



LONG POINT
BIRD OBSERVATORY

2020 Annual Report





[LPBO team](#)

Authors:

Mark A. Conboy
Stuart A. Mackenzie

Program Manager:

Mark A. Conboy

Staff:

Kyle Cameron
Megan Hiebert
Ryan Leys
Matt Timpf
Amy Wilson

Director, Migration Ecology:

Stuart A. Mackenzie

Long Point Bird Observatory
P.O. Box 160, 115 Front St.
Port Rowan, ON, Canada
N0E 1M0

birdscanada.org/LPBO 
lpbo@birdscanada.org

Cover:

Tennessee Warbler by Sheri
and Brock Fenton

Design:

Alexandre Nicole
alexandrejnicole.com

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Long Point Bird Observatory

IN OCTOBER 1959, six members of the **Ontario Bird Banding Association**  made their first expedition to the Tip of Long Point in search of an ideal location to study bird migration. In the spring of 1960, the **Long Point Bird Observatory (LPBO)**  was founded. Subsequently LPBO became the oldest bird observatory in the Western Hemisphere and houses one of the largest continuous data sets on migratory birds in the world.

LPBO quickly grew beyond the borders of Long Point with the implementation of regional and provincial research and monitoring programs, including the initiation of the Ontario Bird Feeder Survey (precursor to Project FeederWatch), and North America's first sponsored bird count fundraiser, the Great Canadian Birdathon (previously Baillie Birdathon). Remarkable growth occurred in the following decades with the initiation and coordination of a wide range of national and international programs and initiatives. In recognition of the organization's breadth and aspirations, LPBO membership voted to create Bird Studies Canada (now Birds Canada) in 1998. LPBO was then reinvented as a program of Birds Canada operating research, education, and training programs that focus on ornithology, conservation, and other aspects of natural history at Long Point. LPBO programs include the Migration Monitoring Program, Young Ornithologists' Workshop and Internship, Tree Swallow Research Project, Latin American Training Program, Long Point Breeding Bird Census and Wetland Monitoring, and an active and diverse program of public education, professional training, and collaborative research.

You can follow our weekly **sightings board**  during the migration monitoring seasons, or find us on **Facebook** , **Instagram** , and **Twitter** .

Birds Canada

BIRDS CANADA  is the leading science-based bird conservation organization in Canada. The mission of Birds Canada is to conserve the wild birds of Canada through sound science, on-the-ground actions, innovative partnerships, public engagement, and science-based advocacy.

Birds Canada is a national charity built on the contributions of thousands of supporters and Citizen Scientists. Using data from our volunteer monitoring programs and targeted research, our scientists identify significant population changes and direct conservation planning. We are a strong partner in BirdLife International, the world's largest conservation alliance for nature and people, active in more than 120 countries and territories.

LPBO is a program of Birds Canada which provides substantial administrative, leadership, scientific and technical support.



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OPENING MIST NET ROUND

A Year in Review

By Mark A. Conboy

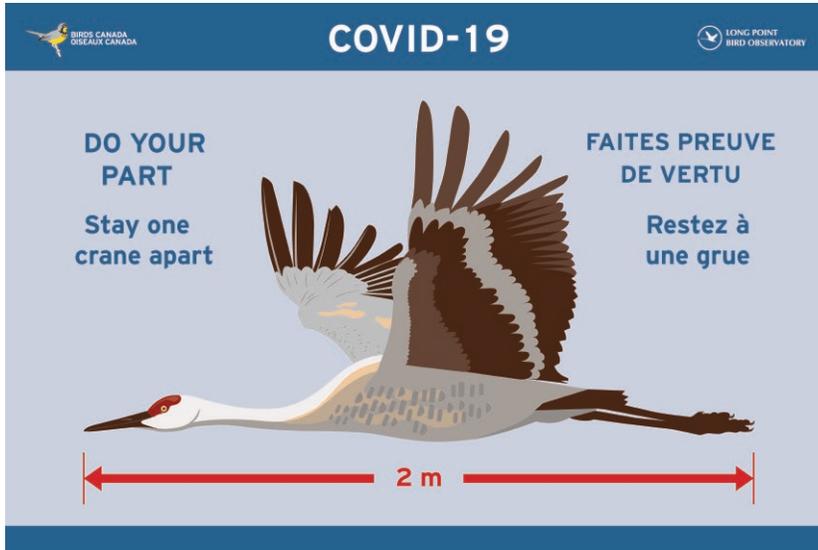
2020 WAS ARGUABLY THE SINGLE MOST challenging year in LPBO's storied history. The worldwide COVID-19 pandemic influenced every aspect of observatory life: everything from staffing, to grocery shopping, to our field work. Indeed, we considered ourselves very lucky to be operating at all during the pandemic, particularly in the spring, when much of Ontario was under heavy lockdown restrictions. Many observatories across the country shut down for the spring, and, in some cases, for the entire year. However, being no strangers to change or challenge, we developed rigorous COVID-19 protocols that allowed us to continue gathering at least some data throughout LPBO's 60th consecutive spring migration.

It was a spring like no other. Volunteers were virtually absent, aside from a brief but productive time when Breakwater was opened by long-time LPBO collaborators and local Wood Thrush experts, Brendan Boyd and Alex Israel. Program Assistant Matt Timpf and I were stationed at the Tip for May and Old Cut for much of April and June. The term "physical distancing" took on a new meaning for us, who were no doubt the most physically-distanced people in Southern Ontario while at the Tip. What a way to ride out a pandemic – we couldn't have been more thankful for our isolation! Old Cut continued to run in our absence, but mainly only for censuses conducted by Ryan Leys, Stu Mackenzie, and Ron Ridout.

As the fall migration monitoring season rolled around, we were able to return to a semblance of a familiar, though still much reduced, operating regime. The fall was memorable for a number of reasons, and not just because the pandemic's influence continued. For the fall, we assembled a small but extremely experienced and reliable team of volunteers and staff. The team's capability became obvious during a run of big days at Old Cut during the first week of October, when 1 252 birds were banded with ease.



2020 was a year of change and loss for many people and in many ways. As if a global pandemic wasn't enough, LPBO facilities were hit by two 30-year flooding events and lake storms that changed the face of the point forever. Photo: Mourning Warbler.



— Variations of this sign circulated in many spheres of society in 2020, including a few versions in the avian world. We chose the Sandhill Crane to illustrate physical distancing.

Other aspects of our program were also impacted by the pandemic. Long Point National Wildlife Area (NWA) was closed for almost the entire spring, which seriously curtailed our Great Lakes Marsh Monitoring Program (GLMMP) surveys along Squires Ridge and our Ontario Shorebird Surveys along the south beach. It also resulted in the postponement of the final season of the Long Point Breeding Bird Census; the census will now wrap up in 2021. Regrettably, COVID-19 also forced

the cancellation of the Latin American Training Program and the Doug Tarry Young Ornithologists' Workshop and Internship. Our research program was also very much reduced due to many universities cancelling their field seasons.

Another consequence of the pandemic was that the Friends of LPBO were unable to work at Old Cut. In normal years, the Friends help with a myriad of tasks around the station, including scribing, extracting, gathering observations, greeting visitors, and running the LPBO shoppe. Revenue from the shoppe provides critical support to LPBO. By all accounts, the Friends have dramatically increased the quality of our visitor and education services at Old Cut. We look forward to having the friends back at Old Cut as soon as it is safe to do so!

As if a pandemic wasn't enough, LPBO battled with and worried over Lake Erie's exceedingly high water levels. The lake level in 2020 was some 60 cm above average, and just slightly below 2019 levels, but still high enough to cause massive erosion, extreme storm surges and seiches, and endangerment of all infrastructure at the Tip on more than one occasion. There were two major flood events, one in spring and one in fall, which submerged much of the Old Cut woodlot and its surroundings under a metre of water. The spring flood was called a "30-year flood." The fall flood was, however, of equal magnitude! Luckily no LPBO personnel were present at the Tip when either flood occurred, though damage to bridges and buildings there suggested flood waters reached extreme levels. Damage to the Old Cut field station was superficial, but many of the neighbours north of the observatory experienced damage. The floods were a sight to behold: Eastern Cottontails swimming for their lives, shrews and mice riding planks and other debris to safety, torrents of water pouring through the net lanes, and the boats floating high above the channel walls, all made the situation feel surreal, if not eminently serious.



A handful of severe winter storms and the two storm surges that produced the spring and fall floods dealt a harsh blow to the Tip. Many of the traditional net lanes that had been so productive for years were washed away even before 2020, but after the onslaught of wind and waves that characterized much of 2020, absolutely none of them remain. Almost all of the trails, sedge meadows, and trees within half a kilometre of the Tip are now gone. As a result, new net lanes had to be established, and far fewer nets were used in 2020 than in recent years. As if that wasn't enough for the poor old Tip, a November storm destroyed the north wall of the Block Building, rendering it useless going forward. No one was present to see it happen but it looks like a massive cottonwood trunk broke through the wall like a medieval battering-ram. Virtually everything that was stored in the Block Building was washed into the lake. The shed was damaged with significant holes punched through its walls, and the dune upon which the Cabin sat was almost completely washed away, though the cabin remains safe and sound atop its pilings. Earlier in the fall, we proactively demolished the old lighthouse keeper's house, which housed LPBO personnel for decades, in anticipation of being similarly damaged in a storm – a good decision! Local videographer Gregg McLachlan ([WorkCabin Creative](#)) chronicled the demolition (Figure 1).

—
Waterspouts
over lake Erie



Figure 1. **A** Heavy erosion of the Tip Cabin dune. Only a few years ago this dune would have practically hidden the entire south wall of the cabin, now it is virtually gone. **B** Lake Erie’s average water level in 2020 was about 60 cm above average, reducing dry land at the Tip to a fraction of what it once was. **C** Destruction of the Block Building. **D** Demolishing the old lighthouse keeper’s cottage.

To cap off the year, our newest and most expensive outboard motor was stolen off one of our boats, which had been left overnight on the beach in Long Point Provincial Park. The motor was never seen again.

A smaller staff, pandemic-related restrictions, floods, storms, and thieves aside, everyone in the LPBO family agreed that despite or perhaps because of, 2020’s challenges, the year was a tremendous success, and one that won’t soon be forgotten!

Migration Monitoring Program



—
Male White-winged Crossbill. A male and a female were banded in 2020, the first since 2012.

LPBO HAS BEEN COLLECTING STANDARDIZED DATA on bird migration at Long Point since 1960. In 1986, LPBO coined the term “migration monitoring” to describe the use of standardized daily counts of migrating birds as a method of monitoring populations of selected migratory species. Each spring and fall, staff and volunteers perform daily censuses, banding, and observations at each of three research stations on Long Point: Old Cut, Breakwater, and the Tip. The migration count data assembled at LPBO are used to derive daily estimated totals for each species recorded throughout the year. Ultimately, estimated total data are used to generate **population trends** [↗](#) for over 200 species. Migration monitoring is a valuable method because it enables the monitoring of species that breed in northern Canada, or other inaccessible areas, which can be difficult to assess with more conventional monitoring methods such as the North American Breeding Bird Survey. There are now about 30 migration monitoring stations across Canada which form the **Canadian Migration Monitoring Network (CMMN)** [↗](#).

Even with only 38 % of the usual field hours, LPBO managed to band 11,390 birds of 116 species and forms. That is 58 % fewer birds (15,641 individuals) below the ten-year average of 27,031 birds of 149 species and forms. The 2020 banding total was the lowest since 1981, when only 9 308 were banded . An additional 1869 recaptures of previously banded birds (includes LPBO and foreign recaptures) were also processed.



Trends from LPBO and stations across Canada can be found [here](#) [↗](#)

No new species were added to the LPBO banding list in 2020. However, despite low numbers of birds banded, there were certainly some highlights:



2020 Banding highlights

GREATER YELLOWLEGS ① First banded since 1993 and only the seventh one ever.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE ② First banded since 1988.

OREGON JUNCO First banded since 2016.

TUFTED TITMOUSE ③ First banded since 2016.

PURPLE MARTIN 60 Banded, the most since 1985, thanks to the colony at Old Cut.

EVENING GROSBEAKS ④ 2 banded, the first since 2013, and the most since 2012.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS 1 male ⑤ and 1 female ⑥ banded, the first since 2012.

Higher than average numbers of:

TREE SWALLOW (883, including birds from the Tree Swallow grids), **HOUSE SPARROW** (260), **TENNESSEE WARBLER** (154), **NORTHERN PARULA** (56), **CAROLINA WREN** (13), **EASTERN BLUEBIRD** (10), and **BELTED KINGFISHER** (4).



