



TORONTO BIRDS

Volume 4 Number 7
September 2010





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Dave Worthington



COVER PHOTO

Bald Eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*)

Photo © Sam Barone

In recent decades the Bald Eagle has been increasing as a migrant through the GTA. At the same time, it has been recovering across southern Ontario from losses of breeding pairs dating back to the DDT era. Although there are no known historic breeding records from the GTA, it may have bred prior to European settlement. More recently, the possibility of nesting was envisioned by both Glenn Coady and Roy Smith, in their predictive exercise done back in 2000 (Coady and Smith 2000). Now, some ten years later, events have unfolded and, assuming documentation and acceptance of the recent nesting reports (2009, 2010) from *York Region* (south end of Cook's Bay, Lake Simcoe), we can anticipate another addition to the list of GTA breeding species.

This immature Bald Eagle was photographed near Nanticoke, *Haldimand County*, on 11 January 2009, by Sam Barone.

Coady, G. and R.B.H. Smith. 2000. The Birds of the Greater Toronto Area: Past, present and prognostication. *Toronto Ornithological Club Newsletter* 102:10-14, February 2000.

Produced by the Records Committee Toronto Ornithological Club

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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 our email address below. Bird 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 – JUNE 2010

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.



A delightful encounter with two baby **Wood Ducks** at the Toronto Brickworks Marsh, *Toronto*, 14 June 2010. © Lynn Pady.

SNOW GOOSE - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA).

ACKLING (RICHARDSON'S) GOOSE - 3 (unbanded) at African section, Metro Toronto Zoo on 13th (BRH fide ONTBIRDS), mostly staying on their own, away from other Canada Geese/Mallards. Apparently wild? Photos on his blog. One was seen again there on 22nd (AK fide ONTBIRDS), its wings not clipped; it was with 3 Egyptian Geese and there were about 12 Canada Geese with clipped wings nearby.

TRUMPETER SWAN - 2 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 5th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON) & 2 (tag #s: 126, H11) at CSSP on 11th (SCH). 6 (2 AD, 4 FY) at Kortright C. A., *York* on 17th (Lev Frid fide ONTBIRDS).

WOOD DUCK - 2 (pair) at Trout Pond, TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL), 16 at Corner Marsh, *Durham* on 2nd (Alan Woods fide ONTBIRDS) & 35 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (THo fide OUTON). 15 (2 F, 13 FY) at HP on 14th (SMF). 11 (1 AD, 10 FY) at South Duck Pond, HP & 24 (3 F, 21 FY) at Grenadier Pond, HP on 22nd (SCH). 3 (1 F, 2 FY) at Don Valley Brickworks Park on 14th (Lynn Pady fide ETB).

AMERICAN WIGEON - 2 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 5th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON) & 5 at LSS on 12th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON).

NORTHERN SHOVELER - 15 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 5th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON).

GREEN-WINGED TEAL - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 5th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON).

CANVASBACK - 2 (pair) at Trout Pond, TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL).

REDHEAD - 1 M at Sioux Lookout Park, Burlington, *Halton* on 2nd (KAM fide HBGG).

LONG-TAILED DUCK - 1 at Gibraltar Point, TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL) & 1 at W of Burloak Park, *Halton* on 2nd (KAM fide HBGG).

COMMON GOLDENEYE - 1 at LSS on 12th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON) & 4 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 20th (JKa fide DRBA).

HOODED MERGANSER - 5 (4 AD F, 1 FY) at Cold Creek C. A., *York* on 13th (RBHS,WP). The FY was distinctly smaller, almost no crest, much stubbier bill; bicoloured plumage of head, without the distinct white spot at base of bill shown by AD-F; tail feathers more pointed. There have been previous breeding records from this site.

RED-BREASTED MERGANSER - 1 F at Shoreacres Park, *Halton* on 2nd (KAM fide HBGG) & 1 M at LaSalle Park, *Halton* on 2nd (KAM fide HBGG).

CHUKAR - 1 at Taunton Rd @ Scarb. Townline, *Durham* on 17th [Escape] (R. Stephenson fide DRBA).

COMMON LOON - 1 at LaSalle Park, *Halton*, 7 at Sioux Lookout Park, Burlington, *Halton* & 6 at Shoreacres Park, *Halton* on 2nd (KAM fide HBGG). 1 at Thickson's Bay, *Durham* from 16th to 30th (GC).

PIED-BILLED GREBE - 1 at Cedar Trail, Rouge Park on 4th (SMF).

RED-NECKED GREBE - 2 at CSSP on 1st (SMF) & 4 there on 11th (SCH) with one pair on nest, constantly fending off the other pair. 6 (3 pairs) were observed there on 18th (SCH) very aggressively jockeying for the nesting platform. 2 (2 nests) at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 2nd (GRE fide ONTBIRDS), pair + nest w 1 egg on floating tire (East nest); another 'nest' (just a stick and 1 egg) on the West tire. A third nest was in Bronte Creek - location very vulnerable to fluctuating water levels and predators. 6 at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 10th (SCH), 4 in Marina, 2 along lakeshore E of Marina; no eggs visible & 2 (nest w 3 eggs) there on 17th (GRE fide HBGG). 2 (1 pr) seen there on 18th (SCH) with no eggs visible & 2 (nest w 5 eggs) there on 30th (anon fide CEE, fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Watersedge Park, Clarkson, *Peel* on 18th (SCH) & 5 at Jack Darling Park, *Peel* on 25th (SCH).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN - 1 first reported at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 26th (JKa fide DRBA) was seen each day until the end of the month (m.obs) and into July; no doc. seen for any of the 8 reports.

LEAST BITTERN - 1 F at East Platform, Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 22nd (Lev Frid fide ONTBIRDS).

GREAT BLUE HERON - 6 (6 active nests) at Brougham Heronry, *Durham* @ 13:05hrs on 6th (RBHS,WP). 58 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 27th (THo fide OUTON).



Red-necked Grebe assembling twigs onto the nest platform at Colonel Samuel Smith Park, *Toronto*, 18 June 2010. Although three pairs of grebes were at this site (where nesting was first confirmed in 2008), only one pair seems to have nested. © Sandra Hawkins.

GREAT EGRET - 2 at Corner Marsh, *Durham* on 2nd & 1 on 18th (Alan Woods fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 6th (RBHS,WP) & 1 (unbanded) there on 27th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS). 2 at Bronte Marsh, *Halton* on 17th (GRE fide HBGG) & 2 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 18th (SCH). 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 18th (RPye fide DRBA), 5 on 20th (JKa fide DRBA) & 1 there on 27th (THo fide OUTON).

GREEN HERON - 1 at Kortright C. A., *York* on 17th (Lev Frid fide ONTBIRDS).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - 2 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA).

TURKEY VULTURE - 1 at South Trail/Platform, Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (RBHS,WP), 2 at Rutherford Rd W of Dufferin, *York* on 17th (NMu), 3 at Humber R. Mouth, Sunnyside on 17th (SMF) & 4 at E of Morningside Park on 17th (RLau). 1 at Industrial Rd, Richmond Hill, *York* on 20th (NMu), 1 at Rutherford & Hwy 50, *York* on 20th (RBHS,WP) & 1 at Yonge & Elgin Mills, Rich.Hill, *York* on 29th (NMu).

OSPREY - Singles at Park Lawn Cemetery on 10th (Rob Gilroy fide OUTON), Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 18th (RPye fide DRBA) & on 29th (Ossie Tee fide ONTBIRDS), at 16th SR King, W of Conc. 7, *York* on 27th (RJF fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 at Yonge & Bernard, Richmond Hill, *York* on 28th (NMu).

BALD EAGLE - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 5th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON). 2 (nest w yng) at Holland R. Mouth Heronry, *York* on 19th (GC), viewed from a boat at about 100m range, the nest had 2 AD and 2 large young. This is the **FIRST CONFIRMED breeding for GTA** (although said to have nested in 2009). The nesting pair were also reported there on an unspecified date in June (RJF fide ONTBIRDS). 'A pair has nested both this year and last along the south shore of Cook's Bay in Keswick (visible by scoping N from Ravenshoe Rd nr. Best Asia Farms)'. Two young fledged successfully (fide GC). 1 at Maple Ave, Richmond Hill, *York* on 21st (GEL fide RJF, fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 2Y at Yonge & Royal Orchard Blvd, Thornhill, *York* on 28th (NMu).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK - 1 at Cold Creek C. A., *York* on 13th (RBHS,WP).

COOPER'S HAWK - 2 (nest w yng) at Morningside Park on 12th (RLau), nest in a White Pine on S side of Ellesmere; 4 chicks all downy white, still doing well on 25 June. 1 at Yonge & Centre St, Thornhill, *York* on 28th (NMu) & 5 (FY) at Riverwood Park, Erindale, *Peel* on 29th (anon fide OUTON).



Cooper's Hawk young in nest at Morningside Park, Scarborough, *Toronto*, 25 June 2010. © Rick Lauzon.

RED-SHOULDERED HAWK - 1 (calling) at Happy Valley Forests, *York* on 27th (RJF,& fide ONTBIRDS).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK - 1 at Westney Rd Bluebird Trail, *Durham* on 17th (RLau).

MERLIN - 1 F seen carrying food to young in nest at Newton Dr., Willowdale @ 19:30hrs on 22nd (DW), young still too small to get a proper count as nest is high up in a tall spruce. 2 (pair) seen there at 20:50hrs on 24th (RBHS,WP,DW). *This is the first confirmed nesting by Merlin in Toronto, but not the first for GTA, as there have been previous nestings back to 2005 in Durham R.M. as well as one in York R.M.*

PEREGRINE FALCON - 4 (2 AD, 2 yng) at Lift Bridge, Burlington Beach Canal, *Halton* on 3rd (BSC fide HBGG). The 2 young were banded: F named Diana (age 31 days) and a M named Brant (age 28 days). The adults are the same pair as in 2009 (F named Cirrus and M named Sir Adam Beck). Nest with 3 young at Sun Life Financial Centre on 4th (SCH), the 3 young were banded, all males. Photo of one young on file. By the 20th all 3 chicks had fledged (SCH). 1 at Yonge & Finch @ 20:05hrs on 14th (RBHS).

COMMON MOORHEN - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 22nd (Lev Frid fide ONTBIRDS).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER - 15 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA).

SEMIPALMATED PLOVER - 10 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 9th (G. Vogg fide DRBA).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER - 14 at West Beach, *TI* on 2nd (NMu,MVL).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS - 2 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 27th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS).

WILLET - 1 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 1st [No doc. seen] (C. Adey fide DRBA).



