



TORONTO BIRDS

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COVER PHOTO

Red-shouldered Hawk (*Buteo lineatus*)

Photo © Ann Brokelman

This photo was taken at Rosetta McClain Gardens, Scarborough, *Toronto*, 11 November 2010.

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Toronto Birds publishes monthly bird records from the Greater Toronto Area, Ontario. It may also include articles and notes about birds, bird records, counts, surveys and birding in general, with the emphasis on the Greater Toronto Area and Ontario birds. *Toronto Birds* is distributed monthly to the active members of the Toronto Ornithological Club.

We welcome submissions of notes or articles related to birds in the GTA. We also request potential cover photos, artwork and current photos for use in illustrating the bird report. Please send all contributions, or photos in jpeg format including date, location, subject, and caption if any, to the *Toronto Birds* Editors. Observation records should be sent to Roy Smith rsmith@mrs.com. All submissions are subject to review and editing.

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GREATER TORONTO AREA BIRD REPORT – JANUARY 2011

The following are largely unchecked reports, not authenticated records. County/Region codes used in the *database* are: MT = City of Toronto; HL = Halton R.M.; PL = Peel R.M.; YO = York R.M.; DU = Durham R.M.; LO = Lake Ontario Pelagic, but full names are provided in the Report, except for locations within City of Toronto. Frequently cited place names in Toronto are abbreviated as follows: CSSP = Colonel Sam Smith Park; HP = High Park; HBP = Humber Bay Park (E or W); LSS = Leslie Street Spit; TI = Toronto Islands. Other abbreviations: HRF, DRF, YRF = Halton, Durham and York Regional Forests, respectively. TBO = Toronto Bird Observatory; TTPBRS = Tommy Thompson Park Bird Research Station.

Species names in **bold, underlined BLOCK CAPITALS** are OBRC rarities. These reports require acceptance by OBRC before they can be considered as part of the local records. They are qualified by [Documentation received] or [No documentation received], as applicable.

Species names in **bold** (but not underlined) are local rarities within the GTA. These reports require documentation and acceptance by the Toronto Bird Rarities Committee (TBRC) before they can be considered as valid records. They are qualified by [Documentation received] or [No documentation received], as applicable.

Individual species **marked * or specific reports marked *** indicate unusual local observations for which documentation is requested by TBRC and/or TOC Records Committee by virtue of rarity, difficulty of ID, extreme dates (early, late, unseasonal) or high counts.

Species names in [square brackets] indicate reports believed to relate to escaped or released birds, or to introduced birds which have not yet become established.

Names in *ITALICS* indicate subspecies, hybrids, morphs or other 'recognizable forms', which may be identifiable in the field. This does not necessarily imply that the compilers agree with such designations, or accept their validity.

SNOW GOOSE - 1 at 500m E of Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 9th (BSC fide HBGG).



Blue morph **Snow Goose** found east of Bronte Harbour, *Halton*, 9 January 2011. © Andrew Don.

CAACKLING (RICHARDSON'S) GOOSE - 1 at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 2nd (RHC,GJS, fide HBGG) & on 9th (BSC fide HBGG). 1 at Causeway, LSS on 8th (NMu,MVL,LS), 1 at L. Ontario off Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 9th (THo,MWWI,fide DRBA) & 1 at Halls Rd., *Durham* on 9th (GCarp,MWWI, fide DRBA). 1 at Rouge Beach Park on 9th (MWWI, RBHS) with 570 Canada Geese.

CANADA GOOSE - 570 at Major Mackenzie & Huntington, *York* on 1st, 1500 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 2nd (RBHS,WP) & 570 at Rouge Beach Park on 9th (RBHS,WP,MWWI). 5000 seen flying N at Trafalgar Rd & QEW, *Halton* @ 09:30hrs on 11th (Philip Waggett fide HBGG).

TRUMPETER SWAN - 10 (1 w wing tag) at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 2nd (RBHS,WP). 11 (10 ad, 1 imm) at Bluffer's Park on 9th (MWWI, RBHS,WP), wing tags: O83, I98, L02; + 1 more unread. 8 at Cherry Beach on 14th (NMu) & 4 at LaSalle Marina, *Halton* on 14th (SCH), tag #: H69, 548, A58, A59. 2 AD (no tags) at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 23rd (RBHS).

WOOD DUCK - 3 at Hendrie Valley, *Halton* on 3rd (Lorraine Feenstra fide HBGG). 2 at German Mills Creek & Weldrick, Richmond Hill, *York* on 5th & from 9th to 11th (GEL) (Brydon 2011). 1 M at HP on 26th (SMF).

GADWALL - 67 at LSS on 29th (NMu,MVL).

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK - 23 at LSS on 2nd & 26 on 29th (NMu,&).

MALLARD - 1000 at 16 Mile Creek, Milton, *Halton* on 11th (MWJ,BHet, fide HBGG), 300 at TI on 14th & 1100 there on 31st (NMu,&).

NORTHERN PINTAIL - 2 flying W at Harwood Ave, Ajax, *Durham* on 2nd (GCarp fide DRBA), 1 at Oshawa Harbour, *Durham* on 3rd (MJCB fide DRBA) & 1 F at Marie Curtis Park on 9th (GC,MWWI).

CANVASBACK - 4 at Snug Harbour, TI on 5th (NMu) & 2 at Lakeview Generating Station, *Peel* on 9th (GC).

REDHEAD - 100 at Outer Harbour Marina, LSS on 2nd (NMu), 750 (about 75% M) at Snug Harbour, TI on 5th (NMu) & 19 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 9th (SLaF,MWWI, fide DRBA). 11 at Lakeridge Rd S of Bayly St., *Durham* on 9th (GCarp,MWWI, fide DRBA) & 225 at Travelodge Hotel, *Halton* on 26th (KAM fide HBGG). 55 at Bronte area, *Halton* on 26th (KAM fide HBGG) & 350 at East Cove, LSS on 29th (NMu,MVL).

RING-NECKED DUCK - 1 M at Snug Harbour, TI on 5th (NMu) & 1 M at HBP [E] on 9th (GC,MWWI).

GREATER SCAUP - 250 at Snug Harbour, TI on 5th (NMu) & 1341 at Lakeridge Rd S of Bayly St., *Durham* on 9th (GCarp,MWWI, fide DRBA).

LESSER SCAUP - 2 at East Cove, LSS on 29th (NMu,MVL).

KING EIDER - 1 at N end Oshawa Harbour, *Durham* on 2nd (THo fide DRBA), again there on 9th (RRP,MWWI, fide DRBA), seen in the channel here on 10th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS) & again on 11th (John Houston fide ONTBIRDS). 1 F at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 7th (MWJ fide HBGG) & 1 1W-M at Bowmanville Harbour, *Durham* on 20th (J. Robinson,DRBA). [No doc. seen for any of these].

HARLEQUIN DUCK - 2 (1 M, 1 F) at Centre Island, TI on 9th (Jan Docherty,&,MWWI), 1 1W-M at Bowmanville Harbour, *Durham* on 9th (DBar,MWWI, fide DRBA) & 1 at 27th St, Long Branch on 9th (GC,MWWI). 1 M first reported at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 9th (SLaF,MWWI, fide DRBA) was seen on 6 other dates until the end of the month (m.obs) 1 at Oshawa Harbour, *Durham* on 10th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 at Bowmanville Harbour, *Durham* on 10th (J. Robinson fide DRBA). 1 AD-F at Ashbridge's Bay Park on 25th & on 28th (TFI fide ONTBIRDS).

SURF SCOTER - 7 at Jack Darling Park, *Peel* on 9th (GC).

WHITE-WINGED SCOTER - 25 at Jack Darling Park, *Peel* on 9th (GC). 1 at Oshawa Harbour, *Durham* on 10th (J. Robinson fide DRBA), 11th (John Houston fide ONTBIRDS) & on 29th (RRP fide DRBA). 15 at LSS on 29th (NMu,MVL) & 2 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 30th (JWi,BKa).

BLACK SCOTER - 1 F at Jack Darling Park, *Peel* on 9th (GC).

LONG-TAILED DUCK - 2230 at Crescentwood Park (W end Scarborough Bluffs) @ 10:20hrs on 9th (RBHS,WP,MWWI) & 750 at LSS on 29th (NMu,MVL).