Of the 1 869 recaptures in 2020, the vast majority were of birds banded in 2020. These included resident breeders, migrants on stopovers, and feeder birds that have a habit of wandering into baited traps time and again. More interesting were the 272 recaptures of birds banded at LPBO in previous years. Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Northern Cardinal, Black-capped Chickadee, and American Tree Sparrow were the most commonly recaptured species. As expected, most of these birds were originally banded in 2019, though there were also some long-surviving birds. Amazingly, the Northern Cardinal that was originally banded in 2011 had never been recaptured at LPBO in the intervening eight years! By contrast, one Black-capped Chickadee that was originally banded in 2016 had been recaptured more than two dozen times by the end of 2020. Two Red-winged Blackbirds stretched all the way back to 2012, while one blackbird and an American Tree Sparrow had survived since 2013 (Table 1).

In 2020 there were 33 reports of birds that had been banded at LPBO and were subsequently found elsewhere. As is often the case, a number of these birds were discovered close by, at Port Rowan and St. Williams. Two records from North Carolina were far more interesting, as they involved a Brown-headed Cowbird and a Brown Thrasher that had collided with wind turbines. Usually Northern Saw-whet Owl is the most frequently recaptured bird of the year, and that was the case in 2020. Eight LPBO-banded saw-whets were recaptured at banding operations across the northeastern United States, with one additional bird found in Ontario. There were two particularly interesting birds that were found near Peterborough. One was a Long-eared Owl, one of only a handful of recoveries of this species in Canada! This owl was banded at LPBO on October 28, 2012, one of 14 that were banded during that record year. It was found dead on June 14, 2020. The other was a Purple Finch that had been banded at the Tip on May 1, 2017. It was observed foraging at a bird feeder. This feeder happened to belong to past LPBO coordinator Mike Burrell, who spent the day reading the band number. This is only the fourth LPBO Purple Finch recovery (Table 2).



Figure 2. A Purple Finch banded at the Tip on May 1, 2017 was seen at a bird feeder belonging to past LPBO coordinator Mike Burrell in Peterborough, Ont., in October 2020.

Table 1. 2020 recaptures of birds originally banded at LPBO in the previous four years.

Species	2016	2017	2018	2019	Total
American Goldfinch			2		2
American Robin			2	1	3
American Woodcock		1			1
American Tree Sparrow	3	1	2	4	11
Baltimore Oriole	2			2	4
Black-capped Chickadee	2		4	11	17
Brown-headed Cowbird	1	1		1	3
Blue Jay		1			1
Brown Creeper				1	1
Carolina Wren				1	1
Common Grackle	7	9	20	30	68
Common Yellowthroat	1			1	2
Downy Woodpecker				3	3
Golden-crowned Kinglet				1	1
Grey Catbird				4	4
House Finch		1	1	2	4
House Sparrow		2	1	7	10
House Wren			2	1	3
Marsh Wren				1	1
Mourning Dove		1			1
Northern Cardinal	2	5	4	8	20
Northern Saw-whet Owl					1
Red-winged Blackbird	18	6	25	46	100
Slate-coloured Junco				1	1
Swamp Sparrow				2	2
Tree Swallow			1		1
White-throated Sparrow			1	1	2
Yellow Warbler	1		2	1	4
Total	37	28	67	130	272

AHY = after hatch year; ASY = after second year; HY = hatch year; SY = second year; U = unknown.

Table 2. LPBO-banded birds reported from elsewhere in 2020 (includes reports from other years only received by LPBO in 2020).

Species	Age at banding	LPBO Banding date	Foreign Encounter date	Foreign Encounter location
American Robin	SY	May 26, 2019	June 23, 2020	Vantown, Mich.
Blue Jay	SY	May 11, 2019	July 7, 2020	London, Ont.
Brown Thrasher	HY	October 2, 2020	November 11, 2020	North Carolina*
Brown-headed Cowbird	AHY	September 6, 2020	November 11, 2020	North Carolina*
Brown-headed Cowbird	AHY	April 19, 2009	August 2010	St. Williams, Ont.
Brown-headed Cowbird	AHY	April 16, 2017	April 10, 2019	Rock Creek, Ohio
Brown-headed Cowbird	HY	April 21, 2019	March 18, 2020	Dale, Ill.
Common Grackle	AHY	May 5, 2019	May 26, 2020	Drumbo, Ont.
Common Grackle	AHY	April 20, 2017	May 27, 2020	Harley, Ont.
Common Yellowthroat	AHY	September 6, 2017	April 25, 2019	Tri-county, Ohio
European Starling	AHY	May 18, 2015	August 2020	Port Rowan, Ont.
House Finch	AHY	March 29, 2016	May 6, 2020	Trumbull, Ohio
House Sparrow	HY	August 16, 2020	December 6, 2020	Ontario
House Sparrow	AHY	May 29, 2013	September 2015	St. Williams, Ont.
House Sparrow	HY	January 1, 2016	August 2017	Port Rowan, Ont.
House Sparrow	U	November 9, 2014	October 2017	Port Rowan, Ont.
House Sparrow	U	October 31, 2016	August 2019	Port Rowan, Ont.
House Wren	HY	October 14, 2020	October 23, 2020	Ontario
Long-eared Owl	HY	November 11, 2012	June 14, 2020	Peterborough, Ont.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 28, 2019	November 6, 2020	New York*
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 24, 2019	November 17, 2020	Pennsylvania*
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 16, 2020	November 18, 2020	West Virginia*
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 24, 2020	November 11, 2020	Ohio*
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 24, 2019	October 24, 2020	Pennsylvania*
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 24, 2019	October 17, 2020	Pennsylvania*
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 24, 2020	November 4, 2020	Ohio*
Northern Saw-whet Owl	SY	November 7, 2017	November 9, 2020	Carsonville, Pa.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	November 8, 2015	November 5, 2020	Ballydown Beach, Ont.
Purple Finch	U	May 1, 2017	October 2020	Peterborough, Ont.
Red-winged Blackbird	SY	April 13, 2019	April 17, 2020	St. Williams, Ont.
Red-winged Blackbird	SY	May 13, 2011	August 2017	Carholme, Ont.
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	ASY	May 9, 2016	May 13, 2020	Clinton, Ohio
Slate-coloured Junco	HY	October 10, 2020	November 26, 2020	Ohio*

AHY = after hatch year; ASY = after second year; HY = hatch year; SY = second year; U = unknown; * = exact location not available.

As in most years, Northern Saw-whet Owls were the most recaptured LPBO-banded birds in 2020. Nine individuals were recaptured across the northeastern United States and Ontario.

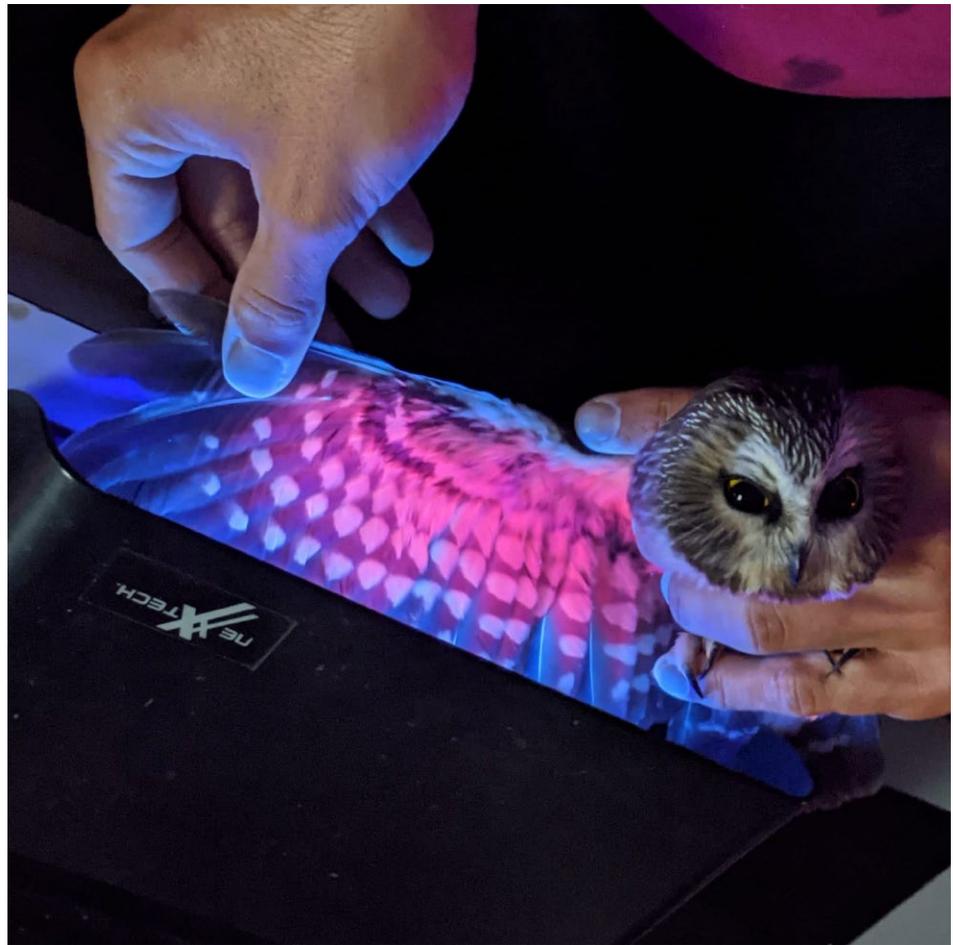


Figure 3. Encounters of LPBO-banded birds reported from elsewhere in 2020. A thicker line indicates a greater number of recaptures; dots next to the province/state code indicate that the exact location is not available.

The number of birds captured at LPBO wearing bands from other banding operations (foreign recaptures) was lower than normal due to the reduced banding effort in 2020. LPBO recorded 11 foreign recaptures, six of which were Northern Saw-whet Owls, including two from CMMN colleagues at Whitefish Point and Hilliardton Marsh bird observatories. The most interesting foreign recapture was of a White-throated Sparrow sporting a flamboyant collection of colour bands (right). This bird was banded earlier in 2020 (exact date uncertain) as part of a winter site-fidelity project in Bridgewater, Virginia (Table 3).



Table 3. Foreign recaptures at LPBO in 2020.

Species	Age at banding	Capture date at LPBO (2020)	Original banding date	Banding location
Common Grackle	ASY	March 4	April 27, 2017	St. Williams, Ont.
House Finch	HY	October 27	July 30, 2020	St. Williams, Ont.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 27	October 9, 2020	Peterborough, Ont.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 25	October 16, 2018	Hilliardton Marsh B.O., Ont.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	SY	November 11	May 20, 2020	Whitefish Point B.O., Mich.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	SY	November 11	October 17, 2018	Cayuga, Ont.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 25	October 17, 2020	Fergus, Ont.
Northern Saw-whet Owl	HY	October 25	October 21, 2020	Gilford, Ont.
Red-winged Blackbird	ASY	April 10	April 22, 2019	St. Williams, Ont.
Red-winged Blackbird	ASY	May 20	March 15, 2020	St. Williams, Ont.
White-throated Sparrow	AHY	October 5	Uncertain (in 2020)	Bridgewater, Va.

AHY = after hatch year; **ASY** = after second year; **HY** = hatch year; **SY** = second year.

As with banding numbers, bird observation numbers were way down in 2020, directly as a result of the pandemic. LPBO counted 1,056,803 birds during 4 047 person-hours of migration monitoring. This was just over a quarter of the number of birds, and only 38 % of the person-hours, normally recorded (10-year average = 4,141,435 birds and 10,670 person-hours). No new species were added to the Seasonal Checklist of the Birds of the Long Point Area. Nevertheless, the many notable observations are summarized in 2020 Bird Highlights pp. 34-65.

SPRING MIGRATION MONITORING

LPBO'S 61th spring migration monitoring season ran at Old Cut for 71 days between April 1 and June 10, Breakwater for 19 days from May 16 to June 3, and at the Tip for 34 days between April 5 and June 3. Volunteers and staff logged 1 500 person-hours, collecting migration data on over 266 species. In total, 2 448 birds of 96 species and forms were banded. LPBO had 93 station-days of coverage, yielding 2 053 net-hours and 427 trap-hours with a catch rate of 98 birds/100 hours (Tables 4 and 5 & Appendix 1). The Old Cut Banding Demonstration Laboratory, Visitor Centre, and Woodlot remained closed for much of the spring season due to COVID-19 restrictions. The woodlot was opened to the public during the latter part of the spring, when 204 visitors were recorded.

PERSONNEL Brendan Boyd, Mark Conboy, Alex Israel, Ryan Leys, Stu Mackenzie, Ron Ridout, and Matt Timpf.

Table 4. Effort summary statistics for 2020 spring migration monitoring.

Person-hours	1 500
Total species and forms reported	266
Individuals banded	2 448
Species and forms banded	96
Total station-days of migration monitoring	93
<i>Old Cut</i>	71
<i>Breakwater</i>	19
<i>Tip</i>	34
Total net-hours	2 053
<i>Mist net</i>	2 053
Total trap-hours	427
<i>J-trap</i>	170
<i>Ground trap</i>	257
Overall catch rate	98 birds / 100 hours
Visitors to Old Cut	204

Table 5. Ten most abundant species banded, spring 2020*.

