# CHALEUR VENTUS WIND ENERGY **PROJECT**

# APPENDIX G - AVIAN SURVEY REPORT, RESIDUAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND **DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE**

CHALEUR VENTUS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP







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CHALEUR VENTUS LIMITED PARTNERSHIP

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## 1 INTRODUCTION

Wind farms in New Brunswick represent some of the largest such projects in Atlantic Canada, currently having over 294 megawatts (MW) in wind generating capacity (The Maritimes Energy Association, 2019). The government of New Brunswick is committed to increasing the amount of electricity from new renewable sources in New Brunswick to 40% by 2020 (The Maritimes Energy Association, 2019).

Rapid growth and expansion of windfarms, in general, has an increasingly significant effect on birds particularly resulting from the increase in average wind turbine size. Bird collisions are likely to increase with turbine height because as turbines increase in size, the blades reach higher into the average "flight zone" of nocturnal migrating birds. Because a wind energy facility could potentially put birds at risk through collisions with wind turbines, and through alteration of breeding and stop-over habitat, comprehensive studies are required to assess the risk to birds and to identify site-specific mitigation measures. Therefore, this report provides a summary of the Avian Studies completed in support of the Chaleur Ventus Wind Energy Project (Project) Registration Document that was submitted to with the Sustainable Development, Planning and Impact Evaluation Branch, Department of Environment and Local Government in September of 2019.

#### 1.1 PROJECT OVERVIEW

Chaleur Ventus Limited Partnership (CVLP) is proposing the development of the Project. The Project is located on privately owned land south of route 303 in Gloucester County, New Brunswick, and will have an aggregate electrical capacity of 20 megawatts (MW). The Project will consist of five wind energy converters (WECs), access roads, collection system, substation, and associated temporary laydown areas required for construction. An approximate 9 kilometre (km) transmission line is proposed that runs south and southwest from the Project area to a proposed substation that will be located on Crown land approximately 2.8 km southeast of Saint-Leolin.

The Project is expected to consist of Enercon E-126 WECs with a nominal power of 4 MW. Each assembly will consist of the tower, hub, nacelle, rotor blades, and controller, with a total height of 179.5 to 194.5 metres (m) and is dependant on WEC availability from Enercon. The total WEC rotor diameter will be 127 m. It is anticipated that each WEC will be erected on a concrete foundation. The dimensions, depth, and type of foundation will depend on an evaluation of the local soil, surficial geology characteristics, wind forces at the location, and site-specific details of each location.

## 2 METHODS

#### 2.1 STUDY AREAS

Two study areas were selected for the 2018 and 2019 field programs. The WEC Site includes the five WEC locations selected for the Project and one alternative WEC location. The Collection Line includes the tapline portion of the collection system.

#### 2.2 PRIORITY SPECIES

A detailed desktop evaluation to determine the potential for the presence of priority species within the Project area and its immediate surroundings was completed prior to the development of field programs with the purpose of advising survey requirements and their associated methods. Priority species within 5 km of the Project, and

environmentally sensitive and protected areas are described in Section 4.8.3 and Section 4.9 of the Registration Document.

For the purpose of this report, priority species include the following:

- A Species at Risk (SAR) is any species which is listed as Endangered, Threatened or of Special Concern under the federal *Species at Risk Act* (*SARA*; 2002, c.29) (Government of Canada, 2002) and any species listed as Endangered, Threatened or Special Concern under the New Brunswick *Species at Risk Act* (*NB SARA*; S.N.B. 2012, c.6);
- Species of conservation concern (SOCC) are species listed as S1-S3S4 (provincial rarity rankings or S-Rank) by the Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC; Table 1).

**Table 1 ACCDC S-Rank definitions** 

S-RANK	DEFINITION
SX	<b>Presumed Extirpated</b> - Species or community is believed to be extirpated from the province. Not located despite intensive searches of historical sites and other appropriate habitat, and virtually no likelihood that it will be rediscovered.
S1	<b>Critically Imperiled</b> - Critically imperiled in the province because of extreme rarity (often 5 or fewer occurrences) or because of some factor(s) such as very steep declines making it especially vulnerable to extirpation from the state/province.
S2	<b>Imperiled</b> - Imperiled in the province because of rarity due to very restricted range, very few populations (often 20 or fewer), steep declines, or other factors making it very vulnerable to extirpation from the nation or state/province.
S3	<b>Vulnerable</b> - Vulnerable in the province due to a restricted range, relatively few populations (often 80 or fewer), recent and widespread declines, or other factors making it vulnerable to extirpation.
S4	Apparently Secure - Uncommon but not rare; some cause for long-term concern due to declines or other factors.
S5	Secure - Common, widespread, and abundant in the province.
SNR	Unranked - Nation or state/province conservation status not yet assessed.
SU	<b>Unrankable</b> - Currently unrankable due to lack of information or due to substantially conflicting information about status or trends.
SNA	<b>Not Applicable</b> - A conservation status rank is not applicable because the species is not a suitable target for conservation activities.
S#S#	Range Rank - A numeric range rank (e.g., S2S3) is used to indicate any range of uncertainty about the status of the species or community. Ranges cannot skip more than one rank (e.g., SU is used rather than S1S4).
SH	Possibly Extirpated (Historical) - Species or community occurred historically in the nation or state/province, and there is some possibility that it may be rediscovered. Its presence may not have been verified in the past 20-40 years. A species or community could become SH without such a 20 to 40 year delay if the only known occurrences in a province were destroyed or if it had been extensively and unsuccessfully looked for. The SH rank is reserved for species or communities for which some effort has been made to relocate occurrences, rather than simply using this status for all elements not known from verified extant occurrences.
Not Provided	Species is not known to occur in the province.

Source: ACCDC, 2018

#### 2.3 SCOPE OF FIELD INVESTIGATIONS

Tables 2 and 3 present summaries of the avian field investigations that were conducted in 2018 and 2019 for the Project.

Table 2 Summary of Avian Field Investigations Completed at the WEC Site in 2018 and 2019

SEASON	FIELD SURVEY DATES	MONITORING BEHAVIOUR	SURVEY METHODS	HABITAT INVESTIGATED ON PROPERTY	EFFORT	FINDINGS (PRIORITY SPECIES)
Fall	August 14 to October 10th, 2018	Fall migration	Line transects (stopover count)	All available habitat types	8 visits*; one survey weekly	Bald Eagle, Ring-billed Gull and Spotted Sandpiper.
Fall	August 13 to October 23, 2018	Fall migration	Watch counts (passage migration)	Counts from suitable vantage points	10 visits**; one survey weekly	Bald Eagle, Evening Grosbeak, Peregrine Falcon, Snow Goose, Spotted Sandpiper and Wilson's Snipe.
Winter	January to March, 2019	Winter residents	Line transects	All available habitat types	3 visits; monthly from January to March	Pine Grosbeak and Pine Siskin.
Spring	April 6 to May 29, 2019	Spring migration	Line transects (stopover count)	All available habitat types	10 visits; one survey weekly	Bald Eagle, Cape May Warbler, Evening Grosbeak, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Pine Siskin, Rusty Blackbird and Wilson's Snipe.
Spring	April 7 to May 28, 2019	Spring migration	Watch counts (passage migration)	Counts from suitable vantage points	10 visits; one survey weekly	Bald Eagle, Cape May Warbler, Pine Siskin, Redhead, Rusty Blackbird, Spotted Sandpiper, Turkey Vulture, and Wilson's Snipe.
Spring	May 12 and 28, 2019	Nocturnal owl	Call playback at count stations	Forested habitats	2 visits	No priority species observed.
Summer	June 17 and July 3, 2019	Common Nighthawk	Passive (6-minute) count stations	Open habitats	2 visits	No priority species observed.
Summer	June 13, 14, and 18; July 3 to 4, 2019	Breeding birds	10-minute point counts	All available habitat types	2 visits	Bank Swallow, Blackpoll Warbler, Canada Warbler, Pine Siskin and Spotted Sandpiper.

Notes: \*Line transect surveys were not conducted the week of September 25 to 29, 2018, because of moose hunting season – there was evidence of moose hunting on-site: hide in clearcut. Line transect surveys were not conducted after a gunshot was heard within the WEC Site on October 10, 2018 – the team decided it was not safe to continue line transect surveys beyond this date due to frequent hunting activity being observed. \*\* Watch count surveys were not conducted the week of September 25 to 29, 2018, because of moose hunting season; Line transect surveys were not conducted the week of August 27th due to poor weather conditions

Table 3 Summary of Avian Field Investigations Completed Along the Collection Line in 2019

SEASON	FIELD SURVEY DATES	MONITORING BEHAVIOUR	SURVEY METHODS	HABITAT INVESTIGATED ON PROPERTY	EFFORT	FINDINGS (PRIORITY SP.)
Spring	May 13, 2019	Nocturnal owl	Call playback at count stations	Forested habitats	2 visits	No priority species observed.
Summer	June 18 and July 4, 2019	Common Nighthawk	Passive (6-minute) count stations	Open habitats	2 visits	Common Nighthawk and incidental Canada Warbler.
Summer	June 18-19 and July 5 to 6, 2019	Breeding birds (incl. Rusty Blackbirds)	10-minute point counts and call- playback for Rusty Blackbirds at stations with suitable habitat	All available habitat types	2 visits	Cape May Warbler, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Pine Siskin, Spotted Sandpiper and Wilson's Snipe.

For the purpose of this report, birds have been divided into seven groups:

- Waterfowl: Ducks, geese, or other large aquatic birds, especially when regarded as game.
- **Shorebirds:** Waders; from the Order Charadriiformes
- Other waterbirds: Includes seabirds (i.e., marine birds), grebes (Order Podicipediformes), loons (Order Gaviiformes), Ciconiiformes (e.g., herons, egrets, and ibises), pelicans (Order Pelicaniformes), Gruiformes (i.e., cranes and rails), kingfishers. gulls and dippers (the only family of passerines considered waterbirds).
- **Diurnal raptors:** Birds within the families Accipitridae (e.g., hawks, eagles, and harriers), Pandidonidae (i.e. Osprey), Falconidae (i.e. falcons), Cathartidae (i.e., new world vultures), and one species from the Order Strigiformes (i.e., Hawk Owl).
- **Nocturnal raptors:** Birds of the Order Strigiformes (i.e., owls; with exception of the Hawk Owl, which is a diurnal species of owl).
- Passerines: Any bird of the Order Passeriformes, which includes more than half of all bird species. This is with exception of the dippers, which are a passerine considered a waterbird.
- Other landbirds: Birds within the Orders Galliformes (i.e., quail, pheasant, and grouse), Columbiformes (i.e., pigeons and doves), Cuculiformes (i.e., cuckoos), Caprimulgiformes (i.e., nighthawks and whip-poor-wills), Apodiformes (i.e., swifts and hummingbirds), and Piciformes (i.e., woodpeckers, flickers and sapsuckers).

#### 2.4 FALL AND SPRING MIGRATION

Fall migration surveys were conducted between August 15th and October 31st, 2018, and spring migration surveys were conducted between April 6th and June 4, 2019. Three 1,600 m line transects (T1 to T3) and two vantage point watch count stations (VP1 and VP2) were selected to reflect habitat availability within the Project area (see Appendix B, Figure B-1). Survey effort is presented in Section 2.3, Tables 2 and 3.

#### 2.4.1 LINE TRANSECTS

Three parallel 1,600 m line transects were placed within the WEC Site so that all habitat types were represented within the sample and so that the transects went through or near the proposed turbine locations. All birds heard were recorded and distances were estimated perpendicular to the transect line. Surveys were completed during 8 separate site visits in the fall (2018) and 10 visits in the spring (2019), and began at sunrise and continued till around noon. For each line transect, a record was made of the start and end times, and a hand-held GPS unit was used to georeference its location (UTM NAD83). General observations, including the temperature, visibility, wind speed and direction, and date were also recorded. Species recorded between transects, and outside of the survey window were recorded as incidentals. Bearings (in degrees) were taken for priority species observed during dedicated survey periods, as well as incidentally.

#### 2.4.2 VANTAGE POINT WATCH COUNTS

Vantage point watch counts provide data that can be used to give an overview of bird usage within the site, as well as quantify the level of flight activity and distribution over the Project area. Sites were selected that had open landscapes allowing for a clear view of the surrounding airspace. The vantage point watch stations are described in Table 4.

