jim Phillips

Aug 15 Cherry Hill beach, *Lun*. 3 JRH

Aug 15 Chignecto WMA, *Cum*. 1 SYP

Aug 22 Lawlor's I., *HRM* 1 ad. WPN, *et al.*

Sep 1 Wallace Bay NWR, *Pict*. 1 imm. KMA

Sep 4 Crescent Beach, *Lun*. 3 OLB

Sep 5 Morien Bar, *CBRM* 2 DBM

Sep 5 Big Island, *Pict*. 4 KJM

Sep 5 Waterside Beach PP, *Pict*. 4 KJM

Sep 5 Blanche Pen., *Shel*.. 1 OLB

Sep 12 Big Island, *Pict*. 6 KJM

Sep 14 Antigonish Harbour 3 RLC

Sep 18 Pond Cove, Brier I. 2 imm. WPN, JRH, *et al.*

Sep 20 Sandy Cove, *Digby* 3+ KJM

Sep 20 Annapolis Royal, *Anna*. 5 Robert Scranton

Sep 25 Caribou I., *Pict*. 3 KJM

Sep 25 Gull I., *Pict*. 4 KJM

Sep 26 Big Island, *Pict*. 6 KJM

Oct 10 Digby Neck, *Digby* 3 JRH

Oct 17 Grand Pré, *Kings* 20 RBS

Nov 14 Pinehurst, *Lun*. 1 PBG

Nov 15 Canso, *Guys*. 3 KJM

Nov 20 Port Morien area, *CBRM* 5 TUY, NIH

Nov 27 Thomas Raddall PP, *Queens* 1 JRH

Nov 27 Canso, *Guys*. 3 KJM, NVG, DOC

Nov 29 New Glasgow, *Pict*. 3 KJM

Nov 29 Haliburton Gut, *Pict*. 4 KJM

Nov 29 Fleming Park, Spryfield, *HRM* 1 PLC

Nov 30 Spa Springs, *Anna*. 1 ad. PBG

Northern Harrier (71 reports totalling 100 birds in 11 counties from 4 Aug to 30 Nov)

Aug 4 Belleisle marsh, *Anna*. 1 SYP

Aug 7 Kingsburg, *Lun*. 1 KEL

Aug 7 Apple River, *Cum*. 1 KFS

Aug 8 Big Island, *Pict*. 5 KJM

Aug 10 Cape Sable I., *Shel*. 1+ Andrew Davis

Aug 13 Grand Pré, *Kings* 1 f. WPN

Aug 20 Markland, Dingwall, *Vic*. 1 Neil Heinekamp

Aug 22 Devil's I., *HRM* 1 KJM

Sep 3 Schooner Pond, *CBHM* 1 DBM

Sep 3 Cape Sable I., *Shel*. 2 JRH

Sep 5 Baccaro, *Shel*. 2 OLB

Sep 6 Old Barns, *Col*. 1 SGL

Sep 9 Grand Pré, *Kings* 1 f. JCT

"caught prey in a ditch".

Sep 10 Grand Pré, *Kings* 2 SYP

Sep 13 Waterside Beach PP, *Pict*. 2 KJM

Sep 18 Brier I. 3 NVG, DOC, KJM, JRH

Sep 18 Margaree, *Inv*. 1+ RLC

Sep 19 Long I., *Digby* 3 JRH, DAW, DPO

Sep 19 Tiddville, *Digby* 3 KJM

Sep 20 Annapolis Royal, *Anna*. 2 Robert Scranton

Sep 26 Brier I. 2+ RBS

Oct 5 Ben Jackson Rd, *Kings* 1 JOB

Oct 9, 10 Brier I. 5, 5 KJM,

Oct 16 Big Island, *Pict*. 2 KJM

Oct 17, 24 Grand Pré, *Kings* 4, 4 RBS,

Oct 27 Fort Lawrence, *Cum*. 1 Denis Lepage

Nov 11 Grand Pré, *Kings* 1 m. RBS

Nov 11 Brulé Pt., *Col*. 1 imm. KJM

Nov 11 West Advocate, *Cum*. 3 BLM

Nov 12 Apple River, *Cum*. 1 KFS

Nov 14 Grand Pré, *Kings* 1 RBS

Nov 21 River Philip, *Cum*. 1 VIR

Nov 22 East Linden marsh, *Cum*. 1 VIR

Nov 30 Shinimicas, *Cum*. 1 VIR

Nov 30 n. of Middleton, *Anna*. 1 SLH

Sharp-shinned Hawk (45 reports totalling 155 birds in 12 counties from 4 Aug to 27 Nov)

Aug 4 Francklyn Cr., Halifax, *HRM* 1 SMB

Aug 8 Big Island, *Pict*. 5 KJM

Aug 22 Pentz Lake, *Hants* 1 JVM

Sep 2 Berwick, *Kings* 1 SYP

Sep 5 Cape Sable Island, *Shel*. 1 OLB

Sep 6 Cherry Hill, *Lun*. 1 OLB

Sep 11	Western Head, <i>Queens</i>	1	MAM
Sep 18	Western Light, Brier I.	30	JRH
Sep 19	Brier I.	10	JRH, WPN, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 19	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	13	JRH, DPO,
DAW			
Sep 26	Brier I.	10+	RBS
Oct 4	Spicer's Cove, <i>Cum.</i>	4	KFS
Oct 6	Old Barns, <i>Col.</i>	1	SGL
Oct 9	Brier I.	3	KJM
Oct 10	Brier I.	10	KJM
Oct 10	Bear River, <i>Digby</i>	2	JRH
Oct 10	Digby Neck, <i>Digby</i>	3	JRH
Oct 11	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	20+	KJM
"during an hour"			
Oct 11	Brier I.	many	KJM
"a steady stream arriving"			
Oct 31	East Apple River, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Nov 4	Port George, <i>Anna.</i>	1	RBS
Nov 11	Apple River, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
"at feeder", also 1 on 13th Nov			
Nov 14	over Hwy. 2, Elmsdale, <i>Hants</i>	1	KMA
Nov 20	River Philip, <i>Cum.</i>	1	VIR
Nov 27	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	KJM, NVG, DOC
Nov 27	White Point, <i>Queens</i>	1-2	MAM.
Cooper's Hawk (8 reports totalling 8 birds in 3 counties from 17 Sep to 13 Nov) [no details]			
Sep 17	Brier I.	1	JRH
Sep 19	Brier I.	1	JRH, WPN, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 23	Bissett L., <i>HRM</i>	1f, imm.	DAC, MIK
Oct 29	Harbourville, <i>Kings</i>	1	Mark Langford
Oct 30	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 imm.	CRS
Nov 8	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 imm.	CRS
"has been visiting the Codlings' feeders for about a month now"			
Nov 11	Hartlen Point, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Nov 13	Cow Bay saltmarsh, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Northern Goshawk (12 reports totalling 32 birds in 7 counties from 2 Sep to 30 Nov)			
Sep 2	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	Tony Chubbs
Sep 19	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	20	JRH
Oct 10	Brier I.	2	KJM
Oct 20	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1 imm.	DBM
Oct 14	Brookfield, <i>Col.</i>	1 imm.	KMA
Oct 14	Shubenacadie, <i>Hants</i>	1	DML
Oct 28	Hwy. 2 near Alton, <i>Col.</i>	1 ad.	KMA
Nov 2	Wagner's Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1 imm.	BLM
Nov 1 - 5	Rhodes Corner, <i>Lun.</i>	1	Mandy Eisenhauer
Nov 11	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Nov 19	Yarmouth, <i>Yar.</i>	1 imm.	Leslie Robinson
"on back lawn, around 8 a.m., eating gull; ... brown markings of juvenile very clear including white eyebrow."	prey, perhaps a black-backed		
Nov 30	Lake Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1	CHP
Broad-winged Hawk (9 reports totaling 205 birds in 5 counties from 3 Aug to 26 Sep)			
Aug 3	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
"agitated and calling in deep woods"			
Aug 5	Molega L., <i>Lun.</i>	2i	SJF, JSC
"calling back and forth."			
Aug 15	over Caribou Harbour, <i>Pict.</i>	9	William Knight
"circling and flying to sw."			
Sep 5	Blanche Pen., <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 6	Liscomb G. S., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM
Sep 19	Brier I.	78	DPO, JRH, DAW, SMB, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 19	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	91	DPO, JRH, DAW
Sep 19	Blockhouse, <i>Lun.</i>	1 ad.	RBS
Sep 26	Brier I.	21+	RBS

Red-tailed Hawk (40 reports totalling 103 birds in 12 counties from 4 Aug to 30 Nov)			
Aug 4	Belleisle marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	1	SYP
Aug 20	Big Tancook I., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JVM
Aug 20	Aylesford L. area, <i>Kings</i>	1	WPN
Sep 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 18	Skyline Tr., <i>CBHNP, Inv.</i>	2	RLC
Sep 19	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	36	JRH
Sep 26	Brier I.	2+	RBS,
"a smattering, all juveniles"			
Oct 11	Glace Bay area, <i>CBRM</i>	1	TUY, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 17, 24	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	4, 1	RBS,
Oct 19	near Shulie, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Oct 30	Port Hastings area, <i>Inv.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 2	Public Gardens, Halifax, <i>HRM</i>	1	Dennis Garrett
Nov 6	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 7	Onslow area, <i>Col.</i>	1a, 1i	KMA
Nov 12	Apple River area, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS, BLM
Nov 14	Wolfville to Windsor	~12	RBS
Nov 15	Spa Springs, <i>Anna.</i>	3	PBG
Nov 23	Onslow area, <i>Col.</i>	5-6	Richard Blacquièrè, Merv Cormier, Jim & Jean Wilson
Nov 29	New Glasgow, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 30	Ruggles Rd., Wilmot, <i>Anna.</i>	3	PBG
Rough-legged Hawk (9 reports totalling 15 birds in 5 counties from 18 Sep to 30 Nov)			
Sep 18	at reservoir, Truro, <i>Col.</i>	1	SGL
Sep 20	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	LEB
Oct 23	Pictou Causeway, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 24	Abercrombie Pt., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 2	Prospect Pen., <i>HRM</i>	4	BLM
2 lt., 2 dk., "flew in off the ocean and moved N along w side of Peninsula"			
Nov 7	Truro area, <i>Col.</i>	3	BLM, IAM
Nov 14	Salmon R. bridge, <i>Col.</i>	1	RAH
Nov 15, 30	Spa Springs, <i>Anna.</i>	2, 1	PBG
American Kestrel (22 reports totalling 53 birds in 11 counties from 8 Aug to 4 Oct)			
Aug 8	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Sep 3	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JRH
Sep 6	Liscomb GS, <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM
Sep 12	Hwy. 337, near Antigonish	1	RLC
Sep 18	Brier I.	6	NVG, DOC, KJM, JRH
Sep 18	Skyline Trail, <i>CBHNP, Inv.</i>	1	RLC
Sep 19	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	6	JRH
Sep 19	Digby Neck, <i>Digby</i>	5	JRH
Sep 20	Annapolis Royal, <i>Anna.</i>	3	Robert Scranton
Sep 25, 26	Brier I.	5, 2	KEL, RBS
Oct 5	Woods Harbour, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DCA
Oct 8	Little River, <i>Digby</i>	2	KJM
Oct 9, 10	Brier I.	5, 7	KJM
Oct 10	S. Brookfield, <i>Queens</i>	1	JRH
Oct 15	Daniel's Head, <i>Shel.</i>	4	JON, SAN
Nov 20	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Merlin (52 reports totaling 86 birds in 10 counties from 2 Aug to 27 Nov)			
Aug 2	Berwick, <i>Kings</i>	1	SYP
Aug 8	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Aug 10	Cape Sable Island, <i>Shel.</i>	1	Andrew Davis
Aug 18	Oxner's Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	1	KEL
Aug 27	Apple River area, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Sep 2	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	2	Tony Chubbs
Sep 3	CSI	1	JRH
Sep 4	Point Pleasant Park, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOC, NVG
Sep 5	Blanche Pen., <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 18	Brier I.	3	NVG, DOC, KJM, WPN
Sep 19	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	4	JRH
Sep 25	Brier I.	6	KEL
Sep 26	Brier I.	2+	RBS

Sep 26	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1	TUY, NIH, ALM, CAM
Sep 26	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Oct 2	Martinique	1	RJC
Oct 3	Ann. Royal Marsh	1	RSM, WEM
Oct 5	Woods Harbour, <i>Shel.</i>	2	DCA
Oct 9	Brier I.	5	KJM
also 7 on the 10th Oct			
Oct 10	Canning, <i>Kings</i>	1	Robert Stevens
"a headless Merlin found in garden."			
Oct 10	Digby Neck, <i>Digby</i>	2	JRH
Oct 16	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Oct 17	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	2	RBS
Oct 17	South Side, CS.I., <i>Shel.</i>	1	JCZ
Oct 19	Canard Dyke path, <i>Kings</i>	2	RBS
Nov 19	Timberlea, <i>HRM</i>	1	Debbie
			Stoddart-Page
Nov 27	Black Duck Cove Park, <i>Guys.</i>	1	KJM, DOC, NVG
Peregrine Falcon (47 reports totaling 57 birds in 12 counties from 2 Aug to 29 Nov)			
Aug 2	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1-2	var. obs
Aug 5	Berwick, <i>Kings</i>	2	RBS
Aug 27	Antigonish Landing, <i>Ant.</i>	1+	BST
Aug 29	Lower Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	KEL, JRH
Sep 5	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	SYP
Sep 5	McCormack's Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	TUY, NIH, HAT, DOC, NVG
Sep 6	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Sep 7	Port Williams SP, <i>Kings</i>	1	GFO
Sep 11	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	AND

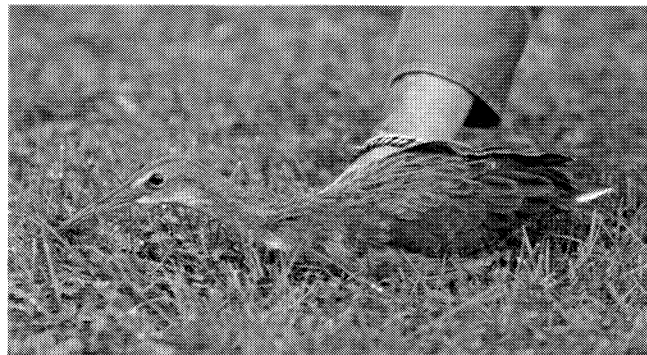
Sep 11	Western Head, <i>Queens</i>	1	MAM
Sep 13	Port Hood park, <i>Inv.</i>	1	RLC
Sep 19	Brier I.	1	WPN, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 19	Freeport, <i>Digby</i>	1	JRH, DAW, DPO
Sep 20	Evangeline Beach, <i>Kings</i>	2 m.	JWW
Sep 25	Western Head, <i>Queens</i>	1 ad.	ELM
Sep 25	Brooklyn, <i>Queens</i>	2	ELM
Sep 26	Brier I.	3+	RBS
Sep 26	Cherry Hill Beach, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Sep 30	Cap Perce, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
Oct 3	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	RBS, <i>F. p. tundrius</i>
Oct 3	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 7	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC
Oct 9, 10	Brier I.	2	KJM
Oct 11	flew in to North Pt., Brier I.	2	KJM
Oct 17	Barrington, <i>Shel.</i>	1	JCZ
Oct 22	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JRH
Oct 23	Daniel's Head, <i>Shel.</i>	1	JON
Oct 31	Warren L., CBHNP, <i>Vic.</i>	1	TUY, NIH
Nov 12	Chebucto Head, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOC, NVG
Nov 12	West Apple River, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS, BLM
Nov 23	Onslow area, <i>Col.</i>	1	Merv Cormier, Jim & Jean Wilson
Nov 26	Lower Onslow, <i>Col.</i>	1	RSB
Nov 29	Meteghan River, <i>Digby</i>	1	Sandy Hiltz
GYRFALCON			
Oct 7	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
"dark adult, flew low over the beach and cattail marsh and toward golf course"			

Rails and Cranes

By Ulli Höger

A CLAPPER RAIL caught and subsequently released after it found its way into a Canso garage, was reported as an Eastern race bird. That's what I call a close look.

Virginia Rail			
Oct 21	Hartlen Point, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
CLAPPER RAIL (16th provincial record)			
Sep 20	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	TOC
Sora			
Oct 1	Annapolis Royal marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	1	Lois Jenkins
Oct 13	Hartlen Point, <i>HRM</i>	5	MIK
American Coot			
All season	Glance Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	2	DMC
Oct 31	Glance Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	1	BES
Nov 12	Annapolis Royal Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	6	Lois Jenkins
Nov 23	Truro, <i>Col.</i>	2	ROH
Sandhill Crane			
Aug 4	Bellisle Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	1 juv.	SYP
Nov 6	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	2	GFO



A great rarity, but less surprising at Canso, was this juvenile **CLAPPER RAIL**, which was found and captured Sep 20 and released at a more suitable seaside area. It was of the expected drab, E. Coast subspecies *crepitans*. [Photo Tom Kavanaugh]

Shorebirds

By Susann Myers

Shorebird migration was on schedule this fall, with abundance varying among species. Several rarities were reported, including Marbled Godwits, Ruffs and, causing much excitement in the wake of Hurricane Earl, the province's first Snowy Plover and a Bar-tailed Godwit. Shorebird records from eBird have been included in the shorebirds report for the first time this season. These records brought welcome additions, both from seldom-reported areas such as Colchester, and from birders visiting the province.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER numbers peaked in mid-August as usual and remained strong to mid-September, with good-sized concentrations at traditional stopover sites. The first AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER arrived a week earlier than average, but

the majority were seen on schedule in September. Only one major fallout was reported, the 100 seen at Sydney airport Sep 11. SEMIPALMATED PLOVERS were most abundant as expected in the second half of August, and were reported in moderate numbers.

A **SNOWY PLOVER**, the province's first, was an adult found Sep 5 by Kevin Lantz at Hirtles Beach, Lun. It was well documented by Kevin with photographs, but it left the beach in the morning of the following day. Our editor, Blake Maybank, rediscovered the plover later the same day at more secluded Kingsburg Beach nearby, where it stayed until Sep 11 (and was enjoyed by at least another 14 observers). It was apparently easily spotted among good numbers of Semipalmated Plovers because of its much paler upperparts. Other distinguishing features are that Snowy Plovers are smaller than either Semipalmated or Piping Plovers, with a slender black bill, drab greyish legs and an incomplete breast band. A Snowy Plover reported from South Side Beach, CSI Oct 16 to 17 was likely the same one. Both of the North American subspecies of Snowy Plover breed in the southern U.S.; *nivosus* breeds from the Pacific coast to the Great Plains, while *tenuirostris* is found in the Caribbean and along the U. S. coast of the Gulf of Mexico. Both can be found in winter along the Gulf coast.



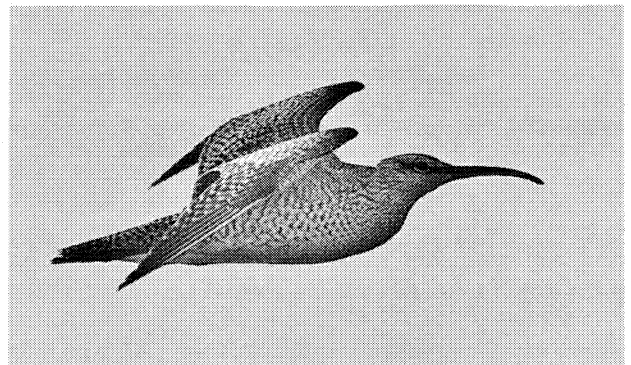
A number of photographers obtained excellent images of the province's first **SNOWY PLOVER**, but the honour goes to its finder, who also photographed it, 4 Sep on Hirtles Beach, Lun. [Photo Kevin Lantz]

PIPING PLOVERS were reported in good numbers, with the final two lingering past the average departure date. Two large gatherings of KILLDEER were noted, at Sydney airport and Waterside Provincial Park. The seasonal total of 92 was well above the five-year average of 44. Breeding AMERICAN OYSTERCATCHERS remained at CSI until early September. A banded individual spotted at the marsh behind Conrad Beach Sep 5 was likely brought north by Hurricane Earl, as were two found at Brier I. by DOU.

Most SPOTTED SANDPIPERS departed on schedule in September. This species also had a strong showing in 2010; the seasonal total of 72 was eighty per cent above the five-year average. One found by JON at CSI Nov 14 was a very late lingerer. As expected, SOLITARY SANDPIPERS passed through mainly between mid-August and mid-September, and in relatively good numbers.

GREATER YELLOWLEGS migration was on schedule, with peaks from mid-August to September and only a small number of individuals lingering to November. The only major concentrations reported were along the Atlantic coast, particularly at Morien Bar, Cape Breton. Most locally-breeding WILLETS depart in July, but juveniles were seen in good numbers until mid-August. Willet chicks can be expected to fledge over a fairly broad period, since adults arriving already paired in spring immediately take up territories, while unpaired adults engage in competitive displays for approximately three weeks before nesting. The first Western Willet was spotted by ELM Aug 14. No major concentrations of LESSER YELLOWLEGS were reported this season. Lessers migrate through Nova Scotia ahead of Greaters, and were found in modest numbers from August to early September, with only 11 lingering into October.

WHIMBREL, an uncommon migrant, arrived on schedule but appear to have departed early, with none reported lingering into October. The only concentrations noted were at Scatarie I. and in Shelburne. The total of 47 HUDSONIAN GODWITS found was average for recent years. As often, the majority were seen in August (adults) and October (juveniles). Lingerers into November, like the one at CSI Nov 1 to 3, are rare. **MARBLED GODWITS** are rare but regular visitors, reported at an average of one per year. This year's total was boosted by four that arrived at South Shore sites following Hurricane Earl.



Frozen in flight, this WHIMBREL displays the subtly beautiful patterns of its plumage. [Photo Sandy McClearn]

Also reported in Earl's wake was a **BAR-TAILED GODWIT**, the 6th record of this species for the province, all of which have been found at CSI. Paul Prior first reported it Sep 7, followed by JON and SAN on the 8th. Stuart Tingley provided the only sighting details on Sep 13. His description of heavily barred underwings, rump and tail indicated this bird was a member of the *baueri* subspecies, which breeds in eastern Siberia and western Alaska, and winters from southern China south to Indonesia, Australia and New Zealand. No photographs of this rarity were obtained.

Despite this year's reports from additional observers, RUDDY TURNSTONE numbers were low. The seasonal total of about 257 is almost twice the number reported in 2009, but still 11% below the five-year average. Usually found into November, they departed early this year with the last sighting in early October. Increased reporting of RED KNOTS (from 18 sites, versus a recent average of 11) boosted numbers, but the seasonal total of 216 was still only average compared to the previous five years. The count at Morien Bar in August, when the endangered *rufa* subspecies is moving through, has declined from an average of 30 in 2001 to 2004, to just 11 in 2010. SANDERLINGS were most abundant from September to October as expected, with good numbers continuing through November. This year's seasonal total was almost 60% below the five-year average, but numbers vary widely from year to year for this species, which disperses widely from its high-Arctic breeding grounds.

Four of the five species classed as peeps (SEMIPALMATED, WESTERN, LEAST and WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPERS) were on schedule and reported in roughly average numbers. At favoured sites, notably at the Bay of Fundy, numbers are often difficult to gauge, since rapidly moving flocks are mixtures of peeps and non-peep small shorebirds such as Semipalmated Plovers.

BAIRD'S SANDPIPERS, the fifth peep species, migrate through the interior of North America. Uncommon on the Atlantic coast, they are typically seen here mid-August to mid-September in overall numbers of 10 to 20 per year. This year's total of about 35 is well above the 10-year average of 22. Almost all were seen along the Atlantic coast, from northern CBI to CSI. PECTORAL SANDPIPERS were seen in average numbers. The total of about 140 was boosted by an unusually large and late flock of about 75 found at Sydney airport by DBM. PURPLE SANDPIPERS are typically first seen in late October or November, so the six to 12 found at Cherry Hill from late September were unusually early.

DUNLIN were on schedule and most numerous as usual between the end of September and the end of October. The total of about 955 was less than half the five-year average. The first STILT SANDPIPER was seen a week later than average, then as expected most were found in August and September. Numbers were low, however, with the total of five well below the 10-year average of 12.

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPERS were on schedule, with all seen between late August and the end of September. The seasonal total of about 62 was 70% above the five-year average. Both that average and this year's total were raised by sightings of large flocks at Shearwater airport: 50 in 2007 and 30+ this year. The Buff-breasted was rated Highly Imperiled in the 2004 update to the U.S. Shorebird Conservation Plan, and a Species of High Concern in the 2000 Canadian Shorebird Conservation Plan, due to its small population size, restricted ranges and staging of large segments of its population at vulnerable locations. The Buff-breasted breeds in high Arctic areas from central Alaska to central Canada. Its northward spring migration is along a narrow corridor through the central prairies, but in fall small numbers use a wider corridor that stretches as far as B.C. and N.S. Approximately 600 are thought to use the Eastern flyway, mostly juveniles in uniformly fresh plumage, crisply fringed in white. The Buff-breasted was once numerous, with a population estimated from the hundreds of thousands to millions, in about 1900. Numbers were decimated by heavy hunting in the early 20th century and are estimated at around 15,000 today. A status report on the Buff-breasted Sandpiper is currently being written for the Committee on the Status of Endangered Wildlife in Canada (COSEWIC), and N.S. records have contributed to that study. Data on migrating numbers will continue to be important in the coming years. Buff-breasteds tend to use the same fields on migration from year to year, so common sites are worth checking each September.

Two RUFFS seen this autumn were a good showing. Ruffs have been reported in seven of the past 10 fall seasons, at dates ranging from early August to late November. SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHERS, which are early migrants, appear to have peaked on schedule in July, with juveniles following in good numbers in August. Lingerers were found in above-average numbers in September, but the group of 20 reported at Cole Harbour Oct 29 was very unusual. Only one report of **LONG-BILLED DOWITCHERS** was received this season, of two spotted at their favoured location, CSI, by JON and SAN.

As usual, few WILSON'S SNIPE and AMERICAN WOODCOCK were seen departing, as they normally migrate at night. They appear to have left on schedule in October, with no later reports of lingerers. **WILSON'S PHALAROPE**, a western species, is an uncommon transient in N.S. It has been reported annually since 1969, generally in ones and twos. This year's only report was of a possible sighting by SMB, who provided good details and careful judgement. Reports of RED-NECKED PHALAROPES were typically sporadic, depending mainly on pelagic voyages for sightings. The only report of a sizable flock was off Brier I. in mid-September. RED PHALAROPES are generally more numerous off N.S. than Red-neckeds, and this year was no exception, with large flocks seen off Brier I. from early to mid-September.



The scaly pattern of the back and wing coverts of this juvenile BAIRD'S SANDPIPER at Grand Greve, *Rich.*, are a good field mark, at least when photographically "frozen." [Photo Rita Viau]

small shorebird species

Aug 8	Evangeline Bch., <i>Kings</i>	1000+	JWW
Aug 8	Debert Bch., <i>Col.</i>	ca. 1500	S. Gleich
Aug 11	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	ca. 10,000	JCT
Aug 21	near Cape Blomidon, <i>Kings</i>	ca. 50,000	JCT
Aug 21	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	ca. 15,000	JCT
Aug 28	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	ca. 200	JCT
Sep 5	Old Barns, <i>Col.</i>	200	S. Gleich
Sep 6	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	10s of 1000s	HAT
Sep 9	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	ca. 3,000	JCT
Sep 20	Evangeline Bch., <i>Kings</i>	ca. 1500	JWW
Nov 14	Conrad Bch., <i>HRM</i>	5 peeps	D. & J. Schlosberg

Black-bellied Plover

Aug 2, 29	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	8, 38	SEM
Aug 7	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	50+	RBS
Aug 7, 16	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	49, 30	SJF
Aug 14	Windsor ponds, <i>Hants</i>	350	JCT
Aug 16, 27	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	103, 185	JSC
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	385	SEM
Other Aug sightings	16 locations	203 total	var. obs.
Sep 3	South Side Bch., <i>CSI</i>	47	BJS, SIS
Sep 5	Old Barns, <i>Col.</i>	65	SGL
Sep 5	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	250	DBM
Sep 8	Windsor ponds, <i>Hants</i>	150+	JWW
Sep 9	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	59	SJF
Sep 10	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	ca. 60	HAT
Sep 11	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	190	NSBS, SEM
Sep 26	Debert Bch., <i>Col.</i>	ca. 50	SGL
Other Sept sightings	20 locations	137 total	var. obs.
Oct 3, 18	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	42, 28	SJF
Oct 4 - 8	Daniels Hd. Inlet, <i>CSI</i>	20+	RAH
Oct 4, 29	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	26, 28	JSC
Oct 9	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	40+	D. Garratt
Oct 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	97	MCM
Oct 29	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	ca. 60	DBM
Oct 31	CSI	112	JON, SAN
Other Oct sightings	19 locations	195 total	var. obs.
Nov 1, 13	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	31, 6	SJF
Nov 3	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	20+	AND, HAF, A. Mutch

Nov 11	Glenholme, <i>Col.</i>	20	BLM
Nov 11	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	10	RBS
Nov 19	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JSC
Nov 21	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM
Other Nov sightings	5 locations	16 total	var. obs.