BUFFLEHEAD - 48 at TI on 14th (NMu).

COMMON GOLDENEYE - 125 at LSS on 2nd & 66 there on 29th (NMu,&). 250 at TI on 14th & 253 on 31st (NMu,).

BARROW'S GOLDENEYE - 1 at L. Ontario off Oshawa Second Marsh [DU on 2nd (THo,DW, Dan Kaczynski, fide DRBA), 3rd (MJCB fide DRBA), 5th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 7th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS) & on 9th (THo,MWWI, fide DRBA). [No doc seen for any of these].

HOODED MERGANSER - 1 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 2nd (RRP fide DRBA) & 1 at Oshawa Harbour, *Durham* on 3rd (MJCB fide DRBA). 3 at Ashbridge's Bay Park on 9th (MWWI, RBHS, WP) & on 29th (RLau). 2 M at East Cove, LSS on 29th (NMu, MVL).

COMMON MERGANSER - 25 at Mouth of Highland Creek on 9th (MWWI, RBHS, WP). 27 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 23rd (RBHS) & 46 at East Cove, LSS on 29th (NMu, MVL).

* RUDDY DUCK - 1 F at Oshawa Harbour, *Durham* on 7th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS), 4 at HBP on 9th (GC, MWWI), 1 F at Bronte Creek Mouth, *Halton* on 12th (GRE, Sue Edwards, fide HBGG) & 330 at Travelodge Hotel, *Halton* on 26th (KAM fide HBGG). **A new record count for the GTA, if documented.**

RING-NECKED PHEASANT - 1 at Brock Rd & Goodwood Rd, Glen Major, *Durham* on 2nd (J. Foster fide DRBA). 2 M at Cty Rd 5 300m W of Sideline 24, *Durham* on 30th (THo fide DRBA) were digging through the snow for corn.

WILD TURKEY – 5 at Halls Road, *Durham* on 2nd (AA) & 27 at 650 Brawley Rd, nr Ashburn Rd., *Durham* on 18th (THo), with some up in trees eating buds. A large flock (~20) at Kirby Rd W of Dufferin, *York* on 22nd (GDe fide ONTBIRDS) & 32 there on 30th (RBHS, WP). 2 at #4920 Sideline 2, nr. Balsam, *Durham* on 25th (ETB) & 21 at Davis Dr E of Newmarket, *York* on 29th (RJF, KRS, MvdT).

HORNED GREBE - 1 at HBP [E] on 9th (GC, MWWI) & 1 at CSSP on 27th (SMF).

RED-NECKED GREBE - 1 at Port Credit Harbour, *Peel* on 9th (GC, MWWI).

GREAT BLUE HERON - Singles at Centre Island, TI on 14th (NMu), at Major Mackenzie & Dufferin, *York* on 14th (BB) (Brydon 2011), at Riverwood Park, Erindale, *Peel* on 22nd (Reuven Martin fide OUTON), at Watson St. Bridge, Whitby Harbour North, *Durham* on 23rd (RRP fide DRBA) & at Don R, N of Pottery Rd. on 24th (Glenn Steplock fide ONTBIRDS), seen from GO train when it was -21C and snowing!

BALD EAGLE - 1 1W flying over Peninsula B, LSS on 8th (NMu, MVL, LS), 1 AD at Davis Dr & Dufferin, *York* on 9th (anon fide OUTON) & 1 JUV at Bowmanville Harbour, *Durham* on 10th (J. Robinson fide DRBA). 1 1W at PetroCanada Pier, *Halton* on 12th (MWJ, BHet, fide HBGG) & 1 AD there on 19th (MWJ, BHet, fide HBGG). 1 AD at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 22nd (GRE fide HBGG), 1 IMM at 5km E of Bond Head, *Durham* on 22nd (C. McConnell fide DRBA), 1 AD at Dufferin & Kirby SR, *York* on 22nd (GDe fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 AD at CSSP on 27th (SMF). 1 3Y at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* & 2 IMM (1 was 1-2 years old, other looked approx. 3 year old) at Con 3 & Sideline 34, Pickering, *Durham* on 30th (THo). 1 IMM at Con 4 & York/Durham Townline, *Durham* on 30th (ETB fide DRBA).

NORTHERN HARRIER - 1 at LSS on 2nd, 8th & 29th (NMu,&). 1 F at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* & 1 M at South Blair St, Whitby, *Durham* on 2nd (RBHS, WP). Singles at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 7th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS), TI on 9th (AIJ fide OUTON) & at CSSP on 10th (anon fide OUTON).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK - Singles at 520 Riverside Dr on 8th (SCH), Maple Ave, Richmond Hill, *York* on 9th (GEL) (Brydon 2011) & at Lambton Woods on 20th (anon fide OUTON).

COOPER'S HAWK - 16 reports all from different locations of single birds throughout the month.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK - 1 IMM at Pringle Creek, Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 22nd (GCarp, Terrie Smith, fide ONTBIRDS).

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK - 8 reports from different locations of single birds throughout the month & 5 at LSS on 29th (NMu, MVL).

* GOLDEN EAGLE - 1 seen flying N & photographed at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* @ 11:15hrs on 11th (Warren Brailsford fide DBar, fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 seen again there on 30th (MCar fide DRBA). 1 sitting in a tree at 650 Brawley Rd, nr. Ashburn Rd, *Durham* on 18th (THo). 1 at Mono Rd, N end of Peel, *Peel* on 28th (Gerald Donnelly fide Reinder Westerhoff, fide ONTBIRDS) has been around a few days, and one time was seen feeding on a Wild Turkey. [No doc. seen for any of these].

MERLIN - 1 at 185 Midwest Rd, Scarb., Midwest Rd, Scarborough on 4th, 7th & 21st (RLau). 1 at 45 Trayborn Dr, Richmond Hill, York on 26th & 27th (NMu). 1 at Hancock Rd S of Hwy 2, Durham on 29th (M. Ferguson fide DRBA).

PEREGRINE FALCON - 1 at Yonge & Finch on N. American Life building on 5th (NMu), 1 at Thornton Rd & Rossland, Oshawa, Durham on 8th (THo fide DRBA) & 1 at Hwy 2 & McQuay, Whitby, Durham on 14th (DRuch fide DRBA). 1 at Snug Harbour, TI on 14th (NMu), 1 at LSS on 15th (Alvan Buckley fide OUTON), 2 at PetroCanada Pier, Halton on 18th (MWJ,BHet, fide HBGG) & 1 was seen eating a Rock Pigeon at Lift Bridge, Burlington Beach Canal, Halton on 22nd (Tim King fide HBGG).

AMERICAN COOT - 1 at N end Oshawa Harbour, Durham on 2nd (THo fide DRBA;RLau;AA), 3rd (MJCB fide DRBA), on 9th (RRP,MWWI, fide DRBA) & on 29th (RRP fide DRBA) but by 30th the harbour was frozen over. On the 9th singles were reported at Lakefront Promenade Park, Peel (GC), HBP [W] (GC,MWWI), & at CSSP (GC,MWWI). 1 at Halls Rd., Durham on 13th (RLau) & 1 again at CSSP on 27th (SMF).

BLACK-LEGGED KITTIWAKE - 1 1W at Burlington Beachstrip, Halton on 22nd (Tim King fide HBGG) was photographed flying S opposite Joseph Brant Hospital [Documented].

RING-BILLED GULL - 2000 at Cherry Beach on 31st (NMu).

THAYER'S GULL - 1 at Whitby Harbour, Durham on 30th (THo).

ICELAND GULL - 1 at Whitby Harbour, Durham on 2nd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 1 on 10th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS), 2 on 22nd (GCarp, Terrie Smith, fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 there on 30th (THo). 4 at Frenchman's Bay, Durham on 2nd (RRP fide DRBA), 4 AD at Port Credit Harbour, Peel on 9th (GC), 1 AD at Bluffer's Park on 9th (WP, RBHS), 4 at Ashbridge's Bay Park on 28th (TFI fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 AD at Cherry Beach on 31st (NMu). Good numbers were noted at Bluffer's Park, with 8 (4 2W; 2 3W, 2AD) on 25th, 3 (1 1W, 2 AD) on 29th, 9 (4 2W, 1 3W, 2AD) on 30th & 4 (3 2W, 1 AD) there on 31st (JI). Photos posted on her website indicate that about 21 different individuals were identified here during Jan 2011. (<http://www.jeaniron.ca/Gulls/2011/kumbluffers.htm>).



