

# ONTARIO BIRD RECORDS COMMITTEE REPORT 2024

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## Bird *of the Year*

Short-tailed Shearwater at Wasaga Beach, Simcoe  
16 November 2024. *Photo: Charmaine Anderson*

## Introduction

THIS IS THE 43RD ANNUAL REPORT of the Ontario Bird Records Committee (hereafter “OBRC” or “Committee”) of the Ontario Field Ornithologists (OFO). The OBRC reviews rare bird reports in Ontario based on documentation submitted by the birding community. Species and subspecies evaluations are based on the Review Lists for Ontario, which can be found on the OFO website ([www.ofo.ca](http://www.ofo.ca)). Any new species, subspecies, or first breeding records for Ontario are also reviewed. This report deals with the review of only 87 records by the OBRC in 2024, of which 72 (83%) were accepted. The average yearly number of reports received for review in 2014–2024 was 166. Two records were held back pending further investigation.

The members of the 2024 Committee were Gerard J. Phillips (chair), Cameron K. Chevalier, Amanda C. Guercio, Kiah R. Jasper, Michelle A. Martin, Jon P. Ruddy, and David E. Szmyr. Mike V.A. Burrell was the archivist and N. Anthony Kaduck served as the non-voting secretary.

## Changes to the Checklist of Ontario Birds

Two new species were added to the Ontario list: Short-tailed Shearwater (*Ardenna tenuirostris*) and White-tailed Kite (*Elanus leucurus*). The total Ontario species list stands at 511.

A further two species have been added owing to splits in the taxonomy, with the formerly monotypic Cattle Egret (*Bubulcus ibis*) and Barn Owl (*Tito alba*) being replaced in the Western Hemisphere with Western Cattle-Egret (*Ardea ibis*) and American Barn Owl (*Tyto furcata*). These changes do not affect the Ontario list total.

## Changes to the Review Lists

Beginning with the 2014 report the OBRC split the province into three review zones (South, Central and Lowlands). No new species were added to the Lowlands Review List; the total number recorded in this review zone remains at 334.

No new species were added to the Central Review List; the total number of species recorded in this review zone remains at 389.

The addition of Short-tailed Shearwater and White-tailed Kite brings the total number of species recorded in the South review zone to 504. No changes were made to the subspecies review list.

## Listing of Records

For accepted records, the following information is provided where known: year and date(s) of occurrence, location, number of birds, plumage and sex of each individual, names of contributors, and OBRC file number (in a few cases, on an experimental basis, the Committee made use of eBird reports. These instances are noted. Policy on this is in development.) For records for which the identification

was accepted but origin is questionable, and those where the identification is not accepted, the same information is provided less the names of contributors. For accepted records, the total number of records for the province (including 2024 reports) is indicated in parentheses after the species name. All contributors who have provided reports are listed; if a contributor is also a finder of the bird(s), their name is underlined. Additional finders of the bird(s) are listed, where known, even if they did not provide documentation for review. Place names in italics refer to the regional municipality, county, or district in Ontario. Common and scientific names, as well as taxonomy, follow the seventh edition of the *Check-list of North American Birds* published by the American Ornithologists' Union (1998), along with its annual supplements published in *Ornithology*, up to the 65th supplement (Chesser *et al.* 2024) inclusive. Plumage terminology uses the modified Humphrey and Parkes (1959) system following Howell (2010).

All records that were not accepted owing to either insufficient evidence or questionable origin are listed separately. Contributors of all “not accepted” records are notified in writing by the Committee. Reasons for the decision are explained, using information provided by voting members on their voting slips. Any “not accepted” record can be reconsidered by the OBRC if new or additional documentation is provided.

All documentation provided to the OBRC is digitally archived with hard copies archived at the Royal Ontario Museum. Researchers and other interested parties are welcome to examine any of this material by contacting the OBRC archivist at [obrc@ofc.ca](mailto:obrc@ofc.ca).

### **Acknowledgements**

The OBRC appreciates the efforts of the 72 observers who took the time to submit documentation of rare birds for consideration by the 2024 Committee. We also thank Nathan Hood and Dave Bell, who provided expert opinions on material evidence submitted.

