

POINT PELEE BIRDS — ANNUAL SUMMARY FOR 2012

copyright © 2013 by Alan Wormington

This 2012 summary pertains to the official Point Pelee Birding Area, which is a standard 15-mile diameter CBC circle centred slightly north of Concession Road B. The area includes all of Wheatley and Wheatley Provincial Park to the northeast, and all of Seacliff and Leamington to the northwest.

It was an excellent year at Point Pelee, with many significant sightings to report. A total of 293 species was found, which is well above the long-term annual average of 280.8 species dating back to 1980 inclusive (n = 33). Remarkably it was the second-highest annual total every recorded at Point Pelee, exceeded only by the 301 species that were found in 2005. In contrast the lowest annual totals were tallied in both 1989 and 1984, when only 271 species were found in each of those years.

The following short list pertains to species that were *not* recorded at Point Pelee during 2012, but are normally somewhat regular in occurrence here. For example, they typically occur at least two or three times during a 5-year period. If anyone is aware of any of these species being observed at Point Pelee during 2012, please send me the details.

Brant
Eurasian Wigeon
Snowy Egret
Mississippi Kite
Hudsonian Godwit — *first time not recorded since 2007*
Western Sandpiper
Black-headed Gull
Sabine's Gull
Kirtland's Warbler — *first time not recorded since 2001*

Detailed below are some of the more significant observations that were made during 2012. There were, of course, many other sightings of note including early and late migration dates, unusual wintering and summering records, breeding records, record-high counts, etc., but these are too numerous to be detailed here.

Thanks to everyone who regularly provide me with their sightings, even if they could not be included in this year's summary.

— UPDATES / CORRECTIONS TO PREVIOUS ANNUAL SUMMARIES —

Annual Summary for 2011 — *The Egret* 28 (1): 20 (2012)

Townsend's Solitaire — delete the entry for May 3, since the record was not accepted by the OBRC; this deletion reduces the number of species recorded at Point Pelee during 2011 to 289, instead of 290.

— ONTARIO RARITIES at POINT PELEE in 2012 —

Listed in this category are provincial rarities as designated by the Ontario Bird Records Committee (OBRC). The final status of these records await decisions by that body, at least for those sightings that were in fact documented and submitted to the OBRC for review.

Green-winged “Eurasian” Teal (nominat *crecca* subspecies)

March 28–April 9 — one male, NW Hillman Marsh (Brandon R. Holden *et al.*)

- in addition to the above bird, on March 15 an intergrade between Green-winged and Eurasian Teal was also present at NW Hillman, and was said to be “75% Eurasian” (BRH).

Brown Pelican

August 24 — one juvenile, Lake Erie off Pioneer Beach (Kevin J. McMullan, Vincent Leoux)

- this is the 3rd record for Point Pelee; the same bird was later seen at Rondeau Provincial Park (August 24), Long Point (August 25), Buffalo, New York (August 27), and the Lake Erie shoreline of Ohio (September 3–October 8).

Little Blue Heron

May 17-20 — one adult, NW Hillman Marsh (17th) & Muddy Creek (20th) (George E. Holland *et al.*)

- likely the same bird was then seen on May 23 about 28 km to the north at the mouth of the Thames River (Lake St. Clair), especially since these were the only reports of Little Blue Heron in Ontario for the entire spring.

Yellow-crowned Night-Heron

September 12 — one adult, NE Hillman Marsh (Joshua D. Vandermeulen)

- this adult is exceptional, since almost all fall records in Ontario pertain to juvenile birds.

White-faced Ibis

June 3 — two (adult + immature), NW Hillman Marsh (Alan Wormington)

- this sighting represents the 5th record for Point Pelee.

unidentified dark ibis

April 20 — one, NW Hillman Marsh (Jane Dyer)

April 21 — three, NE Pelee Marsh (David M. Bell, Barbara N. Charlton, J. Brett Fried)

Curlew Sandpiper

May 25-27 — one adult, NW Hillman Marsh (Dean J. Ware *et al.*)

- this is the 5th record for Point Pelee; three have been in spring, and two in fall.