American Golden-Plover

Aug 7	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Aug 17	Digby	1	KJM
Aug 28	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	S. Penner
Aug 29	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	T. Boswell
Sep 11	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	100	NSBS, SEM
Sep 20	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	2	KAM, DOU
Sep 30	Conrad's I. Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH, K. Robinson

Other Sept sightings	17 locations	22 total	var. obs.
Oct 7	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	4	MIK
Oct 13	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	2	RBS
Oct 29	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	3	DBM

Other Oct sightings	7 locations	singles	var. obs.
Nov 11	Brule Pt., <i>Col.</i>	1	KJM

Semipalmated Plover

Aug - Sep	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	100s at peak	DJC
Aug 1, 14	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	276, 690	SEM
Aug 7	Sonora, <i>Guys.</i>	270	SEM
Aug 7, 16	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	318, 368	SJF
Aug 10	CSI	100	A. Davis
Aug 12, 20	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	650, 950	JSC
Aug 21	Point Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	80	NSBS, BID

Aug 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	100	KJM
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	380	SEM
Aug 26	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1,000	L. Musher
Other Aug sightings	14 locations	170 total	var. obs.
Sep 1, 22	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	318, 350	SJF
Sep 3, 26	South Side Bch., <i>CSI</i>	350+, 70	BJS, SIS
Sep 6, 25	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	246, 119	SEM
Sep 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	100+	NSBS, SEM
Sep 11	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	100s	SMB
Sep 11, 26	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	720, 180	JSC
Sep 18	Martinique Bch. PP, <i>HRM</i>	100	BLM
Sep 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	103	KJM
Sep 22	Old Barns, <i>Col.</i>	ca. 225	SGL
Sep 26	Debert Bch., <i>Col.</i>	ca. 200	SGL

Other Sept sightings	33 locations	582 total	var. obs.
Oct 2	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	100	R. Cannings
Oct 3	Louis Hd. Bch., <i>Shel.</i>	100	C. Curry
Oct 3, 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	55, 21	KJM
Oct 3, 13	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	162, 112	SJF
Oct 4, 17	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	43, 12	JSC
Oct 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	88	MCM
Oct 31	CSI	30	JON, SAN

Other Oct sightings	11 locations	120 total	var. obs.
Nov 1	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	8	SJF
Nov 8 - 12	3 locations, mainland	4 total	var. obs.

SNOWY PLOVER (provincial 1st)

Sep 5 - 6	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1, photos	K. Lantz
Sep 6 - 12	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1, photos	BLM, var. obs.
Oct 16	South Side Bch., <i>CSI</i>	1	JON, SAN, <i>fide</i> JCZ
Oct 17	South Side Bch., <i>CSI</i>	1	JCZ, AIS

Piping Plover

July 17	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	17	BJS, SIS
Aug 1	East Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	4	K. Lantz
Aug 1, 15	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	7, 9	K. Lantz, JAH
Aug 2	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1, banded	P. Evans
Aug 10	CSI	1	A. Davis
Aug 14	Ragged Hbr. Bch., <i>Queens</i>	1 juv.	ELM
Aug 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 juv.	KJM
Sep 1	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1 ad., 4 juv.	SJF
Sep 24	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	1	BJS, SIS
Oct 3	Louis Head Bch., <i>Shel.</i>	1	C. Curry

Killdeer

Aug 1, 22	Grafton, <i>Kings</i>	4, 2	S. Penner
Aug 8	Debert Bch., <i>Col.</i>	2	SGL
Aug 15	2 locations, <i>Cum.</i>	6 total	S. Penner
Aug 17	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	7	ALD
Aug 21	Point Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	1	NSBS, BID
Sep 2 - 21	3 locations, <i>HRM</i>	4 total	var. obs.
Sep 11	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	22	NSBS, SEM
Sep 25	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	35	KJM
Oct 22 - 31	3 locations, <i>HRM</i>	4 total	var. obs.
Oct 30	Louisbourg, <i>CBRM</i>	2	B. Bussey
Nov 1	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Nov 7	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
Nov 8	Onslow, <i>Col.</i>	2	DOU

American Oystercatcher

Aug 10	CSI	3	K. Lantz
Sep 4 - 5	CSI	2	var. obs.
Sep 5, 8	Conrad marsh area, <i>HRM</i>	1, banded	P. Evans, CLS
Sep 9	Brier I.	2	DOU

Spotted Sandpiper

Aug 1 - 29	8 locations, widespread	singles	var. obs.
Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Aug 14	Windsor ponds, <i>Hants</i>	3	JCT
Aug 15	Clam Bay, <i>HRM</i>	2 ad., 4 juv.	SEM
Aug 16	Sheffield Mills, <i>Kings</i>	5 - 6	JCT
Aug 20	Oxner's Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	K. Lantz
Aug 22	Cape Split, <i>Kings</i>	6	S. Penner
Aug 29	Middle R., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Sep 3, 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	3, 2	JAH, O. Barden

Sep 4	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	3	O. Barden
Sep 14	shorelines, <i>Ant.</i>	8	R. LaCelle
Other Sept sightings	12 locations, mainland	17 total	var. obs.
Oct	5 locations, mainland	singles	var. obs.
Nov 14	Daniels Head, <i>CSI</i>	1	JON

Solitary Sandpiper

Aug 11	Kentville, <i>Kings</i>	2	AND
Aug 28	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	6	RFL
Other Aug sightings	7 locations, widespread	singles	var. obs.
Sep 1 - 6	Point Pleasant, <i>HRM</i>	3	AGH, var. obs.
Sep 4	McCormacks Bch., <i>HRM</i>	3	HAT
Sep 4 - 5	3 locations, widespread	singles	var. obs.
Sep 13, 16	Point Pleasant, <i>HRM</i>	1	AGH
Sep 19	Tiddville, <i>Digby</i>	1	KJM
Sep 20, 26	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 3 - 9	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	RBS, HAT, LAE
Oct 5	<i>CSI</i>	3	JON
Oct 14	West Pubnico, <i>Shel.</i>	1	JON

yellowlegs species

Aug 21	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	24	JCT
Sep 10, 23	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	27, 17	JCT

Greater Yellowlegs

Aug 1, 14	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	25, 26	SEM
Aug 2, 12	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	10, 15+	JWW, JCT
Aug 7	Sonora, <i>Guys.</i>	68	SEM
Aug 10	<i>CSI</i>	50	A. Davis
Aug 11	North River, <i>Vic.</i>	20	J. Phillips
Aug 15	Wallace Bay, <i>Cum.</i>	20	S. Penner
Aug 21	Point Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	14	NSBS, BID
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	115	SEM

Other Aug sightings	17 locations, widespread	78 total	var. obs.
Sep 4, 19	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	15, 12	O. Barden, JSC
Sep 5	<i>CSI</i>	30	O. Barden
Sep 5, 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	250, 61	DBM, NSBS
Sep 6, 25	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	22, 21	SEM
Sep 8, 29	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	28, 27	JWW
Sep 9	Cole Hbr. marsh, <i>HRM</i>	30+	PMU

Other Sept sightings	25 locations, widespread	96 total	var. obs.
Oct 7, 19	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	21, 8	JWW
Oct 10	W. Chezzetcook, <i>HRM</i>	ca. 15	KAM
Oct 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	40	MCM
Oct 16, 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	10, 6	KJM
Oct 17, 24	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	15, 3	RBS
Oct 17, 29	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	8, 4	JSC
Oct 24	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	11	SEM
Oct 25, 31	<i>CSI</i>	30, 12	JON, SAN

Other Oct sightings	13 locations, widespread	30	var. obs.
Nov 6, 26	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	2, 1	SEM, CHP
Nov 7	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM

Willet

Aug 1	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	12 E	SEM
Aug 1, 14	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	45 E, 9 E	SEM
Aug 2, 12	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	20, 15+	JWW, JCT
Aug 6, 16	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	14, 15	SJF
Aug 6, 20	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	30, 15	JSC
Aug 7	3 locations, <i>Guys.</i>	10 juv., E	SEM
Aug 8, 14	Conrad marsh, <i>HRM</i>	13, 3	DMW
Aug 14	L. LaHave, <i>Lun.</i>	2 W	ELM
Aug 15	Clam Bay, <i>HRM</i>	2 juv., E	SEM
Aug 21	Point Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	6 W, 5 E	NSBS, BID
Aug 21, 28	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	17, 3	JCT
Aug 22	Wild Cove, <i>CBRM</i>	1 W	SEM

Other Aug sightings	7 locations, widespread	18	var. obs.
Sep 2, 8	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	8, 3	S. Penner, JWW

Sep 5	E. Chezzetcook, <i>HRM</i>	1	DMC, NVG
Sep 8	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	2	MCM
Sep 9, 12	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	3	SJF, JAH



We don't often receive photos of the shy and shiftY SPOTTED SANDPIPER, but this juvenile (from the white margined dark bars on its coverts) 5 Sep at Pubnico, was more approachable. [Photo Rosemary Gallinger]

Sep 15	Ogden's Pond, <i>Ant.</i>	1	R. LaCelle
Sep 18, 21	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 W	HAT, LAE, FLL

Lesser Yellowlegs

Aug 1, 29	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	14, 4	SEM
Aug 4	The Guzzle, <i>CSI</i>	23	JON, SAN
Aug 7, 15	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	30, 9	K. Lantz
Aug 7, 16	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	16, 6	SJF
Aug 8, 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	25, 20	KJM
Aug 10	<i>CSI</i>	50	A. Davis
Aug 14	Conrad marsh, <i>HRM</i>	8	DMW
Aug 15	Pleasant Point, <i>HRM</i>	10	SEM

Other Aug sightings	10 locations, widespread	32 total	var. obs.
Sep 1	Garden Lots, <i>Lun.</i>	11	K. Lantz
Sep 1, 30	Conrad's I., <i>Lun.</i>	9, 1	K. Lantz, JAH
Sep 4, 19	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	7, 2	O. Barden, JSC
Sep 4, 26	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	20, 1	KJM
Sep 5	<i>CSI</i>	35	O. Barden
Sep 6, 25	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	6, 2	SEM
Sep 9	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	13	JAH
Sep 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	8	NSBS, SEM
Oct 7 - 29	4 locations, <i>HRM</i>	singles	var. obs.
Oct 7	Wolfville Hbr., <i>Kings</i>	1	JWW
Oct 25	L. Clarks Hbr., <i>CSI</i>	6	JON, SAN
Other Oct sightings	19 locations, widespread	39	var. obs.

Whimbrel

Aug 2	Pond Cove, Brier I.	3	RBS
Aug 7	near Wine Hbr., <i>Guys.</i>	4	SEM
Aug 7	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	3	K. Lantz
Aug 10	Scatarie I., <i>CBRM</i>	15	L. Saunders
Aug 10	<i>CSI</i>	3	A. Davis
Aug 26	Prospect Barrens, <i>HRM</i>	3	BLM

Aug 29 - Sep 22	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	20	DJC
-----------------	-------------------------	----	-----

Other Aug sightings	8 locations, widespread	10 total	var. obs.
Sep 3	Lawrencetown area, <i>HRM</i>	9	DMC, NVG
Sep 5	<i>CSI</i>	5	JAH
Sep 5	Blanche Peninsula, <i>Shel.</i>	31	O. Barden
Sep 9, 12	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	4	SJF, JAH
Sep 11	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	5	NSBS, SEM
Sep 1 - 14	11 locations, widespread	15 total	var. obs.

Hudsonian Godwit

Aug 6, 16	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Aug 17	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	16	JON, SAN
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	4	SEM
Sep 5 - 18	5 locations, widespread	singles	var. obs.
Oct 5, 14	<i>CSI</i>	1, 3	JON

Oct 7	E. Passage area, <i>HRM</i>	5	DAC, FLL, MIK
Oct 7 - 24	5 locations, widespread	singles	var. obs.
ca. Oct 10	<i>CBRM</i>	5	TUY, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 12	Wolfville lagoons, <i>Kings</i>	2	BLF, R. Whitman
Nov 1, 3	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	1	JON, SAN
MARBLED GODWIT (27-31st provincial records)			
Aug 17	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1, photos	RBS
Sep 4, 11	Summerville Bch., <i>Queens</i>	1, photo	RES, S. Tingley
Sep 5 - 26	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	2	SJF, var. obs.
Sep 8	White Point, <i>Lun.</i>	1	J. Loch
BAR-TAILED GODWIT 6th provincial record (likely <i>Limosa lapponica bauerii</i>)			
Sep 7 - 15	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	1	P. Prior, JON, SAN, S. Tingley

Ruddy Turnstone

Aug 7	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	50	K. Lantz
Aug 10	<i>CSI</i>	30	A. Davis
Aug 11	Bird Islands, <i>Vic.</i>	21	J. Phillips
Aug 15	Pleasant Point, <i>HRM</i>	19	SEM
Aug 17	Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>	20	S. Penner
Aug 21	Point Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	10	NSBS, BID
Other Aug sightings	13 locations, widespread	26 total	var. obs
Sep 4	West Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	6	OLB
Sep 5	<i>CSI</i>	7	JAH
Sep 5, 9	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	11, 17	K. Lantz, JAH
Sep 12	Wild Cove, <i>CBRM</i>	6	SEM
Other Sept sightings	16 locations, widespread	33 total	var. obs.
Oct 3	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Oct 3	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Oct 7	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC, FLL, MIK
Oct 9	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	8	BOC, SEM, G. Bruhm

Red Knot

Aug 7, 16	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	12, 2	SJF
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	11 alt.	SEM
Aug 27	Bon Portage I.	1	LUB
Aug 27	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JSC
Aug 29	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	15	DOU, ALD
Aug 29	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	1 juv.	SEM
Sep 1	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	4	VJH
Sep 4	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	50	JON, SAN
Sep 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	5 juv.	NSBS, SEM
Sep 11	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3	JSC
Sep 15	McCormacks Bch., <i>HRM</i>	3	PMU
Sep 2 - 28	8 locations, widespread	12 total	var. obs.
Oct 3	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	3	SJF
Oct 7	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	26	MIK
Oct 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	4	MCM
Oct 14, 31	<i>CSI</i>	57, 47	JON, SAN
Nov 1	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	3	SJF
Nov 23	Daniels Head, <i>CSI</i>	5	JON, SAN

Sanderling

Aug 10	<i>CSI</i>	20	A. Davis
Aug 11, 31	Conrad Bch., <i>HRM</i>	2, 29	DMW
Aug 21	Stoney I. Bch., <i>Shel.</i>	22	BJS, SIS
Aug 21	Point Michaud, <i>Rich.</i>	11	NSBS, BID
Other Aug sightings	7 locations, widespread	24 total	var. obs
Sep 2	Cole Hbr. area, <i>HRM</i>	50	T. Chubbs
Sep 3, 26	South Side Bch., <i>CSI</i>	350+, 100+	BJS, SIS
Sep 4	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	35	OLB
Sep 4	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	70	OLB
Sep 6	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	19	DMC, NVG
Sep 9, 26	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	138, 72	SJF
Sep 11, 19	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	25, 16	JSC
Sep 18	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	75	BLM
Sep 24	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	100+	BJS, SIS
Sep 25	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	32	KJM



This MARBLED GODWIT lingered at Summerville Bch., *Queens*, for some days after "Earl" and was nicely photographed 11 Sep. [Photo Stuart Tingley]

Other Sept sightings	19 locations, widespread	118	var. obs.
Oct 2	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	50	R. Cannings, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 3	Louis Hd., <i>Shel.</i>	60	C. Curry
Oct 3, 13	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	41, 37	SJF
Oct 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	17	MCM
Oct 14	South Side Bch., <i>CSI</i>	175	BJS, SIS
Oct 23	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	32	BJS, SIS
Oct 23, 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	17, 37	KJM
Oct 31	<i>CSI</i>	925	JON, SAN
Other Oct sightings	8 locations, widespread	51 total	var. obs.
Nov 1	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	34	SJF
Nov 4	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	ca. 200	BJS, SIS
Nov 6	Gull I., <i>Pict.</i>	21	KJM
Nov 7	South Side Bch., <i>CSI</i>	12	BJS, SIS
Nov 7, 11	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	27, 12	KJM
Nov 8	L. Debert Bch., <i>Col.</i>	100	ROH
Nov 14, 28	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	10, 15	JSC
Nov 22	Waterside, <i>Pict.</i>	7	KJM
Semipalmated Sandpiper			
Aug 1, 14	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	204, 180	SEM
Aug 2	Delhaven Bch., <i>Kings</i>	500	S. Penner
Aug 3	Pond Cove, Brier I.	200 ad.	ELM
Aug 5	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	6000	S. Penner
Aug 7	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	140	SJF
Aug 10	<i>CSI</i>	500	A. Davis
Aug 22	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	58	SEM
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	210	SEM
Aug 27	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	42	JSC
Aug 27	Fort Point, <i>Shel.</i>	65	BJS, SIS
Aug 28	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	100	S. Penner
Aug 29	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	370	SEM
Other Aug sightings	12 locations, widespread	290 total	var. obs
Sep 1, 5	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	132, 90	SJF
Sep 2	Cole Hbr. area, <i>HRM</i>	300	T. Chubbs
Sep 3	South Side Bch., <i>CSI</i>	ca. 200	BJS, SIS
Sep 3 - 5	2 sites, <i>CBRM</i>	50 total	DBM
Sep 5	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	230	KJM
Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	300	DMC, VNG
Sep 5	<i>CSI</i>	350	OLB
Sep 9	L. Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	52	JAH
Sep 10	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	400+	AND
Sep 11	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	52	JSC
Sep 29	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	ca. 160	RBS
Other Sept sightings	16 locations, widespread	173 total	var. obs.
Oct 2	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	400	R. Cannings

Oct 3, 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	8, 1	KJM	Aug 9	Daniels Hd., CSI	1	JON, SAN
Oct 13	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	13, last	SJF	Aug 14	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad., 1 juv.	HAT
Oct 14	South Side Bch., CSI	15	BJS, SIS	Aug 27	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	HAT
Oct 24	Grand Pré/Wolfville, <i>Kings</i>	8 total	JCT, RBS	Sep 1, 5	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	7, 5	SJF
Oct 31	Daniels Hd., CSI	17	JON, SAN	Sep 5	CSI	11	OLB
Other Oct				Sep 11	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	14	NSBS, SEM
sightings	7 locations, widespread	11 total	var. obs.	Sep 4 - 28	6 locations, widespread	singles	var. obs.
Nov 7	South Side Bch., CSI	6	BJS, SIS	Oct 3 - 4	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	RBS, HAT, LAE
WESTERN SANDPIPER							
Aug 28	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1 juv., details	S. Penner	Oct 7	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	4	DAC, FLL, MIK
Sep 6	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1, photos	DCO, LOC	Oct 9	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	6	BOC, SEM, G. Bruhm
Oct 11	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1 nd	MIK, FLL	Oct 13	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	5	SJF
Least Sandpiper							
Aug 1, 29	Conrad's I., <i>Lun.</i>	11, 47	JAH, K. Lantz	Oct 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Aug 2	Evangeline Bch., <i>Kings</i>	ca. 50	JWW	Oct 23	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	3	BJS, SIS
Aug 3	Pond Cove, Brier I.	20, mainly juvs.	ELM	Oct 29	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	ca. 75	DBM
Aug 5	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	20	S. Penner	Purple Sandpiper			
Aug 7, 15	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	32, 52	SJF, JAH	Sep 26	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	6	SJF
Aug 8, 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	30, 40	KJM	Oct 3	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	12	SJF
Aug 22	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	29	SEM	Nov 29	Point Pleasant, <i>HRM</i>	1	J. Hojberg
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	11	SEM	Dunlin			
Aug 28	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	60	S. Penner	Sep 3	South Side Bch., CSI	1	BJS, SIS
Other Aug				Sep 18	Pond Cove, Brier I.	6	NSBS, WAN
sightings	10 locations, widespread	50 total	var. obs.	Sep 26	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	14	KJM
Sep 1, 22	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	60, 45	SJF	Sep 29	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	ca. 160	RBS
Sep 2, 8	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	200, 50	S. Penner	Sep 8 - 30	8 locations, widespread	10 total	var. obs.
Sep 2	Cole Hbr. area, <i>HRM</i>	20	T. Chubbs	Oct 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	62	MCM
Sep 3	South Side Bch., CSI	17	BJS, SIS	Oct 13	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	50	RBS
Sep 4	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	40	OLB	Oct 13, 18	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	16, 24	SJF
Sep 4	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	10	OLB	Oct 16, 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	28, 45	KJM
Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	20	DMC, NVG	Oct 29	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	10	JSC
Sep 5	McCormacks Bch., <i>HRM</i>	10	DMC, NVG	Oct 31	CSI	200	JON, SAN
Sep 9	L. Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	13	JAH	Other Oct			
Other Sep				sightings	7 locations, widespread	23 total	var. obs.
sightings	18 locations, widespread	50 total	var. obs.	Nov 1	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	22	SJF
Oct 3, 13	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	7, 9	SJF	Nov 7, 13	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	31, 15	KJM
Oct 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM	Nov 8	L. Debert Bch., <i>Col.</i>	200	ROH
White-rumped Sandpiper							
Aug 3	Pond Cove, Brier I.	5	ELM	Nov 11	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	ca. 75	RBS
Aug 7, 15	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	2, 35	SJF, JAH	Nov 11	Glenholme, <i>Col.</i>	20	BLM
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	32	SEM	Nov 28	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	14	JSC
Aug 27	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	8	JAC	Other Nov			
Aug 6 - 29	10 locations, widespread	22 total	var. obs.	sightings	4 locations, widespread	19 total	var. obs.
Sep 1, 5	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	21, 46	SJF	Stilt Sandpiper			
Sep 2	Cole Hbr. area, <i>HRM</i>	35	T. Chubbs	Aug 4, 9	CSI	1, 2	JON, SAN
Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	40	DMC, NVG	Sep 4	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	1	OLB
Sep 5	CSI	25	OLB	Sep 5	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 29	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	ca. 160	RBS	Oct 2	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	DOU
Other Sep				Buff-breasted Sandpiper			
sightings	14 locations, widespread	42 total	var. obs.	Aug 21, 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1, photos	KJM, DOU
Oct 2	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	10	R. Cannings	Aug 27	Lower Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, DAW
Oct 3, 13	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	17, 12	SJF	Aug 28	Bon Portage I.	2	LUB
Oct 10	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	13	DMC, NVG	Aug 29	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1, 4	var. obs.
Oct 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	22	MCM	Sep 3 - 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	4	var. obs.
Oct 13	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	30	RBS	Sep 5, 9	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3, 4	SJF, et al.
Oct 16, 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	29, 41	KJM	Sep 6	Shearwater Airport, <i>HRM</i>	30+	C. Hawkins, fide BLM
Oct 24	Grand Pré & Wolfville	16 total	JCT, RBS	Sep 11	Sydney Airport, <i>CBRM</i>	3	NSBS, SEM
Other Oct				Sep 13	Cape Sable, <i>Shel.</i>	9	S. Tingley
sightings	5 locations, widespread	13 total	var. obs.	Sep 22	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3	SJF
Nov 6, 11	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	18, 11	KJM	Sep 2 - 19	8 locations, widespread	singles	var. obs.
Nov 7, 13	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	13, 3	KJM	RUFF			
Nov 8	L. Debert Bch., <i>Col.</i>	50	ROH	Oct 7	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Baird's Sandpiper							
Aug 7	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF	Oct 29	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	1, photos	ALM, CAM, DBM
Aug 22	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	5 juv.	AGH	Short-billed Dowitcher			
Aug 22 - 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	DOU, ALD	Aug 1	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	215	SEM
Sep 1 - 10	9 locations, widespread	15 total	var. obs.	Aug 1	Conrad's I., <i>Lun.</i>	53	JAH
Sep 6	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	6	HAT	Aug 2	3 Fathom, <i>HRM</i>	309	SEM
Sep 7	Cabot Landing, <i>Vic.</i>	ca. 5	FMC	Aug 6, 12	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	290, 310	JSC
Sep 10	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	4+	HAT	Aug 7	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	40	K. Lantz
Oct 7, 29	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	2	MIK, D. Garratt	Aug 7	Sonora, <i>Guys.</i>	39	SEM
Pectoral Sandpiper							
Aug 5	Long I., <i>Kings</i>	1	S. Penner	Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	70	KJM
Aug 7	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF	Aug 10	CSI	50	A. Davis
				Aug 17	Cole Hbr. marsh, <i>HRM</i>	30	S. Penner

Aug 20	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	53	JSC	Sep 9	off Brier I.	5-10,000	P. Prior
Aug 21	Wolfville, <i>Kings</i>	21	JCT	WILSON'S PHALAROPE			
Aug 22	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	62	SEM	Sep 30	W. Lawrencetown marsh, <i>HRM</i>	1 possible	SMB
Aug 29	Conrad's I., <i>Lun.</i>	31	JAH, K. Lantz	Red-necked Phalarope			
Other Aug sightings	8 locations, widespread	66 total var. obs		Aug 1	Ledges area, off Brier I.	5	ELM, Ahm
Sep 1	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	13	SJF	Aug 22	off Halifax Hbr.	12+	DAC, BLM, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 3	South Side Bch., CSI	18	BJS, SIS	Sep 4	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 m., dead	DJC
Sep 5	E. Chezzetcook, <i>HRM</i>	50	DMC, NVG	Sep 4	Northwest Arm, <i>HRM</i>	1	C. Majka
Sep 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	43	NSBS, SEM	Sep 5	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Sep 11	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	21	JSC	Sep 5	outer Halifax Hbr.	30	MIK, FLL
Sep 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	22	KJM	Sep 6	off Halifax Hbr.	10	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 26	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	2	SJF	Sep 6	Digby-Saint John ferry	25	OLB
Other Sept sightings	9 locations, widespread	41 total	var. obs.	Sep 6	Brier I.	20	S. Penner
Oct 4	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JSC	Sep 18	off Brier I.	ca. 1400	NSBS, WAN
Oct 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM	Red Phalarope			
Oct 29	Cole Hbr. marsh, <i>HRM</i>	20	M. Zelenietz	Aug 1	NW Ledge, off Brier I.	5000+	ELM, AHM
LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER				Aug 22	off Halifax Hbr.	1-2	DAC, BLM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 31	Daniels Hd., CSI	2	JON, SAN	Sep 4	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	9	OLB
Wilson's Snipe				Sep 4	West Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	1	OLB
Aug 4, 21	<i>Anna., Pict.</i>	singles	var. obs.	Sep 5	CSI	1	OLB
Oct 7 - 14	3 locations, <i>HRM</i>	4 total	var. obs.	Sep 5	outer Halifax Hbr.	20	MIK, FLL
Oct 10	Brier I.	3	KJM	Sep 6	off Halifax Hbr.	2	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 25	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	4	DOU	Sep 6	off Brier I.	200	S. Penner
Oct 31	Cheticamp I., <i>Inv.</i>	1	TUY, <i>et al.</i>	Sep 9	off Brier I.	huge flocks	P. Prior
American Woodcock				Sep 18	off Brier I.	ca. 1350	NSBS, WAN
Aug	3 locations, mainland	singles	var. obs.	Sep 18	off Brier I.	3000	KJM
Sep 19	Brier I.	2	NSBS	Sep 24	George's Bank, <i>Yar.</i>	80	C. Vogel
Sep 24	Milford Station, <i>Col.</i>	4 juvs.	<i>fide</i> KAM	Sep 27	NW Ledge area, off Brier I.	ca. 250	ELM
Oct 23, 31	<i>Lun., HRM</i>	singles	var. obs.	Oct 10	Northern Light, Brier I.	1 ad., dead	NSBS, ELM
Oct 29	Brier I.	6, arrivals	ELM				
phalarope species							
ca. Aug 10	off Rafuse I., Mahone Bay	20-30	B. & C. Bennett				

Gulls through Alcids

By Eric Mills

Hurricane *Earl* tracked along the US east coast, following the edge of the continental shelf from Florida to Cape Cod, and then as a post-tropical storm crossed Nova Scotia on Sep 4, 2010, from S of Cape Sable at 1200 UTC (0900 ADT) to eastern Northumberland Strait at 1800 UTC (1500 ADT), bringing with it unprecedented numbers of storm-driven seabirds from the US eastern seaboard. While storms in the past may have equalled *Earl*, we have no record of this from the lightly-birded Nova Scotia of the 1920s through the early 1960s. This time a sizable birding community was ready and waiting. The results were truly remarkable. At least 23 species were displaced by the storm, four of which are documented in my earlier section, Tubenoses through Cormorants. But the majority were gulls, terns and their allies, listed here. We were action-central after this storm; Maine got some numbers of Laughing Gulls, Forster's Terns and Black Skimmers but nothing like the numbers from Nova Scotia.

