

Hotline: Voice of the Naturalist
Date: 8/14/2018
Coverage: MD/DC/N. VA/C. & S. 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, August 7, and was completed on Tuesday, August 14 at about 10:00 a.m.

Information on noteworthy birds during this week is presented below in taxonomic order, as set forth in the American Ornithologists' Union Checklist for North and Middle American birds, as revised through the 57th Supplement (July 2016).

TOP BIRDS THIS WEEK: BROWN BOOBY in MD, ROSEATE SPOONBILL in DE, SWALLOW-TAILED KITE in VA

OTHER BIRDS OF INTEREST: early waterfowl, NORTHERN GANNET, MISSISSIPPI KITE, RUFF, BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER, WILSON'S SNIPE, BONAPARTE'S GULL, MERLIN, RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH

TOP BIRDS

The BROWN BOOBY continued Aug 8 & 11 in MD, between Ferry Pt Pk (Queen Anne's Co) and Eastern Neck NWR (Kent Co).

The ROSEATE SPOONBILL continued Aug 10 near Milford DE, along Big Stone Beach Rd (Kent Co).

The SWALLOW-TAILED KITE continued Aug 11-13 in Loudon Co VA near the intersection of Legard Farm Rd and Purcellville Rd.

OTHER BIRDS OF INTEREST

Two LESSER SCAUP were seen Aug 10 at Swan Creek Wetland, Anne Arundel Co MD. A single SURF SCOTER was spotted Aug 12 in Talbot Co MD at Black Walnut Point (private). A BLACK SCOTER was seen Aug 8 & 12 at Kent Narrows in Queen Anne's Co MD. In Prince George's Co MD, a BUFFLEHEAD was spotted Aug 9 in the Konterra Drive fields and ponds (private). Several COMMON LOONS were reported: one Aug 8 in Ocean City MD (Worcester Co); one Aug 9 at Black Walnut Pt (Talbot Co MD); one Aug 11 in Ferry Point Pk (Queen Anne's Co MD); and another Aug 12 in Loch Raven Pk (Baltimore Co MD).

On Aug 12, a single NORTHERN GANNET was seen in Assateague NWR, Worcester Co MD.

Several MISSISSIPPI KITES were reported: one Aug 7 in Monticello Pk (Alexandria VA); one Aug 7 & 10 over Green Spring Gardens (Fairfax Co VA); one Aug 9 over Winchester VA; and one Aug 13 over Beau Ridge Drive (Prince William Co VA).

On Aug 13, Shiloh Church Turf Farm (Dorchester Co MD) hosted a RUFF and a BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER. Two widely separated WILSON'S SNIPES were reported on Aug 11, one in VA at the Woodward Turf Farm (Culpeper Co), the other in MD at Franklin Point SP (Anne Arundel Co).

A single BONAPARTE'S GULL was seen Aug 9 at Battery Island (Harford Co MD).

An early MERLIN was reported Aug 11 at Washington Grove Forest Preserve in Montgomery Co MD.

Also early were two RED-BREASTED NUTHATCHES in MD. One was seen Aug 9-13 in Whitaker Woods (Cecil Co), the other Aug 12 at Soldiers Delight Natural Area, along Serpentine Trail (Baltimore Co).

This report was based on reports on the DE, MD, VA, and WV list servers via the ABA Internet links, and on 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, either e-mail or phone.

Thank you for your interest, and enjoy the birds.

*Of interest to the applicable records committee