**Table 4 Locations and Site Descriptions of Vantage Point Watch Counts** 

STATION	COORDINATES (UTM NAD83)	SITE DESCRIPTION
VP1	20T 342391m E 5297913m N	Gravel pit with a large clear-cut to the west. Other directions are forested.
VP2	20T 343758m E 5298011m N	Gravel pit/dirt bike recreation area surrounded by forest.
VP1	20T 342391m E 5297913m N	Gravel pit with a large clear-cut to the west. Other directions are forested.

These surveys started at 9 am and continued for 6 hours (3 hours at each station); station start times were alternated at each visit. All bird species encountered (by ear or sight) at each location during the surveys were recorded on standard bird monitoring field forms. For each station, a record was made of the start and end times, and a hand-held GPS unit was used to geo-reference its location (UTM NAD83). General observations, including the temperature, visibility, date, distance from vantage point (m), bearing, flight height (m), and flight direction were also recorded. Flight height was recorded within three categories relative to rotor swept area, these are presented in Table 5.

Table 5 Flight Height Relative to Rotor Swept Area

FLIGHT HEIGHT	DESCRIPTION
0-50 m	Below rotor swept area
51-180 m	Within rotor swept area
>180 m	Above rotor swept area

Note: The rotor swept area is considered 5 to 180 m for the 116 m hub height turbines that were defined at the time of the field survey.

#### 2.5 WINTER BIRDS

Three line transects (see Appendix B, Figure B-2) were placed within the WEC Site so that all habitat types were represented within the sample and so that the transects passed through or near the proposed turbine locations. All birds heard were recorded and distances were estimated perpendicular to the transect line (Gregory, Gibbons, & Donald, 2004). Surveys were completed during three separate site visits and began at sunrise and continued till around noon. For each line transect, a record was made of the start and end times, and a hand-held GPS unit was used to geo-reference its location (UTM NAD83). General observations, including the temperature, visibility, wind speed and direction, and date were also recorded. Species recorded between transects, and outside of the survey window were recorded as incidentals. Bearings (in degrees) were taken for priority species observed during dedicated survey periods, as well as incidentally.

#### 2.6 NOCTURNAL OWL

Call playback survey method was used at 10 pre-determined stations (see Appendix B, Figures B-3 and B-4) within the WEC Site (n=5) and along the Collection Line (n=5) to listen for nocturnal owls on May 12, 13 and 28, 2019. The Guidelines for Nocturnal Owl Monitoring in North America (Takats et al., 2001) was used as a guide for developing the survey methods. Broadcasting stations were placed approximately 1 km apart to reduce the chances of detecting the same owl at multiple stations. The call playback survey consists of silent listening periods followed by owl calls that last approximately two to three minutes. Field staff made a conscious effort to access these broadcast stations as quietly as possible, as well as to keep quiet at each station to minimize the possibility of "spooking" avian species present in the area. Owls were recorded at the estimated actual distance and bearing (in degrees) from the broadcast station to where they were first heard calling.

#### 2.7 BREEDING BIRD

Two survey types were employed within the Project area to determine species composition and relative abundance of breeding birds including: Breeding Bird Point Count Survey (North American Breeding Bird Survey, 2018) and Common Nighthawk (*Chordeiles minor*) Survey (WildResearch, 2018). The methods for these surveys are described in the following sections. See Appendix B, Figures B-5 to B-8 for point count station locations.

#### 2.7.1 BREEDING BIRD POINT COUNT SURVEY (WEC SITE)

Two rounds of surveys for breeding birds were conducted on June 13, 14 and 18 (early breeders), and July 3 to 4, 2019, at 32 point count stations within the WEC Site (see Appendix B; Figure B-5). Survey station locations were identified using stratified random sampling to ensure proper habitat coverage and an unbiased estimate of relative densities of species within the Project area. Survey station locations and habitat descriptions are presented in Table 6.

Surveys began at, or within, half an hour of sunrise and were completed within 4.5 hours or by 10:00 a.m., whichever occurred first. Weather conditions (e.g., precipitation and visibility) were monitored and confirmed to be within the parameters required by monitoring programs such as Environment and Climate Change Canada's Breeding Bird Survey. Bird observations were recorded at estimated exact distances and flyovers. For each point count, a record was made of the start and end times and a hand-held GPS unit was used to geo-reference its location (UTM NAD83). General observations, including the temperature, visibility, wind speed and date were also recorded. Species recorded outside of the 100-m radius, between point counts, outside of the 10-minute survey window and flyovers were recorded as incidentals. Bearings (in degrees) were taken for priority observed during dedicated survey periods and incidentally.

Table 6 Breeding Bird Point Count Station Locations and Habitat Descriptions for the WEC Site

STATION	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	HABITAT
WETL-1	20T	342375	5296334	Mixedwood treed swamp
WETL-2	20T	344055	5297827	Black Spruce bog
WETL-3	20T	343560	5297690	Black spruce swamp; taller trees
WETL-4	20T	343509	5298372	Mixedwood treed swamp
WETL-5	20T	342436	5298515	Cedar swamp, taller trees
WETL-6	20T	342041	5297892	Black spruce swamp, stunted trees
WETL-7	20T	342540	5297280	Cedar swamp, no shrubby understory
WETL-8	20T	343092	5297785	Alder/deciduous regen. swamp
HARD-1	20T	342999	5298111	Medium-aged deciduous forest
HARD-2	20T	343264	5298817	Mature hardwoods, some coniferous
HARD-3	20T	342293	5296977	Medium and mature-aged deciduous/mixedwood
MHARD-1	20T	342644	5296891	Medium and mature-aged mixedwood
MIX-1	20T	343276	5297962	Medium-aged mixedwood
MIX-2	20T	342763	5297971	Medium and mature-aged mixedwood
MMIX-1	20T	341418	5298713	Mature-aged mixedwood
WT-1	20T	342292	5297228	Mature-aged mixedwood
WT-2	20T	342186	5297620	Regenerating clear-cut surrounded by medium and mature-aged mixedwood
WT-3	20T	342241	5298056	Regenerating clear-cut surrounded by medium and mature-aged mixed forest
WT-4	20T	342853	5298433	Regenerating mixedwood
WT-5	20T	343354	5298620	Medium-aged deciduous forest
WT-6	20T	343659	5298155	Medium and mature-aged mixedwood
WT-7	20T	343800	5297765	Small dump surrounded by medium-aged deciduous forest
CC-1	20T	342296	5297823	Young deciduous regenerating forest
CC-2	20T	343746	5297964	Small quarry surrounded by medium-aged hardwoods
FP-1	20T	341254	5298532	Young coniferous forest, spaced
AGR-1	20T	342066	5296860	Blueberry fields
RES-1	20T	344140	5299180	Residential, scattered shrubs, tree line to west
IND-1	20T	342442	5297940	Old road quarry, scrub deciduous, surrounded by medium-aged mixedwood
SOFT-1	20T	342391	5296596	Small softwood stand surrounded by medium-aged deciduous trees
SOFT-2	20T	342152	5297439	Medium and mature-aged fir forest
W-1	20T	343175	5298414	Small pond surrounded by medium-aged deciduous trees
UNCL-1	20T	342844	5299108	Alders mixed with regeneration deciduous trees

Note: Habitats described in this table are those observed within a 100-m radius of the point-count station.

#### 2.7.2 BREEDING BIRD POINT COUNT SURVEY (COLLECTION LINE)

Two rounds of surveys for breeding birds were conducted on June 18 to 19 (early breeders), and July 5 to 6, 2019, at 24 point count stations along the Collection Line (see Appendix B; Figure B-6). Because this was a linear survey, survey station locations were placed approximately every 250 to 300 m along the Collection Line. Survey station locations and habitat descriptions are presented in Table 7.

Surveys began at, or within, half an hour of sunrise and were completed within 4.5 hours or by 10:00 a.m., whichever occurred first. Weather conditions (e.g., precipitation and visibility) were monitored and confirmed to be within the parameters required by monitoring programs such as Environment and Climate Change Canada's

Breeding Bird Survey. Bird observations were recorded at estimated exact distances and flyovers. For each point count, a record was made of the start and end times and a hand-held GPS unit was used to geo-reference its location (UTM NAD83). General observations, including the temperature, visibility, wind speed and date were also recorded. Species recorded outside of the 100-m radius, between point counts, outside of the 10-minute survey window and flyovers were recorded as incidentals. Bearings (in degrees) were taken for priority observed during dedicated survey periods and incidentally.

Table 7 Breeding Bird Point Count Station Locations and Habitat Descriptions Along the Collection Line

STATION	ZONE	EASTING	NORTHING	НАВІТАТ
1	20T	342378.39	5296793.35	Small field surrounded by mixedwood
2	20T	342195.54	5296470.47	Mature mixedwood near houses
3	20T	341929.87	5296348.26	Medium and mature-aged deciduous forest and mixedwood
4	20T	341645.30	5296253.38	Small field surrounded by medium and mature-aged mixedwood
5	20T	341360.79	5296158.41	Field surrounded by mature mixedwood
6	20T	341080.25	5296052.55	Mature hardwood near field
7	20T	340802.07	5295940.52	Medium and mature-aged mixedwood
8	20T	340344.80	5295756.03	Medium and mature-aged mixedwood near small field
9	20T	340164.01	5295510.44	Medium-aged hardwood
10	20T	340251.35	5295223.53	Medium and mature-aged deciduous forest
11	20T	340338.47	5294936.52	Mature deciduous forest and mixedwood
12	20T	340425.60	5294649.51	Medium-aged mixedwood
13	20T	340512.74	5294362.50	Medium-aged mixedwood
14	20T	340599.89	5294075.50	Mature-aged mixedwood
15	20T	340687.06	5293788.49	Conifererous swamp
16	20T	340450.11	5293696.70	Medium and mature-aged deciduous forest
17	20T	340209.33	5293597.12	Young-aged deciduous regenerative forest
18	20T	340027.03	5293364.36	Mature-aged mixedwood
19	20T	340034.90	5293068.41	Mature-aged mixedwood
20	20T	339938.62	5292791.02	Medium and mature-aged mixedwood
21	20T	339780.22	5292542.93	Medium and mature-aged mixedwood
22	20T	339649.88	5292279.39	Medium-aged mixedwood
23	20T	339520.02	5291830.32	Blueberry fields surrounded by medium and mature-aged coniferous forest
24	20T	339536.86	5291558.15	Power corridor surrounded by medium and mature-aged coniferous forest

#### 2.7.3 COMMON NIGHTHAWK SURVEY

The Canadian Nightjar Survey Protocol (WildResearch, 2018) and other provincial survey protocols for Common Nighthawks (Saskatchewan Ministry of Environment, 2015) were used to inform the development of methods for Common Nighthawk surveys within the Study Area.

Common Nighthawks are evenly distributed throughout New Brunswick, with the greatest probability of observing them being throughout central New Brunswick in areas managed for timber harvest (Stewart et al., 2015). However, like most aerial insectivores, their numbers have been declining and the species has been listed as Threatened in Schedule 1 of the federal *SARA*, Special Concern under COSEWIC, Threatened under the *NB SARA*, and ACCDC S3B, S4M. Reasons for their decline include declines in the insect population, alteration and loss of habitat, increased terrestrial predators and climatic fluctuations (COSEWIC, 2007).

Passive count stations were placed within suitable breeding habitat for Common Nighthawks within the WEC Site and along the Collection Line (see Appendix B, Figure B-7 and B-8). Common Nighthawks are a crepuscular species; thus, they are most active at dawn and dusk (Brigham et al., 2011). Surveys began at half-an-hour before

sunset and ended at an hour after sunset. Stations were spaced at least 800 m apart and all Common Nighthawks seen or heard within 400 m of the survey station were recorded. Birds detected beyond 400 m were recorded, but as incidental observations. A six-minute passive point count was conducted at each station. For each station, a record was made of the start and end times, and a hand-held GPS unit was used to geo-reference its location (UTM NAD83). General observations, including the temperature, visibility, wind speed, background noise, cloud cover, moon visibility, and date were also recorded.

### 3 RESULTS

Incidental observations are not included in total counts for individuals observed or total number of species observed. Additional species observed are noted in the text, but not included in tables in this section. For a complete list of species observed (including incidental observations), see Appendix A, Tables A-1 and A-2.

#### 3.1 PRIORITY SPECIES

A total of 107 species were observed within the WEC Site and 62 species were observed along the Collection Line; these numbers include incidental observations. In total, 18 priority species including 8 SAR and 10 SOCC were observed across all avian surveys related to the Project. SAR are discussed individually in the following sections.