Two White-faced Ibis (adult + immature) at NW Hillman Marsh on June 3, 2012 — Alan Wormington



Curlew Sandpiper that was present at NW Hillman Marsh on May 25-27, 2012 — Cherise A. Charron



California Gull in first-summer plumage at the Tip on May 18-19, 2012 — Jean Iron

California Gull

May 18-19 — one first-summer immature, Tip (Jean Iron *et al.*)

“Vega” Herring Gull (*vegae* subspecies)

September 29–October 13 — one adult, Wheatley Harbour (September 29) and Tip (October 2-13) (Kevin A. McLaughlin, William G. Lamond, Richard P. Carr *et al.*)

- this is the first record of this Siberian subspecies for Point Pelee, and in Ontario and Canada it has been recorded only once before, at Sault Ste. Marie on October 30, 2010 — see *Ontario Birds* 30: 13-25 (2012); various authors consider Vega Gull to be a distinct species, but in North America it is not recognized as such.

Kelp Gull

September 7 and 9 — one nominate *dominicanus* adult, Wheatley Harbour (AW)

- a **NEW** species for Point Pelee — #389. This is also a first record for both Ontario and Canada. The nominate subspecies of Kelp Gull resides in South America; in North America there are very few records of the species, but these include occurrences in Texas, Louisiana, Florida, Colorado, Indiana and Maryland.



The adult Kelp Gull at Wheatley Harbour on September 7, 2012, showing characteristic heavy bill and greenish-yellow legs — Alan Wormington



Kelp Gull at Wheatley Harbour on September 9, 2012, showing diagnostic small (white) mirror in outermost primary feather — Alan Wormington

Chuck-will's-widow

May 3 — one singing male, north of Visitor Centre (Jackie Goldstein *et al.*)

- surprisingly, this is the first Point Pelee record since 2007.

Scissor-tailed Flycatcher

May 20 — one, Tip area (J. Bruce Falls, E. Ann Falls *et al.*)

Bell's Vireo

April 21 — one, west side of Tip (Stephen T. Pike, John A. Baker, Michael A. Baker *et al.*)

- this is the 10th record for Point Pelee.

Townsend's Warbler

May 3 — one female, Wheatley Provincial Park (Andrew E. Keaveney)

- this represents the 5th record for Point Pelee.

Henslow's Sparrow

April 15 — one, west side of Tip (Fred A. Bechard *et al.*)

May 27 — one, west side of Tip (WGL, AW, KAM *et al.*)



Bell's Vireo at the west side of the Tip on April 21, 2012 — David M. Bell



Henslow's Sparrow at the west side of the Tip on April 15, 2012 — Alan Wormington

***Dark-eyed "Pink-sided" Junco* (*mearnsi* subspecies)**

March 18 — one male, NW Hillman Marsh (BRH)

- this is the second record of this subspecies for Point Pelee, and one of only a few for Ontario.

Blue Grosbeak

May 20 — one first-year male, circling over Tip (JDV, AW, Adam C. Pinch, Christopher A. Law)

— ADDITIONAL RARITIES of NOTE (not OBRC) —

Greater White-fronted Goose

February 14-15 — two *frontalis* adults (pair), Onion Fields (AW *et al.*)

Ross's Goose

March 10-30 — two white-morph adults, Onion Fields (Jeremy L. Hatt, Sarah E. Rupert *et al.*)

November 13 — one white-morph adult (with Tundra Swans), Tip (AW *et al.*)

King Eider

March 1 — one female, east side of Tip then flew SW (AW, RPC)

- this represents the second-ever winter record for Point Pelee.

April 7 — one female, west side of Tip (Blake A. Mann)

Harlequin Duck

April 28 — one female, flying south at Northwest Beach (G. Tom Hince, Kathi Cavanaugh)

May 13 — one female, flying W to E past Tip (Jeffrey H. Skevington, Richard P. Skevington *et al.*)

Red-necked Grebe

May 1 — one, east side of Tip (Allison Smith, John McDowell)

October 2 — one, Northwest Beach (KAM)

November 1 — one immature, Lake Erie @ NE Hillman Marsh (JLH *et al.*)

December 2 — one immature, east side of Tip (AW, RPC, Kory J. Renaud)

Eared Grebe

April 25 — two (1 alternate + 1 basic), east side of Tip (Paul D. Pratt *et al.*)

April 28–May 2 — one alternate, west side of Tip (Martha L. Miller *et al.*)

May 6 — one alternate, Tip (BAM *et al.*)

– the sightings above pertaining to birds in alternate plumage may have involved some duplication.

