

THE BIRDS OF TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK – NOVEMBER, 2023

Another month the best November to date with 147 species (the previous high count was that of 144 in 2020). There were 30 surveys over 180 hours. For the year to date 269 species located with 325 ever. The best days were 3,940 birds on the 14th and 59 species on the 19th. There were two additions this month.

There was a Red-throated Loon on the 25th. Common Loons were seen on 14 days with six on the 14th. There was a Horned Grebe on the 7th with four on the 14th, 18 on the 17th (a new high count), three on the 20th and one on the 23rd. There was an Eared Grebe on the 18th. A Great Shearwater was seen on the 14th with three on the 17th. There was also a Manx Shearwater on the 17th. There was an immature Brown Booby on the 20th. Northern Gannets peaked at 173 on the 16th and 210 on the 14th. Brown Pelicans peaked at 280 on the 14th. Double-crested Cormorants peaked at 163 on the 16th and 200 on the 15th. There was a Magnificent Frigatebird on the 17th.

There was a Reddish Egret on the 16th. There were single Black-crowned Night-Herons on the 2nd and the 11th. White Ibis peaked at 128 on the 1st. There were also 46 Glossy Ibis on the 1st. There were 41 Roseate Spoonbills on the 2nd with ten on the 9th, five on the 14th, five on the 20th and two on the 27th. Wood Storks were seen on ten days with 11 on the 23rd and 14 on the 19th. For the vultures the peak counts were: 49 Black on the 23rd and for the turkey 283 on the 23rd and 291 on the 24th.

Two Greater White-fronted Geese flew to the south on the 28th. There was a Snow Goose on the 1st with four on the 28th. There was also a Canada Goose on the 9th. There were three Wood Ducks on the 4th a new high count. For Gadwall there were three on the 19th with ten on the 20th, four on the 25th and eight on the 26th. A male Eurasian Wigeon flew to the south on the 15th this is a new species for the park. There were three American Wigeons on the 3rd with one on the 15th and two on the 27th. There was an American Black-Duck on the 3rd. There was a Mallard on the 24th. The only sighting of Blue-winged Teal was that of nine on the 2nd. There was a Northern Shoveler on the 13th with two on the 15th. There were 23 Northern Pintail on the 14th with eight on the 15th, 30 on the 16th and two on the 21st. Green-winged Teal were seen on 15 days with peak counts of 60 on the 10th and 125 on the 26th. There were 15 Canvasbacks on the 21st. Redheads were seen on six days with ten on the 10th, 20 on the 20th and 15 on the 30th. There were 20 Ring-necked Ducks on the 2nd with one on the 3rd, 11 on the 5th, 255 on the 14th, one on the 15th and six on the 27th. Greater Scaup were seen from the 11th with peak counts of 80 on the 19th and 85 on the 25th. Lesser Scaup peaked at 340 on the 3rd and 490 on the 14th. There were three Common Eider on the 14th a new high count. There was a female Harlequin Duck on the 14th. Surf Scoter were seen on nine days with three on the 14th. There were five White-winged Scoter on the 14th with singles on the 16th, 24th and 26th. Black Scoter peaked at 125 on the 12th and 385 on the 14th. A Long-tailed Duck flew to the north on

the 28th. Buffleheads were seen on six days with six on the 20th and 13 on the 21st. There were four Common Goldeneye on the 19th a new high count. Hooded Mergansers were seen on six days with four on the 20th and four on the 28th. Red-breasted Mergansers were seen from the 13th with 155 on the 21st and 218 on the 17th. There was also a Ruddy Duck on the 24th.

Up to two Bald Eagles seen all month with three on the 28th. Northern Harriers were seen on 13 days with four on the 4th and three on the 22nd. There were single Sharp-shinned Hawks on the 7th, 10th and 29th. There was an adult Golden Eagle on the 4th it flew to the north along the river. Up to two American Kestrels seen all month. There were two Merlin on the 1st with singles on the 4th and the 29th. There was a Peregrine Falcon on the 13th. There were also two Sandhill Cranes on the 21st.

There was a Killdeer on the 7th with an American Oystercatcher on the 1st. There was a Greater Yellowlegs on the 9th. There were 60 Red Knot on the 17th with six on the 25th. There were two Purple Sandpipers on the 9th with one on the 12th.

There was a Pomarine Jaeger on the 4th with nine on the 16th, 11 on the 17th, four on the 22nd and four on the 24th. There were single Parasitic Jaegers on the 4th and 14th. Laughing Gulls peaked at 1,220 on the 14th. There was a Bonaparte's Gull on the 8th. There was a first-winter Iceland Gull on the 14th. Lesser Black-backed Gulls were seen on nine days with three on the 14th. There was a single Great Black-backed Gull on the 14th. There were single first-winter Black-legged Kittiwakes on the 14th and the 18th. There were two Caspian Terns on the 13th and the 14th with one on the 27th. Royal Terns peaked at 52 on the 14th and 56 on the 29th. Sandwich Terns peaked at 146 on the 29th. There was a Common Tern on the 14th (just what did not turn up on the 14th?). There was also a Black Skimmer on the 4th.

Rock Pigeons peaked at 41 on the 14th. There were single White-winged Doves on the 11th and the 25th. There was an Eastern Screech-Owl on the 5th. There were three Ruby-throated Hummingbirds on the 26th a new high count. There was a Belted Kingfisher on the 4th. There were single Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers on the 7th and 26th. Single Downy Woodpeckers were seen on six days with two on the 26th. Single Pileated Woodpeckers were seen on 13 days with two on the 27th. Eastern Phoebe were seen from the 4th with eight on the 8th a new high count. There was an Ash-throated Flycatcher on the 7th the other addition to the list. There was a late Eastern Kingbird on the 9th. Up to two Loggerhead Shrikes seen all month. American Crows peaked at nine on the 18th. Tree Swallows peaked at 161 on the 19th.

There was a Tufted Titmouse on the 7th. Up to two House Wrens noted daily from the 5th. There were single Blue-gray Gnatcatchers on the 23rd and 27th. There was a Ruby-crowned Kinglet on the 23rd with two on the 26th. There was a Gray-cheeked Thrush on the 1st. There were single Hermit Thrushes on the 5th and 9th with two on the 15th. There were 15 American Robins on the 1st with 30 on the 18th, 425 on the 19th, 645 on the 29th, one on the 22nd and 70 on the 28th. Up to two Gray Catbirds seen from the 5th with three on the 7th. European Starlings

peaked at 1,740 on the 22nd a new high count. There was an American Pipit on the 19th. There were 30 Cedar Waxwings on the 12th with ten on the 19th.

There was a Cape May Warbler on the 26th. Yellow-rumped Warblers peaked at 76 on the 18th. There were single Yellow-throated Warblers on the 8th and 26th. Palm Warblers peaked at 11 on the 12th. There was a Common Yellowthroat on the 18th. There were single Eastern Towhee on the 1st and the 8th. There were two Savannah Sparrows on the 6th. There was a male Yellow-headed Blackbird on the 11th. There were two Bronzed Cowbirds on the 19th another new high count. Brown-headed Cowbirds peaked at 140 on the 16th, 170 on the 22nd and 170 again on the 25th. Up to five House Finches seen all month. There were six American Goldfinch on the 7th with six on the 13th, four on the 19th, one on the 23rd and nine on the 27th.

So, another month is in the records book.

Harry Robinson