

Voice of the Naturalist

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Coverage: MD/DC/VA/DE

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Reporting Guidelines

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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.

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This is the Voice of the Naturalist, a service of the Audubon Naturalist Society. This report was completed Tuesday, March 3 at 8:30 A.M.

Top birds this week are BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING DUCK* in DE and BARROW'S GOLDENEYE* in MD

Other birds of interest include EARED GREBE, AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS, GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE, ROSS'S GOOSE, CACKLING GOOSE, BAR-HEADED GOOSE, TRUMPETER SWAN*, EURASIAN WIGEON, REDHEAD, KING EIDER, SANDHILL CRANE, AMERICAN WOODCOCK, gulls, owls, RUFOUS HUMMINGBIRD, LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE, AMERICAN PIPITS, warblers, sparrows, LAPLAND LONGSPUR, PAINTED BUNTING, blackbirds and grackles, RED CROSSBILL, COMMON REDPOLL, WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL, PINE SISKIN, and EVENING GROSBEAKS.

The BLACK-BELLIED WHISTLING DUCK* continues to be seen from Lake Drive at Silver Lake in Rehoboth, DE.

A drake BARROW'S GOLDENEYE* was spotted in the water at Jefferson Patterson Park in Calvert Co, MD, on Feb 28 and Mar 1.

An EARED GREBE continues to be close to 32nd St bayside in Ocean City, MD.

About 30 AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS were at Blackwater NWR, MD, on Feb 28.

A GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE was found in a field close to Piney Reservoir, Garrett Co, MD, on Feb 26, Mar 1, and Mar 2.

A ROSS'S GOOSE was found among SNOW GEESSE at Bombay Hook National Wildlife Refuge on Feb 27 and Mar 1.

CAKCLING GEESE were reported from a variety of locations including one at Lilypons Water Gardens, Frederick Co, MD, on Feb 25; two at Piney Reservoir, Garrett Co, MD, on Feb 26, one at Lake Artemesia, Prince George's Co, MD, on Feb 28, and two close to Egypt Road, Dorchester Co, MD, on Mar 1.

Four TRUMPETER SWANS* were seen near Violette's Lock on the C&O Canal, Montgomery Co, MD, from Feb 27 through Mar 1.

A EURASIAN WIGEON was seen at Goose Bay Marina on the Port Tobacco River, Charles, Co, MD, on Feb 28.

REDHEADS have shown at several locations. Over 1,100 REDHEADS were at Hooper's Island, Dorchester Co, MD, on Feb 25. Between 200 and 300 REDHEADS were spotted at Hooper's Island on Feb 28. Lesser numbers have been reported elsewhere – four in Herndon, Fairfax Co, VA on Feb 26; two at Thomas Point State Park, Anne Arundel Co, MD, on Feb 27; and others in St. Mary's Co, MD, on Mar 1.

Three KING EIDERS were found at the Ocean City Inlet, Worcester Co, MD, on Mar 1.

A SANDHILL CRANE was found in a field close to Piney Reservoir, Garrett Co, MD, on Feb 28 and Mar 1.

AMERICAN WOODCOCK reports came from Cherry Hill Community Park, Prince George's Co, MD, on Feb 24; College Park, Prince George's Co, MD, on Feb 26; and Soldiers Delight Natural Area, Baltimore Co, MD, on Feb 27.

A first-winter ICELAND GULL and a THAYER'S GULL were found at the Salisbury Landfill, Wicomico Co, MD, on Mar 1.

On Feb 25 and 28 SHORT-EARED OWLS were seen hunting the fields at Pemberton Manor, Queen Anne's County, MD. Other SHORT-EARED OWL sightings included six on Elliott Island Road, Dorchester Co, MD on Feb 28; two at Poplar Island, Talbot Co, MD, on Feb 28, and one on Maple Dam Road at Blackwater NWR on Mar 1. A LONG-EARED OWL sighting came from Spruce Creek Park, Nelson Co, VA, on Mar 1.

A RUFIOUS HUMMINGBIRD continued at a feeder in Dover, Kent Co, DE on Feb 27.

A LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE was seen on Redgate Road in Clarke Co, VA, on Feb 25.

About 25 AMERICAN PIPITS were seen at Bombay Hook NWR in DE on Feb 25 and about 50 showed on Feb 28. Forty-four AMERICAN PIPITS were in a field close to Mispillion, Sussex Co, DE, on Feb 26.

An ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER was seen near Delaware City, New Castle Co, DE, on Feb 27. Another ORANGE-CROWNED WARBLER was found at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center, Prince George's Co, MD, on Mar 1. A PINE WARBLER showed in Talbot Co, MD, on Mar 2.

A CLAY-COLORED SPARROW was found along Deep Branch Road, Sussex Co, DE, on Feb 28. A LARK SPARROW was in Smyrna Municipal Park, Smyrna, Kent Co, DE, on Mar 1. Five SAVANNAH ("IPSWITCH" group) SPARROWS were spotted in the "Old Shantytown" area

west of Ocean City, Worcester Co, MD, on Mar 1.

A LAPLAND LONGSPUR was spotted along Indiantown Road in Dorchester Co, MD, on Mar 2.

Three PAINTED BUNTINGS have been reported visiting feeders on Rouse Rd in Virginia Beach, VA, and were seen again Feb 24 and 25.

A female YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD report came from Bear, New Castle Co, DE on Mar 2. RUSTY BLACKBIRD sightings are from widespread locations including four at Noland's Ferry in Montgomery Co, MD, on Feb 25; two at the visitor center in Charlotte Hall, St. Mary's Co, MD, on Feb 26; four at Lilypons Gardens, Frederick Co, MD, on Feb 27; five at Occoquan Bay National Wildlife Refuge, Prince William Co, VA, on Feb 28; and two in Giles Co, VA, on Mar 2. COMMON GRACKLES are showing regionally on lawns, in trees, and at feeders.

Two RED CROSSBILLS were seen north of Blacksburg, Montgomery Co, VA, on Mar 1. A COMMON REDPOLL was found in Smyrna, Kent Co, DE, on Mar 1. WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL reports continue with regular sightings at Centennial Park, Howard Co, MD. WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS were at Little Seneca Lake, Montgomery Co, MD, on Feb 28. Two WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILLS were at Twin Shields Golf Club, Calvert Co, MD, on Mar 1.

Daily PINE SISKIN sightings are dispersed across our region. Reports include sightings from Wintergreen in Nelson Co, VA, on Feb 25; four PINE SISKINS in Laurel, Prince George's Co, MD, on Feb 28; and 30 PINE SISKINS seen in a yard close to Prettyboy Reservoir, Baltimore Co, MD, on Mar 1. Sightings on Mar 2 included reports from Easton, Talbot Co, MD; Baltimore city in MD, Croom in Prince George's Co, MD, and Herndon in Fairfax Co, VA.

A flock of 36 EVENING GROSBEAKS showed close to Route 13, south of Camden, Kent Co, DE on Mar 2.

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

The [Audubon Sanctuary Shop](#) (301-652-3606, 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.