

Birding Ecotours



CANADA, POINT PELEE AND ALGONQUIN: SET DEPARTURE TRIP REPORT

4 - 15 MAY 2018



American Woodcock was one of the principal targets.

Detailed Report

Day 1, 4 May 2018.

The night before our trip was a memorable one. High winds blasted through Toronto, ripping apart infrastructure, causing havoc on the roads, and delaying flights. Thankfully everybody eventually got to our hotel in Toronto in time for the trip – although we discovered that Giancarlo’s luggage didn’t make it off the plane! For the folks that made it in on time we discussed the game plan for the coming days – it was going to be interesting!

Day 2, 5 May 2018.

After an early breakfast at our hotel, not wasting any time, we went to a local hotspot in Toronto – Colonel Sam Smith Park. Like a miniature Point Pelee, this park is a peninsula jutting out into Lake Ontario and often attracts good numbers of migrants.

As soon as we’d arrived we knew that a significant movement of birds had occurred overnight. **White-crowned Sparrows** were singing right from the parking lot, and one of the first birds we saw together was **Lincoln’s Sparrow**. We were enjoying great looks at this shy sparrow, some **Common Grackles**, **Red-winged Blackbird**, **Tree Swallow**, **American Goldfinch**, and other common eastern birds when Jared found a wren sneaking around some dogwoods. It was a **Marsh Wren**, and with some patience everyone had good looks at this skulker. **Common** and **Caspian Terns** were flying overhead, and while I was making sure Giancarlo’s luggage was accounted for, Jared took the group to the marina, where they had beautiful views of singing and displaying **Red-necked Grebes**.

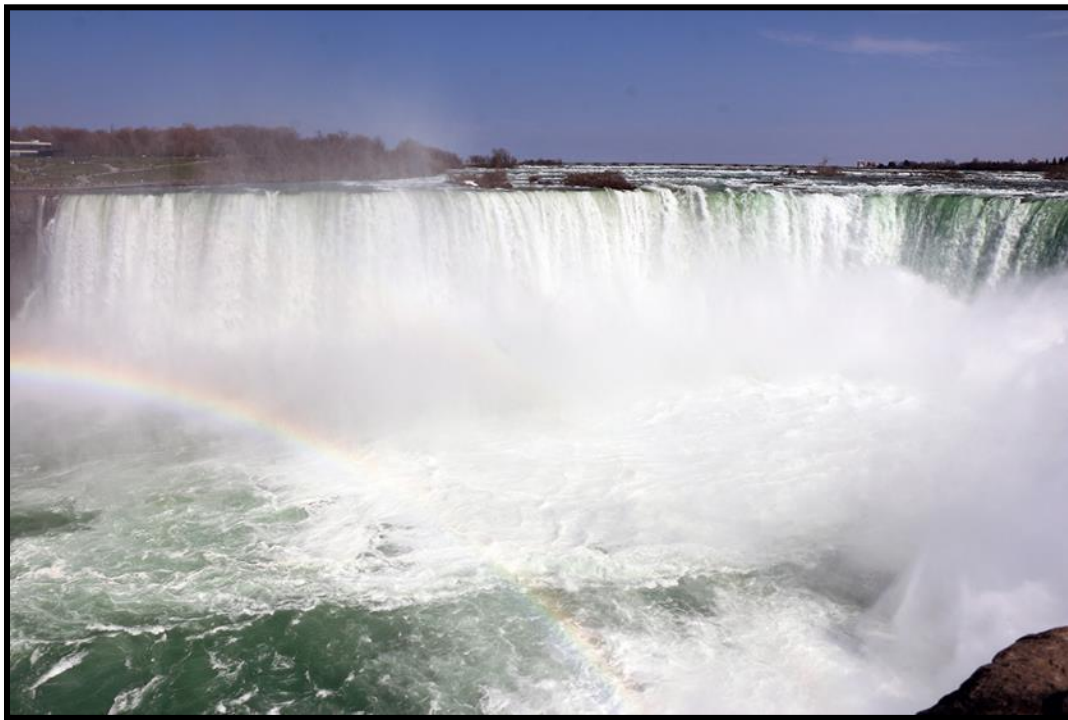


Red-necked Grebe

Our first wood warblers of the trip came in the form of **American Yellow Warbler**, which we were to see hundreds and hundreds of later on – but the first are always exciting. **Myrtle, Palm,** and **Nashville Warblers** joined it for a good introduction to the season’s common warblers, as well as some vocal **Baltimore Orioles**. Scoping the lake provided views of **Long-tailed Duck, Horned Grebe, Bufflehead, Red-breasted Merganser,** and more **Red-necked Grebes**.

While we were observing a **Northern Flicker** excavating a cavity, a very kind birder came over and excitedly told us that a **Yellow-breasted Chat** was being seen down the trail! We followed her to the location, and there it was, climbing up the willows and eating midges in a manner like I’d never seen a chat do before. These are usually very skulky and difficult to see and are very rare breeders in Ontario – so it was an exceptional sighting on the first day. Everyone was very pleased! En route to Niagara Falls we stopped at Port Dalhousie – the best place in Canada to see Fish Crows. As we were pulling up to the marina, however, we noticed that there was a demonstration of motorcyclists going on! There were apparently over 100 bikers there, but they were friendly and showed us where we could park amidst the chaos. We were worried that, as they began to depart, it would be difficult to hear the distinctive “uh-uh” of the **Fish Crows** that live at the marina, but in a few minutes we saw six of them flying around and sporadically calling – whew! After the bikers departed we went to the lovely Pier 61 Restaurant at the port for a great lunch along the lake.

It was only about a half hour to get to Niagara Falls, where we enjoyed some beautiful weather and views of the Horseshoe and American Falls, as well as the abundance of **Ring-billed** and **European Herring Gulls** nesting on the rocks below. After we’d had our fill we packed up and prepared ourselves for the long drive to Point Pelee National Park.



Niagara Falls

There wasn't much excitement on the drive, but when we finally arrived in Leamington we had a late dinner at Freddy's (home of the best Yellow Perch in Ontario, in various different forms), and it was a welcome end to a long day.

