

# Birding Trail of southern New Brunswick



ew Brunswick is uniquely situated to be an exciting birding destination throughout the year. New Brunswick is a picturesque province with a wide range of habitats for birds, from marine coastlines to marshes to Acadian forest. Situated along a migratory flyway, New Brunswick hosts thousands of migrating birds each spring and fall and is an important stopover site for many species. New Brunswick is also visited by many vagrant or stray birds that get redirected to this region by weather patterns along the Atlantic coast. Avid birdwatchers have documented more than 420 bird species in New Brunswick. We welcome you to explore our beautiful province to discover our rich diversity of birds!

Southern New Brunswick is an extraordinary area for observing migratory birds. Mudflats along the Bay of Fundy are critical stopovers for millions of migrating shorebirds, like Semipalmated Sandpipers, Red Knots, and Black-bellied Plovers. Islands that dot the bay host nesting colonies of seabirds, like the Black-legged Kittiwake. Southern New Brunswick also boasts an impressive variety of raptors and a myriad of wetlands teeming with marsh birds. There is no shortage of remarkable species to admire along this birding trail.



Osprey, Carmella Melanson; Wood Duck and Black-capped Chickadee, Brian Stone; Turkey Vulture, Hank Scarth.

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The sites in this guide were carefully selected by local naturalists to offer a wide range of birding opportunities for visiting birdwatchers of all skill and interest levels. All of the sites listed here are accessible to the public. See individual site descriptions for the best time to visit each site. This guide was produced with funding support from the Environment and Climate Change Canada.

# Éthique de l'observation d'oiseaux

Les observateurs d'oiseaux responsables respectent le bien-être des oiseaux et de leur environnement. Afin d'éviter de stresser les oiseaux, suivez les directives du Code d'éthique d'observation d'oiseaux de la American Birding Association. Ci-dessous se retrouve un extrait (le code complet est disponible en ligne au listing.aba.org/ethics):

Limiter l'utilisation d'enregistrements pour attirer les oiseaux; ne jamais utiliser des enregistrements afin d'attirer des espèces en péril et ne jamais utiliser des enregistrements pendant la saison de reproduction.

Demeurer loin des nids, des colonies, des nichoirs et des sites d'alimentation.

Utiliser peu de lumière artificielle pour la photographie ou les vidéos.

Avant d'annoncer la présence d'un oiseau rare, évaluez le potentiel de perturbation pour l'oiseau, les environs et les gens de la région.

Garder les groupes assez petits pour limiter l'impact sur l'environnement et limiter les perturbations pour les oiseaux et les autres êtres vivants.

Demeurer sur les routes et les sentiers, où ils existent et limiter la perturbation de l'habitat.

Ne pas mettre pied sur les propriétés privées sans la permission explicite du propriétaire.

Suivre toutes les lois et les règlements gouvernant l'utilisation des routes et des lieux publics.

Être courtois lorsque vous êtes en contact avec d'autres personnes. Votre comportement exemplaire aidera à générer de la bonne volonté parmi les observateurs d'oiseaux et les autres également.





Responsible birders respect the welfare of birds and their environment. To avoid undue stress on birds, follow the American Birding Association Code of Birding Ethics, excerpted below (full code available online at listing.aba.org/ethics):

Limit the use of recordings to attract birds; never use recordings to attract species at risk and never use recordings during breeding season.

Keep well back from nests, nesting colonies, roosts, display areas, and feeding sites.

Use artificial light sparingly for photography or filming.

Before advertising the presence of a rare bird, evaluate the potential for disturbance to the bird, its surroundings, and people in the area.

Keep groups to a size that limits impact on the environment and limits disturbance to birds and others.

Stay on roads and trails where they exist and keep habitat disturbance to a minimum.

Do not enter private property without owner's explicit permission.

Follow all laws and regulations governing use of roads and public areas.

Practice common courtesy in contacts with other people. Your exemplary behavior will generate goodwill with birders and non-birders alike.



Nature NB is a non-profit, charitable organization whose mission is to celebrate, conserve and protect New Brunswick's natural heritage through education, networking, and collaboration.

Nature NB est un organisme de bienfaisance à but non lucratif qui a comme mission de célébrer, conserver et protéger le patrimoine naturel du Nouveau-Brunswick par l'éducation, le réseautage et la collaboration.









# St. Andrews

Town with whale watching, kayaking bike rentals, and birdwatching. Open waters of the Bay of Fundy, rocky islands with seabird colonies, rocky shorelines, mudflats, woodlands, and sewage lagoons. Town wharf accessible during daylight hours. Bay of Fundy and the Western Isles accessible via whale watching boats.

