

The OFNC Seedathon took place on September 1, 2019. Like the previous 2 years, it was a team effort by everyone who wanted to contribute their observations, facilitated by the “share checklist” feature of ebird. Many thanks to all the participants.

12 parties shared 46 checklists, giving a total of 129 species for the count, one fewer than last year, plus 3 unidentified flycatchers. At least 15 additional species were seen in the region that day based on other ebird records.

The day started at 5.50 am in the Lac La Blanche area of Quebec, and ended just after 7 pm with a final check over lac Deschênes from a certain well-known balcony.

Although a bit cool first thing in the morning, observation conditions were ideal with low wind and plenty of sun. Observations in Quebec, in addition to some at Lac McGregor, were considerably greater this year due to one party’s efforts in the Lac la Blanche-Mayo area of Quebec, as well as a visit to Baie Noire west of Plaisance. The Constance Bay/ Dunrobin area was given good coverage by one party, where a RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER was found. Andrew Haydon Park east was covered by multiple parties due to the excellent SHOREBIRD habitat. Shirley’s Bay was visited by 2 parties, but Britannia only had a brief visit by one party. A few spots on the Rideau River south and north were covered, as well as a few spots on the Ottawa River east. A few other scattered locations visited rounded out the day.

The Lac la Blanche area had the only owl of the day, a BARRED OWL calling just after dawn. This same area had a few good pockets of WARBLERS once the sun was up. A CANADA WARBLER was singing early in the morning in one spot, as was a WINTER WREN. Both of these were likely nesters in the area. YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER and INDIGO BUNTING were two other hard-to-find birds in the area.

Baie Noire did not have nearly as many DUCKS as hoped, but it was early in the season. NORTHERN PINTAIL and COMMON GOLDENEYE, though, were good ones for the season.

Excellent SHOREBIRD habitat meant lots of coverage at Andrew Haydon Park east, with the highlight being a long-staying LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER. Between there and Shirley’s Bay, SHOREBIRDS had a good showing of 11 species, but oddly quite a few less than last year with less habitat.

Shirley’s Bay had 2 late BLACK TERNS, as well as an unexpected PINE SISKIN. COMMON GALLINULE and RUFFED GROUSE were also present there.

The evening GULL roost at Deschênes was not covered heavily, and as a result BLACK-BACKED GULL was not reported (although small numbers were around that day). HAWKS had a good showing with 7 species, as did WARBLERS with 19 species, although this was not a day with a lot of migration activity.

No surprise was the fact that the most frequently reported species were BLUE JAY (there was a lot of movement that day), AMERICAN CROW, and SONG SPARROW. Due to less observation in heavily urban areas, birds like EUROPEAN STARLING and HOUSE SPARROW were not the stars of this day’s show.

Here is the cumulative totals of each species, after adjustments were made for likely duplication:

Canada Goose	186
Wood Duck	58

Blue-winged Teal	59
American Wigeon	1
Mallard	326
American Black Duck	17
Northern Pintail	2
Green-winged Teal	19
teal sp.	10
Ring-necked Duck	35
Lesser Scaup	12
Common Goldeneye	1
Hooded Merganser	2
duck sp.	20
Ruffed Grouse	2
Wild Turkey	14
Pied-billed Grebe	30
Rock Pigeon	13
Mourning Dove	5
Common Nighthawk	59
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	6
Common Gallinule	1
Semipalmated Plover	10
Killdeer	7
Stilt Sandpiper	1
Sanderling	7
Least Sandpiper	29
Pectoral Sandpiper	3
Semipalmated Sandpiper	6
Long-billed Dowitcher	1
Spotted Sandpiper	5
Greater Yellowlegs	3
Lesser Yellowlegs	33
Greater/Lesser Yellowlegs	3
Bonaparte's Gull	4

Ring-billed Gull	447
Herring Gull	3
Lesser Black-backed Gull	2
Caspian Tern	6
Black Tern	2
Common Tern	2
Common Loon	4
Double-crested Cormorant	69
Great Blue Heron	33
Great Egret	39
Green Heron	1
Black-crowned Night-Heron	3
Turkey Vulture	21
Osprey	5
Sharp-shinned Hawk	3
Cooper's Hawk	2
Bald Eagle	3
Broad-winged Hawk	2
Red-tailed Hawk	4
hawk sp.	1
Barred Owl	1
Belted Kingfisher	16
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	8
Red-bellied Woodpecker	1
Downy Woodpecker	12
Hairy Woodpecker	9
Pileated Woodpecker	6
Northern Flicker	22
American Kestrel	1
Merlin	8
Eastern Wood-Pewee	5
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	1
Alder Flycatcher	2

Alder/Willow Flycatcher (Traill's Flycatcher)	1
Least Flycatcher	1
Eastern Phoebe	21
Great Crested Flycatcher	2
Eastern Kingbird	2
Flycatcher sp. (Tyrannidae sp.)	2
Blue-headed Vireo	5
Philadelphia Vireo	1
Warbling Vireo	2
Red-eyed Vireo	32
Blue Jay	103
American Crow	64
Common Raven	12
Black-capped Chickadee	107
Barn Swallow	44
Red-breasted Nuthatch	23
White-breasted Nuthatch	16
Brown Creeper	2
House Wren	2
Winter Wren	1
European Starling	172
Gray Catbird	8
Brown Thrasher	1
Eastern Bluebird	6
Veery	2
Swainson's Thrush	1
Hermit Thrush	3
Wood Thrush	1
American Robin	42
Cedar Waxwing	33
House Sparrow	2
Purple Finch	4

Pine Siskin	1
American Goldfinch	44
Chipping Sparrow	27
White-throated Sparrow	1
Savannah Sparrow	4
Song Sparrow	63
Swamp Sparrow	9
sparrow sp.	4
Bobolink	3
Eastern Meadowlark	1
Baltimore Oriole	5
Red-winged Blackbird	525
Common Grackle	3
Black-and-white Warbler	14
Tennessee Warbler	3
Nashville Warbler	6
Common Yellowthroat	20
American Redstart	13
Cape May Warbler	2
Northern Parula	3
Magnolia Warbler	7
Bay-breasted Warbler	12
Blackburnian Warbler	7
Yellow Warbler	4
Chestnut-sided Warbler	6
Black-throated Blue Warbler	2
Palm Warbler	1
Pine Warbler	3
Yellow-rumped Warbler	2
Black-throated Green Warbler	11
Canada Warbler	2
Wilson's Warbler	1
Warbler sp. (Parulidae sp.)	1

Scarlet Tanager	1
Northern Cardinal	9
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	3
Indigo Bunting	3