Day 3, 6 May 2018.

We had an early breakfast at the Days Inn, which comfortably caters to birders wanting to eat as early as 4:00 a.m., and headed out for our first exciting morning in the park. As we walked toward the tip it looked as if it was a good night for bird migration, as many birds were flying down toward the tip in a "reverse" migration. The sky was filled with blackbirds, **Blue Jays**, and **American Yellow Warblers**. The first excitement came when we saw a female **Golden-winged Warbler** making her way southward, but she did not stay in view for long. I heard the harsh call of **Red-headed Woodpecker**, and before long we had two flying over and perching for great views. **Palm Warblers** and **Blue-grey Gnatcatchers** were also quite common, and at many times it was hard to know where to look!



When the reverse migration became quiet we went into the interior to seek the birds there. I was hoping that the **Blackburnian Warbler** I had seen earlier high in the sky would have turned around ... fortunately it had and was hanging out with some **Nashville** and **Myrtle Warblers** in the woods. Everyone got great looks at this beautiful treetop warbler as it foraged in a cedar. We heard news of a **Hooded Warbler** being seen down the trail and quickly found the crowd surrounding it. The bird was a female without a pronounced hood – still, an uncommon species in Ontario and always a good one to see.

We headed further north towards Sparrow Field – a clearing that often attracts migrants. We were not disappointed – a beautiful **Cape May Warbler** was foraging in a cedar tree and gave great views. We then headed back to the tram stop to catch a ride to the Visitor Centre.

We had heard that several goodies were being seen on the Woodland Trail and decided to hike it before lunch. It wasn't particularly action-packed, owing to the time of day and the temperature, but we did see many nice **Chestnut-sided Warblers** and a female **Black-throated Blue Warbler**. A **Solitary Sandpiper** foraged in one of the sloughs. I went ahead with some members of the group, while Jared stayed behind to look at a **House Wren** with others. Suddenly I received a phone call from Jared – he was looking at a **Prothonotary Warbler** back down the trail! We raced back, and the bird was showboating at our feet, searching for food among tree roots below eye-level for many minutes. It even followed us for a while down the trail! The still water in the sloughs and the bird being so close to the edge gave great “reflection” photo opportunities, and the photographers in the group were ecstatic. Well worth a late lunch!



Prothonotary Warbler

Although lunch was pretty simple, it saved us from leaving the park, and because it was a weekend, the parking was backed up many kilometers from the Visitor Centre! The weather was beginning to look a little ominous, so we started our way north and stopped at a picnic area to look for a reported Worm-eating Warbler. As we started walking down the short seasonal trail, the first bird we saw fly across it and start feeding on a cluster of dead leaves was the **Worm-eating Warbler!**

Unfortunately it did not stick around for very long – though a **Magnolia Warbler** further down the trail was more confiding and provided us with great views.

We headed back to the hotel as it began to rain to take a bit of a break. The rain really started coming down, and we changed our game plan for the afternoon to include some car birding before dinner. We had some intel on a pretty special bird that was hanging out in the town of Essex. As we drove to the spot the rain cleared up and we found what we were looking for sitting atop a lamppost just outside of town – a **Snowy Owl!** The past winter had been very good for Snowy Owls in Ontario, and some were lingering much later than usual. We got great looks through the scope, and even the local police came over and asked what we were looking at. An excellent addition to our list! We celebrated with another great dinner at Freddy's.

Day 4, 7 May 2018.

The next day it was business as usual, back at the tip to watch for any birds making their way there. It wasn't as busy as the previous day, but we did have nice view of several swallow species as well as **Chimney Swift** near the tram stop. Just outside the bathroom a **Tricolored Bat** was roosting on the building! This is Ontario's smallest bat.

We walked the Tilden Woods Trail and encountered several warbler flocks, including two new warbler species for the list – **Tennessee Warbler** and a lovely male **Northern Parula**. We had fantastic views of other stunning warblers we'd already seen, including **Black-throated Green**, **Blackburnian**, and **Black-throated Blue Warblers**. The vireos were more prominent and cooperative today, and we had much better views of **Blue-headed** and **Red-eyed Vireos** than before, as well as a fantastic look at the uncommon **Yellow-throated Vireo**.