From Fredericton: Follow Route 3S to Route 127S. From Saint John/Moncton: Follow Route 1W to Route 127N.

☑ Black Legged Kittiwake, Northern Gannet, Atlantic Puffin, Razorbill, Guillemots, raptors, shorebirds, gulls, sea ducks.



# 2 St. George Marsh

Freshwater marsh with alder thickets and mixed woodlands. Trails observation decks, gazebo, benches, and birdhouses. Open to the public. Accessible year-round.

Park at St. George Curling Club or end of Manor Rd. From Route 1, take exit 52 to Manor Rd Connector Rd, then right on Manor Rd.

Or: From Route 1, take exit 52 to St. George, then left on Brunswick St and left on Marsh Lane to Curling

American Bittern, Least Bittern, Virginia Rail, Sora, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal, Ring-necked Duck, Wood Duck, Pied-billed Grebe, Osprey, Eastern Kingbird, Common Nighthawk, Bobolink, Turkey Vulture, swallows, sparrows, warblers.





St. Andrews

Ville proposant des activités d'obser-

locations de vélos et de l'observation

d'oiseaux. Eaux libres de la baie de

Fundy, îles rocheuses abritant des

colonies d'oiseaux de mer, côtes

rocheuses, terres boisées et étangs

d'épuration. Le quai de la ville est

accessible le jour. La baie de Fundy

et les îles Western sont accessibles

À partir de Fredericton : Suivre

la Route 3S jusqu'à la Route 127S.

Mouette tridactyle, Fou de Bassan,

quillemots, rapaces, oiseaux de rivage,

goélands et mouettes, canards de mer.

Marais de St. George

Marais d'eau douce avec des fourrés

d'aulnes et des forêts mixtes. Sentiers,

plateformes d'observation, belvédère

bancs et nichoirs. Ouvert au public.

Stationner au Club de curling

la sortie 52 vers chemin Manor/

chemin Connector, puis tourner

à droite sur le chemin Manor.

direction du Club de curling.

de St. George ou au bout du chemin

Manor.À partir de la Route 1, prendre

Ou : À partir de la Route 1, prendre la

sortie 52 vers St. George, puis tourner

à gauche sur la rue Brunswick, puis à

gauche sur la promenade Marsh en

Butor d'Amérique, Petit Blongios,

Râle de Virginie, Marouette de Caroline,

Sarcelle d'hiver, Sarcelle à ailes bleues,

Fuliqule à collier, Canard branchu, Grèbe

à bec bigarré, Balbuzard pêcheur, Tyran

tritri, Engoulevent d'Amérique, Goglu des

prés, Urubu à tête rouge, hirondelles,

bruants, parulines.

Accessible toute l'année.

À partir de Saint John/Moncton :

Suivre la Route 1W jusqu'à la

Macareux moine, Petit Pingoui

à bord des bateaux d'observation

de baleines.

vation de baleines, du kayak, des

Rocky point protruding into L'Etete Passage, near the Passamaquoddy Bay. Lighthouse, picnic area, and small museum. Accessible year-round. The foghorn is automated and may turn on if fog is present.

Neep on Route 172S through Back Bay and L'Etete. Keep left at fork to merge onto Green's Point Road. Follow road to a parking area near the lighthouse.

Various seabirds includina Purple Sandpiper eider, alcids, geese, loons, cormorants, grebes, gannets, and nesting Bald Eagle.

# 

# Grand Manan

coastline, rocky islands with seabird Machias Seal Island and outer bay accessible via whale watching boats.

Neep on Route 176 through Black's Harbour. The ferry termina is at the end of Route 176.

# 4 Grand Manan

La plus grande des îles occidentales

Continuer sur la Route 176 et traverser Blacks Harbour. Le terminal de traversier se trouve au bout

Oiseaux chanteurs, oiseaux de rivage, échassiers, canards de mer et la plus grande probabilité de trouver des oiseaux rares au Nouveau-Brunswick. Au large : Fulmar boréal, puffins, phalaropes, labbes, alcidés.

# **3** Pointe Green's

Pointe rocheuse qui avance dans le Passage de l'Etete, à proximité de la baie Passamaquoddy. Phare, zone de pique-nique et petit musée. Accessible toute l'année. La corne de brume est automatisée et peut s'activer en cas de brume.

Demeurer sur la Route 172S qui traverse Black Bay et L'Etete. Demeurer à gauche à la bifurcation pour converger vers le chemin Green's Point. Suivre le chemin jusqu'à l'aire de stationnement près du phare.

