

## TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK BIRD COUNTS MARCH, 2026

In January & February I had the second highest monthly counts then in March there was the highest ever count with 146 species (there were 143 species in 2024). For the year a total of 181 species located. The best day was the 22<sup>nd</sup> with 64 species and 5,317 birds.

There were single Common Loons on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup>, 6<sup>th</sup>, 13<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. There was a Great Shearwater on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. There was an immature Brown Booby on the 30<sup>th</sup>. Northern Gannets peaked at 97 on the 4<sup>th</sup>, there were still five on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There were 13 American White Pelicans on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Brown Pelicans peaked at 345 on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 487 on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Double-crested Cormorants peaked at 215 on the 17<sup>th</sup>.

There was an American Bittern on the 27<sup>th</sup> with a Least Bittern on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Great Blue Herons peaked at 22 on the 24<sup>th</sup>. There was a Great White Heron on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Great Egrets peaked at 72 on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Snowy Egrets peaked at 121 on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Little Blue Herons peaked at 82 on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Tricolored Herons peaked at 37 on the 24<sup>th</sup>. All these high counts are well below the highest counts ever recorded here. There was a Reddish Egret on the 19<sup>th</sup>. There was a Green Heron on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There was a Black-crowned Night-Heron on the 25<sup>th</sup> with a Yellow-crowned Night-Heron on the 27<sup>th</sup>. White Ibis peaked at 410 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 480 on the 12<sup>th</sup>. For Glossy Ibis there were seven on the 22<sup>nd</sup> with 12 on the 26<sup>th</sup>. As a second record for the park an adult in breeding plumage White-faced Ibis took off from the oyster bed and flew to the south on the 12<sup>th</sup>. There was a Roseate Spoonbill on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Up to two Wood Storks seen on seven days. For the vultures there were 39 Black on the 19<sup>th</sup> with for the Turkey 440 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 477 on the 27<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Wood Duck on the 13<sup>th</sup> with two on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 23<sup>rd</sup>. There was an American Wigeon on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There were two Mottled Duck on the 5<sup>th</sup>. For the Blue-winged Teal there were 12 on the 4<sup>th</sup>, four on the 14<sup>th</sup> and one on the 25<sup>th</sup>. For Green-winged Teal there were 15 on the 14<sup>th</sup>. Greater Scaup were seen on five dates with 40 on the 12<sup>th</sup>, the last was one on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Lesser Scaup seen all month on the river with 680 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, 580 on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 91 on the 13<sup>th</sup> and five on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There were three Surf Scoter on the 4<sup>th</sup> with two on the 9<sup>th</sup>. There were four Black Scoter on the 3<sup>rd</sup> with one on the 15<sup>th</sup>. Red-breasted Mergansers were seen on six days with six on the 10<sup>th</sup>.

There was a marked Osprey passage with 39 on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 14 on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Swallow-tailed Kites started with two on the 10<sup>th</sup>, then singles seen on ten days. There were also four on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Normally one-to-three Bald Eagles seen but there were four on the 24<sup>th</sup> and five on the 12<sup>th</sup>. There were single Northern Harrier on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 12<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>. Sharp-shinned Hawks were seen on five days to the 17<sup>th</sup> with three on the 8<sup>th</sup>. There were single Cooper's Hawks on the 8<sup>th</sup>,

21<sup>st</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. There was a light morph Short-tailed Hawk on the 6<sup>th</sup>. Single Red-tailed Hawks were seen on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup>. There was an immature Golden Eagle on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. Up to two American Kestrels seen all month. Single Merlins were seen on six days from the 10<sup>th</sup> to the 27<sup>th</sup>.

There were single Sandhill Cranes on the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup> with two on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a Semipalmated Plover on the 21<sup>st</sup> with a Piping Plover on the 20<sup>th</sup>. There was a Killdeer on the 10<sup>th</sup>. There were two Greater Yellowlegs on the 21<sup>st</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. There were five Lesser Yellowlegs on the 8<sup>th</sup> with two on the 21<sup>st</sup> and one on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Very early was a Solitary Sandpiper on the 5<sup>th</sup>. There were single Spotted Sandpipers on the 8<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup>. For Red Knot there were six on the 1<sup>st</sup>, four on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and ten on the 4<sup>th</sup>. There were single Western Sandpipers on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a Least Sandpiper on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a Pectoral Sandpiper on the 31<sup>st</sup>. There were two Dunlin on the 12<sup>th</sup>. There was a Short-billed Dowitcher on the 24<sup>th</sup>. There was a Wilson's Snipe on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Also very early was a Wilson's Phalarope on the 5<sup>th</sup>.