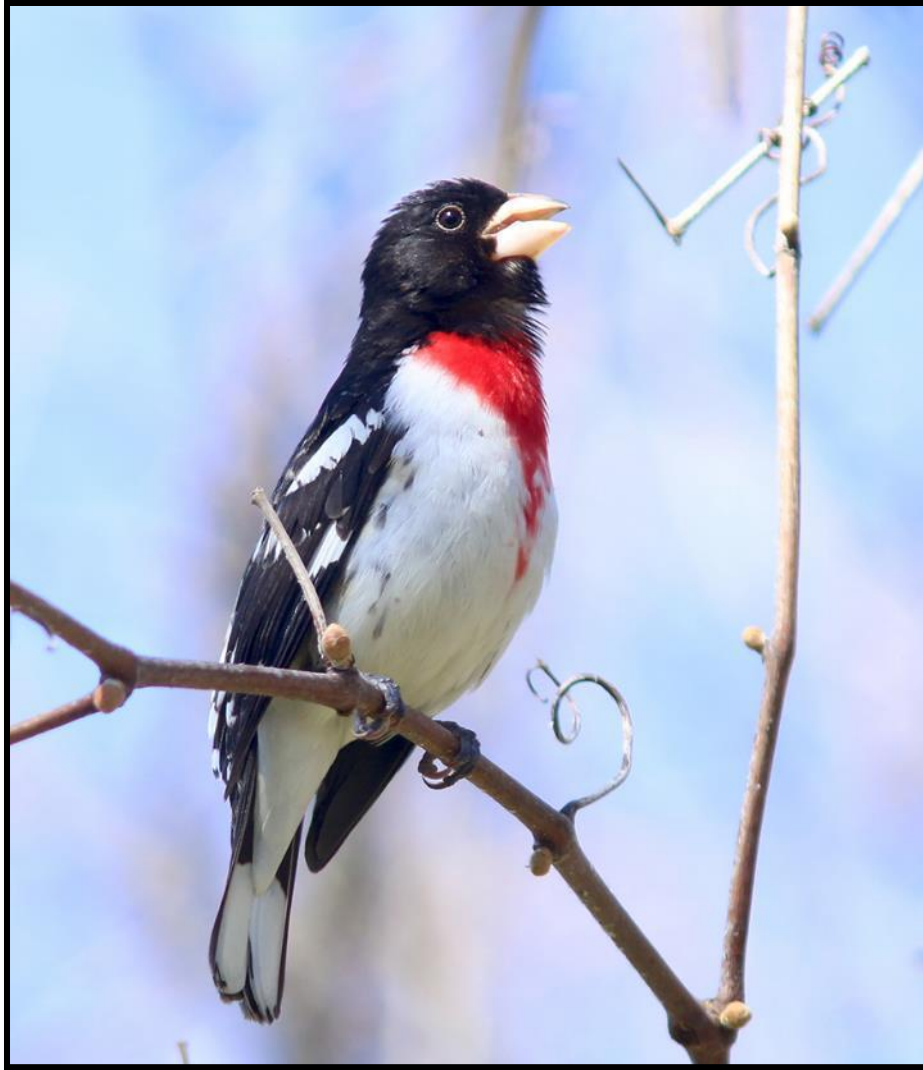
Blackburnian Warbler



Yellow-throated Vireo

We had a picnic lunch today at the Pioneer Picnic Area – a very birdy spot, where we watched orioles and grosbeaks, including **Rose-breasted Grosbeak**, as we enjoyed our sandwiches. We took a short walk down the seasonal footpath there, encountered a male **Hooded Warbler**, and were later informed of a roosting **Great Horned Owl**! We were able to get great views of the entire bird through the scope.

After lunch we headed to Hillman Marsh. Unfortunately for us the weather was too good (!), and there were not many shorebirds stopping over at the marsh. We did see many **Grey Plovers** and a nice selection of waterfowl that included **Northern Shoveler**, **Ruddy Duck**, **Gadwall**, and both **Teals**, **Green-winged** and **Blue-winged**. We walked all the way around the marsh, and Jared spotted the Endangered (IUCN) **Blanding's Turtle** basking on a mound far in the marsh, along with a couple of **American Coots**. Tired from a great day, we didn't mind taking a bit of a break at the hotel before dinner, which we had at a family-owned Italian restaurant across the road from the hotel. We toasted Giancarlo because his luggage had finally made it in!



Rose-breasted Grosbeak

Day 5, 8 May 2018.

The next morning we were back at the tip for our last day at Point Pelee. There was a sizeable movement of birds on this day, and we watched many orioles, warblers, and even woodpeckers flying down the tip. A **Marsh Wren** stopped right at the rocks and posed for several minutes to the delight of the photographers.

After the action died down a tad we took the tram back to the Visitor Centre, where we learned there was a **Prairie Warbler** being seen on the Tilden Woods Trail. We searched to no avail; even though we heard it once it did not feel like coming out. As a consolation prize we finally got great views of a beautiful male **Hooded Warbler** as well as **Blue-winged Warbler** and many of the other warblers from previous days. We decided to walk a little bit into the Woodland Trail just before lunch, and Jared found us another new **Warbler** – an **Orange-crowned**. On the way back, I suddenly noticed that there was a **White-eyed Vireo** foraging right beside the path!



White-eyed Vireo

These vireos are usually very skulky, but this one was giving fantastic views. Luckily we were the ones who found it and were first on the scene, as a large crowd was quickly gathering to look at this rare breeding bird in Canada. A **Blue-headed Vireo** appeared as well, vying for the attention of the numerous onlookers. Tony got excellent photos of both of the vireos with prey!

After another lunch in the field and a short walk down a seasonal footpath we had learned that there were two American Avocets at Hillman Marsh. Since it was time for us to get going to our next birding destination – Rondeau, and as Hillman was on the way, we stopped and had scope views of the two marvelous breeding-plumaged **American Avocets** in the marsh before starting the drive to Ridgetown.

We got to the famous (infamous?) Ridgetown Inn early enough to take a short break before dinner. It was a bit “rough around the edges” – though one of us (Deb) got to enjoy the luxurious “honeymoon suite” – but it was close to the birds and that’s what is most important. We had dinner at a nice local restaurant in Ridgetown that made up for its lack of beer with an active **Purple Martin** colony right outside.

Day 6, 9 May 2018.

The next morning we had a pleasantly large breakfast at a restaurant close to the inn and set off to Rondeau. Rondeau is larger and much more forested than Point Pelee, and less busy with birders. As we pulled up to the Marsh Trail I heard a **Scarlet Tanager** singing – this was a special bird for Bill, who had been trying to see one for a long time – a “nemesis” of sorts. Unfortunately it flew

away right after we got out of the car! We tried to follow it down the road to no avail, but then spotted a **Summer Tanager** – a rare spring overshoot – sitting on a cottage roof!

The road and Marsh Trail were busy with birds and birders, but not anything new for us except a **Philadelphia Vireo** close to the parking lot. We moved on to the Maintenance Loop and quickly discovered that it was busy with birds. We slowly walked down the road, picking up several warblers including **Cape May**, **Blackburnian**, and **Blue-winged Warblers** and more – as well as two close **White-eyed Vireos**. A cooperative **Eastern Towhee** gave us our best looks of the trip. Suddenly I noticed a yellow warbler with a black mask and pink legs crawling up a tree – a **Kentucky Warbler**! This is a rare spring overshoot to Ontario and usually a furtive “ground crawler” that requires a titanic effort to see, and most of us got to see it very well as it sat up above eye-level. Unfortunately it departed before the rest of the group could catch up. We waited for it for a while – but it did not show again.

We had lunch outside of the park and headed over to Blenheim to visit the sewage lagoons. These lagoons have held many rarities in their years, but even when there isn't anything rare around it's always nice to see some of the shorebirds close up.

