

TOM RENICK COUNTY PARK, BIRD COUNTS NOVEMBER, 2024

The weather is getting colder with temperatures in the 40's on four days. There was one addition this month bringing the total up to 340 (for the 19 years at Apopka I had 365 species). So far this year I have found 284 species well ahead of the final total for all of 2023. For the month had 152 species the best November count. There were 30 surveys over 179 hours. The best days were the 13th with 1,977 birds and the 4th and 17th with 58 species.

Single Common Loons were seen on nine days with three on the 25th. There were single Horned Grebes on the 27th and 28th. There was a Brown Booby on the 5th. Northern Gannets seen all month with 83 on the 17th. There was an American White Pelican on the 30th. Double-crested Cormorants peaked at 180 on the 28th. A sub-adult Great Cormorant flew to the north over the river on the 29th.

There were single American Bitterns on the 2nd and 9th. There was a Reddish Egret on the 26th with three on the 29th a joint high count. There were single Black-crowned Night-Herons on the 3rd and 18th. White Ibis peaked at 55 on the 1st. There was a Glossy Ibis on the 15th with 12 on the 17th and one on the 18th. There was a Roseate Spoonbill on the 5th with 16 on the 14th and 12 on the 18th. For Wood Storks there was one the 21st with three on the 23rd, one on the 27th and seven on the 28th. For the vultures there were 15 Black on the 16th and 283 Turkey on the 20th.

Two Snow Geese flew to the south on the 21st. There were three Wood Ducks on the 29th a joint high count. There were 17 Gadwall on the 12th with four on the 25th. There were also four American Wigeon on the 13th. There were four Mallard on the 14th this is a new high count. There were seven Blue-winged Teal on the 12th. There were six Northern Shoveler on the 27th. There were three Northern Pintail on the 13th. For Green-winged Teal there were 12 on the 9th, 15 on the 12th, 15 on the 22nd, four on the 24th and three on the 25th. A male stayed on the river from the 23rd to the 30th. There were seven Canvasbacks on the 27th and five on the 30th. There were 25 Redheads on the 13th with 15 on the 22nd and 20 on the 28th. For Ring-necked Ducks there were 55 on the 4th, 70 on the 10th, 60 on the 12th, 130 on the 13th, 157 on the on the 14th, 20 on the 19th and one on the 25th. There were 18 Greater Scaup on the 9th with 20 on the 19th, 30 on the 23rd, 95 on the 25th and 370 on the 28th. For the Lesser Scaup there were 130 on the 13th, 190 on the 22nd and 590 on the 28th. There was a Harlequin Duck on the 19th. Surf Scoter were seen on nine days (173 birds in all). There were 30 on the 12th, 67 on the 13th a new high count, 20 on the 14th, 19 on the 15th and 12 on the 22nd. There were three White-winged Scoter on the 25th. Black Scoter only seen in very low numbers the highest count was that of 230 on the 15th. Buffleheads were seen on six dates 13 birds in all; there were four on the 22nd. There were four Hooded Mergansers on the 27th. There were four Red-breasted Mergansers on the 10th with six on the 13th, eight on the 14th and 22 on the 28th. On the river there was a flock of Ruddy Duck from the 20th there were nine on that date. There were 11 on the 23rd with 13 on the 24th, 34 on the 28th and 44 on the 29th the latter is a new high count.

One to three Bald Eagles seen daily with eight on the 21st. There was a Northern Harrier on the 17th with two on the 20th, then singles seen on the 22nd and the 24th. There were single Sharp-shinned Hawks on the 7th and 11th with three on the 15th, then singles seen on the 20th and 21st. There was an adult light morph Swainson's Hawk on the 21st, There was one Red-tailed Hawk on the 2nd with two on the 21st and one on the 27th. There was a sub-adult Golden Eagle on the 14th. The American Kestrel was seen to the 23rd with two on the 22nd. Later there was one on the 30th There were single Merlin on the 10th, 18th and 30th.

There was a Sandhill Crane on the 27th. There was a Killdeer on the 7th. There was a Greater Yellowlegs on the 3rd. Willets peaked at 81 on the 17th. There were single Spotted Sandpipers on the 2nd, 4th, 23rd and 28th. There were single Marbled Godwits on the 2nd, 17th and 23rd. There were three Red Knot on the 1st with six on the 10th and five on the 14th. There were two Western Sandpipers on the 23rd. There were three Dunlin on the 29th. There were single Wilson's Snipe on the 9th and 19th. There were also eight Red-necked Phalaropes on the 4th.