Divers oiseaux de mer, notamment Bécasseau violacé, Eider, alcidés, oies, plongeons, cormorans, grèbes, Fou de Bassan et Pygargue à tête blanche en période de nidification.

**5** Musquash Marsh

Estuary bordered by extensive

Protected Area at the estuary's

mouth. Dykes impound sections

of the marsh and can be walked.

From Route 1, take exit 103,

turn left and continue to follow

Prince of Wales Rd to a dirt road

that parallels the highway until it

forks. Park there and walk along the

right branch for 2 km to the marsh.

American Bittern, Least Bittern,

Nelson's Sparrow, Eastern Kingbird,

ducks, swallows, and birds of prey.

Virginia Rail, Sora, Marsh Wren,

marshes. Includes a Marine

Accessible year-round.

Largest of the Western Isles and great migrant trap. Open waters of the bay, colonies, woodlands, fields, freshwater ponds. Accessible year-round by ferry.

Songbirds, shorebirds, waders, sea-ducks, and the greatest potential of rarities in New Brunswick, Offshore: Northern Fulmar, Shearwaters, Phalaropes, Jaegers, Alcids.

et un véritable aimant à oiseaux migrateurs. Eaux libres de la baie littoral, îles rocheuses avec des colonies d'oiseaux de mer, terres boisées, champs, étangs d'eau douce. Accessible toute l'année en traversier. L'île Machias Seal et l'extérieur de la baie sont accessibles à bord de bateau d'observation de baleines

de la Route 176.



# 6 Saint's Rest Marsh, **Irving Nature Park**

Parklands encompassing gravel beaches, marshes, fields, woodlands, and thickets. Boardwalk and numerous trails. Open year-round; no vehicle access during winter.

From Route 1W, take exit 119A: from Route 1E, take exit 119A-B. Turn right on Bleury St, then right on Sand Cove Rd. Parking is available at the Nature Park. Various shorebirds, waders, ducks,

# 6 Marais Saints Rest/ **Parc naturel Irving**

migrating songbirds, raptors.

Parc composé de plages de graviers, de marais, de champs, de forêt et de fourrés. Promenade de bois et de nombreux sentiers. Ouvert toute l'année; aucun accès pour les véhicules en hiver.

→ À partir de la Route 1W, prendre la sortie 119A; à partir de la Route 1E, prendre la sortie 119A-B. Tourner à droite sur la rue Bleury, puis à droite sur le chemin Sand Cove. Stationner au Parc naturel.

Divers oiseaux de rivage, échassiers, canards, oiseaux chanteurs en migration, rapaces.

# 

# **5** Marais de Musquash

Estuaire bordé de grands marais. Comprend une aire marine protégée à l'embouchure de l'estuaire. Des digues s'avancent dans des sections du marais et peuvent être empruntées. Accessible toute l'année.

À partir de la Route 1, prendre la sortie 103, tourner à gauche et continuer à suivre le chemin Prince of Wales jusqu'à un chemin de terre parallèle à la route jusqu'à une bifurcation. Stationner à cet endroit et marcher le long de la bifurcation de droite pendant 2 km jusqu'au marais.

hirondelles et oiseaux de proie.

Butor d'Amérique, Petit Blongios, Râle de Virginie, Marouette de Caroline, Troglodyte des marais, Bruant de Nelson, Tyran tritri, canards,

# **8** Pointe Mary's

Plage de sable avec de grandes vasières exposées à marée basse. Fait partie de la Réserve nationale de faune de Shepody (ses terres humides sont désignées comme site Ramsar d'importance internationale), de la Réserve de biosphère de Fundy et du Réseau de réserves pour les oiseaux de rivage dans l'hémisphère occidental.

**Rotary Nature Park** 

Marais, étangs d'épuration, forêts et

sentiers dans le Parc naturel Rotary et le marais de Hampton. Hampton

abrite l'une des plus grandes aires

de repos de vautours au Nouveau-

Brunswick. Observation de canards

depuis le sentier et d'oiseaux chanteurs

dans les bois. Il y a un dortoir de Mar-

tinets ramoneurs dans l'ancien bureau

de poste adjacent au rond-point de la

rue Main. Vue du marais de Hampton

depuis un espace de stationnement sur

e bord du chemin Kennebecasis River.