### **Bird of the Year**

At each AGM, the Committee votes for the Bird of the Year. Scores are awarded for North American rarity (30 points), Ontario rarity (30 points) and how widely the bird was seen (40 points). The 2024 Bird of the Year is the Short-tailed Shearwater found by Henrique Pacheco at Wasaga Beach, the first confirmed record of this species in Ontario.

### **Quote of the Year**

“Cameron Chevalier, Michael McAllister, Harrison Priebe, and I all missed the WIPT [Willow Ptarmigan] at Point Pelee in the spring (a couple of us in devastating ways too harrowing to go into detail here).”

—Jeremy Hatt



Cinnamon Teal at Grimsby, *Niagara* on 22 September 2024. Photo: David Welch

## Accepted Records

### Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis* (16)

- 2002 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 17 March 2002, Downer's Corners, *Peterborough* (Rick W. Stankiewicz; 2024-056).
- 2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 17 April–15 May, Bowmanville Westside Marshes CA, *Durham* (Leo Weiskittel, found by Katsunari Yamashita; 2024-023).
- one, definitive basic, unknown, 19–22 April, Blezard, *Peterborough* (Jake Nafziger; 2024-066).
  - one, definitive basic, unknown, 1–12 October, Whitby, *Durham; York* (David B. Worthington, Christopher J. Escott; 2024-037).
- This bird was seen by many observers in the Whitby area from 1–6 October. A Barnacle Goose presumed to be the same bird reappeared at Reesor Pond in Markham on 12 October.

### Cinnamon Teal *Spatula cyanoptera* (22)

- 2024 – one, definitive basic, male, 15–27 September, Grimsby, *Niagara* (Sandra L. Horvath, Frank G. Horvath, found by Kathy Johnson; 2024-040).



Black-tailed Gull at Port Glasgow,  
Elgin on 23 October 2024.

Photo: Sandra and Frank Horvath

**Tufted Duck** *Aythya fuligula* (38)

2024 – one, definitive alternate,  
male, 3–10 May, Exeter  
(Exeter Sewage Lagoons),  
*Huron* (Mark Field, found  
by Max Segler; 2024-033).

**Harlequin Duck**

*Histrionicus histrionicus*

**Central and Lowlands only** (39)

2024 – one, definitive basic, female,  
1 November, Netitishi  
Point, *Cochrane* (Jeremy L.  
Hatt, found by Jacob Stasso;  
2024-047).

**Willow Ptarmigan** *Lagopus lagopus*

**South and Central only** (10)

2024 – one, second basic, male,  
23 February, south of Kesagami Provincial Park, *Cochrane*  
(Jeremy Hatt, Cameron Chevalier, Michael McAllister, Harrison Priebe;  
2024-079).

**Western Grebe** *Aechmophorus occidentalis* **Central and Lowlands only** (62)

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 24 October, Moose Factory Island,  
*Cochrane* (Jacob Stasso; 2024-075).

**Broad-billed Hummingbird** *Cynanthus latirostris* (2)

2024 – one, definitive alternate, male, 1–3 May, Georgian Highlands,  
*Simcoe* (Jessica G. Lalonde; 2024-007).

**Purple Gallinule** *Porphyrio martinica* (31)

2023 – one, second basic, unknown, 12 November 2023, Hillman Marsh  
Conservation Area, *Essex* (Jeremy L. Hatt, found by Cindy Andrews;  
2024-060).



**Laughing Gull** *Leucophaeus atricilla* Central and Lowlands only (4)

2024 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 9 May, Navy Yard, *Thunder Bay* (Aarre Ertolahti; 2024-087).

**Black-tailed Gull** *Larus crassirostris* (2)

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 19–30 October, Port Glasgow, *Elgin* (Blake A. Mann, Sandra L. Horvath, Frank G. Horvath, found by Donald and Rayfield Pye; 2024-038).

**California Gull** *Larus californicus* (73)

2024 – one, third alternate, unknown, 29 June, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Jeremy L. Hatt; 2024-039).