As we started walking on the berm, admiring **Northern Shovelers** and **Ruddy Ducks**, Jared spotted an odd shorebird standing on the berm – a female **Wilson's Phalarope**. It was in full breeding plumage and spectacularly beautiful, and posed well in the scope for everyone. A great start!



Lesser Yellowlegs and female Wilson's Phalarope

In the sprinkler cell we got close views of **Least Sandpiper** and **Dunlin**, along with great comparisons of **Lesser** and **Greater Yellowlegs** side by side. While we stood and watched the shorebirds, the farm field behind had several singing **Bobolinks** flying around, and a pile of sand had a few pairs of **Northern Rough-winged Swallows** attending their burrows. It was a very

idyllic afternoon – especially for being at a sewage lagoon! After Blenheim we packed up and headed to Simcoe; Long Point was on our itinerary for the next two days.



Dunlin

Day 7, 10 May 2018.

After a quick breakfast at Tim Horton's (a requirement for at least one day on every Canadian tour) we drove to Old Cut Field Station, where we met Mark Conboy, who worked for Bird Studies Canada as the Program Coordinator for the Long Point Bird Observatory and is also a tour leader. Mark talked to us a little bit about the research that goes on here at Long Point, explained to us the importance of bird banding, and showed us some birds in the hand and how the staff at the bird observatory can determine their age and sex.

We went for a short walk around the very birdy grounds of the field station, which were teeming with warblers. We added one more to the growing list of warblers for the trip – the large and impressive **Bay-breasted Warbler**, a late migrant. We were also told earlier that there had been an **Acadian Flycatcher** spotted in the woods, and then it flew and perched right over our heads and called! Another rare breeder and late migrant – it was definitely evident today that migration was progressing.

Afterwards we met Jody Allair – who also works for Bird Studies Canada and is a tour leader for some birding here in his neck of the woods. He'd heard of a **Prairie Warbler** that had been seen in the new Long Point Provincial Park, so we set forth with a brisk pace and found the bird singing in some cedars close to the road. It even sat in the scope for a while for great views.

Jody was keen to take us to a special spot for another one of our target species, so we drove to a beautiful patch of Carolinian forest with a clear stream running through a ravine. We paused every few minutes to listen until Jody heard what we were seeking – the rare and localized (in Canada) **Louisiana Waterthrush**. Before long we were getting spectacular views of the male singing away

in this beautiful forest. A huge thanks to Jody for helping us add yet another rare warbler to our list!



Louisiana Waterthrush

We had lunch at the slick and modern Bird Studies Canada headquarters with a beautiful view of a meadow and a pond. After saying our goodbyes to Jody we headed to the Port Rowan Wetlands. Here we added **Common Gallinule** to our list, saw a few **Bald Eagles** flying around, and watched a couple of **Muskrats** gathering food. We elected to go to the hotel early and take a bit of a break before dinner and an optional night excursion to look for owls.

We went to a nice forested road in hopes of finding Eastern Screech Owl – which proved to be elusive. It was a bit windy and not ideal for owling, but we did hear a couple of **American Woodcocks** and saw one flying over briefly, as well as some **Big Brown Bats** that had just emerged to hunt.

Day 8, 11 May 2018.

The next morning we had another quick Tim's breakfast and were off to Backus Woods, an old-growth woodland owned by the Nature Conservancy and one of the largest remaining patches of Carolinian forest in Ontario. A friendly **Hooded Warbler** greeted us in the parking lot, and we got nice views of it before heading into the woods.

I heard a **Scarlet Tanager** and got everyone to get ready, and eventually it flew right over and sat above our heads – much to Bill's delight! It would be the first of several that we would see in this lovely woodland. We continued through the woods, picking up **Veery**, **Wood Thrush**, and **Great**

Crested Flycatcher before getting to the road, where we saw a mixed flock of **Warblers** that contained another **Hooded** as well as a flaming male **Blackburnian**. We admired another male **Prothonotary Warbler** near a pond on the trail before heading back to Long Point for lunch. Before departing we visited a local marsh, where we enjoyed great looks at a family of **Sandhill Cranes**, **Trumpeter Swans**, and even a cooperative **Meadow Vole**.