May 13 — one alternate, Wheatley Harbour (AW, Robert J. Cermak *et al.*)

December 2 — one, east side of Tip (KJR, AW, RPC)

American White Pelican

October 27 — one, on Tip (Marianne B. Reid, JLH)

Cattle Egret

May 10 — one adult, NW Hillman Marsh (JLH, MBR *et al.*)

October 29 — one juvenile, Visitor Centre (Rachel Thorndyke, Tammy T. Dobbie *et al.*)



To escape the winds of Hurricane Sandy, this Cattle Egret sought refuge behind the Visitor Centre on October 29, 2012 — Kory J. Renaud

Black Vulture

March 24-26 — one, DeLaurier Fields to Visitor Centre (RPC *et al.*)

March 25-26 — one, Visitor Centre (RPC *et al.*)

– these two birds were occasionally seen together in flight.



Eared Grebe at the Tip on April 29, 2012 — Joshua D. Vandermeulen



A very tame juvenile Purple Sandpiper at the Tip on December 31, 2012 — Alan Wormington



And an equally tame Red Phalarope (juvenile) at the Tip on September 23, 2012 — Stephen T. Pike

American Avocet

May 6-7 — five, NW Hillman Marsh (P. Brian Mishell *et al.*)

September 12-21 — one juvenile male, NE Hillman Marsh (JDV *et al.*)

Purple Sandpiper

December 3 — three, Tip (Edward G. Kovarik, JoAnn Kovarik)

December 8 — one, Tip (Anthony B. Vanderheyden, Angela M. Vanderheyden)

December 20 — one, flying west to east past Tip, landing briefly (AW)

December 31 — one juvenile, Tip (RPC, AW *et al.*)

Red Phalarope

September 22-23 — one juvenile, Tip (Andrea C. Burke *et al.*)

October 13-15 — one juvenile, NE Hillman Marsh (RPC *et al.*)

Black-legged Kittiwake

November 11 — one first-winter immature, flying west to east past Tip (MBR *et al.*)

Laughing Gull

May 8 — one adult, Tip (Elizabeth A. Hunter, Paul T. Hunter, Debbie Loveridge *et al.*)

May 23 — one adult, Tip (Martin Blagdurn)

August 10-17 — one second-winter immature *or* adult, Leamington Marina (AW *et al.*)



Laughing Gull (adult or second-winter immature) at the Leamington Marina on August 10-17, 2012 — Alan Wormington

Franklin's Gull

July 5 — one first-summer/second-winter immature, Seacliff Beach (AW)

Pomarine Jaeger

November 10 — one intermediate-morph juvenile, Tip (MBR, KAM)

Long-tailed Jaeger

September 2 — one juvenile, flying east to west past Tip (AW, WGL, KAM, J. Michael Tate).

Snowy Owl

During the winter of 2011–2012, up to three immature birds overwintered in the Onion Fields; for example, three were seen there on January 15 (Sarah E. Rupert). The last of these birds was a single individual observed on March 14 (Cherise A. Charron).

Common Raven

April 24-27 — one, flying north and south over Visitor Centre (AW *et al.*)

- this observation represents the first-ever spring occurrence for Point Pelee.

September 28 — one, DeLaurier Fields to west side of Tip (MBR, JLH *et al.*)

November 14 — one, flying over Visitor Centre (JDV)

- the above three sightings represent the 4th through 6th records for Point Pelee in modern times.

Cave Swallow

November 2 — one, east side of Tip (STP)

November 13-23 — two, Visitor Centre to Tip (BRH, KGDB *et al.*)

- one of these birds remained to November 24.

Bohemian Waxwing

November 17 — one, DeLaurier Parking Area (MBR, JLH, JMT, RJC)

- this is the first Point Pelee record since 2006.



