

Maine's Monhegan Island Species List | September 6-13, 2026 with Naturalist Journeys



Compiled by guide James Petersen. Our clients included Deb, Ellen, Maggie, David, Deirdre, Chris and Alysann

After meeting in Portland, we made our way up to Monhegan Island. This idyllic Island was going to be our home base for the first 2 days of the trip. Within those three days we saw a large part of the island while searching for migrating waves of birds. The highlights were many, including getting point blank looks at a Wilson's Snipe at Ice pond, seeing migrating Common Nighthawks overhead as the ferry landed the first day, and our warbler day where we had a great look at a Black-throated Blue Warbler. We can't fail to mention hunting around the island for different species of Gulls, and other songbirds as well as getting buzzed by a migrating Sharp-shinned Hawk.

Once our Island time came to an end, we finished up the trip exploring Acadia National Park. This included a fantastic nature cruise of Frenchman Bay, where some history was explained as well as seeing 2 species of seals (Harbor and Gray) as well as Many Common Eiders and a few Black Guillemots. We followed this up with a drive-up Cadillac Mountain, where we were able to see our route from that afternoon as well as some Dark-eyed Juncos. Our last day we spent exploring the "quite side" or eastern side of Acadia National Park as well as seeing Jordan Pond.

This led to a fantastic trip where we had 91 species of birds (there were 4 species that were only seen while driving and not able to go on an ebird list), 8 species of Mammals, 6 species of Butterflies/moths and 1 spider and 1 slug.

BIRDS 91 species were recorded of which 5 were heard only and 2 were introduced. Details are included below.

The eBird link below details the 91 species of birds our group observed during the tour. If you're new to eBird, be sure to click "Show All Details" on the right side of the list to expand the report and reveal where and when each of the birds were seen and how many.

[Maine's Monhegan Island | September 6-13, 2026 | eBird Trip Report](#)

Following is a list of the birds, mammals, reptiles and amphibians we were fortunate to observe during the trip.

MAMMALS: — (8)

Muskrat *Ondatra zibethicus* — We only had this mammal on one day out of the whole trip. We had 2 Muskrats swimming in the shallow water while birding Ice Pond.

Harbor Seal *Phoca vitulina* — The most common seal, seen most of the time loafing in the rocks during our ferry rides and the nature cruise through Frenchman Bay. The seal with the puppy shaped head.

Gray Seal *Halichoerus grypus* — We only saw one of this species, while on the Frenchman Bay nature cruise. The seal

with the head that looks like a horse.

Eastern Gray Squirrel *Sciurus carolinensis* — A common mammal once off Monhegan Island, usually seen either in the deciduous forest habitats or while driving as it ran across the road.

American Red Squirrel *Tamiasciurus hudsonicus* — We only observed this species while on Acadia National Park. Mainly seen in the coniferous dominated forests.

Eastern Chipmunk *Tamias striatus* — This small brown mammal was seen the last 2 days of the trip.

White-tailed Deer *Odocoileus virginianus* — We only saw this species once while driving between stops on Mount Desert Island.

Harbor Porpoise *Phocoena Phocoena* — Seen on the ferry crossing back to the mainland from Monhegan Island and while on the Frenchman Bay Nature cruise.

Butterflies and Moths: — (6)

Monarch *Danaus Plexippus* — A very common butterfly throughout the trip. We saw this species everyday while on Monhegan Island.

Morning Cloak *Nymphalis antiopa* — This all-dark butterfly with light colored edges was seen sporadically while on Monhegan Island only.

Cabbage White *Pieris rapae* — This introduced light colored butterfly was also only observed while on Monhegan Island.

Red Admiral *Vanessa Atalanta* — We only observed this dark butterfly with white and orange on Monhegan Island.

White-marked Tussock Moth *Orgyia leucostigma* — This species was only observed as a white and black caterpillar, sporadically throughout the trip.

Rusty Tussock Moth *Orgyia antiqua* — This species was seen the last full day of the trip while on the Wonderland trail, a black and brown hairy caterpillar instead of the white and black tussock ones seen earlier in the trip.

Insects: — (1)

Orb Weaver sp. *Araneidae sp.* — We only observed this species while finishing the hike at Jordan Pond. There are up to a dozen species of Orb Weaver spiders in Maine.

Gastropoda: — (1)

Snail sp. *Cepaea sp* — This species was found while birding Monhegan Island. Its family makes up 120 different species here in Maine.