The Ministry of Natural Resources banded three **Peregrine Falcon** chicks at the Sun Life Centre in Etobicoke , *Toronto*, on 4 June 2010. All three were healthy males; above illustrates one of the chicks being banded. © Sandra Hawkins.

LESSER YELLOWLEGS - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 18th (RPye fide DRBA) & 3 there on 26th (JKa fide DRBA). 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 27th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS).

RUDDY TURNSTONE - 5 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 1st (C. Adey fide DRBA) & 3 there on 9th (G. Vogg fide DRBA). 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA).

SEMPALMATED SANDPIPER - 20 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & 28 there on 5th (anon fide OUTON). 60-80 at Bay D, LSS on 6th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER - 2 at Bay D, LSS on 6th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON).

DUNLIN - 25 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA).

CASPIAN TERN - 2 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 6th (RBHS,WP).

BLACK TERN - 6 at Port Perry (downtown), *Durham* on 21st (DRuch fide DRBA).

COMMON TERN - 3 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 6th (RBHS,WP). NONE at Bay D, LSS on 12th (Andreas Jonsson fide OUTON) the Tern raft there was deserted, apparently due to predation.

FORSTER'S TERN - 3 nests at Cook's Bay (S End), *York* on 19th (GC). Found and photographed 3 nests that were clearly on the York RM side of the bay. Finally, we have confirmation of breeding in *York R.M.*, hence **FIRST CONFIRMED nesting for the GTA.**

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO - 1 at Hilton Falls C. A., *Halton* on 8th (Lev Frid,Kyle Holloway, fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 at HRF - Currie Tract, *Halton* on 12th (Jim Watt,SPNC, fide HBGG).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO - 1 at HRF - Currie Tract, *Halton* on 12th (Jim Watt,SPNC, fide HBGG) & 1 at Westney Rd Bluebird Trail, *Durham* on 17th (RLau) was doing what appeared to be a tail-fanning display.

COMMON NIGHTHAWK - 1 at Grenview @ Glenroy Ave, Etob. on 8th (SCH), 1 at CSSP on 11th (SCH) & 1 heard at Bloor & Islington on 18th (SCH).

BELTED KINGFISHER - 1 at HP on 14th (SMF).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER - 1 at Durham Rd 5, E of Claremont, *Durham* on 15th (DRuch fide DRBA).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER - 1 at Heber Down C. A., *Durham* on 26th (RPye fide DRBA).

YELLOW-BELLIED SAPSUCKER - 1 at Hilton Falls C. A., *Halton* on 8th (Lev Frid,Kyle Holloway, fide ONTBIRDS).

HAIRY WOODPECKER - 3 (M, F, 1 FY) at HP on 21st (SMF).

PILEATED WOODPECKER - 1 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 10th (SCH).

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER - 1 (singing) at Happy Valley Forests, *York* @ 10:30hrs on 18th [Documented] (DW fide ONTBIRDS), about 5mins walk in along trail marked by large Nature Conservancy of Canada sign at the turning circle at N end of 7th Conc. King. 2 there on 19th (DEP fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 seen or heard there on most days until the end of the month, singing on territory (m.obs). 1 at 39 Lincoln Ave on 19th (Karen Yukich fide HC).

ALDER FLYCATCHER - 1 at Corner Marsh, *Durham* on 2nd (Alan Woods fide ONTBIRDS).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER - 4 at TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL).

EASTERN PHOEBE - 1 at Hanlan's Point, TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL) was first sighting since 4 May - what happened to previous nesters under Algonquin & Snake Island bridges?

YELLOW-THROATED VIREO - 1 heard at Milton Mill Pond, *Halton* on 17th (KK fide ONTBIRDS).

COMMON RAVEN - 1 at Britannia Rd & Tremaine, *Halton* on 15th (KK fide ONTBIRDS) circled and flew off towards the Escarpment. 1 at Heber Down C. A., *Durham* on 26th (RPye fide DRBA) & 1 at Dundas & Guelph Line, *Halton* @ 15:30hrs on 29th (anon fide HBGG).

PURPLE MARTIN - 8 at nest box at Nature Reserve, TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL) & 2 at Bethesda SR W of Stouffville, *York* on 17th (Al Johnston fide RJF, fide ONTBIRDS).

BANK SWALLOW - 60 (about 40 holes) at McNaughton Rd & Eaglet Ct, Maple, *York* on 26th (RBHS,WP), colony in 2 sections: about 10 holes in W part and about 30 in E part, at back of a cleared area N of McNaughton and W of Eaglet Ct. Probably about 60 birds flying around in area.

CLIFF SWALLOW - 30 at TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL), 1 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 9th (G. Vogg fide DRBA) & 63 nests at R.L. Clark Filtration Plant (E side, adjacent to CSSP) on 10th (BPB fide OUTON).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH - 2 at 7 Fairway Dr., Scarb. on 3rd (RLau), now usual summer neighborhood residents.

CAROLINA WREN - 1 (singing) at 7 Fairway Dr., Scarb. on 3rd (RLau).

WINTER WREN - 1 at Happy Valley Forests, *York* on 19th (DEP fide ONTBIRDS) & on 24th (DJM,& fide ONTBIRDS). 2 at Heber Down C. A., *Durham* on 26th (RPye fide DRBA).

SEDGE WREN - 1 heard at HRF - Robertson Tract, *Halton* on 17th (KK fide ONTBIRDS), access from 4th Line Nasagaweya, 400m N of 10th SR.

MARSH WREN - 3 heard at South Trail/Platform, Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (RBHS,WP).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER - 2 at TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL), 2 (adult on nest) at NW of Kleinburg, *York* on 11th (RJF,JWa, fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 at Kortright C. A., *York* on 17th (Lev Frid fide ONTBIRDS). 7 reports from 14th to 30th at HP of 2 or 3 individuals(SMF). 2 at Morningside Park on 17th (RLau) & 2 in his yard at 1141 Woodeden Dr. Lorne Park, *Peel* on 27th (DEP).

EASTERN BLUEBIRD - 1 at Long Sault C.A., *Durham* on 7th (D. Docherty fide DRBA). 1 M carrying food to nestbox on 16th SR King, W of Conc 7, *York* on 20th (RBHS,WP); it was reported again there on 25th, 27th & 30th (m.obs).

WOOD THRUSH - 1 at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* from 4th to 30th (GC) & stayed into July. 1 at Happy Valley Forests, *York* on 19th (DEP fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 JUV there on 24th (DJM,& fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 22nd (Lev Frid fide ONTBIRDS).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD - In total, there were 127 reports, with 90 from *York R.M.*, 24 from *Toronto*, 11 from *Peel R.M.* and 2 from *Durham R.M.* Field work was concentrated in the following 10-KM squares: 17PU02, 17PU04, 17PU15, 17PU25, 17PU26, 17PU35 (all NAD27) and again, no fieldwork was done in *Halton R.M.* this month. Apart from RBHS, 10 observers contributed records (ETB, HC, RJF fide ONTBIRDS, SMF, SCH, LGK, GEL, NMu, WP and DW), with special thanks due to SCH and NMu for multiple reports.

AMERICAN PIPIT - 1 flying over at Miles Hill Cr, Richmond Hill, *York* @ 19:30hrs on 6th (FP).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER - 2 at Long Sault C.A., *Durham* on 2nd (anon fide OUTON) & 1 there on 7th (D. Docherty fide DRBA). 8 at HRF - Currie Tract, *Halton* on 12th (Jim Watt,SPNC, fide HBGG) & 4 at Westney Rd Bluebird Trail, *Durham* on 17th (RLau).

YELLOW WARBLER - 36 at TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER - 1 at HP on 17th (SMF) & 2 at Heber Down C. A., *Durham* on 26th (RPye fide DRBA). 1 at Happy Valley Forests, *York* on 24th (DJM,& fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 (agitated pair) seen carrying food there on 26th (RBHS,WP); however could not find nest or young. 1 reported there on 30th (CMK fide ONTBIRDS).

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER - 1 at HRF - Currie Tract, *Halton* on 12th (Jim Watt,SPNC, fide HBGG).

CERULEAN WARBLER - 1 M at Water St, Uxbridge, *Durham* on 26th (BH fide DRBA), spent entire day in Brian Henshaw's backyard.

AMERICAN REDSTART - 2 1Y-M at Hanlan's Point, TI on 2nd (NMu,MVL).

LOUISIANA WATERTHRUSH - 1 singing M at Hilton Falls C. A., *Halton* on 8th (Lev Frid,Kyle Holloway, fide ONTBIRDS). It was on the Beaver Meadow Trail near a small wooden bridge.

MOURNING WARBLER - 2 at HRF - Currie Tract, *Halton* on 12th (Jim Watt, SPNC, fide HBGG), 3 at Kortright C. A., *York* on 17th (Lev Frid fide ONTBIRDS) & 3 at Heber Down C. A., *Durham* on 26th (RPye fide DRBA).

HOODED WARBLER - 1 (singing) at Idleswift Dr, Thornhill, *York* @ 06:00hrs on 14th (GDe), flitting about in a large maple in his yard - unusual location. 1 at Happy Valley Forests, *York* @ 11:15hrs on 18th [Documented] (DW fide ONTBIRDS), N end of 7th Conc. about 100m beyond turning circle. 1 seen again there on 19th (DEP fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 calling near where the Acadian Flycatcher has been seen at Happy Valley Forests, *York* on 26th & 27th (RJF fide ONTBIRDS). 1 singing strongly about halfway between trailhead and the Acadian Flycatcher spot at Happy Valley Forests, *York* on 30th (CMK fide ONTBIRDS). *NB. Only breeding season reports are documentable per current Guidelines.*

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW - 2 at Balsam Rd, Glen Major, *Durham* on 2nd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 1 at Long Sault C.A., *Durham* on 7th (D. Docherty fide DRBA) & 4 at Cawthra-Mulock FON Reserve, *York* on 25th (DW).

FIELD SPARROW - 1 (plus nest) at Parking Lot 'A', Bronte Creek P.P. (W side), *Halton* on 2nd (Bill Morden fide ONTBIRDS).

NELSON'S SPARROW - 1 at Hanlan's Point, TI @ 10:40h on 2nd [No doc. seen] (NMu, MVL; also fide FP, fide ONTBIRDS). It was S of the Island Airport, opposite a tennis court and near a wicker gate. Only his 2nd spring bird in Ontario. *NB. Spring records are documentable according to the Reporting Guidelines, but not fall records.*

SCARLET TANAGER - 3 at HRF - Currie Tract, *Halton* on 12th (Jim Watt, SPNC, fide HBGG). 1 heard at Happy Valley Forests, *York* on 24th (DJM, & fide ONTBIRDS), 1 F there on 26th (RBHS, WP) & 1 seen there on 30th (CMK fide ONTBIRDS).