Franklin's Gull at Seacliff Beach on July 5, 2012 — Alan Wormington



This Cave Swallow at the Tip on November 13, 2012, was grounded by cold weather — Alan Wormington

“Yellow” Palm Warbler (*hypochrysea* subspecies)

April 15 — one, Loop Woods (AW)

September 28 — one, southwest of Goldsmith (MBR, JLH)

Yellow-throated Warbler

April 22 — one male, Northwest Beach (MBR *et al.*)

May 21 — one male, NE Woodland Nature Trail (JDV)

Lark Sparrow

May 6 — one, Northwest Beach (Michael A. Biro *et al.*)

Le Conte’s Sparrow

April 30 — one, Sanctuary Beach (Daniel R. Salisbury *et al.*)

November 22-24 — one, west side of Tip (AW, JMT *et al.*)

Dickcissel

May 24 — one female, circling over Tip (JDV)

June 10+ — eventually 5+ breeding territories at Onion Fields (BAM *et al.*)

June 13+ — eventually 10+ breeding territories at NW Hillman Marsh (DJW *et al.*)

August 22 — one adult female, West Beach (Paul D. Carter)

Western Meadowlark

May 2 — one, west side of Tip (STP, AEK *et al.*)

May 9 — one, flying over Tip (JDV, JMT, RJC *et al.*)

October 7 — one, Seaciff Hawkwatch (AW, BRH, RPC)

Yellow-headed Blackbird

May 15 — one female, flying south off Tip (JDV, JMT, Gavin C. Platt)



Le Conte’s Sparrow that was present at west side of Tip on November 22-24, 2012 — Alan Wormington



Lark Sparrow at Northwest Beach on May 6, 2012 — Joshua D. Vandermeulen

Red Crossbill

August 28 — two “type 3” (pair), Visitor Centre (AW)
October 5 — two “type 3”, east end of Concession Road E (JDV)
October 6 — seven, flying south over DeLaurier Fields (BAM)
November 14 — three “type 3” (1+ males), west side of Tip (AW, RJC)
November 17 — four “type 3”, DeLaurier Fields (MBR, JLH *et al.*)
November 23 — three “type 3”, Tip (AW)

- these are the first records of “type 3” Red Crossbill for Point Pelee, which normally resides in the Pacific Northwest; the eastward movement of these birds was widespread, and the reported cause of this irruption was a seed-crop failure of Western Hemlock (*Tsuga heterophylla*). Also, for the species as a whole these are the first Point Pelee records of Red Crossbill since 1997 — 16 years ago!



Female Red Crossbill at the Visitor Centre on August 28, 2012 — Alan Wormington



Male Red Crossbill at the Tip on November 14, 2012 — Alan Wormington

Hoary Redpoll

January 27-28 — two females, opposite Marentette Beach (AW *et al.*)
– this observation represents only the 6th record for Point Pelee.

— SIGNIFICANT SEASONAL RECORDS —

Baird’s Sandpiper

May 8-9 — one, NW Hillman Marsh (JHS, RPS *et al.*)
– this represents just the 4th spring record for Point Pelee.

Dunlin

August 30 — one juvenile, Sturgeon Creek (STP, Vern S. Bothwell)
– this is the earliest juvenile to be recorded at Point Pelee, by 19 days.

Bonaparte’s Gull

July 19 — one juvenile, Seacliff Beach (AW)
– this is the earliest juvenile to be recorded at Point Pelee, by one day.



A record-early juvenile Dunlin at Sturgeon Creek on August 30, 2012 — Vern S. Bothwell



A record-early juvenile Bonaparte’s Gull at Seacliff Beach on July 19, 2012 — Alan Wormington

Thayer's Gull

July 3 — one first-summer immature, Wheatley Harbour (AW)
– this is the first-ever summer record for Point Pelee, and possibly the first summer record for southern Ontario as well.



Thayer's Gull at Wheatley Harbour on July 3, 2012 — Alan Wormington

— ESCAPED / RELEASED BIRDS —

European Greenfinch (*Carduelis chloris*)

April 19 — one female, Visitor Centre (BRH, Eric W. Holden).

— SIGNIFICANT MIGRATION DATES —

With a history of bird study dating back to 1877, it seems remarkable that *any* new record-early or record-late date could be established at Point Pelee. Yet every year we continue to push the biological limits of these migration categories, even though the number of listings is slowly declining (as to be expected). The exception this year was the long list of record-early arrivals found during March, which was due to the unprecedented warm weather throughout the entire month; the early migration was spurred on by the fact that it was the warmest March on record for the continental United States.

