

## **PIBO MIGRATION SUMMARY**

### **August 1<sup>st</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup>, 2012**



PIBO's 10<sup>th</sup> fall coverage season was launched on August 1<sup>st</sup> under clear skies, with light northwest winds and warm, humid temperatures. Although the first few weeks of August are a typically quiet time, there was some active migration during the coverage period and a few signs of things to come.

Along with a steady passage of swallows (six species recorded) and a few shorebirds – Black-bellied Plover, Ruddy Turnstone, Sanderling, and Least Sandpiper – some migrant songbirds that nest north of the island made an early appearance including Swainson's Thrush, Black-and-white Warbler, Canada Warbler, and Northern Waterthrush, among others.

Large numbers of gulls were noted at the tip during the summary period, with 1100 birds tallied on August 4<sup>th</sup> – mostly Ring-bills along

with good numbers of Bonaparte's, Herring, and Great Black-backed Gull. Cormorants began to multiply, with 1700 counted on the 6<sup>th</sup>, and 200 Common Terns were observed on August 7<sup>th</sup>.

Hundreds of swallows were recorded from the 1<sup>st</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> departing south off the tip during the morning census, including 150 Barn Swallows on August 5<sup>th</sup>, along with smaller numbers of Purple Martin, Bank, and Cliff Swallow.

In all, PIBO staff and volunteers documented 71 species on the island from August 1<sup>st</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> and 58 species during our official count period at Fish Point Provincial Nature Reserve. PIBO's bird banding operation will get underway on August 11<sup>th</sup>.

*The next migration summary will be posted on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.*

Photo: Sumiko Onishi