

Grand Manan

1 - 10 August 2008

Leaders: Tim Earl
Tony Beck

HIGHLIGHTS

- Four Piping Plovers in one day... a record. They were voted bird of the trip.
- All the North Atlantic Right Whale activity – spy-hopping, breaching, fluke and fin slapping, logging and heavy moaning. Right Whale was voted mammal of the trip.
- A Hudsonian Godwit and Peregrine in flight at the same time.
- Seeing two Fin Whales and three Minke Whales from the land on our first afternoon in the Bay of Fundy.
- Gunther's extravagant waitress's uniform and the tiny pancake he gave Tony at our final breakfast
- Watching Leach's Storm Petrel, Greater and Sooty Shearwaters, a Great Skua and so much more on the ferry crossing to Grand Manan.
- Big flocks of Puffins on their colony and rafts of Phalaropes on the sea – huge numbers of birds.
- Complete relaxation: "Standing on Grand Manan and realising I did not know what day it was or what we were doing next."
- A Bald Eagle swooping down and catching a fish at Hopewell Rocks.
- Swirling flocks of waders – possibly 20,000 in all – at Mary's Point.

DAILY DIARY

Friday 1 August

To Sackville, New Brunswick

A few heavy thundery showers, warm 22C

Protesters objecting to a third runway at Heathrow should consider the delays to passengers caused by today's facilities. We boarded the aircraft on time and then sat for 1hr 40mins before pushing back from the ramp. However, once airborne we had an uneventful flight arriving in Halifax just six hours later at 2.35pm.

We were greeted by Tony, and were soon on our two-hour journey to Sackville where a delicious meal was enjoyed. A Bald Eagle perched in a tree was probably the best of a poor bunch – birding at 100kmp is not the best. We also saw a couple of Northern Ravens and a few American Crows. We were in our beds at the Marshlands Inn, grateful for an early night, by 9.30pm.

Tuesday 2 August

Wildfowl, waders and off to Bouctouche

Overcast with occasional light drizzle and an increasing wind, 18C

A 6am start saw the insomniacs walking around the hotel grounds accompanied by the song of American Robins and Song Sparrows. We slowly began to recognise the calls and features of some of the common birds with Black-capped Chickadees topping the list for numbers. A Red-Eyed Vireo and the wailing of a Catbird were probably the highlights.

Sackville Wildfowl Park is an unlikely sounding spot for good birding but its name belies the variety of birds we see there. It is a great place to start a tour with much to excite people on their first morning in Canada.

Chimney Swifts were around in small numbers, for example, and there were plenty of Lesser Yellowlegs roosting on plank rafts or in the reedbeds. Yellow Warblers were flitting around and several Pied-billed Grebes put on a good show. Cedar Waxwings are common birds in this part of Canada but nevertheless proved thrilling in their attractiveness and activity: hawking flies from the willows. Among the ducks were Blue-winged Teal, Gadwall, Ring-necked Duck, and Black Ducks, two Short-billed Dowitchers were found and a family of Belted Kingfishers called incessantly.

Two or three Muskrats were seen at close quarters allowing us to study their flat tails and eating habits. Among the insects seen were several stunning Phantom Crane-flies which were enjoying the warmth of a sheltered weed-bed.

All too soon it was time to leave and after a comfort stop we went up to the former British fort at Beausejour. Here a short explanation of its history was followed by a hill-top birding session which gave us great views of a Bobolink family, several Hirundine species and a Hen Harrier mobbing a Bald Eagle. Jill found a small group of Ruddy Ducks and a few flocks of Semipalmated and Least Sandpipers were seen.

Lunch was followed by a sleepy (for some including me) drive to Bouctouche Rotary Park (set up by the club of that name, not an area spinning in circles). Here we found Willets and Greater Yellowlegs, Savannah Sparrows and Common Terns, and a few Nelson's Sharp-tailed Sparrows, well in the running for bird of the day if not the trip.

After settling in at the Auberge le Vieux Presbytère de Bouctouche a few folk went out in the increasingly windy and drizzly weather to see Ospreys and Double Crested Cormorants.

An excellent dinner and some good wine was followed by a tour of the house given kindly by Ray Drennon.

Sunday 3 August

Bouctouche area

Rain early easing to an overcast day with strong wind. Torrential rain later in the evening; 18C

Well, at least it wasn't cold... that's the best we could say about the weather this morning. At 6am there was a light drizzle but by 6.45 it was horizontal rain and we beat a retreat to the hotel. It had been worth the effort with three Common Mergansers and a Green-winged Teal added to the duck list. Spotted Sandpipers, Grey and Semipalmated Plovers made up the new waders. A second Bonapart's Gull and lots of Great Black-backed, Herring and Ring-billed Gulls were also seen. Being a Sunday, one of the earliest birds recorded was an Osprey (as in "Let Os Prey") the first of at least eight for the day.

If only all bad days could be as good as this: we drove in drizzle to the Bouctouche Dunes where it stopped. The wind was strong but at least it was dry and brightening for a while. In a sheltered car park we started birding and immediately were surrounded by birds. A Downy Woodpecker was the first new species seen and well too. It was chiselling away at a dead pine and gave great views.

