

Prince Edward County South Shore IBA 2019 Caretaker Report



Prepared by Peter Fuller
Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory
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Prince Edward County South Shore Important Bird and Biodiversity Area

The IBA is on the south shore of Prince Edward County between Point Petre and Prince Edward Point.

- It includes approximately 26 square km of land and 65 square km of near shore waters.
- It encompasses about 30 km of shoreline, one of the only lengthy, undeveloped strips of shoreline remaining along Lake Ontario
- Prince Edward Point was designated an International Monarch Butterfly Reserve in 1995
- It is important for concentrations of migrating birds, bats and butterflies and supports several rare vascular plants.
- The waters off the tip of the peninsula are an important waterfowl staging and wintering area, for Greater Scaup, Long-tailed Duck and White-winged Scoter. Other waterfowl regularly recorded in large numbers include Common Loon, Horned Grebe, Common Goldeneye, Common Merganser and Red-breasted Merganser.
- It includes Prince Edward Point National Wildlife Area, Little Bluff Conservation Area, Ostrander Point Crown Land Block, Point Petre Provincial Wildlife Area, Miller Family Nature Reserve owned by Hastings Prince Edward Land Trust, the recently purchased Hudgin-Rose property and MapleCross Coastal Reserve owned by Nature Conservancy Canada, and private lands.
- Prince Edward Point Bird Observatory operates a Migration Monitoring station (spring and fall) in the NWA and became official caretaker of the South Shore IBA in 2012



Polyphemus Moth (Peter Fuller)



Tundra Swan (Ian Barker)



Juniper Hairstreak (Peter Fuller)





Survey Areas

PEPtBO has established 9 sample survey blocks (green areas) that are visited during various times of the year. A series of point-count stops have been set up along Army Reserve Road, Babylon Road and County Rd 13 and used for a Whip-poor-will survey. Waterfowl observation points have also been set up around the shoreline (W1, W2, etc.)

Big Week in the IBA – May 2019

During PEPtBO's Spring Birding Festival, visitors were invited to fill out checklists from the IBA and submit them to the Observatory. Amy Bodman and Cecile Yarrow each spotted 104 species. Tom Wheatley was the champion recording 118 species in the IBA. Several people also ran their Great Canadian Birdathon in whole or in part in the South Shore IBA and submitted eBird lists.

Waterfowl Counts

Using the IBA Protocol on eBird, PEPtBO organized spring (Apr 6) and fall (Nov 9) Waterfowl Counts in 2019. Volunteers also surveyed land birds along the routes to the waterfowl survey points.





Other Initiatives in 2019

- A Bioblitz was organized by the Prince Edward County Field Naturalists (July 20-21) that collected lists of diverse flora and fauna on the Hudgin-Rose property adjacent to the Ostrander Point Crown Land Block. A full report is available on the PEPTBO website.
- Multiple surveys throughout the year were completed in many of the eastern blocks – a faithful group of surveyors goes out in all seasons (Thanks especially to Krys Baklinski, Michael Gelman, Cheryl Anderson and Mike Parry who have visited their sites in all seasons for several years)
- Jun 17 - Whip-poor-will survey: 32 calling individuals + 1 Chuck-will's-widow at 26 stops across the IBA. A high concentration of calling birds along Babylon Rd.
- We held a fall warbler identification workshop in September and some fall weekend guided walks



Chestnut-sided Warbler
(Photo: Ketha Gillespie)



Horned Grebe
(Photo: Ian Barker)



Volunteer Hours in 2019

(In addition to the regular Migration Monitoring and Banding that takes place at PEPtBO)

<i>Date</i>	<i>Event</i>	<i>Volunteers</i>	<i>TOTAL HOURS</i>
Feb to Dec	Block Surveys (Helmer, Charwell, Lighthall, Simpson, Miller, Ostrander, Pt. Petre), Birding Festival, Big Week, Christmas Bird Counts, Workshops	40+	234
Apr 6, 2019	Spring Waterfowl Count	6	26
July	Bioblitz (bird surveys)		30
Jun 17, 2019	Whip-poor-will Survey	2	6
Nov 9, 2019	Fall Waterfowl Count	6	27
	TOTAL VOLUNTEER HOURS FOR EVENTS		323

Thank you to our wonderful volunteers for 2019

Cheryl Anderson	Krys Baklinski	Amy Bodman	Sheila Kuja
Joanne Dewey	Mike Parry	Peter Fuller	Wallace Rendall
Mike Burge	Michael Gelman	Kathy Felkar	Ketha Gillespie
Ellen McFaul	Ian Barker	Juanita Hummel	Blaine Hummel
Brian Joyce	Tom Wheatley	John Foster	Cecile Yarrow
JoAnne Sulzenko	Kellianne Martin	Keith Gregoire	Mike Runtz
Dale Smith	Marilyn Wellwood	Terry Sprague	Paul Jones
Peter Simpson			

2019 Birdathon teams: Cheryl Anderson and Kestrel Counters, Joyce Family, Kathy Felkar/Mike Burge/Mike Runtz (Sprague’s Pipits), Peter Fuller/Keith Gregoire, Tom Wheatley, Amy Bodman and team

2019 Christmas Bird Count teams (Sandbanks, Prince Edward County)

Kingston Field Naturalists, Prince Edward County Field Naturalists

Warbler Workshop and Spring Birding Festival participants

Bioblitz participants (Hudgin-Rose property)

eBird list contributors