Iceland Gull at Bluffer's Park, Toronto, 9 January 2011. © Winnie Poon.

LESSER BLACK-BACKED GULL - 1 1W at Port Credit Harbour, *Peel* on 9th (GC) & 1 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 28th (RLau fide ONTBIRDS).

GLAUCOUS GULL - 2 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 2nd (RRP fide DRBA), 2 AD at Port Credit Harbour, *Peel* on 9th (GC), 2 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 10th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 AD at Cherry Beach on 31st (NMu).

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL - 6 (2 ad, 4 1W) at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 2nd (RBHS,WP) and 4 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 30th (JWi,BKa).

MOURNING DOVE - 45 at McGillivray N of Rutherford, *York* on 1st (RBHS,WP).

BARN OWL - 1 at Bronte GO Station (East), *Halton* @ 19:15hrs on 10th (George Prieksaitis fide MHC) was seen hovering, landing on a street lamp then flying E along tracks. It could not be refound on subsequent nights.

EASTERN SCREECH-OWL - 1 at Bathurst S of Hochreiter Rd, *York* on 2nd (KRS,JWa) (Brydon 2011) & 1 at Burton Rd & Rebecca, Oakville, *Halton* on 17th (Bill Morden fide ONTBIRDS).

GREAT HORNED OWL - 1 at LSS on 2nd (NMu).

SNOWY OWL - 1 at Ravenshoe Flats, *York* on 2nd (KRS,JWa) (Brydon 2011), 1 F on 14th (ETB,JI, fide ONTBIRDS), 2 on 18th (GEL,RTC) (Brydon 2011), 1 on 22nd (BB) (Brydon 2011), 1 F on 29th (RJF,KRS,MvdT) & 2 (M & F) there on 30th (KRS, Henry Barnett, fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Bernhardt Rd, W of Dufferin (Holland Marsh area), *York* on 30th (Ken Vogan fide RJF, fide ONTBIRDS).

BARRED OWL - 1 (found dead) at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 9th (THo fide DRBA) & 1 at Claireville C. A., *Peel* on 10th (anon fide PMG) (Brydon 2011). 1 at South Trail, Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd (anon fide RBHS) & 1 at Holt Rd N of Nash, Courtice, *Durham* on 29th (THo).

LONG-EARED OWL - 3 at LSS on 2nd, 1 on 8th (NMu), 4 on 22nd (Andrew Don fide WP) & 5 there on 29th (NMu,MVL). 1 at Miller SR & Dufferin, *York* on 2nd (RJF) (Brydon 2011), 2 at R. K. McMillan Park, *Peel* on 9th (GC) & 1 at Heart Lake C. A., *Peel* on 16th (BNo) (Brydon 2011). 1 at Parking Lot 'A', Bronte Creek P.P. (W side), *Halton* on 17th (A & K. Williams fide HBGG) & 2 at Humber Arboretum on 22nd (AA).

SHORT-EARED OWL - Singles at LSS on 2nd (NMu), at Chickadee Cr., Brampton, *Peel* on 9th (BNo) (Brydon 2011). 1 at Burloak Park, *Halton* on 26th was seen flying about over the lake for about 10mins (why?) (KAM fide HBGG).

NORTHERN SAW-WHET OWL - 7 at LSS on 2nd, 5 on 8th (NMu,&), 3 on 22nd (Andrew Don fide WP) & the remains of 2 found there on 29th (NMu,MVL).

BELTED KINGFISHER - 1 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 2nd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 3 (2 M, 1 F) at 16 Mile Creek, Milton, *Halton* on 11th (MWJ,BHet, fide HBGG) & 1 at German Mills Park, *York* on 21st (DW).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER - 1 at Graydon Property, Humber Grove, *Peel* from 1st to 13th (PMG) (Brydon 2011) & 1 at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* on 16th (RRP fide DRBA). 1 at Lambton Woods on 20th (anon fide OUTON) & 3 (2M, 1F) there on 29th (SMF). 1 M at Riverwood Park, Erindale, *Peel* on 22nd (Reuven Martin fide OUTON).

HAIRY WOODPECKER - 4 (2M, 2F) at Lambton Woods on 29th (SMF).

NORTHERN FLICKER - 1 at Werry Rd, Solina, *Durham* on 29th (THo) & 1 at Peninsula B, LSS on 29th (NMu,MVL).

PILEATED WOODPECKER - Singles at Colonel Danforth Park on 9th (RBHS,WP), Coons Rd. & Humberland Dr., Oak Ridges, *York* on 12th (Deborah Briggs fide ONTBIRDS), Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 14th (SCH) & at TRCA - Walker Woods, *Durham* on 18th (THo). 2 at Dufferin & Miller SR, *York* on 28th (RJF fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 at Humber Grove, *Peel* on 30th (Chris G. Evans fide ONTBIRDS).

NORTHERN SHRIKE - 1 at LSS on 2nd, 8th (NMu), 9th (JRC,&) & 15th (Alvan Buckley fide OUTON). 1 at CSSP on 10th (anon fide OUTON), 2 on 17th (anon fide OUTON), 1 on 23rd (AA) & on 27th (SMF). 2 at Ravenshoe Flats, *York* on 16th (BB) (Brydon 2011) & 1 there on 18th (GEL,RTC) (Brydon 2011), 19th (Julia Freedman fide ONTBIRDS) & on 29th (RJF,KRS,MvdT). 6 other reports of single birds from different locations throughout the month.

AMERICAN CROW - 25 at Dundas & Islington, Etobicoke on 25th (SCH), largest # seen in this area since West Nile virus appeared.



Northern Saw-whet Owl peering through spruce, Leslie Street Spit, *Toronto*, 22 January 2010. © Andrew Don.

COMMON RAVEN - 1 at Rouge Park, NE of Markham Bypass, *York* on 10th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS), 2 at Lakeridge Ski Hill area & 1 at TRCA - Walker Woods, *Durham* on 18th (THo). 1 at Wist Rd, Holland Marsh, *York* on 19th (RJF) (Brydon 2011) & 1 at Davis Dr W of Kennedy, *York* on 30th (RBHS,WP).

HORNED LARK - 200 at #2402 Hancock Rd, S of Hwy 2, Courtice, *Durham* on 7th (GCarp fide DRBA), 60 on 9th & 18th (J. Robinson fide DRBA). 20 at Wycroft Rd, Oakville, *Halton* on 28th (Andy Morgan fide HBGG), 30 at Courtice Rd 800km N of Bloor, *Durham* on 29th (RRP fide DRBA) & 2 at Werry Rd, Solina, *Durham* on 29th (THo).

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE - 38 at TI on 5th, 58 on 14th & 35 on 31st (NMu,&).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH – 1 at Humber Arboretum on 22nd (AA).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH - 5 at TI on 5th (NMu).

BROWN CREEPER - Singles at TI on 9th (AIJ fide OUTON), Bronte Creek P.P. (W side), *Halton* on 17th (K & A. Williams fide HBGG), TRCA - Walker Woods, *Durham* on 18th (THo) & at YRF - Bendor & Graves Tract, *York* on 29th (RJF,KRS,MvdT).

CAROLINA WREN - 1 at a feeder in Aurora, *York* was seen throughout the month after originally turning up on Oct 31, 2010 (Glenn Ritchie fide RJF, fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Algonquin Island, TI on 31st (NMu,MVL).

WINTER WREN - 1 at HP on 4th (SMF) & 1 at Major Mackenzie & Hwy 27, *York* on 27th (JFL).

GOLDEN-CROWNED KINGLET - 3 at LSS on 8th (NMu,MVL,LS).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD - 3 at Halls Rd N of Rossland, Whitby, *Durham* on 4th (Ann Brockelman fide DRBA).

HERMIT THRUSH - 1 at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 9th (J. Robinson fide DRBA). 1 at Ashbridge's Bay Park on 9th (WP, RBHS), 25th (TFI fide ONTBIRDS) & on 28th (TFI fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Boardwalk, TI on 31st (NMu,MVL). 1 in a garden near Mt. Hope Cemetery on 2nd, 11-12th and 20th (JWi,BKa).