Species	Number banded
Red-winged Blackbird	333
Baltimore Oriole	193
Blue Jay	131
Yellow Warbler	118
Grey Catbird	101
White-throated Sparrow	99
Magnolia Warbler	73
Cedar Waxwing	65
Brown Creeper	62
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	60

*Does not include Tree Swallows banded on the Tree Swallow grids.



Red-winged Blackbird

Most abundant species banded —spring 2020



— Cedar Waxwings normally boast a yellow tail tip (top). However, consumption of Morrow’s honeysuckle berries, a non-native shrub, at the time of feather formation results in the growth of orange-tipped rectrices (bottom).

FALL MIGRATION MONITORING

LPBO’s 61st fall migration monitoring season ran at Old Cut for 94 days between August 5 and November 10, Breakwater for 24 days from August 17 to September 9, and at the Tip for 70 days from August 19 to October 30. As usual, Breakwater closed early due to access restrictions during the waterfowl hunting season. Volunteers and staff logged 2547 person-hours collecting migration data on 243 species. Summary statistics of seasonal effort are summarized in Table 5. In total, 7922 birds of 108 species and forms were banded. LPBO had 188 station-days of coverage, yielding 7357 net-hours and 617 trap-hours with a catch rate of 99 birds/100 hours (Tables 6 and 7 & Appendix 1). The Banding Demonstration Laboratory, Visitor Centre, and Woodlot were open in the fall, but with strict COVID-19 safety measures in place.

PERSONNEL Amanda Bichel, Mathieu Charette, Mark Conboy, Brett Fried, Christian Friis, Emma Gignac, Leanne Grieves, Zach Kahn, Ryan Leys, Stu Mackenzie, Ron Ridout, Matt Timpf, and Amy Wilson.

Table 6. Effort summary statistics for 2020 fall migration monitoring.

Person-hours	2547
Total species and forms reported	243
Individuals banded	7922
Species and forms banded	108
Total station-days of migration monitoring	188
<i>Old Cut</i>	94
<i>Breakwater</i>	24
<i>Tip</i>	70
Total net-hours	7357
<i>Mist net</i>	7357
Total trap-hours	617
<i>J-trap</i>	205
<i>Ground trap</i>	413
Overall catch rate	99 birds / 100 hours
Visitors to Old Cut	962

Table 7. Ten most abundant species banded, fall 2020.

Species	Number banded
Myrtle Warbler	1 413
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	609
Swainson's Thrush	444
Golden-crowned Kinglet	367
White-throated Sparrow	362
Red-eyed Vireo	248
Magnolia Warbler	239
Hermit Thrush	234
House Sparrow	232
Northern Saw-whet Owl	228



Myrtle Warbler

Most abundant species banded —fall 2020



MYRTLE WARBLER

Special Programs



Numbers of migrating Monarch Butterflies along the north shore of Lake Erie appear stable in general, while Long Point census data shows significant declines. Full study [here](#) 

MONARCH BUTTERFLIES AND OTHER WILDLIFE OBSERVATIONS

Long Point is recognized as one of three International Monarch Butterfly Reserves in Canada due to its large concentrations of butterflies during fall migration. LPBO conducts a daily mid-afternoon Monarch Butterfly census at Breakwater and the Tip throughout the fall migration monitoring season. In 2020, Monarch census was conducted at Breakwater on 20 days (August 20 to September 8), and at the Tip on 54 days (August 20 to October 27). A total of 2 321 Monarch Butterflies were counted, 3 217 less than the 10-year average of 5 538. Totals at both Breakwater (312) and the Tip (2009) were well below the 10-year average of 1 013 and 4 526, respectively.

The daily Monarch census became part of LPBO's standard fall migration monitoring protocol in 1991, and it is interesting to look back at the numbers of butterflies counted over the past 29 years, especially in light of a recent [publication](#)  that suggests during the past decade, the number of migrating Monarch Butterflies along the north shore of Lake Erie has remained stable in general, but that LPBO's census data show statistically significant declines during the same time period (Ethier 2020).



The highest counts (Breakwater and the Tip combined) were 45,195 in 2005 and 40,098 in 1997, while lowest counts on record were 1 158 in 2016 and 962 in 2013 (Table 8). Because most of the Monarchs are counted at the Tip, the high and low count years at that station generally align with the overall counts – less so with Breakwater. The single highest day count at Breakwater was 2 206 on September 16, 2003 and at the Tip September 18, 2005 when 6 270 were tallied. The single highest combined count from Breakwater and the Tip was also on September 18, 2005 with 6 755 Monarchs (Table 9).

Table 8. Top and bottom 10 years of Monarch Butterfly census totals (Breakwater and Tip combined).

Top Years										
Year	2005	1997	2003	2010	2002	1996	1994	2006	1999	2001
Total	45,195	40,098	22,651	17,237	16,453	15,189	15,052	15,025	14,469	14,433
Bottom Years										
Year	2013	2016	2015	1995	2014	2020	1998	2008	2004	2000
Total	962	1 158	1 549	1 927	2 120	2 321	3 007	3 049	3 364	3 491

Table 9. Top 10 single-day Monarch Butterflies census totals.

Tip										
Date	2005 Sep. 18	1997 Aug. 29	1997 Aug. 28	2005 Sep. 3	2005 Sep. 19	2005 Sep. 2	1997 Sep. 5	1997 Aug. 30	2006 Sep. 1	2005 Sep. 20
Total	6 270	5 500	5 200	5 026	4 052	3 735	3 050	3 000	2 949	2 888
Breakwater										
Date	2003 Sep. 16	1997 Sep. 18	1997 Sep. 19	2010 Sep. 14	1994 Sep. 19	1999 Sep. 14	2003 Sep. 24	1996 Sep. 15	2005 Sep. 3	1999 Aug. 29
Total	2 206	1 750	1 350	987	950	950	918	878	813	800
Tip and Breakwater Combined										
Date	2005 Sep. 18	2005 Sep. 3	1997 Aug. 29	1997 Aug. 28	2005 Sep. 19	2005 Sep. 2	1997 Sep. 5	1997 Sep. 18	1997 Aug. 30	2006 Sep. 1
Total	6 755	5 839	5 595	5 562	4 052	3 824	3 400	3 110	3 000	2 949



—
Eastern Coyote
photographed at
Breakwater in the
spring.

OTHER OBSERVATIONS Although Monarch Butterflies are the only non-avian animals that LPBO has a formal monitoring program in place for, other species do not escape notice. Here are some of the non-avian highlights for 2020 (refer to the birding and banding highlights observer list for attributions). Some species at risk have been left out due to conservation concerns.

FISHER ① Tracks were first observed at the Tip September 10 (MAC). The distinctive bounding double-print pattern was subsequently recorded throughout the fall at the Tip. No live Fishers were seen. This is the first confirmation of Fisher on Long Point since the discovery of one at the Tip April 2, 2018 (possibly the first ever on Long Point; MAC, SAM).

BATS Three species of bats were captured incidentally during banding operations: Big Brown Bat, Eastern Red Bat, and Silver-haired Bat. An Eastern Small-footed Myotis was also photographed at Breakwater August 18 (LPBO).

MUSKRAT Muskrats experienced a phenomenal population explosion in the spring. The population boom was eventually quelled by the sudden onset of Tularemia, an infectious disease that typically affects lagomorphs and rodents.

SPINY SOFTSHELL ② Although softshells do breed on Long Point, hatchlings are seldom found. One was seen several times on the point in late August and early September (LPBO).

LILLIPUT ③ This rare freshwater mussel is listed as Endangered in Canada and Threatened in Ontario. A dead one was found freshly washed up on the south beach of “New” Long Point Provincial Park December 28 (MAC). Lilliput mussels were apparently once fairly common in the open waters of Lake Erie but interactions with invasive Quagga and Zebra mussels have reduced the range and abundance of this species; it is now more likely to be found in wetlands where it may find some protection from the invasive species. There is only one other record for this species on iNaturalist.

COMET DARNER ④ The first of the year was found July 17 (MAC). There were particularly notable numbers of this uncommon southern migrant August 24 (MAC), when at least a dozen were removed from mist nets.





SWAMP DARNER Notable migration of this enormous dragonfly August 24 (MAC); several dozen.

BLACK SADDLEBAGS ⑤ Exceptional numbers September 15-16 (MAC). Estimated in the thousands.

BLACK WITCH ⑥ One was photographed at the Tip August 5 (KC, RL). Black Witch is a rare and impressively large tropical moth that occasionally migrates to Ontario. Recent past sightings at Long Point were of single moths in 2017 (MAC) and 2019 (KC).

VELVET BEAN CATERPILLAR MOTH Another tropical moth that migrates north in some years was observed at both the Tip and Breakwater this fall. There was a notable influx at the Tip, presumably brought on the south winds, October 24-26 (MAC). This was part of a movement that saw velvet bean moths even reach Lake Superior.

PIPEVINE SWALLOWTAIL A seemingly rare migrant in 2020; none were counted on the Long Point Butterfly Count, July 4. One was at the Tip July 17 (MAC).

CLOUDLESS SULPHUR ⑦ There were two observations of this rare southern migrant in 2020. The first was at Breakwater August 30 (MT). The second was at the Tip September 23 (MAC).

TREE SWALLOW PROJECT

This long-term research program was initiated in 1963 at the eastern Tip of Long Point under the direction of Drs. David Hussell and Geoff Holroyd. While the initial work at the Tip provided valuable detailed data on breeding biology, the need for a broader geographic scope prompted expansion of this project to include two mainland sites in the mid-1970s, presently at Mud Creek and the Port Rowan Wetland (previously sewage lagoons). Across these sites, the current project consists of 207 nest boxes with differing geography, food abundance, and micro-climates.

The objectives of this project are:

1. to provide a long-term record of breeding performance of Tree Swallows in relation to their food supply and local climate;
2. to provide other opportunities for research on breeding swallows; and
3. to provide training in field ornithology for students and other volunteers.

Since its inception, the project has annually supported post-graduate, graduate and undergraduate students, has involved the training of more than 200 volunteer fieldworkers, and has resulted in over 20 peer-reviewed publications and numerous theses and presentations. The project completed its 50th year in 2020. Spring pandemic restrictions reduced the capacity of LPBO’s small team to invest time in banding adult Tree Swallows; instead emphasis was directed toward banding nestlings and completing nest checks. In total 861 nestlings and 11 new adults were banded and two were recaptured (Table 10). In addition to collecting basic breeding parameters and maintaining the marked population, the project is contributing to a long-term study examining accumulated toxins from the environment being conducted by Environment and Climate Change Canada, a continent-wide study on variation in insect abundance.

Table 10. Summary of Tree Swallow Project banding in 2020

Location	Total Nest Boxes	Active Nest Boxes (%)	New Adults Banded	Recaptured Adults	Nestlings Banded
Tip	64	42 (66)	0	0	135
Sewage Lagoon	73	70 (96)	2	1	346
Mud Creek	80	74 (93)	3	1	349
Old Cut	11	4 (36)	6	0	25
Total	228	190 (83)	11	2	861



LONG POINT CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The **Christmas Bird Count** is North America's oldest standardized census providing valuable information on the early winter distribution and abundance of birds throughout the Western Hemisphere. It is also a vital outreach and birder/naturalist recruitment tool, and has become a proud holiday tradition for many.

The 60th Long Point CBC took place on 19 December. The count covers a ~24-kilometre circle centred on the lighthouse south of St. Williams. Generally mild conditions leading up to the count kept Long Point's Inner Bay and Big Creek largely free of ice. Small ponds, wetlands, and shorelines were frozen. Count Day was overcast with temperature ranging from -6° to +2°C. Light to moderate westerly winds persisted throughout the day.

Forty-seven local birders counted a remarkable 73,759 birds of 114 species. This matches the second highest species total (114 in 2016), and third highest total number of birds counted in the 60-year history of the Long Point count. The long-term average is 28,014 individuals of 102 species, and the 10-year average is 38,998 of 104 species. The average number of birds counted at Long Point has grown consistently over the decades from 10,375 in the 1960s to 38,998 in 2010-2020. Since the count began in 1961, volunteers have contributed more than 8 500 hours counting more than 1.5 million birds of 193 species.



Find Christmas Bird Count tallies from across the country [here](#)

—
A near record 4 425 Tundra Swans were tallied during the count.



High totals at Long Point are always attributed to lingering waterfowl that haven't yet been pushed out by ice. A little snow helped to concentrate some landbirds, but overall they were dispersed across the landscape and numbers were generally average or below average with some notable exceptions being nuthatches and their allies. Similar conditions were experienced in the previous two highest years, 1999 and 2006. Highlights included:

TUNDRA SWAN and **CANADA GOOSE** Near-record high count counts of 4 425 and 3 501 respectively;

MALLARD Record high count of 9 038, and high numbers of most other dabbling ducks;

DIVING DUCKS Redhead were by far the dominant waterfowl with close to 20,000 residing on the Inner Bay, along with ~11,000 other diving ducks, including ~6 000 scaup species, and ~5 000 Canvasback;

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN First ever for the count and one of only about 10 December Ontario records;

SANDHILL CRANES Notable high count of 5 768;

TUFTED TITMOUSE 11, tied the previous record set in 2016;

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH Record high count of 223 (previous record was 126 in 1997);

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH Third highest count of 140;

BROWN CREEPER Record high count of 112.