In summary, the numbers of all storm-driven species reported include the following: LAUGHING GULL - about 3000; FRANKLIN'S GULL - 1; LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL - about 40 (from September 5 to November 1, probably separate from fall arrivals); BRIDLED TERN - 1 (first Canadian record, photographed); LEAST TERN - 5; GULL-BILLED TERN - 8; CASPIAN TERN - 18; BLACK TERN - 12; ROSEATE TERN - 6; COMMON TERN - about 625 (to about Sep 25); ARCTIC TERN - 16; FORSTER'S TERN - 90; ROYAL TERN - 39; SANDWICH TERN - 9; BLACK SKIMMER - about 150; SOUTH POLAR SKUA - 2; POMARINE JAEGER - 7; PARASITIC JAEGER - 11; and LONG-TAILED JAEGER - 2.

The records below show some fascinating patterns of behaviour by these displaced birds, some of which returned very quickly to the south, while others continued to drift by, or to remain in place in some cases, for several weeks. Species that disappeared quickly included FRANKLIN'S GULL (Sep 6 - the only report); SANDWICH TERN (Sep 4-8); GULL-BILLED TERN (Sep 5-7); CASPIAN TERN - Sep 4-9; ARCTIC TERN (Sep 4-6); LEAST TERN (Sep 4-5); BLACK TERN (Sep 4-5); BRIDLED TERN (September 4-9); SOUTH POLAR SKUA (Sep 4-5); and LONG-TAILED JAEGER (Sep 4-6).

A few species continued to pass through for a little longer, for example, ROSEATE TERN (Sep 4-13 - one reported on Nov 13 was exceptionally late and may have been associated with *Earl*); FORSTER'S TERN (Sep 4-12); ROYAL TERN (Sep 4-11, one on the 22nd); and COMMON TERN (Sep 5-25 - seventy-two, nearly all adults, on Sep 17, indicate that significant number of birds were still on the move two weeks after the storm). Some LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLS were clearly storm-strays, judging by the numbers seen from 4 Sep through early October; after that it is difficult to separate storm effects from the seasonal

arrival of overwintering birds.

LAUGHING GULLS, the most abundant of the displaced birds, continued to be abundant for at least three weeks after 4 Sep, evident in parking lots, around fast food restaurants, on lawns and in parks, and moving along the coast. A good deal of this was due to turnover as birds displaced to the north of us made their way back to the SW. After the first week or so, most of the individuals noted were immatures - most adults, presumably being more experienced, seem to have left here post-haste. After the third week of October there were no more reports except for a lone immature seen on Big Island, *Pict.*, in early December, possibly a storm-stray.

BLACK SKIMMERS showed a similar pattern, but their return was more protracted, spread through September into early November. Most of the birds that appeared to be long-staying in some locations actually represented turnover: for example, Shirley Cohrs' meticulous notes from Crescent Beach, *Lun.*, indicate that the "flock" there between 10 Oct and 8 Nov was really a series of small flocks that stopped over briefly before moving SW along the coast. Three immatures that arrived on Brier Island on the afternoon of 30 Oct appeared exhausted and clearly had been on the move for a long time. Where had they been for the preceding eight weeks? In the upper Bay of Fundy? In the Gulf of St. Lawrence? Or just wandering about the region?

Hurricane Earl overshadowed all else, but there were outstanding records of birds not associated with the storm. Immature LAUGHING GULLS appeared in August and early September. Very large numbers of BONAPARTE'S GULLS had appeared in their usual Pictou Co. locations by late September, where they persisted into early winter. Twelve BLACK-HEADED GULLS in Halifax harbour on 7 Nov were a little above average now that the gull-friendly sewage has been turned off again. A lone adult MEW (COMMON) GULL seen from a research vessel in Halifax harbour on Nov 7 was the only one of the season. LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLS had returned to the Grand Pré, Kings, fields by early October, and there were three reports of the dark-mantled western European race *Larus fuscus intermedius*, two of them documented in notes and photographs. Most of our birds are the paler-mantled *L. f. graellsii* from the UK or, most likely, Iceland. Three GREAT SKUAS were reported, one of them documented in notes, the others seen by observers who know the species. One of them, off Brier Island, was among the few plausible reports from that area. Tom Kavanaugh's estimate of several hundred DOVEKIES off Canso on 29 Oct was an indication of a Dovekie-winter to come. More than 200 ATLANTIC PUFFINS north of Brier Island on 27 Sep appear to have been birds dispersing from local breeding colonies, but probably supplemented by birds from colonies to the north.

Black-legged Kittiwake

Aug 1	Off Brier I.	2 ad.	ELM
Aug 10	E. Gunning Rock, Canso	50	ELM, BLM, TOK
Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	2	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 5	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	2	OLB, ISL
	CSI	5	OLB, ISL
Sep 6	Digby-Saint John ferry	5	OLB
Sep 17, 18	Brier I.	2/15	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 23	Paddys Hd., <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM
Sep 26, 27	Northern Pt., Brier I.	6, 3	ELM
Oct 8	Sandy Cove-Tiverton, <i>Digby</i>	1	KJM
Oct 9	Northern Pt., Brier I.	50+	ELM, NSBS
Oct 10, 11	Northern Pt., Brier I.	100+, 200	ELM, NSBS

Bonaparte's Gull

(Summary, partially based on eBird submissions)

Aug 1	R. Bourgeois, <i>Rich.</i>	4	RIV
Aug 8 - 14	Conrads Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	4-19	DMW
Aug 15	Wallace Bay NWA, <i>Cum.</i>	5	SYP
Aug 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	85	KJM
Sep 4	Rainbow Haven PP, <i>HRM</i>	10	MIK
Sep 6	W. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	10	MIK
	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	DOC
Sep 11	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	Est. 500	KJM
Sep 12, 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	145, 75	KJM
Sep 12 - 15	Antigonish area.	13-55	Robert Lacelle III
Sep 18	Brier I.	1	JAH
	Rainbow Haven, <i>HRM</i>	12	AGH, RIC
Sep 19	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Sep 21	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	3	CAM, ALM
Sep 25	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	2000	KJM
Sep 27	Off Brier I.	1 ad.	ELM
Oct 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	405	KJM
Oct 18	Waterside PP., <i>Pict.</i>	500	KJM
Oct 30	Antigonish	5	KJM
	Aulds Cove, <i>Inv.</i>	50	
Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	100	KJM
Nov 1	Chance Hbr., <i>Pict.</i>	420	KJM

Nov 6	Haliburton Gut, <i>Pict.</i>	300	KJM
Nov 7, 11	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	80, 165	KJM
Nov 12	Conrads Bch., <i>HRM</i>	3	DMW
Nov 13	Chance Hbr., <i>Pict.</i>	ca. 2000	KJM
Nov 20	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	12	JAH
Nov 28	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	8	JAH
Black-headed Gull			
Aug 8	Conrads Bch., <i>HRM</i>	14	DMW
Aug 20	Markland, <i>Vic.</i>	1	Neil Heinekamp
Sep 4	Rainbow Haven PP., <i>HRM</i>	3	MIK
Sep 5	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3	KEL
Sep 6	W. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	3	MIK
	Rose Bay / Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	6	JAH
Sep 8	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH
Sep 9	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Sep 9 - 11	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH
Sep 21	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	2	CAM, ALM
Sep 28	Rainbow Haven, <i>HRM</i>	15	AGH, RIC
Oct 10	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOC, NVG
Oct 24	Pictou	1	KJM
Oct 30	Antigonish	3	KJM
Nov 7	Halifax Hbr.	12	OLB
Nov 11	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	STV, Amber Vines
Nov 12 - 23	Conrads Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1-15	DMW
Nov 20	First South, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Nov 28	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
LITTLE GULL (26th NS record if accepted)			
Nov 11	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 ad. (nd)	STV, Amber Vines
Laughing Gull			
Aug 6	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1, 2nd-w.	DEG, SJF
Sep 2	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1, 2nd-cy.	AGH
Sep 4	Big Tancook I., <i>Lun.</i>	2 imm.	Hillary Dionne
	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	8	OLB, ISL
	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	5	OLB, ISL
	W. Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	65	OLB, ISL

Sep 4	Broad Cove - Cres Bch., Lun.	37	OLB, ISL
	Liverpool - Lunenburg	200+	OLB, ISL
	Western Hd. area, Queens	300+	DOP, et al.
	Baccaro, Shel.	9	JON, et al.
	Daniels Hd., CSI	1 ad., 6 imm.	MUN, JON, et al.
Sep 4 - Oct 6	Lockeport, Shel	"hundreds"	DJC
Sep 4 - Oct 6	Liverpool, Queens	"hundreds"	DJC
Sep 5	Hartlen Pt. area, HRM	5	MIK, BLM, et al.
	Eastern Passage, HRM	1	HAT
	Shearwater, HRM	11 ad., 4 imm.	MIK
	E. Petpeswick, HRM	1	BLM, NIF
	Martinique Bch., HRM	1	BLM, NIF
	Conrads Bch., HRM	1	BLM, NIF
	Meisners L., HRM	1	BLM, NIF
	Bayswater Bch. PP, Lun.	6-10	BLF, Rick Whitman
	Kingsburg Bch., Lun.	1	KEL
	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	8+	SJF
	Carters & Summerville Bchs., Queens	ca. 10	Ruth E. Smith
	Port Joli, Queens	20	JOA
	Lockeport, Shel.	90	OLB, ISL
	Little Hbr.-Baccaro, Shel.	64	OLB, ISL
	CSI	104	OLB, ISL
	Shelburne	4	OLB, ISL
	Brier I.	ca. 23	WPN, Larry Neily
Sep 6	Eastern Passage	2 ad., 1 imm.	MIK
	Cow Bay, HRM	1	HAT, et al.
	Hartlen Pt., HRM	5 ad.	MIK
	W. Lawrencetown, HRM	3 ad., 2 imm.	MIK
	Three Fathom Hbr., HRM	2	DOU
	Conrads Bch., HRM	2	DOU
	Lawrencetown L., HRM	3	DOU
	Second Pen., Lun.	1 imm.	JAH
	Rose Bay / Kingsburg, Lun.	5 imm.	JAH
	Hirtles Bch., Lun.	ca. 45	BLM, et al.
	Kingsburg Bch., Lun.	1	BLM
	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	17	OLB, ISL
	Western Hd., Queens	108	OLB, ISL
	Liverpool, Queens	103	OLB, ISL
	White Pt. area, Queens	86	OLB, ISL
	Port Joli area, Queens	10	JOA
	CSI area	100+	fide JON, Eagle Eye
	E. Ferry, Digby	1	Tour
	Digby-Saint John ferry	1	SYP
	Off Brier I.	6	SYP
	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	5	fide DAC
Sep 7	Hirtles Bch., Lun.	ca. 10	John Loch
	Crescent Bch., Lun.	ca. 6	John Loch
	CSI	12	Eagle Eye
Sep 8	Kingsburg Bch., Lun.	3 imm.	MIK
	Hirtles Bch., Lun.	12	JAH
	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	3	JAH, et al.
	Parking area, Liverpool, Queens	42	JOA
	Blanche, Shel.	2	JON, SAN
	The Hawk, CSI	5	JON, SAN
	Westport, Brier I.	22	Eagle Eye
Sep 8 - 12	Kingsburg Bch., Lun.	3-12	Tour
Sep 9	Hartlen Pt., HRM	4 ad., 2 imm.	JAH, KEL
	Conrads Bch., HRM	8	MIK
	Lunenburg-Rose Bay, Lun.	3	FLL
Sep 10	Hirtles Bch., Lun.	8	JAH
	Broad Cove, Lun.	30+	HAT
	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	3	HAT
	Keji NP Seaside, Queens	5	JAH
	Causeway, CS	1	JAH
	Halifax parking area	6	JON
			DOM



Among the LAUGHING GULLS brought by "Earl," were many juveniles, like this one at Broad Cove, Lun. [Photo Hans Toom]

Sep 11	Hirtles Bch., Lun.	13	SIT, AGH
	Downtown Liverpool, Queens	265	SIT
	Beach Meadows PP, Queens	5 ad., 1 imm.	SIT
	Summerville Bch., Queens	45	SIT
	Bridgewater-Summerville	Est. 600	SIT
	Caribou I., Pict.	1 imm.	KJM
	Louisbourg, CBRM	1	LEL
Sep 12	Kingsburg Bch., Lun.	1	RSM
	Oxners Bch., Lun.	5	KEL
	Mahone Bay, Lun.	"several"	RSM
	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	7	JAH
	Brownsville, Pict.	1 imm.	KJM
Sep 14	Sandy Cove, HRM	1	NVG
Sep 15 - Oct 3	Big I., Pict.	1	DOU
Sep 17 - 19	Brier I.	max. 221	KJM, JAH, et al.
	Liverpool area, Queens	80, most imm.	ELM
Sep 18	Sambro, HRM	"several"	HAT
Sep 20	Big I., Pict.	1 ad.	KJM
Sep 21	Morien Bar, CBRM	1 ad., ph	CAM, ALM
Sep 25	Liverpool area, Queens	40+ most imm.	ELM



The LAUGHING GULLS brought by "Earl" congregated around fast-food restaurants, like this frenzy Sept. 11 in Liverpool. Some noted that this is a common practice in their normal winter range in S.E. U.S.A. [Photo S. Tingley]

Sep 28	CBU campus, Sydney, <i>CBRM</i>	1 imm.	DBM
	Sydney airport, <i>CBRM</i>	1 imm., ph	CAM, ALM
Sep 29	Sambro, <i>HRM</i>	1	AGH, RIC
Oct 2	Gull I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 imm.	KJM
Oct 3	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 8, 9	Brier I.	2 imm.	ELM, NSBS
Oct 14	Daniels Hd., CSI	1	JON
ca. Oct 21	Duck L., Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS
FRANKLIN'S GULL (24th NS record if accepted)			
Sep 6	Northeast Pt., CSI	1 (nd)	<i>fide</i> JON
MEW (COMMON) GULL			
Nov 7	Halifax Hbr.	1 ad.	OLB
Ring-billed Gull			
Aug - Nov	Widespread throughout. Selected reports follow		
Aug 4	Belleisle, <i>Anna.</i>	40	SYP
Aug 6	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1 ad.	SYP, SJF
Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	70	KJM
Aug 13	Conrad's I., Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1 ad.	ELM
Aug 20	Markland, <i>Vic.</i>	1	Neil Heinekamp
Sep 1, 2	Wolfville, <i>Kings</i>	2-10	SYP
Sep 4	W. Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	5	OLB, ISL
	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	4	OLB, ISL
Sep 5	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	4	DBM
	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	2	OLB, ISL
	CSI	10	OLB, ISL
Sep 6	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	OLB, ISL
Sep 13	Port Hood, <i>Inv.</i>	5	Robert LaCelle III
	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	250	KJM
Sep 13 - 16	Dartmouth area	3-25	Lynn Karchewski
Sep 14 - 18	Antigonish area	max. 45	Robert LaCelle III
Sep 18	Brier I.	2	KJM
Sep 25	Waterside PP., <i>Pict.</i>	120	KJM
Sep 27	Pond Cove, Brier I.	1 ad.	ELM
Sep 28	CBU campus, Sydney, <i>CBRM</i>	ca. 25	DBM
	Rainbow Haven, <i>HRM</i>	170	AGH, RIC
Oct 3	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	114	KJM
Oct 8 - 10	Brier I.	10+	ELM, KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 10	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	100	DAC
	Sullivans Pd., Dartmouth	40	DOC, NVG
Oct 13 - 24	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	100-160	RBS
Oct 24	Wolfville SP, <i>Kings</i>	160	RBS
Oct 26	Pt. George, <i>Anna.</i>	10	RBS
Oct 27	Ft. Lawrence, <i>Cum.</i>	50	Denis Lepage
Oct 29	Westport, Brier I.	1, 1st-w.	ELM
Oct 30	Westport, Brier I.	1 ad.	ELM
	Antigonish town	140	KJM
Nov 8	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	40	JSC
Nov 11	Brule, <i>Col.</i>	500+	KJM
Nov 12	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	2	KFS
Nov 20 - 23	Sullivans Pd. Dartmouth	13-20	DOC, NVG
Nov 21	Birch Cove, Halifax	25	Marty Zeleneitz
Nov 26 - 28	Onslow, <i>Col.</i>	10-65	DOC, <i>et al.</i>
Nov 27	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	8	DBM
	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	NVG
Herring Gull			
August -	Abundant throughout		
November	Abundant throughout		
Iceland Gull			
Nov 11	Windsor sewage pds., Hants	1	RBS
Nov 20	Arisaig, <i>Ant.</i>	1	KJM
	Livingstone Cove, <i>Ant.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 21	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	2	KJM
	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	DJC
Nov 23	Purdy's Wharf, Halifax	26	DEG
Nov 27	Glace Bay, <i>CBRM</i>	6	DBM
	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	NSBS
	Pt. Pleasant Pk., Halifax	1	PAC
Nov 29	Seal I. area, <i>Yar.</i>	5	KGI
	New Glasgow, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM

Lesser Black-backed Gull			
Sep 4	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB, ISL
	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB, ISL
	W. Berlin, <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB, ISL
Sep 5	Lawrencetown R., <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	BLM, NIF
Sep 6	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	3	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 7	Pond Cove, Brier I.	1 ad., 1-3rd-yr	Eagle Eye
Tour			
Sep 8	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1 ad.	Eagle Eye Tour
Sep 11	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 ad, ph.	KJM
Sep 12	Johnsons Pd., <i>Shel.</i>	1 ad., ph.	Ross Crosby, <i>fide</i> DJC
Sep 13	Gull I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
	Waterside PP., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Sep 19	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1 <i>intermedius</i>	DEG
Sep 21	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1, 1st-yr	FLL
Sep 25	Beach Meadows PP, <i>Queens</i>	1, 3rd-yr	ELM
	Eagle Hd. beach, <i>Queens</i>	1 ad.; 1, 3rd-yr	ELM
	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	1 ad.	KJM
Sep 29	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	2 ad.	RBS
Sep 30	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Oct 7	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Oct 8	Pond Cove, Brier I.	1, 1st-w.	ELM, KJM
Oct 10	Pond Cove, Brier I.	1 ad.	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 11	N of Kentville, <i>Kings</i>	2 ad.	RBS
Oct 14	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	8 ad.	RBS
Oct 18 - 24	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1-8	RBS, JCT, DOU
Oct 28	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	4 ad.	JCT
Oct 30	Pea Jack Cove, Brier I.	1 ad. <i>intermedius</i>	ELM
Nov 1 - Dec	Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad. <i>intermedius</i> , ph.	Dennis Garrett
Nov 8	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM
Nov 27	Hd of Prospect Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1 returned	BLM
Great Black-backed Gull			
August -	Abundant throughout		
November	Abundant throughout		
BRIDLED TERN (first Canadian record)			
Sep 4, 9	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1, ph.	KA, Jen Rock / MIK
LEAST TERN (20th thru 24th NS records)			
Sep 4	Daniels Hd., CSI	1	MUN, JON, <i>et al.</i>
	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	DEG
	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	1 imm., ph.	DOP
Sep 5	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
	The Hawk, CSI	1	OLB, ISL
GULL-BILLED TERN (18th thru 26th NS records)			
Sep 5 - 7	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF, JRH, <i>et al.</i>
	E. Petpeswick, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, NIF
Sep 6	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad., photo	m.obs
	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1, ph.	HAT
Sep 6 - 10	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1 imm.	OLB, ISL, <i>et al.</i>
	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
Sep 7	W. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	JUO, GDE
Caspian Tern			
Sep 4	Daniels Hd., CSI	1	MUN, JON, <i>et al.</i>
	Western Hd. area, <i>Queens</i>	2	DOP
	Hirtles Pd., <i>Lun.</i>	1	SYP
	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	DEG
Sep 5	Hirtles Pd., <i>Lun.</i>	1	KEL
Sep 6	W. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU
	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	1	OLB, ISL
Sep 7	W. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	3	JUO, GDE
Sep 8	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	MIK
Sep 9	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH

Photo Gallery - More of What the Wind Blew In...



This BLACK SKIMMER 9 Sep at Cow Bay, *HRM*, was a juvenile, with strong pale fringes of its wing coverts and mantle. [Photo Rick Reid]



FORSTER'S TERN, this one at Cherry Hill Bch PP, was not very common among "Earl" arrivals. [Photo Hans Toom]



This spread of terns 9 Sep on Hirtles Beach, *Lun.*, includes two species – distinctive enough. [Photo John Loch]



The most outstanding bird brought here by "Earl" was this BRIDLED TERN, 4 Sep at Hartlen Pt., *HRM*. It was a first for Canada, and unfortunately departed soon after being found by the photographer and companion, although found and photographed some days later by a lucky third observer. The nearly black cap and narrow pale fringes on the gray mantle indicate that it was a rarely-seen winter adult, which spend their life at sea at this season. [Photo Karel Allard]



The magnificent ROYAL TERN, this one 7 Sep at Hirtles Bch., *Lun.*, was one of the birding prizes of Hurricane "Earl." [Photo Sandy McClearn]

Sep 11 - 17	Red Bridge Pd., Dartmouth	1-2	BBU	Arctic Tern			
Sep 16	Dartmouth Crossing	1	Lynn Karchewski, DOU	Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	1	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
				Sep 4	Daniels Hd., CSI	6	MUN, JON, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 2	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	DOU, ALD		Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	2	OLB, ISL
Oct 7	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	2	<i>fide</i> DAC		W. Berlin, <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB, ISL
Black Tern					Hirtles Pd., <i>Lun.</i>	2	SYP
Aug 11	APBS	6	KFS	Sep 5	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Aug 18	Nr Grassy I., Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	TOK		Blanche, <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB, ISL
Aug 20	Off Flint I., <i>CBRM</i>	1 ph.	CAM, ALM		CSI	2	OLB, ISL
Sep 4	W. Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	2	OLB, ISL	Sep 6	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	BLM
	Beach Meadows, <i>Queens</i>	6	OLB, ISL		Digby-Saint John ferry	1	OLB, Isabel Lechasseur
	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	2	OLB, ISL				
Sep 5	Roseway, <i>Shel.</i>	2	OLB, ISL	FORSTER'S TERN			
Roseate Tern				Sep 4	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	DEG
Sep 4	Daniels Hd., CSI	3	MUN, JON, <i>et al.</i>		LaHave R. nr Bridgewater, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
	W. Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	1	OLB, ISL		Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
	Pt. Medway, <i>Queens</i>	1	OLB, ISL		Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	7	OLB, ISL
Sep 13	Cape Sable, CSI	1 ad.	SIT		Western Hd. area, <i>Queens</i>	1	DOP, OLB, ISL
Nov 13	Conrads Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	DEG		W. Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	2	OLB, ISL
Common Tern					Pt. Medway, <i>Queens</i>	2	OLB, ISL
Aug 1	Westport hbr., Brier I.	3	ELM	Sep 5	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, <i>et al.</i>
Aug 2	Westport hbr., Brier I.	5 ad., 1 imm.	ELM		Blandford / Bayswater, <i>Lun.</i>	4	BLF, Rick Whitman
Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	40	KJM		Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	SJF
Aug 8 - 11	Conrads Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1-6	DMW		Port Joli area, <i>Queens</i>	"several"	JOA
Aug 14	Fort Pt., Liverpool	2 ad.	ELM		Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	2	OLB, ISL
Aug 20 - 29	Lunenburg area, <i>Lun.</i>	24	JAH, <i>et al.</i>		Roseway, <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB, ISL
Aug 21 - Sep 4	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	60	KJM		Blanche, <i>Shel.</i>	6	OLB, ISL
Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	8	KJM, <i>et al.</i>		CSI	2	OLB, ISL
Sep 3	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	12	JAH	Sep 5 - 6	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3-6	KEL, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 4	Rainbow Haven PP, <i>HRM</i>	5	MIK	Sep 6	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	10	MIK, DOU
	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	10	JAH		W. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	2	MIK
	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	6	OLB, ISL		Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	15	OLB, ISL		Scotian Shelf off Halifax	1	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
	W. Berlin-Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	11	OLB, ISL		Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	4	OLB, ISL
Sep 4 - 6	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	6	m. obs.		Summerville Ctre., <i>Queens</i>	2	OLB, ISL
	Daniels Hd. CSI	9	MUN, JON, <i>et al.</i>		The Hawk, CSI	1	Eagle Eye Tours
Sep 4 - 11	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	9	m. obs.	Sep 7	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 5	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK		Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	Eagle Eye Tours
	Baccaro-Blanche, <i>Shel.</i>	22	OLB, ISL		Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	John Loch
	CSI	30	OLB, ISL	Sep 8	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	4	MIK
	Gull I., <i>Pict.</i>	75	KJM		Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM		E. LaHave, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Sep 6	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	BLM	Sep 9	Port Joli area, <i>Queens</i>	2	JOA
	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	OLB, ISL		Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, CLS
	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	10+	DAC, <i>et al.</i>		Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH, <i>et al.</i>
	Beaver Hbr. & area, <i>HRM</i>	15	KJM		Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
	Digby-St. John ferry	10	OLB, ISL	Sep 10	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	HAT
Sep 8	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	7	MIK		Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH, DAW
Sep 9	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH	Sep 11	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	SIT
Sep 10	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	4	HAT		Summerville Bch., <i>Queens</i>	3	SIT
Sep 11	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	SIT	Sep 12	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	4	JAH
	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	"handfuls"	KJM		Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Sep 12	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	"a few"	RSM	ROYAL TERN (41 previous NS records, 24 from Hurricane Wilma)			
Sep 12 - 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	68+	KJM	Sep 4	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 ad., ph.	KJM
	Mahoneys Bch., <i>Ant.</i>	20	Robert LaCelle III		Rainbow Haven PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, DEG, FLL
Sep 14, 15	Antigonish area, <i>Ant.</i>	76	Robert LaCelle III		Daniels Hd. CSI	1	MUN, JON, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 13	Cape Sable, CSI	"small flock"	SIT	Sep 4, 5	CSI	2	OLB
Sep 17	Conrads I., Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	72, mostly ad.	ELM	Sep 5	Daniels Hd., CSI	1 ad, banded	OLB, ISL
Sep 18, 19	Brier I.	4	KJM, <i>et al.</i>		CSI - Barrington Pass., <i>Shel.</i>	3	OLB, Isabelle Lechasseur
Sep 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	50	KJM		Martins Brook, CSI	1	BLF, Rick Whitman
	Annapolis Royal, <i>Ann.</i>	4	Robert Scranton		Eastern Passage area, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 21	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH		Nr Devils I, Halifax hbr.	9	FLL
Sep 25	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	25	KJM		Port Joli, <i>Queens</i>	1	JOA
	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	50	KJM		Mira Gut, <i>CBRM</i>	1 ph.	CAM, ALM
Oct 2	Waterside PP., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM				
Oct 16 - 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	12	KJM				
Oct 24	Browns Pt., <i>Pict.</i>	13	KJM				