**Common Gull** *Larus canus* (7)

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 8 January, Picton, *Prince Edward* (Paul B. Jones; 2024-025).



Common Gull at Picton,  
*Prince Edward* on 8 January 2024.  
*Photo: Paul B. Jones*

**Slaty-backed Gull** *Larus schistisagus* (35)

- 2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 8 January, Espanola, *Sudbury* (Bruce I. Gates, found by Mike Van Norman; 2024-003).  
– one, definitive basic, unknown, 21 January, Humber Bay East, *Toronto* (Steven McClellan, found by Gis Segler; 2024-018).

**Northern Fulmar** *Fulmarus glacialis* (19)

- 2024 – one, unknown, 21 November, Moose Factory Island, *Cochrane* (Jacob Stasso; 2024-065).

**Short-tailed Shearwater** *Ardenna tenuirostris* (1)

- 2024 – one, unknown, 16 November, Wasaga Beach, *Simcoe* (Henrique J. Pacheco; 2024-063).

**Neotropic Cormorant** *Nannopterum brasilianum* (39)

- 2024 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 19–21 May, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Cameron K. Chevalier, found by Michael McAllister; 2024-061).

**Great Egret** *Ardea alba* **Central and Lowlands only** (30)

- 2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 2 November, Netitishi Point, *Cochrane* (Jeremy L. Hatt, found by Jacob Stasso; 2024-029).

**Little Blue Heron** *Egretta caerulea* (100)

- 2023 – one, juvenile, unknown, 27 September 2023, Waterloo, *Waterloo* (Ezra J. Campanelli, found by Jennifer Fillingham; 2024-009).  
2024 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 28 April, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Cameron K. Chevalier; 2024-058).

**Tricolored Heron** *Egretta tricolor* (48)

- 2024 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 5 May, Port Colborne, *Niagara* (Bradley Reinhardt, found by Marcie L. Jacklin; 2024-010).

**Western Cattle-Egret** *Ardea ibis*  
**Central and Lowlands only** (34)

- 2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 21 October, Moose Factory, *Cochrane* (Jacob Stasso; 2024-064).



Tricolored Heron at Port Colborne,  
*Niagara* on 5 May 2024.  
*Photo: Bradley Reinhardt*

Yellow-crowned Night Heron at Sault Ste. Marie,  
Algoma on 24 April 2024. Photo: Sheri Minardi



**Yellow-crowned Night Heron** *Nyctanassa violacea* (75)

2024 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 18–24 April, Sault Ste. Marie, Algoma (W. Carter Dorscht, Trent Massey, found by Chris Hennessey; 2024-080).

**White-faced Ibis** *Plegadis chihi* (38)

2022 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 5 May 2022, Hillman Marsh CA, Essex (Ezra J. Campanelli, found by Denise Potter; 2024-022).

Presumed to be the same bird that was seen at Erieau from 5–7 May of that year.





Rock Wren at Hurkett Cove, *Thunder Bay* on 31 October 2024. Photo: *Ted Armstrong*

**White-tailed Kite** *Elanus leucurus* (1)

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 6 May, Long Point Provincial Park, *Norfolk* (Rowan D. Keunen; 2024-070).

**Swallow-tailed Kite** *Elanoides forficatus* (38)

2023 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 22–25 April 2023, Langton, *Norfolk* (George Prieksaitis, found by Josey Kitson; 2024-069).

2024 – one, unknown, unknown, 22 April, Long Point, *Norfolk* (Linus Hed; 2024-072).

– one, definitive alternate, unknown, 8 May, Toronto (Tommy Thompson Park), *Toronto* (Kai D. Sheffield, Amelia Bowler, Ana Luisa Santo; 2024-068).

– one, definitive alternate, unknown, 10 May, Rondeau Provincial Park, *Chatham-Kent; Essex* (Kiah R. Jasper, found by Jon P. Ruddy; 2024-032)

The bird was tracked from Rondeau along the Erie lakeshore by observers east of Wheatley, at Hillman Marsh, and at Point Pelee NP.