Nearby, a White-throated Sparrow was singing "*Sweeeet, Canada, Canada, Canada*". It was atop a dead tree spike and gave a super performance, once we found it. A feeding flock of warblers was next on the agenda with Magnolia, Tennessee, Nashville, Yellow-rumped, Chestnut-sided and Black-and-White all putting in appearances. An American Red Squirrel played in a pine tree with Golden-crowned Kinglet heard and Black-capped Chickadee nearby.

With the weather still holding we decided to visit the sand dune in the hope of finding a Piping Plover. Our luck held and a juvenile was found sheltering behind a clump of seaweed. An adult was found a little time later – two birds in a visit was a great success for this endangered species.

The visit started with a flock of about 25 Eider on the sea... and just one Surf Scoter among them. Good numbers of Gannets were fishing out at sea and there were scores of Common Terns. A Hen Harrier also put in an appearance.

After a reasonable lunch we headed for Kouchibouguac National Park 40km away where we stopped at Kelly's Beach. A boardwalk leads out towards protected sand dunes where Piping Plovers nest. To our absolute delight we found another two during the afternoon... a red letter day.

The tide was dropping and we enjoyed a masterclass in shorebirds. These included increasing numbers of waders which moved in as the tide dropped, great lines of Cormorants and Great Blue Herons, flocks of feeding Common Terns (with a few Arctic), roosting Red-breasted Mergansers, about six Bonaparte's Gulls and an immature Bald Eagle.

The waders were a challenge and it took great concentration to wheedle out White-rumped and Baird's Sandpipers, and a Hudsonian Godwit (which appeared at the same time as a Peregrine), from the more common birds.

Plans went out of the window when we realised the time was gone 5pm. Giving up a long-anticipated ice-cream we headed back to the hotel in time for the call over and a delicious dinner (locally farmed bison meat for most of us).

It was teeming with rain once more as we turned in for bed.

Monday 4 August

To Grand Manan

Rain was coming down like horizontal stair rods at 6am and we decided not to go out as planned. We could have... the Bouctouche council had put up a pagoda with two picnic tables overlooking the sewage lagoon (a strange choice of venue but great for birders). We popped in after leaving for Black's Harbour and had a great half-hour watching more than 100 Bonaparte's Gulls, Lesser Scaup with ducklings, four Wood Ducks and the head of a preening Shoveler which was sticking up over a bank.

We drove through filthy weather which got better gradually as we went further south, ending at Irvine Nature Park just before lunch. Here we saw several Eiders, a Red Squirrel and a few Black Guillemots.

After another Tim Horton lunch in St John we drove to Black's Harbour in time to do a bit of watching during a lull in the drizzle. A Common Loon (*Great Northern Diver*) flew past and, to our astonishment, most of us saw a Fin Whale swim past the harbour entrance. Wow!

After boarding the ferry we assembled on the top deck and almost immediately started seeing Harbour Porpoises, rafts of Greater and a few Sooty Shearwaters, Razorbills, Guillemots and a few Puffins. The birds were plentiful enabling Tony and I to point out identification marks. The porpoises were numerous this year, some forming pods which were chasing fish across the surface. Some were even leaping.

As we started to leave the inshore island four Arctic Skuas (Parasitic Jaegers) were found chasing terns. Tony pointed out a Harbour Seal close to the ship and as we looked at it a Leach's Petrel Storm Petrel flew into view... amazing! And if that were not enough, seconds later I called a Great Skua which made Tony jump out of his skin. What is a common bird for us on pelagic trips is an extreme rarity for the Bay of Fundy. He had seen only one before in his life and then in thick fog.

A few Minke Whales were seen and Stephen spotted the blow of either Fin or Humpbacked Whale. As we approached Grand Manan Red-necked Phalaropes were found sitting on the sea close to seaweed rafts. These were studied for a while when a Grey Phalarope was found too... we were seeing the birds normally reserved for our whale-watching boat trips.

All too soon the 90-minut journey ended with the picturesque approach to the island, past Swallowtail lighthouse and into the harbour. We drove up to Shorecrest Lodge where a great meal was enjoyed before a trip out to The Whistle.

The weather was rough on the northern tip of the island and I wondered if we had made a mistake. However, a Fin Whale surfaced three times as we arrived and dispelled any doubts. It was followed by two, possibly three, Minke Whales so our expedition completed a super day.

Tuesday 5 August

Castalia Marsh, Whale and Sail trip

Overcast becoming bright (and even sunny by late afternoon), fresh breeze dropping 22C

A 6.30am start gave us a lie-in and we boarded the bus... only to get out again when Tony noticed a flock of Two-barred Crossbills fly over and drop into spruce trees nearby. We decided to go and investigate but never reached the trees. As we walked up the hill another bigger flock, followed by a third settled in spruces nearer the lodge and we enjoyed brilliant views of the birds. They had erupted this year, Tony said. We cheered. It was a great start to the day.