#### 3.1.1 BALD EAGLE

The Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) is designated as "Endangered" under *NB SARA*. There is no Recovery Strategy for the Bald Eagle.

The Bald Eagle is widespread across the Maritimes, with most observations in New Brunswick being from the Valley Lowlands, particularly along the Saint John River Valley. The Bald Eagle has adapted to a wide range of habitats, exploiting aquatic and grassland habitats throughout the Maritimes. In the Maritimes it is most strongly associated with open-water habitats. (Stewart et al., 2015)

A total of four Bald Eagles were observed moving through the WEC Site during the spring (n=2) and fall migration (n=12) periods. No large stick nests were observed along the Collection Line or within the WEC Site.

#### 3.1.2 BANK SWALLOW

The Bank Swallow (*Riparia riparia*) is designated as "Threatened" under Schedule 1 of *SARA* and COSEWIC. ACCDC ranks the Bank Swallow as a SOCC, both the breeding (S2S3B) and the aggregating transient (i.e., during the migratory period; S2S3M) populations within the province, which are ranked as "Imperiled to Vulnerable". There is no Recovery Strategy for the Bank Swallow.

The Bank Swallow is a Holarctic species; thus, its range includes all areas south of the tree line, east of the Rockies, and north of the southern deserts and plains. In the Maritimes, Bank Swallows are most abundant along the alluvial shorelines and open areas of Prince Edward Island and the Northumberland Strait. In this part of its range, it is most strongly associated with coastal habitats such as beaches and dunes and with other open foraging areas, such as cultivated grasslands, bare lands, and bogs. Along will other aerial insectivores, the reasons for this species' decline is unknown, however the loss of nesting habitat due to coastal development and shoreline erosion from increasingly severe storms, may be one regional, contributing factor. (Stewart et al., 2015)

Eight Bank Swallows (i.e., four observed during dedicated survey and four incidentally) were observed calling within the WEC Site during the breeding bird surveys on June 13th and July 3rd, 2019, near stations Mix-1, Wetl-8, W-1 and Wetl-8 (Figure B-5). There is no known breeding habitat for Bank Swallows within the Project area, therefore they were likely just passing through.

#### 3.1.3 CANADA WARBLER

The Canada Warbler (*Cardellina canadensis*) is designated as "Threatened" under Schedule 1 of *SARA*, COSEWIC and *NB SARA*. ACCDC ranks the Canada Warbler as a SOCC, specifically the breeding (S3B) and aggregating transient (S3M) populations within the province, which is are both ranked as "Vulnerable".

Most of the Canada Warbler's breeding range is within Canada, extending from the Maritimes across the Northern Forests and patchily down the Appalachians. In the Maritimes, the Canada Warbler is widely distributed. The species is associated with mature cedar swamps and other wet habitats such as beaver ponds and forested wetlands, as well as with complex, mature or regenerating mixed forests, partial cuts, and shrublands. Forest structural diversity appears to be more important than tree species composition. Factors associated with the decline of the Canada warbler include forestry practices that reduce available understorey, as well as the degradation or loss of forested wetlands. (Stewart et al., 2015)

One Canada Warbler was heard singing during the breeding bird survey on the WEC site at station Wetl-8, which is in an alder and regenerating deciduous treed swamp. Another single Canada Warbler was observed incidentally during the Common Nighthawk survey along the collection line near CONI-10 in a treed swamp on June 18, 2019. The species was observed in suitable breeding habitat; thus, it is likely breeding within the Project area.

#### 3.1.4 COMMON NIGHTHAWK

The Common Nighthawk is designated as "Threatened" under Schedule 1 of *SARA* and *NB SARA*, and as Special Concern under COSEWIC. ACCDC ranks the Common Nighthawk as a SOCC, specifically the breeding (S3B) population within the province, which is ranked as "Vulnerable".

The Common Nighthawk is broadly and evenly distributed through the Maritimes, though is absent from the Cape Breton Highlands and much of Prince Edward Island (Stewart et al., 2015). In Canada, this species has shown both long (4.2% per year decline from 1968 to 2005) and short-term (6.6% per year from 1995 to 2005) declines in population, according to data from the Breeding Bird Survey (BBS) (COSEWIC, 2007). The breeding habitat of the Common Nighthawk is variable and includes open habitats where the ground is devoid of vegetation, such as sand dunes, beaches, logged areas, burned-over areas, forest clearings, rocky outcrops, rock barrens, prairies, peat bogs, pastures, and flat gravel roofs (COSEWIC, 2007).

Common Nighthawks were observed during the dedicated Common Nighthawk survey along the collection line, but none were observed within the WEC Site. Ten Common Nighthawk observations were made between stations CONI-10 to CONI-14 (Figure B-8); these birds were either heard calling or booming<sup>1</sup>. These observations indicate that Common Nighthawks were likely breeding in suitable habitats along the proposed collection line. It is assumed that, despite a lack of direct observations, that Common Nighthawks would also be breeding where suitable habitat is available within the WEC site.

#### 3.1.5 EVENING GROSBEAK

The Evening Grosbeak (*Coccothraustes vespertinus*) is designated as "Special Concern" under Schedule 1 of *SARA* and COSEWIC. ACCDC ranks the Evening Grosbeak as a SOCC, specifically the breeding (S3B) and non-breeding (S3S4N) populations within the province, which are ranked as "Vulnerable" and "Vulnerable to Apparently Secure", respectively. There is no Recovery Strategy for the Evening Grosbeak.

In Canada, the distribution for this species includes all Canadian provinces and territories except Nunavut (COSEWIC, 2016). The Evening Grosbeak is widely distributed across Nova Scotia, as well as the rest of the Maritimes, but its largest areas of abundance are in the Northern Uplands of New Brunswick and Western Nova Scotia (Stewart et al., 2015). The preferred nesting habitat of this species is difficult to define because it depends on insect outbreaks, thus it will take advantage of many habitat types (Stewart et al., 2015). However, in the Maritimes,

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<sup>1</sup> The booming sound made by Common Nighthawks is made by wind rushing though their feathers as they dive. This is part of the male's courtship display, which involved calling repeatedly, then plunging into a steep dive – at which point the "booming" sound in created. Male nighthawks also use this display to establish and protect territory.

the Evening Grosbeak is generally associated with older softwood and mixed forests, though it will also use partial cuttings of mature stands (Stewart et al., 2015). Outside of the breeding season, they are largely dependent on seed crops (COSEWIC, 2016). Fluctuations of Evening Grosbeak populations are likely linked to fluctuations of Spruce Budworm (*Choristoneura fumiferana*), which occur naturally every 25 to 40 years in eastern Canada (COSEWIC, 2016). Other threats to the population of Evening Grosbeaks include mortality from window strikes, a reduction of mature and old growth mixed wood forests due to commercial forest management, and mortality from road collisions (COSEWIC, 2016).

Evening Grosbeaks were observed during the fall migration watch count and spring migration line transect surveys. A single male Evening Grosbeak was heard calling near VP2 on August 21, 2018 (Figure B-1). Three Evening Grosbeaks were observed during the line transects on May 23 (n=1) and 29, 2019 (n=1), both on T2 (Figure B-1).

#### 3.1.6 OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER

The Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*) is designated as "Threatened" under Schedule 1 of *SARA*, "Special Concern" under COSEWIC and "Threatened" under *NB SARA*. ACCDC ranks the Olive-sided Flycatcher as a SOCC, specifically the breeding (S3B) and aggregating transient (S3M) populations within the province, which are both ranked as "Vulnerable".

In the Maritimes, the Olive-sided Flycatcher is typically found in moist, mixed coniferous forest with both mature and regenerating components, adjacent to shrubby forested wetlands, bogs, fens, beaver ponds, or clear-cuts. (Stewart et al., 2015). Declines in this species' population may include changes in habitat and insect populations on both their breeding and wintering grounds. (Stewart et al., 2015).

One individual was heard singing near point-count station 22 during the breeding bird survey along the Collection Line on June 19, 2019 (Figure B-6). Another individual was incidentally observed singing from T3 during the spring migration line transect survey on June 4, 2019. Both observations were made in suitable breeding habitat for this species.

#### 3.1.7 PEREGRINE FALCON

The Peregrine Falcon (*Falco peregrinus*) is designated as "Special Concern" under Schedule 1 of *SARA*, and as "Endangered" under *NB SARA*. ACCDC ranks the Peregrine Falcon as a SOCC, specifically the breeding (S1B) and aggregating transient (S3M) populations within the province, which are ranked as "Critically Imperiled" and "Vulnerable", respectively.

The Peregrine Falcon's preferred nesting habitat is cliffs facing open hunting areas. There is not any suitable breeding habitat for this species within the Project area, the single individual that was observed during the fall migration watch count survey on September 19, 2018, was likely resting while passing through the WEC Site.

#### 3.1.8 RUSTY BLACKBIRD

The Rusty Blackbird (*Euphagus carolinus*) is designated as "Special Concern" under Schedule 1 of *SARA*, COSEWIC and *NB SARA*. ACCDC ranks the Rusty Blackbird as a SOCC, specifically the breeding (S3B) and aggregating transient (S3M) populations within the province, which are both ranked as "Vulnerable".

In the Maritimes, the Rusty Blackbird is associated with forested wetlands and beaver ponds that are surrounded by regenerating coniferous and mixed forest. Regenerating clear-cuts and plantations are also used. (Stewart et al., 2015)

Rusty Blackbirds were observed twice during the spring migration surveys; one bird was observed during the watch count survey on May 28, 2019, and a flock of 30 birds was observed during the line transect survey on May 2, 2019. Call-playback was used during the breeding bird surveys at sites with suitable breeding habitat for the species, but none were observed during the breeding period along the Collection Line or in the WEC Site.

#### 3.2 FALL MIGRATION

#### 3.2.1 LINE TRANSECTS

During the line transect surveys, there were 651 individual birds observed (excluding incidental observations), representing 39 species and 6 unidentified species (Table 8). Of these, three are priority species: Bald Eagle, Ring-billed Gull (*Larus delawarensis*) and Spotted Sandpiper (*Actitis macularius*). The most abundant species observed was Black-capped Chickadee (*Poecile atricapillus*; n=113), followed by Cedar Waxwing (*Bombycilla cedrorum*; n=104). Variable sized flocks of Cedar Waxwings, a highly gregarious species, were observed from early to mid-September 2018. Assumingly, these birds migrated south after this period.

**Table 8 Species Observed During Line Transect Surveys in Fall 2018** 

1	0		•		
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME		COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	6	Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	2
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	10	Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	19
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	33	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	3
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	2	Palm Warbler	Setophaga palmarum	1
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	28	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	22
Bald Eagle*	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	1	Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	15
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	8	Ring-billed Gull**	Larus delawarensis	1
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	113	Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus	1
Black-throated Green Warbler	Setophaga virens	3	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula	3
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	42	Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	1
Blue-headed Vireo	Vireo solitarius	1	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	2
Boreal Chickadee	Poecile hudsonicus	2	Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	9
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	1	Spotted Sandpiper**	Actitis macularius	1
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	0	Unidentified Bird	Aves (gen, sp)	26
Canada Jay	Perisoreus canadensis	7	Unidentified Larus Gull	Larus (sp)	2
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	104	Unidentified Hawk	Accipitridae (gen, sp)	15
Common Raven	Corvus corax	18	Unidentified Sparrow	Passerellidae (gen, sp)	8
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	12	Unidentified Warbler	Parulidae (gen, sp)	4
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	8	Unidentified Woodpecker	Picinae (gen, sp)	1
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	29	White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	33
Downy Woodpecker	Dryobates pubescens	11	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa	24	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Setophaga coronata	16
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	2	-	-	-

Notes: \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### 3.2.2 VANTAGE POINT WATCH COUNTS

#### SPECIES DIVERSITY AND RELATIVE ABUNDANCE

During the vantage point watch count surveys, there were 1,374 individual birds observed across the 2 stations representing 48 species and 7 unidentified species; one additional species, Blue-winged Teal (*Spatula discors*), was observed incidentally (Table 9). Of these, six were priority species: Bald Eagle, Evening Grosbeak, Peregrine Falcon, Snow Goose (*Anser caerulescens*), Spotted Sandpiper and Wilson's Snipe (*Gallinago delicata*). The most abundant species observed was American Robin (*Turdus migratorius*; n=263), followed by Canada Goose (*Branta canadensis*; n=197), Dark-eyed Junco (*Junco hyemalis*; n=135), and Cedar Waxwing (n=128).