Sep 6	W. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	m. obs	Sep 17	Pond Cove, Brier I.	3	JAH
	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK	Sep 22	Causeway, <i>CSI</i>	6	JON
	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, HAT	Sep 25	Conrad's I., Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	5	ELM
	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	1	Eagle Eye	Sep 30,			
Sep 7	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	Tours	Oct 3 - 5	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	7/9	JSC
	BPI	2	John Loch	Oct 10	Seaforth, <i>HRM</i>	1	KAM
			<i>fide</i> Brad		Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	7	JSC
			Woodworth	Oct 17	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JSC
Sep 7, 8	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	Jill MacLean,	Oct 29	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JSC
			JAH	Oct 30	Westport, Brier I.	3 imm.	ELM
Sep 8	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	1	JON, SAN	Nov 4, 5	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3 ad., 2 imm.	BLF, JSC
	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH	Nov 6	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3	JSC
Sep 9	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH, <i>et al.</i>	Nov 8	Crescent Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3	JSC
	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, <i>et al.</i>	GREAT SKUA			
Sep 11	Morien Bar, <i>CBRM</i>	1 ad.	SEM, NSBS	Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	2	KJM, DAC,
Sep 11, 12	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1/3	JAH				<i>et al.</i>
Sep 22	Prospect village, <i>HRM</i>	1	Peter Browne	Sep 5	Off Brier I.	1	WPN,
SANDWICH TERN (37 previous records, 33 from Hurricane Wilma)							Larry Neily
Sep 4	Hirtles Pd., <i>Lun.</i>	1	SYP	Oct 29	Off Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	2	TOK
Sep 5, 6	Shearwater area, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, SMB	Nov 8	Sable I. Bank	2	OLB
	E. Petpeswick, <i>HRM</i>	3	BLM, NIF	SOUTH POLAR SKUA			
Sep 6	Three Fathom Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK	Sep 4	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1 ad.	MIK
	W. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, SEM,	Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, FLL
			Pat McKay	Pomarine Jaeger			
Sep 6, 7	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	DOC, BLM,	Aug 22	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	2	KJM, DAC,
			<i>et al.</i>				<i>et al.</i>
Sep 8	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	MIK	Sep 4	Hartlen Pt. area, <i>HRM</i>	3	MIK
BLACK SKIMMER (6 previous records of singles, plus hundreds with Hurricane Gladys, and 12 from Hurricane Wilma)					Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	DEG
Sep 4	W. Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	1	OLB, ISL	Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK, FLL
	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	Robert Turner,	Sep 6	Scotian Shelf off Halifax	3	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
			DJC	Sep 12	Oxners Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	KEL
	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	6	MUN, JON,	Sep 27	Off Brier I.	1 ad.	ELM
			<i>et al.</i>	Parasitic Jaeger			
Sep 4, 5	Causeway, <i>CSI</i>	4	OLB, ISL	Sep 4	Hartlen Pt. area, <i>HRM</i>	6	MIK
Sep 5	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	16	OLB, ISL	Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	3	MI, FLL
	Blanche, <i>Shel.</i>	12	OLB, ISL	Sep 11	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 probable	KJM
	Carters Bch., <i>Queens</i>	1	RES	Sep 14	Antigonish hbr., <i>Ant.</i>	1	Robert
	Lockeport area, <i>Shel.</i>	10	OLB, ISL				LaCelle III
	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2 imm.	SJF	Sep 20	Grand Pre, <i>Kings</i>	1	LUB
	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1 imm.	MIK, HAT,	Sep 26	Northern Pt., Brier I.	2+	RBS
			<i>et al.</i>	Sep 27	Off Brier I.	2	ELM
Sep 6	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1 ad., 2 imm.	MIK, DEG	Oct 9	Northern Pt., Brier I.	3	ELM, NSBS
	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	2 ad.	MIK	Oct 30	Northern Pt., Brier I.	1 ad.	ELM
	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT	LONG-TAILED JAEGER			
	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH	Sep 4	W. Berlin, <i>Queens</i>	1 imm., ph.	OLB, ISL
	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	KEL, BLM,	Sep 6	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
			<i>et al.</i>	Jaeger sp.			
	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	3	OLB, ISL	Oct 29	Off Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	2	TOK
	Port Joli area, <i>Queens</i>	1 ad.	JOA	Dovekie			
	Blanche, <i>Shel.</i>	21	<i>fide</i> JON	Oct 29	Off Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	550-600	TOK
Sep 6 - ca. 18	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	2 imm.	MIK, DEG,	Nov 5	Sunrise Valley, <i>Vic.</i>	1 ashore	FMC
			m. obs	ca. Nov 9	Scotian Shelf SE of Halifax	"few hundred)	OLB
Sep 7	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	3 imm.	MIK	Nov 11	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	3	STV,
Sep 7 - 10	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	<i>fide</i> ULH, JCT				Amber Vines
	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	John Loch	Nov 12	Pictou Ldg., <i>Pict.</i>	1	Tim & Carolyn
Sep 8	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1 ad.	MIK, <i>et al.</i>				Brennan
	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH	Nov 27	Prospect barrens, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM
	Conrads I., Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH	Nov 29	Seal I. area, <i>Yar.</i>	3	KGI
	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JRH	Common Murre			
	Blanche, <i>Shel.</i>	3	JON, SAN	Aug 1	Off Brier I.	1 ad.	ELM
	Causeway, <i>CSI</i>	6	JON, SAN	Sep 18	Off Brier I.	2	DOC, NVG
	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	8	JON, SAN	Sep 27	Off Brier I.	1 ad.	ELM
Sep 9	Port Joli area, <i>Queens</i>	23	JOA	Thick-billed Murre			
	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH, <i>et al.</i>	ca. Nov 9	Scotian Shelf SE of Halifax	numbers?	OLB
Sep 9 - 12	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	4	JAH	Nov 30	Parkers Cove, <i>Anna.</i>	3	RBS
Sep 10	Causeway, <i>CSI</i>	5-6	JON, SIT	Murre sp.			
	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	3+ imm.	MIK, DOU	Oct 29	Off Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	15-20	TOK
	Cherry Hill Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH, DOP	Nov 29	Seal I. area, <i>Yar.</i>	1	KGI
Sep 10 - 12	Johnsons Pd., <i>Shel.</i>	18-22	Russell	Razorbill			
			Crosby, DJC	Aug 9	Bird Is., <i>Vic.</i>	2	Megan
Sep 11	Hirtles Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	SIT				Westervelt
Sep 11, 12	Kingsburg Bch., <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH	Sep 6	Digby-Saint John ferry	6	OLB, ISL
	Summerville Bch., <i>Queens</i>	1 ad.	SIT	Sep 18	Brier I.	1	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 13	The Hawk, <i>CSI</i>	3	SIT	Sep 26	Northern Pt., Brier I.	2 ad.	ELM
				Sep 27	Off Brier I.	5 ad.	ELM

Oct 29	Off Canso, <i>Guys</i> .	50-80	TOK
Nov 3	Daniels Hd., <i>CSI</i>	1	JON
Nov 29	Seal I. area, <i>Yar</i> .	1	KGI
Black Guillemot			
(Abundant in many areas - 65 reports mainly from mainland NS. Selected records below)			
Aug 9 - 11	Bird Is., <i>Vic</i> .	5-10	Jim Phillips, Megan Westervelt
Aug 14	Western Hd., <i>Queens</i>	10	ELM
Sep 6	Digby-Saint John ferry	2	OLB, Isabelle Lechasseur
	Off Brier I.	20	SYP
Sep 18, 19	Brier I.	6-16	NSBS
Sep 20	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	5	KAM
Oct 8 - 10	Brier I.	10-40	ELM, <i>et al.</i>

Oct 9	Northern Pt., Brier I.	25	ELM, NSBS
Oct 25	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	34	KJM
Nov 8	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	26	KJM
Nov 21	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	19	KJM
Nov 27	Louisbourg area, <i>CBRM</i> Canso, <i>Guys</i> .	2 12	Bill Bussey KJM, NSBS
Atlantic Puffin			
Aug 1	Off Brier I.	8	ELM
Aug 9 - 11	Bird Is., <i>Vic</i> .	100/33	Megan Westervelt, Jim Phillips
Sep 6	Digby-St. John ferry Brier I.	25 3	OLB, ISL SYP
Sep 18	Off Brier I.	40-70	KJM, NSBS
Sep 27	Off Brier I.	200+	ELM
Oct 8 - 10	Northern Pt., Brier I.	2-3	ELM, NSBS

Pigeons through Woodpeckers

By Chris Field

The highlight of the Fall season was the first Atlantic Canada record of a **CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD**. It was observed and photographed by M. Eisenhauer in Rhodes Corner, Lunenburg Co. on 16 Sep. Based on the photo, it was identified as a second year male. It was not seen after the next day.

Two experienced California birders, Monte Taylor and Ebbe Banstorp, here to view the rare geese in November sent the following email to Bob MacDonald: "We had a **NORTHERN HAWK-OWL** going east on Hwy 104 on the south side of the Highway just before the 21 exit at 8:25 a.m. on November 22nd". Monte kindly provided me with some very convincing details of the sighting. The hawk-owl was about 30 meters from them about 30 meters up in a deciduous tree affording them the opportunity to note the characteristic field marks. Certainly a very nice sighting. As I write this in early January, Mike King has just reported a Northern Hawk-owl on Devils Island. Could it be the same bird?

The Canso hotspot reported a **EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE** which appeared on 4 Aug and remained about six days at the feeder of Harry and Roseann Delorys. This is the second recent report of this rare dove from Canso, and third overall for Nova Scotia.

There were nine reports of **YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOOS** with the latest recorded on 13 Nov. eBird shows two records of a **BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO**. There were 25 reports of owls comprising 33 **SAW-WHET**, 10 **BARRED**, 6 **SHORT-EARED**, 6 **GREAT HORNED** and ONE **NORTHERN HAWK-OWL**. Hillary Dionne on Tancook reports finding her first Saw-whet on Tancook entangled in her neighbour's garden netting. After some recuperation, it was released successfully in the nearby woods. Randy Lauff reports that the migration of Saw-whets he observed (29) was the strongest in many years, not only at his station in Fairmont, but in much of Eastern North America.

COMMON NIGHTHAWKS were reported through August and September, with the latest report on 18 Sep. **CHIMNEY SWIFTS** were present in numbers through the first week in August with numbers declining steadily, with the last report of two in Port Williams on 6 Sep. **RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRDS** were reported through early September with the latest report being 2 Oct from Wolfville Ridge: an adult female in migration. After the Hurricane Earl event, one hummingbird was observed during a pelagic trip, while Patricia Chalmers reports seeing a hummingbird pursuing the Magnificent Frigatebird. Curious behavior.

Woodpeckers other than **DOWNY**, **HAIRY**, **NORTHERN FLICKERS** and **PILEATED** were not widely reported. Of interest were two reports of **RED-BELLIED WOODPECKERS** in the Halifax area (possibly the same bird) on 27 and 30 Sep and one report of a **RED-HEADED WOODPECKER** from Big Island. There were only four reports of **BLACK-BACKED WOODPECKERS**, a somewhat worrying sign.



A characteristically squat and short-billed **CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD** turned up briefly at Rhodes Corner, *Lun*. Fortunately, it was an amply photographed first for the province. The relatively short throat-streaks and still white-tipped tail identify it as a second-fall male. [Photo Mandy Eisenhauer]

Rock Pigeon			
Aug - Nov	Widely	up to 50	140 reports
Mourning Dove			
Aug - Nov	Widely	up to 40	202 reports
EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE (3rd provincial record)			
Aug 2 - 10	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1, photo	H&R Delorys, m.obs
Black-billed Cuckoo			
Oct 16	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Nov 3	Westphal, <i>HRM</i>	1	L. Karchewski
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			
Oct 4	<i>HRM</i>	1	L. Karchewski
Oct 4	Spicer's Cove, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Oct 5	Big Island, <i>Pict.</i>	1	ALD
Oct 7	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Oct 9, 7	Port Mouton, <i>Queens</i>	1	R. Smith
Oct 10	Hartlen Pt.	1	DAC
Oct 11	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	1	KJM
Oct 11	Tiddville, <i>Digby</i>	1	KJM
Nov 13	Port Hastings, <i>Rich.</i>	1	DW & MK. Johnstone
Great Horned Owl			
Aug 1	River Bourgeois, <i>Rich.</i>	2	RIV
Aug 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	ALD
Aug 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2 juv	M. Baudoux
Sept 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 26	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JA,H
Barred Owl			
Aug 19	CBHNP	1	N. Heinekamp
Aug 14 - 15	Middle Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Aug 31	Sandy Bottom L. <i>Anna.</i>	1	MCR
Oct 9, 21	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	1	SLH
Oct 15	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	1	K. Lantz
Oct 16, Nov 18	Upper Canard, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Oct 23	Ketch Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Oct 29	Brier I.	1	ELM
Nov 7	Pt. Pleasant Park	1	AGH
Nov 27	Guysborough, <i>Guys.</i>	1	DOC, NVG
Short-eared Owl			
Oct 28	E. LaHave, <i>Lun.</i>	1	ELM
Nov 11, 22	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	1, 2	KJM
Nov 12	Brule Pt., <i>Col.</i>	1	J. Rubin
Nov 13	Pictou, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 20	Mahoneys Beach, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Northern Saw-whet Owl			
Sep 17, 18	Brier I.	1	KJM
Sep 18 -			
Nov 12	Fairmont, <i>Ant.</i>	29	RLF
Nov 3	Cole Harbour, <i>HRM</i>	1(dead)	CHP
Nov 10	Tancook I, <i>Lun.</i>	1	H. Dionne
NORTHERN HAWK-OWL			
Nov 22	Alma, <i>Pict.</i>	1	M. Taylor, H. Banstrop
Common Nighthawk			
Aug 1	Middle Musquodoboit, <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Aug 14	Pictou, <i>Pict.</i>	5	KJM
Aug 17	Berwick, <i>Kings</i>	3	SYP
Aug 17	Rhodes Corner, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
Sep 9	Brier I.	1	Paul Prior
Sep 18	Brier I.	1	JAH
Chimney Swift			
Aug 1 - 14	Wolfville, <i>Kings</i>	8-38+	var. obs.
Aug 2, 4	Upper Falmouth, <i>Hants</i>	3	C. Rutledge
Aug 5	Greenfield, <i>Lun.</i>	15	B. Toms
Aug 6	St. Bernard, <i>Digby</i>	125	P. Potter
Aug 5 - 13	New Glasgow, <i>Pict.</i>	5-121	KJM
Aug 8	Middleton, <i>Kings</i>	254	WAN
Aug 9	Carleton, <i>Yar.</i>	15	B. Toms
Aug 17	Middleton, <i>Kings</i>	22	CLD



Among all the outstanding rarities this fall, a YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO, 4 Oct at Spencers Cove, *Cum.*, was somewhat outclassed. [Photo Kathleen Spicer]

Aug 24	Wolfville, <i>Kings</i>	2	JWW
Sep 6	Port Williams, <i>Hants</i>	1	G. Forsyth
Ruby-throated Hummingbird			
Aug 1 -			
Sep 14	Nova Scotia	up to 8	35 reports
Sep 14	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Aug - Sep 19	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	up to 3	SLH
Aug - Oct 2	Wolfville Ridge, <i>Kings</i>	up to 12	JCT
CALLIOPE HUMMINGBIRD (1st provincial record)			
Sep 16, 17	Rhodes Corner, <i>Lun.</i>	1 m., photo	M. Eisenhauer
Belted Kingfisher			
Aug - Nov	Nova Scotia	up to 5	81 reports
Oct 4 - 8	Daniels Head, <i>HRM</i>	1	R. Hoogenbos
Nov 27	E. Port L'Herbert, <i>Queens</i>	1	JAH, DPO
Red-headed Woodpecker			
Sep 5	Big I. <i>Pict.</i>	1	L. Henderson
Red-bellied Woodpecker			
Sep 27	Williams L., <i>HRM</i>	1	S. Manuel
Sep 3	Coburg Rd, Halifax	1	DOC
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker			
Sep 13	Pictou, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 8 - 1	Brier I.	up to 3	JAH, KJM
Oct 2	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	1	SLH
Oct 10	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
Oct 10	Midway L., <i>Digby</i>	2 juv.	JAH
Downy Woodpecker			
Aug - Nov	Nova Scotia	up to 3	75 reports
Hairy Woodpecker			
Aug - Nov	Nova Scotia	up to 3	67 reports
Black-backed Woodpecker			
Aug 27	Abraham L. <i>HRM</i>	2	VJH
Sep 27	Mt. Uniacke, <i>Hants</i>	6+	HAT
Oct 7	Bon Portage, <i>Yar.</i>	1	ABO crew
Nov 15	Chignecto GS, <i>Cum.</i>	1	K. Lantz
Northern Flicker			
Aug - Nov 12	Nova Scotia	up to 30	96 reports
Pileated Woodpecker			
Sep 1 -			
Nov 22	Apple R., <i>Cumb</i>	1	KFS
Nov 22	Dartmouth, <i>HRM</i>	2	CHP
Aug - Nov	Nova Scotia	up to 3	17 reports

Flycatchers through Thrushes

By Hans Toom

The **WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE** nests in Western Canada, with its eastern range just over the Manitoba border. It is nearly identical to the **EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE** and is separated most easily by song. This was the case on BPI where a Western Wood-Pewee was heard singing (*fide* LUB), circa 12 Sep. Its nasal *pee-er* song is easily distinguished from the Eastern Wood-Pewee's sweet *pee-a wee* song. Although there are subtle differences between the two species in plumage and mandible, the Eastern Wood-Pewee cannot be safely distinguished in the field except by song. It's a north-south migrant so its appearance in Nova Scotia is remarkable. There is no evidence of interbreeding between the Eastern Wood-Pewee and the Western Wood-Pewee.

The **ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER** is a summer resident of the far southwestern United States nesting in a line from central Texas to central Washington state. It is a north-south migrant but TOK was surprised and delighted to spot one 14 Nov in the Stanfest Apple Tree in Canso, *Guys*. TOK was able to obtain some high quality photographs. It is very similar to the Great Crested Flycatcher but there are differences in the tail pattern and bill colour; close study is required to confirm the species. Remarkably, a second bird was discovered in Lanark, *Ant.*, in the small backyard orchard of Marilyn O'Brien, who also photographed an apparent **GRAY KINGBIRD** the same day. [Ed. Note: refer to Ian McLaren's article on this double-flycatcher event elsewhere in this issue.]

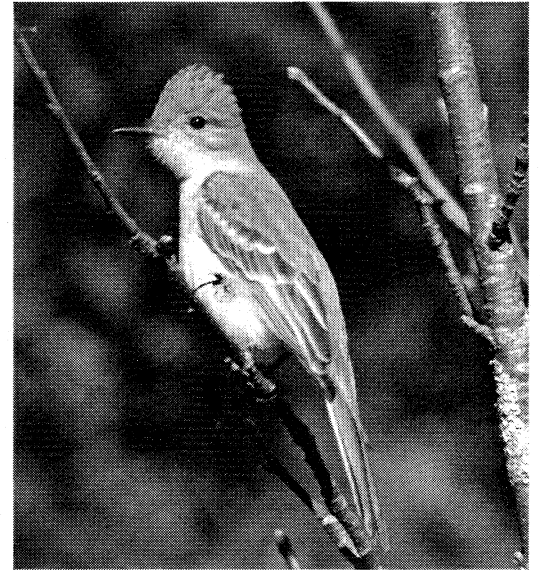
The Gray Kingbird is a year-round resident along the coast of Florida and in the Caribbean and nests occasionally as far north as North Carolina. It is usually only a short-to-medium distance migrant. It was likely carried north reluctantly by one of our late summer storms. Marilyn O'Brien videotaped this bird near Lanark, *Ant.*, and graciously provided a photograph captured by her video camera to RFL. Unfortunately the photograph was not diagnostic directly. However, IAM was provided with a measurement from the branch the bird was perching on. He was then able to measure the bird itself from the photograph. He compared it to other potential candidate species and eliminated all of them due to incompatible body length measurements, leaving only the Gray Kingbird as a possibility. This is an elegant example of Holmesian deduction, "When you have eliminated the impossible, whatever remains, however improbable, must be the truth".

There were six reports of **WESTERN KINGBIRDS** this fall, with an early arrival at Chebucto Head, *HRM*, Aug 19 (HAT, LAE). There were three other sightings in *HRM*, with another at Englishtown Ferry Crossing, *Vic.*, and one on BPI. The last one seen passed through the property of HAT and LAE in the same general area of the first sighting. November is the peak month for Western Kingbirds to pass through Nova Scotia and this year three of six occurred in that month. Interestingly, this species tends to occur in the late fall only along the eastern coastline from Newfoundland and Labrador south, with few reports from the interior, suggesting an "L" shaped migration route for these wanderers. This western bird has been expanding its range eastward in recent years.

The once-very-rare **WHITE-EYED VIREO** has become an annual regular in Nova Scotia in recent years. There were three reports: the first was a banded bird from BPI, 7 Oct (LUB); the second, 11 Oct on Brier I. (DAM, ABM); the third, 17 Oct, near the gate to the Chebucto Head Light, *HRM* (DAC). This species breeds in areas of dense scrub and has been expanding its range northwards, which may account for our increase in sightings.

JON reported a **YELLOW-THROATED VIREO**, 21 Sep, at Daniels Head, CSI. The population of this elegant bird with an opera singer's voice has been increasing in recent years, although no evidence of a northward territorial expansion has been validated. This is likely due to its sub-canopy nesting strategy which makes its nests hard to find, although its powerful voice is easily recognized. It migrates at a leisurely pace to southeastern Mexico and the Caribbean, leaving its nesting ground latest mid Sep, so this arrival at CSI is timely.

BELL'S VIREO is another extremely rare bird that has become a more frequent visitor in recent years. Its habit of foraging deep in dense scrub makes it a challenge to find unless it assists the observer with call notes. This fall FLL located one at Thornhill



This beautifully photographed **ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER**, only the second to be confirmed in the province, appeared 13 Nov. at Canso. Note even in black and white, its small bill and the even width of the white tertial margins, respectively larger and with a broader margin on the inner tertial in our more regular **GREAT-CRESTED**. [Photo Tom Kavanaugh]

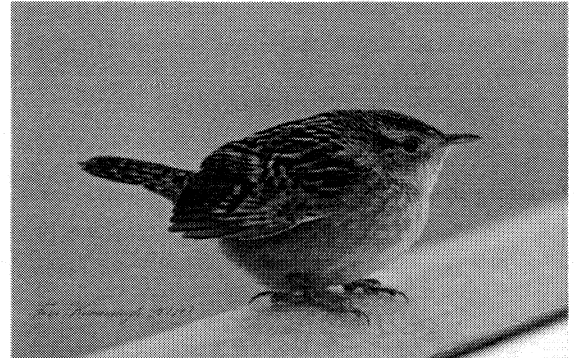
Ave., Halifax, 20 Oct. It was seen by many others through 19 Nov, although at times it was hard to find during this period. The gully it foraged in was about 200 metres long and dense with numerous multiflora rose tangles hanging with berries, although the vireo is insectivorous. Its nesting territory barely extends north east of the southern end of Lake Michigan.

There were three reports of **CAVE SWALLOW**, the first at Daniels Head, CSI, 4 Sep (JON); the second 12 Sep, BPI (Brad Woodworth); and the third by Dominic Cormier and Nicole Vella-Geldart at Eastern Passage, Dartmouth, 10 Oct, "Today at 11:25AM myself and Nicole Vella-Geldart were driving along Shore Rd between McCormicks and Hartlen Point when two swallows caught our attention. Nicole jumped out and yells, they have pale rumps!!! After observing the two birds for about 30 seconds we were able to confirm that they were CAVE SWALLOWS. Pale rump and matching throat color, no white forehead, size of a Cliff Swallow." The Cave Swallow is a year-round resident except in the southern United States, where it is a short-distance migrant. This bird is a success story since its colonies are expanding. They've expanded from their traditional caves to nesting in culverts and bridges. It often appears in Nova Scotia in the fall as an unhappy passenger of northward moving storms, especially those storms that centre in the Atlantic but whose winds skirt the coastline, scooping up birds.

The **SEDGE WREN** is easily separated from the look-alike Marsh Wren by its orange-buff rump and song. It often nests in deep roadside drainage ditches but also favours traditional marsh habitat. It is a very tame bird and quite approachable. On 4 Nov, TOK had a remarkable experience with this diminutive and feisty songbird, "On Thursday Nov 4th while fishing on 'Crousers' Bank" about 11-12 miles off Canso we had a Sedge Wren land aboard the boat. After gaining some doc shots I allowed it to settle in and within 10 min of its arrival it was easily caught up forward in the boat. I decide to try to release it ashore as I've done many times in the past. As it was after sunset and near dark before getting ashore I decided a morning release without rain would be better for the wren. But the little guy didn't make it through the night."

There was only one report of **NORTHERN WHEATEAR** this fall, 1 Nov, at Englishtown Ferry Crossing, Vic. (TUY, CAM) during a Cabot Trail tour. This tough northern thrush appears in Nova Scotia almost every fall, sometimes in groups or singly, depending on North Atlantic storms and winds. The eastern population, *leucorhoa*, migrates from its nesting grounds in Greenland and north-eastern Canada, the high arctic, and crosses the North Atlantic non-stop to western Europe, a flight leg of 2400 km travelled in about 30 hours, then south to western Africa. This is one of the most remarkable migrating passerines of our continent, having been reported in 33 states and provinces.

John and Avril Harweed reported a **WOOD THRUSH** on their property 12 Aug, Woodside, Kings. It was feeding on ripe berries of an Alternate Leaf Dogwood tree. Wood Thrush is known to feed on Dogwood Tree berries. The similar looking Fox Sparrows tend to forage on the ground during fall migration. Sadly the Wood Thrush is in decline everywhere suffering horribly from nest predation. The flutelike song of this bird has "an ethereal quality that sets the thrush apart from all others... as we listen we lose the sense of time. Thoreau says of it: 'the thrush alone declares the immortal wealth and vigor that is in the forest.'"



This exhausted SEDGE WREN took refuge on a fishing vessel 4 Nov off Canso. Alas, it did not survive its overwater excursion. [Photo Tom Kavanaugh]

Olive-sided Flycatcher							
Sep 16	Pt Pleasant Park	1	AGH	Aug 11	Musq. Valley, HRM	1	Andrew Davis
WESTERN WOOD-PEWEE (1st or 2nd NS record, pending review)				Aug 29	Middle R., Pict.	1	KJM
Circa Sep 12	BPI	1	fide LUB	Sep 6	Liscomb GS, HRM	1	KJM
Eastern Wood-Pewee				Least Flycatcher			
Aug 1	Grafton, Kings	2	SYP	Aug 11	Musq., HRM	1	Andrew Davis
Aug 8	Big I., Pict.	1	KJM	Aug 21	Big I., Pict.	2	KJMr
Aug 10	Limerock, Pict.	1	SYP	Aug 22	Fauxburg, Lun.	3	JAH
Aug 11	Tremont, Kings	1	SLH	Aug 27	Willow Ave., Kings	1	SYP
Aug 11	Dollar L. PP, HRM	1	Andrew Davis	Aug 27	Rose Bay, Lun.	1	JAH
Aug 15	Wallace Bay NWA, Col.	1	SYP	Aug 28	Big I., Pict.	1	KJM
Aug 16	Tremont, Kings	1	SLH	Sep 2	Plymouth, Pict.	1	KJM
Aug 22, 26	Fauxburg, Lun.	1	JAH	Sep 10	Doug Smith Dr., Halifax	1	DMC, NVG
Aug 22	Mahone Bay, Lun.	1	JAH	Sep 17, 18	Brier I.	2, 1	JAH, KJM
Oct 17	Back Cove, Hartlen Pt.	1	MIK	Eastern Phoebe			
Oct 30	Cow Bay, Dartmouth	1	EIM, ABM	Aug 6, 19	Willow Ave., Kings	3, 1	SYP
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher				Sep 26	Milford Station, Col.	1	KAM
Sep 15	Doug Smith Dr., Halifax	1	DMC, NVG	Oct 23	Peggy's Cove, HRM	1	DEG
Aug 5	Greenfield, Hants	1	SYP	ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER (2nd and 3rd provincial records, pending review)			
Alder Flycatcher				Nov 14	Canso, Guys.	1, ph.	TOK
Aug 1	Rose Bay, Lun.	1	JAH	Nov 18	Lanark, Ant.	1, ph.	Marilyn O'Brien
Aug 8	Big I., Pict.	2	KJM				

Western Kingbird

Aug 19	Chebucto Head, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT, LAE
Sep 7	BPI	1	fide LUB
Sep 25	Hartlen Pt.	1	Ian Marshall
Nov 1	Englishtown Ferry, Vic.	1	TUY, CAM
Nov 2	Dorothea Dr., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Nov 21	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT, LAE

GRAY KINGBIRD (3rd provincial record, pending review)

Nov 18-19	Lanark, <i>Ant.</i>	1	Marilyn O'Brien, fide RFL; FLL
-----------	---------------------	---	--------------------------------

Eastern Kingbird

Aug 6	Willow Ave., <i>Kings</i>	1	SYP
Sep 3	Mid. Musq., <i>HRM</i>	1	VJH
Sep 5	Rainbow Haven PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, NIF
Sep 5	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 5	Blanche Pen., <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 6 - 10	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT, LAE
Sep 8	Berwick, <i>Kings</i>	2	AND
Sep 18	Shore Rd., Dartmouth	1	HAT
Sep 18	Brier I.	1	JAH, DMC, NVG, others

Sep 21	White Pt., <i>Queens</i>	1	MMI
Oct 5	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	DMW

Northern Shrike

Oct 28-Nov 8	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1 imm.	KFS
Nov 12	Spicer's Cove, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS, BLM
Nov 12	Chebucto Head, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOC, NVG
Nov 17	Higginsville, <i>HRM</i>	1	CHP

WHITE-EYED VIREO

Oct 7	BPI	1	LUB
Oct 11	Brier I	1	ABM, DAM, KJM
Oct 17	Duncan's Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC
Nov 11	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC, AZV

Blue-headed Vireo

Sep 4	MacDonald's Cove, <i>HRM</i>	4	KJM
Sep 25	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	4	KJM
Oct 3	Big I., <i>Digby</i>	5	KJM
Oct 10	Brier I.	4	KJM
Oct 10	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	2	DAC
Oct 28	Gull Rock Rd., Brier I	1	EIM
Nov 11	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS, others