RECORD-EARLY SPRING:

Double-crested Cormorant — two adults on March 15 (BRH, AW, RJC) — *ties record-early*

Killdeer — one male on February 4 (Thomas P. Hurst, PDP *et al.*) — *2 days record-early*

Red Knot — one on May 9 (Justin F. Peter *et al.*) — *1 day record-early*

Short-billed Dowitcher — one alternate *hendersoni* on April 20 (JDV) — *2 days record-early*

Iceland Gull — one first-winter immature on February 14 (AW) — *4 days record-early*

Lesser Black-backed Gull — one alternate adult on February 13 (KJR, Sarah E. Renaud) — *12 days record-early*

Peregrine Falcon — one juvenile on March 17 (ACP) — *2 days record-early*

Olive-sided Flycatcher — one on May 3 (Jerry Ball, Sandy Mackintosh, Ross Mackintosh *et al.*) — *1 day record-early*

Eastern Phoebe — three on March 8 (2-Michael E. Carlson, 1-David G. McNorton, Karen M. McNorton) — *2 days record-early*

Bell's Vireo — one on April 21 (STP, JAB, MAB *et al.*) — *15 days record-early*

Warbling Vireo — one male on April 20 (EWH, BRH, AW *et al.*) — *2 days record-early*

Blue Jay — five on April 17 (AW) — *1 day record-early*

- these consisted of a flock of three birds over the Tip, and two that were flying north and high over DeLaurier Parking Area; the species winters commonly outside of PPNP, but inside it is virtually absent and during the previous winter only one or two individuals were present.

Tufted Titmouse — one male on March 20 (JDV) — *17 days record-early*

White-breasted Nuthatch — one on March 14-16 at extreme Tip (RJC, AW) — *12 days record-early*

- wintering birds were essentially absent within Point Pelee National Park, with the exception of just a single report of one individual on January 8 at DeLaurier Trail.

Winter Wren — one male on March 13 at Tip (AW) — *1 day record-early*

Marsh Wren — one male on March 21 (JDV) — *9 days record-early*

Golden-crowned Kinglet — three on March 7-8 at Sparrow Field (MEC *et al.*) — *2 days record-early*
– immediately after this early observation, the species was widely reported.

Eastern Bluebird — one on February 26 at Sturgeon Creek (RPC) — *ties record-early*
– small numbers regularly winter within PPNP, but this sighting to the north was clearly an early spring migrant.

Hermit Thrush — four on March 20 (2-JDV, 2-AW) — *1 day record-early*

– these sightings followed a winter when virtually no birds were present within PPNP, which is unusual compared to most winters; the four birds consisted of two birds at the west side of the Tip, and two birds at Tilden’s Woods (with a migrant Brown Thrasher).

Gray Catbird — two on April 20 (1-RPC, 1-JDV) — *1 day record-early*

European Starling — 2500 on January 31 at Concession Road E (AW) — *8 days record-early*

– this sighting was followed by 12 birds on February 1 that were flying north over the Tip, arriving from Lake Erie.

Mourning Warbler — one first-year female on May 2 (Robert H. Hall-Brooks) — *ties record-early*

Blackburnian Warbler — one male on April 20 (AW *et al.*) — *1 day record-early*

Yellow-rumped Warbler — one part-alternate male on March 21 at White Pine Picnic Area (AW) — *4 days record-early*

– the species regularly winters within PPNP, but such birds are still in drab winter (basic) plumage when the first spring migrants make their appearance.

Chipping Sparrow — one alternate adult on March 13 at Tip (AW *et al.*) — *2 days record-early*

Lincoln’s Sparrow — one on April 12 (RM, SM, Todd R. Pepper) — *5 days record-early*

White-throated Sparrow — one on March 11 (AW) — *16 days record-early*

– very few birds of this species were present during the previous winter at Point Pelee; this bird (with two Fox Sparrows) was found along the lakeshore south of Hillman Marsh, an area where virtually no passerines whatsoever spend the winter, let alone White-throated Sparrows. Due to the normal presence of wintering birds it is usually not possible to detect the first spring migrants, unless they are seen at locations where they do not winter.

Rose-breasted Grosbeak — one male on April 20 (BRH, EWH, AW, Michael J. Nelson) — *2 days record-early*

Indigo Bunting — one male on April 19 (Henrietta T. O’Neill) — *1 day record-early*

Rusty Blackbird — four on January 31 at Blue Heron Picnic Area (AW) — *7 days record-early*

– the following day (February 1), another eight birds were found in the Onion Fields (JLH)

Brown-headed Cowbird — 4000 on January 31 (AW) — *8 days record-early*



A record-early Chipping Sparrow at the Tip on March 13, 2012 — Alan Wormington

RECORD-LATE SPRING:

Bufflehead — one female on June 5 at Leamington Marina (AW) — *11 days record-late*

– also very late was a male on June 2-4 at NW Hillman Marsh (KJR *et al.*)

Greater Yellowlegs — one alternate adult on June 1-7 (AW *et al.*) — 2 days record-late
– this bird was in flooded fields at the east end of Concession Road D, where three Greaters were present on June 1 and six Lesser Yellowlegs on June 2-4; this is exceptionally late for such numbers of the two yellowlegs species to be still present.