À partir de la Route 1, prendre la

sortie 158 et suivre les panneaux en

direction de Hampton. Prendre la 3e

sur le chemin Cemetary, l'aire de

Urubu à tête rouge, Martinet

râles, rapaces.

ramoneur, oiseaux chanteurs, canards,

sortie au rond-point pour rester sur la

**Rotary Nature Park** 

Marshes, sewage lagoons, woodlands,

and trails within the Rotary Nature

Park and Hampton Marsh. Home to

one of NB's largest vulture roosts. See

ducks from the trail and songbirds in

Main St. roundabout. View Hampton

From Route 1, take exit 158 and

Street, slight left onto Cemetery Rd,

follow signs for Hampton. Take 3rd

exit at roundabout to stay on Main

Turkey Vulture, Chimney Swift,

songbirds, ducks, rails, raptors.

Marsh from a parking spot on the side

the woods. Chimney Swift roost at

the old post office adjacent to the

of Kennebecasis River Road.

parking area on the left.

**8** Mary's Point

Reserve Network.

Mary's Point Road.

Peregrine Falcon, Merlin.

Sandy beach with extensive mudflats

importance, Fundy Biosphere Reserve

and Western Hemisphere Shorebird

exposed at low tide. Part of the

Shepody National Wildlife Area,

Ramsar wetland of international

From Route 114, turn south

and Interpretation Centre on

Sandpiper and other shorebirds,

onto Route 915/King Street, then

Huge numbers of Semipalmated

left onto Mary's Point Road. Parking

À partir de la Route 114, tourner vers le sud sur la Route 915/rue King, puis à gauche sur le chemin Mary's Point. Stationnement à la Réserve nationale de faune de Shepody et au centre d'interprétation sur le chemin Mary's Point.

Très grand nombre de Bécasseaux semipalmés et autres oiseaux de rivage, Faucon pèlerin, Faucon émerillon.



# Shepody Marsh

Freshwater and saltwater marshes, agricultural lands, and Ducks nlimited impoundments along the Shepody River. Accessible

From Route 114, turn south onto Route 915/King Street, then left onto Mary's Point Road and left onto Shepody Dam Road. Park at Harvey Bank Shipyard Park. Dirt Roads provide access to portions of the marsh. Red-tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier,

rue Main, prendre légèrement à gauche Rough-legged Hawk, Snowy Owl, Short-eared Owl, Swainson's Hawk, stationnement se trouve sur la gauche. Snow Bunting.

# Marais de Shepody

Marais d'eau douce et d'eau salée, terres agricoles et réservoir de retenue de Canards Illimités le long de la rivière Shepody. Accessible toute l'année.

À partir de la Route 114, tourner vers le sud sur la Route 915/rue King, à gauche sur le chemin Mary's Point, puis à gauche sur le chemin Shepody Dam. Stationner au Harvey Bank Shipyard Park. Des chemins de terre permettent d'accéder à des parties

Buse à queue rousse, Busard des marais, Buse pattue, Harfang des neiges, Hibou des marais, Buse de Swainson, Plectrophane des neiges.

# 

# 10 Riverview Marsh

Marshlands surrounding the Petitcodiac River estuary. Trails along the marsh are part of the Riverfront Trail system that crosses Riverview. Marsh and trails accessible year-round.

From Hillsborough Road, Riverview: Turn onto Point Park Drive and left onto Avondale Drive. Continue straight through the T-intersection to park in a dirt lot or turn left to park at the end of Hawthorne Drive (cul-de-sac).

Snow Bunting, Short-eared Owl, marsh birds, shorebirds and more.

**Birding Trail** of southern **New Brunswick** 

**Route d'observation d'oiseaux** 

dans le sud du **Nouveau-Brunswick** 

# **10** Marais de Riverview

Marais situés de part et d'autre de l'estuaire de la rivière Petitcodiac. Des sentiers le long du marais font partie du réseau de sentiers riverains qui traverse Riverview. Le marais et les sentiers sont accessibles toute l'année.

À partir du chemin Hillsborough, à Riverview Tourner sur la rue Point Park, puis à gauche sur la rue Avondale Continuer tout droit à l'intersection en T vers le parc, dans un emplacement en terre ou tourner à gauche pour stationner au bout de la rue Hawthorne (cul-de-sac).

Plectrophane des neiges,

plus encore.

# **Ⅲ** Sackville **Waterfowl Park**

Award-winning 55-acre park with ponds, wetlands, sewage lagoons, and fields. 3.5 kilometers of trails and boardwalks with observation decks. Maps available in town and online. Accessible year-round.

From Route 2, take exit 504 for Main Street. Follow sign for NB-Marsh birds including American

Hibou des marais, oiseaux des marais, oiseaux de rivage et bien

# m Parc de la sauvagine de Sackville

Pour obtenir de plus amples

renseignements sur ce site,

at www.naturenb.ca.

consulter le site www.naturenb.ca.