—
9 038 Mallard were seen during the 2020 count, setting a new record.

GREAT LAKES MARSH MONITORING PROGRAM

LPBO is conducting a series of Great Lakes Marsh Monitoring Program surveys as part of an ongoing effort to monitor the short and long-term changes in the diversity and abundance of wetland birds and amphibians on Long Point. These data are being used to monitor the results of extensive management of *Phragmites australis* currently underway in the region. Visit the **Long Point Phragmites Action Alliance** [↗](#) for more information.

In 2020, LPBO surveyed six GLMMP routes totalling 37 points count stations on Long Point (Courtright, Squires Ridge, and the Crown Marsh). Each station was surveyed three times for amphibians and twice for birds, except Squires Ridge, on which only bird surveys were conducted (due to COVID-19 restrictions). Over the past five years of GLMMP surveys on the point, amphibian and bird species diversity has varied, irrespective of *Phragmites* treatment or water levels. In 2020, amphibian diversity declined slightly on Courtright Ridge and in the Crown Marsh. Similarly, bird diversity also declined slightly on Courtright and Squires Ridge as well as in the Crown Marsh. Seven of the eight target amphibian species (American Bullfrog, American Toad, Fowler's Toad [Endangered in Canada and Ontario], Green Frog, Grey Treefrog, Northern Leopard Frog, and Spring Peeper) and eight of the nine target bird species (Pied-billed Grebe, Marsh Wren, American Bittern, Least Bittern, Black Tern, Sora, Virginia Rail, and Common Moorhen) were detected in 2020. See **Tozer and Mackenzie (2019)** [↗](#) for some results.

COOPERATORS Brendan Boyd, Kyle Cameron, Mark Conboy, Alex Israel, and Ryan Leys.

—
A Fowler's Toad photographed at Breakwater. The species is listed as endangered in Canada and Ontario.



Collaborative Research

LPBO collaborates with a wide variety of investigators, and integrates research into our activities whenever possible, in order to maximize the scientific output of our operations and data. The following is a brief summary of LPBO's collaborative research contributions in 2020. All projects are conducted with appropriate training, permits, and approvals.

Characterizing chemical composition of preen oil and preen gland microbial communities in migratory passerines

Dr. Leanne Grieves (Post-doctoral fellow)

Collaborators: Dr. Jim Quinn, Dr. Greg Slater, and Dr. Jonathan Pruitt

McMaster University

Chemical cues are an important component of animal communication. Symbiotic microbes can alter a host's chemical cues (i.e., their body odour) thereby influencing the behaviour of animal hosts. Both chemical cues and host microbiota play a role in birds' social and reproductive behaviour, but chemical and microbial ecology is vastly understudied in birds.

Most birds possess a specialized gland called the uropygial (preen) gland, located at the base of the tail. Preen oil secreted from the gland is groomed or preened throughout the feathers to aid in waterproofing and feather maintenance. However, research also indicates that preen oil contributes to bird's body odour and that the chemical cues in preen oil provide information about a bird's species, sex, age, breeding status, health, and even their genotype. There is also evidence to suggest that bacteria living in and around the preen gland can modify these preen oil chemical cues. Even more interesting, birds can use these preen oil odours to discriminate among different individuals, for example to tell males from females during the breeding season.

In my work at the Long Point Bird Observatory, I am characterizing the chemical composition of preen oil and the preen gland microbial communities of over 30 migratory passerine bird species that breed in North America. In addition, I am testing whether preen oil chemicals and preen gland microbes are linked to important aspects of life history, such as migration distance, diet, and breeding biology. Exploring the interplay between chemical cues and symbiotic microbes will help us better understand the ecology and behaviour of migratory birds, which could in turn guide future conservation practices.

Understanding temporal patterns of bat migration and stop-over use at Long Point

Lucas Haddaway (Undergraduate thesis)

Principal investigator: Dr. Liam McGuire

University of Waterloo

The purpose of our project is to understand the temporal pattern of migration for Silver-haired Bats, Red Bats, and Hoary Bats, as well as to understand how they make use of Long Point as a migratory stopover location. To accomplish these objectives, an acoustic monitor and microphone was deployed to record the echolocation calls bats make as they pass through and fly around the area. These recordings can then be used to understand the general temporal activity and behaviours of migrant and resident bats. Specifically, to understand the timing of the influx of migratory bats, and to understand their activity and behaviour on a nightly scale. To date, the acoustic monitor has recorded over 15,000 bat calls which have been identified to six different species: Big Brown Bats, Silver-haired Bats, Red Bats, Hoary Bats, Little Brown Bats, and Tricoloured Bats.

Over-winter and migratory movements of American Tree Sparrow

Kevin Hannah and Stuart Mackenzie

Environment and Climate Change Canada & Birds Canada

For most migratory birds, much of the focus has been on events during the breeding season, despite the fact that many species spend the majority of the annual cycle away from the breeding grounds. For the northern-breeding American Tree Sparrow, the supply of suitable breeding habitat may be sufficient for the needs of the current estimated population. Considered abundant and widespread, trend data suggest this species has experienced troubling long-term population declines in recent decades. Given this disconnect, it is conceivable that events during the non-breeding season may be more limiting for this species. Improving our understanding of winter movements, habitat use, and survival will fill an important data gap critical for the development of effective conservation actions and management approaches. We are colour-banding and tracking tree sparrows using the **Motus Wildlife Tracking System** [↗](#) to improve our understanding of wintering American Tree Sparrows in central and southern Ontario. The resulting data will provide useful information for evaluating potential limiting factors to their populations and developing conservation recommendations.



motus.org [↗](#)

PUBLICATIONS FROM 2017-2020

A list of all LPBO and Birds Canada publications are available on the **Birds Canada publication page** [↗](#).

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2020 Bird Highlights

Included in this list are rarities, out-of-season birds (e.g., overwintering neotropical migrants), notable concentrations, and significant banding highlights. Each species entry begins with the bird's status within the Long Point birding area following the Seasonal Checklist of the Birds of the Long Point Area:

Abundant – almost always found in season in high density numbers;

Common – usually found in season daily, well distributed in moderate numbers;

Uncommon – present in low density and unlikely to be found on a daily basis;

Rare – may be present annually but found infrequently and with difficulty;

Occasional – very few records, normally absent;

Accidental – not expected to be recorded for several years at a time, if ever again.

When no status is given for a particular month of the year, the bird should be considered accidental. An additional status is given for Species at Risk, as listed under the federal Species at Risk Act or the Ontario Endangered Species Act. Species that require an Ontario Bird Records Committee (OBRC) rare bird report are also noted. Observers are listed in order of original observer, then ordered alphabetically. Refer to the [Long Point Birding Trail](#) and *The Birds of Long Point Area* (Ridout 2017) for place names and more information.

SNOW GOOSE

Occasional to rare **J F M A M J J A S O N D**

Snow Geese were absent during the early part of 2020. The only spring migration report was one over Birds Canada headquarters April 10 (SAM). Snow Geese were more frequent during the latter part of the year; recorded at Turkey Point, Port Rowan, Lakeshore Road, Lee Brown Wildlife Management Area (WMA), the Coves, Old Cut, and “New” Long Point Provincial Park (multiple observers). Largest concentrations: two separate flocks of three at Old Cut October 4 (AB, MAC) and the Birds Canada headquarters in Port Rowan November 20 (SAM).



GSGW

ROSS'S GOOSE

Occasional **J F M A M J J A S O N D**

Three frequented the area between Lee Brown WMA and the Long Point causeway January 18-28 (AT, TM; multiple observers). One fall record from the Turkey Point marsh overlook, where two were photographed November 8 (SL, WL).

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE

Occasional J F M A M J J A S O N D

Groups of three or four frequented the area between Lee Brown WMA and the Long Point causeway January 22-March 25 (PB; multiple observers). The largest group was five along the causeway February 19 (HG). Three were at Silver Lake in Port Dover February 15 (JW, MJ, MM, RJ).

ACKLING GOOSE

Occasional J F M A M J J A S O N D

One or two birds were present off and on from mid-December 2019-March 2020 in and around the Lee Brown WMA (multiple observers). Several fall records included three at the Port Rowan Wetlands November 18-19 (EG; SAM), one along Lakeshore Road December 19-28 (SL, WL; KBo), and seven in and around Port Dover December 20-29 (BCu).

TRUMPETER SWAN

Occasional J F M A M J J A S O N D

Up to two were reported in the area January-March (RR; multiple observers). Numerous records for Inner Long Point Bay from Old Cut to Big Creek NWA (multiple observers), including a high count of eight at Old Cut October 13 (AW, LG). A more unusual location for Trumpeter Swans was Bluff Bar, where there were three October 9 (MAC, RL).

TUNDRA SWAN

Abundant to common J F M A M J J A S O N D
Uncommon to occ. J F M A M J J A S O N D

Long Point is an important migration stopover and, in some years, overwintering location for large numbers of Tundra Swans. The high counts of 2 500 birds at Port Royal January 25-27 (DL) and 3 000 at Big Creek NWA December 3 (AB, MAC) represent one percent of the global population (estimated at about 300,000).

WOOD DUCK

Common to uncommon J F M A M J J A S O N D
Occasional to rare J F M A M J J A S O N D

There were three at Port Royal January 21 (GP). Around a dozen late-staying birds were counted along Big Creek December 19 (multiple observers). Port Royal still had 15 December 27 (CS).

NORTHERN SHOVELER

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

A few birds overwintered included observations along Concession A and the Long Point causeway (MH; multiple observers).

EURASIAN WIGEON

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was found at the Lee Brown WMA March 17 (JF, MT), and was joined by another March 22 (EG); they lingered in the area until the end of the month (multiple observers).



Two Eurasian Wigeons among American Wigeons

GREEN-WINGED TEAL x COMMON TEAL HYBRID

One was observed at the Lee Brown Wildlife Management Area March 31 (RR).

CANVASBACK

Abundant to common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Long Point is an important migration stopover for large numbers of Canvasbacks. The high counts of 2 400 migrants off Port Rowan February 15 (JMe, MM) and off “New” Long Point PP February 24 (MAC), cumulatively represent nearly one percent of the global population (estimated at 521,000). Canvasback are a rare breeder at Long Point. A presumed breeding female was found at the Port Rowan wetlands throughout May and June (multiple observers). A single male, presumably her mate, was also at the wetlands May 18 (GW). The highest count for the fall was at Old Cut during an exceptionally good morning flight when 7 800 were estimated in less than an hour November 1 (MAC); 1.5 percent of the global population.

REDHEAD

Abundant to common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Long Point is an important migration stopover for large numbers of Redheads. There was a high count of 3 500 off Port Rowan February 23 (LF), the first real pulse of spring migrants. The high count for the fall was at Old Cut November 9 when 20,000 flew over (MAC, RL), representing over three percent of the global population (estimated at 592,000).

GREATER SCAUP

Abundant to common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare to occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Long Point is an important migration and overwintering location for large numbers of Greater Scaup. A high winter count of 1 000 flew over Old Cut February 3 (SAM). The high estimate for the fall was 20,000 on Outer Long Point Bay October 14 (MAC); representing 1.5 percent of the global population (estimated at 1,300,000).

BLACK SCOTER

Rare to occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was on Outer Long Point Bay March 23 (MAC, RR, SAM). Two were observed at Turkey Point October 9 (SAM). As usual most other records came from the Tip, including small numbers of birds periodically October 11 to November 24 (multiple observers), and a high count of seven October 21 (RL).

LONG-TAILED DUCK

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional May to September. The high count for the year was 2 300 on the Outer Bay December 10 (MAC, SAM). The single highest daily estimated total from the Tip was 535 October 26 (LPBO), the ninth highest ever, but still a far cry from 2 130 on April 14, 2015.

RED-NECKED GREBE

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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There were two unusual observations from the mainland: two birds off Turkey Point May 13 (HD, HP) and one off the Birds Canada headquarters November 23 (AB, MAC). One was on the Outer Bay October 31 (SAM). There were periodic observations from the Tip October 10-25 (MAC, LG, RL), with a high count of three October 10 and 23 (RL).



EAGR

**EARED GREBE**Occasional J F M **A** M J J A S O N D

One was photographed off Port Rowan Harbour March 31 (SAM).

EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE

Accidental; introduced. One was observed periodically at Old Cut beginning April 13 (MAC), with additional observations May 6 (RR) and May 16 (JV). The final sighting was in “New” Long Point Provincial Park May 19 (SAM). There was also one fall record: once again one flew past Old Cut September 10 (BF). These are the first records of collared-dove since May 16, 2018.