Castalia Marsh is entered via a short stretch of road which seemed to have lots of birds. We parked up and walked back to investigate and were rewarded with brief views of two or three Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, a calling Grey Catbird and a Northern Parula (warbler).

The marsh itself was pretty empty although a White-rumped Sandpiper was seen in flight across the beach below. Two Bald Eagles had been seen before reaching the marsh and two more were perched in trees watching us.

A walk to the Whale Museum near the ferry wharf was followed by a hunt for Common Yellowthroats I had found on the way down, with complete success. After a bit of hanging about we caught the Whale and Sail yacht which left at 11.30am.

We were among birds immediately with our first Greater Shearwaters, Guillemots and Kittiwakes. Razorbills started to appear a little further out as we settled down for the journey out to the Grand Manan Basin. This was marked by a few Harbour Porpoises and what we thought was a whale breaching with a huge splash. In fact, it was a Basking Shark performing the manoeuvre, a rare event recorded only in the Bay of Fundy.

Wilson's Storm Petrels became commonplace over the deeper water and a few small flocks of phalaropes began to appear too. These, unusually, were almost exclusively Grey (Red) Phalaropes, some in their silvery non-breeding plumage, others with varying degrees of red.

A whale fluke and several spouts were spotted but we carried on past these distant animals to an area where the crew knew more could be found. Their experience paid off and we were soon among lots of North Atlantic Right Whales, one of the rarest large mammals in the world with a population of only about 300. Their behaviour was classical – coming to the surface and lying there spouting every minute or so for about five minutes before arching their backs and diving, waving us farewell with their huge tail-flukes. A few engaged in logging where they remained on the surface for some time. A couple of mothers with calves were also approached. It was not uncommon for three or four animals to be around the boat at the same time and often with more further away. Our estimate for the number of whales seen was 25 although accuracy was difficult.

It was not only whales which were seen. A Fulmar circled the boat, the first Tony had seen in the Bay of Fundy, and a few Manx Shearwaters also put in an appearance. This really was a red-letter trip aided by a dropping breeze and clearing skies. We were glad of our sun protection by the time we returned to Grand Manan.

The improving weather tempted us out after dinner – a rather unwise attempt to see even more whales, this time from the beautiful cliffs of Swallowtail Point. The birds are occasionally rewarded, however, and with a beautiful sunset as a backdrop we watched about six Minke Whales as they passed too and fro at our feet,

some so close we could hear them exhale with a loud whoooosh. It was a superb ending to our first planned encounter with whales.

Jupiter with its moons was showing as we left the headland and returned to the hotel for a nightcap.

Wednesday 6 August

Optional Puffins or exploring Grand Manan

Overcast

Tony and two of the group started early to take an optional trip to Machias Seal Island where there are hides overlooking a Puffin colony. They were allocated an excellent hide and had a wonderful time photographing the puffs and Razorbills. The time flew and their return to the boat came as a surprise. The trip also visited ledges where Harbour and Grey Seals haul out giving excellent views of these usually shy creatures. Amazingly, in the short crossing to the islands they also saw six Minke Whales.

I led the remaining folk up The Whistle Road to look for migrating and resident birds. We also enjoyed a morning's leg-stretch.

The walk started at the old dump where a flock of warblers proved highly uncooperative although we did see Tennessee and American Redstart. A big flock of Two-barred Crossbills was found and shortly after emerging back onto the road we saw a family party of Blue Jays.

Greater success was had with our second flock of warblers which flitted around us coming close. These included Yellow, Magnolia, Black-throated Green and a stunning Canada Warbler, most appropriate.

Walking the trail to Eel Lake we came across other more familiar species but once we arrived at the lake things looked up a little with views of two or three Alder Flycatchers and a juvenile Rose-breasted Grosbeak. A fly-past Bald Eagle gave great views.

The group came together when Tony picked us up on the road and we returned to the lodge for a toasted sandwich.

Our afternoon was spent exploring the island with visits to Castalia Marsh, where little was showing, The Anchorage, and South Head. A beautiful walk through bog-pines to a swampy area was rewarded with flowering carnivorous pitcher plants and sundews... few insects seem to be around and one plant had an ominous buzzing coming from inside it. Indian pipes, a strange parasitic plant, and lots of beautiful fungi were also found

The bird life was a little thin and uncooperative but we did see a family of Black-throated Green Warblers and a female Hairy Woodpecker. A feeding flock of birds included several Yellow-rumped Warblers.

South Head gave wonderful views and sounds of large numbers of Black Guillemots congregating on the sea below us. Their squeaky calls sounded more like pipits than auks. We watched them diving, following their progress through the clear water, sitting on rocks and carrying what looked like red butterfish. A Raven came by and picked up a dropped and dried butterfish from a ledge.

The cliffs were beautiful and interesting – in parts the columnar basalt reminded us of The Giant's Causeway.

We returned to the lodge for a delicious scallop dinner and a private screening of films about Grand Manan.