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO

Sep 21	Daniel's Head, CSI	1	JON
--------	--------------------	---	-----

Warbling Vireo

Sep 6	Sober I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 11	BPI	1	LUB

Philadelphia Vireo

Aug 12	Cranberry L., <i>HRM</i>	2	Lynn Karchewski
Sep 9	First L. Drive, <i>HRM</i>	1	DHU
Sep 27	Sambro Creek, <i>HRM</i>	1	Stephen Manuel

BELL'S VIREO (5th provincial record)

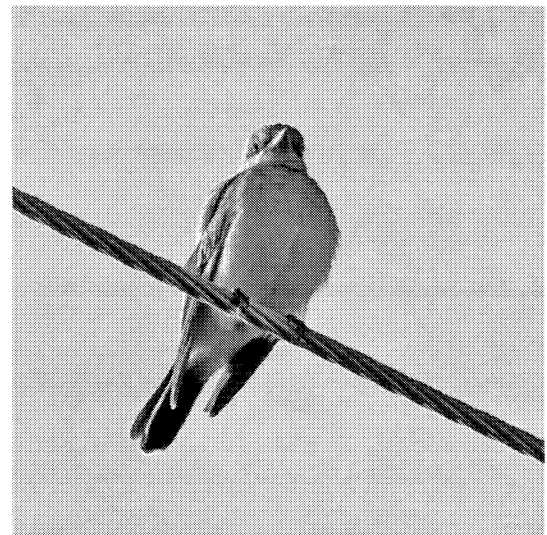
Oct 20 -			
Nov 19	Thornhill Ave., Halifax	1	FLL, m. obs

Red-eyed Vireo

Sep 5	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	7	KJM
Sep 5	Blanche Pen., <i>Shel.</i>	3	OLB
Sep 9	First L. Drive, <i>HRM</i>	6	DHU
Sep 10	Doug Smith Dr., Halifax	2	DMC, NVG
Sep 10	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	4	OLB
Sep 13	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH
Sep 20, 26	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2, 2	KJM
Sep 21	Mahone Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	2	JAH
Sep 30	Coburg Rd., Halifax	2	DMC
Oct 10	Brier I.	2	KJM
Oct 11	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	RIV
Oct 12	South St., Halifax	1	DMC
Oct 19	Ridgewood Dr., Halifax	1	DMC
Nov 2	Halifax Public Gardens	1	DEG

Gray Jay

Aug 3	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	3	SJF
Aug 11	Dollar L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	Andrew Davis



A WESTERN KINGBIRD 19 Aug at Chebucto Head, *HRM*, was early in the season, although not record so. [Photo Hans Toom]

Aug 15	Wallace Bay, <i>Cum.</i>	1	SYP
Sep 14	Sandy Cove Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1	NVG
Oct-Nov	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	1-7 most days	KFS
Oct 10	Digby Neck, <i>Digby</i>	6	JAH
Oct 14	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	2	BLM, IAM
Nov 1	E. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	4	CHP
Nov 1	Hubley, <i>HRM</i>	1	KEL
Nov 12	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	3	BLM, KFS
Nov 18 - 19	Chignecto GS, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KEL
Nov 27	Uniacke Park, <i>Hants</i>	8	HAT
Blue Jay			
Aug-Nov	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	10-30 daily	HAT, LAE
Aug 21 - Nov	Bayport, <i>Lun.</i>	5-21	JAH
Sep 6	Sober I, <i>HRM</i>	12	KJM
Sep 18	Brier I.	362	JAH
Sep 20	Annapolis Royal, <i>Anna.</i>	30	Robert Scranton
Sep 24	New Minas, <i>Kings</i>	12	JCT
Sep 26, 27	Brier I.	300, 500	ELM
Sep 30	Coburg Rd. Halifax	15	DMC
Oct-Nov	Apple R., <i>Cum.</i>	5-15 most days	KFS
Oct 6	Cobequid Trail, <i>Col.</i>	20	Steve Gleich
Oct 8, 9, 10	Brier I.	25, 50, 80	KJM
Oct 12	South St., Halifax	20	DMC
Oct 16	Big I, <i>Pict.</i>	10	KJM



This beautiful image of the Spryfield BELL'S VIREO, the first "twitchable" one for many of our birders, is the more remarkable, considering its furtive behaviour. [Photo Tuma Young]

Oct 19	Canard Dyke Path, <i>Kings</i>	20	RBS	Oct 20	Donkin, <i>CBRM</i>	20	DBM
Oct 30	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	10	JAH	Nov 12	Swimm's Pt., <i>CSI</i>	1	Jonathan
Nov 7	Birch Cove Park, <i>Halifax</i>	15	Marty Zelenietz		Atkinson, <i>CST</i>		
Common Raven				Cliff Swallow			
Sep 19	Flours Cove, <i>Digby</i>	20	KJM	Aug 4	Belleisle Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	1	SYP
Sep 19	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	10	JAH	Aug 6	Willow Ave., <i>Kings</i>	1	SYP
Oct 9	Brier I.	10	KJM	Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 17	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	50	RBS	Sep 6	Big Pond, Brier I.	4	SYP
Nov 11	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	13	KJM	Oct 20	Donkin, <i>CBRM</i>	8	DBM
American Crow				Cave Swallow			
Aug - Nov	Province-wide	common		Sep 4	Daniel's Head, <i>CSI</i>	1 (nd)	JON
Oct 17	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1000	RBS	Sep 12	BPI	1 (nd)	Brad Woodworth
Horned Lark				Eastern Passage, Dartmouth			
Sep 27	Pond Cove, Brier I.	5 <i>alpestris</i>	ELM	Oct 10		2	DMC, NVG
Oct 14	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	9	KJM	Black-capped Chickadee			
Oct 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	5	KJM	Aug - Nov	province-wide	10-40	var.obs
Oct 18	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	6	KJM	Sep 26	Keji Seaside Adjunct	61	JAH
Oct 20	Hartlen Pt.	8	TEB	Oct 3	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	70	KJM
Oct 24	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	25	JCT, RBS	Oct 9, 10	Brier I.	40, 200	KJM
Nov 3	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	20+	AND, HAF	Boreal Chickadee			
Nov 6	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	17	KJM	Sep 5	Blanche Pen., <i>Queens</i>	3	JAH
Nov 7	Central Onslow, <i>Col.</i>	15	BLM, IAM	Sep 6	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	20	KJM
Purple Martin				Sep 18	Skyline Trail, <i>Inv.</i>	6	Robert LaCelle III
Aug 15	Amherst Pt. Sanctuary, <i>Cum.</i>	2	SYP	Sep 25	Wagner's Bch., <i>HRM</i>	8	BLM
Sep 4	Sambro Head, <i>HRM</i>	1 m	BLM	Nov 8	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	7	KJM
Sep 5	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB	Nov 27	E. Port L'Hebert, <i>Queens</i>	3	JAH, DPO
Sep 9	Brier I.	3	Paul Prior	Nov 27	Black Duck Cove Pk., <i>Guys.</i>	5	DMC
Tree Swallow				Nov 27	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	25	DMC, NVG
July 31	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH	Nov 27	Thomas Radall area, <i>Queens</i>	3	JAH
Aug 4	Belleisle Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	10	SYP	Red-breasted Nuthatch			
Aug 4	Ann. Royal Marsh	20	SYP	Aug-Nov	province-wide	common	
Aug 6	Willow Ave., <i>Kings</i>	2	SYP	Aug 2	Northern Pt., Brier I.	35+	EIM
Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM	Sep 18	Brier I.	15	KJM
Aug 10	Cheticamp I, <i>Inv.</i>	15	Megan	Oct 10	Brier I.	25	KJM
Westervelt				Nov 27	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	5	DMC, NVG
Sep 7	Willow Ave., <i>Kings</i>	1	SYP	White-breasted Nuthatch			
Sep 9	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	5	JAH	Oct 9 - 11	Brier I.	2-3	KJM
Sep 11	Hirtles Bch., <i>Queens</i>	2	AGH	Oct 13 - Nov 30	White's Lake, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM
Northern Rough-winged Swallow					3rd local record		
Sep 2	Lwr. Clark's Hbr, <i>CSI</i>	1 (nd)	JON	Oct 29	Westport, Brier I.	2	ELM
Sep 7	Baccaro, <i>Shel.</i>	1 (nd)	JON	Nov 6	Jitney Trail, <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Sep 10	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	2 (nd)	JAH	Nov 27	St. Peters, <i>Rich.</i>	2	BID
Bank Swallow				Brown Creeper			
Jul 31	Second Pen., <i>Lun.</i>	4	JAH	Aug 23	Mt. Uniacke, <i>Hants</i>	3	Josh Vandermeulen
Aug 4	Belleisle Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	20	SYP	Sep 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	3	OLB
Aug 6	Willow Ave., <i>Kings</i>	5	SYP	Oct 10	Brier I.	5	KJM
Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	25	KJM	Oct 31	Pleasant View Cemetery, <i>HRM</i>	2	DEG
Aug 11	Bird I., <i>Vic.</i>	2	Jim Philips	Oct 31	Birch Cove Pk., <i>HRM</i>	2	Marty Zelenietz
Aug 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM	Nov 7	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Sep 5	CSI	1	OLB	Nov 16	Shubie Pk., <i>HRM</i>	2	Marty Zelenietz
Sep 9	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH	Nov 18	Fleming Pk., <i>HRM</i>	3	PLC
Barn Swallow				Nov 25	Lake Echo, <i>HRM</i>	3	CHP
Aug 1	Conrad's I., <i>Lun.</i>	4	JAH	House Wren			
Aug 1	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	4	JAH	Oct 25 -			
Aug 4	Belleisle Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	20	SYP	Nov 21	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS, others
Aug 5	Long I., <i>Kings</i>	5	SYP	Nov 13	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Aug 6	Willow Ave., <i>Kings</i>	6	SYP	Winter Wren			
Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	10	KJM	Aug 11	Dollar L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	Andrew Davis
Aug 10	Cheticamp I., <i>Inv.</i>	15	Megan Westervelt	Aug 23	Mt. Uniacke, <i>Hants</i>	1	Josh Vandermeulen
Aug 20	Tancook I., <i>Lun.</i>	1	Josh Vandermeulen	Aug 29	Little Annapolis L., <i>Anna.</i>	1	MCR
Aug 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	6	KJM	Sep 5	Blanche Pen., <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB
Aug 24	Grand Pré Centre, <i>Kings</i>	6-7	RAH	Sep 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 4	Sambro Head, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM	Sep 18	Brier I.	1	KJM
Sep 4	Kingsburg, <i>Lun.</i>	3	OLB	Oct 24	Sunrise Valley, <i>Vic.</i>	1	FMC
Sep 5	Gull I, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM	Nov 5	Near Dalhousie U.	1	ABM
Sep 5	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM	Nov 27	E. Port L'Hebert, <i>Queens</i>	1	JAH, DPO
Sep 5	CSI	1	OLB	Nov 27	Thomas Radall area, <i>Queens</i>	1	JAH
Sep 5	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB	Sedge Wren			
Sep 7	Willow Ave., <i>Kings</i>	15	SYP	Nov 4	Crouse's Bank, <i>Guys.</i>	1	TOK
Sep 9	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH				
Sep 17	Digby Neck, <i>Digby</i>	1	JAH				
Sep 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM				

Marsh Wren

Nov 4	Russel L., <i>HRM</i>	2	CLS
Nov 13	Bisset L., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK

Blue-gray Gnatcatcher

Sep 7	BPI	1	<i>fide</i> LUB
Sep 22	Glascow Head Rd., Canso	2	TOK
Oct 11	Brier I	1	ABM, DAM, KJM

Oct 14 - 17	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	CHP
Nov 3-7	White Pt., <i>Queens</i>	1	MMI
Nov 11	Back Cove, Hartlen Pt.	1	MIK
Nov 20 - 29	Sullivan's Pond, Dartmouth	1	DMC, NVG

Golden-crowned Kinglet

Aug 22	Cape Split, <i>Kings</i>	10	SYP
Aug 23	Mt. Uniacke, <i>Hants</i>	10	Josh Vandermeulen

Sep 6	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	12	KJM
Sep 18	Brier I.	30	KJM
Sep 20 - Nov 7	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	11-30/visit	KJM
Oct 10	Brier I.	30	KJM
Oct 25	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	17	KJM
Nov 27	Thomas Radall area, <i>Queens</i>	10	JAH

Ruby-crowned Kinglet

Aug 8 - Oct 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1-5/visit	KJM
Aug 10	Bog Trail, <i>Inv.</i>	1	Megan Westervelt

Aug 20	Markland Resort, <i>Vic.</i>	1	Neil Heinekamp
Aug 21	Middle Head, <i>Vic.</i>	1	Neil Heinekamp

Sep 6	Musq. Valley, <i>HRM</i>	1	Andrew Davis
Sep 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 18	Brier I.	1	JAH
Oct 3	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM, DOU, ALD

Oct 3	Fauxburg NW, <i>Lun.</i>	1	JAH
Oct 9 - 11	Brier I.	3-20	KJM
Oct 10	S. Brookfield, <i>Queens</i>	1	JAH
Oct 10	Pleasant R., <i>Queens</i>	1	JAH
Oct 11	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	RIV, APO
Oct 11	Long I., <i>Digby</i>	1	KJM
Oct 11	Lwr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	RIV
Oct 18	Tiverton, <i>Digby</i>	1	Charlie Nims, Sheila McCarthy

Oct 31	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF, JSC
Nov 11	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	DMC, NVG

Northern Wheatear

Nov 1	Englishtown Ferry, <i>Vic.</i>	1	TUY, CAM
-------	--------------------------------	---	----------

Eastern Bluebird

Sep 18, 19	Brier I.	1	KJM, JAH
Sep 30	Digby Pines, <i>Digby</i>	5	DAC
Oct 12	Diligent R., <i>Cum.</i>	4(2 m, 2 f)	Gale Boland
Oct 17	Brier I.	6	DAP
Oct 21	Spryfield, <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL
Oct 30	Westport, Brier I.	4(2 m, 2 f)	ELM

Veery

Sep 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	ALD
--------	----------------------	---	-----

Swainson's Thrush

Aug 3	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Aug 11	Dollar L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	Andrew Davis
Sep 13	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Sep 20, 26	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1, 1	KJM

Hermit Thrush

Aug 5	Greenfield, <i>Hants</i>	2	SYP
Aug 11	Dollar L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	Andrew Davis
Aug 11	Musq. Valley, <i>HRM</i>	1	Andrew Davis
Sep 5	Blanche Pen., <i>Shel.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB
Sep 10	Port Mouton, <i>Queens</i>	1	RES
Sep 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM
Sep 25	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Sep 27	MacKinnon L. Rd., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Sep 29	Duncan's Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	AGH, Richard Cannings

Sep 29	Sambro Creek, <i>HRM</i>	2	AGH, Richard Cannings
Oct 1	Crystal Crescent PP	1	DMC, NVG
Oct 3	Duncan's Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC
Oct 10	Port Mouton, <i>Queens</i>	1	RES
Oct 10	Brier I.	1	KJM
Oct 11	Salt Marsh Tr., <i>HRM</i>	2	Marty Zelenietz
Oct 12	Bridgetown, <i>Anna.</i>	1	MCR
Oct 12	South St., Halifax	1	DMC
Oct 14	Birch Cove Pk, Halifax	1	Marty Zelenietz
Oct 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 17	Duncan's Cove, <i>HRM</i>	3	DAC
Oct 25	Brier I.	25+	ELM
Oct 30	Brier I.	250	ELM
Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 2	Halifax Public Garden	1	DEG
Nov 4	Birch Cove Park, Halifax	1	Marty Zelenietz
Nov 11	Cherry Hill Cemetery, <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS
Nov 27	Cherrybrook, <i>HRM</i>	1	CHP
Nov 27	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	1	KJM

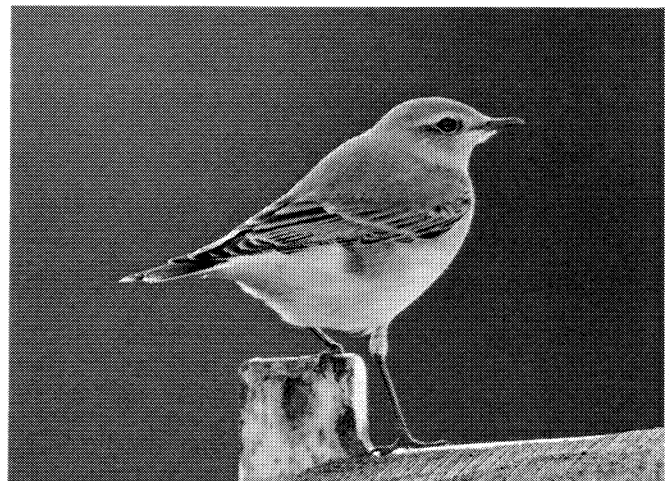
Wood Thrush

Aug 12	Woodside, <i>Kings</i>	1	John Harwood
--------	------------------------	---	--------------

American Robin

Oct 10	Bear R., <i>Digby</i>	143	JAH
Oct 10	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	107	JAH, DAW
Oct 10	Bear R., <i>Digby</i>	143	JAH
Oct 10	Eastern Passage, Dartmouth	75	DAC
Oct 10	Caledonia area, <i>Queens</i>	132	JAH
Oct 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	107	KJM
Oct 17	Duncan's Cove, <i>HRM</i>	35	DAC
Oct 19	Canard Dyke Path, <i>Kings</i>	30	RBS
Oct 20	Annapolis Royal Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	30	Charlie Nims, Sheila McCarthy

Oct 22	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	200+	DOU
Oct 22	Oakland, <i>Lun.</i>	40	JAH
Oct 23	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	50	KJM
Oct 30	Northern Pt., Brier I.	500+	ELM
Oct 30	Lanark, <i>Ant.</i>	50	KJM
Oct 30	Lunenburg, <i>Lun.</i>	104	JAH
Oct 31	Thornhill Drive, Halifax	30	DMC, NVG
Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	100	KJM
Oct 31	Three Brooks, <i>Pict.</i>	40	KJM



The autumn's only NORTHERN WHEATEAR was nicely photographed 30 Oct at Englishtown Ferry, *CBRM*. [Photo Tuma Young]

Mimics through Warblers

By Ken McKenna

Other than GRAY CATBIRDS, mimic thrushes were not abundant this report period. A peak number of 12 catbirds was reported at Duncans Cove, 1 Oct (HAT). Most NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD reports were from the greater Halifax area, but from Grand Pre comes the following report from JCT. On 11 Aug, "Shirley's (Wright's) neighbours found two baby birds obviously dragged out of their nest, on their lawn (no evidence of any nest was found and their property is all open spaces). When they went to retrieve the baby birds, a crow grabbed one and took off with it, but the man was able to rescue the second one and took it to Shirley who has looked after baby birds from her own menagerie. Hope Swinamer was contacted but felt the bird was in good hands for time being. This bird has come from a second nesting in this area. A follow-up of trying to locate the parents of these birds did not produce any results, making one think the parents abandoned the young or possibly became prey themselves?" [Heard later that the bird survived well and was released to the wild sometime in Sep when it was ready to look out for itself.] The only BROWN THRASHER report was from a visiting birder who spent some time on Brier I. in September.

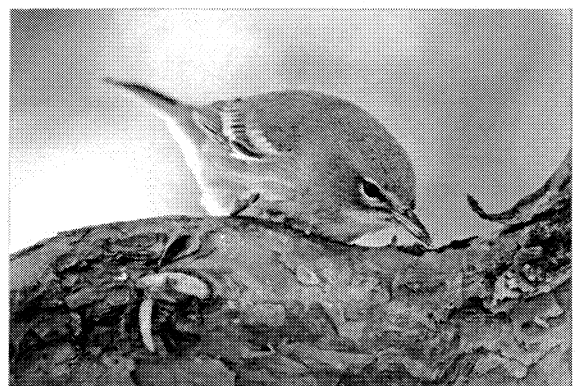
Most CEDAR WAXWING were early in this report period and tapered off in late October when there was a movement of BOHEMIAN WAXWINGS north of the Cape Breton Highlands NP and into the northern mainland. Numbers recorded were not as great as some peak years. Mid-Sep reports of AMERICAN PIPIT on the mainland were about average for fall reports and they became widespread through the province after that. The largest group reported was 50+ on 13 Oct, at Cherry Hill Beach, Lun. (SJF).

Thirty-three species of warbler were noted for this report period including seven uncommon species. Sightings of BLUE-WINGED and GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLERS were from the west end of the province. NORTHERN PARULA migration had a peak in late August and early Sep. Between Aug 29-31, four were banded on Brier I. *fide* BRD. The bulk of YELLOW WARBLER sightings were the last week of August and the first week of September. A good portion of 20 observed at Belleisle Marsh in early August were hatch-year birds. On 1 Sep, Lynn Karchewski comments on a fem. that was successfully foraging for bugs in the local Superstore produce department and according to a cashier, it was likely using the misting system for water!

Most CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLERS departed N.S. by the first few days of September and there were no reports received from Cape Breton at all. MAGNOLIA WARBLER migration was widespread in August and seemed to reach a peak the first week of September, when 15 were noted at Schooner Pond 3 Sep. Lynn Karchewski had a window kill of an adult m. in Westphal, HRM, 6 Aug. YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLERS were by far the most reported warbler starting from mid-August and peaking in numbers through mid-October; good numbers were still being reported at the end of the period. BLACKBURNIAN WARBLERS are early migrants with none recorded after 5 Sep. A movement of YELLOW-THROATED WARBLERS from Manitoba to Newfoundland in mid-October seems to be responsible for the more than average influx of this warbler into N.S. this report period. A number of these warblers were continuing to be reported into late November and will likely be trying to over-winter.

An August report of a group of warblers, one seen clearly as a PINE WARBLER, in suitable habitat at Limerock, *Pict.* makes one wonder if they may have bred nearby. A number of the Pine Warblers in HRM were reported repeatedly by several observers and these sightings have not been repeated in the table. The last couple of years, there seem to be fewer fall PRAIRIE WABLERS reported in N.S. PALM WARBLERS are later migrants and reports started to trickle in the last week of August and into September, but the main bulk were reported in the first two weeks of October with laggards into the middle of November. A small number of western subspecies were reported.

CHP received a window-killed m. BAY-BREASTED WARBLER from somebody living in Mooseland in late May or early June. The bird had a band which yielded the following information. It was banded as a hatch-year bird at Cabot Head on the NE tip of the Bruce Peninsula, Ont. in Sep 2008. There were no reports of Bay-breasted Warblers after the end of August. Most BLACKPOLL WARBLER reports were of 1-2 birds unlike some years when they occur in good numbers. It appears the main migration was between late Sep and mid Oct. Peak movement of BLACK AND WHITE WARBLER was spread out through August and the first week of September.



This adult male PINE WARBLER was settling into the usual winter quarters amongst the pines of Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax. There, the wintering warblers glean tiny insects, spiders and their eggs from under flakes of bark; the legs of one tiny victim can be seen extending from the tip of the bird's beak. [Photo Hans Toom]

LOC provides the following details of a **CONNECTICUT WARBLER** seen in her yard 24 Aug: pale grey throat, eye-ring, yellow upper breast and undertail coverts, and white lower breast; she did not note leg colour. On Aug 28, this warbler was relocated nearby by DEG. A very agitated **MOURNING WARBLER** with at least one young was observed at Limerock, *Pict.* by SYP. The young bird still could not fly well even though it was into the second week of August. There were two postings of November warblers from the Dartmouth area that fit the description of **MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER**. On 7 Nov, Marty Zelenietz provided the following description of a warbler from Birch Cove Pk., *HRM*: "The warbler I saw was uniformly greyish above, no wing bars, split eye ring. Below, the bird was yellowish, with the colour intensifying towards the vent. There was a faint, diffuse greyish patch at the junction between throat and breast. The eye-ring: thinner on the top portion, less thin (I hesitate to say thick) on the bottom." Although he reported this bird as a Mourning Warbler the description is more likely the more western *Oporornis tolmiei*. On 27 Nov, CHP had a brief look at an Oporornis warbler with a broken eye-ring that was likely a MacGillivray's Warbler as well. SYP noted many hatch year **COMMON YELLOWTHOATS** in the 15 reported at Belleisle Marsh, 4 Aug. Otherwise, peak numbers were noted in the first half of September, tapering sharply to a trickle in October. With more than 90 reports for this species, a good picture of migration was achieved. The sole **HOODED WARBLER** was banded by the crew on BPI. The usual fall reverse migrant **YELLOW-BREASTED CHATS** were noted first on the islands of the south west in late August, but, by the end of the report period, there were sightings along the eastern shore as far north as Canso.

In tables * = see text for more details

Gray Catbird

Aug 13	North River, <i>Vic.</i>	1	Jim Philips
August	widely mainland	8 repts of 11	eBird
September	widely mainland	10 repts of 16	eBird
Sep 3	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	2	DBM
Sep 7	Port Hawkesbury, <i>Inv.</i>	3-4	DJO
Sep 12 - 30	5 HRM locales	5 repts of 6	HAT, LOC, KAM, GAM, ANM
Sep 25	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM
Oct 1	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	12	HAT
Oct 6	Digby Neck	6	JAH
Oct 19	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM
Oct 30	Spryfield, <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS
Nov 19	E. Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	CHP
Nov 20, 21	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS

Northern Mockingbird

Aug 7	Pt. Pleasant Pk.	1	NSBS
Aug 11	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1 *see above	fide JCT
Aug 31	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	2	Sterling Levy
Sep 15	Finlay Pk., <i>HRM</i>	1 juv., ph.	BBU
Oct 16	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	1 also Nov, 1	DJC
Oct 19	Fairview, <i>HRM</i>	1	KEL
Oct 28	Old Sackville Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1	DEG
Nov 27	Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	1	ROG
late Nov	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	2	Bonnie Nickerson fide DJC

Brown Thrasher

Sep 22	Brier I. Western light	1	Colin Bradshaw
--------	------------------------	---	-------------------

European Starling

Aug - Nov	province-wide	245 repts	eBird
Oct 7	Corkums I., <i>Lun.</i>	1000	JAH
Oct 10	Digby	2500	JAH
Oct 10	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1000	DAC

American Pipit

Sep 12, 14	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1; few	KJM; ALD
Sep 18	Brier I.,	1	KJM, Carl Canning
Sep 19	Brier I.	17	Colin Bradshaw
Sep 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	17	KJM
Sep 24	Georges Bank, <i>Yar.</i>	1	Christopher Vogel
Sep 26	Schooner Pd., <i>CBRM</i>	some, ph.	TUY, <i>et al.</i>
Sep 26	Brier I.	30	ELM
Sep 28, 29	Lockeport, <i>Shel.</i>	2	DJC
October	widely	21 repts	var. obs.
October	widely	17 repts	eBird
Nov 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Nov 20	South Head, <i>CBRM</i>	some	TUY, <i>et al.</i>

Bohemian Waxwing

Oct 25	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	heard overhead	KJM
Oct 26	Dingwall, <i>Vic.</i>	170+	DEG
Oct 31	Dartmouth	1	DAC
Oct 31	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	DEG
Oct 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	80+	KJM
Nov 7	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	160	KJM
Nov 7	First Peninsula, <i>Lun.</i>	26	JAH
Nov 11	Shubenacadie	40	KAM
Nov 13	East Apple River, <i>Cum.</i>	7	KFS
Nov 15	Shunacadie, <i>CBRM</i>	12	eBird
Nov 15	Canso, <i>Guys.</i>	40+	KJM
Nov 16 - 30	var. locales	4 repts	var. obs.