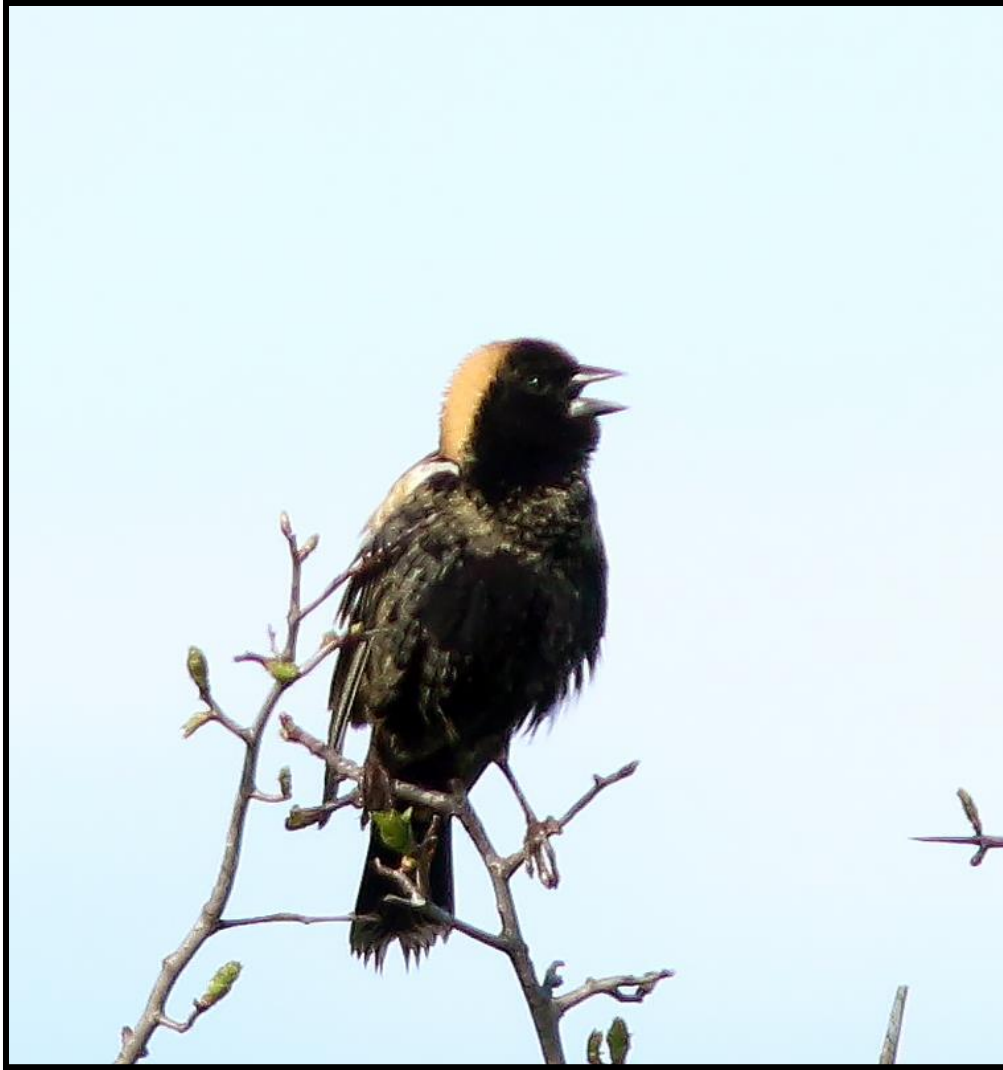


Meadow Vole

The rest of the afternoon was required for our long drive north. Unfortunately it was a Friday and everyone else in the Greater Toronto area had the same plans, so we were mired in traffic for a couple of hours – but worth it to see Jared’s face once we got through it! I imagine it’s not something you see in Newfoundland very often. We ate a quick dinner at East Side Mario’s and settled into our hotel in Orillia.

Day 9, 12 May 2018.

Our first stop in the famous Carden Alvar Provincial Park was Sedge Wren Marsh. Here we watched the namesake **Sedge Wren** gathering nesting material and had nice scope views of the very secretive **American Bittern** “singing” its bizarre, gulping song. We then had an excellent time picking up birds along Wylie Road that included **Eastern Meadowlark**, **Bobolink**, **Brown Thrasher**, **Wilson’s Snipe**, **Eastern Bluebird**, **Grasshopper Sparrow**, and a very distant look at **Eastern Loggerhead Shrike** – one of the very few left in Ontario. We drove to another site a bit further down the road and quickly found another shrike that was much closer and had excellent views through the scope. It was quickly getting hot, and bird activity was waning, but several beautiful **Olympia Marbles** (butterflies) had emerged and made for a nice distraction.



Bobolink

As we drove to Kirkfield for lunch we took another road that ran through good habitat in hopes of finding another specialty bird – the **Upland Sandpiper**. I saw one fly across the road and land in the field, but by the time all of us got out of the vehicle it had settled into the long grass. Another flew over at a distance against the light. We desired better views, but at least we knew where to look after lunch.

We had lunch at the lovely Kirkfield Restaurant and, thanks to their fast service, were quickly back out in the field. We went back to the place we had seen the Upland Sandpiper and, after stopping briefly to look at a **Blanding's Turtle**, once again had brief and disappointing views of the **Upland Sandpiper** until Gerald spotted one sitting right in the open in the field! This one was much more cooperative, and we got lengthy views in the scope before departing to Prospect Marsh.

Prospect Marsh is a large cattail marsh, and here we wanted to get some views of the more furtive marsh birds such as **Sora** and **Virginia Rail**. While we heard lots of both, only the **Virginia Rail** came out and gave everyone a good performance before retreating back into the cattails.



Virginia Rail

After this fitting end to the Carden chapter of the trip we packed and headed to Algonquin – but not before stopping to admire a North American Porcupine sleeping in a tree.



North American Porcupine

We arrived in Huntsville in the evening and ate downtown at the Mill on Main. It felt nice to be in my hometown, and everyone enjoyed the food and was excited about our upcoming days in Algonquin Provincial Park. We then drove the short distance to Dwight and settled in our hotel.

Day 10, 13 May 2018.



We had an early breakfast that Jared and I set up to get us out into the field as early as possible to catch some of the height of activity. We drove down the Arowhon Road and hiked to what is normally one of the best sites to see boreal specialties – but we were not so lucky today, except for a small flock of **Two-barred Crossbills** spotted by Jared. In fact it was a very quiet day in terms of birds – but the scenery was beautiful and it was dead calm on the water.

We did encounter a very big surprise on the trail on the way back – two **Moose!** At first it seemed as if they were going to walk right past us as they came very close, but then they decided to go back into the bush. A truly Algonquin experience – and much better than seeing them with the crowds along the highway!



Moose

After having brunch at the Portage Store on Canoe Lake we were once again out in search of birds – although the quietness of the morning continued into the afternoon. The Visitor Centre only had a couple of female **Purple Finches** and some **Pine Siskins**, and we saw no Spruce Grouse despite walking the seasonal trails around the Spruce Bog Boardwalk. We drove back to the hotel to take a short break before going to dinner.

We had an early dinner at Muskoka on the Rocks, a cozy little restaurant in Hillside just down the road, before returning to the hotel and – for those that wanted to – going on an evening excursion to view displaying American Woodcock.

A fleet of us assembled to look for woodcocks, and we drove back into the park to a site very close to the western boundary. We walked a little bit into the woods, but as it got darker we settled at the edge of a clearing. It did not take long before an **American Woodcock** began calling – but it was hidden in some alders, just having woken up. I told everyone to be very quiet, and we made our way to a picnic table in the clearing. To everyone's delight the woodcock flew right out into the open and began doing his ground display only a few feet from us. It was still daylight, and we didn't even need binoculars to study the intricate patterns on this secretive woodland shorebird. He wasn't afraid of flash, and the photographers got frame-filling shots – one of the best shows I've ever seen by this species here. He also did some aerial displays for us before it got too dark to see and we left him in peace. For some this was the highlight of the entire trip!