Thursday 7 August

Grand Manan and whale watching II

Light cloud, some sunny spells, light breeze, calm sea 22C

A pre-breakfast walk down to Whale Cove was enjoyable if a little light on birds. A Red-breasted Nuthatch was the only new species seen with Winter Wren heard. A few Two-barred crossbills were still around and Black-throated Green Warbler families common.

A stop on the approach road to Castalia Marsh after breakfast was good with a preening Blackburnian Warbler as a highlight. Ovenbird was also new while old faithfuls such as Purple Finch and Catbird were recorded too.

The Anchorage has a beautiful walk parallel to the sea which gave us both Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets (at last after hearing them so often) and a Black-and-white Warbler. Red-necked Grebe was seen on the sea.

We met Gunther at Seal Cove Harbour where he had brought our picnic lunches. These were loaded onto *MV Day's Catch* with Peter Wilcox as captain and Durlan Ingersoll as mate / naturalist. We were soon on our way towards the Grand Manan Basin again, a 1hr 45min journey. Birds were coming thick and fast from before the start with a Willet flying over the boat as passengers boarded. This is an uncommon bird for Grand Manan.

Plenty of auks were seen early on (with Puffins throughout the trip), Bald eagles were sitting on offshore rocks while Gannets and Kittiwakes were common, even inshore. Further out we started seeing Greater Shearwaters and Wilson's Storm-petrels although not in the numbers recorded on Tuesday. Red-necked Phalaropes were plentiful for a while with a good number of Grey Phalaropes among them.

Just after our first Arctic Skua was seen the first North Atlantic Right Whales started blowing and we were soon surrounded. This started an unbeatable performance with animals spy-hopping, logging, tail and flipper slapping and as a parting shot one even breached three times. It was sensational. On a couple of occasions we saw a female with calf and also a congregation of animals in courtship. This was dramatic as tails, pectoral fins, heads and blow-holes broke the surface as the whales writhed around. One of them made a low moaning sound which was felt rather than heard, an extraordinary sensation.

Other highlights of the trip included a Thrasher Shark, another Arctic Skua and six Great Northern Divers. It was a memorable and delightful experience.

Our day ended with a slide show about whales and wildlife off Grand Manan by Laurie Murison.

Friday 8 August (08.08.08)

Leaving Grand Manan, Fundy N. P. and Mary's Point

Sunny, some cloud, calm, 25C

I hate to write this but our 7.30am sailing to Black's Harbour was both cold and disappointing. No whales, few shearwaters and little excitement. Lincoln's Sparrows were seen by some at the ferry terminal and a Pomarine Skua chased Great Shearwaters to our delight (a bit more like the action afloat we had become used to).

A few White-tailed Deer were seen during the morning's drive along with a Bald Eagle perched next to its huge nest. A slight wrong turn gave us good views of Eastern Bluebirds and a pair of Broad-winged Hawks were worth a quick stop.

We had lunch at Wolfe Lake, just inside Fundy National Park where a calling Great Northern Diver sent shivers through us. It was a haunting sound. The scat of a Black Bear – full off blueberry seeds – was found and a Merlin hawking dragonflies added further interest. A Common Branded Skipper was added to our butterfly list.

Stopping at our guest-house in Alma we were delighted to see Ruby-throated Hummingbirds, Pine Siskins and Purple Finches at feeders outside tomorrow's breakfast room. We carried on towards Mary's Point where waders were our target, but stopped at Lars Larsen Marsh. Here we were able to watch two Sora Rails in the reeds while Jill found a singing Sharp-tailed Sparrow.

Cape May Warbler and Northern Parula were among other warblers at Mary's Point but it was waders which provided the greatest interest. There were thousands wheeling in great swarms or dotting the extensive beaches as the tide rose gently. We watched and waited for about two hours as they gradually headed off around a headland and out of sight. By 4pm the show was over (concluded by a Peregrine which dashed over the almost empty beach in the hope of a meal) and we returned to Alma for a meal before setting off on dusk back into the park.

Our hopes were again dashed but for a Barred Owl. This flitted across the road in front of us but shot back when Tony squeaked like a wounded rabbit. Only a few people saw the bird as it almost landed on the roof.

Saturday 9 August

Fundy N. P., Lars Larsen Marsh, Hopewell Rocks and off to Halifax

Drizzle and low cloud early, sunny with heavy showers 24C

We were out by 6am to drive the dawn through Fundy N. P. in low cloud and drizzle but sadly found no Moose, our big hope. A feeding flock of warblers included Northern Parula and Boreal Tit among others but views were poor. Dark-eyed Juncos were seen well for the first time, however.

We enjoyed hummingbirds with our breakfast but were puzzled not to see a male with its ruby-throat. All was explained afterwards when one was found hogging a feeder at the front of the building, chasing off all comers.

Arriving at Lars Larsen Marsh we saw an American Bittern in flight but it dived into the reeds before everyone had seen it. Two men were ringing ducks but their techniques were a bit rough and we turned our attention to the marsh but nothing unusual was found.