- one, definitive basic, unknown, 22 May, Hillman Marsh Conservation Area, *Essex* (from eBird reports; 2024-073).
- one, definitive basic, unknown, 2 August, Neebing, *Thunder Bay* (Patrick T. Schiller and Theresa Schiller; 2024-071).

### **Ferruginous Hawk *Buteo regalis* (10)**

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 8–10 May, Port Alma, *Chatham-Kent* (Gregory Ball, Kiah R. Jasper, found by Brandon Holden; 2024-045).

### **American Barn Owl *Tyto furcata* (15)**

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 20–24 November, Windsor, *Essex* (Michel St. Pierre, Cameron K. Chevalier; 2024-035).

### **Ash-throated Flycatcher *Myiarchus cinerascens* (14)**

2024 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 19 May, Kintail, *Huron* (Jake Nafziger; 2024-067).

### **Rock Wren *Salpinctes obsoletus* (9)**

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 31 October–1 November, Hurkett Cove, *Thunder Bay* (Ted Armstrong; 2024-020).

### **Mountain Bluebird *Sialia currucoides* (55)**

2024 – one, first basic, male, 12–13 November, Keith McLean Conservation Area, *Chatham-Kent* (Stephen R. Charbonneau; 2024-016).

### **Gray-crowned Rosy-Finch *Leucosticte tephrocotis* (33)**

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 24 December 2024–13 March 2025, Matachewan, *Timiskaming* (Jared Taman and Kari Dalziel, found by Karen Taman-Dubé; 2024-088).

Gray-crowned Rosy Finch at  
Matachewan, *Timiskaming*  
on 19 January 2025.  
*Photo: Brian Morin*



Grasshopper Sparrow at Thunder Bay,  
Thunder Bay on 31 May 2024.  
*Photo: David J. Grinevitch*





Lark Bunting at Sault Ste. Marie,  
Algoma on 8 August 2024.

Photo: W. Carter Dorscht



Savannah Sparrow (Ipswich) on Amherst Island,  
Lennox & Addington on 27 December 2024.

Photo: Paul V. Mackenzie



**Grasshopper Sparrow *Ammodramus*  
*savannarum* Central and Lowlands only (12)**

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown,  
31 May, Thunder Bay, *Thunder Bay*  
(David J. Grinevitch, found by Michael J.  
Dayton and David J. Grinevitch; 2024-015).

**Lark Bunting *Calamospiza melanocorys* (41)**

2024 – one, second basic, female, 21–27 May, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay*  
(David J. Grinevitch, found by Rinchen Boardman, Sheldon E.  
McGregor, David J. Grinevitch, and Michael J. Dayton; 2024-050).  
– one, definitive alternate, male, 8–11 August, Sault Ste. Marie, *Algoma*  
(W. Carter Dorscht, found by Robert Cohen; 2024-014).

**Savannah Sparrow (Ipswich) *Passerculus sandwichensis princeps* (2)**

2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 27 December, Amherst Island,  
*Lennox & Addington* (Paul V. Mackenzie; 2024-034).





Green-tailed Towhee at Cayuga, *Haldiman* on 8 May 2024. Photo: Michael Furber

**Green-tailed Towhee** *Pipilo chlorurus* (10)

2024 – one, definitive alternate, male, 7–14 May, Cayuga, *Haldimand* (Michael Furber; 2024-008).

**Bullock's Oriole** *Icterus bullockii* (16)

2024 – one, formative, male, 7 January–16 April, Toronto-High Park area, *Toronto* (Christopher J. Escott, James Scott, found by Donald Taylor; 2024-026).

**Prothonotary Warbler** *Protonotaria citrea* Central and Lowlands only (4)

2024 – one, formative, female, 4 October, Moosonee, *Cochrane* (Melissa K. Romanow; 2024-059).

**Yellow-rumped Warbler (Audubon's)** *Setophaga coronata auduboni* (28)

2024 – one, definitive alternate, male, 20 April, Lion's Head, *Bruce* (Zane A. Shantz; 2024-001).

