

Hotline: Voice of the Naturalist  
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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, April 2 and was completed on Tuesday, April 9 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 59<sup>th</sup> 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).

The top birds this week are PACIFIC LOON\* and ROCK WREN\* in MD.

Other birds of interest this week included TRUMPETER SWANS, EURASIAN WIGEON, TUFTED DUCK\*, COMMON EIDER, HARLEQUIN DUCK, LONG-TAILED DUCKS, RED-NECKED GREBES, SANDHILL CRANES, BAR-TAILED GODWIT\*, AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS, AMERICAN BITTERNs, LITTLE BLUE HERON, TRICOLORED HERON, GOLDEN EAGLE, NORTHERN SHRIKE\*, SEDGE WREN, MARSH WREN, EVENING GROSBEAKS, and PAINTED BUNTING.

## TOP BIRDS

A PACIFIC LOON\* was photographed at Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center (Horsehead), Queen Anne's Co, MD on April 4, and 6.

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](mailto: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.

## OTHER BIRDS OF INTEREST

Two TRUMPETER SWANS continued off Muddy Creek Rd, Anne Arundel Co, MD as recently as April 6. Two TRUMPETER SWANS were seen Centennial Park, Howard Co, MD on April 6. Two more at the Home Depot pond in Edgewood, Harford Co, MD on April 7. Yet two more were seen April 6 at Lake Kittamaquindi, Howard Co, MD.

A continuing EURASIAN WIGEON was seen at Haynes Mill Pond, Gloucester Co, VA on April 2 and 3.

A TUFTED DUCK\* was photographed April 6, 7 and 8 at Back Bay NWR, Virginia Beach, VA.

A COMMON EIDER was photographed as recently as April 4 near Lynnhaven Inlet, Virginia Beach, VA.

A HARLEQUIN DUCK was photographed April 2, 3 and 6 near Lynnhaven Inlet, Virginia Beach, VA.

Numerous LONG-TAILED DUCK sightings across the area captivated birders. Ten were photographed April 5 at Broadway Wastewater Treatment Plant (restricted access), Rockingham Co, VA; one at Lake Frederick, Frederick Co, VA on April 7 and 8; two at Lake Laura, Shenandoah Co, VA on April 6; one at Lake Newport, Fairfax Co, VA on April 6 and 7; one at Meadowlark Botanical Gardens, Fairfax Co, VA on April 3 and 5; two at Silver Lake, Rockingham Co, VA on April 5 through 8; one near 4357 Downhill Trail, Carroll Co, MD on April 3; one along the C&O Canal Lock 42, Washington Co, MD on April 6; one at Indian Creek Park, Prince George's Co, MD on April 4; one at Lake Artemesia, Prince George's Co, MD on April 2 through 8; and one at Patuxent Research Refuge South Tract, Prince George's Co, MD on April 2.

A RED-NECKED GREBE was photographed April 4 at Lake Monticello (restricted access), Fluvanna Co, VA. As many as seven continuing RED-NECKED GREBES were photographed at Broadford Lake, Garrett Co, MD on April 3 through 7. Another was photographed March 10 and 11 at Loch Raven Reservoir, Baltimore Co, MD. A RED-NECKED GREBE was seen April 6 at the Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center (Horsehead), Queen Anne's Co, MD. On April 8, a RED-NECKED GREBE was seen at Ocean City Inlet, Worcester Co, MD.

A SANDHILL CRANE was seen near the 10000 block of Old Frederick Rd, Howard Co, MD on April 4.

A BAR-TAILED GODWIT\* continued at Tom's Cove in Chincoteague NWR, Accomack Co, VA as recently as April 7.

Eight AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS were photographed at Crow's Nest Natural Area Preserve, Stafford Co, VA on April 2. Thirty-nine were photographed at the College Creek Hawkwatch, James City, VA on April 8. Three AMERICAN WHITE PELICANS were photographed at Deal Island WMA on Riley Roberts Road, Somerset Co, MD on March 9 through 11. Five more were seen at Salisbury City Park, Wicomico, MD on March 9.

Two AMERICAN BITTERNs were heard at Little Creek Wildlife Area – South Impoundment, Kent Co, DE on April 2. An AMERICAN BITTERN was heard at Bombay Hook NWR, Kent Co, DE on April 4. Two AMERICAN BITTERNs were photographed at Bles Park, Loudoun Co, VA from April 2 through 8.

A LITTLE BLUE HERON was photographed at Huntley Meadows Park, Fairfax Co, VA on April 8. Another LITTLE BLUE HERON was photographed at the Home Depot pond, Harford Co, MD on April 8. A TRICOLORED HERON was seen April 8 at the North Beach Marsh, Calvert Co, MD.

A flyover GOLDEN EAGLE was seen at Hughes Hollow, McKee-Beshers WMA, Montgomery Co, MD on April 7. Another was photographed at Burke's Garden, Tazewell Co, VA on April 3.

The NORTHERN SHRIKE was photographed this week at Sully Woodlands, Fairfax Co, VA on April 6, 7 and 8.

A SEDGE WREN was photographed April 4 at Chesapeake Bay Environmental Center (Horsehead), Queen Anne's Co, MD.

A continuing MARSH WREN was seen April 2 and 3 at Blandy Experimental Farm/State Arboretum in Clarke Co, VA. A MARSH WREN was heard April 7 and 8 at Kenilworth Aquatic Gardens, Washington, DC.

As many as four continuing EVENING GROSBEAKS were observed at feeders along Union Springs Road in Rockingham Co, VA as recently as April 6. A continuing EVENING GROSBEAK was seen on Longview Drive, Bath Co, VA at a private residence on April 4. Three EVENING GROSBEAKS were seen at Burke's Garden, Tazewell Co, VA on April 2 through 6.

A PAINTED BUNTING was seen on Tracy's Lane, Anne Arundel Co, MD on April 2.

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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](mailto: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