The **NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD** is an uncommon resident in the province, but Dartmouth (here a moulting adult 14 Sep at Sullivans Pond) is a reliable place to find them. [Photo Bernard Burke]

Cedar Waxwing

Aug 3, 8,			
11, 30	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	5, 8, 9, 2	DMW
Aug 11	Maccan, <i>Cumb.</i>	20+	KFS
Aug 28	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	8	KJM, RIF
Aug 30	Middle R. Dyke, <i>Pict.</i>	5	KJM
Sep 1	Back Harbour Tr., <i>Lun.</i>	lots	JAH
Sep 5	Port Mouton, <i>Queens</i>	sml flocks juvs	RES
Sep 13	Pt. Pleasant Pk.	25	AGH
Sep 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	55	KJM
Sep 18	Brier I.	50	KJM
Aug - Oct 31	widely	58 repts	eBird

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER

Aug 30	Brier I.	1 m.	BRD
Sep 12	BPI	1	Brad Woodworth, <i>et al.</i>

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER

Sep 10	Atwoods Bk., <i>Shel.</i>	1 (nd)	JON, SAN, TEC
--------	---------------------------	--------	---------------

Tennessee Warbler

Aug 23	Mt. Uniacke, <i>Hants</i>	1	Josh Vandermeulen
Sep 5	CSI	1	OLB
Sep 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1	OLB
Oct 10	Brier I.	1 fall fem, ph.	Alan Covert

Orange-crowned Warbler

Sep 26	Schooner Pd., <i>CBRM</i>	1	ALM, CAM
Oct 10	Back Harbour, <i>Lun</i>	1	JAH
Oct 11	Brier I.	1 eastern	ELM
Oct 11, 30	Schooner Pd. <i>CBRM</i>	2	CAM, ALM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 14	BPI	1	ABO <i>fide</i> LUB
Oct 19, 20	Crystal Crescent PP	1, 2	HAT
Oct 20, 29	Schooner Pd., <i>CBRM</i>	1, 3	DBM
Oct 20	Spryfield, <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL <i>fide</i> DAC
Oct 23	Dorothea Dr., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Oct 30	Dartmouth	1 yard	DAC
Oct 30	Lunenburg	1	JAH
November	widely	22 repts	var. obs.
Nov 16	Canso	4	TOK

Nashville Warbler

Aug 5	Timberlea, <i>HRM</i>	1	Debbie Stoddart-Pageau
Aug 8, 21	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	3, 1	KJM
Aug 11	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	LOC
Aug 16	Tremont, <i>Kings</i>	1	SLH
Aug 20	Markland Resort, <i>Vic.</i>	1	Neil Heinekamp
Aug 22	Pentz Lake, <i>Hants</i>	1	Josh Vandermeulen
Aug 27	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	DEG
September	widely	9 repts	var. obs.
Oct 19	Crystal Crescent PP	1	HAT
Oct 30	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 31	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1 bright	SJF, JSC
Nov 4	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS

Northern Parula

Aug 1 - 15	widely	6 repts/ 7birds	var. obs.
Aug 16 - 31	widely	11 repts of 18	var. obs.
Sep 1 - 15	widely	8 repts of 14	var. obs.
Sep 15 - 30	widely	3 repts of 4	var. obs.
Oct 3	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 11	Schooner Pd. <i>CBRM</i>	1	CAM, ALM

Yellow Warbler

Aug 1 - 15	widely	7 repts of 28	eBird
Aug 4	Belleisle Marsh, <i>Anna.</i>	20	SYP
Aug 16 - 31	widely	5 repts of 6	eBird
Aug 28	Brier I.	4 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Aug 30	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM
Aug 31	Brier I.	1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 1 - 15	widely	6 repts of 8	eBird
Sep 15 - 30	widely	3 repts of 3	eBird
Sep 24	Hantsport	4	JON
Oct 3	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	DMW
Oct 12	Halifax	1	ALD

Chestnut-sided Warbler

Aug 5 - Sep 6	widely mainland only	7 repts of 8	eBirds
Aug 28, 30	Brier I.	1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 13	Pt. Pleasant Pk.	1	AGH
Sep 26	White Pt. <i>Queens</i>	1	JCZ
Oct 4	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 1st winter	HAT
Oct 9	Hartlen Pt.	1	DEG

Magnolia Warbler

Aug 27 - 29	Brier I.	2, 4, 3, banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
-------------	----------	-----------------	-----------------

Aug 30, 31	Brier I.	3, 4 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Aug 6 - Sep 19	widely	30 repts of 46	eBird
Sep 3	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	15	DBM
Sep 25	Caribou I.	1	KJM
Sep 26	Milford Station	several	KAM
Oct 9	Brier I.	1	KJM, <i>et al.</i>

Cape May Warbler

Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Aug 28	Brier I.	1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Aug 29	BTL Tr., <i>HRM</i>	1 singing	BLM
Sep 5	Lwr. E. Chezzetcook, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, NIF

Black-throated Blue Warbler

Aug 22	Timberlea, <i>HRM</i>	1	DSP
Aug 29, 31	Brier I.	1, 1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 5	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1 m.	KJM, RIF
Sep 25	Georges Bank, <i>Yar.</i>	1	Christopher Vogel
Oct 1	Port Williams, <i>Kings</i>	1 m. "yard"	RBS
Oct 11	Halifax, south-end	1	ALD
Oct 13	Lake Echo, <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	CHP

Yellow-rumped Warbler

Aug 15 -			
Nov 30	widely	135 repts	eBird
Aug - Nov	province-wide	45 repts	var. obs.
Sep 27	Brier I.	hundreds arrive	ELM
Oct 8 - 10	Brier I.	50, 75, 100	KJM, <i>et al.</i>

Black-throated Green Warbler

Aug 5 - Oct 11	widely	38 repts	eBird
Aug 27 - 29	Brier I.	8, 5, 4 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Aug 30, 31	Brier I.	15, 8 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 13	Loganville, <i>Pict.</i>	15	BRD
Sep 18	Brier I.	6	KJM
Oct 2	Martinique Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1	Richard Cannings
Oct 2	Caribou I., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Oct 3	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Oct 9, 19	Brier I.	2, 1	<i>fide</i> KJM
Oct 11	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1	RIV
Oct 21	Spryfield, <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL
Oct 31	Bush I., <i>Lun.</i>	1	Lise Bell

TOWNSEND'S WARBLER

Nov 4 - 11	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL, MIK, var.obs
------------	--------------------------------	---	-------------------

Blackburnian Warbler

Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM
Aug 11	Musquodoboit Valley	1	Andrew Davis
Aug 15	Chegnecto NWA, <i>Cum.</i>	1	SYP
Aug 22	Cape Split, <i>Kings</i>	1	SYP
Aug 29 - 31	Brier I.	1,2,1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 5	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	HAT
Sep 5	Three Brooks, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER

Sep 30	BPI	1 banded*	<i>fide</i> LUB
Oct 20+	Aylesford, <i>Kings</i>	1 "albiflora"	Ann & Lloyd Young
Oct 26	Jubilee Rd., <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL
Oct 26+	St. Andrews, <i>Ant</i>	1 canary seed	<i>fide</i> RFL
Nov 2+	Pt. Pleasant Pk.	1	AGH
Nov 13	St. Agnes School, Halifax	1	DMC, NVG
Nov 27	DeWolfe Pk., Bedford, <i>HRM</i>	1	ROG

Pine Warbler

Aug 10	Limerock, <i>Pict.</i>	1, possibly 3	SYP
Sep 5	Lwr. E. Chezzetcook, <i>HRM</i>	1	BLM, NIF
Sep 10	Timberlea, <i>HRM</i>	1	DSP
Sep 24	Hantsport	3, 2 fem. 1 imm.	JOB
Oct 29	West Pennant, <i>HRM</i>	1	DOU, ANM
Oct 29	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	3	DEG
Oct 31	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	DEG
Nov 1	Pictou	4 all together	KJM
Nov 13	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
Nov 13	Conrads Beach, <i>HRM</i>	1	DEG
Nov 21	Pt. Pleasant Pk.	1	HAT
Nov 23	Sullivans Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1	DMC, NVG
Nov 27	Canso	2	NSBS
Nov 27	Lakeside Terrace, <i>HRM</i>	2	IAM

Prairie Warbler

Aug 21	BPI	1	LUB
Aug 30	Brier I.	1 m.	BRD
Sep 6	Cow Bay, <i>HRM</i>	1	PLC
Sep 15	CSI	1	Colin Bradshaw
Sep 21	Drysdale Rd. Tr., <i>HRM</i>	1 ad. m.	FLL
Oct 5	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1	SJF
Oct 10	Hartlen Pt.	2	DAC
Oct 12	Birch Cove Pk., <i>HRM</i>	3	Marty Zelenietz
Nov 25	Dartmouth	1	CHP
Palm Warbler			
August	widely	3 repts of 5	eBird
Aug 30	Brier I.	1 banded	BRD, <i>et al.</i>
September	widely	8 repts of 21	eBird
Sep 3	Sable R. and area, <i>Shel.</i>	5	JAH
Sep 20	Brier I.	8	Colin Bradshaw
Sep 25	Wagners Bch. Tr., <i>HRM</i>	1 "western"	BLM
October	widely	3 repts of 5	eBird
Oct 3	Big I.	5	KJM
Oct 4	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	mini influx	HAT
Oct 8 - 10	Brier I.	20, 7, 20	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 14	Portuguese Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1 "western"	IAM, BLM
Oct 28	Frog Pond, <i>HRM</i>	1 "western"	HAT
Oct 29	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
Oct 31	Old Halifax City Dump	2, 1 "western"	DAC
Oct 31	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	1 "western"	SJF
Nov 7 - 11	Pt. Pleasant Pk.	1	GDE, Bruce Doucette; m. obs

Bay-breasted Warbler

early June?	Mooseland, <i>HRM</i>	1 dead, band*	<i>fide</i> CHP
Aug 8	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	4	KJM
Aug 15	Chignecto NWA	1	SYP
Aug 22	Pentz Lake, <i>Hants</i>	1	Josh Vandermeulen
Aug 28, 30, 31	Brier I.	1,2,1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD

Blackpoll Warbler

September	widely, mainland	11 repts of 14	eBird
Sep 3	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	2	DBM
Sep 26	Keji Seaside Adjunct	21	JAH
October	widely mainland	9 repts of 23	eBird
Oct 12	South St., Halifax	30	DOC
Nov 2	Halifax Public Gardens	1	DEG
Nov 7	Pt. Pleasant Pk.	1	AGH
Nov 27	East Port L'Hebert, <i>Queens</i>	1	JAH

Black-and-white Warbler

August	widely	12 repts of 24	eBird
Aug 30, 31	Brier I.	4, 1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
September	widely	17 repts of 23	eBird
October	Brier I. & Pictou	3 repts of 3	eBird
Nov 11	Halifax (Weagwoltic)	1	DAC, AZV
Nov 11	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	m.obs.
Nov 15	Halifax (south end)	1	ALD

American Redstart

August	widely	7 repts of 7	eBird
Aug 27 - 29	Brier I.	1, 5, 1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Aug 30, 31	Brier I.	1, 4 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
September	widely	11 repts of 26	eBird
Oct 2	Gull I. <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 26, 28	south end Halifax	1	ALD
Oct 29	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
Nov 6	Pictou	1 fem or imm.	KJM
Nov 11	Pleasant Hill Cem.	1 adult. fem.	CLS, <i>et al.</i>

Ovenbird

Aug 2	Brier I.	1 migrant	ELM
Aug 28, 29	Brier I.	2,2 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 6	Cherry Hill, <i>Lun.</i>	3	OLB
Sep 8	Loganville, <i>Pict.</i>	5	BRD

Sep 20	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	3	KJM
Nov 7	White Pt., <i>Queens</i>	1 yard	MMI
Nov 28+	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 yard	DHU
Northern Waterthrush			
Aug 27 - 29	Brier I.	3, 6, 7 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Aug 31	Brier I.	1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 18	Brier I.	1	<i>fide</i> KJM
Sep 19	Digby Neck	1	JAH
Oct 10	Eastern Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC
Oct 13	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	MIK
CONNECTICUT WARBLER			
Aug 24	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 *	LOC
Mourning Warbler			
Aug 10	Limerock, <i>Pict.</i>	2	SYP
Aug 29	Brier I.	1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 8	Dartmouth	1 HY	Lynn Karchewski
Oct 8	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1	DMW
MACGILLIVRAY'S WARBLER			
Nov 7	Birch Cove Pk., <i>HRM</i>	1 *	Marty Zelenietz
Nov 27	Maybank Fields, Dartmouth	1 *	CHP
Common Yellowthroat			
August	widely	19 repts of 44	eBird
Aug 28 - 30	Brier I.	2, 3, 7 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
September	widely	63 repts of 99	eBird
October	widely	6 repts of 7	eBird
Oct 21	Spryfield, <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL
Nov 4	Annapolis Royal	1 ph.	Lois Jenkins
HOODED WARBLER			
mid.-Sep	BPI	1 banded	<i>fide</i> LUB
Wilson's Warbler			
Aug 27, 29, 30	Brier I.	1, 1, 1 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 2	Plymouth, <i>Pict.</i>	1 yard	KJM
Sep 3	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1	DBM
Sep 6	Sober I.	11	KJM, RIF
Sep 7	Port Hawkesbury, <i>Inv.</i>	1	DJO
Sep 7	Halifax	1	DMC, NVG
Sep 12	Lwr Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 fem.	LOC
Sep 13	Pt. Pleasant Pk.	1	AGH
Sep 20	Halifax	1	ANM
Oct 9	Brier I.	1	<i>fide</i> KJM
Canada Warbler			
Aug 11	Dollar L. PP, <i>HRM</i>	1	Andrew Davis
Aug 12	Mid. Musquodoboit	1	VJH
Aug 20	Big Tancook I., <i>Lun.</i>	1	Josh Vandermeulen
Aug 30, 31	Brier I.	3, 2 banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 14	Lower Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 yard	DEG
Yellow-breasted Chat			
Aug 27	BPI	1, HY banded	LUB
Aug 28, 30	Brier I.	1, HY banded	<i>fide</i> BRD
Sep 21	CSI	1	JON
Sep 25, 26	BPI	1	LUB
Oct 10	Peggys Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1	DEG
Oct 30	Vienna St., Halifax	1 also Nov 11	SEM
Oct 31	Day St., Dartmouth	1 (also Nov 2)	DAC, (MIK)
Oct 31	Old Halifax City dump, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC
Oct 31	Hastings St., Dartmouth	1	DAC
Oct 31	Lynn St., Dartmouth	1	DAC
Nov 9	Silvers Rd., Dartmouth	1	JUO
Nov 11+	Spryfield, <i>HRM</i>	1	IAM, var. obs.
Nov 14	Cole Harbour, <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC
Nov 16	Canso, <i>Guys</i>	1	TOK
Nov 19+	Pleasant Hill Cem.	1	var. obs.
Nov 21	Sober I., <i>HRM</i>	1	KJM, CHK
Nov 27	Maynard St., Halifax	1 ph.	Mimi Fautley
Nov 30	Rockingham, <i>HRM</i>	1	JEH
Nov 28	Dartmouth	1	CHP

*see text for more details

Tanagers through House Sparrows

By Ian McLaren

Recently the longspurs and Snow Bunting on the AOU Checklist have been moved out of the sparrows to a position before the wood warblers, but for now we've kept them in this section. The tabulation is greatly condensed from NS-RBA, NatureNS, and the increasingly voluminous eBird. Sightings of common species are given by 2-week intervals, plus a few major gatherings or migrations. Some day, eBird may eliminate the need for such tabulations in *Nova Scotia Birds*.

Numbers of our regular sparrows (CHIPPING, SAVANNAH, SONG and WHITE-THROATED SPARROWS, and DARK-EYED JUNCO) peaked in late September through mid-October, with notable later waves of Chipping, Song, and White-throated Oct 29-30 on Brier I. The larger August counts of SAVANNAH and NELSON'S SPARROW were presumably of breeding birds and their young – the latter departed almost unnoticed. A brightly plumaged Nelson's Sparrow evidently of the prairies subspecies *nelsoni* was found 3 Oct at Hartlen Pt., HRM (see photo). Among our regular vagrants only CLAY-COLORED and LARK SPARROW were in especially good numbers.



What may have been our first **BAIRD'S SPARROW** was reported by TOK, who on 7 Oct at Canso "had a sparrow I've never seen before pop up 10-12' away from me after a single light pish. I looked at it with my binos for about 5-10 sec . . . I was unable to get a photo because it stayed deep . . . [but] I'm almost positive . . . [it] was a Baird's Sparrow . . . Mike K[ing]. . . . [on] 9 Oct . . . had an unidentified strange sparrow ~ 50 yards from the location of my sighting. Weak flight (Grasshopper Sp. like) came out of the sparse grass [and] stayed low and dove into cover. He noted a very dark (charcoal looking) back . . ." . Field guides don't stress the blackish back plumage of Baird's Sparrow, especially in first fall, compared with other *Ammodramus* sparrows. Both observers are properly tentative about the i.d., but birders should keep in mind this overdue species. The reported **SMITH'S LONGSPURS** were observed closely as they fed at the shore of The Hawk, CSI, and described as being strongly buffy below. There are only two previous (sight) records of this species here, and photos showing the distinctive face markings, primary extension, rufous edges on tertials, etc., are probably needed for wide acceptance of sightings of fall-winter birds.

The plumage of this sparrow seems too contrasting for our local NELSON'S SPARROW (subspecies *alterus*), and its long bill resembles that of the SALTMARSH SPARROW, which breeds in s. Maine and beyond (one NS record). On the original image the bird is bright buff ventrally, including the throat (white or pale gray in Saltmarsh), its back is rich brown (more grayish brown in Saltmarsh) and has rufous flight feathers. Also, the weak streaking on the anterior flanks, and, importantly, the almost all black outer tertials (pale with a narrow black inner border on Saltmarsh), all mark it as an inland NELSON'S SPARROW of the prairie subspecies *nelsoni*. [Photo Ulli Hoeger]

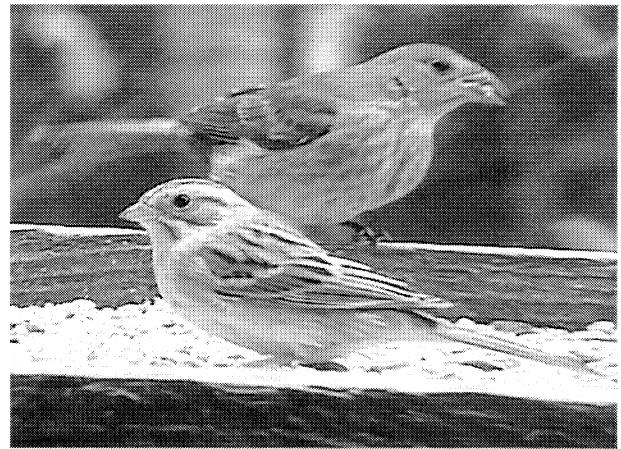
In Wolfville, JWW speculated that some NORTHERN CARDINAL pairs might have had three successive broods, and the Dayes in Truro believed theirs did so. Other vagrant cardinalids, including tanagers and DICKCISSEL, were in routine numbers, but over 50 INDIGO BUNTINGS were more than usual.

As a sad echo of the summer report, JCT reports that there were 3-4 BOBOLINK nests in a field on Wolfville Ridge in 2009, but none in 2010. Some good movements in late August and early September were perhaps reassuring. There were large flocks of RED-WINGEDS and COMMON GRACKLES in late October, but not of other blackbirds. One of KFS's m. Red-winged 11 Nov at Apple River had a striking white and pink-tinged breast. A young m. BALTIMORE ORIOLE, 1 Nov on Hermans I., Lun. (ph. D. Dixon), was strikingly red-breasted – now known to result from feeding on rhodoxanthin-rich honeysuckle berries prior to moulting.

There was some suggestion of arriving flocks of PURPLE FINCH, WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL, COMMON REDPOLL and PINE SISKIN in mid to late November, but the "winter finch forecast" by Ontario's Ron Pittaway will be more properly tested by winter's end.

Eastern Towhee				Nov 1 - 15	widely	8 repts., 15 ind. 5 obs.
Oct 28, 29	Schooner Pond, CBRM	1	BES, GEC, DBM	Nov 16 - 30	HRM, Ann.	7 repts., 19 ind. 5 obs.
Chipping Sparrow				Aug 1	Lr. Sackville, HRM	1 APO, RIV
Oct 31	Russell L., Dartmouth	1 fem.	DAC	Aug 8	Cheticamp, Inv.	2 Megan
Nov 16	Canso	2	TOK			Westerfelt
American Tree Sparrow				Aug 21 - 28	Big I., Pict.; Cape Split	4 repts., 7 ind. KJM, SYP
Oct 25 - 31	Bridgetown Anna.	3 repts., 5 ind.	KFS, KJM, MCR	Sep 17 - 30	widely	3 repts., 7 ind. 2 obs.

Oct 5 - 15	widely	6 repts, 9 ind.	5 obs.
Oct 11	Brier I.	30	ELM, NSBS
Oct 16	E. Passage, <i>HRM</i>	2	MIK
Nov 10	Apple River	1	KFS
Oct 30	Brier I.	40	ELM
Oct 31	Annapolis Royal	1	Mark Langford
Clay-colored Sparrow			
Sep 18	Hartlen Pt.	1	MIK
Sep 23	Lawrencetown, <i>HRM</i>	1 (ph.)	CHP
Sep 25, 26	Schooner Pond, <i>CBRM</i>	1 (ph.)	AAM, CAM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 10	Brier I. & Digby Neck	1, 1	KJM, JAH
Oct 11	BPI	1	LUB
Oct 23	Peggy's Cove	1	D. Garratt
Oct 23 - 28	Sunrise Valley, <i>Vic.</i>	1	FMC
Oct 29	Canso	1	TOK
Nov 4 - 15	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	DAC, <i>et al.</i>
Nov 20 - 30	Canso	up to 2 (1 ph.)	TOK <i>et al.</i>
Nov 27	Little Dover, <i>Guys.</i>	1	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Field Sparrow			
Oct 10	Brier I.	1	ELM, NSBS
Nov 25 - 27	Canso	1	TOK, <i>et al.</i>
Vesper Sparrow			
Oct 11	Marsh Rd., <i>Digby</i>	1	KJM
Oct 21	Pleasant Hill Cem., <i>HRM</i>	1	CLS
Nov 27	Little Dover, <i>Guys.</i>	1	KJM, <i>et al.</i>
Lark Sparrow			
Sep 1 - 6	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	FLL, D. Garrett
mid-Sep	BPI	1	LUB
Sep 25	Dartmouth	1	CHP
Sep 26	Iona, <i>Vic.</i>	1	DBM
Sep 10	Atwoods Brk., <i>Shel.</i>	1	TEC, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 11	Hartlen Pt.	1	CLS
October	Canso	"several in town"	TOK, <i>et al.</i>
Nov 25	Dartmouth	1	CHP
Nov 27	Canso	1	NSBS
Savannah Sparrow			
Aug 1 - 15	widely	8 repts., 40+ ind.	6 obs.
Aug 16 - 31	widely	7 repts, 45+ ind.	5 obs.
Aug 30	Conrads I., <i>Lun.</i>	27	JAH, K. Lantz
Sep 1 - 15	widely	30 repts., ca. 50 ind.	8 obs.
Sep 16 - 30	widely	13 repts., 40+ ind.	6 obs.
Sep 27	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	58	KJM
Oct 1 - 15	widely	7 repts., 22 indivs.	5 obs.
Oct 3, 16	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	30, 27	KJM
Oct 10	E. Passage, <i>HRM</i>	30	DMC, NVG
Oct 17 - 31	widely	7 repts., 14 ind.	4 obs.
Nov 4	Port George, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Nov 4	Bellis Marsh, <i>Digby</i>	10	S. Penner
Nov 27	Canso	3	NSBS
Savannah (Ipswich) Sparrow			
Sep 30, Oct 22	Duncans Cove, <i>HRM</i>	1, 1	HAT
Oct 5	Conrad Bch., <i>HRM</i>	1	DMW
Oct 9, 29	Brier I.	2, 3	NSBS, ELM
Oct 11, 22	Sandy Cove, <i>HRM</i>	3, 3	HAT
Oct 17	CSI	1	JCX
Nov 26	Grand Desert, <i>HRM</i>	2	CHP
Grasshopper Sparrow			
Nov 17	Higginsville, <i>HRM</i>	1	CHP
Nelson's Sparrow			
Aug 1, 29	Conrads I., <i>Lun.</i>	12, 10	JAH
Aug 1 - 15	widely	5 repts, 16 ind.	5 obs.
Aug 28	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Aug 30	Conrads I., <i>Lun.</i>	10	JAH, K. Lantz
Sep 9	Rose Bay, <i>Lun.</i>	3	JAH
Sep 25	Waterside PP, <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Oct 7	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1 ssp. <i>nelsoni</i> (ph.)	ULH



A CLAY-COLORED SPARROW and a first-fall male INDIGO BUNTING late October at a feeder at Sunrise Valley, *Vic.*, were among good numbers of both species this fall. The strongly arched culmen of the bunting is unusual, but not beyond the limits. Its seemingly large size compared with the Chipping Sparrow is a telephoto effect, in which more distant subjects appear large in relation to closer ones of the similar size. [Photo Fritz McEvoy]

BAIRD'S SPARROW

Oct 7, 9 Canso 1 "possible" TOK, MIK

Fox Sparrow

Sep 2 Cow Bay-Lawrencetown, *HRM* 3 Tony Chubbs
 Sep 21 Sandy Cove, *HRM* 1 FLL

Sep 30 -
 Oct 14 widely 6 repts., 8+ ind. 4 obs.
 Oct 21 - 31 widely 5 repts., 6+ ind. 5 obs.
 Nov 1 - 15 widely 5 repts, 6 ind. 5 obs.
 Nov 16 - 30 widely 3 repts, 4 ind. 3 obs.

Song Sparrow

Aug 1 -
 Nov 30 widely (mostly e-Bird) ca. 300 repts., 1500+ ind. many obs.
 300+ arrivals ELM
 Oct 29, 30 Brier I.

Lincoln's Sparrow

Sep 3 Schooner Pond, *CBRM* 1 DBM
 Sep 6 Cherry Hill, *Lun.* 1 OLB
 Sep 13 - 28 widely 6 repts., 11 ind. 5 obs.
 Oct 10 Brier I. 1 KJM
 mid-Oct Sunrise Val., *Vic.* a few FME
 Oct 29 Hartlen Pt., *HRM* 1 D. Garratt
 Nov 11 - 20 Pleasant Hill Cem., *HRM* 1 CLS, *et al.*

Swamp Sparrow

August widely 9 repts, 15 ind. 5 obs.
 September widely 18 repts., 35+ ind. 9 obs.
 Oct 1 - 15 widely 12 repts., 26 ind. 4 obs.
 Oct 16 - 31 widely 8 repts, 11 ind. 5 obs.
 Oct 29 Brier I. 6 arrivals ELM
 Nov 1 - 28 Canso, *HRM* 5 repts, 6 ind. 4+ obs.