There was a late Pomarine Jaeger on the 29<sup>th</sup>. There were single Parasitic Jaeger on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 3<sup>rd</sup>. Laughing Gulls peaked at 1,700 on the 8<sup>th</sup>. There were single Bonaparte's Gulls on the 14<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. Lesser Black-backed Gulls were seen on six days with three on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, ten birds in all. Single Great Black-backed Gulls were seen on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, 14<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. There was a Gull-billed Tern on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There were single Caspian Terns on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Royal Terns peaked at 248 on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 260 on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 334 on the 21<sup>st</sup>. There were two Common Terns on the 9<sup>th</sup> with singles on the 23<sup>rd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. Forster's Terns were seen on six days to the 31<sup>st</sup> with 63 on the 4<sup>th</sup>. There were single Least Terns on the 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. Black Skimmers were seen on 18 days with 95 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>.

There was a White-winged Dove on the 7<sup>th</sup>. Common Ground-Doves are now rare there were two on the 1<sup>st</sup>, singles on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> with two again on the 28<sup>th</sup>. There used to be four to five pairs. There was an Eastern Screech-Owl on the 15<sup>th</sup> with two Great Horned Owls on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There was a Chuck-will's-widow on the 27<sup>th</sup> with an Eastern Whip-poor-will on the 9<sup>th</sup>. There was a Ruby-throated Hummingbird on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Two Belted Kingfishers were present all month with three on the 9<sup>th</sup>. There was a Red-headed Woodpecker on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. A single Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was seen on the 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>. Up to two Downy Woodpeckers were seen on 11 days with three on the 8<sup>th</sup>. There was a Northern Flicker on the 28<sup>th</sup>. Up to three Pileated Woodpeckers seen on 23 days with four on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Single Eastern Phoebe were seen on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 3<sup>rd</sup>, 18<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup> with two on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. There was a Great Crested Flycatcher on the 30<sup>th</sup> and the 31<sup>st</sup>. There was also a Blue-headed Vireo on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

For Tree Swallow there were high counts of 1,390 on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 3,200 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Barn Swallows were seen from the 4<sup>th</sup> with 11 on the 31<sup>st</sup>. Single Carolina Chickadees were seen

on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 19<sup>th</sup>, 28<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> with two on the 29<sup>th</sup>. One to two Tufted Titmouse present all month. There were single House Wren on the 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 22<sup>nd</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. There were single Blue-gray Gnatcatchers on the 8<sup>th</sup> and 22<sup>nd</sup>. A Ruby-crowned Kinglet was seen on five days to the 22<sup>nd</sup>. Up to two Eastern Bluebirds seen all month. For American Robin there were 565 on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 185 on the 2<sup>nd</sup>, six on the 4<sup>th</sup>, five on the 6<sup>th</sup> and eight on the 18<sup>th</sup>. Single Gray Catbirds were seen on the 5<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 26<sup>th</sup>. There was a Brown Thrasher on the 1<sup>st</sup> with two on the 15<sup>th</sup> and one again on the 27<sup>th</sup>. Cedar Waxwings seen daily flying to the north. The high counts were 950 on the 10<sup>th</sup> and 1,440 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>.

There was an Orange-crowned Warbler on the 2<sup>nd</sup>. Northern Parula were seen on six days with two on the 21<sup>st</sup>. Yellow-rumped And Palm Warblers were seen to the 31<sup>st</sup>. There was a Yellow-throated Warbler on the 20<sup>th</sup> with two on the 21<sup>st</sup> a joint high count. There were single Prairie Warblers on the 11<sup>th</sup> and 27<sup>th</sup>. Black-and-white Warblers are a real rarity here so one on the 21<sup>st</sup>, three on the 23<sup>rd</sup> (joint high count) and one on the 30<sup>th</sup> were very exceptional. There were single Common Yellowthroats on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>.

There was a Savannah Sparrow on the 17<sup>th</sup>. For Brown-headed Cowbirds there were 600 on the 1<sup>st</sup>, 385 on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 140 on the 6<sup>th</sup>, 90 on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 80 on the 22<sup>nd</sup> and seven on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There was an adult male Baltimore Oriole on the 1<sup>st</sup>. Up to eight House Finches seen daily. For American Goldfinch there were six on the 3<sup>rd</sup>, 50 on the 18<sup>th</sup>, 20 on the 19<sup>th</sup> and 38 on the 21<sup>st</sup>.

Can I have A NEW SPECIES FOR THE SURVEY IN April?

Harry Robinson