Common Summer Vinalhaven Birds using eBird and Vinalhaven Sightings

Nearshore/Tidal Flats		Behavior
Lane's, State, Basin	Size: To"	
Least sandpiper. Calidris minutilla	6	Least Sandpipers feed on invertebrates in the mud and sand along the edges of water. They often gather in loose flocks and frequently join other species, but they tend to be in smaller groups and feed toward drier edges than other small sandpipers.
Semipalmated plover. Charadrius semipalmatus	7	the most common plover seen on migration in most areas.
Lesser Yellowlegs. Tringa flavipes	10	It is an active feeder, often running through the shallow water to chase its prey.
Black-bellied Plover Pluvialis squatarola	11	A large shorebird of coastal beaches, the Black- bellied Plover is striking in its black-and-white breeding plumage. It is the largest plover in North America and can be found along the coasts in winter northward to Massachusetts and British Columbia.
Short-billed dowitcher Limnodromus griseus	11	a common and conspicous migrant that uses a "sewing-machine" method of foraging across the mud flats. Its long bill is short only in comparison with the very similar Long-billed Dowitcher.
Greater yellowlegs. Tringa melanoleuca	15	A common, tall, long-legged shorebird of freshwater ponds and tidal marshes, the Greater Yellowlegs frequently announces its presence by its piercing alarm calls.

Great Egret Ardea alba		38	Great Egrets wade in shallow water (both fresh and salt) to hunt fish, frogs, and other small aquatic animals. They typically stand still and watch for unsuspecting prey to pass by. Then, with startling speed, the egrets strike with a jab of their long neck and bill.
Great Blue Heron. YR Ardea herodias		54	Hunting Great Blue Herons wade slowly or stand statue-like, stalking fish and other prey in shallow water or open fields. Watch for the lightning-fast thrust of the neck and head as they stab with their strong bills. Their very slow wingbeats, tucked-in neck and trailing legs create an unmistakable image in flight.
Waterbirds			
Wilson's Storm-Petrel. Oceanites oceanicus		7.5	
Black guillemot Cepphus grylle	14	13	breeds along the coasts of Canada and Greenland. Unlike other members of the puffin family, it prefers to forage in relatively shallow near-shore waters.
Common tern Sterna hirundo		14	the most widespread tern in North America. It can be seen plunging from the air into water to catch small fish along rivers, lakes, and oceans.

Arctic Tern Sterna paradisaea	well known for its long yearly migration. Its travel from its Arctic breeding grounds to its wintering grounds off of Antarctica may cover perhaps 40,000 km (25,000 mi), and is the farthest yearly journey of any bird.
Laughing gull. Leucophaeus atricilla	eat almost anything, including food they catch or steal, handouts, garbage, and discards from fishing boats. They often congregate in parking lots, sandy beaches, and mud bars.
Wood Duck. Aix sponsa	Unlike most waterfowl, Wood Ducks perch and nest in trees and are comfortable flying through woods. Their broad tail and short, broad wings help make them maneuverable. When swimming, the head jerks back and forth much as a walking pigeon's does.
Ring-billed Gull. Larus delawarensis	These sociable gulls often fly overhead by the hundreds or feed together at a golf course, beach, or field. Strong, nimble flyers and opportunistic feeders, Ring-billed Gulls circle and hover acrobatically looking for food; they also forage afloat and on foot.
American Black Duck Anas rubripes	These are dabbling ducks that tip up instead of dive when they forage. They eat aquatic plants, invertebrates, and occasionally small fish in shallow water. Look for them mixed into flocks with other "puddle ducks" such as Gadwall and Mallards.

Common eider. Somateria mollissima	25	the largest duck in the Northern Hemisphere. The male's bright white, black, and green plumage contrasts markedly with the female's camouflaging dull striped brown.
Herring gull Larus argentatus	26	Herring Gulls patrol shorelines and open ocean, picking scraps off the surface. Rallying around fishing boats or refuse dumps, they are loud and competitive scavengers, happy to snatch another bird's meal. They spend much of their time perched near food sources, often in congregations of gulls.
Mallard. Anas platyrhynchos	28	Mallards are "dabbling ducks"—they feed in the water by tipping forward and grazing on underwater plants. They almost never dive.
Great Black-backed gull Larus marinus	30	The king of the Atlantic waterfront, the Great Black-backed Gull is the largest gull in the world, with a powerful build and a domineering attitude. They harry other birds to steal their food and even hunt adult birds such as grebes and puffins.
Double-crested cormorant. Phalacrocorax auritus	33	Double-crested Cormorants float low on the surface of water and dive to catch small fish. After fishing, they stand on docks, rocks, and tree limbs with wings spread open to dry. In flight, they often travel in V-shaped flocks that shift and reform as the birds alternate bursts of choppy flapping with short glides.