Additional site information available

Parc primé de 55 acres avec des disponibles en ville et en ligne.

940S. Turn left onto Mallard Drive. Parking lot is at the end of the road. Bittern, Virginia Rail, Sora, ducks, waders, and songbirds.

étangs, des terres humides, des étangs d'épuration et des champs. Sentiers et promenades de bois de 3,5 km avec des plateformes d'observation. Cartes Accessible toute l'année

À partir de la Route 2, prendre la sortie 504, sur la rue Main. Suivre le panneau NB-940S. Tourner à gauche sur la rue Mallard. L'aire de stationnement se trouve au bout du chemin.

Oiseaux de marais, notamment Butor d'Amérique, Râle de Virginie, Marouette de Caroline, canards, échassiers et oiseaux chanteurs.



# **12** Tantramar Marshes

Freshwater and saltwater marshes and agricultural lands that make one of the best birding destinations in the province. Accessible year-round.

From Route 2, take exit 500. Turn left on Walker Road, left on Main Street, right on Church Street, and right on High Marsh Road. This road runs through the centre of the marsh; multiple spots to stop along to road.

Golden Eagle, Rough-legged Hawk, Snowy Owl, Short-eared Owl, Red-tailed Hawk, Northern Harrier, American Kestrel, Bobolink, Snow Bunting, Northern Shrike, sparrows and more

# **12** Marais Tantramar

Marais d'eau douce et d'eau salée, et terres agricoles qui font de cet endroit la meilleure destination pour l'observation d'oiseaux dans la province. Accessible toute l'année.

À partir de la Route 2, prendre la sortie 500. Tourner à gauche sur le chemin Walker, à gauche sur la rue Main, à droite sur la rue Church et à droite sur le chemin High Marsh. Ce chemin traverse le centre du marais; il y a plusieurs endroits où 'arrêter le long du chemin.

Aigle royal, Buse pattue, Harfang des neiaes. Hibou des marais. Buse à aueue rousse, Busard des marais, Crécerelle d'Amérique, Goglu des prés, Plectrophane des neiges, Pie-grièche boréale, bruants et bien plus encore.



# Addendum

# Additional sites (not on the map)

## 1. Greenlaw Mountain Hawk Watch

Ridge-top viewpoint with mixed woodlands. Professional hawk watcher on site seasonally.

Seasons: late summer, fall

## *Species of interest:*

Nineteen raptor species have been recorded at this site. Migration starts in late August and continues through November. Northern Goshawk and several other raptor species nest on the flanks of the mountain. Warblers, vireos, finches and sparrows, along with many other migrating birds are regularly observed. Rarities have included Greater White-fronted Geese, Snowy Owl, Swainson's Hawks, and Sandhill Cranes.

## Access:

**Private land.** Please contact the project's co-ordinator and official counter (Todd Watts) before attempting to access site. Reaching the hawk watch will require up to 45 minutes of travel on foot. **No vehicular access is allowed.** 

## Notes:

The official counter leads observations and can help visitors learn about migrating hawks. Mornings and late afternoon tend to produce the lowest flying birds. The walk to the site (an uphill walk that might take as long as 45 minutes) can produce fair numbers of migrating songbirds.

http://saintjohnnaturalistsclub.org/GMHW.htm

# 2. Kerr's Ridge

A roadside viewpoint with good potential for viewing migrating raptors.

Seasons: spring

Species of interest: Birds of prey.

Access: Park on the side of Basin Access Road (off route 1), a little uphill of the blueberry fields.

## Notes:

Southern winds with a western component are best. Some migrants pass directly overhead. However, a scope is recommended. Morning and late afternoon hours tend to be best. Major movements of Broad-winged Hawk can occur during the afternoon.

## 3. Deer Island

One of the largest of the Western Isles containing various habitats. Numerous viewpoints looking over the bay and its passages.

Seasons: Year-round

# Species of interest:

Sea-ducks and gulls on the water. The biggest draw for birders are the large number of gulls that can be seen in the vicinity of the Old Sow. Various habitats on land hold numerous breeding birds and can attract good numbers of migrants.