ORCHARD ORIOLE - 1 1Y-M singing male at Gibraltar Point, TI on 2nd (NMu, MVL) was apparently on territory W of the Trout Pond.

BALTIMORE ORIOLE - 29 at TI on 2nd (NMu, MVL).

CITED OBSERVERS: & et al.; MA Mark Ansell; BPB Brian P. Bailey; ETB Eleanor Beagan; GCarp Geoff Carpentier; BSC Barry S. Cherriere; GC Glenn Coady; HC Hugh Currie; GDe Gene Denzel; DRD David R. Don; CEE Cheryl Edgecombe; GRE Gavin R. Edmondstone; SMF Steven Favier; RJF Ron Fleming; HBGG Hamilton Birders Google Group; SCH Sandra Hawkins; FMH Fred Helleiner; BH Brian Henshaw; THo Tyler Hoar; BRH Brandon R. Holden; JI Jean Iron; JKa James Kamstra; AK Andrew Keaveney; CMK Chris M. Kimber; LGK Leslie G. Kinrys; KK Karl Konze; MK Mark Kubisz; RLau Rick Lauzon; GEL Graham Leonard; MVL Margaret Liubavicius; JDL J. Doug Lockrey; SLo Stan Long; KAM Kevin McLaughlin; DJM Dave J. Milsom; NMu Norman Murr; anon Unknown Observer; ONTBIRDS OFO Email Hotline; OUTON OutdoorOntario.net; DEP Don E. Perks; FP Frank Pinilla; WP Winnie Poon; RPye Rayfield Pye; DRBA Durham Rare Bird Alert; DRuch Dave Ruch; RBHS Roy B. H. Smith; SPNC South Peel Nats Club; JWa John Watson; DVW D.V. Chip Weseloh; DW David Worthington.

Compiled by Dave Worthington for the TOC Records Committee.

Photo editing by Winnie Poon.

Data entry by Roy Smith. 393 GTA reports were added to the database for June 2010.

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: torontobirds@sympatico.ca, following guidelines on 2nd page of this journal.

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GREATER TORONTO AREA BIRD REPORT – JULY 2010

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.

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TRUMPETER SWAN - 1 (tag #155) at Ben Machree Park, *Peel* on 1st (anon fide OUTON) was originally tagged at Bluffers Park, Toronto in 2007, fide Harry Lumsden. 2 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 18th & 31st (MJCB fide DRBA).

WOOD DUCK - 53 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd & 56 there on 30th (RPye fide DRBA). 8 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (RPye fide DRBA).

GADWALL - 9 (1 F, 8 downy) at Triangle Pond, LSS on 4th (RBHS), young perhaps 6 days old(?).

AMERICAN WIGEON - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (RPye fide DRBA).

AMERICAN BLACK DUCK - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (RPye fide DRBA).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL - 9 (1 F, 8 downy) at Reesor-Old Finch Pond on 3rd (RBHS).

LESSER SCAUP - 1 M at Mouth of Bronte Creek, *Halton* on 5th (GRE fide HBGG).

LONG-TAILED DUCK - 30 (high # for date) at Thickson's Bay, *Durham* on 8th (GC) & 1 M at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 13th (Sue Edwards fide HBGG).

BUFFLEHEAD - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 31st (RPye fide DRBA).

HOODED MERGANSER - 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 18th (MJCB fide DRBA). 3 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd & 1 on 30th (RPye fide DRBA). 2 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 31st (RPye fide DRBA).

COMMON MERGANSER - 6 (1 AD, 5 FY) at Solina Road Marsh, *Durham* on 24th (RPye fide DRBA). 4 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 30th (RPye fide DRBA) & 2 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 31st (MJCB fide DRBA).

COMMON LOON - 1 at Thickson's Bay, *Durham* on 1st & 2nd (GC) had staying from June 16th. 1 seen flying inland at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 11th (GRE fide HBGG).

PIED-BILLED GREBE - 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 18th & 31st (MJCB fide DRBA). 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd & 1 AD at Pumpphouse Marsh, *Durham* on 24th (RPye fide DRBA). 2 at Solina Road Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (J. Robinson fide DRBA), 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 28th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS) & 5 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 31st (RPye fide DRBA).

HORNED GREBE - 1 at Mouth of Duffin's Creek, *Durham* on 7th (Alan Woods fide ONTBIRDS), ear tufts visible.

RED-NECKED GREBE - 4 at CSSP on 2nd (SCH), 1 at nesting platform, adjusting nest material & 6 there on 30th (SMF). No active nests at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 5th (GRE fide HBGG), both previous nests abandoned. 79 at Lake Ontario off Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 10th & 62 there on 25th (WER fide ONTBIRDS). 2 (nest w 3 eggs) at Burloak Park, *Halton* on 12th Harrison, Ron Mellish, fide HBGG), nest on a tire mooring in the bay. 2 (nest w 4 eggs) there on 13th, 2 (nest w 6 eggs) on 14th & the 2 adults were seen incubating the eggs on 20th (Eric Harrison, Ron Mellish, fide HBGG).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN - 1 first reported on June 25th at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham*, remained throughout the month and into August (m.obs).

AMERICAN BITTERN - 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 28th (SLo).

LEAST BITTERN - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA). 3 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th & 1 there on 31st (RPye fide DRBA).

GREAT BLUE HERON - 54 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 9th, 66 on 15th, 74 on 23rd & 218 on 30th (RPye fide DRBA). 14 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (RPye fide DRBA).

GREAT EGRET - 2 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 2nd & 1 seen there on 9th, 15th, 23rd & 30th (RPye fide DRBA). 1 at Sunnyside breakwall on 4th (AA). 2 AD (3 nests) at Peninsula C, LSS on 4th (RBHS, WP): 1 nest with 4 large young and 1 AD; 1 with 1 AD standing on it (no young visible and apparently not incubating); 1 with 1 AD nearby but not clearly visible. 4 flying over at Ward's Island, *TI* on 13th & 1 at Snake Island, *TI* on 13th (NMu, MVL). 1 at HP on 27th (SMF).



Great Egrets were first confirmed nesting at the Leslie Street Spit in 2003, and have nested annually since then. In 2010 three pairs nested, but young were seen only on one of three nests (above). The successful nest was located in a particularly open location, making it a good subject for many photographers. Photo was taken at Peninsula C, Leslie Street Spit, *Toronto*, 4 July 2010. © Winnie Poon.

GREEN HERON - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th & 3 on 31st (RPye fide DRBA). 1 at Solina Road Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (J. Robinson fide DRBA) & 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 30th (RPye fide DRBA).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - 4 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (RPye fide DRBA), 3 JUV at Reesor Pond, *York* on 28th (SLo) & on 30th (Siegmar Bodach fide ONTBIRDS). 11 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 30th (RPye fide DRBA).

TURKEY VULTURE - Singles at Rutherford Rd & Dufferin, *York* on 22nd (NMu), at Elgin Pond, Uxbridge, *Durham* on 25th (RBHS,WP) & at Uxbridge Microwave Tower, *Durham* on 25th (RBHS,WP). Under-reported, more are being seen each year, including over the urban areas.

OSPREY - 3 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 1st (RPye fide DRBA), 2 on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski,RPye, fide DRBA) & 1 there on 9th (RPye fide DRBA). 1 flying W at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* on 9th (GC), 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 15th (SLo), 1 at Riverwood Park, Erindale, *Peel* on 19th (Ron Luft fide OUTON) & 2 flying SW at downtown Pickering, *Durham* on 22nd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS). 2 (1 AD, 1 juv) at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 18th & 2 there on 31st (MJCB fide DRBA). 4 at Westside Marsh, *Durham* on 24th & 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (RPye fide DRBA). 1 (nest w yng) at Bloomington SR & Hwy 404, *York* on 25th (RBHS,WP), 2 birds on the nest (seen from Woodbine & Bloomington); prob 1 AD and 1 large young. 1 flying over at downtown Whitby, *Durham* on 28th (DRuch fide DRBA) & 1 at James Gardens, Lambton Woods on 30th (AA).

BALD EAGLE - 1 AD flying NE at Glen Erin Dr & Aquitaine, *Peel* @ 15:45hrs on 3rd (anon fide OUTON). 1 2Y at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 17th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) was being harassed by Common Terns.

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (RPye fide DRBA).

COOPER'S HAWK - 5 (2 AD, 3 FY) at Morningside Park on 2nd (RLau), nest in White Pine on S side of Ellesmere; 1 young still in nest, one on adjoining branch and one a few feet below nest. 1 AD at HP on 2nd (SMF) & 1 at N. Bendale Playfield, Scarb. on 5th (RLau), birds resident around here for last 4 years; fly to and from N of the park, sometimes over to STC woods. 4 (fledged young) at Riverwood Park, Erindale, *Peel* on 25th (anon fide OUTON).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK - 1 at Duffy's Lane, Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 1st (DJM fide ONTBIRDS).

MERLIN - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski,RPye, fide DRBA) & on 15th (RPye fide DRBA). 1 at Bronte Harbour, *Halton* on 11th (GRE fide HBGG), near the Cliff Swallow colony. 7 (2 AD, 5FY) at Newton Dr, Willowdale on 12th (DW), all 5 young out of the nest, sitting in trees nearby. 4 (1 AD, 3 FY) there at 13:00hrs on 13th (WP). 4 (1 AD, 3 FY) seen again there @ 19:00hrs on 16th (RBHS,WP), during about 1hr, saw AD bring in prey item to nest, one FY flew back and ate about half the prey, before flying off with it. Meanwhile another FY perched nearby on a dead spruce tip. 3rd one also seen nearby. **This is the first confirmed nesting within the City of Toronto.** Singles at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 16th (RPye fide DRBA), 45 Trayborn Dr, Richmond Hill, *York* on 28th (NMu), at Cedar & Wentworth St, Oshawa, *Durham* on 28th (J. McKnight fide DRBA) & at #185 Midwest Rd, Scarborough on 28th (RLau), back in same tree as it was on all winter long; last seen in March.

PEREGRINE FALCON - 1 AD at Square One Executive Centre, *Peel* on 1st (RBHS,WP) perched on the nesting box. 1 at Burlington Square Plaza, *Halton* on 7th (George E. Holland fide HBGG) perched below large 'B' on side of tower.

COMMON MOORHEN - 2 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski,RPye, fide DRBA) & 1 there on 23rd (RPye fide DRBA). 2 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 31st (RPye fide DRBA).

