

Hotline: Voice of the Naturalist
Date: 6/19/2018
Coverage: MD/DC/VA/central and southern DE/WV panhandle
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This is the Voice of the Naturalist, a service of the Audubon Naturalist Society. This report covers the week starting Tuesday, June 12 and was completed on Tuesday, June 19 at 9:00 a.m.

Information on noteworthy birds is presented below in taxonomic order, as set forth in the American Ornithological Society Checklist for North and Middle American Birds, as revised through the 58th Supplement (July 2017).

The top birds this week were WHITE-WINGED DOVE in VA and ROSEATE SPOONBILL* in DE and MD.

Other birds of interest this week included waterfowl, rails, SANDHILL CRANE, shorebirds, terns, loons, ANHINGA, LEAST BITTERN, YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON, MISSISSIPPI KITE, PEREGRINE FALCON, COMMON RAVEN, sparrows, MOURNING WARBLER, EASTERN MEADOWLARK and DICKCISSEL.

TOP BIRDS

A WHITE-WINGED DOVE was photographed June 12 in the Martin Yard, Chincoteague, Accomack Co, VA and seen again on the 13th.

A ROSEATE SPOONBILL* was seen June 13 at Big Stone Beach, Kent Co, DE; one was also seen June 15 at Ted Harvey WMA, Kent Co, DE. A ROSEATE SPOONBILL* was found June 17 in the marsh at North Beach, Calvert Co, MD and was seen again on June 18. While it has been moving around several viewers have reported getting good looks at it from the guardrail on Rte 261 (Bay Ave).

OTHER BIRDS OF INTEREST

Out-of-season waterfowl included a report of 10 SNOW GEESE mixed in with Canada Geese at Ocean Pines, Worcester Co, MD on June 17. Four TRUMPETER SWANS, two of which appeared to be first year birds, were seen June 15 at Wootton's Landing, Patuxent River Park, Anne Arundel Co, MD before flying north. A continuing TUNDRA SWAN was seen June 15 at Kinder farm Park, Anne Arundel Co, MD. One was also seen June 18 at Southwest Area Park, Baltimore Co, MD. The continuing TUNDRA SWAN at Back Bay NWR, Virginia Beach, VA was seen throughout the week.

Other lingering waterfowl this past week included a SURF SCOTER on June 12 and 14 at Swan Creek Wetland/Cox Creek DMCF, Anne Arundel Co, MD; a BLACK SCOTER on June 14 on Hog Island, Queen Anne's Co, MD; a LONG-TAILED DUCK at Beverly-Triton Beach, Anne Arundel Co, MD on June 15; and

BUFFLEHEADS in a variety of locations. Lingering ducks in VA included a REDHEAD seen June 16 at Tailrace Park, John H. Kerr Reservoir, Mecklenburg, Co, VA and a RED-BREASTED MERGANSER June 12 at First Landing SP, Virginia Beach, VA.

A SORA was seen June 13 at the Shenandoah Wetlands (Cold Springs Rd), Augusta Co, VA. A COMMON GALLINULE was seen June 16 on Hart-Miller Island, Baltimore Co, MD.

Two SANDHILL CRANES were seen June 16 along Woodlands Church Rd, Rockingham Co, VA.

The two WILSON'S PLOVERS on Metompkin Island in Accomack Co, VA were seen again on June 17. A PIPING PLOVER was reported June 16 at Grandview Nature Preserve, Hampton Co, VA.

A single GULL-BILLED TERN was seen June 18 flying over Shearneck Pool, Bombay Hook NWR, Kent Co, DE. A COMMON TERN was seen again at Rocky Gap SP in Allegany Co, MD on June 14.

A RED-THROATED LOON was seen June 18 at Point Comfort station, Cape Henlopen SP, Sussex Co, DE. A COMMON LOON was seen June 15 just upstream from the dam on Smith Mountain Lake, Bedford Co, VA.

A male and female ANHINGA were seen together and photographed June 17 at the Carson Wetland, Prince George Co, VA.

A LEAST BITTERN was heard at the Shenandoah Wetlands (Cool Springs Rd), Augusta Co, VA on June 13. Another LEAST BITTERN was heard June 14 at Ragged Island WMA, Isle of Wight Co, VA.

On June 13 and 18 a single YELLOW-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON was seen flying upstream from the C&O Canal, NW DC. On June 17 one was seen at Hains Point, East Potomac Park, SW DC.

MISSISSIPPI KITES continue to be seen in a wide variety of locations including one seen June 16 from the C&O Canal, Glen Echo, Montgomery Co, MD. Another was seen throughout the week in NW DC from a grassy area across from 5525-5529 Potomac Ave.

Two PEREGRINE FALCONS were seen June 14 at the Loudoun Water Authority, Loudoun Co, VA.

The COMMON RAVENS at Bateau Pond in Terrapin Nature Park in Queen Anne's Co, MD were seen again on June 12 and 13.

A lingering WHITE-THROATED SPARROW was seen again on June 12, 14, and 17 at the Chester River Field Research Center (private), Queen Anne's Co, MD. A continuing VESPER SPARROW was seen June 12 and 17 along E Ruhl Rd near Peterman Rd, Baltimore Co, MD.

Three MOURNING WARBLERS were seen June 15 on Upper Sapling Ridge, Highland Co, VA. Also in Highland Co, two MOURNING WARBLERS were seen June 16 on the Virginia side of Paddy Knob.

DICKCISSELS continued in healthy numbers at a number of locations in the reporting area, with sightings along Passwaters Farm Rd, Sussex Co, DE on June 15 and 18; Ironshire Station Rd, Worcester Co, MD throughout the week; Underwood Rd, Howard Co, MD on June 12 and 14; at Oaks Landfill (private), Montgomery Co, MD, on June 16; at 30628 State Rte 613, Waverly, Sussex Co, VA on June 13; in Bristoe

Station Battlefield, Prince William Co, VA on June 15; at T. Clay Wood School, Prince William Co, VA on June 16; at 31019 Petersburg Rd, Sussex Co, VA on June 17; and near the junction of Swan and Silo Rds, Appomattox Co, VA on June 14 and 17.

This week's report was based on reports on the DE, MD, VA, and WV list servers, and eBird records.

The Audubon Sanctuary Shop (301-652-3606, <http://anshome.org/naturalist-shop>) is an excellent source for guidebooks and many other nature-related titles.

To report bird sightings, e-mail your report to voice@anshome.org.

Please post reports before midnight Monday, identify the county as well as the state, and include your name and a Tuesday morning contact, e-mail or phone.

Thank you for your interest, and enjoy the birds.

*Of interest to the applicable state records committee