WHITE-WINGED DOVEAccidental J F M **A** M J J A S O N D

One was at a feeder along Concession Road A May 6-19 (KW, SW).



White-winged Dove

COMMON NIGHTHAWKOccasional J F M A **M** J J A S O N D

Threatened (Canada), Special Concern (Ontario). Very low numbers of this rapidly declining aerial insectivore during spring migration, with a high count of six at the Tip May 24 (SAM). There were only two really notable counts of nighthawks during fall migration, both from Big Creek NWA: 110 August 21 and 168 August 30 (SAM). The highest count for the year at LPBO proper was 42 at the Tip August 23 (MAC), which is the highest count at the Tip since September 1, 2010, when 50 were tallied.

CHUCK-WILL'S-WIDOWOccasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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OBRC. The first mainland record since 1995 was one singing and recorded at St. Williams May 22 (RR). Report submitted to the OBRC.

KING RAILRare

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Endangered (Canada and Ontario). One was heard at Big Creek NWA August 12 (SAM) and again August 14 (GP, RL).

VIRGINIA RAILCommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Rare to occ.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Small numbers of Virginia Rails linger into early winter at Long Point but are rarely found without concerted effort. One was observed crossing the Long Point causeway ahead of flood waters January 12 (SAM). During the latter part of the year, late-staying birds were flushed from the “New” Long Point PP wetlands during Phragmites control operations throughout November and early December (AT).

SANDHILL CRANEAbundant

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Uncommon to rare

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Long Point is an important staging area, and in recent years overwintering location for large numbers of Sandhill Cranes. The high count, for the early part of the year, was 2 000 at Port Royal (JuB) January 12. A high count of 7 000 were counted in the Long Point area December 17 (DS, RW).

AMERICAN AVOCETOccasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Two were at Turkey Point May 2 (NH; multiple observers). One more was along the Long Point causeway September 15-16 (AT; SAM). The last time there were two or more avocets in a single year at Long Point was August 21, 2013.

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVERCommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Uncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Also rare April and June to July; occasional November. A very late migrant was at the Tip December 10 (AT, MAC, SAM).



AMAV

AMERICAN GOLDEN-PLOVER

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

After a spring completely devoid of golden-plovers, the fall was chock-full of them! There was a host of records from Old Cut, “New” Long Point PP, Big Creek NWA, the Long Point causeway, Port Rowan, Lakeshore Road, Bluff Bar, and the Tip (multiple observers). The high count was six that flew past Old Cut September 26 (RL, SAM). There was also one particularly notable summer record: three flew over Birds Canada headquarters July 18 (SAM).

KILLDEER

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also accidental January. An overwintering bird was found along Concession A January 20 (EG). Two hardy birds remained in on the Port Rowan waterfront through early January 2021 (SAM et al.).

HUDSONIAN GODWIT

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

It was a notable fall for Hudsonian Godwits. The first bird was found feeding in Granger Pond at Old Cut October 4 (AW, KW; multiple observers). Two birds were found October 14 at Turkey Point; one of those birds remained until November 22 (SL, WL; multiple observers). One more, or possibly one of the Turkey Point birds, was found foraging in the fields along Lakeshore Road October 29 (DS, RW).



UPLAND SANDPIPER

Occ. to rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Seldom reported at Long Point in the past decade. Nonetheless, one flew over Breakwater May 24 (BB). The last one reported at Breakwater was May 4, 2002.

WHIMBREL

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

A high count of 118 flew past the Tip May 26 (MAC), the highest count there since May 27, 2013 when 285 were counted.

RED KNOT

Rare to occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Endangered (Canada and Ontario). There was only one observation of this rapidly disappearing shorebird during the spring: one was found along Hastings Drive May 18-19 (ADi, MD, SAM). Two were found at Turkey Point August 22 (CB, CR, LS; multiple observers). Numbers of knots at Turkey Point fluctuated with a high count of 11 September 7 (SAM).

DUNLIN

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional April, June to August and December. Late-staying fall migrants were found at Breakwater December 19 (MB, SAM) and Turkey Point December 19-21 (DTL et al.).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Very few reports for the year: two at Silver Lake in Port Dover August 16 (SAM), one at Turkey Point August 17-18 (DaM, Dem; multiple observers), one at the Tip September 15 (MAC), one in the Crown Marsh October 30 (PG, TG), and one along Hastings Drive November 8 (AK, ML).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was found at the shorebird mecca that was Turkey Point August 22-24 (GS, KS; multiple observers).

RUFF

Accidental; OBRC. A brown-coloured male in full alternate plumage was first found in a flooded field along Concession Road A (AT et al.). It was refound nearly two weeks later along the Long Point Causeway (DR, GR, NM, et al.). Reports submitted to the OBRC. Long Point's last Ruff was also found on the mudflats along the causeway: September 24-October 17, 1999.



BBSA



RUFF

PECTORAL SANDPIPER

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Rare during the spring of 2020 with only a single flyover at Old Cut April 26 (MAC, MT).

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional May and August. Two were found along the Long Point causeway September 15 (AT). One was found at Turkey Point October 2 (RC). Eventually three were counted there together (multiple observers). Two or three were at Silver Lake in Port Dover October 10-11 (AT, KO). The final record was of one that was briefly seen at Old Cut October 17 (ADo, MN, RPa).



LBDO

WILSON'S SNIPE

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare to occasional March and December; occasional June. Late birds were at Silver Lake in Port Dover December 1 (MT) and Old Cut December 16 (MAC).



GRYE

GREATER YELLOWLEGS

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

The first one banded since 1993, and only the seventh ever, was caught and banded at the Tip October 27 (RL, ZK).



RNPH

RED-NECKED PHALAROPE

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was found a few kilometres off the south shore of Long Point between the Tip and Breakwater during a boat trip September 1 (MAC, SAM).



WILL

WILLET

Rare to occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Two were at Turkey Point April 16 (SMo). One remained there until April 27 (SMo). Another was at Turkey Point August 17-22 (KB, multiple observers).

POMARINE JAEGER

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was observed at the Tip October 16 (MAC, RL).

PARASITIC JAEGER

Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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The most significant fall migration on record for LPBO with at least two dozen birds seen from the Tip alone! Tip observations spanned September 2 to October 23 (multiple observers) with a high count of 5 October 17 (RL) and October 18 (MAC). The previous daily high count was 4 at the Tip August 24, 1992 and October 30, 2012. The previous high year was 1996 when 13 total were counted from the Tip and Breakwater combined. There were two additional records: One flew past Breakwater September 2 (RL) and one was off “New” Long Point PP (JL, SAM).

LONG-TAILED JAEGER

Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was observed at the Tip October 17 (LG, RL); the first since September 13, 2018.

SABINE’S GULL

Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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A first-cycle bird sat on the Tip September 12 (MAC, MCh). This was coincidental with several other birds seen on the American side of the lake around the same date. Another was observed flying with Common Terns and Bonaparte’s Gulls off Lion’s Park on the Port Rowan waterfront September 30 (SAM).

BONAPARTE’S GULL

Abundant to common

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Uncommon to occ.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Long Point is an important migration stopover for large numbers of Bonaparte’s Gulls. A high count of 5 500 was at the Tip May 4 (MAC) represents about 1.5 percent of the global population (estimated at 390,000), but still well below the astounding counts of 30,000-50,000 made in the late 1980s. The high daily count for the fall was a similar 5 000 at the Tip October 17 (LG, RL).

BLACK-HEADED GULL

Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One first-cycle bird was flying with Bonaparte’s Gulls offshore of Turkey Point September 16 (BF). The last record was from Outer Long Point Bay September 1, 2014.

LITTLE GULL

Common

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Uncommon to occ.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Twenty-five were at the Tip May 6 (MAC, MT), the highest daily estimated total ever for the Tip. Numerous birds resided at Turkey Point throughout October with highs of 48 on October 14 (BL, SL), and 73 October 17 (RR).



LIGU

LAUGHING GULLOccasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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An alternate plumaged bird was found at the Tip (MAC) May 22-26 (MAC, MT, SAM).

ICELAND GULLRare to occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was observed from the Long Point causeway January 30 (SAM). A first-cycle bird was at the Tip May 25-27 (MAC).

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLRare to occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Though more regularly reported at the Tip, Lesser Black-backed are far less frequently observed from the mainland. Mainland reports of single birds came from the Port Rowan waterfront March 31 (SAM), Turkey Point August 25 (DT) and September 25 (MP), “New” Long Point PP September 23 (BH), and Old Cut October 4 (AW, KW).

GLAUCOUS GULLUncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Single birds were observed along the Long Point causeway February 23 (LF, SAM), off Port Rowan March 7 (RS), “New” Long Point PP March 21 (AG, LFr), the Tip May 7 (MAC), Turkey Point December 19 (PB), and Port Dover harbour December 20 (TL) and 31 (RR; KJ).



GLGU

ARCTIC TERN

Accidental. Two were at the Tip November 8 (SAM). Arctic Tern has seldom been reported from the Tip, with only seven entries in the daily logs during the migration monitoring season and a handful outside of the seasons. The last report in the Tip logs was October 27, 2016.

FORSTER'S TERNCommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Uncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Also rare to occasional October to November. A very late bird was at the Tip November 8 (MAC; RL, SAM).

RED-THROATED LOON

Uncommon J F M **A** **M** J J A S **O** N D

An unusual wintering bird was seen from the causeway January 15-19 (HG, RW, SAM). The high count for the spring was a flight of 53 off the Tip May 24 (MAC, MT, SAM). The high count for the fall was a paltry seven birds, again at the Tip, October 17 (MAC).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN

Occ. J F M A **M** **J** J A S O N D

One was observed circling over the west end of Port Rowan and the Port Rowan Wetlands June 4 (SAM, RL). Another was observed from the Turkey Point marsh overlook on Front Road November 8 (ML). Possibly the same bird was at Turkey Point December 19 (TL), and subsequently observed along the lakeshore between Port Rowan and the Long Point causeway into January 2021 (multiple observers). This was also new species for the Long Point Christmas Bird Count.



AMWP

BROWN PELICAN

Accidental; OBRC. A young bird flew north past the Tip of Long Point on a foggy May 28 (MAC, MT); it was never relocated. This was the third record for Long Point and the first for the Tip. It was found as the remnants of Tropical Storm Bertha arrived over Lake Erie. No other storm birds were observed despite hours of continuous lake watching at the Tip. Another Brown Pelican was on Lake Ontario the week previous. Reports submitted to the OBRC.

LEAST BITTERN

Common J F M A **M** **J** **J** **A** **S** O N D
Rare J F M **A** M J J A S **O** N D

Threatened (Canada and Ontario). Record late individuals were flushed from different parts of the “New” Long Point PP wetlands and Big Creek NWA along Hastings Drive during Phragmites control operations December 3, 8, 16 and 17 (AT).

GREAT EGRET

Uncommon to rare J F M **A** **M** **J** **J** **A** **S** O N D
Occasional J F M A M J J A S **O** N D

There was a rare mid-winter sighting at the Birds Canada headquarters in Port Rowan January 15 (SAM), and an early spring sighting at the Port Rowan Wetland March 28 (BW). Small groups have begun staging in the area in the fall: Breakwater recorded its highest ever daily total of 37 on August 23 (MT, RL). Old Cut recorded its second highest ever daily total of 26 on September 11 (LPBO).



GREG

**SNOWY EGRET**Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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The first one to reach Long Point in 15 years was at the Tip May 26 (MAC, MT, SAM). The second one of the year was photographed at Old Cut October 17 (AC). These two birds were the first since June 3, 2005 and the first year with multiple individuals reported since May 2000.

CATTLE EGRETRare

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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The only record for 2020 was a bird that flew over Old Cut October 27 (MAC).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERONUncommon to Rare

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Only a handful of records this year from Breakwater, Old Cut, Port Rowan, the Long Point causeway, Big Creek NWA, “New” Long Point PP, and the Thoroughfare Unit of Long Point NWA. The high count was three at Big Creek NWA August 21 (SAM).

TURKEY VULTUREAbundant to common

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Rare to occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Two birds were found near Turkey Point January 1 (multiple observers, GB, KK). Large flights during fall migration were: 139 at Old Cut October 28, and 280 October 13 and 418 October 16 at the Tip (LPBO).

RED-TAILED HAWKCommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Uncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

The two largest flights were 108 at Old Cut October 27 and 181 at the Tip October 28 (LPBO). Both flights were the fifth largest ever recorded for their respective stations.

GOLDEN EAGLEOccasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Endangered (Ontario). One was seen periodically from mid-January through mid-February, mainly west of Highway 59 (MJ et al.). A few fall migrants were reported from the Tip, Old Cut, the Coves, Concession Road 1, the Port Rowan Wetlands, and the Turkey Point marsh overlook. A high count 2 flew over Old Cut together October 27 (MAC; multiple observers).