AMERICAN COOT - 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 18th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 30th (RPye fide DRBA).

SEMPALMATED PLOVER - 2 at Monaghan Mushroom Farm, *Halton* on 19th (CEE,Dave Don, fide HBGG).

KILLDEER - 44 at Troon Ave, Maple (Lowes), *York* on 29th (Paloma Plant fide ONTBIRDS).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER - 1 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 10th (WER fide ONTBIRDS), 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 18th (MJCB fide DRBA) & 28 at Monaghan Mushroom Farm (Guelph Line N of Lowville), *Halton* on 19th (CEE,Dave Don, fide HBGG).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS - 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 10th (RPye fide ONTBIRDS), 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th (RPye fide DRBA), 2 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 25th (RBHS) & 6 there on 30th (Siegmar Bodach fide ONTBIRDS).

WILLET - 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* @ 16:00hrs on 9th [No doc. seen] (Gail & Ted George fide SLo, fide ONTBIRDS).

LESSER YELLOWLEGS - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 3rd (Dan Kaczynski, RPy, fide DRBA) & on 9th (RPy fide DRBA). 5 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 10th (RPy fide ONTBIRDS), 4 on 18th & 11 on 31st (MJCB fide DRBA). 2 at Sobey's Pond, Whitby, *Durham* on 11th (RPy fide ONTBIRDS) & 8 at Monaghan Mushroom Farm, *Halton* on 19th (CEE, Dave Don, fide HBGG). 4 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 25th & 31st (RPy fide DRBA).

WHIMBREL - 1 near mouth of Lynde Creek, Lynde Shores C. A., *Durham* on 17th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA).

LEAST SANDPIPER - 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 4th & 2 on 14th (SLo). 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 18th & 2 there on 31st (MJCB fide DRBA).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER - 2 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 15th (SLo).

STILT SANDPIPER - 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 14th & 17th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 31st (MJCB fide DRBA).

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER - 3 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 10th (WER fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 14th & 15th, 17th to 19th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS).

WILSON'S SNIPES - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 14th (RPy fide DRBA).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE - 1 F at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 10th (WER fide ONTBIRDS).

BONAPARTE'S GULL - 1 at CCIW-Centre for Inland Waters, *Halton* on 29th (anon fide CEE, fide ONTBIRDS) & 223 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 31st (MJCB fide DRBA).

GREAT BLACK-BACKED GULL - 1 at CCIW-Centre for Inland Waters, *Halton* on 29th (anon fide CEE, fide ONTBIRDS).

CASPIAN TERN - 5 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 3rd & 7 on 17th (RBHS). 1 at Lake Aquitaine, Meadowvale, *Peel* on 20th (anon fide OUTON).

BLACK TERN - 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 10th (RPy fide ONTBIRDS), 22 (6 AD, 16 juv) on 18th & 12 there on 31st (MJCB fide DRBA). 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 17th (RBHS).

COMMON TERN - 50+ AD, 10+ young at Cell #2, LSS @ 12:00hrs on 4th (RBHS). 3 tern rafts in Cell 2: proper count not possible but about 50 AD in/around rafts; some bringing food; only some young visible; those seen almost full grown & ready to fly. 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 17th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS).

YELLOW-BILLED CUCKOO - 1 at Humber Arboretum on 27th (Robin A. Owen fide OUTON).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO - 1 at Holt Rd, N of Nash, Courtice, *Durham* on 30th (J. Robinson fide DRBA) & 1 at Bronte Creek P. P. Campground, *Halton* on 31st (Bill Morden fide ONTBIRDS).

COMMON NIGHTHAWK - 1 at L. Scugog, *Durham* on 28th (DRuch fide DRBA).

CHIMNEY SWIFT - 4 at King & Dufferin & 3 at College & Manning on 19th (Walter Fisher fide OUTON).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD - 1 (F or imm) at Humber Arboretum on 27th (Robin A. Owen fide OUTON).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER - 1 at Riverwood Park, Erindale, *Peel* on 18th (Ron Luft fide OUTON) & 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 30th (RPy fide DRBA).

PILEATED WOODPECKER - 3 (1 AD-M, 2 FY) at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 25th (WER fide ONTBIRDS).

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE - 1 (calling) at Ward's Island, TI on 13th (NMu, MVL).

ACADIAN FLYCATCHER - 1 at Happy Valley E of Conc 7, *York* on 3rd (John Thompson fide ONTBIRDS), about 1km in on a trail on E side of Conc 7, just S of 16th Sideroad; different from the one which had been reported W of the 7th Conc. on multiple dates in June.

WILLOW FLYCATCHER - 4 at TI on 13th (NMu, MVL).

LEAST FLYCATCHER - 1 carrying food at Baselands, LSS on 4th (RBHS, WP), looked for the nest found on 23 May but could not relocate it. AD heard calling multiple times, but could not find any FYs.

BLUE-HEADED VIREO - 1 at Duffy's Lane, Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 1st (DJM fide ONTBIRDS).

WARBLING VIREO - 27 at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL).

CLIFF SWALLOW - 10 at Centre Island, TI on 13th (NMu,MVL).

TUFTED TITMOUSE - 6 (2 AD, 4 FY) at Harborn Rd, Mississauga, *Peel* on 18th (Jacques Giraud fide ONTBIRDS) [Documented] & on 19th (GC). Although breeding in the GTA has been suspected for some years now, this will be **the FIRST CONFIRMED BREEDING RECORD**, if accepted by TBRC.



Tufted Titmouse –
photo of the male that
nested at Harborn Road,
Mississauga, taken on
20 April 2010.

This pair of birds had
been visiting the feeders
there regularly since 19
April. Eventually, on 18
July, they were observed
carrying food (sunflower
seeds) to four fledged
young on a maple tree in
the backyard.

©Jacques Giraud

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH - 2 at 7 Fairway Dr., Scarb. on 9th (RLau), now year-round residents.

CAROLINA WREN - 2 (calling loudly) at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 29th (Joey Slinger fide ONTBIRDS).

WINTER WREN - 1 singing at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* on 2nd (GC) staying since April 18th. 1 (singing) at Moore Park Ravine on 10th (Pat Hodgeson fide OUTON).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER - 1 at HP on 1st, 2 on 13th & 1 on 20th (SMF). 6 at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL) & 1 at Riverwood Park, Erindale, *Peel* on 19th (Ron Luft fide OUTON).

VEERY - 2 (1 AD, 1 FY) at Duffy's Lane, Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 1st (DJM fide ONTBIRDS).

WOOD THRUSH - 1 singing M at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* from 1st to 9th (GC).

GRAY CATBIRD - 9 at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD - In total there were 143 reports, with 61 from Toronto, 54 from York, 18 from Peel, 9 from Durham and 1 from Halton. Many thanks to the following 8 observers/sources: Don Davis; SCH; LGK; Jan McDonald, NMu; OUTON, RPy, and DRBA, who provided about 15 reports (the rest came from special surveys by RBHS and WP). The special surveys were concentrated in 10km squares: 17PJ02, 17PJ03, 17PJ04, 17PJ05, 17PJ12, 17PJ13, 17PJ14, 17PJ15, 17PJ25, 17PJ26, 17PJ34, 17PJ35, and 17PJ44 (all NAD83) but even some of these were not fully covered. Parts of some other squares were visited briefly, e.g. while en route to other

locations, or to check out specific reports. As usual, no special inferences should be drawn from the numbers of reports, as there may be cases with multiple reports from the same site.

BROWN THRASHER - 2 at Hanlan's Point, TI on 13th (NMu,MVL).

CEDAR WAXWING - 80 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 31st (MJCB fide DRBA).

YELLOW WARBLER - 31 at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL).

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER - 1 at Duffy's Lane, Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 1st (DJM fide ONTBIRDS).

PINE WARBLER - 1 singing M at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* on 2nd (GC).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER - 1 at Duffy's Lane, Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 1st (DJM fide ONTBIRDS).

HOODED WARBLER - 1 M at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* @ 15:00hrs on 25th (WER fide ONTBIRDS).

CLAY-COLORED SPARROW - 3 (1 AD, 2 juv) at Uxbridge Countryside Preserve, *Durham* on 25th (RBHS,WP).

SONG SPARROW - 28 at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL).

BOBOLINK - 1 M (singing) at Springbank Meadows Park, *Peel* on 1st (RBHS) & 3 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 10th (RPye fide ONTBIRDS).

ORCHARD ORIOLE - 1 singing M at Ward's Island, TI on 13th (NMu,MVL).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE - 22 at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL).

PURPLE FINCH - 2 (M & F) at Duffy's Lane, Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 1st (DJM fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 JUV at Uxbridge Countryside Preserve, *Durham* on 25th (RBHS,WP).

Cited Observers: & et al.; AA Alfred Adamo; MJCB Margaret Bain; GCarp Geoff Carpentier; GC Glenn Coady; CEE Cheryl Edgecombe; GRE Gavin R. Edmondstone; SMF Steven Favier; HBGG Hamilton Birders Google Group; SCH Sandra Hawkins; LGK Leslie G. Kinrys; RLau Rick Lauzon; MVL Margaret Liubavicius; SLo Stan Long; DJM Dave J. Milsom; NMu Norman Murr; anon Unknown Observer; ONTBIRDS OFO Email Hotline; OUTON OutdoorOntario.net; FP Frank Pinilla; WP Winnie Poon; RPye Rayfield Pye; DRBA Durham Rare Bird Alert; WER Wayne E. Renaud; DRuch Dave Ruch; RBHS Roy B. H. Smith; MDW Mike Williamson; DW David Worthington.

Compiled by Dave Worthington for the TOC Records Committee.

Photo editing by Winnie Poon.

Data entry by Roy Smith. 426 GTA reports were added to the database for July 2010.

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: torontobirds@sympatico.ca, following guidelines on 2nd page of this journal.

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CANADA GOOSE - 493 at Reesor Pond, *York* @ 12:20hrs on 29th (RBHS).

MUTE SWAN - 40 at TI on 16th & 41 on 24th (NMu,MVL).

TRUMPETER SWAN - 1 (wing tag #H09) AD at St Johns Sideroad Marsh, *York* on 1st (RBHS,WP) & 2 (no tags, bands) AD at Reesor Pond, *York* on 15th (RBHS). 2 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 22nd (Michael Ferguson fide ONTBIRDS), 2 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA) & 2 (no tags) AD at Reesor-Old Finch Pond on 29th (RBHS).

WOOD DUCK - 37 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland) & 6 (3 F, 3 FY) at Reesor-Old Finch Pond on 15th (RBHS).

AMERICAN WIGEON - 6 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 27th (RPye,Tho, fide DRBA), 2 at CSSP on 28th (WER fide ONTBIRDS) & 3 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA).

