

Date: 1/26/10

Coverage: MD/DC/VA/DE

Telephone: 301-652-1088 option 1

Reports (voice): 301-652-1088 option 2

(email): voice@AudubonNaturalist.org

(deadline): midnight Mondays

Reporting Guidelines

Compiler: Joe Coleman

Sponsor: Audubon Naturalist Society of the
Central Atlantic States (independent of NAS!)

Transcriber: Steve Cordle

Archives

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, option 12; the address is 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815.

This is the Voice of the Naturalist, a service of the Audubon Naturalist Society. This report was completed Tuesday, January 26, at 9:00 AM.

Top bird this week is ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER* in VA.

Other birds of interest include geese, TRUMPETER SWAN, ducks including COMMON TEAL*, EARED and RED-NECKED GREBE, GREAT CORMORANT, raptors, rails, SANDHILL CRANE, gulls, RAZORBILL, SHORT-EARED OWL, shrikes, COMMON RAVEN, ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER, sparrows, PAINTED BUNTING, and RUSTY BLACKBIRD.

An ASH-THROATED FLYCATCHER* was seen again Jan 23 and 24 on Tim Rd, Virginia Beach, VA. Birders are cautioned to be careful in this area.

GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GEESE sightings included four on Jan 19 in Queen Anne's Co, MD near a small pond on Rte 213 one mile north of where Clannahan Shop Rd intersects Rte 213. CACKLING GEESE were reported from several sites including one on the 19th at the Smithsonian Environmental Research Center, Edgewater, Anne Arundel Co, MD and at least five mixed in with a large flock of Canada Geese along Powder Mill Rd at the Beltsville Ag Research Ctr, Prince George's Co, MD the morning of Jan 22. There were also two CACKLING GEESE at Kershner's Pond, Burkittsville Rd, Burkittsville, Frederick Co, MD on Jan 23 and one at Blackwater NWR, Dorchester Co, MD the same day. A single CACKLING GOOSE was seen Jan 24 at Schooley Mill Park, Howard Co, MD. Four CACKLING GEESE were reported from Schoolhouse Pond, Upper Marlboro, Prince George's Co, MD on Jan 24.

With the C&O Canal Winter Count, the Prince George's Waterfowl Count, and the ASNV's Winter Waterfowl Count occurring this past weekend there were numerous waterfowl reports from the area as well as a lot of other nice sightings.

A single ROSS'S GOOSE was seen Jan 24 in a large flock of SNOW GEESE in eastern Henrico Co, VA along Rte 5 at Curles Neck.

Five TRUMPETER SWANS were found in a new wetlands in the community of Gala in northern Botetourt Co, VA on Jan 22.

A EURASIAN WIGEON was found Jan 23 at Fisherman Island NWR, Northampton Co, VA. A drake COMMON TEAL* (the Eurasian form of the Green-winged Teal) was found among

nearly 600 Green-winged Teal at Truitt's Landing, Worcester Co, MD on Jan 24. A female KING EIDER was spotted Jan 20 in Norfolk, VA in back of Greenies Restaurant & Pub. On the 21st a KING EIDER was seen on the east side of the 4th Street fishing pier and on the 24th a KING EIDER was in the bay off of Ocean View Beach Park in Norfolk. On the 25th a female KING EIDER was further east along Ocean View. Large numbers of COMMON EIDERS were seen at the Ocean City Inlet throughout the week. Seven COMMON EIDERS were seen in the surf off of Virginia Beach, VA on Jan 19. Two HARLEQUIN DUCKS were reported at the Ocean City Inlet on Jan 23 and 24. Two WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS were seen Jan 24 at the end of Haul Rd on the regular weekly bird walk at Dyke Marsh, Fairfax Co, VA.

An EARED GREBE was found Jan 24 and 25 at 33rd Street in Ocean City, MD.

A RED-NECKED GREBE was seen on Jan 23 at South Point, Worcester County.

