

Hotline: Voice of the Naturalist
Date: 2/19/2019
Coverage: MD/DC/VA/central and southern DE/WV panhandle
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Please consider joining ANS, especially if you are a regular user of the Voice of the Naturalist (Senior \$35; Individual \$50; Family \$65; Nature Steward \$100; Audubon Advocate \$200). The membership number is 301-652-9188, option 12; the address is 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase, MD 20815; and the web site is <https://www.anshome.org>.

This is the Voice of the Naturalist, a service of the Audubon Naturalist Society. This report covers the week starting Tuesday, February 12 and was completed on Tuesday, February 19 at 6:00 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 59th Supplement (June 2018). This report does not provide information about likely escaped or released birds (e.g. various parrots and parakeets), non-established feral birds (e.g., Muscovy Duck) and introduced game birds (e.g., Ring-necked Pheasant).

TOP BIRDS THIS WEEK: ROCK WREN* and VARIED THRUSH* in MD.

OTHER BIRDS OF INTEREST: ROSS'S GEESE, GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GEESE, CACKLING GEESE, TRUMPETER SWANS, EURASIAN WIGEON, COMMON EIDER, WHITE-WINGED SCOTERS, LONG-TAILED DUCK, BARROW'S GOLDENEYE*, EARED GREBE, EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVES, SANDHILL CRANES, DOVEKIE, BAR-TAILED GODWIT*, DOVEKIE, GLAUCOUS GULL, GREAT CORMORANT, ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK, SAY'S PHOEBE, LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE, NORTHERN SHRIKE, MARSH WREN, EVENING GROSBEAKS, SNOW BUNTINGS, CLAY-COLORED SPARROW, PAINTED BUNTING and DICKCISSEL.

TOP BIRDS

A continuing ROCK WREN* was seen regularly throughout the week at a private residence in St. Mary's Co, MD. Viewing at this private residence is permitted under a strict set of ground rules and by appointment only. Email Kyle Rambo at kerambo+rockwren@gmail.com for a reservation and copy of the ground rules, including a request for your preferred viewing date and choice of 4 available time slots: 8-10 AM, 10 AM-12 Noon, 12-2 PM, or 2-4 PM.

A continuing VARIED THRUSH* at 22070 Philip Drive and nearby in St. Mary's Co, MD was seen as recently as Feb 16. Persons interested in looking for this bird should follow the guidelines of the homeowners of the property and include these guidelines in any report of this bird on eBird, Facebook or another forum. These guidelines may be found in posts by Tyler Bell on MD Birding on January 9 and 23, 2019.

OTHER BIRDS OF INTEREST

Four ROSS'S GEESE were seen at Accident Pond, Garrett Co, MD on Feb 18. A continuing ROSS'S GOOSE was photographed on Taylor's Mill Rd, Tazewell Co, VA on Feb 17. Another ROSS'S GOOSE was spotted near Myer's Mill Rd, Culpeper Co, VA on Feb 16. A GREATER WHITE-FRONTED GOOSE was photographed at North Point State Park, Baltimore Co, MD on Feb 18; another was seen at Wye Island, Queen Anne's Co, MD on Feb 18. Two CACKLING GEESE were photographed at New Bristow Village pond, Prince William Co, VA on Feb 17.

Eight TRUMPETER SWANS were seen at Wilde Lake, Howard Co, MD on Feb 18. A TRUMPETER SWAN was seen at Alter Pond on Soil Conservation Rd, Prince George's Co, MD on Feb 18. Two TRUMPETER SWANS were seen at Patuxent Research Refuge, Anne Arundel Co, MD on Feb 16.

A EURASIAN WIGEON was photographed at Riley Roberts Rd at Deal Island WMA, Somerset Co, MD on Feb 15 and 16.

A continuing COMMON EIDER was seen at Fort Monroe, Hampton, VA on Feb 16.