Hopewell Rocks proved better, however, with a flock of feeding warblers which included Cape May and American Redstart. A Bald Eagle swooped down and caught a fish while we watched from the beach and a Woodchuck (Groundhog) was seen as we returned to the interpretation centre.

Time was pressing and we headed off for a final Tim Horton lunch before driving to the airport. A meal was enjoyed in a local hotel after we had seen Tony off to Ottawa and we returned to the airport for a (long) wait. Our aircraft was 75mins late leaving which delayed our arrival back at Heathrow.

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August 2008

ANNOTATED LIST OF SPECIES

BIRDS

	PHEASANTS & ALLIES	
1	Common Pheasant	Phasianus colchicus
	WILDFOWL	
2	Greater Canada Goose	Branta canadensis
3	Mute Swan	Cygnus olor
4	Wood Duck	Aix sponsa
5	Gadwall	Anas strepera
6	American Wigeon	Anas americana
7	American Black Duck	Anas rubripes
8	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos
9	Blue-winged Teal	Anas discors
10	Northern Shoveler	Anas clypeata
11	Eurasian Teal	Anas crecca
12	Ring-necked Duck	Aythya collaris
13	Common Eider	Somateria mollissima
14	Surf Scoter	Melanitta perspicillata
15	Common Merganser	Mergus merganser
16	Red-breasted Merganser	Mergus serrator
17	Ruddy Duck	Oxyura jamaicensis
	LOONS	
18	Great Northern Loon (Diver)	Gavia immer
	PETRELS & SHEARWATERS	
19	Northern Fulmar	Fulmarus glacialis
20	Manx Shearwater	Puffinus puffinus
21	Sooty Shearwater	Puffinus griseus
22	Great Shearwater	Puffinus gravis
	STORM PETRELS	
23	Wilson's Storm Petrel	Oceanites oceanicus
24	Leach's Storm Petrel	Oceanodroma leucorhoa
	GREBES	
25	Pied-billed Grebe	Podilymbus podiceps
26	Red-necked Grebe	Podiceps grisegena
	HERONS, BITTERN	
27	American Bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus
28	Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias cognata
	GANNETS & BOOBIES	
29	Northern Gannet	Morus bassanus
	CORMORANTS	
30	Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus
31	Great Cormorant	Phalacrocorax carbo
	NEW WORLD VULTURES	
32	Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura

Phasianidae

One heard at Sackville.

Anatidae

Common, seen daily.

A 'dodgy' pair on the town-pond in Sackville.

Four at the Bouctouche water treatment plant; three ringed at Lars Larsen Marsh.

A few at the wildfowl park, Sackville.

A few at the wildfowl park, Sackville.

Common, seen almost daily; several being ringed at Lars Larsen Marsh.

Common, seen almost daily; a few being ringed at Lars Larsen Marsh.

Singles at the wildfowl park, Sackville and in Bouctouche.

One at the water treatment plant, Bouctouche.

A couple in Bouctouche; three being ringed at Lars Larsen Marsh.

Two females at the wildfowl park, Sackville; a few at The Anchorage.

Common on the sea.

One on the sea off the dunes at Bouctouche.

Three at Bouctouche; lots at Kouchibouguac; a family near Mary's Point.

More than 10 at Kouchibouguac National Park.

Three at Beausejour.

Gaviidae

Two fly-past birds at Black's Harbour and on our first whale-watching trip; six on our last whale watching trip.

Procellariidae

One on the first whale watching trip - Tony's first in the Bay of Fundy.

Two on the first, six on the second whale watching trip.

Seen on four days while in Grand Manan.

Common to abundant in the Bay of Fundy.

Hydrobatidae

Abundant in the Bay of Fundy.

One from the ferry to Grand Manan.

Podicipedidae

Lots at Sackville wildfowl park.

One at Kouchibouguac; one on the sea on Grand Manan.

Ardeidae

One in flight at Lars Larsen Marsh.

Common, seen almost daily but more than 60 at Kouchibouguac National Park.

Sulidae

Scores from the Bouctouche dunes and at sea off Kouchibouguac N. P.; common on whale watching trips and from the Grand Manan ferries.

Phalacrocoracidae

Common, seen daily; hundreds at Kouchibouguac National Park.

A few at Kouchibouguac N. P.

Cathartidae

Two on the way up to Fundy N. P.; three near Mary's Point.

FALCONS, CARACARAS

33	American Kestrel	Falco sparverius
34	Merlin	Falco columbarius
35	Peregrine Falcon	Falco peregrinus

KITES, HAWKS, EAGLES

36	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus
37	Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus
38	Northern Harrier	Circus cyaneus
39	Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus
40	Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis

RAILS, CRAKES & COOTS

41	Sora	Porzana carolina
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PLOVERS

42	Grey Plover	Pluvialis squatarola
43	Semipalmated Plover	Charadrius semipalmatus
44	Killdeer	Charadrius vociferus
45	Piping Plover	Charadrius melodus