White-throated Sparrow

August widely 7 repts, 25+ ind. 5 obs.
 Sep 1 - 15 widely 13 repts, ca. 40 ind. 5 obs.
 Sep 16 - 30 widely 16 repts., 125+ ind. 8 obs.
 Oct 1 - 15 widely 13 repts., ca. 90 ind. 8 obs.
 Oct 16 - 31 widely 25 repts., ca. 75 ind. 12 obs.
 Oct 30 Brier I. 150 arrived ELM

Nov 1 - 15	widely	23 repts., 80+ ind.	7 obs.
Nov 16 - 30	widely.	11 repts. 20+ ind.	5 obs.
White-crowned Sparrow			
Sep 25	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1	KJM
Sep 30	Bissett L., Dartmouth	1	SUB
Oct 3 - 16	widely	7 repts., 9 ind.	7 obs.
Oct 8, 11	Brier I.	10 ad., 15 imm.	ELM, <i>et al.</i>
Oct 10	Digby Neck	1 ad., 7 imm.	JAH
Oct 17 - 31	widely	10 repts., 13+ ind.	6 obs.
Oct 29	Brier I.	12	ELM
Dark-eyed Junco			
August	widely	21 repts., 98+ ind.	8 obs.
Sep 1 - 15	widely	10 repts., 77+ ind.	8 obs.
Sep, 16 - 30	widely	20 repts., 90+ ind.	9 obs.
Sep 20	Lr. Sackville	nos. arrived	M. Ewer
Sep 27	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	37	KJM
Oct 1 - 15	widely	14 repts, ca. 200 ind.	9 obs.
Oct 16 - 31	widely	41 repts., 220+ ind.	15 obs.
Oct 20	Margaretsville area, <i>Anna.</i>	200	RBS
Nov 1 - 15	widely	42 repts., 200+ ind.	15 obs.
Nov 16 - 30	widely	21 repts., 120+ ind.	11 obs.
Nov 28	Windsor	1 with white collar (ph)	PKE
Lapland Longspur			
Sep 27	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	2	KJM
Oct 7, 10	HRM	3, 4	MIK, HAT
Oct 23 - 31	widely	6 repts., 9+ ind.	5 obs.
Nov 1	Canso	5	TOK
Nov 3	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	12	BLF
Nov 26	W. Apple River, <i>Cum.</i>	1	KFS
SMITH'S LONGSPUR			
Nov 4	The Hawk, CSI	1 (limited details)	BJS, SIS
Snow Bunting			
Oct 23, 31	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	1, 2	KJM
Oct 24	Grand Pré, <i>Kings</i>	1	RBS
Oct 25	Cole Hbr.	1 ph.	PMU
Nov 7	Big I., <i>Pict.</i>	80	KJM
Nov 8 - 30	4 locs.	5 repts., 13 ind.	KJM, NSBS
Nov 27	T. Raddall PP, <i>Queens</i>	20	JAH
Scarlet Tanager			
Oct 16	E. Passage, <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	MIK
Oct 17	St. Peter's, <i>Rich.</i>	1 m.	BID
Northern Cardinal			
Through season	Halifax	up to 9 ind.	sev. obs.
Through season	Wolfville	2 pairs & 4+ young at feeder	JWW
Through season	Truro	pr. + 3 broods	G. & V. Daye
Through season	Bridgetown, <i>Anna.</i>	1 or 2	MCR
Through season	Dartmouth	10+	sev. obs.
late Aug	Big Tancook I.	1 "new"	Hilary Dionne
Sep 8	Digby Neck	1	
Sep 20	Wolfville	1 "orange" imm. m.	JWW
Sep 22	Cole Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1 m.	Theresa Revoy
Oct 10 - 31	widely, <i>HRM</i> & s. <i>Cum.</i>	8 repts., 12 ind.	8 obs.
Oct 29	Brier I., N. Pt.	m., fem. arrived	ELM
Nov 1 - 21	widely, <i>HRM, Cum.</i> & s.	7 repts., 13 ind.	6 obs.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak			
Sep 10	Dartmouth	1 fem.	DOC
Sep 12	Lr. Sackville	1 y. m.	LOC
Sep 17, 18	Wolfville	1 y. m.	JWW
Oct 4	Apple River, <i>Cum.</i>	1 imm.	KFS

Blue Grosbeak			
Sep 12	BPI	1 fem. banded	B. Woodworth
Sep 13	Hartlen Pt.	2	MIK
Oct 11	Hartlen Pt.	3	CLS
Oct 11	nr. Ketch Hbr., <i>HRM</i>	1	
Oct 17	Canso	1	TOK
Oct 17	Landfill, n. Halifax	2 1st fall	DOC



These two winter wanderers from arctic Canada were a little ahead of schedule in late October – the LAPLAND LONGSPUR near Duncan's Cove and the SNOW BUNTING along the Saltmarsh Trail, *HRM.* [Photos: (above) Hans Toom, (below) Paul Murray]

Indigo Bunting			
Sep 11 - 13	BPI	1 fem.	B. Woodworth
Sep 12	Brier I.	1	KJM
Sep 24	Broad Cove, <i>Lun.</i>	1 fem./imm.	SJF
Oct 9	Canso	15+	MIK
Oct 10 - 15	widely	6 repts., 10 ind.	6 obs.
Oct 16 - 31	widely	11 repts., 13 ind.	7 obs.
Oct 17	N. end landfill, Halifax	ca. 15	DAC, FLL
Dickcissel			
Aug 29	BPI	1	LUB
Sep 10	Brier I.	1	Paul Prior
Sep 13	Lr. Sackville, <i>HRM</i>	1 imm. m.	LOC
Sep 18	Hartlen Pt., <i>HRM</i>	1	AGH
Oct 29 - early Nov	Lr. Sackville	1 imm. m.	LOC
Oct 30 - Nov 21	Yarmouth	1	EBR
Nov 13	S. End Halifax	1	AGH
Nov 20 - 30	Canso	1-2	TOK, <i>et al.</i>
Bobolink			
Late Aug	BPI	12+	LUB
Aug 28	Big I., <i>Pic.</i>	30	KJM

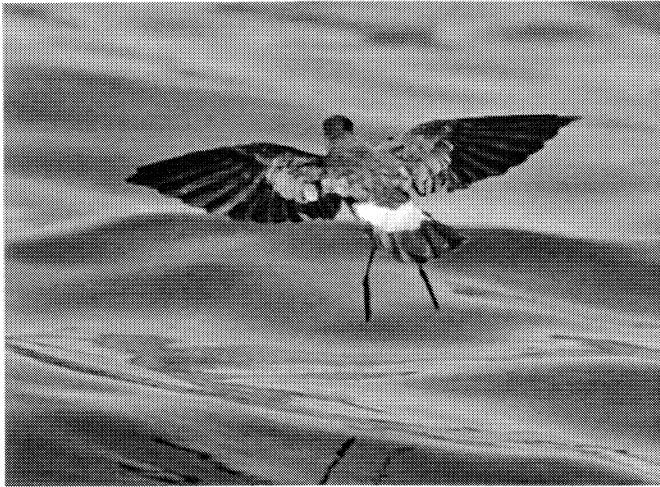
Aug 28	Lunenburg area	1	JAH		
Sep 5	Cherry Hill Bch., Lun.	nos.	SLF		
Sep 8	Broad Cove, Lun.	22	SLF		
To 1 Nov	Canso	4-5	TOK		
Eastern Meadowlark					
Sep 10	Hartlen Pt.	1 "very bright"	MIK		
Red-winged Blackbird					
Aug 16	Saxon Pond, Kings	3-400, mostly m.s	JCT		
Oct 24	Woods Hbr., Shel.	14 at feeder	DOP		
Oct 30	Lunenburg	1	JAH		
Oct 31	nr, Bridgetown, Ann.a	in mixed flock of 3000	Mark Lambert		
Oct 31	CSI	36 at feeder	JON		
Oct 31	Russell L., Dartmouth	150+	DAC		
Nov 2, 3	Lockport	3 fems.	DJC		
Nov 8, 11	Apple River, Cum.	50+, 20+	KFS		
Nov 14, 20	Apple River, Cum.	1, 2	KFS		
Yellow-headed Blackbird					
Sep 18	Blockhouse, Lun.	1 imm. m.	MIK, DEG		
Sep 25	Lockeport, Shel.	1 imm. m.	sev. obs., fide DJC		
Rusty Blackbird					
Aug 28	BPI	1	LUB		
Sep 26	CBRM	1	TUY		
Oct 11	CSI	3	JON		
Oct 31	nr. Bridgetown, Anna.	No.? in mixed flock of 3000	Mark Lambert		
Nov 2 - 8	Pleasant Hill Cem., HRM	2	var. obs.		
Nov 20	Canso	1 at feeder	TOK		
Common Grackle					
Aug 23	Fauxburg Trail, Lun.	1	JAH		
Sep 1 - Oct 15	widely	4 repts., 20 + "small flock"			
Oct 16	Halifax	flock	DAM		
Oct 22	Sunrise Vall., Vic.	"small group"	FEM		
Oct 23	Plymouth, Pic.	ca. 4000, nearby roost?	KJM		
Oct 28	Brier I.	ca. 220	ELM		
Oct 31	nr, Bridgetown, Ann.	in mixed flock of 3000	Mark Lambert		
Oct 31	Russell L., Dartmouth	200+	DAC		
Oct 31, Nov, 1	Apple River, Cum.	45+, 250	KFS		
Oct 31	CSI	100 at feeder	JON		
Nov 16 - 28	widely	4 repts., 19+ ind.	4 obs.		
Brown-headed Cowbird					
Oct 8	Hartlen Pt., HRM	8	CLS		
Oct 21	St. Peters, Rich.	fem. at feeder	BID		
Oct 31	CSI	7 at feeder	JON		
Oct 31	Russell L., Dartmouth	2	DAC		
Nov 8	Onslow, Cum.	4	DOU		
Orchard Oriole					
Aug 28	BPI	1	LUB		
Sep 2 - 5	Hartlen Pt., HRM	1	AGH, HAT		
Baltimore Oriole					
Late Aug	BPI	nos.	LUB		
Aug 29, 30	Brier I.	1, 1 banded	BRD		
Sep 1 - 15	HRM	6 repts. 12 ind.	5 obs.		
Sep 6	32 km off Halifax	1	DAC		
Sep 16 - 30	HRM, Sunrise Vall., Vic.	3 repts., 4 ind.	4 obs.		
Oct 6 - 15	HRM, Rich.	4 repts. 5 ind.	4 obs.		
Oct 16 - 30	HRM, Cum., Canso	7 repts., 14 ind.	9 obs.		
Nov 1 - 15	widely	9 repts., 18 ind.	8+ obs.		
Nov 16 - 30	widely	5 repts., 16 ind.	5 obs.		
BULLOCK'S ORIOLE					
Sep 6	Baccaro Pt., Shel.	1 m.	JON		
Oct 30+	St. Andrews, Ant.	1	fide RFL		
Nov 15	Canso	1 fem.	KJN		
Pine Grosbeak					
Sep 26	Sunrise Vall., Rich.	1 imm. m.	FEM		
Oct 31	Big I., Pic.	2	KJM		
Nov 12	Apple River, Cum.	1	BLM, KFS		
Nov 27	Schooner Cove, CBRM	1	DBM		
Nov 27	Oban, Rich.	7	BID		
Purple Finch					
Through					
season	Barrington	nos.	RMC		
Late Aug	4 locs.	4 repts., 11 ind.	4 obs.		
Sep 2 - 13	HRM, Kings	4 repts., 10+ ind.	3 obs.		
Sep 30	Hantsport	3 at feeder	JOB		
Sep 30	Doctors Brk., Ant.	2 migr.	JOK		
Oct 5	Conrad Bch. Rd, HRM	1.	DWW		
Oct 11	Brier I.	nos.	KJM		
Oct 16 - 18	Apple River, Cum.	10	KFS		
Oct 30	Lunenburg	1	JAH		
Oct 31	Apple River, Cum.	6	KFS		
Nov 1 - 15	HRM, Cum., Canso	4 repts., 6 ind.	4 obs.		
Nov 13 - 16	Canso	nos. arrive	TOK		
House Finch					
Through					
season	Barrington	nos.?	RMC		
Through					
season	Halifax	7+	DOC, IAM		
Oct 28	Spryfield	2	FLL		
Nov 23	CSI	nos.?	JON		
Red Crossbill					
Oct 9	Dover, Guys.	2	MIK		
Oct 11	Sand Lake, CBRM	4	AAM, CAM		
Nov 17	St. Peters, Rich.	m., fem.	BID		
Nov 25	Apple River, Cum.	1 m.	KFS		
White-winged Crossbill					
Sep 22	Big I., Pic.	nos.	ALD		
Nov 1	Sober I.,	4	KJM		
Nov 1	W. Apple.River, Cum.	40+	KFS		
Nov 12	W. Apple.River, Cum.	8	BLM, KFS		
Nov 21	Sober I., HRM	4	KJM		
Nov 26	W. Apple.River, Cum.	120+	KFS		
Nov 26, 27	Canso	nos.			
Common Redpoll					
Nov 13	Big I., Pic.	30+	KJM		
Nov 21	Pleasant Hill Cem., HRM	3	RIV		
Pine Siskin					
Sep 14	St. Peters, Rich.	1, 1st in months	BID		
Sep 30	Hantsport	2 at feeder	JOB		
Nov 4	Halifax	nos., 1st at feeder	ANM		
Nov 12 - 30	Lr. Sackville	1-2 daily	LOC		
Nov 13 - 16	Canso	many arrive	TOK		
Nov 19	Halifax	1, 1st in 6 mos.	fide PAC		
Nov 23	Rockingham, HRM	16	fide PAC		
Nov 25	Whites Lake, HRM	ca.10. 1st in 10 mos.	BLM		
American Goldfinch					
Aug 23 - 30	4 locs.	4 repts., 20+ ind.	4 obs.		
Sep 1 - 13	HRM	4 repts., 9+ ind.	4 obs.		
Sep 22 - 30	widely	5 repts., 120+ ind.	5 obs.		
Oct 5 - 31	4 locs.	5 ind. + "abundant"	4 obs.		
Oct 17	Halifax	1 leucistic m. (P)	Alan Springer		
Nov 13	Big I., Pict.	100+	KJM		
Nov 13 - 16	Canso	many arrive	TOK		
Nov 22	Brookfield	nos.			
Nov 30	Barrington	ca. 50	RMC		
Evening Grosbeak					
Sep 24	Loganville, Pic.t	2 flocks of 8, 20	BRD		
Oct 21 - 31	widely	6 repts., 56+ "numbers"	6 obs.		
Nov 1 - 13	widely	6 repts., 18+ ind.	5 obs.		
Nov 29	Halifax S. End	7+	ALD		
House Sparrow					
Oct 20	Halifax n. landfill	1 (of former flock)	BLM		

List of Contributors

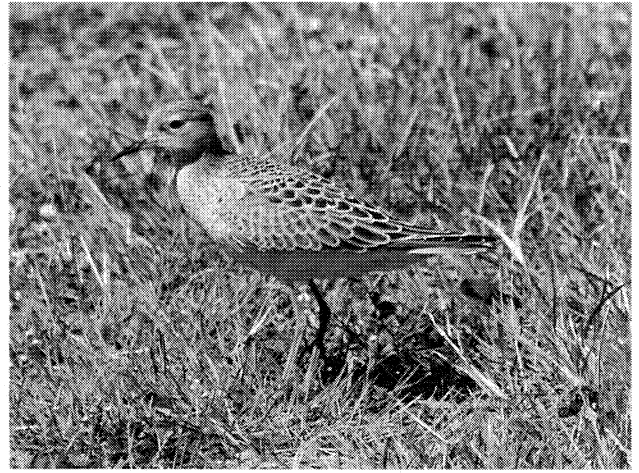
Thanks to all of our contributors, including (sorted by initials):

MacLean, Angus	AAM	Perry, Lillian	LPE	Garron, Louise
Horn, Andy	AGH	Berrigan, Lucas	LUB	Gladman, Pat
Mills, Anne	AHM	Brennan, Mark	MAB	Harwood, Avril
Smith, Aileen	AIS	Cameron-MacMillan, Maureen	MCM	Hawes, Pat
Doull, Ann	ALD	Rice, Maggie	MCR	Higgins, Ellen
Murrant, Allan	ALM	Nic Fieldsend	NIF	Hojberg, Jake
Pouliot, Anita	APO	NS Bird Society Field Trip	NSBS	Jenkins, Lois
Avery Bartels	AVB	Vella-Geldart, Nicole	NVG	Jennings, M.
Digout, Billy	BID	Barden, Olivier	OLB	Jetté, Jean-François
Smith, Betty June	BJS	Giffin, Barbara & Patrick	PBG	Joudrey, Angela
Maybank, Blake	BLM	Chalmers, Patricia L.	PLC	Kennard, Ellie
Carmichael, Bonnie	BOC	Murray, Paul	PMU	Klaiber, Allen & Denise
Dalzell, Brian	BRD	Gould, Paul	PRG	LaCelle, Robert
Stevens, Bruce	BRS	Stowe, Peter	PST	Loch, John
Starzomski, Brian	BST	Rachel Cooper	RAC	MacDonald, Mike
Murrant, Cathy	CAM	Hoogenbos, Rachel	RAH	MacIntosh, Jeff
Pepper, Chris	CHP	Stern, Richard	RBS	MacLeod, Karen
Field, Chris	CJF	Smith, Ruth E.	RES	MacLeod, Lincoln
Stoddard, Clyde	CST	Lauff, Randy F.	RFL	Magee, Philip
Currie, David	DAC	Viau, Rita	RIV	Majka, Chris
MacNeill, Don	DAM	Hall, Ross	ROH	McCormick, Patricia
Pugh, David	DAP	Nickerson, Sandra	SAN	McKay, Richard
Walmart, David	DAW	Myers, Susann	SEM	Miller, Tony
Codling, Don	DCO	Hawboldt, Sharon	SHH	Morash, Elliot
Fiske, Dean	DEF	Smith, Sid	SIS	Munn, John
Garrett, Dennis	DEG	Fullerton, Sylvia	SJF	Musher, Lukas
Crosby, Donna	DJC	Hulford, Sheila	SLH	Mutch, Al
Forbes, Don	DLF	Borkowski, Suzanne	SMB	Nickerson, Devon
Welch, Dottie	DMW	Sydney Penner	SYP	Palmer, Martha
Cormier, Dominic	DOC	Kavanagh, Tom	TOK	Parson, Adora
Doull, Elizabeth	DOU	Young, Tuma	TUY	Penner, Sydney
Poole, Dorothy	DPO	Höger, Ulli	ULH	Phillips, Jim
Mills, Eric L.	ELM	Redden, Virginia	VIR	Prior, Paul
Stern, Elizabeth	ELS	Higgins, Verna J.	VJH	Reers, Hendrik
Spalding, Francis	FLS	Neily, Wayne	WPN	Reid, Marie
McEvoy, Fritz	FMC			Richey, Susan
MacLean, Gayle	GAM	Ackroyd, Diana & William		Roberts, Nancy
Forsythe, George	GFO	Atkinson, F.		Robinson, Kate
Murray, Gary	GMU	Bartels, Avery		Rodriguez, Jennifer
Forsythe, Harold	HAF	Bennett, Barry		Sabeau, Barry
Toom, Hans	HAT	Bennett, Carolann		Saunders, Laura
McLaren, Ian	IAM	Boswell, Terry		Schlosberg, David & Jane
Llechasseur, Isabelle	ISL	Bowen, Michael		Swift, Jamie
Hirtle, James	JAH	Boyer, Paul		Swim, Donny
Tufts, Judy	JCT	Bruhm, Gail		Tingley, Stuart
Czapalay, Joan	JCZ	Bussey, Bill		Thibideau, Dan
Hiltz, Jeff	JEF	Cannings, Richard		Timmons, Anthony
Hartley, Jean	JEH	Cameron, Jim		Tyson, Dan
Churchill, James L.	JLC	Cartwright, Cindy I.		Viau, Mike
Nickerson, Johnnie	JON	Chubbs, Tony		Vibensky, G.
Cohrs, Shirley	JSC	Crawford, Charles		Vogel, Christopher
Swift, June	JUS	Culver, Ginny		Water, David
MacInnis, John W.	JWM	Curry, Christine		Webster, David
Wolford, Jim	JWW	Davis, Andrew		Whitman, Rick
Lantz, Kevin	KEL	Evans, Paul		Wigney, Bev
Spicer, Kathleen	KFS	Fieldsend, Nicholas		Wilson, Sasha
McKenna, Ken J.	KJM	Flint, Peter		Zelenietz, Marty
Elliot, Laura	LAE	Gaquier, Sophie		
Codling, Lois	LOC	Garratt, Dennis		

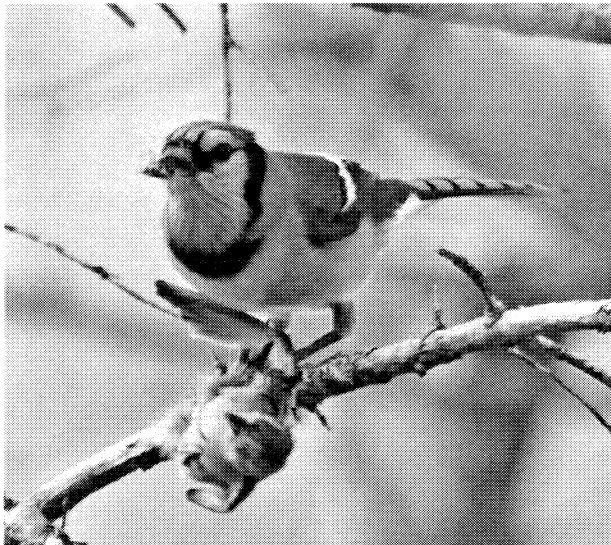
Photo Gallery - Don't Forget The Locals!



A WILSON'S STORM-PETREL, photographed 6 Sep during a pelagic trip off Halifax, danced across the water with its long legs extended – classic behaviour and an easy identification. [Photo Bruce Stevens]



This elegant juvenile BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER was photographed 5 Sep at Rainbow Haven PP, HRM. [Photo Bernard Burke]



We know that the BLUE JAY is a nest robber, but given a chance, they can also prey on small birds. This one, photographed in September at E. Chester 22 Sep, killed and consumed an American Goldfinch [Photo Alan Covert]



Weather - Eastern Annapolis Valley - Autumn 2010

By Larry Bogan

Monthly Averages of Weather Data Kentville, Nova Scotia 2010

(from the Canada Food & Horticulture Research Centre, Kentville, N.S.)

	Average Temperature (C)			Rain (mm)	Snowfall (cm)
	Max	Min	Mean		
September	21.7	11.7	16.7	93	0
<i>average</i>	<i>19.4</i>	<i>9.2</i>	<i>14.3</i>	<i>87</i>	<i>0</i>
October	14.1	5.2	9.7	134	0
<i>average</i>	<i>13.4</i>	<i>4.5</i>	<i>9.0</i>	<i>95</i>	<i>2</i>
November	8.2	6.8	12.4	235	0
<i>average</i>	<i>7.5</i>	<i>5.0</i>	<i>10.6</i>	<i>117</i>	<i>12</i>
Autumn	14.7	5.7	10.2	462	0
<i>average</i>	<i>13.43</i>	<i>4.6</i>	<i>9.03</i>	<i>299</i>	<i>14</i>

Temperatures:

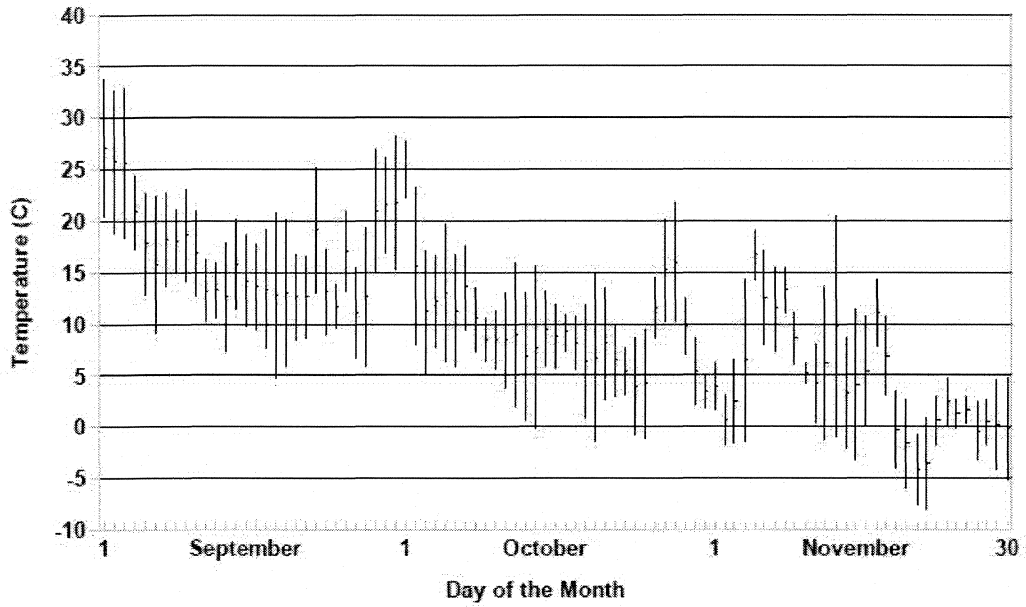
All three months of the season were above average in temperature but September was by far the extreme with a mean temperature 2.4°C above average. October and November were only 0.7°C and 0.5°C above average. Even at the end of September we were getting highs in the upper 20's. There were 19 days in September with the maximum above 20°C while the long term average is only 12 such days. If you look at the graph of the season's temperatures, you will see that we did not have any cold days until the end of November. October and early November days stayed in the 0 to +20°C range.

Rainfall:

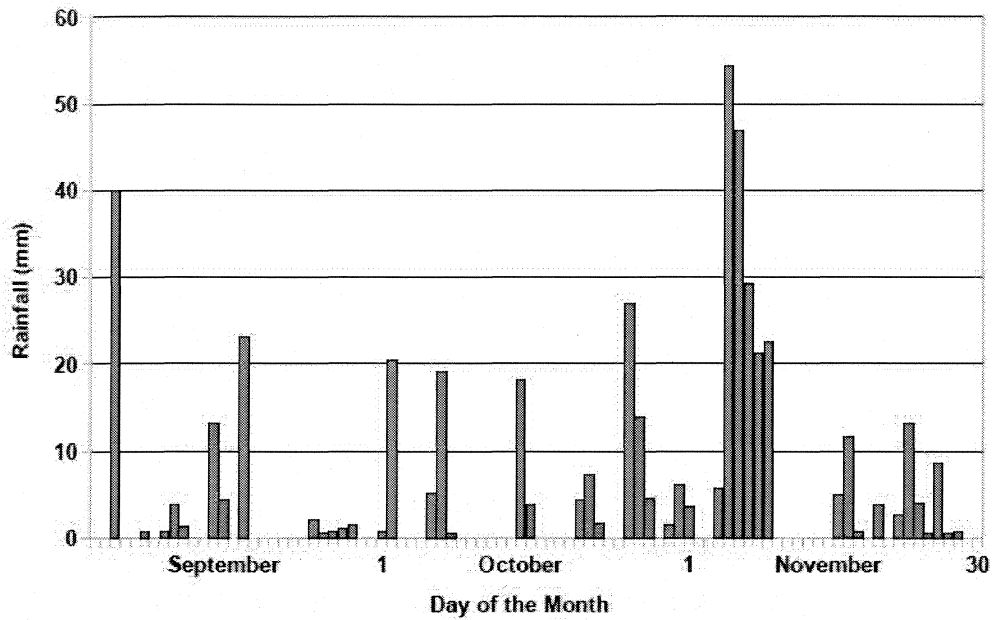
While September had about average rainfall, October's got 40% above average and November received twice its average amount. The distribution of this precipitation through the season is shown in the accompanying graph. There were no dry spells this Autumn and we had one long, cloudy and rainy period from 21 October to 10 November. In that 20 day period we received 250 mm of rain and had only five days without precipitation. What a relief to have five days of bright sunshine following that drenching. As a consequence of the high rainfall, the soils of the Valley were well saturated going into winter.

No significant snow fell during the autumn; we can expect, on average, about 14 cm, mostly in November. I do not have any sunshine information for Autumn to comment on.

Daily Max, Min, Mean Temperatures
Sep, Oct, Nov 2010 - Kentville, Nova Scotia



Daily Precipitation
Sep, Oct, Nov 2010 - Kentville, Nova Scotia



Hurricane Earl—September 2010

A Quick Summary

By Blake Maybank

From a Nova Scotian birder's perspective, Hurricane Earl was a "Perfect Storm". Why?

- It had the perfect track (see image #1, below), coming up from the Caribbean, passing alongside (but not over) the eastern seaboard of the U.S., making first landfall in Nova Scotia;

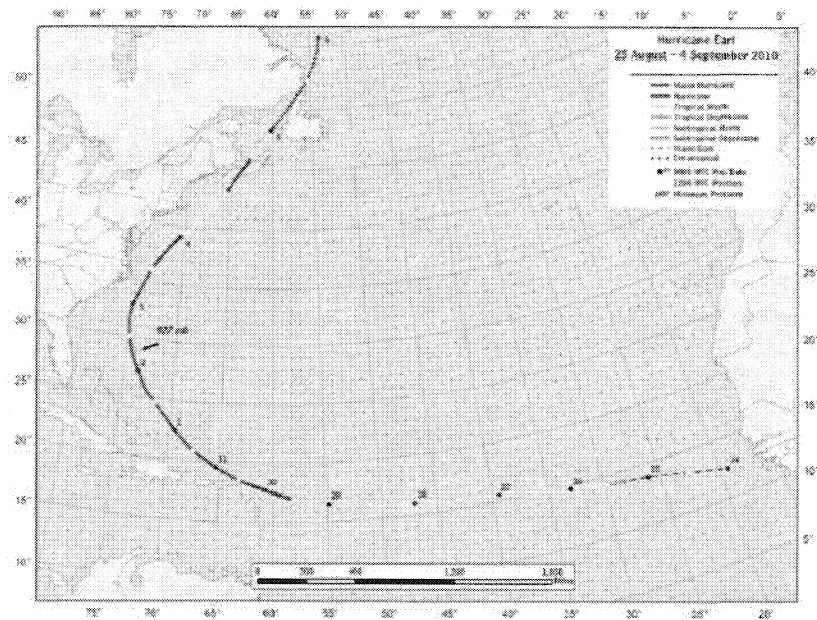


Image #1: Hurricane Earl's track through the Atlantic

- It was wide enough and strong enough to pick up coastal and pelagic seabirds (likely most from North Carolina - see image #2, below), but weak enough so that many (most?) of the birds swept up in the storm survived the journey to arrive on Nova Scotia's shores;

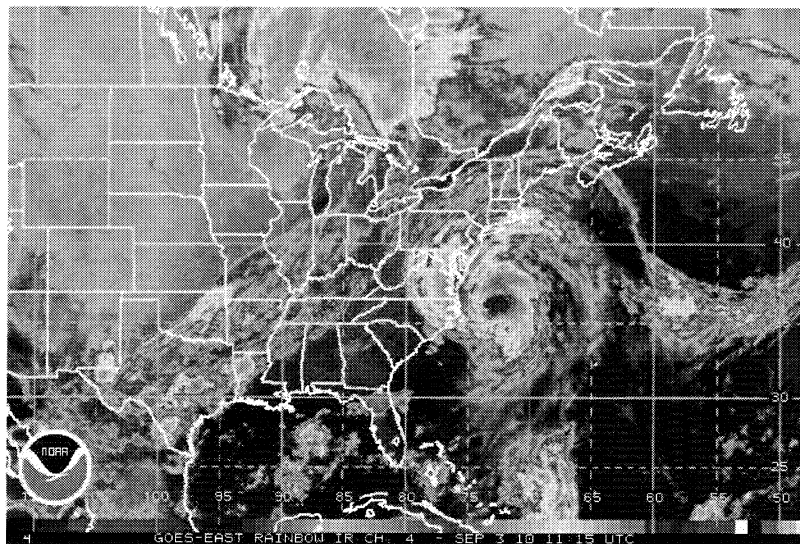


Image #2: The Infrared View of the Storm when the center was due east of North Carolina

- Unlike Hurricane Juan it caused relatively little damage (though there were numerous downed trees, and some coastal flooding, and there was only minimal disruption to power and roads;
- It struck Nova Scotia in the morning, with the worst of the rain and wind finishing by noon, giving time for birders to seek out “hurricane birds”; and it arrived on the Saturday of the Labour Day long weekend, so that most birders were able to not only search for birds, but also chase discovered rarities.