Table 9 Species Observed During Vantage Point Watch Count Surveys in Fall 2018

The state of the s	I	1	1	1	l .
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME		COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	1	Merlin	Falco columbarius	1
American Black Duck	Anas rubripes	2	Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	7
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	26	Nashville Warbler	Oreothlypis ruficapilla	2
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	63	Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	31
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	8	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	4
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	3	Peregrine Falcon*	Falco peregrinus	1
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	263	Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	2
Bald Eagle*	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	1	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	6
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	22	Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	1
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	73	Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis	1
Blue-headed Vireo	Vireo solitarius	1	Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	2
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	32	Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	4
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	197	Semipalmated Plover	Charadrius semipalmatus	1
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	128	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	3
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Setophaga pensylvanica	1	Snow Goose**	Anser caerulescens	1
Common Loon	Gavia immer	1	Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	53
Common Raven	Corvus corax	22	Spotted Sandpiper**	Actitis macularius	1
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	1	Unidentifed Bird	Aves (gen, sp)	91
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	135	Unidentified Duck	Anatinae (gen, sp)	14
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	53	Unidentified Hawk	Accipitridae (gen, sp)	27
Downy Woodpecker	Dryobates pubescens	5	Unidentified Larus Gull	Larus (sp)	13
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	1	Unidentified Shorebird	Aves (gen, sp)	3
Evening Grosbeak*	Coccothraustes vespertinus	1	Unidentified Sparrow	Passerellidae (gen, sp)	8
Great Black-backed Gull	Larus marinus	2	Unidentified Warbler	Parulidae (gen, sp)	7
Hairy Woodpecker	Dryobates villosus	2	White-crowned Sparrow	Zonotrichia leucophrys	5
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	1	White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	30
Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	5	Wilson's Snipe**	Gallinago delicata	1
Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	3	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	1
	•		•	•	

Notes: \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### FLIGHT HEIGHT

Of the birds observed, 303 (22% of all individuals observed) were within the rotor swept area (i.e., between 51 and 180 m; Table 10).

Table 10 Summary of Flyovers Observed During the Fall Migration Period

TOTAL BIRDS O	BSERVED	FLYING OVER ST	UDY AREA	FLYING WITH SWEPT A (51-180	REA
# Individuals	# Species	# Individuals	# Species	# Individuals	# Species
1374	48	597	25	303	14

Notes: Incidental observations were not included in counts.

Waterfowl accounted for over half of birds observed flying within the rotor swept area (n=193; 63.70%), followed by passerines (n=56; 18.48%), other waterbirds (n=34; 11.22%) and diurnal raptors (n=20; 6.60%; Table 11).

Table 11 Flight Height Characteristics by Species Group During the Fall Migration Period

SPECIES	TOTAL#	TOTAL#	TOTAL % OF	INDIVIDUALS IN RELATION TO ROTOR SWEPT AREA (AND % OF FLYOVERS)					
GROUP	INDIVIDUALS	SPECIES*	FLYOVERS	Under (0-50m)	Within (51-180m)	Above (>180m)			
Waterfowl	215	4	36.01	<b>3</b> (1.61)	<b>193</b> (63.70)	<b>19</b> (17.59)			
Shorebirds	4	1	0.67	4 (2.15)	0 (0)	0 (0)			
Other waterbirds	74	4	12.40	<b>3</b> (1.61)	<b>34</b> (11.22)	<b>37</b> (34.26)			
Diurnal raptors	70	6	11.73	6 (3.23)	20 (6.60)	<b>44</b> (40.74)			
Passerines	227	7	38.02	<b>163</b> (87.63)	<b>56</b> (18.48)	8 (7.41)			
Other landbirds	7	3	1.17	7 (3.76)	0 (0)	0 (0)			
Totals	597	25	100	<b>186</b> (100)	<b>303</b> (100)	<b>108</b> (100)			

Notes: \*Unidentified species were not included in the species count.

The majority of the birds observed flying within the rotor swept area were Canada Geese. None of the species observed flying within the rotor swept area were priority species. A detailed account of avian flyovers observed during the fall bird migration vantage point watch count surveys is presented in Table 12.

Table 12 Flight Height Characteristics by Species Group During the Fall Migration Period

Common Name	# Inc	dividuals	observed f	rom 0-50m	# Individuals observed from 51-180m (i.e., within the rotor swept area)					lividuals	observed a	at >180m	Grand totals for flyovers	
	VP1	VP2	Total	%	VP1	VP2	Total	%	VP1	VP2	Total	%	#	%
Waterfowl														
American Black Duck	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	0.66	-	-	-	-	2	0.34
Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	87	100	187	61.72	10	-	10	9.26	197	33.00
Mallard	2	-	2	1.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0.34
Snow Goose**	1	-	1	0.54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.17
Unidentified Duck	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	1.32	8	1	9	8.33	13	2.18
Shorebirds														
Spotted Sandpiper**	1	-	1	0.54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.17
Unidentified Shorebird	-	3	3	1.61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0.50
Other waterbirds														
Common Loon	1	-	1	0.54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.17
Double-crested Cormorant	-	-	-	-	15	5	20	6.60	24	9	33	30.56	53	8.88
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	2	-	2	0.66	-	-	-	-	2	0.34
Herring Gull	-	1	1	0.54	2	1	3	0.99	1	-	1	0.93	5	0.84
Unidentified Larus Gull	1	-	1	0.54	7	2	9	2.97	2	1	3	2.78	13	2.18
Diurnal raptors														
American Kestrel	-	1	1	0.54	2	-	2	0.66	-	-	-	-	3	0.50
Bald Eagle*	1	-	1	0.54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.17
Broad-winged Hawk	2	-	2	1.08	2	3	5	1.65	6	19	25	23.15	32	5.36
Osprey	-	1	1	0.54	2	1	3	0.99	-	-	-	-	4	0.67
Red-tailed Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	0.93	1	0.17
Sharp-shinned Hawk	1	-	1	0.54	2	-	2	0.66	-	-	-	-	3	0.50
Unidentified Hawk	-	-	-	-	4	4	8	2.64	7	11	18	16.67	26	4.36
Passerines														
American Crow	3	4	7	3.76	10	2	12	3.96	-	-	-	-	19	3.18

Common Name	# Inc	lividuals	observed f	rom 0-50m			oserved fro ne rotor sw	om 51-180m vept area)	# Ind	lividuals	observed a	nt >180m		nd totals for flyovers
	VP1	VP2	Total	%	VP1	VP2	Total	%	VP1	VP2	Total	%	#	%
American Goldfinch	10	24	34	18.28	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	34	5.70
American Robin	11	-	11	5.91	5	-	5	1.65	-	-	-	-	16	2.68
Blue Jay	8	7	15	8.06	3	-	3	0.99	-	-	-	-	18	3.02
Cedar Waxwing	30	30	60	32.26	3	8	11	3.63	2	-	2	1.85	73	12.23
Common Raven	4	5	9	4.84	4	4	8	2.64	-	-	-	-	17	2.85
Song Sparrow	1	1	2	1.08	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	2	0.34
Unidentified Bird	17	8	25	13.44	2	15	17	5.61	-	-	-	-	42	7.04
Unidentified Warbler	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	6	5.56	6	1.01
Other landbirds														
Mourning Dove	-	3	3	1.61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0.50
Northern Flicker	2	1	3	1.61	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	3	0.50
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	1	-	1	0.54	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.17
Grand Total	97	89	186	100	154	149	303	100	61	47	108	100	597	100

Notes: \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### 3.3 SPRING MIGRATION

#### 3.3.1 LINE TRANSECTS

During the line transect surveys, there were 863 individual birds observed (excluding incidental observations), representing 67 species and 4 unidentified species (Table 13); Two additional species were observed incidentally: Herring Gull (*Larus argentatus*) and Olive-sided Flycatcher (*Contopus cooperi*). Of these, seven are priority species: Bald Eagle, Cape May Warbler (*Setophaga tigrina*), Evening Grosbeak, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Pine Siskin (*Spinus pinus*), Rusty Blackbird and Wilson's Snipe. The most abundant species observed was American Robin (n=108), followed by White-throated Sparrow (*Zonotrichia albicollis*; n=96).

Table 13 Species Observed During Line Transect Surveys in Spring 2019

*	8		v 1 8		
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME		COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	3	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	18
American Black Duck	Anas rubripes	1	Merlin	Falco columbarius	2
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	46	Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	1
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	21	Nashville Warbler	Oreothlypis ruficapilla	1
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	10	Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	17
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	108	Northern Parula	Setophaga americana	9
American Woodcock	Scolopax minor	1	Northern Saw-Whet Owl	Aegolius acadicus	1
Bald Eagle*	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	1	Northern Waterthrush	Parkesia noveboracensis	11
Bay-breasted Warbler	Setophaga castanea	1	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	2
Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	3	Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	24
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	11	Palm Warbler	Setophaga palmarum	4
Blackburnian Warbler	Setophaga fusca	1	Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	2
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	53	Pine Siskin**	Spinus pinus	5
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Setophaga caerulescens	4	Purple Finch	Haemorhous purpureus	18
Black-throated Green Warbler	Setophaga virens	15	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	4
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	11	Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	1
Blue-headed vireo	Vireo solitarius	12	Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	1
Boreal Chickadee	Poecile hudsonicus	2	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula	55
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	4	Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	10
Canada Jay	Perisoreus canadensis	2	Rusty Blackbird*	Euphagus carolinus	30
Cape May Warbler**	Setophaga tigrina	2	Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	4
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Setophaga pensylvanica	3	Swainson's Thrush	Catharus ustulatus	8
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	2	Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana	2
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	6	Tennessee Warbler	Oreothlypis peregrina	1
Common Loon	Gavia immer	4	Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	21
Common Raven	Corvus corax	5	Unidentified Bird	Aves (gen, sp)	4
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	9	Unidentified Duck	Anatinae (gen, sp)	1
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	4	Unidentified Haemorhous Finch	Haemorhous (sp)	2
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	10	Unidentified Woodpecker	Picinae (gen, sp)	2
Downy Woodpecker	Dryobates pubescens	13	White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	96
				•	

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#
Evening Grosbeak*	Coccothraustes vespertinus	3	Wilson's Snipe**	Gallinago delicata	5
Fox Sparrow	Passerella iliaca	1	Winter Wren	Troglodytes hiemalis	13
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa	13	Yellow Warbler	Setophaga petechia	2
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	23	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	21
Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	3	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Setophaga coronata	35
Magnolia Warbler	Setophaga magnolia	18	-	-	-

Notes: \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### 3.3.2 VANTAGE POINT WATCH COUNTS

#### SPECIES DIVERSITY AND ABUNDANCE

During the vantage point watch count surveys, there were 759 individual birds observed across the two stations representing 65 species and 4 unidentified species (Table 14); two additional species, American Bittern (*Botaurus lentiginosus*) and Yellow Warbler (*Setophaga petechia*), were observed incidentally. Of these, eight were priority species: Bald Eagle, Evening Grosbeak, Cape May Warbler, Pine Siskin, Redhead (*Aythya americana*), Rusty Blackbird, Spotted Sandpiper, Turkey Vulture (*Cathartes aura*) and Wilson's Snipe. The most abundant species observed was American Crow (*Corvus brachyrhynchos*; n=95), followed by American Robin (n=76).