SANDPIPERS, SNIPES

46	Wilson's Snipe	Gallinago delicata
47	Short-billed Dowitcher	Limnodromus griseus
48	Hudsonian Godwit	Limosa haemastica
49	Greater Yellowlegs	Tringa melanoleuca
50	Lesser Yellowlegs	Tringa flavipes
51	Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularius
52	Willet	Catoptrophorus semipalmatus
53	Ruddy Turnstone	Arenaria interpres
54	Red Knot	Calidris canutus
55	Sanderling	Calidris alba
56	Semipalmated Sandpiper	Calidris pusilla
57	Least Sandpiper	Calidris minutilla
58	White-rumped Sandpiper	Calidris fuscicollis
59	Baird's Sandpiper	Calidris bairdii
60	Red-necked Phalarope	Phalaropus lobatus
61	Red Phalarope	Phalaropus fulicarius

GULLS, TERNS, SKIMMERS

62	Ring-billed Gull	Larus delawarensis
63	Great Black-backed Gull	Larus marinus
64	Herring Gull	Larus argentatus
65	Bonaparte's Gull	Larus philadelphia
66	Black-legged Kittiwake	Rissa tridactyla
67	Common Tern	Sterna hirundo
68	Arctic Tern	Sterna paradisaea

SKUAS

69	Great Skua	Stercorarius skua
70	Pomarine Skua	Stercorarius pomarinus
71	Parasitic Jaeger (Arctic Skua)	Stercorarius parasiticus

AUKS

72	Common Murre	Uria aalge
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Falconidae

Seen on three days - all from the minibus.
Three near Mary's Point.
One at Kouchibouguac National Park; one hunting across the beach at Mary's Point.

Accipitridae

Common - up to eight daily.
Common, a few daily; one snatching a fish from the sea at Hopewell Rocks.
Females on five days, male at Mary's Point.
A pair on the way to Fundy N. P.
Singles on the drive to Sackville and Fundy N. P.

Rallidae

Adult and immature at Lars Larsen Marsh.

Charadriidae

A few at Bouctouche; lots at Kouchibouguac National Park.
Common to abundant, huge flocks at Mary's Point.
Five in the Bouctouche area.
Adult and juvenile at Bouctouche dunes; two adults at Kouchibouguac National Park. Bird of the trip.

Scolopacidae

One at Sackville Wildfowl Park.
A few in most sites.
One seen at Kouchibouguac National Park.
Common, seen most days.
Abundant, lots seen almost daily.
A few seen on four days.
A few around Bouctouche; one at Seal Cove Harbour was a rarity for Grand Manan.
Seen around Bouctouche on two days; three on Machias Sea Island.
Two at Kouchibouguac.
Ten at Kouchibouguac.
Common to abundant, huge mixed flocks at Mary's Point.
Common to abundant, huge mixed flocks at Mary's Point.
A few at Kouchibouguac.
One at Kouchibouguac.
Thousands in rafts and flying during our whale watching trips.
Large numbers (more than we have ever seen before) among the Red-necked Phalarope flocks.

Laridae

Common on the mainland
Common, seen almost daily.
Common, seen almost daily.
Seen on three days around Bouctouche with more than 100 at the water treatment plant.
A few daily in Grand Manan
Common, seen almost daily.
Recorded on five days with five on the last whale-watching trip.

Stercorariidae

One from the ferry to Grand Manan, a real rarity.
One from the ferry back.
Nine recorded on four days in the Bay of Fundy.

Alcidae

Common in the Bay of Fundy.