	Common Loon Gavia immer	36	Common Loons are powerful, agile divers that catch small fish in fast underwater chases. They are less suited to land, and typically come ashore only to nest. In flight, notice their shallow wingbeats and unwavering, bee-lined flight path.
	Canada Goose Branta canadensis	43	Canada Geese feed by dabbling in the water or grazing in fields and large lawns. They are often seen in flight moving in pairs or flocks; flocks often assume a V formation.
Perchi	ng, near water	Size: To"	
	Lane's, State Beach, Basin		
	Alder Flycatcher Empidonax alnorum	6	
	Red-winged Blackbird Agelaius phoeniceus	9	Male Red-winged Blackbirds do everything they can to get noticed, sitting on high perches and belting out their <i>conk-la-ree!</i> song all day long. Females stay lower, skulking through vegetation for food and quietly weaving together their remarkable nests.
	Belted Kingfisher Megaceryle alcyon	14	Belted Kingfishers spend much of their time perched alone along the edges of streams, lakes, and estuaries, searching for small fish. They also fly quickly up and down rivers and shorelines giving loud rattling calls. They hunt either by plunging directly from a perch, or by hovering over the water, bill downward, before diving after a fish they've spotted.

Osprey. Pandion haliaetus	24	Ospreys search for fish by flying on steady wingbeats and bowed wings or circling high in the sky over relatively shallow water. They often hover briefly before diving, feet first, to grab a fish. You can often clearly see an Osprey's catch in its talons as the bird carries it back to a nest or perch.
Bald Eagle. Haliaeetus leucocephalus	40	You'll find Bald Eagles soaring high in the sky, flapping low over treetops with slow wingbeats, or perched in trees or on the ground. Bald Eagles scavenge many meals by harassing other birds or by eating carrion or garbage. They eat mainly fish, but also hunt mammals, gulls, and waterfowl.
Woodland Edges		
Ruby-throated Hummingbird. Archilochus colubris. Spring Arrival: Apr - May Fall Departure: Aug - Sep. Winter in Central America to Costa Rica	3.5	Ruby-throated Hummingbirds fly straight and fast but can stop instantly, hover, and adjust their position up, down, or backwards with exquisite control. They often visit hummingbird feeders and tube-shaped flowers and defend these food sources against others. You may also see them plucking tiny insects from the air or from spider webs.
Nuthatch, Red breasted Sitta canadensis YR	4.5	Red-breasted Nuthatches move quickly over trunks and branches probing for food in crevices and under flakes of bark. They creep up, down, and sideways without regard for which way is up, and they don't lean against their tail the way woodpeckers do. Flight is short and bouncy. These long-billed, short-tailed songbirds travel through tree canopies with chickadees, kinglets, and woodpeckers.

	American Goldfinch. YR Spinus tristis	5	These are active and acrobatic little finches that cling to weeds and seed socks, and sometimes mill about in large numbers at feeders or on the ground beneath them. Goldfinches fly with a bouncy, undulating pattern and often call in flight, drawing attention to themselves. often flock with Pine Siskins and Common Redpolls.
Wood-	Common Yellowthroat Geothlypis trichas	5	Common Yellowthroats spend much of their time skulking low to the ground in dense thickets and fields, searching for small insects and spiders. Males sing a very distinctive, rolling wichety-wichety-wichety song.
Wood-	Yellow warbler. Setophaga petechia	5	Look for Yellow Warblers near the tops of tall shrubs and small trees. They forage restlessly, with quick hops along small branches and twigs to glean caterpillars and other insects. Males sing their sweet, whistled songs from high perches.
Wood-	Yellow-rumped warbler. Setophaga coronata	5.5	Yellow-rumped Warblers typically forage in the outer tree canopies at middle heights. They're active, and you'll often see them sally out to catch insects in midair, sometimes on long flights. In winter they spend lots of time eating berries from shrubs, and they often travel in large flocks.