American Woodcock

Day 11, 14 May 2018.

The next morning we once again had an early breakfast and headed back into the park. It was a tough decision about where to go after our very slow day yesterday, but we decided to try the same site as the previous day. As we arrived and I opened the van door I immediately heard **Boreal Chickadee**. Our luck had changed! Before long we had a pair essentially at our feet, giving amazing views of this normally shy species. What a difference a day makes – after trying for several hours the previous day, we today found them almost immediately. A flock of **Red Crossbills** settled into some spruce trees above us for scope views – another species we had missed the previous day.



Boreal Chickadee

We had barely made it 500 meters down the trail when a male **Spruce Grouse** flew directly onto the path in front of us! I could hardly believe it. They are usually very tame once found, and we had close views of the bird after it had perched in a tree – we could walk right below it. Not wanting to waste time we got back to the vans after being satisfied with the grouse and headed to another spot to try for Black-backed Woodpecker.

The woodpecker proved elusive, but we did see a **Sharp-shinned Hawk** carrying an unfortunate songbird to its nest. Our next stop was the Visitor Centre. Devoid of birdlife the previous day, **Evening Grosbeaks** greeted us as soon as we got out of the vans. Several birds were flying around the parking lot and the viewing deck, joined by several **Purple Finches** (including males this time) and **Pine Siskins**.

We then tried at both the Opeongo Road and the Algonquin Logging Museum for Grey Jay, which were unfortunately not cooperative, but we did see more **Red Crossbills**.

It was a hot afternoon, and the birds had quieted down, so we elected to have an early lunch at the Mad Musher in Whitney and try and beat the traffic back to Toronto – which we were largely successful in doing.

We had our final dinner at the hotel in Toronto, enjoying some wine and recounting our favorite parts of the trip that had taken us all across southern Ontario – from the swamplands of the Carolinian forest to the boreal bogs of Algonquin Provincial Park. We toasted the remarkable diversity of birds we had encountered, with 188 species seen and an additional 4 heard only. It was indeed an amazing selection – one would be hard-pressed to find birds like Snowy Owl,

Loggerhead Shrike, Boreal Chickadee, Prothonotary Warbler, Summer Tanager, Upland Sandpiper, and Fish Crow in a single tour!

We said our final goodbyes and hoped that someday we'd be back at the tip of Point Pelee, watching the reverse migration, or on the trails of Algonquin, looking for Spruce Grouse deep in a bog.



Spruce Grouse

Bird List - Following IOC (8.2)

Birds 'heard only' are marked with (H) after the common name, all other species were seen.

The following notation after species names is used to show conservation status following BirdLife International: VU = Vulnerable, NT = Near Threatened.

Common Name	Scientific Name
Ducks, Geese and Swans (Anatidae)	
Canada Goose	<i>Branta canadensis</i>
Mute Swan	<i>Cygnus olor</i>
Trumpeter Swan	<i>Cygnus buccinator</i>
Wood Duck	<i>Aix sponsa</i>
Gadwall	<i>Mareca strepera</i>
Mallard	<i>Anas platyrhynchos</i>
Northern Pintail	<i>Anas acuta</i>
Northern Shoveler	<i>Spatula clypeata</i>
Green-winged Teal	<i>Anas carolinensis</i>
Blue-winged Teal	<i>Spatula discors</i>
Redhead	<i>Aythya americana</i>
Ring-necked Duck	<i>Aythya collaris</i>
Lesser Scaup	<i>Aythya affinis</i>
Greater Scaup	<i>Aythya marila</i>
White-winged Scoter	<i>Melanitta deglandi</i>
Surf Scoter	<i>Melanitta perspicillata</i>
Long-tailed Duck - VU	<i>Clangula hyemalis</i>
Bufflehead	<i>Bucephala albeola</i>
Common Goldeneye	<i>Bucephala clangula</i>
Hooded Merganser	<i>Lophodytes cucullatus</i>
Common Merganser	<i>Mergus merganser</i>
Red-breasted Merganser	<i>Mergus serrator</i>
Ruddy Duck	<i>Oxyura jamaicensis</i>
Pheasants and Allies (Phasianidae)	
Ruffed Grouse (H)	<i>Bonasa umbellus</i>
Spruce Grouse	<i>Falcapennis canadensis</i>
Wild Turkey	<i>Meleagris gallopavo</i>
Loons (Gaviidae)	