**Black-throated Gray Warbler** *Setophaga nigrescens* (27)

2024 – one, first basic, female, 30 November–10 December, Port Weller,  
*Niagara* (Jean Hampson, found by Adam Chambers; 2024-043).

**Townsend's Warbler** *Setophaga townsendi* (16)

2024 – one, definitive alternate, male, 12 May, Rondeau Provincial Park,  
*Chatham-Kent* (Michelle A. Martin; 2024-074).

Bullock's Oriole in High Park area,  
*Toronto*, on 14 March 2024.

*Photo: Priya Ramsingh*



Yellow-rumped Warbler  
(Audubon's) at Lion's Head,  
*Bruce*, on 20 April 2024.

*Photo: Zane A. Shantz*



**Summer Tanager *Piranga rubra* Central and Lowlands only (40)**

2024 – one, first alternate, male, 26 May, Porcupine Lake (Timmins),  
*Cochrane* (Roxane Filion, Pierre A. Noel; 2024-031).

- one, definitive basic, female, 9–18 November, Thunder Bay,  
*Thunder Bay* (Calvin E. Knorr, found by Jamie Winters; 2024-030).





Blue Grosbeak at Timmins, Cochrane on 6 May 2024. Photo: Pierre A. Noel

**Western Tanager *Piranga ludoviciana* (73)**

- 2024 – one, definitive alternate, male, 25–26 April, Willowood, *Essex* (Cameron K. Chevalier, found by Alison Baldwin; 2024-077).  
– one, definitive alternate, female, 1 May, Innisfil, *Simcoe* (Henrique J. Pacheco; 2024-076).  
– one, definitive basic, female, 26 October, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Cameron K. Chevalier; 2024-078).  
– one, definitive basic, female, 1–12 November, Stittsville, *Ottawa* (Ursula K. Hiratsuka; 2024-021).

**Black-headed Grosbeak *Pheucticus melanocephalus* (10)**

- 2024 – one, first alternate, male, 18 January–5 April, Kingsville, *Essex* (Cameron K. Chevalier, found by Barb Gritke; 2024-036).

**Blue Grosbeak *Passerina caerulea* Central and Lowlands only (9)**

- 2024 – one, definitive alternate, male, 6 May, Timmins, *Cochrane* (Roxane D. Filion, Pierre A. Noel, found by Katie Malo and Shane Power; 2024-006).





Eurasian Tree Sparrow on Wolfe Island, *Frontenac* on 11 January 2024. Photo: Mark D. Read

**Lazuli Bunting** *Passerina amoena* (14)

2024 – one, definitive alternate, male, 26 May, Matachewan, *Timiskaming* (Jared Taman; 2024-057).

**Painted Bunting** *Passerina ciris* (60)

2021 – one, definitive alternate, male, 15–16 May 2021, Blind River, *Algoma* (Larry Kirtley; 2024-084).

2024 – one, definitive alternate, male, 30 April–2 May, Baysville, *Muskoka* (T. Richard Stronks, found by Catherine MacKinnon; 2024-017).

**House Sparrow** *Passer domesticus* Lowlands only (3)

2024 – two, definitive basic, male, 23–24 June, Fort Albany, *Cochrane* (Sarah Gates, found by Kevin Lamb and Bill Greaves; 2024-048).

– one, unknown, 29 June, Moosonee, *Cochrane* (eBird – Mark K. Peck; 2024-086).

– two, definitive basic, one male, one unknown, 5 November, Moosonee, *Cochrane* (Jeremy L. Hatt; 2024-049).

