The Blue Herons were absent from their usual perches on the chimneys and only a lone Rock Pigeon was sitting up there on one of them. There were Surf Scoters and Bufflehead everywhere we looked. We got great views of the striking color pattern on the scoters’ bills against the blue water (see photo below by Bette Boren) and we enjoyed watching the Bufflehead swimming in formation and bouncing up and down in the water like small rubber ducks in a bathtub. At the Back Bay Science Center, one Osprey chick could be seen on the nesting platform and an adult Osprey was perched on a nearby sign. We figured the other Osprey parent was out searching for food to feed the chick. The morning was sunny and the water calm until the wind picked up and the water became choppy. Several of the Black-bellied Plovers were showing signs of breeding plumage with patches of black on their bellies and one of the Double-crested Cormorants was showing his white crest feathers. Willets were wandering around in the pickleweed searching for food to feed the chick. The wind was sunny and the water calm until the wind picked up and the water became choppy. Several of the Black-bellied Plovers were showing signs of breeding plumage with patches of black on their bellies and one of the Double-crested Cormorants was showing his white crest feathers. Willets were wandering around in the pickleweed searching for a tasty snack and a Peregrine was perched motionless on the ground with only his head and breast showing. Several flocks of peeps were seen in the distance on the mudflats amidst the clam shells. A Northern Harrier was flying low over the marsh and the Black Skimmers put on quite a show for us as they skimmed the water. On our return trip, we were facing a brisk wind and the fronds on the palm trees were all facing the same direction. When we neared the dock, we were greeted by a Rock Pigeon flying to his special perch beneath the deck.

### Geese & Ducks
- **204** American Wigeon
- **4** Mallard
- **2** Blue-winged Teal
- **5** Northern Pintail
- **36** Green-winged Teal
- **15** Redhead
- **96** Lesser Scaup
- **70** Surf Scoter
- **102** Bufflehead
- **3** Red-breasted Merganser
- **21** Ruddy Duck

### Loons
- **4** Red-throated Loon

### Grebes
- **2** Pied-billed Grebe
- **5** Horned Grebe
- **6** Eared Grebe
- **27** Western Grebe
- **1** Clark’s Grebe

### Pelicans & Cormorants
- **18** Double-crested Cormorant

### Herons, Egrets, Ibises
- **3** Great Blue Heron
- **6** Great Egret

### Geese & Ducks (Continued)

### Diurnal Birds of Prey
- **16** Snowy Egret
- **1** Turkey Vulture
- **2** Osprey
- **1** Northern Harrier
- **3** Red-tailed Hawk
- **1** American Kestrel
- **1** Peregrine Falcon

### Rails & Coots
- **45** American Coot

### Plovers
- **59** Black-bellied Plover
- **6** Semipalmated Plover
- **7** Killdeer

### Avocets
- **37** American Avocet

### Sandpipers
- **2** Greater Yellowlegs
- **143** Willet
- **4** Whimbrel
- **5** Long-billed Curlew
- **182** Marbled Godwit
- **560** Western Sandpiper
- **12** Least Sandpiper
- **48** peeps

### Gulls, Terns & Skimmers
- **2** Dunlin
- **45** Long-billed Dowitcher
- **1** Heermann’s Gull
- **26** Ring-billed Gull
- **19** Western Gull
- **7** California Gull
- **4** Forster’s Tern
- **61** Black Skimmer

### Pigeons & Doves
- **5** Rock Pigeon

### Kingfishers
- **2** Belted Kingfisher

### Flycatchers
- **1** Black Phoebe
- **3** Say’s Phoebe

### Crows & Ravens
- **4** American Crow
- **2** Common Raven

### Mockingbirds
- **1** Northern Mockingbird

### Towhees & Sparrows
- **1** Song Sparrow