AMERICAN ROBIN - 25 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 7th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS), 50 at Mount Pleasant Cemetery on 11th (BKa, fide JWi), 10 at Glen Shields & Dufferin, *York* on 12th (BB) (Brydon 2011) & 30 at Old Church Rd & Gore Rd., *Peel* on 16th (anon fide PMG) (Brydon 2011). 25 at German Mills Park, *York* on 20th & 21st (DW), 60 at Scugog Point, Nestleton, *Durham* on 22nd (BFA fide DRBA) & 35 at Cty Rd 5, E of Balsam, *Durham* on 22nd (GCarp, Terrie Smith, fide ONTBIRDS), feeding on buckthorn, with 16 Bohemian Waxwings. 25 at Major Mackenzie & Hwy 27, *York* on 23rd & 24th (JFL) (Brydon 2011), 60 at Sideline 2, S of Cty Rd 5, *Durham* on 23rd (RRP fide DRBA) & 30 at Taylor Creek Park on 30th (anon fide OUTON).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD - There were 21 reports: 6 from *York*; 10 from *Toronto* (but 5 were from one site); 2 from *Durham* (same site); 2 from *Peel*, and 1 from *Halton*, but no significant survey work by RBHS this month. All reports involved singles apart from 2 at Hanlans Point, TI on 9th (Jan Docherty et al.). Other reports came from: LGK; RLau; GEL; JMack; JBMW; Jennifer Minogue fide ONTBIRDS; ONTBIRDS; OUTON; DEP; WP; RBHS; MDW; and DW.

BOHEMIAN WAXWING - 134 at Conc 5, between SR24 & 28, *Durham* & 17 at Park Rd & Colbourn Rd, Oshawa, *Durham* on 6th (THo fide DRBA). 35 near Sunderland, *Durham* on 14th and 21 there on 17th (RDJ). 40+ at SR 4, N of Conc 8 (W of Lakeridge Rd), Pickering, *Durham* on 22nd (JDL,DRFN, fide ONTBIRDS), 20 at Scugog Point, Nestleton, *Durham* on 22nd (BFA fide DRBA) & 16 at Cty Rd 5, E of Balsam, *Durham* on 22nd (GCarp, Terrie Smith, fide ONTBIRDS). 200 at Sideline 4, S of Balsam, *Durham* on 23rd (Alan Woods, Dan Kaczynski, fide ONTBIRDS), 120 at Sideline 2, S of Cty Rd 5, *Durham* on 23rd (RRP fide DRBA) & 1 at Sideline 2, near Balsam, *Durham* on 24th (Janice Melendez fide DRBA).

CEDAR WAXWING - 70 at Oklahoma Dr, Pickering, *Durham* on 2nd (RBHS,WP), 42 at Sideline 2, Balsam area, *Durham* on 18th (THo) & 52 at Ward's Island, TI on 31st (NMu,MVL).

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER - 2 (poss. 3) at Paulus Park, Port Credit, *Peel* on 1st (RL fide ONTBIRDS), E side of Credit R, S of the restaurant

AMERICAN TREE SPARROW - 77 at LSS on 2nd (NMu), 65 on 8th (NMu,MVL,LS) & 39 there on 29th (NMu,MVL).

* CHIPPING SPARROW - 1 photographed at Rathnelly Ave, Toronto was reported from 12th to 31st (MEH).

SONG SPARROW - 1 at Lynde Shores C. A., *Durham* on 16th (RRP fide DRBA) & 1 at Conc 3 E of Altona Rd, Pickering, *Durham* on 30th (THo).

* LINCOLN'S SPARROW - 1 at Peninsula B, LSS on 2nd (NMu) [No doc. seen]. 'This bird has been mentioned to me and reported over the last 3 weeks down there'.

SWAMP SPARROW - 1 at LSS on 2nd (NMu) & 2 there on 15th (Alvan Buckley fide OUTON). 2 at Lynde Shores C. A., *Durham* on 13th (RLau) & 2 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 16th (RRP, D. Docherty, fide DRBA), 23rd (RBHS) & on 28th (RLau).

WHITE-THROATED SPARROW - 4 at Idleswift Dr, Thornhill, York from 1st to 27th (GDe), staying from December 2010. 2 at LSS on 2nd (NMu), 1 at Dacre Crescent on 7th & 2 there on 26th (SMF). 1 at Canada Life, University Ave. on 12th, 17th, 26th & 28th (RBHS). 2 at Lynde Shores C. A., Durham on 13th & 2 at Cranberry Marsh, Durham on 28th (RLau). 7 other reports from various locations of singles throughout the month.

WHITE-CROWNED SPARROW - 2 IMM at Oshawa Second Marsh, Durham on 2nd (RLau) & 1 IMM at Trinity-Bellwoods Park on 5th (SMF).

LAPLAND LONGSPUR - 11 at #2402 Hancock Rd, Courtice, Durham on 7th (GCarp fide DRBA), S of Hwy 2. Fresh manure was being spread but birds were quite skittish. 4 there on 9th & 5 on 18th (J. Robinson, DRBA). 3 at Heritage Rd S of King St., Peel on 24th (MHC, Kris Vande Sompel, fide ONTBIRDS).

SNOW BUNTING - 13 reports from 7th to end of the month with high counts of 300 at Blackstock, Durham on 11th (DRuch fide DRBA), 50 at Hancock Rd, Courtice, Durham on 20th (J. Robinson, DRBA), 100 at Conc 4, N of Ashworth Rd, Uxbridge, Durham on 23rd (anon fide OUTON), 250 at Heritage Rd S of King St., Peel on 24th (MHC, Kris Vande Sompel, fide ONTBIRDS), 50 at Courtice Rd 800m N of Bloor, Durham on 29th (RRP fide DRBA) & 250 at Wyecroft Rd, (E of Burloak Rd), Oakville, Halton on 31st (Jim Watt fide HBGG).

RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD - 9 at North Trail, Cranberry Marsh, Durham on 9th (GCarp fide DRBA), 6 at Lynde Shores C. A., Durham on 13th (RLau) & 12 there on 16th (RRP fide DRBA).

RUSTY BLACKBIRD - 1 at North Trail, Cranberry Marsh, Durham on 9th (GCarp fide DRBA).

BROWN-HEADED COWBIRD - 1 at Lynde Shores C. A., Durham on 13th (RLau).

PURPLE FINCH - 9 at Sidelane 2, Balsam area, Durham on 18th (THo).

RED CROSSBILL - 2 (pair) at TRCA - Walker Woods, Durham on 18th (THo), found near post #9 approx. 1km SW from parking lot in a Red and Jack Pine plantation. Red Pines still had viable cones on some trees.



Snow Bunting foraging on roadside seeds, Ravenshoe Flats, York, 30 January 2011. © Winnie Poon.

COMMON REDPOLL - 18 reports throughout the month. High counts at different locations were: 30 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 7th (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS), 100 at LSS on 8th (NMu,MVL,LS), 30 at W.T. Foster Woods, Kleinburg, *York* on 12th (DGa fide ONTBIRDS), 20 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 16th (RRP,D. Docherty, fide DRBA), 40-60 at Humber Arboretum on 24th (Bernie Monette fide ONTBIRDS), 20 at Ashbridge's Bay Park on 28th (TFI fide ONTBIRDS), 30 there on 29th (JWi,Bka), 40 at #5234 Cherry St W of Hwy 48, *York* on 29th (RJF,KRS,MvdT) & 48 at TI on 31st (NMu,MVL).

HOARY REDPOLL - 1 at LSS on 2nd, 8th (NMu) & on 15th (Andrew Don fide OUTON). 1 M at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* on 3rd (GC) & 2 (1M, 1F) at Humber Arboretum on 22nd (AA).

PINE SISKIN - 6 at TI on 5th (NMu), 1 there on 9th (AIJ fide OUTON) & 12 at German Mills Park, *York* on 20th (DW). 12 at Seneca Dr, Bronte, *Halton* on 22nd (GRE fide HBGG), 108 at Kendal, *Durham* on 23rd (THo fide ONTBIRDS) & 20 at #5234 Cherry St, W of Hwy 48, *York* on 29th (RJF,KRS,MvdT).

AMERICAN GOLDFINCH - 30 at Blackstock, *Durham* on 5th (DRuch fide DRBA).