### **Eurasian Tree Sparrow *Passer montanus* (50)**

- 2023 – five, definitive basic, unknown, 13 May 2023, Fort St. Joseph National Historic Site, *Algoma* (W. Carter Dorscht; 2024-027).
- four, definitive basic, unknown, 30 December 2023–21 March 2024, Beaverton, *Durham* (Greg Jaski, found by Marg Munro; 2024-042).
- 2024 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 19 January–3 February, Hammond, *Prescott & Russell* (Jacques M. Bouvier, found by Ethel M. Stuart; 2024-044).
- five, definitive basic, unknown, 29 January–29 March, Thessalon, *Algoma* (eBird – Barry Lyons, found by Trent Massey; 2024-053).
  - one, definitive basic, unknown, 16 May, Thessalon, *Algoma* (Tony V. Ward; 2024-052).
  - one, definitive basic, unknown, 1–29 November, Thessalon, *Algoma* (eBird – Mike Norton; 2024-055).
  - one, definitive basic, unknown, 2–6 November, Desbarats, *Algoma* (W. Carter Dorscht, found by Marlee Hopkins; 2024-054).
  - one, definitive basic, unknown, 31 December 2024–15 February 2025, Wolfe Island, *Frontenac* (Mark D. Read; 2024-085).

### **Not Accepted Records**

#### **Identification Accepted, Origin Questionable**

Records in this category are considered by the OBRC to contain sufficient evidence for an accurate identification; however, their origin is questionable. Over time, some instances of birds in this category involve birds that have a high certainty of previous captive origin, whereas some records placed in this category have caused considerable debate among past voting members. If new evidence suggesting wild origin becomes available, such reports may be reconsidered by the OBRC.

- 2024 – **Black Swan** (*Cygnus atratus*): one, 19 July–8 August, Collingwood, *Simcoe* (2024-012).
- 2024 – **Zebra Finch** (*Taeniopygia guttata*): one, 30 March–13 June, Devlin, *Rainy River* (2018-083).

**Black-billed Magpie** (*Pica hudsonia*). Three sightings were reported in 2024. The OBRC has always struggled in dealing with the provenance of reports of this species away from its described range, which reaches its easternmost limit in northwestern Ontario. Previous to 2024, there were only six accepted records (with nine listed as origin uncertain) for the South review zone. The Committee

did not reach consensus on the 2024 reports owing to insufficient information on the distribution and regularity of the species in captivity and its propensity for irruptive movements. However, the Committee plans to revisit these records again in future when more evidence is available, especially if significant numbers of birds are reported again in a subsequent year.

- one, 14 April 2023, Clear Creek, *Norfolk* (Long Point Bird Observatory 2023 Annual Report, eBird; 2024-082).
- two, 10 March–13 June, Blenheim, *Chatham-Kent* (2024-005).
- two, 16 March–19 July, Shrewsbury, *Chatham-Kent* (2024-081).

### Insufficient Evidence

The documentation received for the following reports was generally found not to be detailed enough to eliminate similar species unequivocally or simply lacking enough detail to properly describe the individual. In many cases, OBRC members felt that the species being described was likely correctly identified by the observer, but the report received for voting was simply too limited for acceptance, based on the established criteria of the OBRC. These circumstances sometimes arise from unavoidable situations such as poor viewing conditions or brevity of observation.

- 2022 – Resubmission. **Grace's Warbler** (*Setophaga graciae*), one, 16 May 2022, Point Pelee, *Essex* (2024-028).
- 2024 – **Common Gull** (*Larus canus*), one, 13 January, Kettle Point, *Lambton* (2024-002).
- **Great Shearwater** (*Ardenna gravis*), one, 17 August, Centre Island, *Toronto* (2024-041).
  - **Cassin's Vireo** (*Vireo cassinii*), one, 23–24 May, Coulson's Hill (Holland Marsh), *Simcoe* (2024-046).
  - **Spotted Towhee** (*Pipilo maculatus*), one, 27 January, Hastings, *Northumberland* (2024-062).
  - **Black-headed Grosbeak** (*Pheucticus melanocephalus*), one, 17 September, Wasaga Beach, *Simcoe* (2024-024).
  - **Lazuli Bunting** (*Passerina amoena*), one, 18 May, Quorn, *Thunder Bay* (2024-019).
  - **Lazuli Bunting** (*Passerina amoena*), one, 18 October, Thunder Cape, *Thunder Bay* (2024-051).

