

Wooded Island Bird Walk Report for Saturday, August 3, 2013

Hello to All,

It was a case of “We Should Have Been There”...this past Thursday, August 1st. A *juvenile BALD EAGLE* made a visit to Wooded Island and Bobolink Meadow. Its’ presence was observed by both Paul Clyne and Randy Shonkwiler. The Big Fella perched on the snag south of the Japanese Garden, just a short distance from the Koi Pond. Have to wonder what caught its eye to have it make a stop. Paul added a “picture perfect moment” encounter. A bold *Ruby-throated Hummingbird* had the audacity to buzz the eagle. Daring and courage can come in small packages. The eagle flew over Bobolink Meadow and eventfully found Jackson Park wanting to meet its desires. Off it went.

The Green Heron nest is empty. A report from a regular Wooded Island visitor is that one of the youngsters did not survive. Those bigger herons pose a threat to nestlings...just speculation on the possible predators. No crime scene evidence that would uphold in court.

Turtles were seen sunny themselves on logs.

BIRDERS: 10. Karin C., Jennie, Kurt, Hal, Joanne, Jennette, Leo, Raman, Karin D. and Pat.

TIME: 8:00 a.m. to 10:25 a.m.

PLACES: Wooded Island and Bobolink Meadow

WEATHER: Sunny. Temperature 60 -78 F. Wind from the North 5 – 10 mph. Relative Humidity 55%.

TOTAL SPECIES COUNT: 27

X = commonly seen and/or not counted.

1. Canada Goose – X
2. Mallard – X
3. Double-crested Cormorant – 8.
4. Great Blue Heron – 2.
5. Green Heron – 2.
6. Ring-billed Gull – X
7. Chimney Swift – X.
8. Downy Woodpecker – 3.

9. Eastern Phoebe – 1. Juvenile.
10. GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER – 2.
11. Eastern Kingbird – 5. One juvenile and four adults.
12. Warbling Vireo – 1.
13. Purple Martin – X
14. Barn Swallow – X
15. Black-capped Chickadee – 2.
16. WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH – 1. Wooded Island.
17. House Wren – 1. Heard. Bobolink Meadow.
18. American Robin – X
19. Gray Catbird – 2.
20. Cedar Waxwing – 3.
21. Common Yellowthroat – 1. Heard. Turtle Island.
22. Song Sparrow – 6.
23. Northern Cardinal – 3.
24. Indigo Bunting – 3.
25. Red-winged Blackbird – 1.
26. American Goldfinch – 3.
27. House Sparrow – 3.

For twice a week pictorial reports on birds, bugs and plants, as well as the disturbance and change in habitat on and near Wooded Island, please visit a blog maintained by Hal Cohen, retired college professor of ecology and biological sciences. Hal visits Wooded Island several times in the week has a lot of information to share. Look for **woodedisland.blogspot.com**

Corrections, additions and comments are welcome.

This report will be recorded on eBird as a group report for the Wooded Island Bird Walks.

The Walks are free and open to one and all. They are held year round. Birders always show up on Darrow Bridge at the start times. Newcomers are warmly welcomed.

The Walks start at 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, and at 7:15 a.m. on Wednesday.

Birders gather on Darrow Bridge, which is located south of the Museum of Science and Industry. Ample parking is available east of Darrow Bridge and is accessible from South Lake Shore Drive at 58th Street (labeled Science Drive on a small blue street sign). There is a Stop Light at

58th Street. Make a turn at the Stop Light towards the Museum. Turn Left (south) at the intersection of Science Drive and Columbia Drive. Go through the parking lot to the west end near Darrow Bridge.

Best of Birding to All,

Patricia Durkin

Chicago Audubon Society Representative

Wooded Island Bird Walks