MISSISSIPPI KITEOccasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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OBRC. One flew over Old Cut May 30 (RL). This is the second report in as many years (previous record May 26, 2019). Report submitted to the OBRC.

NORTHERN GOSHAWKUncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Rare

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was seen along County Road 13 January 2 (AT), and another near Turkey Point February 26 (GB). Fall migrants were noted from the Coves, Old Cut, and the Tip (multiple observers), where the high count was two October 13 (RL). Overwintering individuals in the latter part of the year were found at Port Royal December 4 (AB, MAC) and Front Road near Turkey Point December 5 (FE, RE).

RED-SHOULDERED HAWKCommon to uncom.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Rare to occ.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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At least one overwintering bird was along Concession A January 29-February 7 (BCh, MN; multiple observers). Probably the same bird was at Lee Brown WMA March 22 (SAM).

SNOWY OWLUncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Rare to occ.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was frequently reported from the causeway and Long Point town site January 5-February 26 (KBU, multiple observers). Overwintering birds during the latter part of the year were reported from Pottahawk Point, Thoroughfare Point, "New" Long Point PP, Old Cut, the Long Point causeway, Big Creek NWA, Port Rowan, and Lakeshore Road (multiple observers).

LONG-EARED OWLUncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Rare

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Three were reported at Walsingham December 28 (LFO, SF). None were reported during fall migration.

SHORT-EARED OWLOccasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Special Concern (Canada and Ontario). Two were observed over the fields along Lakeshore Road January 22-28 (AT, EG, TM; multiple observers). Single birds were seen along Long Point causeway November 8 (GP), Lakeshore Road December 5 (RRo), Port Rowan December 25 (SAM), and "New" LPPP December 28 (MAC).

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare remainder of the year. COVID-19 restrictions meant that owl banding only occurred on nights with excellent migration conditions, so comparatively few Saw-whets were banded in 2020. A total of 228 were banded, the lowest total since 2013 when 203 were banded (excluding 2019 when only 85 were banded). The best night was October 24 when 41 were banded at Old Cut and 24 were banded at the Tip (LPBO). Of particular note were four Saw-whets roosting low down in the dogwoods near the J-trap at Old Cut October 8 (LG, MAC; multiple observers).

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncom. breeding	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare March, November to December; occasional January to February. A very early migrant was at Old Cut March 6 (MAC) and a very late bird was at Big Creek along Concession Road 1 December 18 (CF).

PEREGRINE FALCON

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional March; Special Concern (Ontario). Two unusual overwintering birds were observed between Long Point and Turkey Point January 12 through spring (SAM; multiple observers).

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER

Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Endangered (Canada and Ontario). Despite not being observed very often during fall, individuals were observed at the Tip August 24 (MAC), and banded another was banded October 3 (LPBO).

EASTERN PHOEBE

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare November to December; occasional January to March. As is often the case, a handful of lingering birds survived into January. The latest overwintering phoebe was recorded in “New” Long Point PP February 10 and likely March 10 (SAM) if not a first spring migrant. Phoebes were totally absent from the Long Point CBC December 19 – usually a few remain that late into the year.



ACFL

WESTERN KINGBIRDOccasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was at Old Cut briefly September 10 (AB). This is the second report in as many years (previous record October 4, 2019).

EASTERN KINGBIRDCommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Uncommon to occ.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Two late migrants were at the Tip September 15-16 (MAC).

WHITE-EYED VIREOUncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Occasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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A regular spring migrant and occasional breeder though no evidence of nesting was found in the Long Point area in 2020. There were observations of single birds from Gibson Road in the Turkey Point Conservation Reserve April 30 (HG), “Old” Long Point PP May 10 (RR), and Old Cut May 19 (MAC) and August 28 (SAM). Two were found along Erie Blvd. May 3 (BCo). A late bird was banded at the Tip October 20 (LG, RL); the only one banded in 2020.

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKEOccasional

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Endangered (Canada and Ontario). One bird was first heard at the Tip on May 25. It was observed and then captured May 26 (SAM; MAC, MT). This was the first Loggerhead banded at LPBO since 1988, though a colour-banded bird was captured at the Tip last year and in 2003. Occasional Loggerheads were banded at the Tip in 1961-1988, but none since then.



White-eyed Vireo



Loggerhead Shrike

NORTHERN SHRIKE

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Generally rare, as expected, during the winter and spring of 2020. There was at least one bird present in and around the Port Rowan Wetlands and Birds Canada Headquarters January to mid-March (multiple observers). Additional observations came from East Quarter Line Road, Concession Road A and the Lakeshore Road fields during the same period. Northern Shrikes were a little more common during the fall migration and early winter with observations from Turkey Point, South Coast Gardens, the Coves, the Crown Marsh trail, Old Cut, and “New” Long Point Provincial Park (multiple observers).

FISH CROW

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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There were three reports in 2020. The first was heard in Port Rowan April 6 (SAM). The second was heard in “New” Long Point PP May 16 (HD, HP; multiple observers). The third was also in “New” Long Point PP, four days later (MH), and was presumably the same bird as reported on May 16. This species is becoming more regular, with reports in both 2018 and 2019.

COMMON RAVEN

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Ravens remain a scarce presumed breeder in Norfolk County. In 2020, sightings were sporadic but widespread including at Turkey Point, Turkey Point Conservation Reserve, St. Williams Conservation Reserve, St. Williams, Backus Woods, West Quarter Line Road, Concession Road 1 and Port Rowan (multiple observers). Of particular note was an observation from Old Cut May 14 (HD, HP), one of only a handful ever recorded at the banding station proper.

TUFTED TITMOUSE

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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A pair bred at South Coast Gardens near Turkey Point in June, when up to seven birds were present at a time (GB). There were only sporadic sightings of single birds throughout the remainder of the year at Turkey Point, St. Williams, East Quarter Line Road, Concession Road 1, Concession Road A, the Long Point causeway and Old Cut (multiple observers). One was banded at the Tip October 13 (MAC), the first since 2016 when a breeding pair and their three young were banded at Old Cut. A record number of eleven were counted during the Long Point CBC December 19, most along the lakeshore (multiple observers).



TUTI

HORNED LARK

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare December. A juvenile was photographed at the Tip August 25 (MAC). If this juvenile hatched on Long Point, it may represent the first confirmed record of Horned Larks breeding on Long Point proper, though it was likely from nearby agricultural areas on the mainland.



HOLA

NORTHERN ROUGH-WINGED SWALLOW

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare September; occasional April and October. The bulk of Rough-winged swallow migrants arrive in late April through May but four very early migrants were seen along the causeway March 31 (SAM), followed by one at Old Cut two days later (MAC). A late flock of migrants passed over the “New” Long Point PP October 8 (BH, KB, SAM). Old Cut had its fifth highest-ever count with 150 on May 11 (LPBO).

PURPLE MARTIN

Abundant	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also uncommon September; uncommon to occasion April to October. The high count for the year was 12,200 at Old Cut September 9 (MAC, RL), the fourth highest-ever there. The 60 banded at the Old Cut colony was the highest banding total since 1985, when 91 were banded.

TREE SWALLOW

Abundant	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also uncommon to rare March and September to October. The high count for the year was 20,000 going to roost at Big Creek NWA August 14 (SAM). Tree Swallow roost flights at Old Cut were relatively small in 2020; the highest count was only 2000 September 7 (LPBO).

BANK SWALLOW

Abundant	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also uncommon to rare April and September; threatened (Canada and Ontario). The high count for the year was 75,000 going to roost at Big Creek NWA August 14 (RL). The highest count at a station was 20,000 at Old Cut August 19 (LPBO).

BARN SWALLOW

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare to occasional October; Threatened (Canada and Ontario). The high count for the year was 75,000 going to roost at Big Creek NWA August 14 (RL). A count of 20,040 at Old Cut August 19 was the highest ever there (LPBO), only two counts of 25,000 at Breakwater in 1996 and 2014 exceeded it.

RUBY-CROWNED KINGLET

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare March, September and December; occasional January, June and August. Several birds managed to overwinter into January along Concession Road 1, at Turkey Point and “New” Long Point PP. The provincial park bird even managed to survive into February when it was observed February 3 (SAM). Late-staying birds were also reported: two in Turkey Point Bog (ES, GB; multiple observers), and one in “New” Long Point PP December 9-14 (AT; ES).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare January to February. Rather rare during the early part of 2020, aside from the expected resident birds throughout Norfolk County’s multitudinous pineries. By early fall it was apparent that 2020 would be a notable year for Red-breasted Nuthatch migration. A good flight of nuthatches was expected due to poor cone crops in the eastern boreal forest. Overall numbers were modest with high totals of 66 at Old Cut October 1, and 78 September 25 at the Tip. There were about 40 days when 10 or more counted at daily at Old Cut and/or the Tip (LPBO).



Red-breasted Nuthatch

SEDGE WREN

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

There were only four observations in 2020: single birds at Old Cut May 8 (RR), “New” Long Point PP May 15 (HD, HP) and June 18 (SAM), and Hasting’s Drive May 23 (SAM).

GRAY CATBIRD

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon to rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional January, April, and November to December. A dead bird was found at Port Royal March 1 (TG) that would have been an overwintering bird. December records came from Turkey Point, Port Rowan, Big Creek valley, and “New” Long Point Provincial Park (multiple observers).

BROWN THRASHER

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional January and December. Like with Gray Catbird, small number of thrashers may persist into winter. An overwintering bird was at Old Cut January 17-February 29 (SAM, MAC; multiple observers). A late bird was at the Old Cut feeders December 9 (MAC).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Scattered records throughout May from St. Williams Conservation Reserve, Port Rowan, Lakeshore Road, Old Cut, “New” Long Point PP and Breakwater (multiple observers). One pair remained on territory at the Tip May 3 to July 17, but breeding was not confirmed (MAC; MT, SAM).



NOMC

HERMIT THRUSH

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare March and December; occasional January to February. Overwintering thrushes were found at Old Cut January 19 (SAM) and on the Wilson Tract Feb 27 (HG, KG, RG). Possibly an early migrant was at Backus Woods March 27 (AT, TM). Late-staying birds were found during December in Port Dover, South Coast Gardens near Turkey Point, the Big Creek valley, “New” Long Point PP and Old Cut (multiple observers).

WOOD THRUSH

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional April; Threatened (Canada), Special Concern (Ontario). A late-staying bird was at Old Cut October 10-27 (multiple observers; MAC); it was originally banded October 5.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Four came to drink at a backyard pond in St. Williams October 31 (JMc).

AMERICAN PIPIT

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional March and December. Up to nine flew over Birds Canada headquarters February 18 (MAC, JH, SAM). Others were observed at “New” Long Point PP March 14 and in Port Rowan March 31 (SAM). A flock of 41 were at the Inasphere Winery near Turkey Point December 19 (AB, CL, MAC, RL). The highest daily total for migrants at LPBO proper was only 44 at the Tip October 30 (MAC). There were high counts of 270 at The Dunes October 8 (KB, BH), and 486 at The Coves November 2 (SAM).



EVGR

EVENING GROSBEAK

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Special Concern (Canada and Ontario). Only one sighting early in the year: a single bird in “New” Long Point PP February 1 (SAM). Evening Grosbeaks moved south in good numbers during fall migration, undoubtedly the result of burgeoning populations in the eastern Boreal Forest in response to budworm outbreaks. The first two birds were heard flying over Old Cut October 13 (SAM). Small flocks and single birds were recorded throughout October and November. Numbers started to taper off noticeably by mid-November. A few birds remained into December. High counts were 40 at Port Rowan November 11 (SAM), 45 at the Turkey Point Conservation Reserve November 6 (RL), 50 at the Tip October 29 (RL), and Old Cut November 3, 63 and 100 at the Coves November 2 and 12, respectively (SAM, TL). One particularly interesting observation was of a flock of six observed migrating south over Outer Long Point Bay on a boat trip to the Tip (SAM). Two were banded at Old Cut November 9 (MAC), the first since 2013 and the most since 2012, when five were banded. No Evening Grosbeaks were banded between 1995 and 2012. The largest migration of Evening Grosbeaks ever recorded at LPBO was in 1985 when 2 909 were counted that fall. No migration since has compared, but there were nota-

ble flights in 1987, 1993, 1995, and 2012. The 2020 flight was impressive with nearly 300 counted during the fall, exceeding both the 1995 and 2012 flights (Figure 4).