EVENING GROSBEAK - 9 at Old Mill Rd & Newtonville Rd, Kendal, *Durham* on 23rd (THo fide ONTBIRDS).

HOUSE SPARROW - 100 at TI on 14th (NMu).

CITED OBSERVERS: & et al.; AA Alfred Adamo; BFA Bruce F. Aikins; BPB Brian P. Bailey; MJCB Margaret Bain; DBar Dennis Barry; ETB Eleanor Beagan; BB Bruce Brydon; JRC John Carley; MCar Margaret Carney; GCarp Geoff Carpentier; BSC Barry S. Cherriere; GC Glenn Coady; MHC Mark Cranford; RTC Robert T. (Bob) Cubitt; RHC Bob Curry; GDe Gene Denzel; CEE Cheryl Edgecombe; GRE Gavin R. Edmondstone; SMF Steven Favier; DRFN Durham Region Field Nats.; RJF Ron Fleming; TFI Tom Flinn; DGa Dave Gascoigne; HBGG Hamilton Birders Google Group; PMG Phyllis Graydon; SCH Sandra Hawkins; MEH Mary Ellen Hebb; BHet Bev Hettrick; THo Tyler Hoar; JI Jean Iron; RDJ Ross D. James; MWJ Mark Jennings; AIJ Andreas I. Jonsson; BKa Barbara Kalthoff; LGK Leslie G. Kinrys; SLaF Steve LaForest; RL Robert Laker; RLau Rick Lauzon; GEL Graham Leonard; MVL Margaret Liubavicius; JDL J. Doug Lockrey; SLo Stan Long; JFL Joan F. Love; JMack Jess MacKenzie; CSAM Craig S.A. McLauchlan; KAM Kevin McLaughlin; NMu Norman Murr; MWWI MW Waterfowl Invtry; BNo Bob Noble; anon Unknown Observer; ONTBIRDS OFO Email Hotline; OUTON OutdoorOntario.net; DEP Don E. Perks; WP Winnie Poon; RRP Rayfield Pye; DRBA Durham Rare Bird Alert; DRuch Dave Ruch; LS Leon Schlichter; KRS Kevin Shackleton; GJS Glenda J. Slessor; RBHS Roy B. H. Smith; MvdT Mike Van Den Tillaart; JWa John Watson; MDW Mike Williamson; Joan Winearls; DW David Worthington.

REFERENCES:

Brydon, Bruce. 2011. December/January Sightings [2010/2011]. West Humber Naturalists Club Newsletter: 7-8, February 2011.

Compiled by Dave Worthington for the TOC Records Committee.

Photo editing by Winnie Poon.

Data entry by Roy Smith. 553 GTA reports were added to the database for January 2011.

Please send reports to: Roy Smith, 20 Harding Blvd. W, Suite 1002, Richmond Hill, ON L4C 9S4. Tel/Fax: 905-508-4045 email: rsmith@mrs.com by 8th of the following month, please. Send photos for possible use in the bird report to: winniepoon@sympatico.ca, following guidelines on 2nd page of this journal.

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GREATER TORONTO AREA RAPTOR WATCH 2010 SUMMARY

Records Committee, Toronto Ornithological Club



Broad-winged Hawk
Rosetta McClain Gardens, *Toronto*,
1 October 2010
© Ann Brokelman

Introduction

This is the third annual combined report on the Greater Toronto Area Hawk Watches which the TOC Records Committee has attempted to compile. It covers the fall 2010 season (for previous reports see *Toronto Birds* 3(7):153-170, covering 2008, and *Toronto Birds* 4(4):44-60, covering 2009). We appreciate the good cooperation provided by those stations that have provided short reports on their respective 2010 seasons, especially the Rosetta McClain Gardens site which as a completely independent body has no obligation to report via the Records Councillor/TOC Records Committee. The fact that they have now done so for three years in a row, shows their commitment to the wider ornithological community in the GTA.

If there is a common theme from these site reports it is that fall of 2010 was a lackluster year in many respects. Despite new one-day records being set for Osprey (53 on 9 Sep 2010 at Rosetta McClain Gardens) and Bald Eagle (34 on 11 Sep 2010 at Iroquois Shoreline), numbers for many other species were on or below trend. Perhaps weather or coverage issues contributed at some stations, but not at Rosetta McClain where they had better coverage and higher numbers than in any of their previous six years' of operation.

We note that most stations could use additional observers, and hope that both raptor enthusiasts and others will consider supporting them next season.

CRANBERRY MARSH RAPTOR WATCH – 2010



I have been watching hawks at Cranberry Marsh since 1989. For the past 15 years, I have had the privilege of working with Doug Lockrey. When I arrived at the site at 8 am, he would be already there, checking out the plants before the hawks started flying.

This year, because of health issues, Doug decided that he would not be able to run the site. To replace him, we used 14 volunteers:

Monday - Jim McKnight and Les Sayler

Tuesday - Jean Iron and Tyler Hoar

Wednesday - Geoff Carpentier

Thursday - Alan Woods

Friday - Joyce Collier-Brown, Jim Skene, Charley Adey, Jerry Ball, Dan Kaczynski, and Karl Jennewein,

Saturday - Rayfield Pye and Greg Stuart

Sunday - Rayfield Pye and Greg Stuart

Data entry was done by Doug Lockrey, in spite of spending a month in the hospital.
Web site and HMANA (Hawk Migration Association of North America) by Doug Woods.

I would like to thank all the volunteers, they did an excellent job.

Rayfield Pye

Cranberry Marsh Hawk Watch
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Table 1. 2010 Seasonal Totals by Species and Month (CMRW)

Species	August	September	October	November	Total
Turkey Vulture	2	246	3832	175	4255
Osprey	13	114	8	4	139
Bald Eagle	7	49	30	3	89
Northern Harrier	2	97	79	16	194
Sharp-shinned Hawk	8	1393	735	35	2171
Cooper's Hawk	4	38	78	15	135
Northern Goshawk	0	0	23	10	33
Red-shouldered Hawk	0	0	10	20	30
Broad-winged Hawk	24	2298	12	0	2334
Red-tailed Hawk	1	22	750	592	1365
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	22	60	82
Golden Eagle	0	0	2	10	12
American Kestrel	6	572	148	0	726
Merlin	2	28	10	4	44
Peregrine Falcon	1	26	13	3	43
Unidentified Accipiter	0	4	3	3	10
Unidentified Buteo	0	8	18	2	28
Unidentified Falcon	1	2	1	1	5
Unidentified Eagle	0	0	1	0	1
Unidentified Raptor	4	36	16	1	57
Total Birds	75	4933	5791	954	11753
Total Days Counted	7	29	27	21	84
Total Observation Hours	18.5	137.5	142.5	95.0	393.5

Table 2. August 2010 Totals (CMRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
23		2	1						5												8	4.0
25			2																		2	1.0
26	1	6	2	1	6	2			8				6	2							34	5.0
27															1						1	1.0
28					2																2	3.5
29	1	5	2						11	1								1		4	25	3.0
30				1		2															3	1.0
Total	2	13	7	2	8	4	0	0	24	1	0	0	6	2	1	0	0	1	0	4	75	18.5

Table 3. September 2010 Totals CMRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
1			2																		2	2.0
2				1		2								1							4	1.0
3	2												1	1							4	1.0
4	2	5		4	2	1			3				1	1			1				20	4.0
5		20			37	2			5				21	1	1		1			1	89	7.0
6		6		2	1								1		1						11	3.0
7		5		5	20	2			5				7		1						45	8.0
8	1	10	1	4	19	1			1				28	1	1					1	68	7.0