73	Razorbill	<i>Alca torda</i>	Common in the Bay of Fundy.
74	Black Guillemot	<i>Cepphus grylle</i>	Common around Grand Manan.
75	Atlantic Puffin	<i>Fratercula arctica</i>	Common in the Bay of Fundy; many on Machias Seal Island.
	PIGEONS & DOVES		Columbidae
76	Common Pigeon	<i>Columba livia</i>	Common, seen daily.
77	Mourning Dove	<i>Zenaida macroura</i>	Common, seen almost daily.
	OWLS		Strigidae
78	Barred Owl	<i>Strix varia</i>	One on our night drive through Fundy N.P.
	SWIFTS		Apodidae
79	Chimney Swift	<i>Chaetura pelagica</i>	Four at Sackville Wildfowl Park.
	HUMMINGBIRDS		Trochilidae
80	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	<i>Archilochus colubris</i>	A few here and there; more than 25 at feeders just outside Fundy N.P.
	KINGFISHERS		Alcedinidae
81	Belted Kingfisher	<i>Megaceryle alcyon</i>	A few recorded on four days.
	WOODPECKERS		Picidae
82	Downy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides pubescens</i>	Two in woods behind Bouctouche dunes; one in Fundy N.P.
83	Hairy Woodpecker	<i>Picoides villosus</i>	One in The Anchorage, Grand Manan.
84	Northern Flicker	<i>Colaptes auratus</i>	A few seen from the bus.
	TYRANT FLYCATCHERS		Tyrannidae
85	Alder Flycatcher	<i>Empidonax alnorum</i>	A few seen or heard here and there.
	VIREOS, GREENLETS		Vireonidae
86	Red-eyed Vireo	<i>Vireo olivaceus</i>	One seen at Sackville Wildfowl Park, a few heard elsewhere.
	CROWS, JAYS		Corvidae
87	Blue Jay	<i>Cyanocitta cristata</i>	Surprisingly uncommon with just two seen apart from two parties on Grand Manan.
88	American Crow	<i>Corvus brachyrhynchos</i>	Common, seen daily.
89	Northern Raven	<i>Corvus corax</i>	Common, seen daily.
	WAXWINGS & ALLIES		Bombycillidae
90	Cedar Waxwing	<i>Bombycilla cedrorum</i>	Abundant, seen daily.
	TITS & CHICKADEES		Paridae
91	Black-capped Chickadee	<i>Poecile atricapillus</i>	Common, seen daily.
92	Boreal Chickadee	<i>Poecile hudsonica</i>	At least six in a Fundy N.P. feeding flock.
	SWALLOWS, MARTINS		Hirundinidae
93	Sand Martin	<i>Riparia riparia</i>	Recorded on four days with a maximum of 20 at Fort Beausejour.
94	Barn Swallow	<i>Hirundo rustica</i>	Common, recorded on four days.
95	American Cliff Swallow	<i>Petrochelidon pyrrhonota</i>	Ten at Fort Beausejour.
	GOLDCRESTS, KINGLETS		Regulidae
96	Golden-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus satrapa</i>	Heard commonly but remained hidden until we reached The Anchorage, Grand Manan.
97	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	<i>Regulus calendula</i>	Three at The Anchorage in a mixed flock.
	WRENS		Troglodytidae
98	Winter Wren	<i>Troglodytes troglodytes</i>	Two heard on Grand Manan; one seen in Fundy N.P.
	NUTHATCHES, WALLCREEPER		Sittidae
99	Red-breasted Nuthatch	<i>Sitta canadensis</i>	Two on the Whale Cove pre-breakfast walk.
	MOCKINGBIRDS, THRASHERS		Mimidae
100	Grey Catbird	<i>Dumetella carolinensis</i>	Heard more than seen but recorded on five days.
	STARLINGS		Sturnidae
101	Common Starling	<i>Sturnus vulgaris</i>	Common, seen daily.
	THRUSHES		Turdidae
102	Eastern Bluebird	<i>Sialia sialis</i>	Families seen on three days.
103	Hermit Thrush	<i>Catharus guttatus</i>	Five seen over three days.
104	American Robin	<i>Turdus migratorius</i>	Common, seen daily.
	FINCHES		Fringillidae
105	Pine Siskin	<i>Carduelis pinus</i>	Seen only at feeders outside Fundy N.P.

106	American Goldfinch	<i>Carduelis tristis</i>	Quite common, a few seen daily.
107	Purple Finch	<i>Carpodacus purpureus</i>	Common, seen daily, but few 'purple' males.
108	Two-barred Crossbill	<i>Loxia leucoptera</i>	Several large flocks totalling about 400 on Grand Manan.

NEW WORLD WARBLERS

109	Tennessee Warbler	<i>Vermivora peregrina</i>	Two seen in mixed flocks.
110	Nashville Warbler	<i>Vermivora ruficapilla</i>	One seen in Boutouche.
111	Northern Parula	<i>Parula americana</i>	A few seen in mixed flocks on three days.
112	Chestnut-sided Warbler	<i>Dendroica pensylvanica</i>	Four seen in a mixed flock at Bouctouche dunes.
113	American Yellow Warbler	<i>Dendroica petechia</i>	Common, a few seen almost daily.
114	Blackburnian Warbler	<i>Dendroica fusca</i>	One seen at Castalia Marsh posed superbly; one other seen.
115	Magnolia Warbler	<i>Dendroica magnolia</i>	Common, a few seen in mixed flocks almost daily.
116	Cape May Warbler	<i>Dendroica tigrina</i>	Just four seen over two days in Fundy N.P.
117	Yellow-rumped Warbler	<i>Dendroica coronata</i>	Six 'butter-butts' seen over three days.
118	Black-throated Green Warbler	<i>Dendroica virens</i>	Common, seen daily in parties.
119	Black-and-white Warbler	<i>Mniotilta varia</i>	Singles seen on two days.
120	American Redstart	<i>Setophaga ruticilla</i>	Quite common towards the end of the holiday.
121	Ovenbird	<i>Seiurus aurocapilla</i>	Just one seen at Castalia Marsh.
122	Common Yellowthroat	<i>Geothlypis trichas</i>	Common, with a yellow throat. Seen daily.
123	Canada Warbler	<i>Wilsonia canadensis</i>	Just one in a mixed flock on The Whistle Road, Grand Manan.

NEW WORLD BLACKBIRDS

124	Red-winged Blackbird	<i>Agelaius phoeniceus</i>	Common, seen almost daily.
125	Common Grackle	<i>Quiscalus quiscula</i>	Less common, but seen almost daily.
126	Bobolink	<i>Dolichonyx oryzivorus</i>	A male, female and juvenile seen at Fort Beausejour.

