



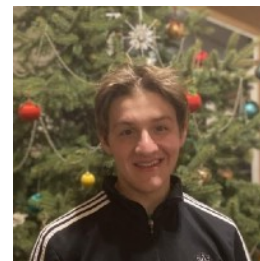
NORTHUMBERLAND  
LAND TRUST

## NLT Birding Marathon 2024

### Lone Pine Marsh Nature Reserve - Leslie Abram and Jacob McLaren - 2024 May 14



Calm rainy days can be great for birding, so despite the wet forecast we decided to do the Lone Pine Marsh Birding Marathon on Tuesday anyway. The day started out at 4:00 a.m., and as we got out of the car we heard an Eastern Whip-poor-will and a Least Bittern calling. The Canada Geese then started honking, which was a sound that would set a backdrop for the rest of the day, as dozens of Canada Geese and their families make the marsh home.



At daybreak we split up, with Jacob birding the field and watching the skies on the north side of the marsh, and Leslie going into the forest to the west and south. This time of day is a feast for the senses. It is early morning when the almost overwhelming sounds and sights around the marsh make us realize how important this nature reserve is for wildlife. Trying to pick out individual bird songs can be a challenge and requires almost an exhausting amount of concentration! It is also a very fun way to spend a morning.

Some highlights of the day included views of Green Herons, Great Egrets, Common Gallinule, and American Bitterns in the marsh, and a female Common Merganser sitting on top of one of the Wood Duck nest boxes that were put up last year.

Eastern Bluebirds, Tree Swallows (right), and House Wrens were going in and out of the smaller nest boxes with food for their young.



As the day warmed up the warblers began to sing, and the Bobolinks and Eastern Meadowlarks began to fly around displaying in the upper fields.

We missed many of the usual raptors because of the rainy weather, but we believe that the unsettled weather overnight may have slowed down the migration of some other species of birds, so we still had a great total for the day.

Both of our individual lists had 84 species, including 15 that the other person did not see or hear. So this brought our Birding Marathon species total to an amazing yet somehow painful 99 species of birds!

#### The full list:

Canada Goose

Downy Woodpecker

Chipping Sparrow

Mute Swan

Hairy Woodpecker

White-throated Sparrow

Wood Duck

Pileated Woodpecker

Savannah Sparrow

Blue-winged Teal	Northern Flicker	Song Sparrow
Mallard	Least Flycatcher	Swamp Sparrow
Hooded Merganser	Eastern Phoebe	<b><u>Bobolink</u></b> <sup>T</sup>
Common Merganser	<b><u>Eastern Wood-Pewee</u></b> <sup>SC</sup>	<b><u>Eastern Meadowlark</u></b> <sup>T</sup>
Wild Turkey	Great Crested Flycatcher	Baltimore Oriole
Ruffed Grouse	Eastern Kingbird	Red-winged Blackbird
Ring-necked Pheasant	Warbling Vireo	Brown-headed Cowbird
Mourning Dove	Red-eyed Vireo	<b><u>Rusty Blackbird</u></b> <sup>SC</sup>
<b><u>Eastern Whip-poor-will</u></b> <sup>T</sup>	Blue Jay	Common Grackle
Ruby-throated Hummingbird	American Crow	Ovenbird
Virginia Rail	Common Raven	Black-and-white Warbler
Sora	Black-capped Chickadee	Tennessee Warbler
Common Gallinule	Tree Swallow	Nashville Warbler
Killdeer	<b><u>Barn Swallow</u></b> <sup>SC</sup>	Mourning Warbler
American Woodcock	Ruby-crowned Kinglet	Common Yellowthroat
Ring-billed Gull	White-breasted Nuthatch	American Redstart
Caspian Tern	Brown Creeper	Cape May Warbler
Common Loon	House Wren	Magnolia Warbler
Double-crested Cormorant	Winter Wren	Northern Parula
American Bittern	Marsh Wren	Yellow Warbler
<b><u>Least Bittern</u></b> <sup>T</sup>	European Starling	Chestnut-sided Warbler
Green Heron	Gray Catbird	Black-throated Blue Warbler
Great Egret	Eastern Bluebird	Pine Warbler
Turkey Vulture	Veery	Yellow-rumped Warbler
Northern Harrier	<b><u>Wood Thrush</u></b> <sup>SC</sup>	Black-throated Green Warbler
Broad-winged Hawk	Hermit Thrush	Wilson's Warbler
Belted Kingfisher	American Robin	Scarlet Tanager
<b><u>Red-headed Woodpecker</u></b> <sup>E</sup>	Cedar Waxwing	Northern Cardinal
Yellow-bellied Sapsucker	Purple Finch	Rose-breasted Grosbeak
Red-bellied Woodpecker	American Goldfinch	Indigo Bunting

*[Editor's note: Species At Risk are in **bold** and underlined. Superscripts denote the risk category: E = Endangered; T = Threatened; SC = Special Concern]*