Black-capped Chickadee Poecile atricapillus YR		6	Its habit of investigating people and everything else in its home territory, and quickness to discover bird feeders, make it one of the first birds most people learn. They seldom remain at feeders except to grab a seed to eat elsewhere. They are acrobatic and associate in flocks—the sudden activity when a flock arrives is distinctive.
House finch. Haemorhous mexicanus. YR	Section 1	6	The House Finch is a recent introduction from western into eastern North America. They are gregarious birds that collect at feeders or perch high in nearby trees. When they're not at feeders, they feed on the ground, on weed stalks, or in trees. They move fairly slowly and sit still as they shell seeds by crushing them with rapid bites. Flight is bouncy, like many finches.
House sparrow Passer domesticus YR		6	You can find House Sparrows most places where there are houses (or other buildings), and few places where there aren't. Along with two other introduced species, the European Starling and the Rock Pigeon, these are some of our most common birds. Their tendency to displace native birds from nest boxes causes some people to resent them.

Nuthatch, White breasted Sitta carolinensis YR	6	Nuthatches are active, agile little birds with an appetite for insects and large, meaty seeds. They get their common name from their habit of jamming large nuts and acorns into tree bark, then whacking them with their sharp bill to "hatch" out the seed from the inside. White-breasted Nuthatches may be small but their voices are loud, and often their insistent nasal yammering will lead you right to them
Ovenbird Seiurus aurocapilla	6	The Ovenbird's rapid-fire <i>teacher-teacher</i> song rings out in summer hardwood forests. It's so loud that it may come as a surprise to find this inconspicuous warbler strutting like a tiny chicken across the dim forest floor. Its olive-brown back and spotted breast are excellent disguise as it gleans invertebrates from the leaf litter.
Purple Finch. YR Haemorhous purpureus	6	The Purple Finch is the bird that Roger Tory Peterson famously described as a "sparrow dipped in raspberry juice." Separating them from House Finches requires a careful look, but the reward is a delicately colored, cleaner version of that red finch. Look for them in forests, too, where you're likely to hear their warbling song from the highest parts of the trees.
Cedar Waxwing. Bombycilla cedrorum	7	Cedar Waxwings are social birds that you're likely to see in flocks year-round. They sit in fruiting trees swallowing berries whole, or pluck them in mid-air with a brief fluttering hover. They also course over water for insects, flying like tubby, slightly clumsy swallows.

Dark-eyed junco. Junco hyemalis Some YR Spring Arrival: Mar - Apr. Fall departure: Sep - Oct	7	Dark-eyed Juncos are hooded sparrows of the ground. They hop around the bases of trees and shrubs in forests or venture out onto lawns looking for fallen seeds. You'll often hear their high chip notes, given almost absent-mindedly while foraging, or intensifying as they take short, low flights through cover.
European Starling YR. Sturnus vulgaris	8	First brought to North America by Shakespeare enthusiasts in the nineteenth century, European Starlings are now among the continent's most numerous songbirds. Though they're sometimes resented for their abundance and aggressiveness. Starlings are boisterous, loud, and they travel in large groups (often with blackbirds and grackles).
Northern Cardinal Cardinalis cardinalis YR	9	Northern Cardinals tend to sit low in shrubs and trees or forage on or near the ground, often in pairs.
American Robin Turdus migratorius	11	They will stand erect, beak tilted upward, to survey their environs. When alighting they habitually flick their tails downward several times.
American Woodcock Scolopax minor	12	Superbly camouflaged against the leaf litter, the brown-mottled American Woodcock walks slowly along the forest floor, probing the soil with its long bill in search of earthworms. Unlike its coastal relatives, this plump little shorebird lives in young forests and shrubby old fields across eastern North America.

