

## TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK – BIRD COUNTS JUNE, 2024

No additions this month but there were three days with strong easterly winds. There were 30 surveys this month over 176 hours. A total of 103 species recorded which makes this the best June to date. The previous best year was 2022 with 94 species. So far this year 240 species seen. The best days were the 3<sup>rd</sup> with 417 birds and the 24<sup>th</sup> with 51 species.

We start with the pelagic species. For Cory's Shearwater there were 44 on the 18<sup>th</sup> with 30 on the 19<sup>th</sup>, 15 on the 20<sup>th</sup>, three on the 21<sup>st</sup> and seven on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. For Scopoli's Shearwater there was one on the 21<sup>st</sup> and seven on the 22<sup>nd</sup> a new high count. There was a Great Shearwater on the 17<sup>th</sup> with seven on the 18<sup>th</sup> and two on the 19<sup>th</sup>. There were 23 on the 20<sup>th</sup> a new high count. There was also one on the 21<sup>st</sup> with two on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There were single Sooty Shearwaters on the 18<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. There were five Audubon's Shearwaters on the 20<sup>th</sup>. There was one Wilson's with nine Leach's and one Band-rumped Storm-Petrel on the 20<sup>th</sup>. There were single immature Brown Booby on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 19<sup>th</sup>. An American White Pelican flew to the north on the 29<sup>th</sup>. Brown Pelicans peaked at 96 on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a sub-adult Neotropic Cormorant at the river on the 29<sup>th</sup> a second record for the park.

There was a Reddish Egret on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There were single Green Herons on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 21<sup>st</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup> and the 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a Black-crowned Night-Heron on the 5<sup>th</sup> with two on the 10<sup>th</sup>. Yellow-crowned Night-Herons were noted on 12 days with four on the 5<sup>th</sup>. Glossy Ibis were seen on ten days with 15 on the 11<sup>th</sup>. During the month 258 Roseate Spoonbills flew to the north 30 on the 15<sup>th</sup> and 92 on the 14<sup>th</sup> a new high count. Wood Storks were seen on five days from the 18<sup>th</sup> with three on the 24<sup>th</sup>. For the vultures the peak counts were 15 Black on the 15 and 33 Turkey on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

There were four Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks on the 11<sup>th</sup> with seven on the 15<sup>th</sup>. This species breeds in the fall hence the summer wanderings looking for new nesting locations. There were two Mottled Duck on the 9<sup>th</sup> with three on the 24<sup>th</sup> a joint high count. There were two Blue-winged Teal on the 7<sup>th</sup>. The Lesser Scaup was seen on the 5<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup> it can fly.

Swallow-tailed Kites seen nearly daily with five on the 1<sup>st</sup> and the 13<sup>th</sup>. Mississippi Kites were seen on eight days with three on the 9<sup>th</sup>, five on the 28<sup>th</sup> and six on the 27<sup>th</sup> a new high count. There was a dark morph Short-tailed Hawk on the 9<sup>th</sup>.

Single Sandhill Cranes were heard in the dark on the 7<sup>th</sup>, 24<sup>th</sup> and the 26<sup>th</sup>. There were two Black-bellied Plovers on the 8<sup>th</sup>. There was a Semipalmated Plover on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a Killdeer on the 16<sup>th</sup> with two on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There was an American Oystercatcher on the 14<sup>th</sup>. There were seven Black-necked Stilts on the 2<sup>nd</sup> with one on the 4<sup>th</sup>. There was a Willet on the 26<sup>th</sup> with six on the 27<sup>th</sup> and eight on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There was a Whimbrel on the 3<sup>rd</sup> an exceptional date. There were two Ruddy Turnstone on the 8<sup>th</sup> with four on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There was a Sanderling on the 17<sup>th</sup>. The last spring Semipalmated Sandpipers were seen on the 1st, there were two.

There were single Ring-billed Gulls on the 13<sup>th</sup> and 25<sup>th</sup>. There was a Gull-billed Tern on the 22<sup>nd</sup>. There was a Caspian Tern on the 11<sup>th</sup>. Least Terns peaked at 28 on the 16<sup>th</sup>. There was a colony on the roof of my apartment block! The fire truck came twice to put chicks back on the roof. Back to the pelagics there was a Sooty Tern on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

There were two White-winged Doves on the 15<sup>th</sup> with singles on the 24<sup>th</sup> and the 28<sup>th</sup>. There were single Yellow-billed Cuckoos on the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. There was an Eastern Screech-Owl on the 12<sup>th</sup>. Single Great Horned Owls were heard on the 7<sup>th</sup>, the 15<sup>th</sup> and the 16<sup>th</sup>. For Barred Owl there were two on the 7<sup>th</sup> a new high count, then singles heard on the 16<sup>th</sup>, 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup> and 29<sup>th</sup>. There were single Common Nighthawks on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Chuck-will's-widows were present all month with four on the 11<sup>th</sup>. There were two males and two females. Chimney Swifts seen on most days with seven on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 11 on the 27<sup>th</sup>. There was a Belted Kingfisher on the 29<sup>th</sup> it flew to the south.

Single Downy Woodpeckers were noted on five days. In contrast the Pileated Woodpeckers were noted on 24 days with a high count of four on the 24<sup>th</sup>. Single Great Crested Flycatchers were seen to the 23<sup>rd</sup> with two on the 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. There was an Eastern Kingbird on the 3<sup>rd</sup>. with a Gray Kingbird on the 25<sup>th</sup>. Single Loggerhead Shrikes were seen on the 14<sup>th</sup>, 15<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. Purple Martins were seen on 16 days with five on the 29<sup>th</sup> and six on the 30<sup>th</sup>. There were two Northern Rough-winged Swallows on the 26<sup>th</sup>. Just a scattering of Barn Swallow sightings in both directions. There was a Carolina Chickadee on the 16<sup>th</sup>. Single Tufted Titmouse seen all month. There were two pairs of Brown Thrashers in the area.

There was a Northern Parula on the 24<sup>th</sup> with a Common Yellowthroat on the 23<sup>rd</sup>. There was a Brown-headed Cowbird on the 7<sup>th</sup> with five on the 11<sup>th</sup>. House Finches present all month with ten on the 23<sup>rd</sup>.

With July the fall passage should start.

Harry Robinson