

Merrymeeting Audubon Field Trip - Shorebird Sunday

This morning at Wharton Point, six birders began to observe the shorebirds as they foraged on the incoming tide. However, the impending rain, which could be seen far out in the bay, made its way toward us from the southwest, soon overtaking our viewing position.

Even though today's Shorebird Sunday was postponed from yesterday morning's rainout (Shorebird Saturday), we did not fare much better this morning, with only about 40 minutes of rain-free viewing. Our bird count (which on a normal morning (without rain) at this location during August may total 40+) was a respectable 28 species.

Following, is the bird list, which can also be accessed on eBird at <https://ebird.org/checklist/S190171217>

Canada Goose 2
Mallard 2
American Black Duck 8 *First group of the summer/fall season. All together, foraging in shallow water on the incoming tide.*
Common Eider 85
Surf Scoter 42 *Exact count. Continuing from 07-17-24. Most located in raft in bay out toward the Mere Point peninsula.*
Black-bellied Plover 11
Semipalmated Plover 5
Greater Yellowlegs 9
Semipalmated Sandpiper 10
Laughing Gull 2
Ring-billed Gull 40
Herring Gull 110 *Most perched on oyster cages out in the bay.*
Great Black-backed Gull 6
Common Tern 15
Double-crested Cormorant 55 *Most perched on oyster cages out in the bay.*
Snowy Egret 12
Great Blue Heron 10
Bald Eagle 1
Downy Woodpecker 1
American Crow 6
Black-capped Chickadee 1
Tree Swallow 1
Gray Catbird 1
Eastern Bluebird 2
American Goldfinch 5
Song Sparrow 6
Yellow Warbler 1
Northern Cardinal 1