Table 14 Species Observed During Vantage Point Watch Count Surveys in Spring 2019

*				· · ·	
COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME		COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#
American Black Duck	Anas rubripes	7	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	12
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	95	Merlin	Falco columbarius	1
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	34	Nashville Warbler	Oreothlypis ruficapilla	1
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	2	Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	22
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	3	Northern Waterthrush	Parkesia noveboracensis	1
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	76	Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	11
American Tree Sparrow	Spizelloides arborea	1	Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	1
Bald Eagle*	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	1	Palm Warbler	Setophaga palmarum	3
Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	8	Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	1
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	1	Pine Siskin**	Spinus pinus	50
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	15	Purple Finch	Haemorhous purpureus	3
Black-throated Green Warbler	Setophaga virens	2	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	1
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	14	Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	1
Blue-headed Vireo	Vireo solitarius	1	Redhead**	Aythya americana	1
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	4	Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	2
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	1	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula	17
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	17	Rusty Blackbird*	Euphagus carolinus	1
Canada Jay	Perisoreus canadensis	1	Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	1
Cape May Warbler**	Setophaga tigrina	1	Semipalmated Plover	Charadrius semipalmatus	12
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	4	Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	1
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	14	Snow Bunting	Plectrophenax nivalis	25
Common Merganser	Mergus merganser	4	Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	29
Common Raven	Corvus corax	21	Spotted Sandpiper**	Actitis macularius	2
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	5	Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	13
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	8	Turkey Vulture**	Cathartes aura	1
	1		I	1	

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	43	Unidentified Hawk	Accipitridae (gen, sp)	2
Downy Woodpecker	Dryobates pubescens	5	Unidentified Sparrow	Passerellidae (gen, sp)	1
Fox Sparrow	Passerella iliaca	1	Unidentified Warbler	Parulidae (gen, sp)	1
Great Black-backed Gull	Larus marinus	10	Unidentified Woodpecker	Picinae (gen, sp)	1
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	1	White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	41
Hairy Woodpecker	Dryobates villosus	2	Wilson's Snipe**	Gallinago delicata	2
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	4	Winter Wren	Troglodytes hiemalis	3
Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	41	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	14
Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	1	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Setophaga coronata	31
Magnolia Warbler	Setophaga magnolia	2			

Notes: \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### **FLIGHT HEIGHT**

Of the birds observed, 191 (25% of all individuals observed) were within the rotor swept area (i.e., between 51 and 180 m; Table 15).

Table 15 Summary of Flyovers Observed During the Spring Migration Period

TOTAL BIRDS C	BSERVED	FLYING OVER ST	UDY AREA	FLYING WITH SWEPT A (51-180	REA
# Individuals	# Species	# Individuals	# Species	# Individuals	# Species
759	65	378	30	191	18

Notes: Incidental observations were not included in counts.

Other waterbirds accounted for almost half of birds observed flying within the rotor swept area (n=86; 45.03%), followed by passerines (n=70; 36.65%), waterfowl (n=23; 12.04%) and diurnal raptors (n=10; 5.24%; Table 16).

Table 16 Flight Height Characteristics by Species Group During the Spring Migration Period

SPECIES	TOTAL#	TOTAL#	TOTAL % OF		UALS IN RELA WEPT AREA (Æ FLYOVERS)	
GROUP	INDIVIDUALS	SPECIES*	FLYOVERS	Under (0-50m)	Within (51-180m)	Above (>180m)
Waterfowl	35	4	9.21	<b>12</b> (7.10)	<b>23</b> (12.04)	0 (0)
Shorebirds	12	1	3.16	<b>12</b> (7.10)	0 (0)	0 (0)
Other waterbirds	98	5	25.79	5 (2.96)	<b>86</b> (45.03)	7 (35.00)
Diurnal raptors	22	7	5.79	<b>2</b> (1.18)	10 (5.24)	<b>10</b> (50.00)
Passerines	205	11	53.95	<b>132</b> (78.11)	70 (36.65)	<b>3</b> (15.00)
Other landbirds	6	2	1.58	4 (2.37)	<b>2</b> (1.05)	0 (0)
Totals	378	30	100	<b>169</b> (100)	<b>191</b> (100)	<b>20</b> (100)

Notes: \*Unidentified species were not included in the species count.

A detailed account of avian flyovers observed during the fall bird migration vantage point watch count surveys is presented in Table 17.

Table 17 Flight Height Characteristics by Species Group During the Spring Migration Period

Common Name	# Inc	lividuals	observed f	rom 0-50m			bserved from	om 51-180m vept area)	# Ind	ividuals	observed a	nt >180m	Grand totals for flyovers	
	VP1	VP2	Total	%	VP1	VP2	Total	%	VP1	VP2	Total	%	No.	%
Waterfowl														
American Black Duck	2	4	6	3.55	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	6	1.58
Canada Goose	-	-	-	-	17	-	17	8.90	-	-	-	-	17	4.47
Common Merganser	-	-	-	-	-	4	4	2.09	-	-	-	-	4	1.05
Mallard	4	2	6	3.55	2	-	2	1.05	-	-	-	-	8	2.11
Shorebirds														
Semipalmated Plover	-	12	12	7.10	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	12	3.16
Other waterbirds										•				
Belted Kingfisher	-	4	4	2.37	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	4	1.05
Double-crested Cormorant	-	1	1	0.59	18	16	34	17.80	4	3	7	35.00	42	11.05
Great Black-backed Gull	-	-	-	-	-	10	10	5.24	-	-	-	-	10	2.63
Great Blue Heron	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0.52	-	-	-	-	1	0.26
Herring Gull	-	-	-	-	-	41	41	21.47	-	-	-	-	41	10.79
Diurnal raptors										•				
American Kestrel	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	5.00	1	0.26
Bald Eagle*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	5.00	1	0.26
Broad-winged Hawk	-	1	1	0.59	1	2	3	1.57	-	-	-	-	4	1.05
Merlin	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	0.52	-	-	-	-	1	0.26
Osprey	-	-	-	-	1	3	4	2.09	3	4	7	35.00	11	2.89
Sharp-shinned Hawk	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0.52	-	-	-	-	1	0.26
Turkey Vulture**	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0.52	-	-	-	-	1	0.26
Unidentified Hawk	-	1	1	0.59	-	-	-	-	1	-	1	5.00	2	0.53
Passerines	•			•				•					·	
American Crow	14	5	19	11.24	34	15	49	25.65	2	1	3	15.00	71	18.68
American Goldfinch	3	2	5	2.96	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	5	1.32
American Robin	8	18	26	15.38	1	2	3	1.57	-	-	-	-	29	7.63

Common Name	# Individuals observed from 0-50m			#. Individuals observed from 51-180m (i.e., within the rotor swept area)			# Individuals observed at >180m			Grand totals for flyovers				
	VP1	VP2	Total	%	VP1	VP2	Total	%	VP1	VP2	Total	%	No.	%
American Tree Sparrow	-	-	-	-	-	1	1	0.52	-	-	-	-	1	0.26
Blue Jay	1	3	4	2.37	2	-	2	1.05	-	-	-	-	6	1.58
Common Grackle	1	8	9	5.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2.37
Common Raven	2	-	2	1.18	7	8	15	7.85	-	-	-	-	17	4.47
Pine Siskin**	50	-	50	29.59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	50	13.16
Snow Bunting	4	5	9	5.33	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	9	2.37
Song Sparrow	-	1	1	0.59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.26
Tree Swallow	2	5	7	4.14	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	7	1.84
Other landbirds	Other landbirds													
Northern Flicker	1	1	2	1.18	2	-	2	1.05	-	-	-	-	4	1.05
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	-	1	1	0.59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.26
Unidentified Woodpecker	-	1	1	0.59	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	1	0.26
Grand Total	94	75	169	100	86	105	191	100	11	9	20	100	378	100

Notes: Six individuals were recorded as flyovers, but without flight height information; these six individuals were excluded from analysis. \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### 3.4 WINTER BIRDS

Bird abundance during the survey was low and only 60 individuals of 11 species were observed visually or by ear (Table 18). Of the species observed, only the Pine Siskin is a priority species during the month observed (ACCDC S3); the Pine Grosbeak (*Pinicola enucleator*) is only a priority species during the breeding season (ACCDC S2B). The most abundant species observed was Black-capped Chickadee (n=28), followed by Pine Siskin (n=11); other species were observed in small numbers (≤5 individuals). Overall species abundance and diversity were low.

Table 18 Species Observed During Winter Line Transect Surveys in 2019

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	5
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	2
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	28
Boreal Chickadee	Poecile hudsonicus	3
Canada Jay	Perisoreus canadensis	2
Common Raven	Corvus corax	2
Downy Woodpecker	Dryobates pubescens	3
Hairy Woodpecker	Dryobates villosus	1
Pine Grosbeak**	Pinicola enucleator	11
Pine Siskin**	Spinus pinus	1
Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	1
Unidentified Woodpecker	Picinae (gen, sp)	1

Notes: \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### 3.5 NOCTURNAL OWL

No owls were observed calling within the WEC Site, however one Great Horned Owl (*Bubo virginianus*) was observed during the dedicated survey along the collection line near station 11. In addition, another Great Horned Owl was observed incidentally near station 7 and a possible Northern Saw-whet Owl (*Aegolius acadicus*) was observed near station 8 (Figure B-4).

#### 3.6 BREEDING BIRDS

#### 3.6.1 SPECIES DIVERSITY AND RELATIVE ABUNDANCE (WEC SITE)

During the dedicated breeding bird survey within the WEC Site, a total of 833 individuals were observed, representing 69 species (Table 19). An additional four species were observed incidentally: Double-crested Cormorant (*Phalacrocorax auritus*), Gray Catbird (*Dumetella carolinensis*), Great Blue Heron (*Ardea herodias*), Osprey (*Pandion haliaetus*). In total, five priority species were observed: Bank Swallow, Blackpoll Warbler (*Setophaga striata*), Canada Warbler, Pine Siskin and Spotted Sandpiper. The most abundant species was White-throated Sparrow (n=77).

Table 19 Species Observed During Dedicated Point Count Surveys within the WEC Site in 2019

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	34	Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	6
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	8	Lincoln's Sparrow	Melospiza lincolnii	4
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	23	Magnolia Warbler	Setophaga magnolia	40
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	39	Mallard	Anas platyrhynchos	2
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	46	Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	2
American Woodcock	Scolopax minor	1	Nashville Warbler	Oreothlypis ruficapilla	38
Bank Swallow*	Riparia riparia	4	Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	5
Bay-breasted Warbler	Setophaga castanea	4	Northern Parula	Setophaga americana	13
Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	1	Northern Waterthrush	Parkesia noveboracensis	5
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	35	Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	35
Blackburnian Warbler	Setophaga fusca	2	Palm Warbler	Setophaga palmarum	8
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	20	Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	3
Blackpoll Warbler**	Setophaga striata	1	Pine Siskin**	Spinus pinus	1
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Setophaga caerulescens	23	Purple Finch	Haemorhous purpureus	13
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	11	Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	8
Blue-headed Vireo	Vireo solitarius	12	Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	39
Boreal Chickadee	Poecile hudsonicus	1	Rock Pigeon	Columba livia	1
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	2	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula	23
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	1	Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	3
Canada Jay	Perisoreus canadensis	4	Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	10
Canada Warbler*	Cardellina canadensis	1	Spotted Sandpiper**	Actitis macularius	1
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	4	Swainson's Thrush	Catharus ustulatus	34
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Setophaga pensylvanica	6	Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana	3
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	3	Tennessee Warbler	Oreothlypis peregrina	3
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	7	Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	2
Common Loon	Gavia immer	1	Veery	Catharus fuscescens	10
Common Raven	Corvus corax	2	White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	77
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	48	White-winged Crossbill	Loxia leucoptera	4
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	5	Wilson's Warbler	Cardellina pusilla	1
Downy Woodpecker	Dryobates pubescens	2	Winter Wren	Troglodytes hiemalis	11
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	1	Yellow Warbler	Setophaga petechia	2
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	5	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Empidonax flaviventris	17
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa	6	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	13
Hairy Woodpecker	Dryobates villosus	2	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Setophaga coronata	8
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	23	-	-	-

Notes: \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### 3.6.2 SPECIES DIVERSITY AND RELATIVE ABUNDANCE (COLLECTION LINE)

During the dedicated breeding bird survey along the Collection Line, a total of 606 individuals were observed, representing 59 species and 1 unidentified species (Table 20). In total, five priority species were observed: Cape May Warbler, Olive-sided Flycatcher, Pine Siskin, Spotted Sandpiper and Wilson's Snipe. The most abundant species was Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapilla*; n=49), followed by Red-eyed Vireo (*Vireo olivaceus*; n=48).

