

## **THE BIRDS OF TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK – JANUARY, 2023**

We start another year with 116 species over 31 surveys and 177 hours of fieldwork. The best days were 61 species on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 5,248 birds on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

There were single Red-throated Loons on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> with two on the 14<sup>th</sup>. A Pacific Loon flew to the south over the river on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Common Loons were seen on nine dates no more than two a day. There were two Horned Grebes on the 14<sup>th</sup> with one on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There was a Cory's Shearwater on the 23<sup>rd</sup> with single Great Shearwaters on the 1<sup>st</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>; there were also two on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Very low numbers of Northern Gannets the high count was that of 30 on the 8<sup>th</sup>. American White Pelicans were seen on seven dates over the river the high counts were 18 on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 11 on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Brown Pelicans peaked at 426 on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There was an adult male Magnificent Frigatebird on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

There was a Black-crowned Night-Heron on the 8<sup>th</sup>. There were four Glossy Ibis on the 2<sup>nd</sup> with one on the 15<sup>th</sup>. There were single Roseate Spoonbills on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup>. Wood Storks seen nearly daily with 26 on the 17<sup>th</sup> and 32 on the 28<sup>th</sup>. For the vultures there were 61 Black on the 30<sup>th</sup> with 234 Turkey on the 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Four Snow Geese (white morph) flew to the south on the 5<sup>th</sup>. There was a Blue-winged Teal on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There were seven Canvasback on the 11<sup>th</sup>. There were four Redheads on the 5<sup>th</sup> with six on the 13<sup>th</sup>. There were two Ring-necked Ducks on the 18<sup>th</sup> with one on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Greater Scaup peaked at 50 on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Lesser Scaup peaked at 650 on the 6<sup>th</sup> and again on the 21<sup>st</sup> these were all over the river. There were two Surf Scoter on the 8<sup>th</sup> with one on the 17<sup>th</sup> then two seen on the 22<sup>nd</sup> with one on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There was a White-winged Scoter on the 4<sup>th</sup> with two on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Only low numbers of Black Scoter the high count was that of 53 on the 8<sup>th</sup>. There were single Buffleheads on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. There was a Common Goldeneye on the 25<sup>th</sup>. There were two Hooded Mergansers on the 17<sup>th</sup> with two more on the 24<sup>th</sup> both sightings over the river. Red-breasted Mergansers were only seen on five days only 1 – 2 noted.

Bald Eagles seen on most days with four on the 14<sup>th</sup> and seven on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There were single Northern Harriers on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. There were two Sharp-shinned Hawks on the 7<sup>th</sup> with singles on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. An adult Golden Eagle flew to the south on the 6<sup>th</sup>. A male American Kestrel was present all month with a second male on the 11<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. There were two Merlins on the 13<sup>th</sup> with a Peregrine Falcon on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Sandhill Crane on the 20<sup>th</sup> with two on the 27<sup>th</sup> and three on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There were 12 Semipalmated Plovers on the 18<sup>th</sup>. There was a Killdeer on the 13<sup>th</sup> with eight on the

15<sup>th</sup> this is a joint high count. There were 25 Red Knot on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with two Dunlin on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There was also a Wilson's Snipe on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

There were single Pomarine Jaegers on the 6<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>, then ten seen on the 13<sup>th</sup> with six on the 14<sup>th</sup> and one on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Parasitic Jaegers were seen on 20 dates with 18 on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 17 on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Laughing Gulls peaked at 3,840 on the 13<sup>th</sup>. An adult Black-headed Gull flew to the south down the river on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Bonaparte's Gulls were seen on 17 dates with 82 on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Ring-billed Gulls peaked at 176 on the 15<sup>th</sup> and Herring Gulls peaked at 315 on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Lesser Black-backed Gulls were seen on six days two on the 13<sup>th</sup>, four on the 25<sup>th</sup> and two on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Royal Terns peaked at 258 on the 15<sup>th</sup>. There was a strong passage of Sandwich Terns with 330 on the 24<sup>th</sup>, 418 on the 26<sup>th</sup>, 523 on the 27<sup>th</sup>, 253 on the 28<sup>th</sup> and 85 on the 30<sup>th</sup>. The count of 523 is a new high count for the park. Black Skimmers were noted on 20 dates with 14 on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

On the 17<sup>th</sup> there were single Eastern Screech-Owls and Eastern Whip-poor-wills. There was a Ruby-throated Hummingbird on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There were two Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers on the 2<sup>nd</sup> with singles on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. Pileated Woodpeckers (up to two a day) were seen on 13 dates. Up to three Eastern Phoebe seen to the 12<sup>th</sup> with singles later on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. There was a Loggerhead Shrike present through to the 10<sup>th</sup> with two on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Later there was one on the 31<sup>st</sup>. There was a Purple Martin on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Tree Swallows peaked at 520 on the 31<sup>st</sup>.

There was a House Wren on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. There was a Blue-gray Gnatcatcher on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup>. American Robins peaked at 2,400 on the 4<sup>th</sup>. Up to two Gray Catbirds seen to the 20<sup>th</sup>. There were single American Pipits on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup>. Cedar Waxwings peaked at 435 on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 470 on the 19<sup>th</sup>. There was an Orange-crowned Warbler on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. An adult male Cape May Warbler was seen in one isolated tree on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, 11<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. Yellow-rumped Warblers peaked at 677 on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. A Yellow-throated Warbler was seen on six dates. There was a Prairie Warbler on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup>. There was a Common Yellowthroat on the 19<sup>th</sup> also on the 19<sup>th</sup> there was a Savannah Sparrow. Common Grackles peaked at 34 on the 24<sup>th</sup> and 33 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Brown-headed Cowbirds peaked at 305 on the 6<sup>th</sup>. House Finches peaked at eight on the 12<sup>th</sup>. For the American Goldfinch there was one on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 60 on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 25 on the 10<sup>th</sup>, six on the 17<sup>th</sup> and five on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

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