## Notes:

Check for King Eider, sea-ducks and alcids when crossing from L'Etete. Gulls bathe in fresh water at Big Meadow Lake (junction of Rt. 772 and NW Harbour Branch Road). Rarities like Little Gull have been observed here. Deer Island Point can be excellent for gulls. One of the largest, if not the largest, marine whirlpool in the world forms here. It is known as the Old Sow. Minke Whale are also seen at this location from mid-summer through fall. The natural harbours on the island can hold large numbers of gulls and sea-ducks during fall, winter and spring. Nearby Head Harbour Passage attracts large numbers of gulls and smaller numbers of alcids. This area used to produce huge concentrations of phalarope.

http://www.deerisland.nb.ca

# 4. Point Lepreau / Maces Bay

Point Lepreau sits at the tip of a peninsula extending 10 kilometres into the Bay of Fundy, providing an excellent vantage point to observe migrating sea-ducks. The point is a rocky head backed by a large grassy area, alder thickets and boreal forest. Maces Bay sits on the west side of the point providing potential staging areas for migrating sea-ducks.

Seasons: spring, fall

# Species of interest:

Black, Surf and White-winged Scoter are the most numerous migrants followed by Common Eider, Long-tailed Duck and Red-throated Loon. Harlequin Ducks are regular. Purple Sandpiper are common during winter and the first couple weeks of spring. All of the eastern alcids are possible here. Razorbill and Black Guillemot are regular. A variety of gulls can be seen here and jaegers are occasionally observed (fall).

## Access:

In order to reach the point, one must pass through the Point Lepreau Generating Station. **Access is limited.** Visitors must pass a RCMP background check and receive permission to visit (this can take up to two weeks). Contact the Saint John Naturalists' Club for more information. A public road can be driven along Maces Bay providing numerous points of observation.

Notes:

The Saint John Naturalists' Club has been monitoring seabird migration at this location since 1996. Many migrants pass quite close. Large numbers of birds often feed just off the point. Harlequin Duck are observed on most days during spring migration. Most mornings at the point include one or two raptors sightings. These birds are often resident birds, but some migrants do move through. Maces Bay can hold large numbers of migrants (sea-ducks) including geese, scoters, loons, grebes and eider.

http://saintjohnnaturalistsclub.org/plbo.htm

# 5. Black Beach

Coastal alder thickets and mixed woodlands. Marine Protected Area. Black Beach Trail is a Nature Conservancy of Canada reserve.

Seasons:

late summer, fall

Species of interest:

One of the best places in the province for migrating songbirds. A long list of birds has been recorded here including several rarities. Look for warblers, vireos, orioles and more.

*Notes:* 

Begin birding at the western edge of the Coleson Cove Generating Station. Move slowly checking both sides of Black Beach Road as well as side trails. The first kilometre is best. However, it is worth continuing all the way to the beach.

http://www.saintjohnnaturalistsclub.org/BirdingAroundSaintJohn.pdf

# 6. Marsh Creek

Small estuary with mudflats in an industrial setting surrounded by fields and manmade structures.

Seasons:

spring, summer, fall

*Species of interest:* 

Ducks, shorebirds, and waders. Raptor sightings are possible.

Access:

The marsh can be best viewed from the end of Hanover Street in Saint John.

http://www.saintjohnnaturalistsclub.org/BirdingAroundSaintJohn.pdf

# 7. Sussex

Small town with walking trails and wetlands.

Seasons: spring, summer, fall

*Species of interest:* 

Chimney Swifts (late spring, summer), ducks at the sewage lagoons (spring, summer, fall) and songbirds along the nature trail (spring, fall).

Notes:

A Chimney Swift roost is located in town. The town's nature trail has potential for migrant songbirds.

http://www.hikingnb.ca/Trails/FundyEast/Sussex/NatureTrail.html

# 8. Fundy National Park

Description: The park contains 206 km<sup>2</sup> of Acadian Forest as well as some Bay of Fundy Coastline. Over 100 km of trails.

Seasons: Year-round

*Species of interest:* 

Many species of songbird. Some shorebirds along the coast. The road running from the TransCanada to Alma often produces various finches in winter.

https://www.pc.gc.ca/en/pn-np/nb/fundy

## 9. Cape Enrage

Coastal headlands with a lighthouse and sweeping views of the bay.

Species of interest: Seabirds

Access: A maintenance road provides access to the lighthouse and the trails.

*Notes:* 

Outstanding viewing of the bay from the lighthouse area. Woods and marshes on the cape have potential for additional birds.

# 10. New Horton Ridge

Roadside observation point with excellent views.

Seasons: spring

Species of interest: Migrating raptors and waterfowl.

Access:

Park at the New Horton Baptist Church 1006 Fundy Coastal Drive Rt. 915 New Horton.

Notes:

Raptors following the edge of the bay move past here, sometimes in significant numbers. The biggest flights of the day tend occur during the morning hours.

