

Antrim Woodlot Bird Survey

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Conducted June 10, 11, 17 & 18 – 2000

The bird survey of the Antrim Woodlot was conducted over two weekends in June 2000 (specific dates being June 10, 11, 17 & 18). Sunday, June 11 was very rainy and little birding could be done, as there were only short breaks in the downpour, and when it rained it was heavy enough to cause all birds to cease singing. The weekend of the 17th and 18th was hot, with highs in Nova Scotia reaching 30 degrees Celsius. Birding was done between the hours of 5:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. Bird vocalizations drop off significantly after the early morning hours. The majority of the birds recorded were heard but not seen. In most cases it is the male of the species that does the singing. However, in some species both male and female birds are known to sing. We are confident that the majority of the birds heard were indeed male.

A total of 294 birds were identified, representing 43 species. A Ruffed Grouse heard in early May but not seen during the June count was included, since the drumming heard in May is performed to establish territory and to attract a mate. A couple of species, namely the Barn Swallow and Rock Dove, were simply observed flying overhead and probably were not nesting in the woodlot, since it does not appear to provide their preferred nesting habitat.

Many of the species encountered in the Antrim Woodlot are known to breed in coniferous or mixed woods. There were thirteen species that had ten or more individual birds counted. They run the range of those species requiring fairly closed canopies (e.g. Swainson's Thrush) to those which inhabit forest openings (e.g. White-throated Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco). The most abundant bird in the woodlot was the Black-throated Green Warbler.

The majority of birds were identified on the tally sheet as SHSNH (Seen or Heard in Suitable Nesting Habitat). If a partner is available it is reasonable to expect that these birds will nest (Or are nesting) in this area.

Species	Observed	SHSNH*	MFST**	Confirmed
Black-throated Green Warbler		24		
Dark-eyed Junco		19	2	
Yellow-rumped Warbler		16		1 (carrying food)
Magnolia Warbler		17		
Yellow-bellied Flycatcher		16		
Ovenbird		16		
Whit-throated Sparrow		12		1 (carrying food)
Ruby-crowned Kinglet		12		
Red-eyed Vireo		12		
American Robin		12		
American Goldfinch		11		
Swainson's Thrush		10		
Hermit Thrush		10		1 (carrying food)
Blue Jay		9		
Black-capped Chickadee		9		
Blackburnian Warbler		6	2	
Nashville Warbler		7		
Common Yellow Throat		7		
Northern Parula Warbler		5		
Black and White Warbler		5		
Evening Grosbeak		5		
Golden-crowned Kinglet		4		
Eastern Wood Peewee		4		
Common Raven		4		
Mourning Dove		3		
Gray Jay		3		1 (fledgling)
Cedar Waxwing		3		
American Crow		3		
Olive Sided Flycatcher		2		
Common Nighthawk		2		
Brown Creeper		2		
Boreal Chickadee		2		
Solitary Vireo		2		
Red-breasted Nuthatch		1		
Palm Warbler		1		
Northern Flicker		1		
Least Flycatcher		1		
Hairy Woodpecker		1		
Downy Woodpecker		1		
Barred Owl		1		
Rock Dove	3			
Barn Swallow	1			
Ruffed Grouse ***		1		
Birds counted:	4	282	4	4
Total Birds Counted:	294			
Total Species Identified:	43			

SHSNH – Seen or Heard in Suitable Nesting Habitat

MFST – Male & female Seen Together (high probability they are paired for nesting)

***Totals includes on Ruffed Grouse present in early May but not identified during count

--Two unidentified swallows not recorded in count