Table 20 Species Observed During Dedicated Point Count Surveys Along the Collection Line in 2019

COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#	COMMON NAME	SCIENTIFIC NAME	#
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	9	Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	3
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	6	Nashville Warbler	Oreothlypis ruficapilla	20
American Goldfinch	Spinus tristis	8	Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	8
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	1	Northern Parula	Setophaga americana	19
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	39	Northern Waterthrush	Parkesia noveboracensis	1
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	16	Olive-sided Flycatcher*	Contopus cooperi	1
Bay-breasted Warbler	Setophaga castanea	13	Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	49
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	24	Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	1
Blackburnian Warbler	Setophaga fusca	7	Pine Siskin**	Spinus pinus	1
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapillus	6	Purple Finch	Haemorhous purpureus	3
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Setophaga caerulescens	2	Red-breasted Nuthtach	Sitta canadensis	5
Black-throated Green Warbler	Setophaga virens	16	Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	48
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	8	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula	11
Blue-headed Vireo	Vireo solitarius	8	Ruby-throated Humingbird	Archilochus colubris	6
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	1	Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	1
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	1	Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	4
Cape May Warbler**	Setophaga tigrina	1	Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	8
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	6	Spotted Sandpiper*	Actitis macularius	4
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Setophaga pensylvanica	2	Swainson's Thrush	Catharus ustulatus	22
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	12	Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana	1
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	2	Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	3
Common Raven	Corvus corax	2	Unidentified Woodpecker	Picinae (gen, sp)	1
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	26	Veery	Catharus fuscescens	2
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	6	White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	43
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	3	White-winged Crossbill	Loxia leucoptera	12
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	1	Wilson's Snipe**	Gallinago delicata	1
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa	5	Winter Wren	Troglodytes hiemalis	6
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	20	Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Empidonax flaviventris	4
Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	13	Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	24
Magnolia Warbler	Setophaga magnolia	24	Yellow-rumped Warbler	Setophaga coronata	6

Notes: \*SAR; \*\*SOCC. Species listed in alphabetical order.

#### 3.6.3 COMMON NIGHTHAWK SURVEYS

No Common Nighthawks were observed within the WEC site. However, seven observations of Common Nighthawks were made along the Collection Line on June 18, 2019, and three were observed on July 4, 2019 (Table 21). In addition, one Canada Warbler was heard at CONI-10 in June.

Table 21 Common Nigthawk Observations Along the Collection Line in 2019

STATION	HABITAT	OBSERVATIONS					
		June 18, 2019	July 4, 2019				
CONI-7	Agricultural field	None observed.	None observed.				
CONI-8	Forested and within 100m of Agricultural field	None observed.	None observed.				
CONI-9	Mature hardwood	None observed.	None observed.				
CONI-10	Treed swamp	None observed, but Canada Warbler incidentally observed.	One distant bird calling (peent) from 1 to 3 mins; east (1 km).				
CONI-11	Forested	None observed.	One bird 400 m away and 200 m high south. Calling (peent) and booming from 1 to 6 mins.				
CONI-12	Forested and open habitat	One distant bird booming at 3 to 6 mins, 1 km south	One bird 400 m away and 200 m high; booming and calling (peent) from 4 to 6 min.				
CONI-13	Forested and open habitat	Two birds booming and calling (peent) from 0 to 6 mins; 1 south and 1 southeast, both 400 m away at >100m high.	None observed.				
CONI-14	Forested and open habitat	Four birds booming and calling (peent); 2 northwest and 2 southeast.	None observed.				

#### 3.7 SUMMARY

In total, 107 species were observed within the WEC site and 62 species along the Collection Line. The higher number of species within the WEC Site compared to the Collection Line is largely due to the greater amount of survey effort within the WEC site compared to the proposed collection line.

The highest number of birds was observed during the fall bird migration watch count surveys (n=1,374) within the WEC Site. Species diversity was similar across surveys during the spring migration and breeding periods, which is expected due to the birds being easier to differentiate at these times of the year when they are more vocal and in breeding plumages. Lower species diversity in the fall is likely due to birds being less vocal and out of their breeding plumages, making them more difficult to locate and identify. Species diversity was lowest in the winter, which was expected.

In both the spring and fall, about a quarter of the birds observed during watch count surveys were flying through the rotor swept area. In the fall, of the birds flying through the rotor swept area, the majority (64%) were waterfowl, specifically Canada Geese – several large flocks were observed during this period. In the spring, the majority were in the "other waterbirds" group (45%), consisting mainly of gulls and cormorants; passerines were a close second (38%). The Project area is situated on the Acadian Peninsula, so it is possible the greater numbers of waterfowl and other waterbirds, compared to other groups, is attributable to movement between water sources and nearby available habitat for these species. Most of the wetland habitat, with exception of a small open wetland east of WT3 (i.e., in the gravel pit area), is forested, thus does not provide adequate habitat to allow for staging of large flocks of waterfowl or shorebirds during migration.

A total of 18 priority species were observed across all surveys, 8 SAR and 10 SOCC. These species, however, made up a small percentage of the total birds observed within the Project area.

# 4 IDENTIFICATION OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS

The identification of all potential interactions between the Project and VECs was completed in the Registration Document. It was determined that the following Project-Bird interactions have potential to result in residual effects because mitigation cannot remove the interaction. Therefore, further analysis is required to determine the significance of these Project effects (Section 5).

- Construction and operation of the Project may result in birds colliding with WECs
- Construction and operation of the Project may cause birds to alter their migration flyways
- Construction and operation of the Project may displace birds from previously used habitats in the Project area

# 5 CLASSIFICATION OF RESIDUAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS AND DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

The residual effects classification is based on the magnitude, geographic extent, duration/frequency, reversibility and ecological context and is to describe residual effects predicted for the Project. The criteria are used to describe the nature and type of an effect on VECs. The residual effects classification is then used to determine the environmental significance of Project effects to VECs. The approach and criteria used to classify residual effects and determine their significance is presented in the Registration Document in Section 6.

# 5.1 RESIDUAL EFFECTS ON BIRDS FROM COLLISIONS AND DISPLACEMENT

The effects of a wind farm on birds are variable and depend on factors such as the development design, topography of the area, habitats affected, and the bird community in the wind farm area (Drewitt and Langston, 2006). Although some effects are related to construction (e.g., habitat alteration), most potential effects on avifauna are related to mortality resulting from direct collision and sensory disturbance.

The most apparent potential effect of the Project on birds is direct mortality resulting from collision with WEC blades during the operational phase. Most evidence suggests that mortality levels resulting from WEC collisions are low (Environment Canada et al., 2012). A recent review of Canadian wind farms concluded that less than 0.2% of the population of any species is affected by either collision with, or displacement by, WECs (Zimmerling et al., 2013).

Collision risk is greater on or near areas used by large numbers of foraging or roosting birds or in important migratory flyways (Drewitt and Langston, 2006). The probability of raptor collision with WECs depends on the species, WEC height, and local topography (de Lucas et al., 2008). Collision risk can be greatly reduced by incorporating knowledge of the avifauna into the design and placement of wind power infrastructure. Available research suggests that the probability of large-scale fatality events occurring at wind farms is low (Kerlinger et al., 2010). Migratory movements of passerines, shorebirds, waterfowl, and birds of prey were observed over the Project area, thus there is the possibility of collisions with WECs and other Project infrastructure. However, implementation of appropriate mitigation measures should reduce collision risk.

Sensory disturbance to birds can occur during the construction, operation and maintenance, and decommissioning of the Project, and can be caused by the increased presence of personnel, vehicle movement, operation of heavy equipment, and the operation of the WECs (Drewitt and Langston, 2006). It is thought that sensory disturbance to birds may have a greater population impact than collisions, although research is lacking in this area (Kingsley and Whittam, 2005). Some studies have shown that birds will exhibit avoidance behaviours, leading to a variable degree of displacement from previously used habitat (Drewitt and Langston, 2006). However, while birds may avoid specific sites, the evidence does not suggest that birds abandon the general area as a whole. Other research indicates that the presence of WECs has no effect on the distribution of the bird community (Devereux et al., 2008) and birds may habituate to the presence of operating WECs (Madsen and Boertmann, 2008). The Project has been sited to avoid environmentally sensitive areas thereby minimizing disturbance to new areas which can reduce displacement effects to birds.

A total of 18 priority species were observed across all surveys, 8 SAR and 10 SOCC. These species, however, made up a small percentage of the total birds observed within the Project area (Section 3.7).

The Project may result in habitat loss and accidental mortality, both high level of concern threats to the Canada Warbler according to the species' Recovery Strategy (Environment Canada, 2016a). WECs are currently located outside of wetland habitat, however site roads may go through some forested wetland habitat, which may reduce habitat availability on-site for this species. During their nocturnal migration, Canada Warblers can collide with wind turbines. According to a recent study (Zimmerling et al, 2013) approximately 70 Canada Warblers are predicted to die annually as a result of collisions with wind turbines in Canada. Mitigation measures can be applied that reduce the chances of collision during periods of migration.

The Project may result in accidental mortality, a medium level of concern threat to the Common Nighthawk according to the species' Recovery Strategy (Environment Canada, 2016b). Accidental mortality due to the Project may result from destruction of nests and broods from vehicle traffic, and collisions with WECs and overhead transmission lines. Common Nighthawks may use dirt roads for nesting, putting their nests and broods at risk of collision with vehicle traffic (Brigham et al., 2011). Common Nighthawks are aerial insectivores that feed primarily at dusk and dawn at heights varying from 1 m to more than 80 m (Environment Canada, 2016); thus, within the rotor swept area, which puts it as risk of collision. Male Common Nighthawks, particularly during courtship, are known to collide with telephone and power lines (Erickson, 2005).

Evening Grosbeaks are attracted to roads to feed on grit and salt in the winter, spring and fall (Campbell et al., 2001), which puts them at risk of collision with vehicles. Furthermore, when taken in excess, road salts are known to be toxic to birds, because the kidney of terrestrial birds is not efficient at removing excess sodium (Mineau and Brownlee, 2005). Overconsumption of sodium chloride can also cause reduced vigilance and motor function, which may also increase the risk of vehicle collision when flocks feed on the roadside (Mineau and Brownlee, 2005). Furthermore, when they are present in large densities (i.e., in the case of a Spruce Budworm infestation), they are also at greater risk of collisions on the road (Campbell et al., 2001). Alternatives to road salt on access roads and within the Project area should be considered to reduce the risk of vehicle collisions, especially during periods of high species density.

In total, 107 species were observed within the WEC site and 62 species along the Collection Line. The higher number of species within the WEC Site compared to the Collection Line is largely due to the greater amount of survey effort within the WEC site compared to the proposed collection line.

The highest number of birds was observed during the fall bird migration watch count surveys (n=1,374) within the WEC Site and about a quarter were flying through the rotor swept area (Section 3.7). Therefore, birds may be more at risk of collision with WECs during this period:

- Kettles of hawks were observed moving over the Project area from mid- to end of August 2018.
- Large flocks of geese were observed through September and October.
- One large flock of American Robins was observed mid-October and large numbers of Cedar waxwings were also observed from mid-August to mid-September 2018.

#### 5.2 CUMULATIVE RESIDUAL EFFECTS

Cumulative residual environmental effects are defined as the sum of residual environmental effects from all past, current, and reasonably foreseeable projects and/or activities on the physical, biological, social and cultural components of the environment. In addition, natural disturbances such as fire, floods, insects, disease, and climate change can contribute to cumulative residual environmental effects.

The Project will implement mitigation practices to limit incremental environmental effects from the Project that will occur. Implementation of the mitigation for this Project is expected to result in minor changes to the biophysical and socio-economic environments from the Project relative to baseline conditions. Effects on VECs from surrounding land use and peat harvesting operations are not expected to overlap with effects on VECs in the local area. As such, no cumulative residual environmental effects are expected. As the Project progresses, CVLP will develop site-specific mitigation to further reduce the potential for cumulative environmental effects as required.

#### 5.3 DETERMINATION OF SIGNIFICANCE

The collision of birds with WECs and other Project infrastructure and displacement of birds from the Project area was determined to be moderate in magnitude because it is unknown what the effects would be at the population level (Table 22). The incremental effects from the Project are predicted to be local in geographic extent and the effects are expected to be reversible following decommissioning and reclamation (long-term). The incremental contribution of the Project to existing conditions is not likely to decrease the resilience and increase the risk to local or sub-regional bird populations in the area. Therefore, the Project is predicted to not have significant adverse effects on birds. Confidence in this prediction is moderate because of limited knowledge about the resilience of bird populations in the area. To test the prediction of significance presented in this assessment and to reduce uncertainty, a Post-Construction Monitoring program will be implemented (Section 9 of Registration Document). If the Project is found to be causing significant mortality during post-construction monitoring, additional mitigation will be evaluated.