MALLARD - 200 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland) & 460 at Country Glen Pond, Markham, *York* on 15th (RBHS).

BLUE-WINGED TEAL - 1 at Reesor-Old Finch Pond on 15th (RBHS). 3 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 21st & 2 there on 29th (RBHS).

NORTHERN SHOVELER - 8 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 20th (RPye fide DRBA) & 14 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA).

GREEN-WINGED TEAL - 1 F at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 1st (RBHS,WP). 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* & at Reesor-Old Finch Pond on 29th (RBHS).

CANVASBACK - 4 (1 F, 3 juv) at Centre Island Ferry Dock, TI on 16th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

GREATER SCAUP - 3 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA).

LESSER SCAUP - 1 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 27th (Tho fide DRBA).

HOODED MERGANSER - 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 2nd (SLo fide ONTBIRDS), 15th & on 21st (RBHS). 3 at CSSP on 11th (Bernie Monette fide OUTON), & 2 there on 28th (WER fide ONTBIRDS). 9 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 14th & 3 there on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA). 5 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 20th & 4 on 27th (RPye fide DRBA).

RUDDY DUCK - 1 F at Reesor Pond, *York* on 15th & on 21st (RBHS).

RUFFED GROUSE - 10 at Glen Major, *Durham* on 4th (GCarp fide DRBA).

COMMON LOON - 1 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 27th (THo fide DRBA).

PIED-BILLED GREBE - 3 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 2nd (RPye fide DRBA), 6th (NMu, Peter McParland) & 3 on 9th (GCarp fide DRBA), 9 there on 20th (RPye fide DRBA). 3 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (NMu, Peter McParland) & 1 on 15th (RPye fide DRBA). 6 (2 AD, 4 FY) at Reesor-Old Finch Pond on 7th (SLo) & on 29th (RBHS). 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 14th (MJCB fide DRBA).

RED-NECKED GREBE - 2 at CSSP on 11th (Bernie Monette fide OUTON), 2 on 20th (SMF) & 9 there on 28th (WER fide ONTBIRDS). 110 at Lake Ontario off Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS).

AMERICAN WHITE PELICAN - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* which was originally found on June 25th stayed throughout the month and still being reported into Sept. (RPye).

.AMERICAN BITTERN - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 1st (RPye).

LEAST BITTERN - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 2nd (RPye fide DRBA), 4th (GCarp fide DRBA) & on 15th (OFO, JCS, fide ONTBIRDS).

GREAT BLUE HERON - 9 reports from Oshawa Second Marsh [DU beginning with a high 167 on 1st (RPye), other high counts were 128 on 2nd & 117 on 6th (RPye fide DRBA), number gradually declined and last report was of 18 on 27th (RPye, THo, fide DRBA).

GREAT EGRET - 10 reports from Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham*, 1 there during first half of month, a high count of 5 there on 20th and last report was of 3 on 27th (RPye fide DRBA). 7 reports from 13th to end of the month of 1 or 2 at TI (NMu, &). 1 at LSS on 7th (EO'C fide OUTON) & 5 on 18th (NMu, MVL). 4 (no tags, bands) at Reesor Pond, *York* on 15th (RBHS) & 1 on 21st (RBHS, WP). 2 (no bands/tags) at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS), 2 at Corner Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS) & 3 at Hydro Park, *Durham* on 24th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA). 5 other reports of single birds from 4 different locations from 13th to 29th (m.obs).

GREEN HERON - 1 at St Johns Sideroad Marsh, *York* on 1st (RBHS, WP), 3 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 15th (RPye fide DRBA) & 8 at Cannington Sewage Lagoons, *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS). 2 at Jim's Pond, McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Res., *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS) & 3 at Amos Ponds, *Durham* on 29th (Jerry R. Annett fide RBHS).

BLACK-CROWNED NIGHT-HERON - 4 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 1st (RPye) & 7 there on 22nd (Michael Ferguson fide ONTBIRDS). 5 JUV at Reesor Pond, *York* on 2nd (SLo fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 (1 AD, 1 imm) at Miller Ave, Markham, *York* on 29th (RBHS).

TURKEY VULTURE - 1 at Passmore & Tapscott, Scarb. on 13th (RLau), can be found here all summer in small numbers. 1 at Midland & Lawrence, Scarb. on 16th (RLau), 1 at Gibraltar Point, TI on 24th (NMu, MVL) & 2 at Yonge & Finch on 24th (NMu).

OSPREY - 2 (1 AD, 1 FY) at Bruce St. Marsh, *York* on 1st (RBHS, WP), according to a local, the young had been flying for 2 weeks. 2 (1 AD, 1 yng) at Holland Landing Prairie PNR, *York* on 1st RBHS, WP). 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 2nd, 1 on 5th (RPye fide DRBA), 2 on 23rd (Les Sayer, Jim McKnight, fide JDL) & 5 there on 28th (CMRW fide JDL, fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Corner Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (NMu, Peter McParland), 1 at Etienne Brule Park on 7th (Grant Hickey fide OUTON), 2 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 12th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & 1 there on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA). 4 (2 AD, 2 FY) at Yonge & Stouffville Rd., *York* on 14th (anon fide OUTON); 2 FY still on the nest.

BALD EAGLE - 1 AD flying SW at Doris Ave & Yonge St. on 17th (MDW fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 AD at Glen Erin Dr & Aquitaine, *Peel* on 20th (anon fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd (Les Sayer, Jim McKnight, fide JDL), 2 on 27th (CMRW fide Steve Wood, fide JDL) & 2 on 28th (CMRW fide JDL, fide ONTBIRDS). 1 AD sitting in a tree on W side at Halls Rd., *Durham* on 29th (JDL fide DRBA).

SHARP-SHINNED HAWK - 2 at 158 Newton Dr., Willowdale on 23rd (DW) & 6 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 27th (CMRW fide Steve Wood, fide JDL).

COOPER'S HAWK - 4 reports from 7th to 30th of 1 at HP (SMF). 1 at LSS on 7th (EO'C fide OUTON) & 1 at TI on 20th & on 28th (NMu,MVL). 1 at 7 Fairway Dr., Scarb. on 22nd & 31st (RLau). 2 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 27th (CMRW fide Steve Wood, fide JDL).

BROAD-WINGED HAWK - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd (Les Sayer,Jim McKnight, fide JDL), 8 on 27th & 11 on 28th (CMRW fide JDL, fide ONTBIRDS).

AMERICAN KESTREL - 6 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 27th (CMRW fide Steve Wood, fide JDL).

MERLIN - 1 at 185 Midwest Rd, Scarborough on 10th, 24th & 27th (RLau). 1 at 158 Newton Dr., Willowdale on 18th was the last date of one being seen after a successful nesting season (DW). 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 14th (MJCB fide DRBA) & 2 there on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS). 2 at Cannington Sewage Lagoons, *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS), Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 27th (CMRW fide Steve Wood, fide JDL) & Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 27th (RPye,THo, fide DRBA). Singles at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 27th (THo fide DRBA), 45 Trayborn Dr, Richmond Hill, *York* on 27th & 29th (NMu) & at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 29th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA).

PEREGRINE FALCON - 1 IMM at Bronte GO Station (West), *Halton* on 2nd (RBHS). 4 (2 AD, 2 FY) at William Osler Health Facility on 4th. According to an article in *Toronto Star* of 4 Aug 2010, the adults are Hurricane and O'Connor; young are 1M, 1 F. O'Connor was hatched at the Landmark Building, Summit Co., Ohio. They nested behind the big 'H' on this hospital. Singles at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 12th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 1 at Ward's Island, TI on 18th (NMu,MVL) & at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 20th (RPye fide DRBA).

VIRGINIA RAIL - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 28th (CMRW fide JDL, fide ONTBIRDS).

COMMON MOORHEN - 9 (3 AD, 6 yng) at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland). 3 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 9th (GCarp fide DRBA), 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 14th (MJCB fide DRBA) & 2 at Cannington Sewage Lagoons, *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS).

BLACK-BELLIED PLOVER - 2 AD at Reesor Pond, *York* on 2nd (SLo fide ONTBIRDS) & 2 at Clark Townline S of Taunton Rd, *Durham* on 22nd (RPye fide DRBA).

SEMPALMATED PLOVER - 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 2nd (SLo) & 12 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 7th (RPye fide DRBA). 2 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 27th (RPye fide DRBA), 7 on 29th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & 2 on 31st (GCarp,Peter Hogenbirk, fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 30th (KRS fide ONTBIRDS).

SPOTTED SANDPIPER - 7 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS).

SOLITARY SANDPIPER - 2 at Monaghan Mushroom Farm, *Halton* on 2nd (RBHS,WP) 1 at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 11th (KRS fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 at East Platform, Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 13th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA). 2 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS), 2 at Jim's Pond, McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Res., *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 31st (GCarp,Peter Hogenbirk, fide ONTBIRDS).

GREATER YELLOWLEGS - 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 12th, 2 on 14th, 1 on 19th & 6 there on 29th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA or MJCB fide DRBA). 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 15th (RPye fide DRBA) & 1 at Jim's Pond, McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Res., *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS). 2 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 15th, 21st & 29th (RBHS). 1 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22th (WER fide ONTBIRDS) & 9 at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 30th (KRS fide ONTBIRDS).

LESSER YELLOWLEGS - 44 at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 11th & 50 on 30th (KRS fide ONTBIRDS). 5 reports from 12th to 29th from Nonquon S.L., *Durham* with a high of 14 on 14th (MJCB fide DRBA). 3 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 13th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & on 15th (RPye fide DRBA). 3 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 15th (RPye fide DRBA) & 5 at Jim's Pond, McLaughlin Bay Wildlife Res., *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS). 11 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 21st & 3 on 29th(RBHS). 10 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 27th (RPye fide DRBA),12 on 29th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & 3 on 31st (GCarp,Peter Hogenbirk, fide ONTBIRDS).

WHIMBREL - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 7th (RPye fide DRBA) & 5 flying ESE very fast at about 1200-1500' at CSSP @ 11:45hrs on 28th (WER fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA).

RED KNOT - 2 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 29th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 30th (RPye fide DRBA) & on 31st (GCarp,Peter Hogenbirk, fide ONTBIRDS).

SANDERLING - 8 flying E at Lake Ontario offshore, Rattray Marsh, *Peel* @ 18:00hrs on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS). 3 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 27th (THo fide DRBA).

SEMIPALMATED SANDPIPER - 2 JUV at Reesor Pond, *York* on 8th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS), 3 at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 11th & 1 there on 30th (KRS fide ONTBIRDS). 6 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 19th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 2 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS) & 9 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 31st (GCarp, Peter Hogenbirk, fide ONTBIRDS).