BUNTINGS, NEW WORLD SPARROWS & ALLIES

127	Song Sparrow	<i>Melospiza melodia</i>	Common, seen daily.
128	Lincoln's Sparrow	<i>Melospiza lincolni</i>	Seen on Grand Manan and Fundy N.P.
129	White-throated Sparrow	<i>Zonotrichia albicollis</i>	Common, seen or heard almost daily.
130	Dark-eyed Junco	<i>Junco hyemalis</i>	Seen commonly only in the last couple of days.
131	Savannah Sparrow	<i>Passerculus sandwichensis</i>	Nine recorded on three days at the start of the holiday.
132	Nelson's Sparrow	<i>Ammodramus nelsoni</i>	One of the character birds of the trip - it's 'song' was a winner. Seen in marshes on five days.
133	Chipping Sparrow	<i>Spizella passerina</i>	Recorded on four days.
134	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	<i>Pheucticus ludovicianus</i>	One seen at Eel Lake, Grand Manan.

MAMMALS

RABBITS & HARES

1	Snowshoe Hare	<i>Lepus americanus</i>
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SQUIRRELS

2	Woodchuck (Groundhog)	<i>Marmota monax</i>
3	American Red Squirrel	<i>Tamiasciurus hudsonicus</i>

MICE, RATS, VOLES & GERBILS

4	Meadow Vole	<i>Microtus pennsylvanicus</i>
5	Muskrat	<i>Ondatra zibethicus</i>

NEW WORLD PORCUPINES

6	North American Porcupine	<i>Erethizon dorsatum</i>
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BEARS

7	American Black Bear	<i>Ursus americanus</i>
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EARLESS SEALS

8	Harbour Seal	<i>Phoca vitulina</i>
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9	Grey Seal	<i>Halichoerus grypus</i>
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OTTERS, WEASELS & BADGERS

10	Striped Skunk	<i>Mephitis mephitis</i>
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RACCOONS

Leporidae

One seen at Fort Beausejour.

Scuridae

One at Hopewell Rocks.

Common, seen or heard daily.

Muridae

One at The Anchorage.

Quite common, a few seen in marshes.

Erethizontidae

A few road-kills.

Ursidae

Scat seen at Wolfe Lake, Fundy N.P.

Phocidae

Common around Grand Manan. Lots on the Seal Island trip.

A few seen around Grand manan.

Mustelidae

Road-kill on our last day.

Procyonidae

11	Northern Raccoon RORQUALS (BALEEN WHALES)	Procyon lotor	A few road kills.
12	Northern Minke Whale	Balaenoptera acutorostrata	Four on the crossing to Grand Manan; two from The Whistle; six from Swallowtail Point; six on the Seal Island trip.
13	Fin Whale RIGHT WHALES	Balaenoptera physalus	One at Black's Harbour; one from The Whistle.
14	North Atlantic Right Whale PORPOISES	Balaena glacialis	About 25 on our first whale-watching trip.
15	Harbour Porpoise	Phocoena phocoena	Abundant on the crossing to Grand Manan; lots on the whale-watching trips.
	DEER		Cervidae
16	White-tailed Deer	Odocoileus virginianus	Five seen from the bus in or near Fundy N.P.

FLUTS

	SKIPPERS		Hesperiidae
1	Common Branded Skipper SWALLOWTAILS	Hesperia comma	One at Wolfe Lake, Fundy N.P.
2	Black Swallowtail WHITES & YELLOWS	Papilio polyxenes	One near Mary's Point.
3	Large White	Pieris brassicae	Common, seen almost daily.
4	Clouded Sulphur MONARCH BUTTERFLIES	Colias phylodice	Common, seen almost daily.
5	Monarch BRUSH-FOOTED BUTTERFLIES	Danaus plexippus	One seen at Bouctouche Dunes.
6	Common Wood Nymph FRITIARIES & ALLIES	Cercyonis pegula	Common, seen most days.
7	Great Spangled Fritillary	Speyeria Cybele	Common on Grand Manan.
8	Northern Crescent	Phyciodes cocyta	One on Grand Manan.

FISH

1	Sunfish	Mola mola	One on the first whale-watching trip.
2	Basking Shark	Cetorhinus maximus	One breaching on the first whale-watching trip.
3	Thrasher Shark	Alopias vulpinus	One seen on the second whale-watching trip.

OTHER TAXA

Lion's Mane Jellyfish	Cyanea capillata	Several around Grand Manan.
Moon Jellyfish	Aurelia aurita	Several around Grand Manan.
Field Cricket		Several at Castalia Marsh, Grand Manan.
Band-winged Grasshopper		Nicknamed the Camberwell Beauty Grasshopper, we saw lots on Grand Manan.
Familiar Bluet (damselfly)	Enallagma civile	A few on Grand Manan.
Wandering Glider (dragonfly)	Pantala flavescens	A few on Grand Manan.

HEAVENLY BODIES

Jupiter with its moons Io, Europa, Callisto and Ganymede	Seen brilliantly at the end of our visit to the Swallowtail lighthouse.
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