A WHITE-WINGED SCOTER was photographed at West Potomac Park, Washington, DC on Feb 16. A continuing WHITE-WINGED SCOTER was seen at Snowden Dam Overlook, Amherst Co, VA on Feb 17.

A LONG-TAILED DUCK was seen Feb 17 and 18 at Hains Pt, East Potomac Park, Washington, DC. Another continued at Craney Island Disposal Area (restricted area), Portsmouth Co, VA on Feb 14. A LONG-TAILED DUCK continued Feb 14 at Silver Lake Regional Park, Prince William Co, VA.

A continuing BARROW'S GOLDENEYE* was seen Feb 17 at Elms Environmental Education Center (private), St. Mary's Co, MD.

An EARED GREBE was photographed at Craney Island Disposal Area (restricted access), Portsmouth Co, VA on Feb 14.

A continuing EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVE was seen as recently as Feb 17 in Selbyville, Sussex Co, DE. Two EURASIAN COLLARED-DOVES were seen near

West Virginia Ave, Nottoway Co, VA on Feb 17. Three more were seen near Ottobine Rd, Rockingham Co, VA on Feb 16.

Two continuing SANDHILL CRANES were photographed at Hughes Rd in Poolesville, Montgomery Co, MD, most recently on Feb 19.

A BAR-TAILED GODWIT* continued at Tom's Cove in Chincoteague NWR, Accomack Co, VA on Feb 18.

A DOVEKIE* was seen flying among thousands of RAZORBILLS at Little Island Park, Virginia Beach, VA on Feb 15.

A continuing GLAUCOUS GULL was seen most recently Feb 18 at Ocean City Inlet, Worcester Co, MD. A continuing GLAUCOUS GULL was photographed Feb 16 at Claytor Lake State Park, Pulaski Co, VA.

A continuing GREAT CORMORANT was photographed Feb 16 at John H. Kerr Reservoir, Tailrace Park, Mecklenburg Co, VA.

A continuing ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK was seen most recently Feb 18 at Fowler Beach Rd, Prime Hook NWR, Sussex Co, DE.

A continuing SAY'S PHOEBE was reported on Bellevue Lane, Rockbridge Co, VA on Feb 13.

A LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE was photographed Feb 14 at Fowler Beach Rd, Prime Hook NWR, Sussex Co, DE. Another LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE was seen near 1287 Miles Creek Rd, Mecklenburg Co, VA on Feb 17. Another LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE was seen Feb 15 at Smith Farm, Lunenburg Co, VA. A continuing NORTHERN SHRIKE was photographed Feb 18 at Pickering Creek Audubon Center, Talbot Co, MD.

A MARSH WREN was seen Feb 13 at Aquia Landing Park, Stafford Co, VA.

As many as six continuing EVENING GROSBEAKS were observed at feeders along Union Springs Road in Rockingham Co, VA as recently as Feb 18. Two continuing EVENING GROSBEAKS were seen Feb 18 at a private residence in Rockingham Co, VA. A flyover EVENING GROSBEAK was seen Feb 13 on the Virginia Tech campus, Montgomery Co, VA. A continuing EVENING GROSBEAK was seen at a private feeder in Howard Co, MD as recently as Feb 16.

SNOW BUNTINGS continue at North Point SP in Baltimore Co, MD, with a high of ten individuals from the most recent sighting on Feb 18.

A continuing CLAY-COLORED SPARROW at the Laurel Hill Equestrian Center in Fairfax Co, VA was photographed most recently on Feb 17.

A PAINTED BUNTING continued at a private feeder on Guthrie St in Virginia Beach, VA on Feb 15.

A continuing DICKCISSEL was photographed Feb 14 at Fletcher's Cove, C&O Canal, Washington, DC.

This week's report was based on reports on the DE, MD, VA and WV list servers, eBird records, various birding pages on Facebook and submissions to ANS.

The Audubon Sanctuary Shop (301-652-3606, <https://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