



RIDEAU VALLEY FIELD NATURALISTS - SPRING BIRD COUNT - MAY 10 & 11, 1991

SPECIES NAME	SPECIES NAME
1 COMMON LOON	84 BLUE JAY
2 PIED-BILLED GREBE	85 AMERICAN CROW
3 AMERICAN BITTERN	86 COMMON RAVEN
4 LEAST BITTERN	87 BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE
5 GREAT BLUE HERON	88 RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH
6 GREEN-BACKED HERON	89 WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH
7 SNOW GOOSE	90 BROWN CREEPER
8 BRANT	91 HOUSE WREN
9 CANADA GOOSE	92 WINTER WREN
10 WOOD DUCK	93 SEDGE WREN
11 GREEN-WINGED TEAL	94 MARSH WREN
12 AMERICAN BLACK DUCK	95 GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET
13 MALLARD	96 RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET
14 BLUE-WINGED TEAL	97 EASTERN BLUEBIRD
15 RING-NECKED DUCK	98 VEERY
16 LESSER SCAUP	99 SWAINSON'S THRUSH
17 BUFFLEHEAD	100 HERMIT THRUSH
18 HOODED MERGANSER	101 WOOD THRUSH
19 COMMON MERGANSER	102 AMERICAN ROBIN
20 RED-BREASTED MERGANSER	103 GRAY CATBIRD
21 TURKEY VULTURE	104 BROWN THRASHER
22 OSPREY	105 WATER PIPIT
23 HAWK SP.	106 CEDAR WAXWING
24 BALD EAGLE	107 LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE
25 NORTHERN HARRIER	108 EUROPEAN STARLING
26 SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	109 YELLOW-THROATED VIREO
27 COOPER'S HAWK	110 WARBLING VIREO
28 NORTHERN GOSHAWK	111 PHILADELPHIA VIREO
29 RED-SHOULDERED HAWK	112 RED-EYED VIREO
30 BROAD-WINGED HAWK	113 GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER
31 RED-TAILED HAWK	114 TENNESSEE WARBLER
32 ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	115 NASHVILLE WARBLER
33 AMERICAN KESTRAL	116 NORTHERN PARULA
34 MERLIN	117 YELLOW WARBLER
35 PEREGRINE FALCON	118 CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER
36 RING-NECKED PHEASANT	119 MAGNOLIA WARBLER
37 RUFFED GROUSE	120 CAPE MAY WARBLER
38 VIRGINIA RAIL	121 BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER
39 SORA RAIL	122 YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER
40 COMMON MOORHEN	123 BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER
41 SEMIPALMATED PLOVER	124 BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER
42 KILLDEER	125 PINE WARBLER
43 GREATER YELLOWLEGS	126 PRAIRIE WARBLER
44 LESSER YELLOWLEGS	127 BLACKPOLL WARBLER
45 SOLITARY SANDPIPER	128 BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER
46 SPOTTED SANDPIPER	129 AMERICAN REDSTART
47 UPLAND SANDPIPER	130 OVENBIRD
48 SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER	131 NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH
49 LEAST SANDPIPER	132 MOURNING WARBLER
50 COMMON SNIFE	133 COMMON YELLOWTHROAT
51 AMERICAN WOODCOCK	134 WILSON'S WARBLER
52 RING-BILLED GULL	135 CANADA WARBLER
53 HERRING GULL	136 SCARLET Tanager
54 BLACK TERN	137 NORTHERN CARDINAL
55 ROCK DOVE	138 ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK
56 MOURNING DOVE	139 INDIGO BUNTING
57 BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO	140 RUFIOUS-SIDED TOWHEE
58 SCREECH OWL	141 AMERICAN TREE SPARROW
59 GREAT HORNED OWL	142 CHIPPING SPARROW
60 BARRED OWL	143 FIELD SPARROW
61 COMMON Nighthawk	144 VESPER SPARROW
62 WHIP-POOR-WILL	145 SAVANNAH SPARROW
63 CHIMNEY SWIFT	146 FOX SPARROW
64 RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD	147 SONG SPARROW
65 BELTED KINGFISHER	148 SWAMP SPARROW
66 YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER	149 WHITE-THROATED SPARROW
67 DOWNY WOODPECKER	150 WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW
68 HAIRY WOODPECKER	151 DARK-EYED JUNCO
69 NORTHERN FLICKER	152 BOBOLINK
70 PILEATED WOODPECKER	153 RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD
71 OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER	154 EASTERN MEADOWLARK
72 EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE	155 COMMON GRACKLE
73 LEAST FLYCATCHER	156 BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD
74 EASTERN PHOEBE	157 ORCHARD ORIOLE
75 GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER	158 NORTHERN ORIOLE
76 EASTERN KINGBIRD	159 PURPLE FINCH
77 HORNED LARK	160 HOUSE FINCH
78 PURPLE MARTIN	161 AMERICAN GOLDFINCH
79 TREE SWALLOW	162 EVENING GROSBEAK
80 N. ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW	163 HOUSE SPARROW
81 BANK SWALLOW	
82 CLIFF SWALLOW	
83 BARN SWALLOW	

