

was held on April 15th and observers recorded bird movement from West Point, North Cape, East Point, and Murray Head/Cape Bear on Prince Edward Island.

The West Point count was conducted by Eric Marcum and he completed his observations from West Point Harbour from 8 am to 11 am. He recorded the following birds: 59 Red-throated Loon, 23 Northern Gannets, 4 Great Cormorant, 9 Brant, 174 Oldsquaw, 159 Common Eider, 80 White-winged Scoter, 111 Surf Scoter, 204 Black Scoter, 33 Red-breasted Merganser, and 3 Black Guillemot.

For the second year, Dwaine and Mary Sabine took up their watching point at East Point, making an excursion from Fredericton, N.B. to do so. They observed 4 Common Loon, 120 Northern Gannets, 3 Great Cormorant (maximum of 20 birds trading north and south in 15 minutes), 4 Great Blue Heron, 78 Canada Geese, 16 Black Duck, 2 Northern Pintail, 3 American Wigeon, 1 UID puddle duck, 103 Oldsquaw, 347 Common Eider (sitting or pitched in off point), 5 King Eider, 3 White-winged Scoter, 23 Surf Scoter, 218 Black (Common) Scoter, 61 Red-breasted Merganser, 2 Northern Harrier, 12 Iceland Gulls, 3 Herring Gulls, 8 Great Black-backed Gulls, and 85 Ring-billed Gull (net numbers i.e. if 10 birds flew north and 3 south total = 7).

Gisele Martin and Susanne Essensa are third time participants and again chose North Cape for their watch. The seen 3 Red-throated Loon, 184 Northern Gannets, 8 Great Cormorant, 6 Double-crested Cormorant, 3 Harlequin Duck, 38 Oldsquaw, 29 Common Eider, 9 White-winged Scoter, 34 Surf Scoter, 132 Black Scoter, 27 UID Scoter, 86 Red-breasted Merganser, 14 Great Black-backed Gull, 24 Herring Gull, 2 Black Guillemot, 2 American Crow, and 17 Snow Bunting.

Dan McAskill spent his watch for the second year at Murray Head where he seen 1 Red-throated Loon, 4 Great Blue Heron, 2 Northern Fulmar, 94 Northern Gannets, 9 Great Cormorant, 3 Double-breasted Cormorant, 7 Oldsquaw, 5 Common Eider, White-winged Scoter, 2 Surf Scoter, 26 Black Scoter, 1 UID Scoter, 128 Red-breasted Merganser, 1 Iceland Gull, 28 Great Black-backed Gulls, 1 Ring-billed Gull 11 Herring Gull; 2 Common Raven, 4 American Crow, 1 Black Guillemot, 1 Yellow-shafted Flicker, 2 American Robin, 2 Savannah Sparrow, 3 Song Sparrow.

BIRD COURSE & BAIN BIRD COUNT 2000 OUTINGS: Compiled by J. Dan McAskill & Dwaine Oakley

The Natural History Society's inaugural Bird Identification Course was completed with the hosting of three field trips. Ray Cooke and Dan McAskill lead an early morning and an evening bird walk on the 25th. These walks yielded 39 and 25 bird species respectively. The last bird course outing on May 27th was lead by Ben Hoteling and Dwaine Oakley who had over 15 birders out to walk a portion of the Homestead Trail in Cavendish. They recorded the following species: Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Canada Goose, American Black Duck, Gadwall, Blue-winged Teal, White-winged Scoter, Common Merganser, Red-breasted Merganser, Ruffed Grouse, Greater Black-backed Gull, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, unidentified Tern, Mourning Dove, Belted Kingfisher, Yellow-shafted Flicker, Blue Jay, American Crow, Black-capped Chickadee, Boreal Chickadee, Red-breasted Nuthatch, American Robin, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Blue-headed (Solitary) Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Purple Finch, American Goldfinch, Dark-eyed Junco, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow.

The bird course final outing on the 27th corresponded with the Bain Bird Count date. In addition to the bird course participants, two big day teams went to the fields, marshes, woods, and shores to search for as many species as they could find. The team of Ray Cooke, Roberta Palmer, Linda Thomas, Eric Marcum, and Dan McAskill started at midnight and journeyed through Central and Western Prince Edward Island. Twenty-one and one half hours later, they had racked up 129 species. The team of Jean Watts, Arlene and Paul McGuigan, and Gerald MacDonald ventured around the northeastern section of the Island achieving a count of 72 species. They reported that they "had a great, fun-filled day - lots of nature discoveries, food, etc."

In addition to the species above, one or the other of these teams seen or heard the following species: Common Loon, Red-throated Loon, Northern Gannet, Great Cormorant, Great Egret, American Bittern, Mallard, Northern Pintail, Green-winged Teal, American Wigeon, Northern Shoveler, Wood Duck, Ring-necked Duck, Greater Scaup, Common Goldeneye, Harlequin Duck, Common Eider, Surf Scoter, Black Scoter, Bald Eagle,