Table 22 Summary of Residual Effects Classification and Predicted Significance

POTENTIAL INTERACTION AND RESIDUAL ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECT	MAGNITUDE	GEOGRAPHIC EXTENT	FREQUENCY	DURATION	REVERSIBILITY	SIGNIFICANCE
Construction and operation of the Project may result in birds colliding with WECs	Moderate	Local	Continuous	Long-term	Reversible	Not Significant
Construction and operation of the Project may cause birds to alter their migration flyways	Moderate	Local	Continuous	Long-term	Reversible	Not Significant
Construction and operation of the Project may displace birds from previously used habitats in the Project area	Moderate	Local	Continuous	Long-term	Reversible	Not Significant

# 6 ADDITIONAL RECOMMENDED MITIGATIONS

The following mitigations have been identified, in addition to those in the Registration Document:

- Construction activities will follow activity restriction guidelines and setback distances for birds.
- Above-ground collector lines should be marked with bird diverters at appropriate locations to reduce or avoid
  collision fatalities with birds, as necessary. The Project area was identified as a high use area during spring and
  fall migration.
- To discourage ground-nesting or burrow-nesting species (i.e., Common Nighthawk and Turkey Vulture), large piles or patches of bare soil should not be left uncovered or un-vegetated during the breeding season.
- Should any ground- or burrow-nesting species initiate breeding activities on stockpiles or exposed areas, the
  Proponent will work with Canadian Wildlife Service and New Brunswick Department of Environment and
  Local Government to develop buffer and non-disturbance distances and zones that incorporate adaptive
  management.
- The Wilson's Snipe has an aerial display flight during the breeding season, thus is potentially at a higher risk of collision with turbine blades. To the extent possible, WECs were sited at least 100 m away from wetlands.
- If necessary, foraging sources identified near turbines, which attract SAR will be removed, modified or relocated. This includes the removal of carcasses that may attract carrion feeders, such as the Turkey Vulture.
- Species-specific mitigation measures aimed at alerting the birds to the turbines or affecting bird behaviour may
  be considered. The methods employed will depend on the species affected since the efficacy of such measures is
  dependent on the birds' perception and response to the sensory cues (May et al., 2015). These include, but are
  not limited to:
  - Mitigation measures based on passive visual cues may be implemented (e.g., use of marking, reducing motion smear, reflectors or UV-coating).
  - Mitigation measures based on active visual cues may be implemented (e.g., minimal use of turbine lighting, adjustment of turbine lighting regimes, visual deterrence or laser).

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## A MASTER AVIAN SPECIES LISTS

Table A-1 Chaleur Ventus Master Avian Species List for the WTG Site (107 species observed, including incidentals)

			Table A-	-1 Charc	di Ventus Ma	Preferred Nesting	the WTG Site (107 species		urveys	eldentals)		2019	Surveys		
		ACCDC			SARA				igration		Spring M				
Common Name	Scientific Name	(S-rank) <sup>1</sup>	NB SARA	COSEWIC		Habitat <sup>2</sup>	Typical Nest Timing <sup>3</sup>	Line	Watch	Winter	Line Watch		Nocturnal	Common	Breeding
								transects	count	Residents	transects	count	Owl	Nighthawk	Bird
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Low in shrubbery.	Mid-June to early August	•	•	-	•	-	-	-	•
American Bittern	Botaurus lentiginosus	S4B, S4S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-
American Black Duck	Anas rubripes	S5B, S4N, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	•	•	-	-	-
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	S5	-	-	-	Trees.	Mid-April to mid-July	•	•	•	•	•	-	-	•
American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis	S5	-	-	-	Shrub or sapling in open areas.	Late June to end of Sept.	•	•	•	•	•	-	-	•
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	S4B, S4S5M	-	-	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	-	-	-
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Small trees.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Everywhere.	May to end of July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
American Tree Sparrow	Spizelloides arborea	S5N, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-
American Woodcock	Scolopax minor	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Open habitat near moist areas.	r moist Mid-April to late June		-	-	•	-	-	-	•
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	S4	Endangered	Not at Risk	-	-	-	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	-
Bank Swallow	Riparia riparia	S2S3B, S2S3M	-	Threatened	Threatened (Sch.1)	Open country, near water.	Late May to late July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•
Bay-breasted Warbler	Dendroica castanea	S4B, S4S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Late May to early Aug.	•	-	-	•	-	-	-	•
Belted Kingfisher	Megaceryle alcyon	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Vertical bank near water.	Late April to late July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground among trees.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Blackburnian Warbler	Dendroica fusca	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	•
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapilla	S5	-	-	-	Nest cavities in rotten tree stumps.	Early May to early July	•	•	•	•	•	-	-	•
Blackpoll Warbler	Setophaga striata	S3S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Northern spruce woodland or deciduous thickets.	June to early August	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Setophaga caerulescens	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Deciduous or mixedwood.	Late May to late July	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	•
Black-throated Green Warbler	Dendroica virens	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	•	•	-	-	-
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	S5	-	-	-	Trees.	Late April to early July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Blue-headed Vireo	Vireo solitarius	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Forest.	Mid-May to late July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Blue-winged Teal	Spatula discors	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-
Boreal Chickadee	Poecile hudsonica	S4	-	-	-	Cavities of dead trees.	Mid May to late July	•	-	•	•	-	-	-	•
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	S5B,S5M	-	-	-	Forest.	Early May to early August	•	•	-	-	•	-	-	•
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	S5	-	-	-	Mature forest, old dead trunks.	Early May to mid-July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Canada Goose	Branta canadensis	SNAB, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	-	-	-
Canada Jay	Perisoreus canadensis	S4	-	-	-	Woodland, particularly mixed, cultivated areas near trees and parkland.	March to mid-May*	•	-	•	•	•	-	-	•
Canada Warbler	Wilsonia canadensis	S3B, S3M	Threatened	Threatened	Threatened (Sch.1)	Variety of forest types, prefer wet mixed forest with welldeveloped shrub layer.	June to late July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•

				COSTANIC		Preferred Nesting		2018 S	urveys		2019 Surveys					
Common Nama	Scientific Name	ACCDC	ND CADA		CADA		Typical Nest Timine3	Fall Migration			Spring Migration					
Common Name	Scientific Name	(S-rank) <sup>1</sup>	NB SARA	COSEWIC	SARA	Habitat <sup>2</sup>	Typical Nest Timing <sup>3</sup>	Line transects	Watch count	Winter Residents	Line transects	Watch count	Nocturnal Owl	Common Nighthawk	Breeding Bird	
Cape May Warbler	Setophaga tigrina	S3B, S4S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	_	
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Open woods.	Mid June to late August	•	•	-	-	-	-	-	•	
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Dendroica pensylvanica	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Low shrubs, raspberry canes.	Late May to mid-July	-	•	-	•	-	-	-	•	
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Edges, woods.	Late May to late July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Open and cultivated country, especially wetter areas.	Late April to early July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	
Common Loon	Gavia immer	S4B, S4M, S4N	-	Not at Risk	-	Large, deep lakes in bare or wooded country.	Mid-May to late July	-	•	-	•	-	-	-	•	
Common Merganser	Mergus merganser	S5B, S4N, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	
Common Raven	Corvus corax	S5	-	-	-	Trees, cliffs, buildings.	Begins mid-April*	•	•	•	•	•	-	-	•	
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Brushy areas.	Late May to late July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•	
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	S5	-	-	-	Forest edge.	Mid-May to early August	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•	
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	S5B, S5M	-	Not at Risk	-	Larger water on small islands or islets, isolated rocks, trees, cliff ledges.	May to early August	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•	
Downy Woodpecker	Picoides pubescens	S5	-	-	-	Open, deciduous dominant forests, natural cavities.	Early May to mid-July	•	•	•	•	•	-	-	•	
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Around farms or other buildings near fresh running water.	Early May to late July	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	•	
European Starling	Sturnus vulgaris	SNA	-	-	-	Cavities in trees, structures.	Late April to early July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	
Evening Grosbeak	Coccothraustes vespertinus	S3B, S3S4N, SUM	-	Special Concern	Special Concern (Sch.1)	-	-	-	•	-	•	-	-	-	-	
Fox Sparrow	Passerella iliaca	S4B, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	-	
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa	S5	-	-	-	Coniferous forest.	Early May to early August	•	-	-	•	-	-	-	•	
Gray Catbird	Dumetella carolinensis	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	Low thick vegetation, often bordering woodland marshes and watercourses.	Late May to late July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	
Great Black-backed Gull	Larus marinus	S5	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	•	-	-	-	
Great Blue Heron	Ardea herodias	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	By fresh or salt water, in colonies.	Mid-April to mid-August	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	•	
Hairy Woodpecker	Picoides villosus	S5	-	-	-	Mature forests, woodlots, forest edges, open woodlands.	Late April to late June	-	•	•	-	•	-	-	•	
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground nester.	Mid-May to late July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•	
Herring Gull	Larus argentatus	S5	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	•	•	-	-	-	
Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Broad-leafed woods.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	
Lincoln's Sparrow	Melospiza lincolnii	S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground.	Mid-May to mid-July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	
Magnolia Warbler	Dendroica magnolia	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Late May to late July	-	_	-	•	•	-	-	•	

					SARA	Preferred Nesting		2018 S	urveys		2019 Surveys				
Common Name	Scientific Name	ACCDC	NB SARA	COSEWIC			Typical Nest Timing <sup>3</sup>	Fall Mi	gration	WW7.	Spring Migration		<b>N</b> T ( 1	a	D 11
Common Name	Scientific Name	(S-rank) <sup>1</sup>	ND SARA	COSEWIC	SANA	Habitat <sup>2</sup>	Typical Nest Tilling	Line transects	Watch count	Winter Residents	Line transects	Watch count	Nocturnal Owl	Common Nighthawk	Breeding Bird
Mallard .	Anas platyrhynchos	S5B, S4N, S5M	-	-	-	Dry ground near water.	Mid-April to mid-July	-	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Merlin	Falco columbarius	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	•	•	-	-	-
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	S5B, S5M, S4N	-	-	-	Trees, open-grown conifers (e.g., windbreaks).	Late April to early August	•	•	-	•	-	-	-	•
Nashville Warbler	Vermivora ruficapilla	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Open woods/shrubs.	Late May to mid-July	-	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Cavities.	Early May to late July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Northern Parula	Parula americana	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Bearded lichen in conifer.	June to end of July	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	•
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Aegolius acadicus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-
Northern Waterthrush	Parkesia noveboracensis	S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Root tangles of fallen trees, in clumps of vegetation near water, or inside niches in the banks of streams.	Mid-May to early July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Contopus cooperi	S3B, S3M	Threatened	Special Concern	Threatened (Sch.1)	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-
Osprey	Pandion haliaetus	S4S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Site in open surroundings with a wide, sturdy base.	Begins early June*	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Palm Warbler	Dendroica palmarum	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Shrub bogs.	Mid-May to late July	•	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Peregrine Falcon (anatum/tundrius)	Falco peregrinus	S1B, S3M	Endangered	Not at Risk	Special Concern (Sch.1)	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	S5	-	-	-	Cavity nester.	End of April to early July	-	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Pine Grosbeak	Pinicola enucleator	S2B, S4S5N, S4S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-
Pine Siskin	Carduelis pinus	S3	-	-	-	Conifers.	Early April to early August	-	-	•	•	•	-	-	•
Purple Finch	Carpodacus purpureus	S4S5B, SUN, S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Mid-May to late July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	S5	-	-	-	Excavated from dead trees.	Early May to early July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Forest.	June to end of July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Redhead	Aythya americana	S1B, S1M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-
Red-tailed Hawk	Buteo jamaicensis	S4	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-
Red-winged Blackbird	Agelaius phoeniceus	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	-
Ring-billed Gull	Larus delawarensis	S3S4B, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Rock Pigeon	Columba livia	SNA	-	-	-	Buildings, concrete structures.	April to September*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•
Rose-breasted Grosbeak	Pheucticus ludovicianus	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula	S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Mid-May to end of July	•	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-
Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	S5	_	_	-	_	-	•	_	•	•	_	-	-	-