There was a Pomarine Jaeger on the 4th with seven on the 13th and two on the 17th. There were single Parasitic Jaegers on the 2nd, 4th, 5th, 10th, 13th and 22nd. Laughing Gulls peaked at 1,210 on the 13th. Herring Gulls seen from the 21st with 66 on the 29th. There was a first winter Iceland Gull on the 13th. Lesser Black-backed Gulls seen on five days with two on the 3rd and the 13th. There was a Great Black-backed Gull on the 4th. There were single first-winter Black-legged Kittiwakes on the 4th and 10th. There were two Caspian Terns on the 3rd and 4th with singles on the 7th and 13th. Royal Terns peaked at 99 on the 30th. There were single Common Terns on the 4th and 8th with two on the 10th and five on the 14th. There were 22 Black Skimmers on the 17th with two on the 27th and one on the 28th.

There was a White-winged Dove on the 29th. The only Common Ground Dove for the month was seen on the 9th. As a second record for the park there was a Cockatiel on the 2nd. There were single Eastern Screech-Owls on the 13th, 17th and 20th. Great Horned Owls heard on six dates with two on the 14th and 27th. There were single Barred Owls on the 5th and 28th. There was an Eastern Whip-poor-will on the 5th. There were two Ruby-throated Hummingbirds on the 3rd with singles on the 14th and 24th. One to two Belted Kingfishers were seen at the river all month. Single Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were seen on seven dates. One to two Downy Woodpeckers were seen on ten days. One to two Pileated Woodpeckers seen all month with three on the 19th and 26th. Up to four Eastern Phoebe seen on most days with four on the 24th and the 28th. There were also six on the 20th. Single Loggerhead Shrikes seen on the 1st, 3rd, 22nd and 24th with two on the 14th. There was a Blue-headed Vireo on the 24th.

There was a Florida Scrub-Jay on the 12th. Tree Swallows seen on seven days with 100 on the 30th. There was an immature Cave Swallow on the 29th. There were also two Barn Swallows on the 17th. There were three Carolina Chickadees on the 3rd a new high count. There were two on the 11th with singles on the 17th, 23th, 27th and 29th. This species used to be a major rarity. There were two Tufted Titmouse on the 3rd with three on the 17th and one on the 23rd. There were single House Wrens on the 18th, 23rd and 24th. There were two Blue-gray Gnatcatchers on the 3rd and 10th with singles on the 4th and 22nd. There was a Ruby-crowned Kinglet on the 1st with two on the 10th, three on the 14th and four on the 24th the latter is a new high count. Finally, there was one on the 29th. There was an Eastern Bluebird on the 17th. There was a Veery on the 3rd. There were single Hermit Thrushes on the 1st, 17th and 18th. There were five American Robins on the 17th with seven on the 19th, 33 on the 21st, five on the 22nd and three on the 25th. There were single Gray Catbirds on the 10th, 12th, 22nd and 28th. European Starling numbers climbed all month with 210 on the 10th, 280 on the 21st, 310 on the 29th and 460 on the 30th. There were three Cedar Waxwings on the 20th.

There was an Orange-crowned Warbler on the 12th. There was also a Nashville Warbler on the 8th. There were single Northern Parula on the 3rd, 5th and 14th. There was a Cape May Warbler on the 15th. There were 14 Yellow-rumped Warblers on the 14th with 24 on the 21st and 16 on the 30th. There were single Yellow-throated Warblers on the 5th, 6th, 8th and 11th. There was a Prairie Warbler on the 28th. There were single American Redstarts on the 3rd and the 4th. There was a Common Yellowthroat on the 12th. There was an Eastern Towhee on the 6th. Now we come to the new species for the park there was a Field Sparrow on the 23rd. There was a Savannah Sparrow on the 14th. There were two White-

crowned Sparrows on the 6th this is a new high count. There was a male Brewer's Blackbird on the 8th it was hanging around with two Common Grackles. There were 60 Common Grackles on the 30th a quite high count. There was a pair of Shiny Cowbirds on the 21st. Brown-headed Cowbirds peaked at 90 on the 25th. House Finches peaked at six on the 1st and 2nd. Finally, there was an American Goldfinch on the 24th.

Harry Robinson