

Kingston Area Birds: 7th - 13th November 2020

Prepared by Mark Read

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. If visiting at other times and you do see owls, the owners insist that these are not reported on any social media platform, including eBird, until the season is over, or we risk losing access. Although owls are occasionally seen at other nearby locations, disguising your owl wood sightings as 'Amherst Island' or even 'Lennox and Addington' goes against the spirit of the message.

Highlights:

The exceptionally mild weather, with southerly winds, continued for most of the week. There were several observations of late birds, including an exceptional Common Nighthawk. A major rarity for the area was an Eared Grebe. Here are the highlights of the past week:

SNOW GOOSE - singles were seen in Kingston on 7-8th, and on Amherst Island on 8th, 12th and 13th.

BRANT - a lone bird was seen on Amherst island on 13th.

CAKILING GOOSE - 11 birds were at Button Bay, Wolfe Island on 7th, with 4 seen there again on 10th.

TRUMPETER SWAN - presumably the mild weather has dispersed the build-ups seen in previous weeks with a high of just 11 during the week at Bedford Mills.

TUNDRA SWAN - it's a good season for this species with high counts of 169 at Sand Bay, Wolfe Island, on 7th, 157 at Button Bay, Wolfe Island, on 10th, and 136 at Cataraqui Bay, Kingston, on 13th.

CANVASBACK - a single bird was seen on Wolfe Island on 7th.

BLACK SCOTER - 2 birds were seen off Amherst Island on 12th.

RED-NECKED GREBE - 3 birds were seen off Howe Island on 9th.

EARED GREBE - exceptionally rare for the area, a single bird was seen on Amherst Island on 12th.

COMMON NIGHTHAWK - not the latest local record but still exceptional was a sighting of this species, west of Charleston Lake, on 7th.

GOLDEN EAGLE - singles were seen at Napanee on 11th and on Amherst Island on 12th.

ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK - numbers continue to build on Amherst (but not Wolfe?) with 45 seen there on 13th.

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER - there's something about Bedford Mills and wintering sapsuckers where a single bird was seen 7th-11th.

PEREGRINE FALCON - singles were noted at Prince Edward point on 12th and Amherst Island on 13th.

EASTERN PHOEBE - late birds were seen on Wolfe Island on 7th and just outside the area near Little Bluff CA, Prince Edward, on 12th.

NORTHERN SHRIKE - there were 7 sightings this week, all singles, from a number of different locations, though Prince Edward Point is proving to be most consistent.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO - a late bird was seen at Prince Edward Point on 13th.

TUFTED TITMOUSE - singles were seen on Howe Island on 7th and at Gananoque on 9th.

MARSH WREN - late birds were seen at Amherst Island and Marshlands CA, Kingston, both on 11th.

BROWN THRASHER - 2 birds were seen at Sand Beach Wetlands CA, Amherst Island, on 10th.

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD - singles were seen on Amherst Island on 9th and at Lemoine Point, Kingston, on 10th.

EVENING GROSBEAK - Prince Edward point has had consistent reports, in low numbers all week, but elsewhere a high of 15 birds was noted at Amherstview on 10th.

PINE GROSBEAK - birds are starting to arrive/move through in small numbers, with sightings from several locations including Kingston where this week's high count of 5 came on 12th.

COMMON REDPOLL - this species is widespread across the area with 85 on Amherst Island on 13th. An example of the rostrata subspecies was seen on Amherst Island on 12th.

HOARY REDPOLL - a single was seen again at Big Sandy Bay, Wolfe Island, on 7th, with 1-2 present on Amherst Island on 12th/13th.

RED CROSSBILL - this species is being seen occasionally at Prince Edward Point but most observations are coming from north of Kingston in low numbers - 5 were seen near Verona on 13th.

WHITE-WINGED CROSSBILL - singles were observed in Kingston and Amherst Island on 8th, with 2 at Prince Edward Point on 12th.

PINE SISKIN - birds remain widespread but in low numbers, though 35 were seen on Amherst island on 8th.

LAPLAND LONGSPUR - Wolfe Island had all the sightings this week with 7 seen there on 7th.

SNOW BUNTING - numbers are continuing to build across the region with 250 seen on Wolfe Island on 7th, and 200 on Amherst Island on 13th.

SAVANNAH SPARROW - a single bird was seen on Amherst Island on 7th, with 3 seen there the following day.

AMERICAN REDSTART - a single bird was photographed near Battersea on 7th.

NORTHERN PARULA - a late bird was seen at Lemoine Point CA, Kingston, on 7th.