LEAST SANDPIPER - 7 (4 AD, 3 juv) at Monaghan Mushroom Farm, *Halton* on 2nd (RBHS, WP) & 2 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 14th (MJCB fide DRBA). 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 15th (RBHS) & 6 there on 21st (RBHS, WP). 4 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS) & 20 at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 30th (KRS fide ONTBIRDS). 16 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 27th (RPye fide DRBA) & 7 there on 31st (GCarp, Peter Hogenbirk, fide ONTBIRDS).

WHITE-RUMPED SANDPIPER - 4 at Reesor Pond, *York* @ 07:00hrs on 30th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS).

BAIRD'S SANDPIPER - 2 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 13th & 1 on 30th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 19th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & 1 at 252 Taunton Rd Sod Farm (E of Solina Rd), *Durham* on 27th (THo fide DRBA). 4 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 29th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & 3 there on 31st (GCarp, Peter Hogenbirk, fide ONTBIRDS).

PECTORAL SANDPIPER - 9 reports from 5th to 30th were of 4 or less birds & 1 high count of 7 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS).

DUNLIN - 1 (non-breeding) AD at Reesor Pond, *York* @ 15:00hrs on 30th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS).

STILT SANDPIPER - 1 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 8th (SLo fide ONTBIRDS), Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 19th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22th (WER fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 29th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 3 on 30th (RPye fide DRBA) & 6 there on 31st (GCarp, Peter Hogenbirk, fide ONTBIRDS). 3 at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 30th (KRS fide ONTBIRDS).

BUFF-BREASTED SANDPIPER - 1 at 252 Taunton Rd Sod Farm (E of Solina Rd), *Durham* on 27th (THo fide DRBA).

SHORT-BILLED DOWITCHER - 2 at Reesor Pond, *York* on 1st (SLo fide ONTBIRDS) & 1 there on 15th (RBHS). 1 at East Platform, Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 13th & 2 at Hydro Park, *Durham* on 24th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA). 1 at Ravenshoe Road Floodlands, *York* on 30th (KRS fide ONTBIRDS).

WILSON'S SNIPER - 1 at Rattray Marsh, *Peel* on 22nd (WER fide ONTBIRDS).

AMERICAN WOODCOCK - 1 at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* on 6th (NMu, Peter McParland) & 2 at Baselands, LSS on 7th (EO'C fide OUTON).

WILSON'S PHALAROPE - 1 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 27th (RPye fide DRBA).

BONAPARTE'S GULL - 200 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 12th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA), 320 on 14th & 345 on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA).

CASPIAN TERN - 6 at Ravenshoe Flats, *York* on 1st (RBHS, WP). 2 (1 AD, 1 JUV) at Reesor Pond, *York* on 15th & on 21st (RBHS).

BLACK TERN - 12 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 14th & 8 on 29th (MJCB fide DRBA). 5 at Port Perry, *Durham* on 27th (DRuch fide DRBA).

COMMON TERN - 3 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 7th (RPye fide DRBA) & 2 at Corner Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS).

BLACK-BILLED CUCKOO - 1 at Baselands, LSS on 7th (EO'C fide OUTON) & 1 at Algonquin Island, TI on 20th (NMu, MVL, Peter McParland).

EASTERN SCREECH-OWL - 1 (calling) at 7 Fairway Dr., Scarb. at 03:00hrs on 13th (RLau).

COMMON NIGHTHAWK - 1 at Utica, *Durham* on 12th (JKa fide DRBA), 12 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* @ 19:45hrs on 22nd (Michael Ferguson fide ONTBIRDS) & 11 there on 27th (RPye fide DRBA). 4 at Lessard Park, *York* on 25th (AA) & 22 (flocks: 7 & 15) at 39 Harshaw Ave. @ 19:45hrs on 31st (AA). 117 flying S or SW at

Avenue Rd & Lawrence between 19:40-20:30hr on 31st (Ian Sturdee fide ONTBIRDS). 2 flying NE there @ 20:00hrs on 31st did not appear to be migrants. (Ian Sturdee fide ONTBIRDS).

CHIMNEY SWIFT - 5 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 12th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA). 100 at TI on 18th, 200 on 24th, 35 on 28th & 30 there on 30th (NMu,&).

RUBY-THROATED HUMMINGBIRD - 3 at TI on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

BELTED KINGFISHER - 4 at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

RED-HEADED WOODPECKER - 2 at Durham Rd. 57, 500m N of Shirley, NE of Burketon, *Durham* on 14th (D. Docherty fide DRBA) & on 21st (RPye fide DRBA).

RED-BELLIED WOODPECKER - 1 at Shanley St, Port Perry, *Durham* on 3rd (DRuch fide DRBA).

DOWNY WOODPECKER - 15 at TI on 20th & 12 on 30th (NMu).

NORTHERN FLICKER - 12 at TI on 18th & 11 on 20th (NMu,MVL). 13 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 29th (Ron Reid fide ONTBIRDS).

PILEATED WOODPECKER - 1 at Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 29th (OFO,DJM, fide ONTBIRDS).

OLIVE-SIDED FLYCATCHER - 1 at Hwy 12 S of Blackwater, *Durham* on 12th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA) & 1 at Halls Rd., *Durham* on 17th (C. Adey fide DRBA). 1 at TI on 20th, 24th (NMu,MVL) & on 28th (SMF). 1 at Ravenscroft Rd, Ajax, *Durham* on 26th (GCarp fide DRBA).

EASTERN WOOD-PEWEE - 4 at TI on 16th, 4 on 18th & 8 there on 20th (NMu,MVL,).

YELLOW-BELLIED FLYCATCHER - 6 reports from TI beginning with 2 on 13th, a high count of 12 on 20th & last report of 3 on 28th (NMu,MVL). 5 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 27th (THo fide DRBA).

WILLOW FLYCATCHER - 2 at Ward's Island, TI on 13th & 5 (2 AD, 3 FY) there on 26th (NMu).

LEAST FLYCATCHER - 1 at TI on 13th & 21 there on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland). 2 at East Cross C.A., *Durham* on 14th (D. Docherty fide DRBA).

GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER - 4 at TI on 16th, 5 on 18th, 11 on 20th & 5 on 30th (NMu,&).

EASTERN KINGBIRD - 32 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 13th (RPye fide DRBA). 15 at TI on 18th, 46 on 20th & 28 there on 24th (NMu,MVL). 3 JUV at Reesor-Old Finch Pond on 29th (RBHS).

WARBLING VIREO - 9 at Corner Marsh, *Durham* & 5 at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland). 7 reports from TI beginning with a high of 29 on 13th, next highest count was 36 on 20th & last report of 12 on 30th (NMu,&).

PHILADELPHIA VIREO - 1 at Whitby Yacht Club, *Durham* on 15th (OFO,JCS, fide ONTBIRDS) & at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS). 3 at TI on 16th, 2 on 18th & 20th, 1 on 26th & 28th (NMu,&). 1 at HP on 24th, 27th & 30th (SMF).

RED-EYED VIREO - 1 at TI on 13th, 5 on 18th & 4 there on 20th (NMu,&).

PURPLE MARTIN - 8 at Whitby Harbour, *Durham* on 2nd (RPye fide DRBA), none there on 6th. 26 at TI on 24th (NMu,MVL).

TREE SWALLOW - 600 at Ravenshoe Flats, *York* @ 09:00hrs on 1st (RBHS,WP) were seen gathering on wires along the Yonge St section.

BANK SWALLOW - 600 at Ravenshoe Flats, *York* @ 09:00hrs on 1st (RBHS,WP), gathering on wires along Yonge St section.

CLIFF SWALLOW - 13 (AD & JUV) at Ravenshoe Flats, *York* @ 09:00hrs on 1st (RBHS,WP).

BARN SWALLOW - 100 at TI on 16th, 100 on 18th, 75 on 20th & 75 on 30th (NMu,&).

BLACK-CAPPED CHICKADEE - 6 reports from TI from 13th to 30th with high counts of 39 on 20th & 43 on 24th (NMu,MVL).

RED-BREASTED NUTHATCH - 5 reports from 7th to 21st of 1 or 2 at HP (SMF). 2 (permanent residents) at 7 Fairway Dr., Scarborough on 13th (RLau) & 2 at TI on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH - 5 at TI on 16th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

CAROLINA WREN - Singles at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland), TI on 18th (NMu,MVL) & at Frenchman's Bay, *Durham* on 29th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA).

WINTER WREN - 1 (singing loudly) at Thicksons Woods, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland).

MARSH WREN - 3 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland) & 1 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS).

BLUE-GRAY GNATCATCHER - 3 (incl. 1 FY) at Corner Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland). 1 or 2 reported at HP on many dates from 7th to end of the month (SMF). 9 reports from TI beginning with 8 (incl. juvs) on 13th, highs of 13 at TI on 18th & 9 on 24th, last report of 1 on 30th (NMu,&). Singles at Whitby Yacht Club, *Durham* on 15th (OFO,JCS, fide ONTBIRDS) & at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 28th (CMRW fide JDL, fide ONTBIRDS).

VEERY - 1 at Algonquin Island, TI on 18th (NMu,MVL).

SWAINSON'S THRUSH - 1 at Ward's Island, TI on 18th (NMu,MVL).

AMERICAN ROBIN - 90 (incl. some juvs) at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

GRAY CATBIRD - 9 at Ward's Island, TI on 18th (NMu,MVL).

NORTHERN MOCKINGBIRD - Only 18 reports this month, with 3 from *Toronto*, 7 from *York*, 2 from *Durham*, 2 from *Peel*, and 4 from *Halton*. Very little fieldwork was done by RBHS; other reports came from: GCarp; SMF; LFr; NMu; ONTBIRDS; anon fide OUTON; WP; RPy; DRuch and DW. The last date for a nest with young was 14 Aug for a site near Maple, *York*; it held 3 young aged 8 days on that date (RBHS).

CEDAR WAXWING - 50 at Nonquon S.L., *Durham* on 12th (Dan Kaczynski fide DRBA). 75 at TI on 20th & 30th (NMu).

BLUE-WINGED WARBLER - Several at Durham Rd 23 & 21, *Durham* on 4th (GCarp fide DRBA).

GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER - 1 at Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 29th (OFO,DJM, fide ONTBIRDS).

TENNESSEE WARBLER - Singles at East Cross C.A., *Durham* on 14th (D. Docherty fide DRBA), HP on 18th & 19th (SMF), TI on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland) & at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 29th (JDL fide DRBA).

