

TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK BIRD COUNTS – JUNE, 2023

A quiet month with no additions to the list. There were 30 surveys over 172 hours in all 92 species located. The best year was 2022 with 94 species. For the year 228 species have been seen with 319 for the whole survey. The best days were the 5th with 575 birds and the 19th with 45 species.

There were single Sooty Shearwaters on the 2nd and the 5th. Brown Pelicans peaked at 163 on the 25th. A juvenile Magnificent Frigatebird floated to the north over the Halifax River on the 30th.

There were single Green Herons on the 17th and 27th. Single Black-crowned Night-Herons were located on five dates with two on 18th. Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were located on most days with four on the 26th and the 28th. White Ibis peaked at 68 on the 13th. Glossy Ibis were seen on six dates with 18 on the 7th. Roseate Spoonbills were seen on 12 dates with 17 on the 4th. Wood Storks seen from the 26th with five on the 30th. For the vultures there were 31 Black on the 12th with 34 Turkey on the 25th.

There were 4 Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks on the 13th. There were two Mallard on the 23rd with a Black Scoter on the 11th.

Swallow-tailed Kites were present all month with eight on the 19th and nine on the 26th. There were two Mississippi Kites on the 1st and 19th with one on the 26th. There was an adult Bald Eagle on the 7th. There was a dark morph Short-tailed Hawk on the 1st. As a second park record a Crested Caracara flew to the north over the island on the 30th (the first was seen on August 19, 2020).

Single Black-bellied Plovers were seen on the 9th and 29th. There was a Semipalmated Plover on the 13th with two on the 26th. There was an American Oystercatcher on the 19th. For Black-necked Stilts there were two on the 12th, eight on the 14th, nine on the 21st and five on the 24th. There was a Willet on the 11th with two on the 28th. There was a Whimbrel on the 2nd. There was a Ruddy Turnstone on the 7th with two Sanderling on the 5th.

There was a Ring-billed Gull on the 18th with two on the 19th. There was a Gull-billed Tern on the 23rd. There was also a Caspian Tern on the 5th. There were single Roseate Terns on the 2nd and Common Terns on the 5th. Least Terns peaked at 17 on the 5th. Black Skimmers were seen on six dates with five on the 11th.

There was a White-winged Dove on the 3rd. There was an Eastern Screech-Owl on the 4th and 5th. There were single Great Horned Owls on the 25th and the 30th. There were also single

Common Nighthawks on the 11th and the 30th. The female Chuck-will's-widow was heard most mornings with two females on the 9th and a male on the 24th.

There were single Ruby-throated Hummingbirds on the 1st, 18th, 19th and 28th. There was a Northern Flicker on the 20th. Single Pileated Woodpeckers were seen on the 15th, 25th, 27th and 29th. There was a pair of Great Crested Flycatchers near the river with at least a single bird near A1A there were counts of two on 7th, 18th and 22nd. There were single Eastern Kingbirds on the 1st and the 6th. There was a Gray Kingbird on the 11th. A Loggerhead Shrike has been present all month on the 22nd a party of three worked their way to the south creating a new high count of four. Up to five American Crows seen daily. Purple Martins were seen on six dates with five on the 11th, 24th, 25th and 26th. There were two Tree Swallows on the 22nd. There was a Northern Rough-winged Swallow on the 14th with a Bank Swallow on the 26th. Barn Swallows flew to the north to the 28th and to the south from the 7th.

There were single Tufted Titmouse on the 11th and 24th. There were single Eastern Bluebirds on the 19th and the 30th. There were two pairs of Brown Thrashers with a new high count of five on the 18th. Boat-tailed Grackles peaked at 56 on the 30th. There was a male Shiny Cowbird on the 5th with three Brown-headed Cowbirds on the 24th. House Finches peaked at 21 on the 9th and 15 on the 10th.

Now we have reached the early fall passage.

Harry Robinson