

## Sea & Sage Audubon UNB Monthly Boat Trip/Bird Count from aboard the Newport Sea Base Pontoon Boat

**Date:** 3/20/13 **Trip Leader:** Nancy Kenyon

**Tide:** outgoing tide

**Skipper:** Captain Gib

**Birders who contributed to the count:** Deana Collins, Sharon Harrow, Chris Johnson, Nancy Kenyon, Sonny Mencher, Connie Nelson, Chuck Nichols, Darrell Wilson. **Comments:** An Osprey was sitting on the nest at the platform by the Back Bay Science Center while its mate was perched on top of a nearby pole. A group of 27 Double-crested Cormorants were crowded together on a floating pipe boom near North Star Beach. The Reddish Egret was in its usual spot for the 3<sup>rd</sup> straight month, and we hope it has taken up residency at UNB. Unusual sightings included a Brant (goose) foraging in a large clump of cordgrass with some shorebirds on the west side of the channel near Constellation; a Red-breasted Merganser (infrequently seen in this area); higher numbers than usual of Blue-winged Teal (21), Spotted Sandpiper (6), & Dunlin (23). Several birds showed signs of breeding plumage: American Avocet, Eared Grebe, Brown Pelican, Greater Yellowlegs, Marbled Godwit, and Double-crested Cormorant. The overcast morning light made some of the Willets appear unusually pale in color.

<b>Geese &amp; Ducks</b>	
1	Brant
38	American Wigeon
3	Mallard
21	Blue-winged Teal
12	Cinnamon Teal
6	Northern Shoveler
89	Green-winged Teal
6	Redhead
19	Lesser Scaup
59	Bufflehead
1	Red-breasted Merganser
14	Ruddy Duck
<b>Grebes</b>	
1	Pied-billed Grebe
13	Eared Grebe
76	Western Grebe
4	Clark's Grebe
<b>Pelicans &amp; Cormorants</b>	
3	Brown Pelican
41	Double-crested Cormorant
<b>Hérons &amp; Egrets</b>	
8	Great Blue Heron
1	Great Egret
19	Snowy Egret
1	Reddish Egret
<b>Diurnal Birds of Prey</b>	
1	Turkey Vulture
2	Osprey
2	Northern Harrier
<b>Coots</b>	
97	American Coot
<b>Plovers</b>	
11	Black-bellied Plover
5	Semipalmated Plover
5	Killdeer (heard)
<b>Avocets</b>	
74	American Avocet
<b>Sandpipers</b>	
6	Spotted Sandpiper
1	Greater Yellowlegs
195	Willet

5	Whimbrel
3	Long-billed Curlew
94	Marbled Godwit
761	Western Sandpiper
15	Least Sandpiper
23	Dunlin
15	Long-billed Dowitcher
<b>Gulls, Terns &amp; Skimmers</b>	
2	Ring-billed Gull
12	Western Gull
242	California Gull
6	Caspian Tern
8	Forster's Tern
13	Elegant Tern
55	Black Skimmer
<b>Pigeons</b>	
8	Rock Pigeon
1	Mourning Dove
<b>Kingfishers</b>	
1	Belted Kingfisher
<b>Flycatchers</b>	
1	Black Phoebe
1	Say's Phoebe
<b>Crows &amp; Ravens</b>	
5	American Crow
<b>Swallows</b>	
1	Tree Swallow
1	Barn Swallow
<b>Wrens</b>	
1	Bewick's Wren (heard)
<b>Mockingbirds</b>	
4	Northern Mockingbird (heard)
<b>Warblers</b>	
1	Common Yellowthroat (heard)
<b>Towhees &amp; Sparrows</b>	
1	Spotted Towhee (heard)
1	California Towhee (heard)
3	Savannah Sparrow (heard)
1	Song Sparrow (heard)
<b>Finches</b>	
1	House Finch (heard)
<b>Old World Sparrows:</b> 1 House Sparrow	