9	6	25	9	2	318	4			13	3			126	4	6					3	519	8.0
10	3	3	9	1	105	8			28	3			16	2				1		12	191	4.0
11		9	8	9	125	1							29	1	1	1					184	5.0
12	2		2	1	13								2			1				2	23	4.0
13	6	2			22	2				1			5	2							40	6.0
14	12	11	5	4	273	2			96	3			141	3	2	1	4				557	8.0
15	35	7	8	26	301				1784	2			109	1	5			1		1	2280	7.5
16																					0	1.0
17		1	2	1	15	2			243	2			12		1					2	281	4.0
18	4	2		4	1								3								14	6.0
19	41	3		6	56	4			36	4			27	1	1		1			7	187	8.0
20	11			5	27	1			78	1			4				1			1	129	5.0
21	4			4	1					1			22	5						1	38	4.0
22					5	1							1	3							10	4.5
23	7			2	4								3								16	2.0
24	6	1			2				1												10	5.0
25	8			3	9	1				1			2	1	2					1	28	5.0
26	81	2	3	11	33	3			4	1			10		4	1				4	157	6.0
27	15	1			2				1				1								20	5.0
29		1		1	2	1															5	3.0
30				1																	1	3.5
Total	246	114	49	97	1393	38	0	0	2298	22	0	0	572	28	26	4	8	2	0	36	4933	137.5

Table 4. October 2010 Totals (CMRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
1	634			6	187	10	1		9	12			107		1					2	969	9.0
2	805	3	6	7	159	25			1	45			18	1	4	2				1	1077	8.0
3	707	1	16	9	81	15	2		1	80			5	1			2			3	923	9.0
4	35	1		2	5					3										1	47	4.0
5		1			1																2	2.5
6	74	1		1	2	1	1			2				1							83	3.5
7	210	1		1	27	1				11			6								257	5.5
9	18																				18	4.0
10	182			4	9	5	11		1	19			4	1			1			3	240	4.0
11	18			2	1	1				7			1							1	31	5.5
12	609	0	2	6	57	4	0	1	0	67	0	0	5	0	1	1	2	0	0	1	756	8.0
13	108				4					5				1							118	5.0
15					8	1				5											14	3.0
16	191		4	8	67	1	2	3		36	2		1		1					1	317	8.0
17	68			8	54	6	2	1		19		1								2	161	7.0
18	11			1	4					6	1									1	24	6.0
19	38		1	6	8	2				25				1	2			1			84	8.0
20	11				2	1	1				1				1						17	4.0
21	12		1	1	20	1		1		28				2	1		1				68	6.0
22	62			5	13					16					1		1				98	3.0
23				1	2	1				1											5	5.0
25																					0	0.5
27	17				2									1							20	4.0
28										3											3	3.0
29	21			1	9		3	2		25	5		1		1		4		1		73	5.0
30					1																1	5.0
31	1			10	12	3		2		335	13	1		1			7				385	7.0
Total	3832	8	30	79	735	78	23	10	12	750	22	2	148	10	13	3	18	1	1	16	5791	142.5

Table 5. November 2010 Totals (CMRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
1	143			2	6	2	3	6		230	20	3									415	6.0
2		1	1		6		2			11	3						1				25	7.0
3	7			1				1		14	3			1							27	5.0
4											1										1	3.0
6	16		1	9	4	4	1	1		108	15	5			1		1			1	167	7.0
7																					0	5.0
8					2	1				14	1				1						19	6.0
9	1	3			5	1	1	12		29	5	1		1	1	1	1				62	7.0
10	7			1	3	2	2			134	5			1							155	7.0
11					2					3	2					1					8	4.0
13				2						1	1			1							5	5.0
17				1		3				15	2										21	4.0
18																					0	3.0
20					3	1				4						1					9	6.0
21																					0	4.0
22																					0	1.0
23							1			2	1										4	1.0
24	1				4	1				17	1	1									25	5.0
25																					0	2.0
27			1							7											8	4.0
29										3											3	3.0
Total	175	4	3	16	35	15	10	20	0	592	60	10	0	4	3	3	2	1	0	1	954	95.0

Doug Lockrey (Coordinator)

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Hawk counters at Cranberry Marsh Raptor Watch, *Durham*, often can reap bonuses such as this male **Eastern Towhee** on 22 October 2010. © Ann Brokelman.

IROQUOIS SHORELINE RAPTOR WATCH – 2010

Once again a fall raptor migration at Iroquois Shoreline has come and gone for another year. In this year-end report I have to say I was disappointed in the low totals for hours and days onsite. I cannot understand why some watchers at CMRW don't drive 10 km north to ISRW when told by experienced watchers that the flight is probably inland at ISRW due to the winds so these numbers can be recorded. This is done at the Hawk Cliff site. If winds favour an inland flight they have some observers move inland to get a truer picture of how many raptors are passing through their area. I feel this would benefit the Durham Region and provide us with a better overall picture of just how many are passing over our area. My hope is no one takes offence by these observations as this is not my intent. I'm only interested in gathering a truer tally of migrating raptors in the Durham Region.

This year saw some increases from last year and some declines, most notable during the Turkey Vulture's peak flight, when strong NW winds kept the flight south of our site and we ended about 1,500 below our yearly average. September 11th saw us tally a record one-day total for Bald Eagles in the GTA with a total of 34 birds! It also coincided with a 1,300+ Broad-winged Hawk flight - quite the day, a highlight for 2010. The Red-tailed Hawk totals bounced back but are still shy of previous year's totals. All other species were about average when you factor in the amount of observation time. Note also that in August no watch was done.

To those who joined Martin and myself, especially Alfred Adamo, Margaret Bain, Dennis Barry, Eleanor Beagan, Margaret Carney, and Betsy Smith, I thank you, your eyes were appreciated! The fall migration is my favourite time of year and once again it's been my pleasure to participate.

Table 1. 2010 Seasonal Totals by Species and Month (ISRW)

Species	August	September	October	November	Total
Turkey Vulture	0	140	629	3	772
Osprey	0	12	1	0	13
Bald Eagle	0	48	8	0	56
Northern Harrier	0	15	14	4	33
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0	407	201	37	645
Cooper's Hawk	0	8	21	9	38
Northern Goshawk	0	2	3	0	5
Red-shouldered Hawk	0	0	48	8	56
Broad-winged Hawk	0	3064	0	0	3064
Red-tailed Hawk	0	23	933	265	1221
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	8	7	15
Golden Eagle	0	0	9	14	23
American Kestrel	0	25	10	0	35
Merlin	0	2	8	1	11
Peregrine Falcon	0	2	6	0	8
Unidentified Accipiter	0	0	1	0	1
Unidentified Buteo	0	2	10	0	12
Unidentified Falcon	0	0	0	0	0
Unidentified Eagle	0	0	0	0	0
Unidentified Raptor	0	5	4	2	11
Total Birds	0	3755	1914	350	6019
Total Days Counted	0	10	10	10	30
Total Observation Hours	0	34.5	34.8	25.5	95.0

Table 2. September 2010 Totals (ISRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
5	1	3			4				2				1								11	2.0
6	1	1			4	1								1							8	2.5
11	4	2	34	6	208				1394	10			9	1							1668	7.0
12					12																12	4.0
17	16	3	10	6	106	2			1550	3			13								1709	5.0
18				1	4				1												6	2.0
19			1		44	2			110												157	4.0
20	35		2		1				6												44	2.0
25	7	1			4	1			1						1		1			2	18	2.0
26	76	2	1	2	20	2	2			10			2		1		1			3	122	4.0
Total	140	12	48	15	407	8	2	0	3064	23	0	0	25	2	2	0	2	0	0	5	3755	34.5

Table 3. October 2010 Totals (ISRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
3	169	1	2	5	42	7		6		27			2	3	4		8				276	5.8
8	37		3	1	2	1				12		1	1	2	1		1				62	3.5
9	33			1	9	1				9		1								2	56	3.0
10	32				31					2			1								66	3.5
11	199		1		26	2	1			17			3	2							251	4.0
16	43			1	11	3	1	3		11			1		1						75	2.5
17	47			1	13	2		2		5		1				1	1			1	74	2.5
24	62		1	1	26	2	1	30		118	2	3	2							1	249	4.5
30					5	1				17	1										24	2.0
31	7		1	4	36	2		7		715	5	3		1							781	3.5
Total	629	1	8	14	201	21	3	48	0	933	8	9	10	8	6	1	10	0	0	4	1914	34.8

Table 4. November 2010 Totals (ISRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
2	2			2	23	4		6		199	2	3		1							242	4.0
6				1	3					29	3	2								1	39	3.5
7	1			1	1					5											8	2.5
11						1		2		3		2									8	2.5
13										5	1										6	2.0
15					5	2				5		6									18	3.0
20					2					6										1	9	2.0
21					1					3	1										5	2.0
28					2	1				3											6	2.0
29						1				7		1									9	2.0
Total	3	0	0	4	37	9	0	8	0	265	7	14	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2	350	25.5

Mike D. Williamson (Coordinator)
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ROSETTA McCLAIN GARDENS RAPTOR WATCH - 2010

Record Year at Rosetta McClain Gardens!