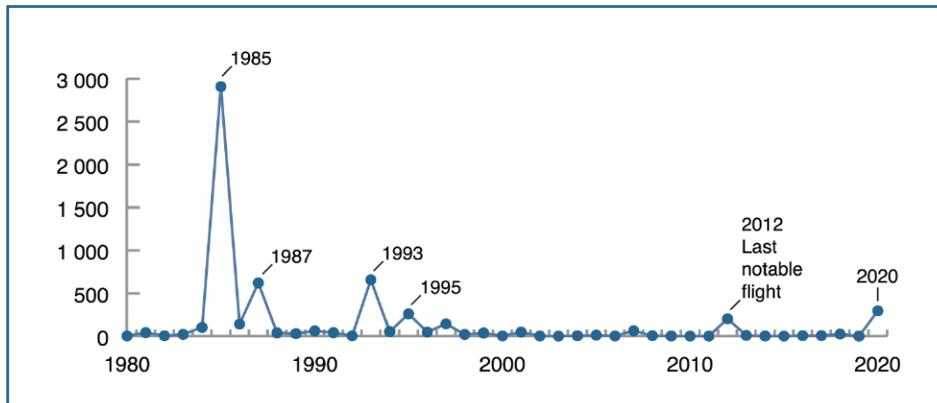


Figure 4. Total number of Evening Grosbeaks estimated annually across all three banding stations since 1980 (No real irruptions prior to 1980).

PURPLE FINCH

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon to rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

As forecasted, Purple Finches migrated south in numbers this fall, though it was a more modest movement than some of the other winter finches. High counts were 33 October 2 (MAC) and 60 October 3 (JL, SAM) at Old Cut, and 60 at the Coves October 31 (TL). The highest estimated total was 62 at Old Cut October 3 (LPBO).

COMMON REDPOLL

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional April to October. The first migrants were detected at the Coves November 2 (SAM). Good numbers continued through November but tapered off into December. Peak high counts all occurred on November 12: 144 at Old Cut (MAC), 271 at “New” Long Point PP (JL, SAM), and 500 at the Coves November 12 (TL). The Old Cut count was the second highest on record there, and the highest since 1997. The last major flight of Common Redpolls was during the winter of 2012/2013.

HOARY REDPOLL

Accidental. Two records: one flew over “New” Long Point PP November 3 (BH); one was among Common Redpolls at the corner of Highway 24 and Turkey Point Road December 19 (JL; KC). The last record of Hoary Redpoll near Long Point was March 3, 2013 near Walsingham.

RED CROSSBILL

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

The first flock of 15 was at Old Cut October 28 (MAC). Single birds and small flocks (up to 14 birds) were subsequently reported from Old Cut, “New” Long Point PP, the Normandale Fish Hatchery, Turkey Point Road, Turkey Point, St. Williams Forestry Conservation Reserve, Port Rowan, Concession Road A and the Coves (multiple observers). The last major flight of Red Crossbills at Long Point was in 2012.



WWCF

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Fifteen were found at the St. Williams Conservation Reserve March 4 (AT). The first 15 birds were recorded at Old Cut October 27 (KG, MAC). Observations of small flocks into November came from the Tip, Port Rowan, “New” Long Point Provincial Park, Concession Road 1, and the Coves (multiple observers), with the high count was 25 at Turkey Point Conservation Reserve October 29 (EG). Two were banded at Old Cut, the first since 2012 when 11 were banded, as part of the last major flight. Prior to 2020, White-winged Crossbills had only been caught in four years, for a total of only 18 birds banded.



PISI

PINE SISKIN

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare to occasional June to September. Virtually absent during the first few months of the year, with only one sighting from the West Quarter Line Road January 29 (AT). Although a small flight of eastern Boreal Forest siskins was predicted, 2020 turned out to feature the single largest flight ever recorded at LPBO: a stupendous movement of them with thousands passing over the Tip and Old Cut on some mornings. The first migrants were recorded at Old Cut September 14 (SAM). Siskins were widespread by early October and the peak of the migration occurred around mid-October when thousands flew over the Tip and Old Cut. There were 17 days with estimated totals at the Tip and/or Old Cut in excess of 100 birds. The major morning flights were 2 190 on October 12, 3 037 on October 11, and 3 120 on October 17, all at the Tip (LPBO). The last two of those counts were the two highest single daily estimates ever at LPBO. Over 18,000 siskins were recorded passing over the Tip and Old Cut during the fall. Though the last notable flight of siskins was in 2017, only the 2008 flight of 13,456 comes close to 2020’s numbers (Figure 5).

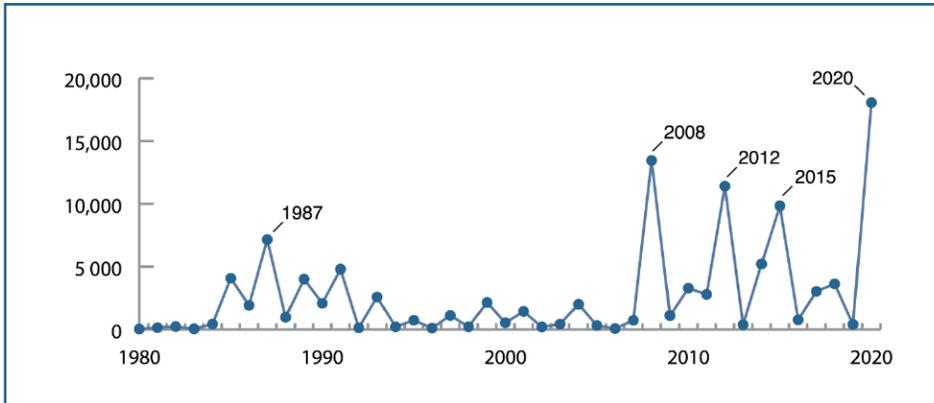


Figure 5. Total number of Pine Siskins estimated annually across all three banding stations since 1980 (No real irruptions prior to 1980).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

A species which can be surprisingly difficult to find in Norfolk County during the winter, or on migration. There was just one overwintering report during the early part of the year or three along Concession A January 31 (MH). Fall migrants flew over Old Cut November 12 (MAC). Latter part of the year overwintering birds were reported along Concession Road 1 December 18 (CF) and near Port Dover December 20 (TL).

SNOW BUNTING

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Relatively modest flocks were noted main along Lakeshore Road and around Port Rowan during the early part of the year (multiple observers). Notable counts: 800 at Lee Brown WMA January 22 (DL, SP) and 400 along Lakeshore Road January 23 (SP). Low numbers of buntings were recorded during the latter part of the year. High counts were 120 at Concession Road 1 December 18 (CF) and 60 north of Port Rowan November 30 (JMc).

GRASSHOPPER SPARROW

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also accidental remainder of the year; *Special Concern (Canada and Ontario)*. Two very unusual winter records: one was on the Barrett-Sanderson Tract February 24 (SAM), and another was photographed at the bottom of West Quarter Line Road near the Wilson’s Tract December 27 (AT).



GRSP

CLAY-COLOURED SPARROW

Occ. J F M A M J J A S O N D

One territorial bird was along West Quarter Line Road May 11-16 (AT). Migrants were at the Long Point townsite May 1 (EC, NH), Old Cut May 2 (CBo, JaB) and May 13 (RR, SAM), Port Rowan May 7 (SAM), “New” Long Point PP May 27 (CBr), and the Tip May 2 (MAC) and October 23 (LG).

LARK SPARROW

Occasional J F M A M J J A S O N D

A definitive-cycle male was along West Quarter Line Road August 14 (AT, TM; multiple observers). This is the second report in as many years (previous record May 15, 2019).

FOX SPARROW

Common J F M A M J J A S O N D
Uncommon to rare J F M A M J J A S O N D

Also occasional January to February, September and December. One bird overwintered at South Coast Gardens near Turkey Point, lingering until at least February 26 (GB).

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW

Common J F M A M J J A S O N D
Uncommon J F M A M J J A S O N D

Also rare September and December; occasional January to April and June. There were a few overwintering birds, namely the two that were at Old Cut January 1 (HG). One was in “New” Long Point Provincial Park January 24 (SAM). A “Gambel’s” White-crowned Sparrow was banded at the Tip September 22 (MAC; MRI).

HARRIS’S SPARROW

Occasional J F M A M J J A S O N D

One was photographed at a feeder in Port Dover December 4 (MT). This is the second report in as many years (previous record May 16, 2019).

“OREGON” JUNCO

Occasional J F M A M J J A S O N D

One was caught at Old Cut December 1 (MAC); the first one banded since 2016.

LECONTE’S SPARROW

Occasional J F M A M J J A S O N D

One was observed at Old Cut May 16 (SAM), and another at the Tip September 23 (MAC).



FOSP



HASP



ORJU

SAVANNAH SPARROW

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional December; accidental January to February. There were a couple of rare winter observations: One was at the Barrett-Sanderson Tract January 8 (SAM), and along West Quarter Line Road January 19 (MJ).

EASTERN TOWHEE

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare January and December; occasional February. One bird overwintered at a feeder along West Quarter Line Road until January 22 (AT, TM). Another was found in Vittoria February 14 (SS1, WS). Two late-staying birds remained into December. One was near St. Williams (CF) and two were in the Big Creek valley (AT, MT, RR) December 19.

YELLOW-BREASTED CHAT

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Endangered (Canada and Ontario). One was at the Port Rowan wetlands May 18 (SAM). Two were at Breakwater, each on consecutive days; a female banded May 27 and an unbanded male observed on May 28 (AI, BB). An unusual fall migrant was at the Tip October 3 (KC, RL).



Yellow-breasted Chat

EASTERN MEADOWLARK

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Threatened (Canada and Ontario). Two were present at the Port Rowan Wetlands January 1 (ED). At least one of those birds persisted until spring (SAM, multiple observers).

YHBL

**YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD**Occ.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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One was observed at Big Creek NWA August 28 (JR). Single birds were at the Tip September 5-6 (AW, KC; multiple observers), the Port Rowan Wetlands September 28 (RV), and along Lakeshore Road October 5 (BF).

BALTIMORE ORIOLECommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Uncommon to rare

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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Two late records: one was at Old Cut October 3 (AW, KW); one was along West Quarter Line Road November 2 (AT).

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRDAbundant

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Common

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Also uncommon February. Long Point has tremendous fall roosts of icterids. During fall 2020 the major roosts were once again at Big Creek NWA where 1,000,000 red-wings were estimated on the evenings of October 16 (CF, SAM) and November 3 (SAM). The largest evening roost flight recorded at LPBO proper was 130,000 at Old Cut October 23 (LPBO); this was the single largest count of any species for the entire year.

RUBL

**RUSTY BLACKBIRD**Common

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Uncommon

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Also rare March; occasional January to February; Special Concern (Canada and Ontario). Overwintering birds were reported from the Port Rowan wetlands, Lakeshore Road, Port Royal, Lee Brown WMA, Big Creek NWA and “New” Long Point PP (multiple observers). Eight birds persisted to February 27 at Port Rowan (SAM). The high count for fall migration was 122 at Old Cut November 4 (MAC). Many thousands also help to comprise the massive icterid roosts, but they’re difficult to count. A conservative high count of 5 155 was counted at the Coves October 31 (TL).

COMMON GRACKLEAbundant

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Common

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Also uncommon January to February. As with Red-winged Blackbird, Long Point has enormous fall roosts of Common Grackles. 2,000,000 were estimated on the evening November 3 at Big Creek National Wildlife Area (SAM). The largest evening roost flight recorded at LPBO proper was 11,060 at Old Cut October 23 (LPBO).

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Threatened (Canada), Special Concern (Ontario). One was at the Tip May 30 (MT), and an unusual fall migrant was at the Tip September 30 (KC, RL).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare April; occasional October. A striking leucistic bird, a so-called “Isabelline” waterthrush, was caught and banded at Breakwater August 28 (MT, RL).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Threatened (Canada), Special Concern (Ontario). Possible territorial birds were at South Coast Gardens near Turkey Point May 15-25 (GB, ES, KK), and West Quarter Line Road May 15 (TM). Migrants were at Old Cut May 14 (BF), “New” Long Point PP May 23 (AB), the Tip May 24 (MAC), and Breakwater May 23 (LPBO) and September 3 and 5 (RL). Two of the Breakwater birds were banded.



“Isabelline” Northern Waterthrush



Golden-winged Warbler

LAWRENCE’S WARBLER

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

(Golden-winged Warbler x Blue-winged Warbler Hybrid). One was reported from “New” Long Point PP May 16 (eBird).



PROW

**PROTHONOTARY
WARBLER**

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Endangered (Canada and Ontario). Numerous territorial birds were in Backus Woods and along Big Creek (multiple observers). Migrants were along Hastings Drive May 23 (SAM, MJ) and Breakwater May 19 (AI, BB) and May 26 (BB). None were banded in 2020.

CERULEAN WARBLER

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Endangered (Canada and Ontario). Migrants were recorded along Hastings Drive May 23 (SAM; MJ), “New” Long Point Provincial Park May 24 (AT, KBu) and Old Cut May 24 (AW, SB) and May 25 (SMo). Very low numbers of territorial males were recorded in Backus Woods, St. Williams Conservation Reserve, the Swick-King Tracts and the Danylevitch Tract (multiple observers).