Lesser Yellowlegs — five alternate adults on June 2-4 (AW *et al.*) — 4 days record-late
– with the above five was an additional bird (for a total of six) that remained to June 8, but is not classified as a late spring migrant since one of its legs was injured (with a severe limp).

Semipalmated Sandpiper — one alternate adult on June 21-25 (AW) — ties record-late

Dunlin — one alternate adult on June 21-24 (AW) — 3 days record-late

American Woodcock — one on May 16 at Tip, arriving from Lake Erie (BRH, JDV) — 14 days record-late

Thayer's Gull — one first-summer immature on May 28 (WGL, KAM, MJN, AW *et al.*) — 2 days record-late

Great Black-backed Gull — one alternate adult on May 20 (AW *et al.*) — ties record-late

Marsh Wren — one on May 27 at west side of Tip (AW, WGL, KAM) — ties record-late

RECORD-EARLY FALL:

Red-tailed Hawk — one juvenile July 28, migrating west at Seacliff (AW, WGL) — ties record-early

Lesser Yellowlegs — three alternate adults on June 22 (AW) — ties record-early

Laughing Gull — one on August 10-17 (AW *et al.*) — 9 days record-early

Common Raven — one on September 28 (MBR, JLH *et al.*) — 6 days record-early

Tennessee Warbler — one singing male on June 23 (BAM) — 1 day record-early

– it is well known that the start of fall migration for this species can be extremely early.

“Yellow” Palm Warbler — one on September 28 (MBR, JLH) — 13 days record-early

Eastern Towhee — one male on September 24 at Sturgeon Creek (JDV) — 11 days record-early

Eastern Meadowlark — one on September 15, flying west at Seacliff (JDV) — 13 days record-early

Western Meadowlark — one on October 7 (AW, BRH, RPC) — 12 days record-early

Rusty Blackbird — two on September 14 (JDV, Dwayne D. Murphy) — 3 days record-early

RECORD-LATE FALL:

Cackling Goose — one on December 19, 2011–January 8 (Mark W. Jennings *et al.*) — ties record-late

– this bird was routinely commuting between Point Pelee and the Jack Miner Sanctuary in Kingsville, a typical behaviour of many geese in our area.

Killdeer — one on January 14 (RPC) — ties record-late

Baird's Sandpiper — one juvenile on December 14-17 (AW) — 20 days record-late

Pectoral Sandpiper — one juvenile on December 14-23 (AW) — 1 day record-late

American Woodcock — one on January 16 (Michael P.J. Bouman) — 10 days record-late

– this bird was seen along DeLaurier Trail, probing for food through an inch of fresh snow in a shrubby area; undoubtedly the bird had been displaced from an unknown location (likely far removed from Point Pelee), due to the recent snowstorm at the time.



Record-late Baird's Sandpiper at Hillman Marsh on December 14-17, 2012 — Alan Wormington



Record-late Pectoral Sandpiper at Hillman Marsh on December 14-23, 2012 — Alan Wormington



One of two record-late Northern Rough-winged Swallows at Sanctuary Pond on November 13, 2012
— Alan Wormington



A record-late American Redstart at the Tip on November 15, 2012 — Alan Wormington

Northern Rough-winged Swallow — two on November 13 (AW, RPC *et al.*) — 2 days record-late
American Pipit — six on January 13, flying south off Tip (AW) — 2 days record-late
American Redstart — one immature on November 15 (AW *et al.*) — 2 days record-late

The Birds of Point Pelee

Point Pelee bird sightings (both current and historical) can be sent to:

wormington@juno.com

The Point Pelee database is used for multiple purposes:

- Annual Summaries (such as this current one for 2012)
- Seasonal sightings that are published in the journal *North American Birds*
- For a major publication which is currently in progress — *The Birds of Point Pelee*