# 11. Port Elgin to Cape Jourimain

Coastlines with beaches, marshes, and impoundments. At Cape Jourimain National Wildlife Area there are trails, a nature centre, and observation decks.

Seasons:

spring, summer and fall

*Species of interest:* 

Shorebirds as well as seabirds. Migrating songbirds are possible.

Notes:

Migrating seabirds and shorebirds can be seen at numerous locations. Follow Rt. 960 stopping whenever possible. Port Elgin has a sewage lagoon that is worth checking. The Cape Tormentine Wharf is also worth a stop. From there, take 955 through Bayfield checking the coastline and the impoundments before heading to Cape Jourimain.

http://capejourimain.ca/en/do/birdwatching/

# **Additional information (for sites on the map)**

## St. Andrews

Species of interest:

Whitehorse Island hosts the western hemispheres' southern-most Black Legged Kittiwake colony (active June through August). The open waters of the Outer Bay of Fundy also attract gulls (year-round), phalarope (late summer/fall), shearwater (late summer/fall), the occasional Northern Fulmar (summer/fall), jaegers (summer/fall), Northern Gannet (nearly year-round), shearwaters (late summer and fall), Atlantic Puffin (summer/fall), Razorbills, murre, Black Guillemot, skua. Passamaquoddy Bay can hold good numbers of sea-ducks as well as gulls (late summer, fall, winter, spring). The two sewage lagoons attract ducks, gulls and a few shorebirds (year-round). Trails in town have potential for a variety of forest birds.

## Notes:

From the Blockhouse, one can view much of the harbour and some mudflats. Rarities seen here include Marbled Godwit and American Avocet. Peregrine Falcon are often seen here during late summer and fall.

At the town wharf, look for King when strong winds force them to raft up behind Navy Island. Another good birding spot is Indian Point. The shoreline next to the road can produce shorebirds, gulls, sea-ducks.

The sewage lagoons are on the left immediately beyond the campground. If the gates are locked, the best viewing is likely to be from outside the fence on the facility's far right. A small watercourse enters the bay almost directly across the road from here. Its mouth and the spit of land next to it can be quite good for gulls. Also look for shorebirds on the beach and in a small stagnant pool close to where the watercourse emerges from a small wetland. You can bird the woods on the other side of this wetland. Trails run through it and out to another small wetland area.

Katy's cove is good for shorebirds during lower tides.

# St. George Marsh

Species of interest:

Bank, Barn and Tree Swallows (spring, summer), various warblers (resident and migrant), vireos (resident and migrant), Swamp Sparrow, other sparrows (resident and migrant) and birds of prey (spring, summer, fall).

## *Notes:*

The north side of the marsh tends to be the most productive for marsh birds. Starting on Manor Road, proceed along gravel road checking for sparrows and other songbirds as you walk. As soon as you reach the edge of the wetlands, begin looking for marsh birds. They can be in the small watercourse on your left or in the marsh. A Willow Flycatcher has been observed near the first observation deck. This is also one of the best places to observe marsh birds. Continue walking the dike along the north side of the marsh. Eventually, you will come to the second

observation deck. This area is also quite good for marsh birds. Glossy Ibis tends to be an annual visiter here and prefers the grasses toward the middle of the marsh.

http://www.ecwinc.org/new/wp-content/uploads/2016/04/ECW\_St-George-Marsh-Management-Plan.pdf

# **Green's Point**

## Notes:

Scan the passage from the lighthouse or from other high ground. One to two hours after the tide turns can be most productive. Late fall and winter months might produce Thick-billed Murre. Purple Sandpiper are often visible just off the point (fall, winter early spring). King Eider are possible. Nearby Back Bay can be good for sea-ducks. Birds there can be seen from the point or from the wharf in Back Bay.

http://lighthousefriends.com/light.asp?ID=1024

## **Grand Manan**

Species of interest:

Great potential for songbirds during fall migration. Fair numbers of migrating raptors at Southern Head during late summer and fall. Naturalists with an interest in marine mammals might enjoy seeing Northern Right Whale concentrations during late summer and fall. Machias Seal Island is nearby, hosting colonies of alcids including Atlantic Puffin (late spring through fall). Gulls and terms also nest on the island.

## Access:

The island has a mix of private lands and public lands. Parks include Anchorage Provincial Park/ Grand Manan Bird Sanctuary, Castalia Marsh and Thomas B. Munro Memorial Shoreline. Whale-watching boats can be accessed at North Head and Seal Cove. They provide access to the outer bay and Machias Seal Island. Some are more suitable for birders than others. Inquire before booking. Numerous roads lead to good birding at various locations. A small ferry can take birders to nearby Whitehead Island.