It was a record setting fall, with a final total of 6545 raptors observed. This smashed our previous record of 5844. At peak migration time it seemed that records were falling almost daily, including daily, monthly, and seasonal totals. Walter and I have been asked to submit a Toronto Bird Rarities Committee report for our September 9th record Osprey count of 53 in one day. This is a GTA record! Thanks to Walter for this impressive list of records set this season at Rosetta McClain Gardens. We set 21 records and tied one other this year.

53 Ospreys were seen on September 9th alone, with a total of 176 for the month of September, which led to our seasonal best of 211 birds. All new records! Bald Eagles were a similar story, 18 were observed on September 10th - a new site record. *[This was also a new GTA record, but it only lasted for one day, before being overtaken by an astonishing 34 at the Iroquois Shoreline site. Eds.]* September saw a new monthly record of 43 Bald Eagles and the final tally of 73 was also a record. We also saw a record number of Sharp-shinned Hawks in September, finishing with 2067 and a new seasonal high of 2797. In October, 15 Northern Goshawks was a new record. On November 1st we had a record number of 251 Red-tailed Hawks flying past.

Rough-legged Hawks moved in larger numbers than normal in southern Ontario, and the sightings at Rosetta McClain Gardens Raptor Watch reflect this as well. We recorded a one day record of nine on October 31st, a high of 18 in the month of November, and a seasonal best total of 28. We set records for all three falcon species. On September 9th we saw a day record of 203 American Kestrels; a new monthly record of 581 was counted for September, and the final season total of 719 was also a record. We tied our best one day Merlin total with 10 on September 8th, had a record 52 sightings in September and observed 87 in total for another record. We saw the highest number of Peregrine Falcons for any southern Ontario count site, with a new site record of 85. On October 1st we tallied our best one day total of all raptors ever with 946! September also saw our highest monthly count ever, with 3385 total birds of prey counted. Lastly, we had our most ever days with over 100 raptors observed – 20 days. WHAT A SEASON, WOW!!!!

Besides observing hawks, oddities seen this season were: Cave Swallows on October 28th, Sandhill Cranes, Snow Geese, American White Pelican on October 9th, White-winged Crossbills, Short-eared Owl, and Rusty Blackbirds. Migrating Cave Swallows, a first for many watchers, caused a real buzz. Two Red-tailed Hawks harassing a Short-eared Owl as it flew by was quite a thrill too. Hosting the release of a rehabilitated Peregrine Falcon was another highlight of this season.

At the same time, we welcomed more guests than ever this fall, a few school classes, many photographers, and birders ranging from beginners to Ontario's elites. We added to our regular followers. Locals recommended Rosetta McClain Gardens to their families visiting Toronto, so we enjoyed hosting visitors from the United Kingdom, Australia and Germany. In all, I would say we had between 100-150 visitors with a core group of about 30 who came regularly.

Lastly, this year we saw not only our 25000th raptor since the count's inception in 2004, but also our 30000th raptor. My thanks to all those who came to the RMGRW, and helped to make it such a successful count year. To the many photographers, especially Ann Brokelman, who shared their photos with us. Ron Pittaway kindly made known RMCRW to the OFO members. To the staff and management of Rosetta McClain Gardens...thanks to all of you, for your continued friendships and the immense amount of assistance which you gave. For more information about the Rosetta McClain Gardens Raptor Watch, please see our blog at <http://raptorwatch.blogspot.com>.



A real celebration – having counted the 25000th raptor at RMCRW, 8 September 2010. Left to right: Frank Butson, Ann Brokelman, Carol LaPointe, Walter Fisher, Betty McCulloch, Jen Howard and Peter Trifunovic. © Frank Butson.

Table 1. Comparative Yearly Totals (RMGRW)

Year	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	Total Hawks	Hours Counted
2010	1195	211	73	322	2797	82	17	21	190	707	28	11	719	87	85	6545	490
2009	1209	82	33	122	1716	96	21	21	57	675	2	5	354	49	73	4515	418
2008	1369	100	32	84	1208	74	13	9	156	621	9	11	406	43	37	4172	414
2007	1061	94	33	389	2691	92	10	18	177	715	6	12	430	44	72	5844	440
2006	436	92	46	488	2561	127	24	29	225	828	11	11	679	60	58	5675	431
2005	372	59	25	129	1618	95	19	5	14	336	6	5	294	25	40	3042	N/A
2004*	57	64	18	47	565	69	3	8	22	173	0	1	192	8	31	1258	N/A

Record seasonal high counts are in red.

* Not a full season of observation. 34 of the best days were spent elsewhere.

Table 2. 2010 Seasonal Totals by Species and Months (RMGRW)

Species	August	September	October	November	Total
Turkey Vulture	21	58	1089	27	1195
Osprey	26	176	9	0	211
Bald Eagle	9	43	20	1	73
Northern Harrier	8	170	133	11	322
Sharp-shinned Hawk	39	2067	684	7	2797
Cooper's Hawk	2	33	36	11	82
Northern Goshawk	0	0	15	2	17
Red-shouldered Hawk	0	0	10	11	21
Broad-winged Hawk	28	139	23	0	190
Red-tailed Hawk	10	29	331	337	707
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	10	18	28
Golden Eagle	0	0	5	6	11
American Kestrel	26	581	112	0	719
Merlin	6	52	28	1	87
Peregrine Falcon	6	37	38	4	85
Total Birds	181	3385	2543	436	6545
Total Days Counted	14	26	25	14	79
Total Observation Hours*	50	200	200	40	490

* Estimated.

Table 3. August 2010 Totals (RMGRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	Total
15	7	1				1			1	1			4	1		16
16				1	1								3		3	8
17		1											1			2
18			1													1
19	5				2					3					1	11
20		2											1			3
21										2				1	1	4
23		1	2	1												4
24	5															5
26	4	15	4	5	15				26	4			12	2	1	88
27		2	2		3								2	1		10
28		3			1											4
29		1		1	10	1							2			15
30					7				1				1	1		10
Total	21	26	9	8	39	2	0	0	28	10	0	0	26	6	6	181

Table 4. September 2010 Totals (RMGRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	Total
1					21								1			22
2		1			13								2			16
3					3										1	4
4		1		1	4	1							7	2	1	17
5		23		2	54	2			2	1			15	1		100
6		12		1	4								9	2		28
7		4		1	13	1							1			20
8	1	9		11	71								31	10	2	135
9		53	4	30	351	2			1	2			203	6	2	654
10		15	18	17	190	5			18	5			46	3	1	318
11		1	1	3	82	2			1				26	3	1	120
12		3	5	4	158	1			4	1			17			193
13	5	3	7	9	258	1			22	2			29	3	1	340
14		3	1	12	464	6			75	3			84	8	2	658
15		4	1	4	134				11	2			23	2		181
17	11	3		2	40	1							10			67
19	29	4	3	13	57	1			3	8			14	1	1	134
20	1			9	33	1							4	1	1	50
21		1			6								4	1	2	14
22-23		2	1	7	22	3			1				28		1	65
24		1			5	1							1	2	1	11
25	11	6		15	17				1	1			14	2	6	73
26		3	2	2	24	2				4			4	1	2	44
27				4	3								2	2	2	13
29		20		18	33	2							2	1	6	82
30		4		5	7	1							4	1	4	26
Total	58	176	43	170	2067	33	0	0	139	29	0	0	581	52	37	3385



Peregrine Falcon waiting to be released.
Rosetta McClain Gardens, *Toronto*.
16 October 2011. © Frank Butson.