NASHVILLE WARBLER - 1 at Whitby Yacht Club, *Durham* on 8th (RPy fide DRBA), 1 at TI on 13th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland) & 2 at East Cross C.A., *Durham* on 14th (D. Docherty fide DRBA). 1 at 3km NNE of Burketon, *Durham* on 21st (RPy fide DRBA) & 2 at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 22nd (RPy fide DRBA).

NORTHERN PARULA - 1 at Whitby Yacht Club, *Durham* on 8th (RPy fide DRBA).

CHESTNUT-SIDED WARBLER - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 1th (RPy) & on 22nd (Michael Ferguson fide ONTBIRDS). 4 at TI on 16th & 13 on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland). 2 at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 22nd (RPy fide DRBA).

MAGNOLIA WARBLER - 1 at Whitby Yacht Club, *Durham* on 8th (RPy fide DRBA) & at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 15th (OFO,JCS, fide ONTBIRDS). 17 at TI on 18th, 19 on 20th, 12 on 26th & 9 on 28th (NMu,&). 2 at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 22nd (RPy fide DRBA).

CAPE MAY WARBLER - 1 (singing) at Oshawa Creek & Bloor St., *Durham* on 7th (AA). 2 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 15th (RPy fide DRBA) & 1 there on 22nd (Michael Ferguson fide ONTBIRDS). 1 at TI on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

BLACK-THROATED BLUE WARBLER - 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 1st (RPy). 5 at TI on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland), 4 (2 M, 2 F) on 28th (SMF) & 5 there on 30th (NMu). 1 at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 22nd (RPy fide DRBA) & 1 at HP on 23rd & 31st (SMF).

YELLOW-RUMPED WARBLER - 2 at Hanlan's Point, TI on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

BLACK-THROATED GREEN WARBLER - 1 at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 22nd (RPye fide DRBA) & 1 at Ward's Island, TI on 26th (NMu).

BLACKBURNIAN WARBLER - 1 at HP on 8th (SMF), 1 at TI on 16th & 4 there on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland). 1 at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 22nd (RPye fide DRBA).

BAY-BREASTED WARBLER - 4 at Ward's Island, TI on 16th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland) & 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 29th (JDL fide DRBA).

BLACKPOLL WARBLER - 2 at TI on 16th, 1 on 24th & 2 there on 26th (NMu,&).

BLACK-AND-WHITE WARBLER - 1 at HP from 7th to 9th (SMF), 3 at Whitby Yacht Club, *Durham* on 8th (RPye fide DRBA) & 2 at East Cross C.A., *Durham* on 14th (D. Docherty fide DRBA). 3 at TI on 16th & 11 on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland). 1 at 3km NNE of Burketon, *Durham* on 21st & at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 22nd (RPye fide DRBA).

AMERICAN REDSTART - 1 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 2nd & 1 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 15th (RPye fide DRBA). 13 at TI on 18th, 23 on 20th, 23 on 26th & 14 on 28th (NMu,&). 1 at Stephen's Gulch C.A., *Durham* on 22nd (RPye fide DRBA).

NORTHERN WATERTHRUSH - 1 at Ward's Island, TI on 18th (NMu,MVL).

CONNECTICUT WARBLER - 2 (1 AD-M, 1 HY) at TI on 30th (NMu), west of the 'Trap', between there and the aerial car fence.

COMMON YELLOWTHROAT - 3 at Ward's Island, TI on 26th (NMu).

HOODED WARBLER - 1 singing near lower parking area at Rattlesnake Point C.A., *Halton* on 1st (AA).

WILSON'S WARBLER - 1 at TI on 16th, 6 on 18th, 13 on 20th, 5 on 26th, 10 on 28th & 17 on 30th (NMu,&). 1 at HP on 17th, 18th & 20th (SMF). 3 at Cranberry Marsh, *Durham* on 29th (JDL fide DRBA).

CANADA WARBLER - 1 at HP on 7th, 2 on 8th & 1 on 12th (SMF). 1 at LSS on 7th (TTPBRS fide EO'C, fide OUTON) & 2 at Whitby Yacht Club, *Durham* on 8th (RPye fide DRBA). 7 at TI on 16th, 8 on 18th & 4 on 20th (NMu,MVL). 1 at Darlington P. P., *Durham* on 27th (THo fide DRBA) & at Palgrave C. A., *Peel* on 29th (OFO,DJM, fide ONTBIRDS).

LINCOLN'S SPARROW - 1 at East Don Parkland (S of Cummer) on 30th (DW).

SWAMP SPARROW - 3 at Oshawa Second Marsh, *Durham* on 6th (NMu,Peter McParland).

SCARLET TANAGER - 1 at Ward's Island, TI on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

NORTHERN CARDINAL - 10 at TI on 13th, 9 on 18th & 12 on 24th (NMu,MVL).

ROSE-BREASTED GROSBREAK - 1 at Ward's Island, TI on 20th (NMu,MVL,Peter McParland).

INDIGO BUNTING - 1 at Ward's Island, TI on 18th (NMu,MVL).

BALTIMORE ORIOLE - N46 at TI on 13th, 26 on 16th & 18th, 55 on 20th & 23 on 24th (NMu,MVL,&).

PURPLE FINCH - 2 at Cannington Sewage Lagoons, *Durham* on 23rd (GCarp fide ONTBIRDS).

Cited Observers: & et al.; OFO Ontario Field Ornithologists; AA Alfred Adamo; MJCB Margaret Bain; TTPBRS Tommy Thompson Park Bird Res. Station; ICa Ian Cannell; GCarp Geoff Carpentier; SMF Steven Favier; LFr Lynne Freeman; THo Tyler Hoar; JKa James Kamstra; RLau Rick Lauzon; MVL Margaret Liubavicius; JDL J. Doug Lockrey; SLo Stan Long; DJM Dave J. Milsom; NMu Norman Murr; EO'C Ed O'Connor; ONTBIRDS OFO Email Hotline; OUTON OutdoorOntario.net; WP Winnie Poon; RPye Rayfield Pye; CMRW Cranberry Marsh Raptor Watch; DRBA Durham Rare Bird Alert; WER Wayne E. Renaud; DRuch Dave Ruch; KRS Kevin Shackleton; RBHS Roy B. H. Smith; JCS John C. Stirrat; MDW Mike Williamson; DW David Worthington.

Compiled by Dave Worthington for the TOC Records Committee.

Photo editing by Winnie Poon.

Data entry by Roy Smith. 614 GTA reports were added to the database for August 2010.

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: torontobirds@sympatico.ca, following guidelines on 2nd page of this journal.

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Double-crested Cormorants in their daily commuting flights over Lake Ontario, along the City of Toronto lakeshore. This photo was taken from Colonel Samuel Smith Park, *Toronto*, 1 August 2010. © Winnie Poon.



First Nesting Record of Merlin in the City of Toronto

David Worthington



Merlin fledgling at Newton Drive, Willowdale, *Toronto*, 16 July 2010. © Winnie Poon.

Introduction

In 2010, a pair of Merlins *Falco columbarius* was found nesting in Willowdale, *Toronto* – a suburban residential area near the northern boundary of the city. This event, the first confirmed nesting by Merlin in the City of Toronto, was not a first for the Greater Toronto Area (GTA), since that had occurred and was documented in 2005 (Aikins 2005), but marks a further step in the now well-established breeding range expansion into southern Ontario (Gahbauer *in* Cadman *et al.* 2007; Read and Wilson 2009).

Ever since the DDT era (1950s/1960s), Merlin numbers have been increasing in Ontario. Escott (1986) discussed urban nesting by Merlins in Thunder Bay, perhaps an offshoot of behaviour previously noted from the Prairies, e.g. in cities like Saskatoon. In fact, urban nesting had been recorded in Thunder Bay as early as the 1940s, so it was not an entirely new phenomenon. Duncan (1993) later documented increasing numbers in Ontario and eastern North America, based on migration counts at hawkwatch sites in the 1980s, and extensive analysis of reports in the literature.

In the early 1980s, Merlins were still considered uncommon, if not rare, in southern Ontario. Based on province-wide data accumulated up to 1980, only 31 nests had ever been documented for the Ontario Nest Record Scheme (ONRS). At that time the southernmost counties with nesting records were *Bruce*, *Muskoka*, *Haliburton*, and *Ottawa*; the remaining nests were from widely scattered locations across northern Ontario (Peck and James 1983). However, by 1993, the provincial ONRS total had climbed to 81 nests (Peck and James 1993), and by 2007 it stood at 168 nests (Peck and Peck 2008); these numbers providing a rough indication of both the rate of increase and the spread into more 'accessible' areas of the Province.

Comparison of both the first and second Ontario Breeding Bird Atlases (Cadman *et al.* 1987, Gahbauer in Cadman *et al.* 2007), provides the best widely available picture of how much the range has expanded southwards in the so-called Lake Simcoe-Rideau area, situated south of the Canadian Shield and north of the Carolinian zone. Not only has the southern boundary of the range pushed even farther south, but there has been much consolidation of breeding within this 'envelope', with confirmed breeding in about four times as many 10-km squares in this area by the end of the second atlas period (2001-2005) as compared to the first (1981-1985). Interestingly, many of these represent urban nestings. One of the most southerly confirmed records published in the second Atlas was that for 10km square 17PJ79, and indicates the nesting at Scugog Point on the east side of Lake Scugog, *Durham R.M.* in 2005. This event was described by Aikins (2005); it was the first confirmed nesting by Merlins in *Durham R.M.* and in the GTA as a whole. Subsequently, Merlins have nested, or attempted to nest, annually at that site, although they were unsuccessful in 2007.

Meanwhile, a second confirmed nesting site for *Durham* was established in 2008, when a pair nested near High Street, Whitby, and fledged three young. This nesting was monitored by Rayfield Pye, and two of his photographs of the fledged young can be seen in Worthington (2008).

Also in 2008, a pair apparently nested at Williamson Terrace, Aurora, *York R.M.*, although this was not widely known at that time. The nest was found on 30 June 2008, at 35 feet (about 11m) height in a Scots Pine; by 18 July two young had left the nest but were still in the immediate vicinity (David Tomlinson fide Glenn Coady). This was the first confirmed nesting for *York R.M.*

Nesting in Toronto in 2010

Now in 2010, we have the first confirmed nesting for *Toronto*. One bird was first noted on the evening of 20 April 2010. I was out on the front yard of my home when I heard the distinct "kee kee kee" call of a Merlin. I looked up and saw the bird do a couple of circles nearby and then land in a large Blue Spruce (*Picea pungens*) on my neighbour's front yard. I went and got my bins and could see that the bird was a male Merlin and it was sitting in an old crow's nest which was about 17m up in a Blue Spruce. The next evening I again saw and heard this male bird as it circled out front of my house and at one point made a pass at an American Crow when it ventured into its airspace. A short time later, I noticed a female appear on the scene and they were both seen flying about together.