Mourning dove Zenaida macroura. YR	12	Mourning Doves perch on telephone wires and forage for seeds on the ground; their flight is fast and bullet straight. Their soft, drawn-out calls sound like laments. When taking off, their wings make a sharp whistling or whinnying.
Rock pigeon. YR. Columba livia	13	Pigeons often gather in flocks, walking or running on the ground and pecking for food. When alarmed, the flock may suddenly fly into the air and circle several times before coming down again.
Common grackle Quiscalus quiscula	14	You'll often find Common Grackles in large flocks, flying or foraging on lawns and in agricultural fields. They strut on their long legs, pecking for food rather than scratching. At feeders Common Grackles dominate smaller birds. When resting they sit atop trees or on telephone lines, keeping up a raucous chattering. Flight is direct, with stiff wingbeats.
American Crow Corvus brachyrhynchos	17	American Crows are very social, sometimes forming flocks in the thousands. Inquisitive and sometimes mischievous, crows are good learners and problemsolvers, often raiding garbage cans and picking over discarded food containers. They're also aggressive and often chase away larger birds including hawks, owls and herons.
Woods		
Huber Preserve, Trails to Lane's, Basin		

	Golden-crowned Kinglet Regulus satrapa	3.5	These tiny songbirds usually stay concealed high in dense trees, revealing their presence with thin, very high-pitched calls. They pluck small insects from clusters of conifer needles, often hovering briefly to reach them. In migration and winter, kinglets frequently join other insectivorous songbirds such as warblers in mixed flocks.
Wood-	Northern Parula Setophaga americana	4.5	A small warbler of the upper canopy, the Northern Parula nests can be found in old man's beard lichen.
Wood-	Black-and-white Warbler Mniotilta varia	5	One of the earliest-arriving migrant warblers, the Black-and-white Warbler's thin, squeaky song is one of the first signs that spring birding has sprung. They act more like nuthatches than warblers, foraging for hidden insects in the bark of trees by creeping up, down, and around branches and trunks. Despite their arboreal foraging habits, they nest on the ground at the bases of trees
Wood-	Black-throated Green Warbler Setophaga virens	5	An abundant breeder of the northeastern coniferous forests, the Black-throated Green Warbler is easy to recognize by sight and sound. Its dark black bib and bright yellow face are unique amongst Eastern birds, and its persistent song of "zoo-zee, zoo-zoo-zee" is easy to remember.

Brown Creeper Certhia americana	5	Brown Creepers are tiny woodland birds with an affinity for the biggest trees they can find. Look for these little, long-tailed scraps of brown and white spiraling up stout trunks and main branches, sometimes passing downward-facing nuthatches along the way. They probe into crevices and pick at loose bark with their slender, downcurved bills, and build their hammock-shaped nests behind peeling flakes of bark. Their piercing calls can make it much easier to find this hard-to-see but common species.
Downy Woodpecker YR Picoides pubescens	6	They join flocks of chickadees and nuthatches, barely outsizing them. An often acrobatic forager, this black-and-white woodpecker is at home on tiny branches or balancing on slender plant galls, sycamore seed balls, and suet feeders.
Red-eyed Vireo Vireo olivaceus	6	A tireless songster, the Red-eyed Vireo is one of the most common summer residents of Eastern forests. These neat, olive-green and white songbirds have a crisp head pattern of gray, black, and white. Their brief but incessant songs—sometimes more than 20,000 per day by a single male—contribute to the characteristic sound of an Eastern forest in summer. When fall arrives, they head for the Amazon basin, fueled by a summer of plucking caterpillars from leaves in the treetops.

Hermit Thrush Catharus guttatus	7	An unassuming bird with a lovely, melancholy song, the Hermit Thrush lurks in the understories of far northern forests in summer and is a frequent winter companion across much of the country. It forages on the forest floor by rummaging through leaf litter or seizing insects with its bill. The Hermit Thrush has a rich brown upper body and smudged spots on the breast, with a reddish tail that sets it apart from similar species in its genus.
Song Sparrow. YR. Melospiza melodia	7	A rich, russet-and-gray bird with bold streaks down its white chest, the Song Sparrow is one of the most familiar North American sparrows. Don't let the bewildering variety of regional differences this bird shows across North America deter you: it's one of the first species you should suspect if you see a streaky sparrow in an open, shrubby, or wet area. If it perches on a low shrub, leans back, and sings a stuttering, clattering song, so much the better.
Gray Catbird M Dumetella carolinensis	9	Catbirds are secretive but energetic, hopping and fluttering from branch to branch through tangles of vegetation. Singing males sit atop shrubs and small trees. Catbirds are reluctant to fly across open areas, preferring quick, low flights over vegetation.
Hairy Woodpecker Picoides villosus	10	The larger of two look alikes, the Hairy Woodpecker is a small but powerful bird that forages along trunks and main branches of large trees. It wields a much longer bill than the Downy Woodpecker's almost thornlike bill. Hairy Woodpeckers have a somewhat soldierly look, with their erect, straight-backed posture on tree trunks and their cleanly striped heads.