PALM WARBLER

Com. to uncom.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional April. Perhaps an overwintering bird or a maybe a very early migrant, one was in Port Rowan March 13 (SAM).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER

Rare to occ.	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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The only two spring records were along Hastings Drive May 23 (SAM) and “New” Long Point Provincial Park May 25 (RPO). Fall records were from Old Cut September 5 (LG, MCh) and September 26-29 (RL; multiple observers), Backus Woods September 6 (RoW), and Breakwater September 5, 6 and 9 (AW, RL). Three were banded in 2020: two at Old Cut and one at Breakwater.



Connecticut Warbler

KENTUCKY WARBLER

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

One was in “Old” Long Point Provincial Park May 24-25 (GW, RW; multiple observers). None were banded in 2020.

KIRTLAND’S WARBLER

Accidental all year. One was found at the Tip October 9 (MAC, RL). This is only the second fall record at LPBO ever.

PINE WARBLER

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon to rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also occasional remainder of the year. One overwintering bird was on Long Point around the vicinity of Old Cut from December 2019 to March 5 (multiple observers). A late-staying bird was at Turkey Point PP December 19 (PB).

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER

Common	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Also rare March and June to July; occasional remainder of the year. There were notable flights of 825 on October 3, and 2 085 October 1 at Old Cut, and 842 September 25 at the Tip (LPBO). The 2 085 sixth highest daily count at LPBO, and the largest since October 9, 2012.

YELLOW-THROATED WARBLER Occ.

J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

Three reports of spring overshoot migrants (all single birds): Wilson Tract May 2 (JS, RS, SSk), Old Cut May 14 (SAM), and Turkey Point PP May 23 (BCu). None were banded in 2020.

PRAIRIE WARBLER

Uncommon	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Four reports of single birds during spring migration: Breakwater May 19 (AI, BB), “New” Long Point PP May 25 (RPo), Breakwater May 27 (AI, BB) and Tip June 1 (MT). None were banded in 2020.



KEWA



PIWA



SUMMER TANAGER

Rare	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D

Single birds at Old Cut May 8 (SAM, RR) and June 3 (RL), and Port Ryerse May 17 (BCh). Two were at Breakwater May 25 (AI, BB). An unusual fall bird was found in a St. Williams backyard October 30 (RR). None were banded in 2020.

BLUE GROSBEAK

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
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A male put in a brief appearance at the Tip May 24 (SAM). This is the first record since April 27, 2017.

DICKCISSEL

Occasional	J	F	M	A	M	J	J	A	S	O	N	D
------------	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

One flew over the Tip June 1 (MAC), and one was observed in a St. Williams backyard November 7 (JMc).

OBSERVERS

Cody Bassindale (CB), Gregor Beck (GB), Patrick Berens (PB), Amanda Bichel (AB), Chris Boccia (CBo), James Boccia (JaB), Sarah Bonnett (SB), Judy Boone (JuB), Kathryn Boothby (KBo), Brendan Boyd (BB), Michael Bradstreet (MB), David Britton (DB), Courteney Brown (CBr), Ken Burrell (KBu), Kyle Cameron (KC), Ezra Campanelli (EC), Mathieu Charette (MCh), Abby Ciona (AC), Barb Charlton (BCh), Mark Conboy (MAC), Barry Coombs (BCo), Mike Cowland (MiC), Rob Crawford (RC), Bob Curry (BCu), Anna Dickson (ADi), Mark Dickson (MD), Hannah Dodington (HD), Andrew Don (ADo), Nancy Douglas (ND), Felix Eckley (FE), Rick Eckley (RE), Lucio Fazio (LF), Lucas Foerster (LFo), Stacie Foerster (SF), Jamie Fowler (JF), Lev Frid (LFr), Brett Fried (BF), Christian Friis (CF), Paula Gent (PG), Ted Gent (TG), Eric Giles (EG), Henny Giles (HG), Leanne Grieves (LG), Terri Groh (TG), Amanda Guercio (AG), Mike Hallett (MH), Brandon Holden (BH), Nathan Hood (NH), Jeremy Hussell (JH), Alex Israel (AI), Mourad Jabra (MJ), Rob Jantos (RJ), Kiah Jasper (KJ), Zach Kahn (ZK), Kevin Kavanagh (KK), Andrew Keaveney (AK), Eric Lamond (EL), Sarah Lamond (SL), William Lamond (WL), James Lees (JL), Denis Lepage (DL), Chris Leys (CL), Ryan Leys (RL), Michelle Locke (ML), Tim Lucas (TL), Stuart Mackenzie (SAM), Dan MacNeal (DaM), Desmond MacNeal (DeM), Taylor Marshall (TM), Jon McCracken (JMc), Nancy McPherson (NM), Janet Medelko (JMe), Marvin Medelko (MM), Steve Moore (SMo), Mike Norton (MN), Kelly-Sue O'Connor (KO), Henrique Pacheco (HP), Rob Palin (RPa), Rob Porter (RPo), Michael Preston (MP), Steven Price (SP), George Prieksaitis (GP), Colleen Reilly (CR), Ron Ridout (RR), Daniel Riley (DR), Garth Riley (GR), Joeli Roberston (JR), Raymond Roth (RRo), Denby Sadler (DS), Kevin Seymour (KS), Evan Sinclair (ES), Jeff Skevington (JS), Richard Skevington (RS), Sharron Skevington (SSk), Steve Slaven (SSl), Wendy Slaven (WS), Laurie Stacey (LS), Chris Street (CS), Greg Stuart (GS), Adam Timpf (AT), Matt Timpf (MT), Dave Trumbell (DT), Ron Valentine (RV), Josh Vandermeulen (JV), Jim Watt (JW), Andrew Wiebe (AW), Kara Wiebe (KW), Kerrie Wilcox (KW), Steve Wilcox (SW), Amy Wilson (AW), Bob Wood (BW), Graham Wood (GW), Ross Wood (RW), Rob Woods (RoW), and Long Point Bird Observatory personnel (LPBO).

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Canadian Migration
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Appendix 1

LPBO's 2020 banding totals for the Old Cut, Breakwater, and the Tip research stations, plus other banding outside of the standard migration monitoring period.

Species & forms	SPRING				FALL				TRES	Grand Total
	Old Cut	Breakwater	Tip	Subtotal	Old Cut	Breakwater	Tip	Subtotal		
Acadian Flycatcher					1			1		1
American Goldfinch	5	36	7	48	38	11	26	75	2	125
American Redstart	11	22	13	46	162	46	7	215	1	262
American Robin	22	1	9	32	13			13		45
American Woodcock					1			1		1
American Tree Sparrow	2			2	4		1	5	32	39
Baltimore Oriole	8	18	167	193		2		2		195
Barn Swallow		1		1						1
Black-and-white Warbler	3	3	5	11	22	4	1	27		38
Black-billed Cuckoo	1			1		3	2	5		6
Bay-breasted Warbler		3	6	9	47	9	15	71		80
Black-capped Chickadee	1			1	41		17	58	1	60
Belted Kingfisher			2	2			1	1	1	4
Brown-headed Cowbird	9	6	34	49	8		3	11	18	78
Blue-headed Vireo	1	2	3	6	30		9	39		45
Blackburnian Warbler		4	7	11	14	5	1	20		31
Blue Jay	5	17	109	131	5			5		136
Blackpoll Warbler	1	9	8	18	123	18	48	189	1	208
Brown Creeper	62			62	52		50	102		164
Brown Thrasher	3	2	9	14	5		1	6		20
Black-throated Blue Warbler	8	3	1	12	93	6	6	105	1	118
Black-throated Green Warbler		1	3	4	64	3	1	68		72
Blue-winged Warbler		2	2	4						4
Carolina Wren	1	3		4	8	3	1	12		16
Canada Warbler	1		4	5	11	2	1	14		19
Cedar Waxwing		40	25	65	10			10		75
Chipping Sparrow	3	4	21	28	1		10	11		39
Cape May Warbler		2	4	6	41	5	6	52		58
Common Grackle		14		14	42	5		47		61
Connecticut Warbler					2	1		3		3
Common Yellowthroat	9	15	5	29	54	6	11	71		100
Chestnut-sided Warbler	2	6	5	13	25	4	1	30		43
Downy Woodpecker	1			1	13	1	7	21		22

Eastern Bluebird	1	1	2					8	10
Eastern Kingbird	3	7	10	1			1		11
Eastern Phoebe	12	1	2	15	14	2	9	25	40
Eastern Screech-Owl						1	1		1
Eastern Towhee	7			7	5			5	12
Eastern Wood-Pewee	1	2	10	13	18	1	8	27	40
E. White-crowned Sparrow	1	4	40	45	27		72	99	144
European Starling	4	1	5	10			3	3	13
Evening Grosbeak					2			2	2
Field Sparrow	1	2	9	12		1	17	18	30
Fox Sparrow	4			4	11		2	13	17
Great Crested Flycatcher	1	1	1	3	1	2		3	4
Golden-crowned Kinglet	57			57	280		86	366	423
Greater Yellowlegs							1	1	1
Grey-cheeked Thrush		3	4	7	63	3	3	69	76
Grey Catbird	24	40	37	101	129	4	2	135	1
G. White-crowned Sparrow							1	1	1
Golden-winged Warbler		1		1		1		1	2
Hairy Woodpecker		1		1					1
Hermit Thrush	37		1	38	191		35	226	264
House Finch	2			2	13			13	15
House Sparrow	18			18	174			174	66
Hooded Warbler			2	2					2
House Wren	4	3	13	20	49	8	1	58	9
Indigo Bunting		22	12	34	5	6	1	12	46
Least Flycatcher	5	13	34	52	21	30	11	62	114
Lincoln's Sparrow	3	3	10	16	10			10	26
Loggerhead Shrike			1	1					1
Magnolia Warbler	11	41	21	73	184	35	11	230	303
Marsh Wren			1	1	3	1		4	5
Merlin			1	1					1
Mourning Dove		2		2	3	1	1	5	7
Mourning Warbler		4	1	5	3		1	4	9
Myrtle Warbler	5	2	3	10	1305		97	1402	1412
Nashville Warbler	2	7	4	13	97	21	6	124	1
Northern Cardinal	16		5	21	61	1	5	67	2
Northern Mockingbird			2	2					2
Northern Parula			3	3	51		1	52	55
Northern Waterthrush	2	5	2	9	29	8	3	40	49
N. Rough-winged Swallow		1		1					1
Northern Saw-whet Owl					58		37	95	95
Orange-crowned Warbler					13			13	13
Orchard Oriole		1	11	12		2		2	14
Oregon Junco									1
Ovenbird	2	2	9	13	31	8	2	41	54
Philadelphia Vireo		4	5	9	30	4		34	43
Pine Siskin					15		13	28	1

Pine Warbler					1			1			1
Purple Finch					25		6	31			31
Purple Martin									60		60
Rose-breasted Grosbeak		20	17	37	18	4	1	23			60
Red-breasted Nuthatch			4	4	91	7	45	143	1		148
Red-bellied Woodpecker		2	3	5	1			1			6
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	51		9	60	498		104	602			662
Red-eyed Vireo		23	21	44	192	45	10	247			291
Red-headed Woodpecker		2	8	10							10
Rusty Blackbird					4			4			4
Red-winged Blackbird	157	57	117	331	30	11	34	75	7		413
Savannah Sparrow			4	4			1	1			5
Slate-coloured Junco	40			40	67		58	125	14		179
Scarlet Tanager	1	1	1	3	5	1		6			9
Song Sparrow	16	6	8	30	19	1	18	38	1		69
Sharp-shinned Hawk					3		3	6			6
Swamp Sparrow	8		2	10	36		5	41	2		53
Swainson's Thrush	4	10	45	59	373	45	24	442	1		502
Tennessee Warbler		9	2	11	93	39	4	136			147
Tree Swallow	1	9	1	11					872		883
Traill's Flycatcher	2	10	18	30	23	7	5	35			65
Tufted Titmouse							1	1			1
Veery	1	1	2	4	32	10	8	50	1		55
Warbling Vireo	1	9	1	11	59	13	1	73			84
White-breasted Nuthatch					3		4	7			7
White-crowned Sparrow					2			2			2
White-eyed Vireo							1	1			1
Worm-eating Warbler											0
Wilson's Warbler		7		7	23	4	2	29			36
Winter Wren	5		2	7	20		6	26			33
Wood Thrush	1	2	5	8	8			8			16
Western Palm Warbler					32		16	48			48
White-throated Sparrow	79	1	19	99	332		25	357	2		458
White-winged Crossbill				0	2			2			2
Yellow-breasted Chat		1		1							1
Yellow-billed Cuckoo			1	1		3	1	4			5
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	4	4	13	21	22	10	6	38			59
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	1			1	11		5	16			17
Yellow Warbler	10	72	36	118	55	6		61			179
Yellow-shafted Flicker					4		1	5			5
Total	760	630	1 045	2 435	5 910	480	1 051	7 441	1 111		11,390



Long Point Bird Observatory
P.O. Box 160, 115 Front St.
Port Rowan ON, Canada N0E 1M0

birdscanada.org/LPBO
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