

Kingston Field Naturalists (KFN) maintains records in a 50km radius of MacDonald Park, Kingston. Birders using eBird are encouraged to share their sightings with 'Kingston FN'. Alternatively, please email or send records directly to me - contact details below. Please note that some sightings may require review and remain unconfirmed unless stated otherwise.

Special Note re Owl Woods

The privately-owned Owl Woods on Amherst Island will be closed for the annual hunt from 16th Nov to 6th December inclusive. Please respect this long-standing agreement and stay out of the woods.

Highlights:

Unfortunately, technical issues meant I missed last week's report. I include some of those observations below but mainly focus on activity since then which has been rather good. There was a distinct change in the birding landscape with a noticeable upturn in winter finches. A couple of great rarities showed up too, including Lark Sparrow (last record 2018) and Pacific Loon (last record 2012). Other great finds include Ross's Goose and 2 'yellow' Palm Warblers, with Hudsonian Godwit and Long-billed Dowitcher hanging in for another reporting period. Here are the highlights of the past 2 weeks:

SNOW GOOSE - the long-staying Kingston bird remained in the Days Road/Front Road area over the week.

ROSS'S GOOSE - a single bird was present on Wolfe Island from 22nd - 26th.

BRANT - there were several sightings across the area this week, though the largest flock by far was the 2000 seen near Camden East on 24th.

TRUMPETER SWAN - numbers continue to build with 14 on Canoe Lake Road on 17th with 11 at Black Rapids on 25th.

TUNDRA SWAN - birds are widespread across the area with over 100 recorded at both Marshlands CA/Cataraqui Bay, Kingston, over the week and on Wolfe Island on 22nd.

REDHEAD - Bayfield Bay, Wolfe Island, continued to hold good numbers of this species with 7000 noted there on 24th.

BLACK SCOTER - 4 birds were seen at Prince Edward Point on 29th, with 3 at Martin Edwards Reserve, Amherst Island on 17th and 1 at Howe Island on 29th.

SANDHILL CRANE - 2 birds were seen at Prince Edward Point on 23rd.

HUDSONIAN GODWIT - the Button Bay, Wolfe Island, bird was last seen on 17th, with the Martin Edwards Reserve, Amherst Island, bird last seen on 22nd.

Ruddy Turnstone - the long-staying single bird was last seen at Martin Edwards Reserve, Amherst Island, on 23rd.

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER - a single bird was seen at Cataraqui Bay, Kingston, on 28th.

LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER - the long-staying bird at Martin Edwards Reserve, Amherst Island, continued to 18th, with another seen at Button Bay, Wolfe

Island, on 24th.

PACIFIC LOON - long-overdue, a single bird was seen off Howe Island on 29th.

It was reported about 8 kms west of the original location on 30th, but not seen subsequently.

GOLDEN EAGLE - it was not a great season for this species with singles seen at Prince Edward Point on 17th and 21st.

NORTHERN GOSHAWK - birds were noted at Canoe Lake Road and Depot Creek on 17th, with another near Verona on 24th.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK - birds have been seen across the area in low numbers for at least 2 weeks now.

PEREGRINE FALCON - there were several sightings over the period, though 2 individuals were seen at the Lennox and Addington Power Station on 18th, with 2 also seen on Amherst Island on 25th.

NORTHERN SHRIKE - the first birds of the season (3) were seen at Prince Edward Point on 23rd.

TUFTED TITMOUSE - a single bird was seen near the eastern ferry at Howe Island, on 29th.

CAROLINA WREN - singles were seen in Gananoque on 20th, and in Kingston on 27th and 29th.

EVENING GROSBEAK - this species is now widespread across the area, though

the largest flocks are being seen at migration hotspots such as Prince Edward Point where, for example, 50 were seen on 27th. Elsewhere, birds are tending to hang around on the lower shield (in much lower numbers).

COMMON REDPOLL - the first birds (5) were seen just outside the area at Escott on 18th but it took another week for the movement to begin with widespread observations coming from across the area in small numbers.

RED CROSSBILL - there have been a number of observations during the reporting period, though most came from the lower shield. Twenty-five birds were noted at North Sydenham Lake on 22nd.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL - 11 birds were seen at Bur Brook Road, just north of Kingston, on 24th.

PINE SISKIN - birds remain widespread

LAPLAND LONGSPUR - 2 birds were seen on Wolfe Island on 17th, with another there on 24th. Four birds were at Martin Edwards Reserve, Amherst Island, on 25th.

SNOW BUNTING - birds returned to the area on 25th but in generally low numbers to date. Fifty, though, were seen at Cataraqui Bay, Kingston, on 28th.

LARK SPARROW - this great find was enjoyed for the afternoon of the 24th at Cataraqui Bay, Kingston, by several observers but was elusive the next day, and was not seen again after an initial observation at 8am.

'YELLOW' PALM WARBLER - singles were seen at Prince Edward Point on 24th, and at Bur Brook Road, Kingston, on 25th.

In order to minimise disturbance to wildlife and property in the recording area, Kingston Field Naturalists has adopted the <https://kingstonfieldnaturalists.org/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/KFN_sensitive_sightings_policy.pdf> KFN Sensitive Sightings Policy. Please note that you must be a card-carrying member of Kingston Field Naturalists (KFN), or be accompanied by a member, to access both the Martin Edwards Reserve and Amherstview Sewage Lagoons.

As always, a big thank you goes to all those who have submitted sightings directly or via eBird.

Mark.