

## **TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK BIRD COUNTS – JULY, 2023**

No additions again just six new species so far this year. A total; of 232 species seen this year with 319 overall. There were 31 surveys this month over 186 hours. A total of 104 species located which is the best yet for July, last year there were 99 species. The best days were the 31<sup>st</sup> with 1,129 birds and 49 species on both the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup>.

There was an Audubon's Shearwater on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Brown Pelicans peaked at 252 on the 1<sup>st</sup>. There was a Least Bittern on the 12<sup>th</sup> with single Green Herons on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 17<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. There were single Black-crowned Night-Herons on the same dates. Up to three Yellow-crowned Night-Herons recorded daily. White Ibis peaked at 47 on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Glossy Ibis were seen on 13 days with 17 on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 21 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Wood Storks were seen on eight days with three on the 12<sup>th</sup>. For the vultures there were 43 Black on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 136 Turkey on the same day.

There was a Mottled Duck on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Swallow-tailed Kites seen daily normally one to three with seven on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Mississippi Kites seen on seven dates with three on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. There were five on the 13<sup>th</sup> a new high count. There was an adult Bald Eagle on the 16<sup>th</sup>. More surprisingly there was a Northern Harrier on the 31<sup>st</sup>. There were single dark morph Short-tailed Hawks on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> with two on the 13<sup>th</sup>. There was a Sandhill Crane on the 18<sup>th</sup>.

There were single Semipalmated Plovers on the 25<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. There was an American Oystercatcher on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Black-necked Stilts seen on five dates: one on the 5<sup>th</sup>, two on the 9<sup>th</sup>, nine on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, four on the 24<sup>th</sup> and six on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There were six Greater Yellowlegs on the 14<sup>th</sup> with one on the 17<sup>th</sup>. There were single Lesser Yellowlegs on the 9<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>. There was a Solitary Sandpiper on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Willets peaked at 60 on the 11<sup>th</sup>; the first Western race was heard on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There was a Spotted Sandpiper on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Ruddy Turnstones seen from the 25<sup>th</sup> and Sanderling were first noted on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Semipalmated Sandpipers were seen on five dates: one on the 19<sup>th</sup>, two on the 26<sup>th</sup>, four on the 27<sup>th</sup>, three on the 30<sup>th</sup> and one on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Least Sandpipers were seen on eight dates from the 16<sup>th</sup> with a high count of 27 on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. There was a Pectoral Sandpiper on the 20<sup>th</sup>. Stilt Sandpipers were seen on three days: one on the 15<sup>th</sup>, nine on the 18<sup>th</sup> and one on the 19<sup>th</sup>. Short-billed Dowitchers were seen on five dates: one on the 17<sup>th</sup>, six on the 18<sup>th</sup>, two on the 19<sup>th</sup>, one on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and five on the 31<sup>st</sup>. There was also a Wilson's Phalarope on the 6<sup>th</sup>.

Laughing Gulls peaked at 506 on the 31<sup>st</sup> (there were only two on the 12<sup>th</sup>). There were two Caspian Terns on the 6<sup>th</sup> with a Roseate Tern on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Common Terns seen from the 11<sup>th</sup> with 17 on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Least Terns present all month with 41 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Black Terns seen daily

from the 17<sup>th</sup> with 76 on the 29<sup>th</sup> and 92 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. There was a Black Skimmer on the 9<sup>th</sup> with six on the 16<sup>th</sup>.

White-winged Doves seen on four dates: one on the 9<sup>th</sup>, two on the 16<sup>th</sup>, one on the 27<sup>th</sup> and one on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There was an Eastern Screech-Owl on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. There were single Great Horned Owls on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>. Single Common Nighthawks heard on five dates: 1<sup>st</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup>, 16<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Up to two Chuck-will's-widows heard most nights with three on the 21<sup>st</sup> (these were all females). Chimney Swifts peaked at 24 on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a Ruby-throated Hummingbird on the 18<sup>th</sup> with a Belted Kingfisher on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Up to two Downy Woodpeckers seen on 13 days and single Pileated Woodpeckers seen/heard on 19 days. Single Great Crested Flycatchers noted on six dates. There were single Gray Kingbirds on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. Up to three Loggerhead Shrikes seen daily. There were two Purple Martins on the 6<sup>th</sup> with singles on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. Northern Rough-winged Swallows were seen on seven dates with four on the 16<sup>th</sup> and five on the 25<sup>th</sup>. There was a Cliff Swallow on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Barn Swallows peaked at 147 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. There were single Carolina Chickadees on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a Tufted Titmouse on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There were single Blue-gray Gnatcatchers on the 4<sup>th</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>. There were single Eastern Bluebirds on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 6<sup>th</sup>. Brown Thrashers peaked at three on the 12<sup>th</sup>.

There were single Northern Parula on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>. There were single Yellow-throated Warblers on the 14<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a Prairie Warbler on the 25<sup>th</sup>. There was a Common Yellowthroat on the 21<sup>st</sup>. A rarity was an Eastern Meadowlark on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Each July there is a significant influx of Boat-tailed Grackles there were higher numbers this year with 146 on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 148 on the 6<sup>th</sup> a new high count (only singles seen from the 25<sup>th</sup>). There were two Brown-headed Cowbirds on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with one on the 5<sup>th</sup> and three on the 16<sup>th</sup>. House Finches present all month with 19 on the 26<sup>th</sup> and 21 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

At least the autumn has started.

Harry Robinson