Eric Mills, in his introduction to the Gulls and Alcids section, provides a nice hurricane summary, and a portion of his intro is worth repeating here:

“Hurricane Earl tracked along the US east coast, following the edge of the continental shelf from Florida to Cape Cod, and then as a post-tropical storm crossed Nova Scotia on September 4, 2010, from S of Cape Sable at 0900 to eastern Northumberland Strait at 1500 ADT, bringing with it unprecedented numbers of storm-driven seabirds from the US eastern seaboard. While storms in the past may have equaled Earl, we have no record of this from the lightly-birded Nova Scotia of the 1920s through the early 1960s. This time a sizable birding community was ready and waiting. The results were truly remarkable. At least 23 species were displaced by the storm, the majority . . . gulls, terns and their allies. We were action-central after this storm; Maine [and New Brunswick] got some numbers of Laughing Gulls, Forster's Terns and Black Skimmers but nothing like the numbers from Nova Scotia.”

Very thorough summaries have been posted on-line at the U.S. National Hurricane Centre’s web page. Here is the web address for the best Hurricane Earl summary:

http://www.nhc.noaa.gov/pdf/TCR-AL072010_Earl.pdf

Rare Bird Reports

Hypothetical BAND-RUMPED STORM-PETREL at Baccaro Lighthouse, Nova Scotia

Observers: Olivier Barden and Isabelle Lechasseur

Date: September 4, 2010

Time: Sometime around 9:30 AM local according to the time in the car. That might be in error since wind record data from Baccaro Point on Environment Canada shows winds had switched to a SW origin at that time (though their records might be in UTC).

Weather: Tropical Storm Earl was striking at that moment. The center of the storm passed a dozen km east of Baccaro Pt. A strong SE wind started up at around 3 a.m. on our way in at Yarmouth, and continued until 30 minutes after the sighting before a slight lull and switch to a strong wind out of the SW. Earl had swept up the edge of the continental shelf off the eastern seaboard without touching land before hitting Nova Scotia.

Observation conditions: Medium-range visibility was fair to poor in driving rain. Nothing visible past 350m. Short-range visibility was fine however. Large swells made sure most birds skimming the waves were seen for only a few fractions of a second at a time. Consequently, we didn’t see much and didn’t stay for very long. Our car was parked in such a manner that the passenger window was open without having wind or rain gushing through. We had a clear view facing south, and most importantly, a stable grip on our optics.

Optical equipment: Zeiss 10x40B for me and Bausch & Lomb 10x42 for Isabelle.

Distance of the bird: 10-40 meters away

Duration of the observation: On and off (more of the former than the latter) during 20 seconds.

Details of the observation: Isabelle initially spotted and called a Storm-Petrel to the naked eye. We both quickly got on it with binoculars. The bird was approaching fast and gave some views of the upperside as it made its way to the top of a wave. Against this dark backdrop, contrast was heightened, revealing a Wilson’s-like white rump-patch, wider than it was long, very dark body without brown tones, and a weak carpal (ulnar) bar on the wings. I didn’t have time to notice if it joined the leading edge or not.

However, none of the 200+ Leach's seen that day showed such dark wings. The tail seemed relatively broad and was distinctly square-ended. I didn't notice any feet projecting beyond the tip of the tail at that time. My initial impression was of a dark Wilson's Storm-Petrel. The bird got too close to the shore and was stuck above the crashing waves literally a few meters from the lighthouse, beating its wings very rapidly without any twists and turns against the strong gale actually pushing it backwards along the shore towards the northwest. In my opinion, these conditions render the flight style criterion in the ID of storm-petrels a moot point. This clear side view showed the bird had long pointed wings with a distinct kink between the secondaries and primaries, very unlike the triangular swallow-like wings of Wilson's SP. Since the wings were always seen quite flexed, it was impossible to determine whether the wingtips were actually pointed or slightly blunted as in Band-rumped SP. Did not notice bill thickness either. Underwings were as dark as the body, a bit of white from the rump-patch bled onto the rump sides around the tail base, and importantly, the legs were pressed against the body and still not seen projecting past the tip of the shortish, square-ended tail. I started thinking about Band-rumped seriously at this moment, and we lost the bird in a manner of seconds as the wind blew it out of our viewing angle, still hugging the shoreline.

Previous experience with the species: Both of us have seen six Band-rumped Storm-Petrels during a pelagic trip to continental shelf waters south of Cape Cod, Massachusetts in July 2008. Some of these were seen in direct comparison with both Wilson's and Leach's Storm-Petrel. Over the years, we have seen a few hundred Leach's and over a thousand Wilson's Storm-Petrels.

Discussion: If we assemble the important criteria observed, the ID of Band-rumped Storm-Petrel can be obtained by process of elimination. The square-ended tail, narrow, Wilson's-like rump-patch and weak carpal (ulnar) bar together eliminate Leach's Storm-Petrel. The long, angular wings and short legs eliminate Wilson's Storm-Petrel on the basis of morphology. Given the extreme rarity of Band-rumped Storm-Petrel in Canadian waters, the short duration of observation and the high level of difficulty in ID, I don't consider the process of elimination to be a sound approach in claiming a firm ID in this case. I would have liked to have time to observe whether the carpal bar joined the leading edge or not, if the outer primaries were sharply pointed or slightly blunted, and whether the bill was thick or not. This is why I labeled this record hypothetical, even though I am fairly certain we were dealing with a Band-rumped Storm-Petrel.

To further support my stance on this issue, an interesting Storm-Petrel was photographed a week later off Portland, Maine. See:

<http://maineoutdoorjournal.mainetoday.com/blogentry.html?id=21266>
<http://www.flickr.com/photos/51533299@N05/sets/72157624964875372/>

The ID is still unresolved, though my personal opinion on this long-winged and square-tailed storm-petrel is that it's a bright, recently fledged juvenile Leach's Storm-Petrel that hasn't finished growing its outer rectrices. In comparison, our bird had a thinner, less heart-shaped rump-patch with no hint of a central divide. The carpal bar was much duller, without any contrasting whitish tips. Otherwise, our bird was similar to the Portland storm-petrel. The Portland bird might very well be a Band-rumped Storm-Petrel. After all, this taxon is a complex involving most likely several species with plumage differences that have yet to be documented!

Olivier Barden
 Québec City, Qc
 September 16, 2010

ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER and GRAY KINGBIRD at Lanark, Ant., Nov. 18-19, 2010

By R. F. Lauff and I. A. McLaren

Observer: Marilyn O'Brien

Date: November 18, 2010 (original sightings)

On Nov. 18, 2010, RFL received an e-mail with an attached photo from Marilyn O'Brien, who lives in an isolated house with several feeders amidst bird-rich surroundings near the hamlet of Lanark, some 6 km NE of Antigonish, and who from time to time reports birds of interest to RFL.

"My latest visitor [was] at lunch time. It flew right up to the window and looked directly at me. It was definitely a kingbird but the color was grey instead of the usual almost black shade. When I first saw it ... I thought it might be a shrike because of the color. I see Gray Kingbird in the [bird] book but it should not be anywhere near here. Wish I had gotten [a] close-up but by the time I got the camera this was the best I could do..."

Later that day, RFL received another e-mail message.

“Crazy as all this seems, I actually saw another flycatcher this afternoon. This one was smaller, leaner, and [had] chestnut outer wings and yellow flanks. What a shock ...It came back several times but in my haste to get a still shot I lost out because my digital camera is relatively new and I don't 'get the hang of it' yet. I did manage however to get a video of this second bird... wondering after this day if flycatchers actually flock together at this season. The second bird I saw was certainly smaller, leaner and with the markings already described. The one I saw earlier was impressive with its size, all white breast and complete greyness otherwise...It is not an Eastern Kingbird because it does not have the white tail fringe. On the other hand, if it is a Gray Kingbird, I cannot see the fork in the tail...If I manage to [get] another photo or get to diagnose the second bird, I'll get back to you. Sorry I did not get a better photo of the first bird, though, because it was right in my face through the window.”

(It should also be noted that late on Nov. 18, upon request by RFL, Marilyn O'Brien responded that “when it was right ‘in my face’ I did not see a mask.”)

The e-mailed image of the first bird was sent in low resolution, with the bird's length only *ca.* 5% of the frame width. Next day, RFL informed the rare bird alert (NS-RBA) of the reported kingbird and placed the uncropped image (understandably as “not even diagnostic”) on his website. Upon enlarging it, IAM reported it on NS-RBA as a possible Gray Kingbird, and also alerted the online Advanced Bird Identification discussion group, receiving a number of responses. Later, RFL obtained the full-resolution image from the photographer (which he posted Nov. 22), and also downloaded still images from her video of the second flycatcher.

Observer: Fulton Lavender

Date: November 19, 2010

Alerted by RFL's posting, Fulton L. Lavender, Clarence L. and Clarence S. Stevens arrived at Lanark shortly after 09:15 Nov. 19. CSS and FLL went directly to the back yard where the birds had been seen, but CLS dropped off at what seemed good habitat a short distance down the road. While CSS knocked on Marilyn O'Brien's door, FLL stayed in the house yard. The following documents FLL's brief observations.

“ . . . I stepped to my right to get a better view of the yard and immediately noticed a large gray and white, blackbird-sized kingbird perched horizontally, side on, below two Blue Jays, on the bottom rail of the back fence, perhaps 20 m away. I took a few seconds to note some critical field marks and then attempted to get [CSS's] attention. As I began to speak the lady answered the door and the kingbird flipped over the fence and dropped out of sight... [CSS] ran over, but to no avail. The bird was gone...The rest of the cold, viciously windy day was spent in a fruitless search for the bird...The following field marks were noted during my brief sighting.

Structure:

- *Large, heavy headed with rounded crown*
- *Very long, heavy bill, almost disproportionate for the size of the bird*
- *Proportionally short-winged and long-tailed*
- *Fairly long, heavy feet for a kingbird*
- *Tail was slightly folded. No fork was discernible.*

Colour:

- *Under body white from throat to undertail coverts. Rear flanks with a bit of gray dividing undertail from flanks.*
- *Upper body gray, including crown (very dark in centre, may have been wet), nape, back, rump, uppertail coverts and upper tail.*
- *Lesser, median, greater, marginal coverts and primaries dark gray. Secondaries pale gray. No wing bars.*
- *Tertials black with white edgings.*
- *Face with a blackish mask, contrasting with gray crown.*
- *Under wings whitish.*

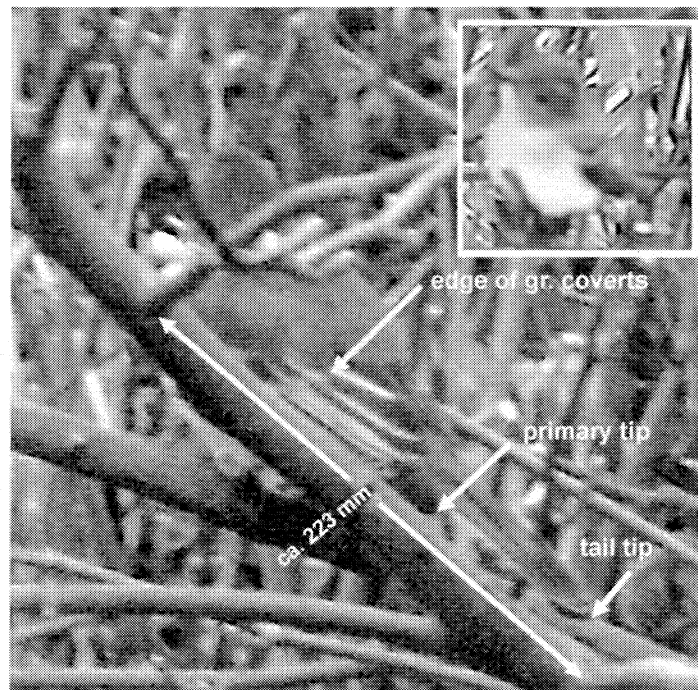
Voice:

- *No call notes were heard.”*

Analysis of images

The images clearly show two very different birds, even in the gray scale version. The colour originals reinforce this conclusion. The first bird appears to be perched nearly parallel to the measured foreground limb, with its head pointing to the right away from the camera. It is in first-fall plumage, judging from its blunt, rounded primary tips among other features. Dorsally it is gray from

crown to tip of tail, but with brownish washes on parts of the crown, mantle and tail. It has prominently white-margined tertials. There are narrow whitish margins at the edges of the greater coverts, and a hint of one on a median covert, but nothing that might be termed a wing-bar. There is no hint of yellow on the exposed flank. These are features of a Gray Kingbird. (The black area at the left of the bird's turned-away head was found to be background in photos taken from the same angle at a later date, and the white markings there and on the nape are magnolia over-winter buds.)



Photos above:

Two flycatchers, 18 Nov. 2020 at Lanark, *Ant.* The morning bird is annotated to indicate the points used for measurements analysed in the text. The two broad arrows point to the bases of two small branches measured as *ca.* 223 mm apart. The small, pale, triangular feature just beyond the arrowhead at the primary tip is shown on later images to be a background feature, not a projection of the limb cutting off a “true” primary tip beyond.

The less focused image of the second bird (insert) shows its pale gray breast sharply distinct from its pale lemon yellow belly and flanks. Its back is pale grayish, its head and forewing are dark gray-brown, and the hindwings darker chestnut. The margins of the median coverts form a distinct wingbar, but any other pale edgings on its greater coverts and flight feathers are presumably obscured by the wing angle. (Very marked wingbars on both greater and lesser coverts are well shown on the excellent image in this issue of the earlier Ash-throated Flycatcher at Canso.) The second bird at Lanark was manifestly an Ash-throated Flycatcher.

Despite its qualitative characteristics, several experienced birders on the online North American Advanced Birding Group argued that the bird image (as posted by RFL) was something other than a GRAY KINGBIRD, with Black or Eastern Phoebe and Ash-throated Flycatcher offered as alternatives. Those identifications, admittedly without access to the above descriptions of the bird in the field, seemed to be at odds with features of the image. Accordingly, we attempted to extract quantitative information from the image that might discriminate among the candidate species. Our measurements assume the bird was coplanar with the measured limb. Then the apparent size of the bird (against the indicated 223 mm distance between the two branches) would seem to exclude both phoebes. We also estimated the lengths of wing and tail from this measured distance. Taking the bend of the forewing to lie just posterior to the upper branch with arrow, and the tail to begin at the level of the tips of the tertials, these estimates are: wing chord = *ca.* 123 mm, tail = 92 mm. The values given by Pyle *et al.* (1997, Identification Guide to North American Birds, Part 1, Slate Creek Press, Bolinas, CA) are: Ash-throated Flycatcher wing 88-105 mm and tail 81-87 mm; Gray Kingbird wing 107-125 mm and tail 80-99 mm. Thus, both wing and tail seem beyond the ranges for Ash-throated. There are, however, serious reservations about this approach in addition to difficulties in positioning the anterior ends of both wing and tail. If the branch were parallel to the plane of the image, and the flycatcher perched at an angle, it could be even larger. If the bird were parallel to the plane of the camera, and the measured branch as much as 45° off that plane (which seems unlikely from appearances on the image), simple geometry indicates the bird's true size, with a wing at 88 mm, would fall within the range for the two phoebe species (76-96 mm per Pyle 1997).

An alternative approach using **ratios** of measurements from images is more trouble-free. One of us (IAM) used this approach to identify the province's first confirmed Acadian Flycatcher (1996. *Birders Journal* 5:194-195), and it has recently been explored for distinguishing other species of *Empidonax* (W. Rowland, 2009, *Birding* 41(2), pp 30-38). Using ratios from images requires only that the two parts measured are reasonably coplanar. The distance on the image from the base of exposed tertials (edge of greater coverts) to the tip of the primaries as a proportion of the distance to the tip of the tail, is *ca.* 0.487. We also estimated this for 10 good Web images of the two candidate species (birds perched more or less broadside with wings and tail in line with the body). These proportions averaged 0.507 (range 0.483-0.536) on the Gray Kingbirds and 0.433 (range 0.403-0.473) on Ash-throated flycatchers. On this basis, the Lanark bird lies within the range for the former, but above the limit for the latter, reflecting the relatively short wings and long tail of Ash-throated. We can also more formally test the statistical fit of the Lanark bird to the respective candidate species. For technical reasons, the ratios are first transformed as arcsine square roots, and then means and standard deviations (S.D.) estimated for each web sample of 10 birds. These transformed estimates are: mean 1.039, S.D. 0.0239, for Gray Kingbird, and 1.123, S.D. 0.0291, for Ash-throated. The Lanark bird, with a transformed ratio of *ca.* 1.025, lies within about 0.6 SDs of the sample mean for Gray Kingbird, but more than 3.3 SDs from the sample mean for Ash-throated Flycatcher. On this basis, the Lanark bird is not far from average for Gray Kingbird, but has a less than 1% probability of being an extreme Ash-throated Flycatcher.

Discussion: Several objections were raised to identification of the Lanark bird as a Gray Kingbird, including by experienced members of the on-line advanced bird identification group.

1. That two greatly displaced vagrant flycatchers occurred on the same November day in the same back yard seemed beyond probability to some. However, vagrants beyond their range in severe weather may well tend to associate (like the several warbler species found routinely into early winter in a short stretch of pines in Pt. Pleasant Park, Halifax), either because they find locally reliable food sources or recognize similar foragers. The Lanark backyard included unharvested apples (some shown on the ground in the uncropped image of the first bird) that are known to sustain flying insects into early winter.
2. The behaviour of the bird, huddled on a low branch, was very unkingbird-like to some. However, remote vagrants in severe weather (near 0 °C at Lanark on Nov. 18) can behave unexpectedly. For example, a Gray Kingbird present Nov. 5-30, 2006, near the tip of the Gaspé Pen., QC, spent much time feeding on Sea Buckthorn (*Hippophae rhamnoides*) berries, and a published image shows it perched on a low shrub (P. Bannon, et al. 2007, *N. Am. Birds* 61: 33-34). One respondent noted that a Gray Kingbird in Maine in early Nov. 2010 spent some time perched low and one Web image shows it huddled in thick spruce foliage. Another Web photo of a Gray Kingbird 23 Oct. 2010 Savannah, NY, shows it perched on a branch at mid-level on a small tree.
3. The initial observer did not see a mask, although this was anticipated and noted by the second, experienced observer. A mask is not obvious on some underexposed or low-light Web images.
4. Some felt that the tertials were too prominently white-margined for Gray Kingbird, resembling more those of Ash-throated Flycatcher. The soft image may overemphasize breadth of the white fringes by rendering marginal pixels as white. This feature is very variable among Web images; some (including two juveniles illustrated in *Birds of North America* on line (No. 668; Smith et al., 2002) have white margins as conspicuous as, or more so than, those of the Lanark bird.
5. Others invoked the brownish on the crown, back and tail of the bird as an Ash-throated trait. However, Pyle (1997, op. cit.) writes that Gray Kingbird "Juv. (Aug.-2nd [= 2nd half] Nov) . . . has upperparts washed brownish . . ." The head, lower back, wings and tail of fresh-plumaged Ash-throated are considerably darker and browner.

These objections are thus readily countered and, with the field observations and photographs, lead us to conclude that the province's first confirmed (third reported) Gray Kingbird was indeed present at Lanark on the morning of Nov. 19, 2010, and was followed that afternoon by our third confirmed Ash-throated Flycatcher (following our second photographed Nov. 13-15 this fall at Canso).



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

Sat 07 May 2011 – New Birders Walk Hatchet Lake

Leader: Bonnie Carmichel E-mail: bonniecarmichael@hotmail.com

Meet at Sunrise Interfaith Cemetery (2025 Prospect Road) at 8:30 a.m. We will be taking a leisurely walk looking for early migrants and other woodland birds.

No storm date.

Sat 07 May 2011 – Cape Sable Island

Leader: Murray Newell 745-0801

Meet at Tim Horton's in Barrington Passage at 7:45 a.m. We will bird the Cape Sable Island hot spots for spring migrants. Bring waterproof footwear and a lunch.

No storm date.

Fri 13 May – Mon 16 May 2011 – Bon Portage Island

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

Pre-Registration is Necessary!

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.

Please Note: If getting on or off the island cannot be done safely, the trip will be moved to Brier Island.

Sat 14 May 2011 – Spring Migration Counts

Contact Chris Pepper 483-6693 E-mail: cpepper@ymail.com or your Regional Coordinator to participate.

Sat 21 May 2011 – Amherst Point Bird Sanctuary

Leader: Kathleen Spicer 392-2815 E-mail: kbspicer@ns.sympatico.ca

Meet at 9:00 a.m. at the A.P.B.S. parking lot. Take exit #3 from Hwy #104 at the Wandlyn Inn and proceed a few kilometers toward Nappan. Watch for the entrance on the left. Wear appropriate footwear for wet conditions and bring insect repellent.

No storm date.

Sat 21 May 2011 – Port L'Hebert

Leaders: Dorothy Poole 354-4844 E-mail: dpooler@ns.sympatico.ca

and Clyde Stoddart 745-2105.

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the Chef's Table (formerly the Grub 'n' Grog Restaurant) on Hwy #103 at Sable River. We'll explore the Sable River areas as well as the areas in and around Port L'Hebert. Wear sturdy footwear and bring a lunch.

No storm date.

Mon 23 May 2011 – Historic Hants County

Leader: Suzanne Borkowski 445-2922 E-mail: suzanneborkowski@yahoo.ca

Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the parking lot of Mount Uniacke House. Take Exit #3 off Hwy #101 and drive approx. 8 km along Rte#1 towards Windsor. Uniacke House is on your left. The main gate will be locked, but the 2nd gate (coming from Halifax) will be open. We'll start by exploring some of the grounds at Mt. Uniacke then continue along back-country roads through Hants County. Bring a lunch to be enjoyed at Smiley Park.

No storm date.

Wed 25 May 2011 – Fred Dobson Warbler Walk, Halifax

Leader: Joan Waldron E-mail: waldrojo@ns.sympatico.ca

Meet at 6 a.m. at the Park & Ride lot at the junction of Prospect Rd. (Rte 333) and St Margarets Bay Rd, (Rte 3). Duration 3 hrs. Waterproof footwear and fly repellent are recommended. Look for early warblers and the winter wren.

Sat 28 May 2011 – Conquerall Mills

Leader: James Hirtle 766-4642 E-mail: jrhbirder@hotmail.com

Meet at 8:30 a.m. at the dam area of Petite Riviere, near the intersection of Conquerall Mills and the Crousetown Road. Directions: Turn left off Hwy #103 at the sign for Conquerall Mills just past exit #14. Drive 3.5 km along this road. The dam will be on your left. We'll be exploring Fitch Road and Dagley Road along Publicover Lake, as well as Brown Branch Brook, Mount Pleasant, and Hebb Mills. In the afternoon we can check out Station Road, Fauxburg, Long Hill and Oakland. Bring a lunch, sturdy footwear, socks that can be pulled up over pantlegs (to discourage ticks) and sunblock.

Storm date May 29.

Sat 28 May-Sun 29 May, Steward 2011 Out-of-Area Meeting

Guest Speakers: Becky Steward, Karen Potter, and Ken McKenna.

The town of New Glasgow will be the setting for the annual NSBS Out-of-Town Meeting in 2011.

Swifts will be the main theme for this meeting with speakers presenting what is known of the present status of Chimney Swifts in the Maritimes and what can be done to protect these amazing birds. The meeting will begin at 7:00 p.m. Saturday at the Temperance Street School (361 Temperance Street) and at 8:10 p.m. (weather permitting) will move outdoors to view one of the largest known swift roosting sites in the Maritimes. Before the meeting on Saturday afternoon and after breakfast on Sunday members will have a choice of field trips to birding sites in Pictou Co. by walking, driving or canoeing.

More details will be provided at a later date.

McNabs Island- Date TBA, Please Inquire

TBA - For those interested in a Saturday May Birding Trip to McNabs Island please contact Cheryl Davis at nuthatch@ns.sympatico.ca. This is a whole day event, meeting at Eastern Passage for 7 a.m. and ending around 4 p.m. Cost in the past has been approximately \$12 to cover boat trip to and from McNabs.

Sat 4 June 2011 – Kejimkujik Seaside Adjunct

Leader: Gary Hartlen 354-7250 E-mail: garych@eastlink.ca and Peter Davies 354-5389 E-mail: p.davies@ns.sympatico.ca
Meet at 8:30 a.m. in the parking lot of the Seaside Adjunct. Directions: Take Hwy #103 to Exit #22 (unmarked) and drive approx 6 km down the St. Catherine River Road to the park. There are washroom facilities on site. We will be walking from the parking lot to the ocean where Piping Plovers will be nesting. Expect warbler species in full breeding plumage and nesting shorebirds on the trail to the headland. Wear waterproof footwear and long pants (to discourage ticks), and bring a lunch.
No rain date.

Sat 04 June 2011 – New Birders' Walk - Jerry Lawrence Provincial Park

Leader: Bonnie Carmichael 477-9945 Cell#830-9945 (call ahead if raining)
To reach the park drive south on Hwy 103 (in the direction of Lunenburg), and leave at Exit 5. Turn left (south) on Route 213 and continue until you reach the traffic lights at Hwy #3 – you'll see the Superstore south of the intersection. Turn left (east) and drive two km to the park entrance. Meeting place: Parking lot by picnic benches and washrooms.
Expect a variety of different warbler species.

Sat 04 June 2011 – Beginning Birders Field Trip (Middle Musquodoboit)

Leader: Verna Higgins 384-2286 E-mail: vjhiggins@xplornet.com
Meet at 8:00 a.m. in the Natural Resources Education Centre parking lot (off Hwy 224 near Middle Musquodoboit) for a 2 to 3 hour hike in the Centre woodlot to see and hear late migrant and resident songbirds.
No storm date.

Sat 18 June 2011 – 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.

Storm date Sun June 19.

Sat 18 June 2011 – Shubenacadie

Leader: Kathleen MacAulay 758-3364 E-mail: roughlegged_hawk@yahoo.ca

Pre-Registration is Necessary!

Meet at 7:00 a.m. in the back parking lot of the Milford Community Centre. Take Exit #9 off Hwy #102 to Milford. Turn right at the T intersection. Take next right and drive past the fire hall to the Community Centre's back parking lot. We will spend the first hour walking the trails at the centre. Facilities are unavailable on the route after the first hour or so.

Sat 25 June 2011 — 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.

Sun 10 July, 2011 – ABRAHAMS LAKE BIRD WALK

Time: 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m.

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

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 k. of trail

and eat lunch by Abrahams Lake. Bring a lunch and water and proper hiking footwear.
No rain date.

Sun - 17 July 2011 – Beginning Birders Field Trip

Time: 10 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

Leaders: Jim Cameron 885-2970 E-mail:

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

E-mail: warren@bellaliant.net

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 Provincial Park access road at the information kiosk at the last parking lot. 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, Willet, 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, a lunch and water.
No rain date.

Sat 06Aug 2011 – NOVA SCOTIA BIRD SOCIETY WALK

Time: 9:00 am- 1:00 pm.

Leaders: Jim Cameron 885-2970 E-mail:

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

E-mail: warren@bellaliant.net

This will be a joint trip with the Friends of Taylor Head Prov. Park Society and the Nova Scotia Bird Society. Meet at the end of the park access road (last parking lot) by the kiosk 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 the Spry Bay Trail in the morning and eat lunch by Powers Pond. We will watch nesting and brooding Common Tern, cormorants, 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, water and proper footwear. An optional walk to the Headland after lunch is offered. There is no rain date. For further information check out the NS Bird Society at www.nsbs.chebucto.org

Fri 02 Sep to Mon 05 Sep, 2011 – 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.



**For
the
Birds**
Nature Shop
Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia

SEE with Binoculars & Scopes
FEED with the best Bird Feeders
ATTRACT with Baths & Shelter
LEARN with Books, Software & CDs
ENJOY with Gifts for Bird-watchers
FORECAST with Weather Instruments

www.ForTheBirdsNatureShop.ca (888) 660-6529