		ACCDC	ND CADA		CADA	Preferred Nesting		2018 Surveys 2019 Surveys							
C N	C - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 - 1 -			COCEVAC			T	Fall Mi	igration		Spring Migration				
Common Name	Scientific Name	(S-rank) <sup>1</sup>	NB SARA	COSEWIC	SARA	Habitat <sup>2</sup>	Typical Nest Timing <sup>3</sup>	Line transects	Watch count	Winter Residents	Line transects	Watch count	Nocturnal Owl	Common Nighthawk	Breeding Bird
Rusty Blackbird	Euphagus carolinus	S3B, S3M	Special Concern	Special Concern	Special Concern (Sch.1)	Trees and shrubs near water.	-	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	-
Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	S4S5B, S5M	-	-	-	On the ground.	Mid-May to end of July	-	•	-	-	•	-	-	•
Semipalmated Plover	Charadrius semipalmatus	SNRB, S4S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	•	-	-	-
Sharp-shinned Hawk	Accipiter striatus	S4B, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•	-	-	-
Snow Bunting	Plectrophenax nivalis	S5N, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-
Snow Goose	Anser caerulescens	S2M	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Shrubbery.	Early May to late July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularius	S3S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Edge of a body of water, on the ground.	Mid-May to early July	•	•	-	-	•	-	-	•
Swainson's Thrush	Catharus ustulatus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Deciduous shrubs.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	•
Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	In a patch of vegetation less than 3-feet off the ground, or on the ground.	Early May to early July	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	•
Tennessee Warbler	Oreothlypis peregrina	S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground in hummock or at base of small shrub or tree.	Late May to early July	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	•
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	Cavity nester.	Early May to early July	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Turkey Vulture	Cathartes aura	S3B, S3M	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-
Veery	Catharus fuscescens	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	On or near the ground.	Mid-May to mid-July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•
White-crowned Sparrow	Zonotrichia leucophrys	S4M	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	-	-	-	-	-
White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground at forest edge.	Late May to late July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
White-winged Crossbill	Loxia leucoptera	S5	-	-	-	Spruce tree near trunk.	Begins early February*	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•
Wilson's Snipe	Gallinago delicata	S3S4B, S5M	-	-	-	-	-	-	•	-	•	•	-	-	-
Wilson's Warbler	Cardellina pusilla	S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Small depressions on the ground.	Late May to late July	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•
Winter Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Cavities.	Early May to early August	-	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Yellow Warbler	Dendroica petechia	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Edges and disturbed areas.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	-	•	<b>*</b>	-	-	•
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Empidonax flaviventris	S4S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground, Under Roots, rotten logs.	Early June to early August	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	•
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Cavity nester.	Mid-May to late July	•	•	-	•	•	-	-	•
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Dendroica coronata	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Forest with conifers.	Late May to late July	•	-	-	•	•	-	-	•
Species Count (+# = specie	es only observed incidentally	)	•					39	48(+1)	11	67(+2)	65(+2)	0	0	69(+4)
	uding unidentified species, b		dental observat	ions)				651	1,374	60	863	759	0	0	833

Rarity Rankings and legal protection are current as of August 2019

- ♦ Species only observed incidentally during survey
- 1 Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC) S-ranks for Vertebrates in New Brunswick.
- 2 Preferred nesting habitats only noted for species observed during breeding season. Typical nest timing for Ecodistrict Northumberland Strait, Nesting Zone C3, New Brunswick; only included for species observed during the breeding season.
- 3 Nesting period from Baicich, P.J., and C.J.O Harrison (2005). Nests, Eggs, and Nestlings of North American Birds (2nd Edition). Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

Cells highlights in light gray indicate Species of Conservation Concern (SOCC) - S1 to S3S4

Cells highlighted in dark gray indicate Species at Risk (SAR)

Table A-2 Chaleur Ventus Master Avian Species List for the Collection Line (62 species)

			ible A-2 Ch			List for the Conection Line (62 species			2019 Surveys	
Common Name	Scientific Name	ACCDC (S-rank) <sup>1</sup>	NB SARA	COSEWIC	SARA	Preferred Nesting Habitat <sup>2</sup>	Typical Nest Timing <sup>3</sup>	Nocturnal Owl	Common Nighthawk	Breeding Bird
Alder Flycatcher	Empidonax alnorum	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Low in shrubbery.	Mid-June to early August	-	-	•
American Crow	Corvus brachyrhynchos	S5	-	-	-	Trees.	Mid-April to mid-July	-	-	•
American Goldfinch	Carduelis tristis	S5	-	-	-	Shrub or sapling in open areas.	Late June to end of Sept.	-	-	•
American Kestrel	Falco sparverius	S4B, S4S5M	-	-	-	Tree cavity.	Mid-April to early August	-	-	•
American Redstart	Setophaga ruticilla	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Small trees.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	•
American Robin	Turdus migratorius	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Everywhere.	May to end of July	-	-	•
Bay-breasted Warbler	Dendroica castanea	S4B, S4S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Late May to early Aug.	-	-	•
Black-and-white Warbler	Mniotilta varia	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground among trees.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	•
Blackburnian Warbler	Dendroica fusca	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	•
Black-capped Chickadee	Poecile atricapilla	S5	-	-	-	Nest cavities in rotten tree stumps.	Early May to early July	-	-	•
Black-throated Blue Warbler	Setophaga caerulescens	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Deciduous or mixedwood.	Late May to late July	-	-	•
Black-throated Green Warbler	Dendroica virens	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Coniferous or mixed forest.	June to late July	-	-	•
Blue Jay	Cyanocitta cristata	S5	-	-	-	Trees.	Late April to early July	-	-	•
Blue-headed Vireo	Vireo solitarius	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Forest.	Mid-May to late July	-	-	•
Broad-winged Hawk	Buteo platypterus	S5B,S5M	-	-	-	Forest.	Early May to early August	-	-	•
Brown Creeper	Certhia americana	S5	-	-	-	Mature forest, old dead trunks.	Early May to mid-July	-	-	•
Canada Warbler	Wilsonia canadensis	S3B, S3M	Threatened	Threatened	Threatened (Sch.1)	Variety of forest types, prefer wet mixed forest with well-developed shrub layer.	June to late July	-	•	
Cape May Warbler	Setophaga tigrina	S3B, S4S5M	-	-	-	Spruce trees, 40-50 ft above ground.	June to late July	-	-	•
Cedar Waxwing	Bombycilla cedrorum	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Open woods.	Mid-June to late August	-	-	•
Chestnut-sided Warbler	Dendroica pensylvanica	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Low shrubs, raspberry canes.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	•
Chipping Sparrow	Spizella passerina	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Edges, woods.	Late May to late July	-	-	•
Common Grackle	Quiscalus quiscula	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Open and cultivated country, especially wetter areas.	Late April to early July	-	-	•
Common Nighthawk	Chordeiles minor	S3B, S4M	Threatened	Special Concern	Threatened (Sch.1)	Open habitats.	Begins late May/early June*	-	•	
Common Raven	Corvus corax	S5	-	-	-	Trees, cliffs, buildings.	Begins mid-April*	-	-	•
Common Yellowthroat	Geothlypis trichas	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Brushy areas.	Late May to late July	-	-	•
Dark-eyed Junco	Junco hyemalis	S5	-	-	-	Forest edge.	Mid-May to early August	-	-	•
Double-crested Cormorant	Phalacrocorax auritus	S5B, S5M	-	Not at Risk	-	Larger water on small islands or islets, isolated rocks, trees, cliff ledges.	May to early August	-	-	•
Eastern Phoebe	Sayornis phoebe	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Around farms or other buildings near fresh running water.	Early May to late July	-	-	•
Golden-crowned Kinglet	Regulus satrapa	S5	-	-	-	Coniferous forest.	Early May to early August	-	-	•
Great Horned Owl	Bubo virginianus	S4	-	-	-	Trees, adopting nests built by another species.	Early April start*	•	-	-
Hermit Thrush	Catharus guttatus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground nester.	Mid-May to late July	-	-	•
Least Flycatcher	Empidonax minimus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Broad-leafed woods.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	•
Magnolia Warbler	Dendroica magnolia	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Late May to late July	-	-	•
Mourning Dove	Zenaida macroura	S5B, S5M, S4N	-	-	-	Trees, open-grown conifers (e.g., windbreaks).	Late April to early August	-	-	•
Nashville Warbler	Vermivora ruficapilla	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Open woods/shrubs.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	•

								2019 Surveys			
Common Name	Scientific Name	ACCDC (S-rank) <sup>1</sup>	NB SARA	COSEWIC	SARA	Preferred Nesting Habitat <sup>2</sup>	Typical Nest Timing <sup>3</sup>	Nocturnal Owl	Common Nighthawk	Breeding Bird	
Northern Flicker	Colaptes auratus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Cavities.	Early May to late July	-	-	•	
Northern Parula	Parula americana	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Bearded lichen in conifer.	June to end of July	-	-	•	
Northern Saw-whet Owl	Aegolius acadicus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Previously excavated holes in dead snags.	Bgins mid-March/April, ends by late June*	•	-	-	
Olive-sided Flycatcher	Contopus cooperi	S3B, S3M	Threatened	Special Concern	Threatened (Sch.1)	Trees.	Early June to early August	-	-	•	
Ovenbird	Seiurus aurocapilla	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	•	
Pileated Woodpecker	Dryocopus pileatus	S5	-	-	-	Cavity nester.	End of April to early July	-	-	•	
Pine Siskin	Carduelis pinus	S3	-	-	-	Conifers.	Early April to early August	-	-	•	
Purple Finch	Carpodacus purpureus	S4S5B, SUN, S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Mid-May to late July	-	-	•	
Red-breasted Nuthatch	Sitta canadensis	S5	-	-	-	Excavated from dead trees.	Early May to early July	-	-	•	
Red-eyed Vireo	Vireo olivaceus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Forest.	June to end of July	-	-	•	
Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Regulus calendula	S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Conifers.	Mid-May to end of July	-	-	•	
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	Archilochus colubris	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Slender, often descending branch, usually of deciduous trees.	Begins early June*	-	-	•	
Ruffed Grouse	Bonasa umbellus	S5	-	-	-	Base of tree.	Begins early May*	-	-	•	
Savannah Sparrow	Passerculus sandwichensis	S4S5B, S5M	-	-	-	On the ground.	Mid-May to end of July	-	-	•	
Song Sparrow	Melospiza melodia	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Shrubbery.	Mid-May to late July	-	-	•	
Spotted Sandpiper	Actitis macularius	S3S4B, S5M	-	-	-	Edge of a body of water, on the ground.	Mid-May to early July	-	-	•	
Swainson's Thrush	Catharus ustulatus	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Deciduous shrubs.	Late May to mid-July	-	-	•	
Swamp Sparrow	Melospiza georgiana	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	In a patch of vegetation less than 3-feet off the ground, or on the ground.	Early May to early July	-	-	•	
Tree Swallow	Tachycineta bicolor	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	Cavity nester.	Early May to early July	-	-	•	
Veery	Catharus fuscescens	S4B, S4M	-	-	-	On or near the ground.	Mid-May to mid-July	-	-	•	
White-throated Sparrow	Zonotrichia albicollis	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground at forest edge.	Late May to late July	-	-	•	
White-winged Crossbill	Loxia leucoptera	S5	-	-	-	Spruce tree near trunk.	Begins early February*	-	-	•	
Wilson's Snipe	Gallinago delicata	S3S4B, S5M	-	-	-	On the ground close to or even surrounded by water.	Early May to mid-July	-	-	•	
Winter Wren	Troglodytes troglodytes	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Cavities.	Early May to early August	-	-	•	
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher	Empidonax flaviventris	S4S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Ground, Under Roots, rotten logs.	Early June to early August	-	-	•	
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Sphyrapicus varius	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Cavity nester.	Mid-May to late July	-	-	•	
Yellow-rumped Warbler	Dendroica coronata	S5B, S5M	-	-	-	Forest with conifers.	Late May to late July	-	-	•	
Species Count	<u> </u>							1(+1)	1(+1)	59	
Individuals observed (including	unidentified species)							2	7	620	

Notes:

Rarity Rankings and legal protection are current as of August 2019

- ♦ Species only observed incidentally during survey
- 1 Atlantic Canada Conservation Data Centre (ACCDC) S-ranks for Vertebrates in New Brunswick.
- 2 Preferred nesting habitats only noted for species observed during breeding season. Typical nest timing for Ecodistrict Northumberland Strait, Nesting Zone C3, New Brunswick; only included for species observed during the breeding season.
- 3 Nesting period from Baicich, P.J., and C.J.O Harrison (2005). Nests, Eggs, and Nestlings of North American Birds (2nd Edition). Princeton, New Jersey: Princeton University Press.

Cells highlights in light gray indicate Species of Conservation Concern (SOCC) - S1 to S3S4

Cells highlighted in dark gray indicate Species at Risk (SAR)

## B FIGURES