Common Name	Scientific Name
Common Loon	<i>Gavia immer</i>
Grebes (Podicipedidae)	
Pied-billed Grebe	<i>Podilymbus podiceps</i>
Red-necked Grebe	<i>Podiceps grisegena</i>
Horned Grebe - VU	<i>Podiceps auritus</i>
Cormorants, Shags (Phalacrocoracidae)	
Double-crested Cormorant	<i>Phalacrocorax auritus</i>
Hérons, Bitterns (Ardeidae)	
American Bittern	<i>Botaurus lentiginosus</i>
Great Blue Heron	<i>Ardea herodias</i>
Great Egret	<i>Ardea alba</i>
Green Heron	<i>Butorides virescens</i>
Black-crowned Night Heron	<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>
New World Vultures (Cathartidae)	
Turkey Vulture	<i>Cathartes aura</i>
Ospreys (Pandionidae)	
Western Osprey	<i>Pandion haliaetus</i>
Kites, Hawks, Eagles (Accipitridae)	
Northern Harrier	<i>Circus hudsonius</i>
Sharp-shinned Hawk	<i>Accipiter striatus</i>
Cooper's Hawk	<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>
Bald Eagle	<i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i>
Red-shouldered Hawk	<i>Buteo lineatus</i>
Broad-winged Hawk	<i>Buteo platypterus</i>
Red-tailed Hawk	<i>Buteo jamaicensis</i>
Rails, Crakes and Coots (Rallidae)	
Virginia Rail	<i>Rallus limicola</i>
Sora (H)	<i>Porzana carolina</i>
Common Gallinule	<i>Gallinula galeata</i>
American Coot	<i>Fulica americana</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Cranes (Gruidae)	
Sandhill Crane	<i>Antigone canadensis</i>
Stilts, Avocets (Recurvirostridae)	
American Avocet	<i>Recurvirostra americana</i>
Plovers (Charadriidae)	
Grey Plover	<i>Pluvialis squatarola</i>
American Golden-Plover	<i>Pluvialis dominica</i>
Killdeer	<i>Charadrius vociferus</i>
Sandpipers, Snipes (Scolopacidae)	
Spotted Sandpiper	<i>Actitis macularius</i>
Greater Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa melanoleuca</i>
Lesser Yellowlegs	<i>Tringa flavipes</i>
Solitary Sandpiper	<i>Tringa solitaria</i>
Upland Sandpiper	<i>Bartramia longicauda</i>
Dunlin	<i>Calidris alpina</i>
Least Sandpiper	<i>Calidris minutilla</i>
Wilson's Snipe	<i>Gallinago delicata</i>
American Woodcock	<i>Scolopax minor</i>
Wilson's Phalarope	<i>Phalaropus tricolor</i>
Gulls, Terns and Skimmers (Laridae)	
Bonaparte's Gull	<i>Chroicocephalus philadelphia</i>
Ring-billed Gull	<i>Larus delawarensis</i>
European Herring Gull	<i>Larus argentatus</i>
Caspian Tern	<i>Hydroprogne caspia</i>
Common Tern	<i>Sterna hirundo</i>
Forster's Tern	<i>Sterna forsteri</i>
Pigeons, Doves (Columbidae)	
Rock Dove	<i>Columba livia</i>
Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>
Cuckoos (Cuculidae)	
Yellow-billed Cuckoo	<i>Coccyzus americanus</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Owls (Strigidae)	
Great Horned Owl	<i>Bubo virginianus</i>
Snowy Owl - VU	<i>Bubo scandiacus</i>
Swifts (Apodidae)	
Chimney Swift - NT	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>
Hummingbirds (Trochilidae)	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>
Kingfishers (Alcedinidae)	
Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>
Woodpeckers (Picidae)	
Red-headed Woodpecker - NT	<i>Melanerpes erythrocephalus</i>
Red-bellied Woodpecker	<i>Melanerpes carolinus</i>
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	<i>Sphyrapicus varius</i>
Downy Woodpecker	<i>Dryobates pubescens</i>
Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Leuconotopicus villosus</i>
Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>
Pileated Woodpecker (H)	<i>Dryocopus pileatus</i>
Tyrant Flycatchers, Calyptura (Tyrannidae)	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax flaviventris</i>
Willow Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax traillii</i>
Least Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax minimus</i>
Acadian Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax virescens</i>
Eastern Phoebe	<i>Sayornis phoebe</i>
Great Crested Flycatcher	<i>Myiarchus crinitus</i>
Eastern Kingbird	<i>Tyrannus tyrannus</i>
Shrikes (Laniidae)	
Loggerhead Shrike	<i>Lanius ludovicianus</i>
Vireos, Greenlets & Shrike-babblers (Vireonidae)	
White-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo griseus</i>
Yellow-throated Vireo	<i>Vireo flavifrons</i>
Blue-headed Vireo	<i>Vireo solitarius</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Warbling Vireo	<i>Vireo gilvus</i>
Philadelphia Vireo	<i>Vireo philadelphicus</i>
Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>
Crows, Jays (Corvidae)	
Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>
American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>
Fish Crow	<i>Corvus ossifragus</i>
Common Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>
Swallows, Martins (Hirundinidae)	
Northern Rough-winged Swallow	<i>Stelgidopteryx serripennis</i>
Purple Martin	<i>Progne subis</i>
Tree Swallow	<i>Tachycineta bicolor</i>
Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>
Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>
Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>
Tits, Chickadees (Paridae)	
Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>
Boreal Chickadee	<i>Poecile hudsonicus</i>
Nuthatches (Sittidae)	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>
White-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta carolinensis</i>
Treecreepers (Certhiidae)	
Brown Creeper	<i>Certhia americana</i>
Wrens (Troglodytidae)	
House Wren	<i>Troglodytes aedon</i>
Winter Wren (H)	<i>Troglodytes hiemalis</i>
Sedge Wren	<i>Cistothorus stellaris</i>
Marsh Wren	<i>Cistothorus palustris</i>
Carolina Wren	<i>Thryothorus ludovicianus</i>
Gnatcatchers (Poliophtilidae)	
Blue-grey Gnatcatcher	<i>Poliophtila caerulea</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Goldcrests, Kinglets (Regulidae)	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>
Thrushes (Turdidae)	
Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>
Veery	<i>Catharus fuscescens</i>
Grey-cheeked Thrush	<i>Catharus minimus</i>
Swainson's Thrush	<i>Catharus ustulatus</i>
Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>
Wood Thrush - NT	<i>Hylocichla mustelina</i>
American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>
Mockingbirds, Thrashers (Mimidae)	
Grey Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>
Brown Thrasher	<i>Toxostoma rufum</i>
Starlings, Rhabdornis (Sturnidae)	
European Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>
Waxwings (Bombycillidae)	
Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>
New World Warblers (Parulidae)	
Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>
Worm-eating Warbler	<i>Helmitheros vermivorum</i>
Louisiana Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia motacilla</i>
Northern Waterthrush	<i>Parkesia noveboracensis</i>
Blue-winged Warbler	<i>Vermivora cyanoptera</i>
Golden-winged Warbler - NT	<i>Vermivora chrysoptera</i>
Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>
Prothonotary Warbler	<i>Protonotaria citrea</i>
Tennessee Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis peregrina</i>
Orange-crowned Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis celata</i>
Nashville Warbler	<i>Leiothlypis ruficapilla</i>
Kentucky Warbler	<i>Geothlypis formosa</i>
Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Hooded Warbler	<i>Setophaga citrina</i>
American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>
Cape May Warbler	<i>Setophaga tigrina</i>
Northern Parula	<i>Setophaga americana</i>
Magnolia Warbler	<i>Setophaga magnolia</i>
Bay-breasted Warbler	<i>Setophaga castanea</i>
Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Setophaga fusca</i>
American Yellow Warbler	<i>Setophaga aestiva</i>
Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Setophaga pensylvanica</i>
Black-throated Blue Warbler	<i>Setophaga caerulescens</i>
Palm Warbler	<i>Setophaga palmarum</i>
Pine Warbler	<i>Setophaga pinus</i>
Myrtle Warbler	<i>Setophaga coronata</i>
Prairie Warbler	<i>Setophaga discolor</i>
Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Setophaga virens</i>
Yellow-breasted Chat (Icteriidae)	
Yellow-breasted Chat	<i>Icteria virens</i>
New World Sparrows (Passerellidae)	
Eastern Towhee	<i>Pipilo erythrophthalmus</i>
Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>
Field Sparrow	<i>Spizella pusilla</i>
Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>
Grasshopper Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>
Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolnii</i>
Swamp Sparrow	<i>Melospiza georgiana</i>
White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>
White-crowned Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia leucophrys</i>
Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>
Cardinals, Grosbeaks (Cardinalidae)	
Summer Tanager	<i>Piranga rubra</i>
Scarlet Tanager	<i>Piranga olivacea</i>
Northern Cardinal	<i>Cardinalis cardinalis</i>
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>
Indigo Bunting	<i>Passerina cyanea</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Oropendolas, Orioles, Blackbirds (Icteridae)	
Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>
Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>
Eastern Meadowlark	<i>Sturnella magna</i>
Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>
Brown-headed Cowbird	<i>Molothrus ater</i>
Orchard Oriole	<i>Icterus spurius</i>
Baltimore Oriole	<i>Icterus galbula</i>
Finches, Euphonias (Fringillidae)	
House Finch	<i>Haemorhous mexicanus</i>
Purple Finch	<i>Haemorhous purpureus</i>
Red Crossbill	<i>Loxia curvirostra</i>
Two-barred Crossbill	<i>Loxia leucoptera</i>
Pine Siskin	<i>Spinus pinus</i>
American Goldfinch	<i>Spinus tristis</i>
Evening Grosbeak	<i>Hesperiphona vespertina</i>
Old World Sparrows, Snowfinches (Passeridae)	
House Sparrow	<i>Passer domesticus</i>