Table 5. October 2010 Totals (RMGRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	Total
1	562	5	4	36	205	6	1		20	28			73	4	2	946
2			1	8	96	3			1	1			8		7	125
3	48	1	2	6	26	2	1		1	9			2	1	3	102
4			3	4	5	1							1			14
5				2												2
7	33	3	3	8	49	2	2			2			20	5	3	130
8	5				6								1	1	3	16
9	23			2	2	6	4			7					3	47
10				1	8					4			1		3	17
11				2	9					1			1	1	1	15
12	229			1	6	1	1	1		31			1	1		272
15	4			7	37	3				13			2	2		68
16	109		2	1	50			2		17				1	2	184
17	50			8	48	3	2	2		7	1			1	1	123
18	2		3	7	6	1				5				2	1	27
19			1	1	3	1										6
20					4					2				1		7
21	9		1	9	49	1	1			28			1	2	1	102
22	1			6	20	1				15		1	1	2	1	48
23				3						2					1	6
26				1	1					2				1	1	6
28				3	3	1				4					1	12
29	14			13	24	2		5	1	21				3		83
30				1												1
31				6	24	2	3			132	9	4			4	184
Total	1089	9	20	133	684	36	15	10	23	331	10	5	112	28	38	2543

Table 6. November 2010 Totals (RMGRW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	Total
1	17			4	1		1	6		251	5	2				287
2										2	3					5
5	1			2	3	2				2	1					11
6	9		1	2		2		3		43	7	4			1	72
8								1		14					1	16
9						1	1			2						4
12				1												1
13											1					1
15						2					1					3
16				1												1
20					2	1		1		11				1		16
24					1	2				6					1	10
27				1						3					1	5
29						1				3						4
Total	27	0	1	11	7	11	2	11	0	337	18	6	0	1	4	436

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HIGH PARK HAWK WATCH – 2010

The following 2010 High Park Hawk Watch Tables were compiled by the *Editors*, using the original daily log data from the HPHW spreadsheet forwarded to the Records Committee.

Table 1. 2010 Seasonal Totals by Species and Months (HPHW)

Species	August	September	October	November	Total
Turkey Vulture	0	271	2375	107	2753
Osprey	0	40	5	0	45
Bald Eagle	0	29	9	0	38
Northern Harrier	0	48	22	0	70
Sharp-shinned Hawk	0	1258	644	27	1929
Cooper's Hawk	0	30	30	16	76
Northern Goshawk	0	1	9	6	16
Red-shouldered Hawk	0	0	34	18	52
Broad-winged Hawk	0	1151	6	0	1157
Red-tailed Hawk	0	102	1084	578	1764
Rough-legged Hawk	0	0	7	17	24
Golden Eagle	0	0	6	18	24
American Kestrel	0	190	49	3	242
Merlin	0	10	10	0	20
Peregrine Falcon	0	15	7	1	23
Unidentified Accipiter	0	11	13	0	24
Unidentified Buteo	0	18	8	1	27
Unidentified Falcon	0	2	0	0	2
Unidentified Eagle	0	0	1	0	1
Unidentified Raptor	0	13	15	5	33
Total Birds	0	3189	4334	797	8320
Total Days Counted	3	23	23	14	63
Total Observation Hours	11.5	119.25	131.0	59.50	321.25

Table 2. August 2010 Totals (HPHW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
27																					0	2.5
28																					0	4.5
31																					0	4.5
Total	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11.5

Table 3. September 2010 Totals (HPHW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
1					7	1															8	3.0
5		6			4					2			1								13	3.0
7	1				1																2	5.0
8	1	1			9								2								13	4.5
9		4		1	57								11								73	5.0
10		3	9	2	43	2			28				5	2	3		4				101	6.0
11			1		35	1				4			4	1			1				47	7.0
12	3	3	2		63				1	3			2	1			1				79	5.0
13	6	3		4	251	10			98	11			27	1	2		2				415	5.5
14	14		1	7	226	6	1		213	5			37	1	1		2	1		1	516	8.5
15	9	4	3	7	338	3			664	20			33		3	1				1	1087*	8.0
17	2	1	5		31	2			5	5			2				2			2	57	5.0
18	11				4																15	5.0
19	111	3	6	13	112	1			125	43			47	1	3	6	4	1		5	481	6.5
20	12	2	1	1	31	1			8				7	1						2	66	4.5
21	2																				2	3.0
23	11			2	4					1			2			1					21	4.5
24																					0	4.5
25	19			5	4	1				2			1	2	1	1	2			1	39	6.0
26	69	9	1	3	23	1			8	6			8		2	2				1	133	6.75
27					2								1								3	4.0
29		1		3	12	1															17	5.0
30					1				1												2	4.0
Total	271	40	29	48	1258	30	1	0	1151	102	0	0	190	10	15	11	18	2	0	13	3189	119.25

* Total includes one raptor in the 'Other' category.

Table 4. October 2010 Totals (HPHW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
1	881		1	1	300	10	1	6	4	40			28		2					2	1276	8.75
2					3											1					4	4.0
3	18		3	1	10	2				22				2	1	4	2			4	69	5.0
4					2																2	4.0
6	147		1					1		2		1	1								153	3.5
7	179	1		2	47	4			2	4			9	2	1						251	7.5
8	7				1					3			1	1							13	5.0
9	107	2	1		5					7			2			3					127	5.5
10					7					1											8	6.0
11					1																1	2.0
12	403				10					41			2			1					457	8.0
13	2				1					1				1		1					6	3.5
15	65			2	43			1		33			2	1						1	148	7.0
16	172			3	36	1	1			36			1	2		1					253	7.0
17	179		2		55			4		22							1			2	265	6.5
18	22			1	6	1		1		6							1				38	5.5
19	40				2					10											52	6.0
20	1				1																2	3.0
21	42			1	23	5	1	8		32		2	2		1						117	6.0
22	86			2	18	3				71	1	2			2		1				186	6.0
23					3					5											8	7.0
29	13	2		5	58	3	2	8		101	1	1	1	1		1	3		1	3	204	7.5
31	11		1	4	12	1	4	5		647	5					1				3	694	6.75
Total	2375	5	9	22	644	30	9	34	6	1084	7	6	49	10	7	13	8	0	1	15	4334	131.0

Table 5. November 2010 Totals (HPHW)

Day	TV	OS	BE	NH	SS	CH	NG	RS	BW	RT	RL	GE	AK	ML	PG	UA	UB	UF	UE	UR	Total	Hours
1	81				9	1		4		338	2	2								4	441	6.0
2	1				4	1		2		8											16	3.5
3	8									5		1									14	3.5
6	16				5	2	2	8		131	7	3			1						175	7.0
8							1			5	2										8	5.0
9					1	2		1		9	1		1								15	4.0
10								1		3											4	3.5
13						1															1	2.5
17					2	1				4			1								8	2.5
18										2											2	3.0
20					4	2	1			35	2	9	1				1				55	5.0
24	1					4				11	1	2								1	20	5.0
27					2	2	2	2		27	2	1									38	3.5
30																					0	5.5
Total	107	0	0	0	27	16	6	18	0	578	17	18	3	0	1	0	1	0	0	5	797	59.5

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Key to abbreviations used by hawk-watchers:

TV	Turkey Vulture	CH	Cooper's Hawk	RL	Rough-legged Hawk	UA	Unidentified Accipiter
OS	Osprey	NG	Northern Goshawk	GE	Golden Eagle	UB	Unidentified Buteo
BE	Bald Eagle	RS	Red-shouldered Hawk	AK	American Kestrel	UF	Unidentified Falcon
NH	Northern Harrier	BW	Broad-winged Hawk	ML	Merlin	UE	Unidentified Eagle
SS	Sharp-shinned Hawk	RT	Red-tailed Hawk	PG	Peregrine Falcon	UR	Unidentified Raptor

Acknowledgements

Special thanks and appreciation are due to the many counters, observers, and coordinators for their support and dedicated work in the 2010 season. We thank Anne Brokelman and Frank Butson for their photo contributions. The TOC Records Committee notes that Winnie Poon spent many hours preparing the count tables to ensure consistent and accurate presentation.

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MESSAGE FROM THE EDITORS

The Records Committee and Editors of *Toronto Birds* deeply regret that this will be the last issue published by us. This situation is entirely attributable to the TOC Chairman and Council, who without consideration for or consultation with the Editors, created conditions following the 2011 TOC AGM that have made it impossible for us to continue.

We extend our appreciation and thanks to all those writers, photographers and artists who have generously contributed material over the last four years or so, and to those members/readers who took time to provide feedback, positive or otherwise. Most importantly, we thank all those dedicated observers (you know who you are) who have sent in their reports and documentations over this period and by so doing have made a lasting contribution to the ornithology of the Greater Toronto Area.