Two GREAT CORMORANTS were found Jan 23 at Indian River Inlet, DE. On Jan 24 a GREAT CORMORANT was found near the mouth of the Ocean City, MD, inlet.

Nesting BALD EAGLES were reported from numerous locations; in some cases they were repairing nests while already sitting on eggs in other reports.

A light phase ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK was found Jan 23 in Highland Co, VA.

PEREGRINE FALCONS were reported from the DC area with one seen carrying prey and flying north up Georgia Avenue in downtown Silver Spring, Montgomery Co, MD on Jan 20. A pair was beautifully photographed sitting on South Capitol St Bridge over the Anacostia River in SE DC on Jan 21.

Three KING RAILS and two VIRGINIA RAILS were observed at Huntley Meadows Pk, Fairfax Co, VA on Jan 23. A VIRGINIA and two CLAPPER RAILS were found at the Deal Island WMA, Somerset Co, MD on Jan 25.

A flock of SANDHILL CRANES was seen in Prince George's Co, MD flying over the Capital Beltway the morning of Jan 21.

BLACK-HEADED GULLS continue to be reported at the Wolfs' Neck Water Treatment Plant, DE. The turn for Wolfe's Neck is next to the Wawa opposite Rte 24 on Rte 1 near Rehoboth. Ask at the gate for directions to view the gulls.

The large number of gulls at Prime Hook NWR, DE this past week included both a NELSON'S GULL (a GLAUCOUS X HERRING GULL hybrid) and a first winter GLAUCOUS GULL.

On Jan 24 an ICELAND GULL and a NELSON'S GULL were seen at Skimmer Island, Ocean City, MD. An adult ICELAND GULL was seen at Fowler's Beach, DE this past week. And on Jan 24 an ICELAND GULL was observed at Schoolhouse Pond, Prince George's Co, MD.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULLS continued to be reported from many sites in the region during the week.

A RAZORBILL was seen Jan 19 in the Ocean City Inlet, Worcester Co, MD.

Six SHORT-EARED OWLS were seen during the trip to Poplar Island, Talbot Co, MD on Jan 20. One was seen at the Deal Island WMA, Somerset Co, MD on Jan 25.

A LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE was seen in Washington Co, MD on Jan 23 in the same location off of Sedgwick Way in Hagerstown where one was found last summer. The NORTHERN SHRIKE was seen again on the Chino Farms from Roundtop Rd, Queen Anne's Co, MD on Jan 23.

A COMMON RAVEN was seen Jan 19 flying towards the landfill on Powells Run Rd, Randallstown, Baltimore Co, MD

An ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER was found Jan 23 on a trail that leads back to Mason Creek from the maintenance area in Northside Park, Norfolk, VA (off of Tidewater Dr). On Jan 25 an ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER was seen on the Old Dominion University Campus, Norfolk, VA. There was also an ORANGE-CROWN WARBLER seen this past week at the end of Oyster Rocks Rd in Prime Hook NWR, DE.

On Jan 23 AMERICAN TREE SPARROWS were reported from Blue Mash, Montgomery Co, MD and Highland Co, VA. They were also seen at the Occoquan Bay NWR, Prince William Co, VA, on the 23rd and 24th. A LINCOLN'S SPARROW was reported from Occoquan Bay NWR, Prince William Co, VA, on Jan 24.

A female PAINTED BUNTING was found on Jan 23 in the thickets on the right side of the maintenance area in Northside Park, Norfolk, VA.

Three RUSTY BLACKBIRDS were found on Jan 22 at Marshy Point Nature Center, Marshy Point Dr., Chase, Baltimore Co, MD. A single RUSTY BLACKBIRD was seen at Dyke Marsh, Fairfax Co, VA on Jan 24. Don't forget to participate in the RUSTY BLACKBIRD BLITZ scheduled from Jan 30 through Feb 15.

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

The Audubon Sanctuary Shop (301-652-3606, <http://www.audubonnaturalist.org/default.asp?page=511>) is an excellent source for 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