Merlin Falco columbarius	12	Merlins are fierce, energetic predators that patrol shorelines and open areas looking for their prey of small birds (and sometimes dragonflies). They fly powerfully, with quick wingbeats, pausing to glide only rarely. They also spend long periods perched in open areas, scanning for prey.
Northern Flicker Colaptes auratus YR	13	Northern Flickers spend lots of time on the ground, and when in trees they're often perched upright on horizontal branches instead of leaning against their tails on a trunk. They fly in an up-and-down path using heavy flaps interspersed with glides, like many woodpeckers.
Blue Jay Cyanocitta cristata YR	14	This common, large songbird is familiar to many people, with its perky crest; blue, white, and black plumage; and noisy calls. Blue Jays are known for their intelligence and complex social systems with tight family bonds. Their fondness for acorns is credited with helping spread oak trees after the last glacial period.
Common Raven Corvus corax	24	Common Ravens aren't as social as crows; you tend to see them alone or in pairs except at food sources like landfills. Ravens are confident, inquisitive birds that strut around or occasionally bound forward with light, two-footed hops. In flight they are buoyant and graceful, interspersing soaring, gliding, and slow flaps.

Great horned (virginianus	Owl Bubo	25	With its long, earlike tufts, intimidating yellow-eyed stare, and deep hooting voice, the Great Horned Owl is the quintessential owl of storybooks. This powerful predator can take down birds and mammals even larger than itself, but it also dines on daintier fare such as tiny scorpions, mice, and frogs. It's one of the most common owls in North America.
Oak Trees			
Armbrust Hill by play	eround		
Northern Parul americana	a Setophaga	4.5	A small warbler of the upper canopy, the Northern Parula nests can be found in old man's beard lichen.
Tennessee war peregrina	bler Oreothlypis	4.75	A dainty warbler of the Canadian boreal forest, the Tennessee Warbler specializes in eating the spruce budworm. Consequently its population goes up and down with fluctuations in the populations of the budworm.
Common Yello Geothlypis tric		5	Common Yellowthroats spend much of their time skulking low to the ground in dense thickets and fields, searching for small insects and spiders. Males sing a very distinctive, rolling wichety-wichety-wichety song.
Yellow warbler. Setophaga pet		5	Look for Yellow Warblers near the tops of tall shrubs and small trees. They forage restlessly, with quick hops along small branches and twigs to glean caterpillars and other insects. Males sing their sweet, whistled songs from high perches.

Magnolia Warbler Setophaga magnolia	5	The Magnolia Warbler is a handsome and familiar warbler of the northern forests. Though it often forages conspicuously and close to the ground, we have relatively scant information on its nesting behavior.
Blackburnian Warbler Setophaga fusca	5	A bird of the coniferous forests of the Northeast, the Blackburnian Warbler is breathtaking in its brilliant orange-and-black breeding plumage.
American Redstart Setophaga ruticilla	5.25	American Redstarts are incredibly active insectivores that seem never to stand still. They rapidly spread their cocked tails, exposing the orange or yellow in a quick flash, which often startles insect prey into flushing, whereupon the redstart darts after it, attempting to catch it in the air.
Black-and-white Warbler Mniotilta varia	5	One of the earliest-arriving migrant warblers, the Black-and-white Warbler's thin, squeaky song is one of the first signs that spring birding has sprung. They act more like nuthatches than warblers, foraging for hidden insects in the bark of trees by creeping up, down, and around branches and trunks. Despite their arboreal foraging habits, they nest on the ground at the bases of trees

Blackpole warbler Setophaga striata	5.5	The sharply marked Blackpoll Warbler is nature's hearing test, with a high-pitched, almost inaudible song that floats through the boreal forests of Canada. This long-distance athlete weighs less than half an ounce yet makes the longest overwater journey of any songbird—nearly 1,800 miles nonstop over the Atlantic Ocean to its wintering grounds. In the fall, this black-and-white warbler molts into yellow-green plumage and loses its black cap. Although still numerous, it has lost an estimated 88% of its population in the last 40 years.