## Pending Records

### Barnacle Goose *Branta leucopsis*

- 2024 – one, 22 May, Presqu'île Provincial Park, *Northumberland* (2024-004).  
– one, 28 June–25 August, Hallowell, *Prince Edward* (2024-011).  
Burrell (2017) suggests that birds seen in the winter and during migration should be considered wild; birds outside of that period should be treated as suspect (N-ORG). Given the recent increase in records submitted of what might be considered late arriving or early departing migrants, the OBRC intends to revisit the issue of Barnacle Goose migration to determine whether the “safe dates” for this species need to be revised.

## Previous Reports: Corrections and Comments

### Pink-footed Goose *Anser brachyrhynchus*

- 2023 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 30 March–30 April 2023, Ajax, *Durham* (David B. Worthington, Liam E. Thorne, Adam M. Capparelli, Christopher J. Escott, Quinten F.R. Wiegiersma, Zeny A. Lloyd; 2023-089). The bird was also seen multiple times at Reesor Pond in York Region.

### Trumpeter Swan *Cygnus buccinator*

- 2023 – two, unknown, unknown, 30 May 2023, Moose Factory, *Cochrane* (Keith R. Gregoire; 2023-131). Incorrectly listed as sighted in 2022.

### Willow Ptarmigan *Lagopus lagopus*

- 2023 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 30 April 2023, Toronto, *Toronto* (Dibyendu Das; 2023-117).  
– one, definitive basic, unknown, 6 May 2023, Port Stanley, *Elgin* (Katey Berzins; 2023-133).  
– one, definitive basic, unknown, 9 May 2023, Point Pelee National Park, *Essex* (Nina Szpakowski, Quinten F.R. Wiegiersma; 2023-118).  
Concerns were expressed that the OBRC was treating these as three different birds. The Annual Report lists all valid records that are submitted. It seems extremely likely — though unproven — that these sightings are of a single bird.

### Tricolored Heron *Egretta tricolor*

- 2023 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 18–25 May, Sault Ste. Marie, *Algoma* (Debbie King, W. Carter Dorscht, Errol T.N. Caldwell, Sheri Minardi, Rob Routledge, Samuel D. Phaneuf, Simeon Rodgers,



Trent R.W. Massey, Isabel M. Giralt, Amanda D. Roe, Mark Giralt, found by Les Piccolo; 2023-107). The correct number of birds present was one, not four.

**Swainson's Hawk** *Buteo swainsoni*

2023 – one, juvenile, unknown, 2 June 2023, Stratton, *Rainy River* (Christine A. Hough, David B. Worthington, found by Donna Ferguson, Margaret R. Hough, Berry Elkind, Christine A. Hough; 2023-003). Incorrectly listed as sighted in 2003.

**Ferruginous Hawk** *Buteo regalis*

2023 – one, definitive basic, female, 24 May 2023, Erieau, *Chatham-Kent* (Stephen R. Charbonneau, found by Josh Bouman, Michael Bouman; 2023-095). In last year's report, the line containing the file number was inadvertently cut off.

**White Wagtail** *Motacilla alba*

2023 – one, definitive alternate, unknown, 23–25 April 2023, Angus, *Simcoe* (Liam E. Thorne, Adam M. Capparelli, Markus K. Legzdins, found by Willem Span; 2023-038). While the OBRC did not pass judgment on the subspecies in this particular case, photos clearly show *M. a. ocularis*, indicating a vagrant of Asian rather than European origin (Badyaev *et al.* 2020).

**Townsend's Warbler** *Setophaga townsendi*

2022 – one, first basic, female, 5 September 2022, Toronto, *Toronto* (Andrea Chreston, found by Nigel Shaw; 2023-105). Incorrectly listed as sighted in 2023.

**Eurasian Tree Sparrow** *Passer montanus*

2023 – one, definitive basic, unknown, 4 May 2023, Sault Ste. Marie, *Algoma* (Stan V. Phippen; 2023-002). Originally attributed incorrectly to Lambton County.

– four, definitive basic, unknown, 11–27 November 2023, Thessalon, *Algoma* (Trent Massey, W. Carter Dorscht; 2023-028). The start date should read 9 November 2023. Sightings continued sporadically at this location until 29 March 2024.

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Ferruginous Hawk at Port Alma, Chatham-Kent,  
8 May 2024, Photo: Andrew Mactavish