## Notes:

The ferry ride over can be very good for sea-birds. Hotspots include The Wolves (on your left about a third of the way out from Blacks Harbour), Wolf Banks (a few minutes past the islands) and Long Point Eddy (on your right as you approach the island).

For land birds during migration, start looking as soon as you arrive at North Head. Further along is The Whistle, a lighthouse perched on a rocky head overlooking the bay. Bird from the helipad next to the structure (a scope is very useful). From there you can look over Long Point Eddy which can be very good for sea-birds and whales. Woodland trails start here that can hold good numbers of migrants. It is possible to hike all the way back to town from this location.

Castalia Marsh is a hotspot with good potential for a very wide variety of migrants including shorebirds, waders, ducks, songbirds and a few raptors. The Anchorage Provincial Park is good for shorebirds and songbirds in a variety of habitats.

At the southern end of the island is Southern Head. This headland has potential for songbirds as well as birds of prey. Hawks move through here during the late summer and fall months as they head south.

http://www.grandmanannb.com/pdf/Grand\_Manan\_Birds.pdf

# Musquash Marsh

Notes:

Marsh Wren nests are visible amongst the cattails. Nelson's Sparrows can be seen and heard to the right of the trail. From the end of the road heading out of Prince of wales, check the impoundment on the left for ducks, look and listen on the right for marsh birds and more ducks, scan for raptors, then continue walking the dike next to the pond. This trail will eventually turn left with the Musquash River on the right and the impoundment on the left.

http://www.saintjohnnaturalistsclub.org/BirdingAroundSaintJohn.pdf

# Saint's Rest Marsh / Irving Nature Park

*Species of interest:* 

Shorebirds gather on the beach in significant numbers during late summer and fall. Lapland Longspur might be seen in the meadows (fall). Birds of prey are common, especially during migration. Migrating songbirds can be found along the many trails and in the fields (spring and fall). A number of rarities have occurred here.

## Notes:

Shorebirds gather on the beach by the park's main gate. They can also be seen in the pools on the other side of the road. High tide is best. Northern Harrier, Merlin and Peregrine Falcon are often seen hunting over this area.

The Visitor Information Centre, which is located on the eastbound lanes of Highway 1, is another good place to scan the marsh.

The Sheldon Point Trailhead on Sand Cove Road is good for migrant songbirds.

http://www.saintjohnnaturalistsclub.org/BirdingAroundSaintJohn.pdf

## **Hampton / Rotary Nature Park**

*Species of interest:* 

Ducks (spring, summer, fall), one of NB's largest vulture roosts (late summer, fall), songbirds (spring, summer, fall), marsh birds (spring, summer, fall) and a Chimney Swift roost (late spring, summer). Raptors are also possible at any time of year.

## Notes:

One of New Brunswick's largest vulture roosts is at the nature park (late summer, fall post-breeding).

A Chimney Swift roost can be found at the old post office which is adjacent to the Main St. roundabout.

Hampton Marsh can be viewed from a parking spot on the side of Kennebecasis River Road (distant viewing, a scope is essential). The marsh can be good for ducks, rails and raptors.

Bloomfield Marsh can be birded from Bloomfield Station Road, which is a few kilometres northeast of Hampton. This area can be inundated by spring freshets producing an excellent opportunity to view ducks during April and May.

http://www.townofhampton.ca/assets/Town-Maps/Community-Services-Map.pdf

http://www.saintjohnnaturalistsclub.org/BirdingAroundSaintJohn.pdf

# **Shepody Marsh**

Notes:

Walk or drive the roadways along and through the marsh. One road runs from Harvey Bank to Hopewell Inn. It cuts through the centre of the marsh providing good birding.

http://www.fundy-biosphere.ca/en/amazing-places/shepody-marsh-harvey-to-riverside-albert.html

# **Sackville Waterfowl Park**

Notes:

The trails and boardwalks can be accessed from a number of points. Some of the birds along the boardwalks can be fairly tame, but it is a good idea to sit periodically and wait for the more skittish to emerge from vegetation. Early mornings are best.

http://sackville.com/wp-content/uploads/2016/01/SWP\_map.pdf

# **Tantramar Marshes**

Notes:

Large numbers of Bobolink nest on the marsh. A scope can be useful as the marshes are extensive. High Marsh Road has multiple birding opportunities. Other roads with lots of potential include the West Roads, Goose Lake Road, Coles Island Road, and White Birch Road (Black Tern). The Tantramar is one of the best birding destinations in the province.