

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

Date: 5/16/12 **Trip Leader:** Sally Menzel **Tide:** outgoing high tide **Skipper:** Eric Walker
Birders: Barbara Demory, Lynne Domash, Sharon Harrow, Chris Johnson, Bob Menzel, Sally Menzel, Mary Skrenes, Carol Trabing, Pat Vranicar, Darrell Wilson

Comments: The day was calm, warm and sunny. We enjoyed watching some seals. One appeared to be diving for fish near the PCH bridge; another in the channel near the Sea Scout Base was sunning his flippers in the warm air. Except for the many Mallards we observed, the ducks had all gone to their northern breeding grounds. Some skimmers were in evidence, and one was seen skimming with his lower mandible just barely in the water. There were a few shorebirds remaining behind from the northward migration. There were lots of Forster's Terns and some Caspian Terns. We even noticed a couple of Least Terns. The Osprey family was bringing fish to the nest by the Fish & Game headquarters. One Osprey was being chased by a crow. It was a beautiful morning to be on the water!

Geese & Ducks	
2	Brant
20	Mallard
Grebes	
2	Western Grebe
Pelicans & Cormorants	
13	Double-crested Cormorant
Hérons & Egrets	
7	Great Blue Heron
1	Great Egret
21	Snowy Egret
Diurnal Birds of Prey	
3	Turkey Vulture
4	Osprey
1	White-tailed Kite
1	Northern Harrier
1	Red-shouldered Hawk
1	Red-tailed Hawk
Coots	
1	American Coot
Plovers	
1	Black-bellied Plover
1	Killdeer
Avocets	
3	American Avocet
Sandpipers	
1	Spotted Sandpiper
26	Willet
3	Long-billed Curlew
37	Marbled Godwit
Gulls, Terns & Skimmers	
18	Western Gull
3	Least Tern
31	Caspian Tern
39	Forster's Tern
8	Black Skimmer

Pigeons & Doves	
9	Rock Pigeon
2	Mourning Dove
Flycatchers	
1	Black Phoebe
2	Say's Phoebe
Crows & Ravens	
11	American Crow
1	Common Raven
Swallows	
6	Northern Rough-winged Swallow
6	Cliff Swallow
Mockingbirds	
6	Northern Mockingbird
Starlings	
7	European Starling
Warblers	
3	Common Yellowthroat
Sparrows	
3	California Towhee
11	Belding's Savannah Sparrow
6	Song sparrow
Blackbirds & Orioles	
1	Hooded Oriole
Finches	
8	House Finches