Total seen	188
Total heard only	4
Total recorded	192

Mammal List

Common Name	Scientific Name
Vesper Bats (Vespertilionidae)	
Tricolored Bat	<i>Perimyotis subflavus</i>
Big Brown Bat	<i>Eptesicus fuscus</i>
Raccoons and allies (Procyonidae)	
Northern Raccoon	<i>Procyon lotor</i>
Skunks (Mephitidae)	
Striped Skunk	<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Deer (Cervidae)	
Moose	<i>Alces alces</i>
White-tailed Deer	<i>Odocoileus virginianus</i>
Opossums and allies (Didelphidae)	
Virginia Opossum	<i>Didelphis virginiana</i>
Rabbits and Hares (Leporidae)	
Eastern Cottontail	<i>Sylvilagus floridanus</i>
New World Porcupines (Erethizontidae)	
North American Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>
Beavers (Castoridae)	
North American Beaver	<i>Castor canadensis</i>
Squirrels (Sciuridae)	
Eastern Gray Squirrel	<i>Sciurus carolinensis</i>
Red Squirrel	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>
Woodchuck	<i>Marmota monax</i>
Eastern Chipmunk	<i>Tamias striatus</i>
Hamsters, Voles and allies (Cricetidae)	
Meadow Vole	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>
Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>
Total seen	16

Reptile List

Common Name	Scientific Name
Keelback Snakes and allies (Nactricidae)	
Common Gartersnake	<i>Thamnophis sirtalis</i>
Northern Ribbonsnake	<i>Thamnophis sauritus</i>
Skinks (Scincidae)	

Common Name	Scientific Name
Five-lined Skink	<i>Plestiodon fasciatus</i>
Terrapins (Emydidae)	
Painted Turtle	<i>Chrysemys picta</i>
Blanding's Turtle	<i>Emydoidea blandingii</i>
Total seen	5

Amphibian List

Common Name	Scientific Name
True Toads (Bufonidae)	
American Toad (H)	<i>Anaxyrus americanus</i>
Tree Frogs (Hylidae)	
Gray Treefrog (H)	<i>Hyla versicolor</i>
Western Chorus Frog (H)	<i>Pseudacris triseriata</i>
Spring Peeper (H)	<i>Pseudacris crucifer</i>
True Frogs (Ranidae)	
American Bullfrog	<i>Lithobates catesbeianus</i>
Wood Frog (H)	<i>Lithobates sylvaticus</i>
Total seen and heard	6

Butterfly List

Common Name	Scientific Name
Swallowtail Butterflies (Papilionidae)	
Eastern Black Swallowtail	<i>Papilio polyxenes</i>
Pierid Butterflies (Pieridae)	
West Virginia White	<i>Pieris virginiensis</i>
Cabbage White	<i>Pieris rapae</i>
Olympia Marble	<i>Euchloe olympia</i>
Clouded Sulphur	<i>Colias philodice</i>

Common Name	Scientific Name
Gossamer-winged Butterflies (Lycaenidae)	
Brown Elfin	<i>Callophrys augustinus</i>
Western Pine Elfin	<i>Callophrys eryphon</i>
Lucia Azure	<i>Celastrina lucia</i>
Brush-footed Butterflies (Nymphalidae)	
Green Comma	<i>Polygonia faunus</i>
Compton Tortoiseshell	<i>Nymphalis vaualbum</i>
Mourning Cloak	<i>Nymphalis antiopa</i>
Red American	<i>Vanessa virginiensis</i>
Red Admiral	<i>Vanessa atalanta</i>
Monarch	<i>Danaus plexippus</i>
Total seen	14