Instead of my usual preamble, I have listed the birds recorded on the Rideau Valley Field Naturalists Spring Count. This count, held over a 24 hour period, starting at 3 p.m. May 10, took place, roughly speaking within a 35 km radius circle, the centre of which is Perth. It is held each year and so serves, over time, to profile the birdlife in the area. Numbers of the various species were listed, but I have not included that data. Suffice to say, that a total of 24,811 individual birds were counted, which, of course, is only a representative number of the birds actually present. One species missed in the printing of the list was a Three-toed Woodpecker, so the total number of species recorded should read 164. Irene Martin observed the noisy, erratic courting behaviour of a pair of Eastern Kingbirds. These birds are easily recognized by the broad white terminal band on their tail. They are very noisy and aggressive, and pursue crows, hawks, and other interlopers with great vigour. Marion Steacy could scarcely believe her eyes when she noticed House Finches drinking from her hummingbird feeder. Both Margaret Keith and Harrison Peters have observed the same behaviour. I would hazard a guess, that finches are only able to do this if there are perches on the hummingbird feeder. However, if anyone knows otherwise, please contact me. I would also be interested to know if anyone has had luck in attracting orioles to an oriole feeder. Vera Gilbert described a bird that was unfamiliar to her. When I asked her if the arrangement of the birds plumage resembled a bird wearing its 'dress suit' backwards, she immediately agreed. This is Roger Tory Peterson's apt description of a male Bobolink, which, of course, was Vera's bird. The female Bobolink is very different. She resembles a large buffy sparrow. By fall the male is no longer black and white, but is similar to the female -- his 'dress suit' put away for the winter. Because of a 'blooper' I made, Laurie Day will

probably never know whether a duck she had was a Tufted Duck or a Ring-necked Duck. By the time I got my act together, the bird had long since disappeared. My apologies again Laurie. Laurie also saw a gathering of 5 Common Loons. Because there have been other early loon gatherings seen, one wonders how successful loon nestings have been this year. However, so far, Laurie's Eastern Bluebirds have nested successfully, for they are feeding young. Besides bluebirds, Harrison Peters' nursery includes House Wrens, Tree Swallows, Chipping Sparrows and 2 families of Mourning Doves. Winona Barker had Hooded Mergansers nesting in a tree hole on her property. What a delight it was for her to see the young on her lawn!

Bonnie Jones has a pair of pinioned Mute Swans nesting in the wild, as well as a pair that are not pinioned. The latter pair are set free, so it will be interesting to see what takes place in the fall as well as next spring.

Dennis Courneya had noticed a Canada Goose and a Common Loon both of which appeared to be injured, for they only managed to get around with great difficulty. Much to his surprise, Dennis observed them one day sitting on shore, side by side with one of his Muscovy Ducks.

Pauline Hockey, a sharp-eyed member of the North Leeds Birdwatchers, found 2 family groups of Virginia Rails on the June 12 Field Trip. We watched, as in each case, the parent bird probed the thick mud with its long bill. Gucky, juicy morsels were extracted from the mire and popped into the eager mouths of tiny, yet mobile, balls of black fluff, which were the chicks. Entrancing!

Doris Lindsay saw a Ring-necked Pheasant and Bill Cutfield knows the whereabouts of a Wild Turkey. I've said it before, but I'll repeat that it would be nice if hunters would allow these species to gain a foothold, so that they would become a part of our wildlife scene once again.

Enjoy your summer! The number to call with your sightings is 359-5178 and until September.

GOOD BIRDING!



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