There is a large poplar tree in my backyard which is about 15m high and it provided an ideal perching site for the Merlins. On 28 April, my wife Mary Beth, observed the pair copulating in this tree. During the month of May one of them, mostly the male, would be seen at the top of this tree each morning near sunrise and often throughout the day. They would spend long periods stretching and preening and on one occasion I observed the male eating a bird while in this tree. Due to the location of the nest I could not see either of the birds when they were sitting on the nest.

In June, at any time during the day, I regularly saw the male or female sitting in the backyard tree. On the 4th, the female was sitting in the tree when it took flight and circled the neighbour's house, where it was joined by the male leaving the nest. They flew around for a couple of minutes and then the female returned to the nest while the male landed in the perch tree. On the 22nd, the male was in the tree when the female flew in and displaced him. He flew to the nest but only remained there for a few minutes before flying off. I watched as the female flew quickly from the tree and next saw it on a neighbour's roof with a bird in her talons. She then landed on a telephone wire and proceeded to decapitate and pluck the bird. Then she flew into the nest,

where for the first time, I could see her crouched over feeding one of the young. For the next few weeks, the adults were often seen each morning before 8:00am with prey that they would be taking to the nest. They began using the top of a telephone pole across the street to pluck the prey before taking it to the nest.



Habitat at the Merlin nest in Blue Spruce (center of photo) at Newton Drive, Willowdale, *Toronto*. 13 July 2010. © Winnie Poon.

On the evening of 10 July, I saw one young bird standing out of the nest and another standing on top of the nest. Shortly after, one of them awkwardly flew into a nearby tree. The next morning, I was able to see all five fledglings, one on top of the nesting tree, one on a branch next to the nest and the other three standing in the nest. That morning the adult female took a bird it had caught and sat on the telephone pole calling to the young. It left the dead bird on top of the pole until the next afternoon, when it picked it up and flew to the nest to feed the young. The adults were always close by and could be heard calling from 6:00 a.m. on. By 12 July, all five young were out of the nest, and sitting in trees nearby.

By the last week of July, the young could be seen flying around and constantly calling. They would often sit together in a tree and were frequently seen chasing one another. I began to notice that I would only see four young at a time and not the adults anymore; whether one young died or flew off remains unknown.

For the record, the nest was located at 164 Newton Drive, which is east of Yonge Street and south of Steeles Avenue, in Willowdale. It was situated at about 17m height in a 21m Blue Spruce (see habitat photo). The GPS location was 0628220/4850401(NAD83) and it was logged for ONRS as card #1038863.

To help put this record in perspective, Table 1 provides a listing of selected 'breeding season' reports from the TOC Database. It may well be incomplete. In any event, due to the volume of records over the years, we have had to be quite selective in removing records judged likely to refer to migrants. Even late May dates could still refer to migrants. It should also be noted that in recent years we have begun to see a few reports of birds during the last week of July, in places without related previous sightings. These probably pertain to post-breeding wanderers or failed breeders/non-breeders returning to their winter territories, since they seem too early for fall migration? These, too, have been excluded from the table. Nonetheless, the table shows a noticeable increase in reports in the last few years, particularly since the second Atlas period. We now have

an opportunity to watch for additional breeding records in the GTA – the Table hints at the Oshawa Second Marsh/Darlington Provincial Park, Oshawa town itself, and the Ajax/Whitby area, as likely new locations in *Durham*, the older parts of Richmond Hill, *York*, and Oakville as a likely site in *Halton*. But virtually anywhere with some large, mature spruces containing old American Crow nests could be considered potential nesting habitat in the GTA. Since urban nesting has now been recorded in many towns and cities across southern Ontario (Read and Wilson 2009), there is clearly potential for a fairly substantial population to build up in the GTA over the next decade or so.



One of the five young Merlins and its prey, likely a Mourning Dove, at the nest. Newton Drive, Willowdale, *Toronto*, 16 July 2010. © Winnie Poon.

Table 1. Breeding Season Records of Merlin in the GTA: 1950 – 2010.

Date	Location	Notes	Observers/Source
21 May 1958	Lorne Park, <i>Peel</i>	One seen.	Don E. Perks, TOC Database
29 June 1968	Cranberry Marsh, <i>Durham</i>	One seen.	Naomi LeVay. Tozer and Richards (1974).
April 1990	Grenview Blvd. & Edgemore Road, Etobicoke, <i>Toronto</i>	Two (pair with nest) seen in spring 1990. "There was a pair of Merlins with a nest near the top of a tall spruce at the corner of Grenview Blvd. S. and Edgemore Road. I watched them each spring through 1993. Having grown up on the prairies, I had no idea at the time that Merlins were so rare in this part of the country." [Unfortunately, there is no documentation for this report.]	Sandra Hawkins fide Glenn Coady - 17 February 2004
19, 21 and 23 May 1997	Bonniebrae Point, Oshawa, <i>Durham</i>	One seen. "Probably a pair nesting nearby, foraging occasionally on swallows at the point".	Tyler Hoar fide OBHP ¹ TOC Database.

Summer 1998	South Oshawa, <i>Durham</i>	In June there was a male Merlin that sat on the antenna at Darlington P.P. office every evening. That summer I saw 1 or 2 Merlins several times at Oshawa Second Marsh, Oshawa Harbour and Bonniebrae Point. I think they did breed (unconfirmed) in an old growth stand of White Pine north of Oshawa Harbour.	Tyler Hoar pers.comm.
October 1998	South Oshawa, <i>Durham</i>	Pair seen regularly until late in the period [Oct-Nov 1998].	Tyler Hoar Bain and Shanahan (1998).
24 April 2003	10 th Line south of Derry Road, <i>Halton</i>	"Pair seen copulating on natural gas pumping station on east side of 10 th Line, just south of Derry Road".	Mark Chojnacki, Linda J. Nuttall fide Glenn Coady OBBA2 ²
29 April 2004	Scugog Point, Nestleton, <i>Durham</i>	"Adult male circling from tree to tree about 50 feet up calling very frequently. Finally settled on one maple and sat looking at me."	Bruce F. Aikins, OBBA2, TOC Database
1 June 2005	Church Street south & Weldrick, Richmond Hill, <i>York</i>	One seen.	Frank Pinilla, TOC Database
29 June 2005	Scugog Point, Nestleton, <i>Durham</i>	" Three young (maybe more ?) visible in nest ; in White Pine near Lake Scugog shore, behind a disused cottage. " FIRST CONFIRMED NESTING for <i>Durham R.M.</i> and GTA – accepted by Toronto Bird Rarities Committee; record is plotted in OBBA2.	Glenn Coady, Bruce F. Aikins, TOC Database. Aikins (2005).
8 July 2005	Kennedy Road & Hwy 401, <i>Toronto</i>	Saw a small falcon with streaks below, but a brief view inadequate to document it. [He was merging into traffic on Hwy 401 from Kennedy Road].	Rayfield Pye, TOC Database
13 May 2006	Stephens Gulch C.A., <i>Durham</i>	One seen.	Rayfield Pye fide DRBA ³ , TOC Database
23 June 2006	Scugog Point, Nestleton, <i>Durham</i>	Pair heard, calling loudly on territory, but nest could not be located.	Bruce F. Aikins fide Glenn Coady. TOC Database
15 April 2008	Scugog Point, Nestleton, <i>Durham</i>	Pair seen about 400m from where they were in 2007 (that nest got blown out of the tree), and 450m from the original nest tree found in 2005.	Bruce F. Aikins fide Rayfield Pye
4 May 2008	High Street, Whitby, <i>Durham</i>	Adult seen on nest in a backyard spruce, about 14m up. Three young fledged in July. See <i>Toronto Birds</i> 2(7):126-127.	Rayfield Pye fide ONTBIRDS
16 June 2008	Adelaide & Townline, Oshawa, <i>Durham</i>	One seen in backyard.	Otto Peter fide DRBA
mid-June 2008	Bronte Harbour, <i>Halton</i>	One seen carrying prey.	anon fide Cheryl Edgecombe fide ONTBIRDS
26 June 2008	Cranberry Marsh, <i>Durham</i>	One seen.	Dave Ruch fide DRBA
30 June 2008	Williamson Terrace, Aurora, <i>York</i>	Adult at nest about 10.6m in Scots Pine. Two young fledged.	David Tomlinson fide Glenn Coady. TOC Database
21 July 2008	Bronte Harbour, <i>Halton</i>	Female seen perched on 'usual' spruce with a dead top.	Gavin R. Edmonstone fide ONTBIRDS
April 2009	Uxbridge area, <i>Durham</i>	Pair attempted to set up territory, evicted by local crows.	D. Connolly fide DRBA
29 June 2009	Hwy 401 & Westney Road, Ajax, <i>Durham</i>	One seen flying NW.	Rayfield Pye fide DRBA
16 July 2009	Richmond Hill Central Library, Richmond Hill, <i>York</i>	One flying over.	Norm Murr. TOC Database
20 April 2010	Newton Dr., Willowdale, <i>Toronto</i>	"Seen and heard flying about. Landed on old American Crow nest near top of a tall spruce in a neighbour's yard. Sat in nest for a while, then continued flying about, calling". Five young fledged in mid-July.	Dave Worthington, TOC Database
3 July 2010	Oshawa Second Marsh, <i>Durham</i>	One seen	Dan Kaczynski; Rayfield Pye fide DRBA

11 July 2010	Bronte Harbour, Oakville, <i>Halton</i>	One seen near the Cliff Swallow colony.	Gavin R. Edmonstone fide HBGG ⁴
15 July 2010	Oshawa Second Marsh, <i>Durham</i>	One seen	Rayfield Pye fide DRBA
16 July 2010	Whitby Harbour, <i>Durham</i>	One seen	Rayfield Pye fide DRBA

OBHP¹ - Ontario Birding Home Page; OBBA² - Ontario Breeding Bird Atlas 2001-2005; DRBA³ - Durham Rare Bird Alert; HBGG⁴ - Hamilton Birders Google Group

* Note: In deriving this Table we looked at all records currently in the TOC Database, but eliminated April and May records from well-watched lakeshore sites, e.g. Toronto Islands, Leslie Street Spit, etc., as well as certain other closely monitored sites including High Park and various birders' homes. Migration seems to continue through April and well into May, but as the recent breeding records show, when they do nest in the GTA, breeding activity may commence in mid-April.

Acknowledgements

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