

Voice of the Naturalist

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States

(independent of NAS!)

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Snowy Owl at the north end of Assateague, Nov. 8, 2008
Photo by George Jett [click to enlarge picture](#)

Please consider joining ANS, especially if you are a regular user of the Voice (Individual \$40; Family \$50; Nature Steward \$75; Audubon Advocate \$150). The membership number is 301-652-9188 x12, the address is 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

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This is the Voice of the Naturalist, a service of the Audubon Naturalist Society. This report was completed Tuesday, November 18, at 8:00 a.m.

Top birds this week are CAVE SWALLOW* in DE and VA and ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER *in MD.

Other birds of interest include ROSS' GOOSE, CACKLING GOOSE, EURASIAN WIGEON, COMMON EIDER, AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN, NORTHERN GOSHAWK, GOLDEN EAGLE, MERLIN, PIPING PLOVER, ICELAND GULL, LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL, SNOWY OWL, RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD, LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE, NORTHERN SHRIKE, COMMON RAVEN, BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER, AMERICAN TREE SPARROW, CLAY-COLORED SPARROW, NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW, FOX SPARROW, SNOW BUNTING, ROSE-BREADED GROSBEAK, BREWER'S BLACKBIRD, RED CROSSBILL, WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL*, COMMON REDPOLL, PINE SISKIN, and EVENING GROSBEAK.

CAVE SWALLOWS were seen in several areas this week. One was at the Cape Henlopen Hawk Watch, Sussex Co, DE on Nov 11. Three were at Woodland Beach WMA, Kent Co, DE on Nov 13 and one was there on Nov 15. Three were at Fowler

Beach, Sussex Co, DE on Nov 14 and three were seen on Nov 15 at nearby Prime Hook Beach. Two were at the Berlin Sewage Ponds, Worcester Co, MD on Nov 15 and one was there on Nov 17. Eight CAVE SWALLOWS were spotted from the Cape May-Lewes Ferry on Delaware Bay on Nov 16. Eight CAVE SWALLOWS were found in Kiptopeke SP, Northampton Co, VA on Nov 12. Three were seen on Mainland Farm near Jamestown, VA on Nov 17.

The Worcester Co, MD roundup on Nov 15 produced many fine birds including an ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER* on 120th St in Ocean City.

Interesting waterfowl sightings included two ROSS' GEESE in Worcester Co, MD, on Nov 15, four CACKLING GEESE at Piney Run Park, Carroll Co, MD on Nov 17 and six CACKLING GEESE near Triadelphia Reservoir, Howard Co, MD on Nov 15. A EURASIAN WIGEON was found on Nov 17 at Fowler Beach, DE. A COMMON EIDER was in the Ocean City, MD inlet on Nov 15.

A flight of 24 AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS passed over Fort Story, Virginia Beach, VA on Nov 17.

A NORTHERN GOSHAWK was seen over the Cape Henlopen Hawk Watch on Nov 12. An immature GOLDEN EAGLE was spotted from the Triadelphia Reservoir dam on Nov 15. Two adult GOLDEN EAGLES were found near Chesapeake Landing, Kent Co, MD on Nov 17. Single GOLDEN EAGLES were seen at Snickers Gap, Loudoun Co, VA and Sky Meadows SP, Fauquier Co, VA on Nov 16. An immature GOLDEN EAGLE was found at Blackwater NWR, Dorchester Co, MD on Nov 13. Another immature was in Kiptopeke SP, VA on Nov 12. Two GOLDEN EAGLES were seen from the Cape Henlopen Hawk Watch, DE on Nov 11. At least 4 MERLINS were found at Hains Point, Washington, DC on Nov 16.

A PIPING PLOVER was seen on the north end of Assateague Island, Worcester Co, MD on Nov 15.

A first winter ICELAND GULL and 3 LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLS were seen along the Appomattox River in Hopewell, VA on Nov 15. A LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL was found at the Easton Water Treatment Plant, Talbot Co, MD on Nov 12.

A SNOWY OWL was found in the ORV Zone on Assateague Island, Worcester Co, MD on Nov 15 and Nov 17.

A RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD continues at a feeder in Fairfax, VA

A LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE was seen at Little River Farm on Rt 15, Loudoun Co, VA on Nov 11. A NORTHERN SHRIKE was found in northern Queen Anne's Co, MD on Nov 14 and 16.

Two COMMON RAVENS were spotted on Sixes Bridge Road, Carroll Co, MD on Nov 16.

Lingering BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHERS were observed at Occoquan Bay, NWR, Prince William Co, VA on Nov 16 and Turkey Point, Cecil Co, MD on Nov 11.

Eight AMERICAN TREE SPARROWS were in Finzel Swamp, Garrett Co, MD on Nov 12. A CLAY-COLORED SPARROW was seen in Perryville Community Park, Cecil Co, MD on Nov 16. Eleven FOX SPARROWS graced Blue Mash Nature Trail, Montgomery Co, MD on Nov 14. A NELSON'S SHARP-TAILED SPARROW was in Assateague SP, MD on Nov 15.

Five SNOW BUNTINGS were found on the north end of Assateague Island, MD on Nov 15.

Twenty five ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAKS in one tree highlighted an Augusta Co, VA Bird Club trip.

A BREWER'S BLACKBIRD was found at the Berlin Sewage Ponds, Worcester Co, MD on Nov 15 and Nov 17.

A RED CROSSBILL flew over Bayside, Assateague Island, MD on Nov 16. A WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL* and two COMMON REDPOLLS flew over Turkey Point, Cecil Co, MD on Nov 11.

PINE SISKINS were observed throughout the region. Particularly notable counts included 275-300 at Turkey Point on Nov 11; 400 in Finzel Swamp, Garrett Co, MD on Nov 12; and 225 in Cape Henlopen SP, DE on Nov 15.

An EVENING GROSBEAK was a flyover at Fort Smallwood, Anne Arundel Co, MD on Nov 11.

Some of this week's reports have been gleaned from the MDOsprey, VA-Bird, and DE-bird list servers.

The **Audubon Sanctuary Shop** (301-652-3606) is an excellent source for local guidebooks and many other nature-related titles.

To report bird sightings, e-mail your report to voice@AudubonNaturalist.org or call 301-652-1088 and select menu option 2. Please post reports before midnight Monday, identify the county as well as state, and include your name and a Tuesday morning contact, either e-mail or phone.

Thank you for calling, and GOOD BIRDING.

*Of interest to the records committee.