

Wooded Island Bird Walk Report for Saturday, September 7, 2013

Hello to All,

Warblers are appearing in small numbers, but also with increasing species variety. The young *Cooper's Hawks* have found a resting place on Wooded Island, which keeps the small birds in discreet mode. Although the appearance of the *Osprey* was exciting, the headliners were the adult *Red-headed Woodpecker*, that was seen by all the birders, and the *Golden-winged Warbler* that the quick-sighted birders among us.

BIRDERS: 20. Al, Kurt, Ron, Jennie, Chris, Mark, Sandra, Hal, Eric, Tobias, Celle, Leo, Sally, Betsy, Rhonda, Rosemary, Rutwik, Phil, Karin D., and Pat

TIME: 8:00 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., Mark Webster continued to 11:15 a.m.

PLACES: Wooded Island and Bobolink Meadow

WEATHER: Sunny. Temperature 68 – 85 F. Winds SW 10 – 15 mph. Relative humidity 55%

TOTAL SPECIES COUNT: 46

Mark Webster shared his list of sightings for this report.

X = commonly seen and/or not counted.

1. Canada Goose
2. Wood Duck – 5
3. Mallard – X. The cephalic partial albino duck was spotted in the North Lagoon.
4. Double-crested Cormorant – 7
5. Great Blue Heron – 3. One heron was cooling its feet in the Japanese Garden waterfall.
6. Black-crowned Night Heron – 1. Reported by Mark W.
7. OSPREY – 1. It was flying low over Bobolink Meadow and the East Lagoon, and came from the east. Seen around 10:15 a.m. Crows tailed it in flight.
8. Accipiter Species ? – possible Sharp-shinned Hawk. Observed from the Meadow. The small raptor with a horizontally marked tail, that seemed squared off, was perched on a snag on the east side of Wooded Island. The front was dingy white, and the possibility that the hawk could have been a light juvenile Broad-winged Hawk lingers.
9. Cooper's Hawk – 3. For the third week in a row, a Cooper's Hawk was seen at the start of our walk. It was flying over the Museum. This time, in addition to a crow escort out of

the area, a feisty American Kestrel gave it grief. Two additional Cooper's were seen on Wooded Island. They are stealth hunters, but the passerines are aware of their presence.

10. AMERICAN KESTREL – 1. Kiting over the Museum dome after giving chase to the Cooper's.
11. Ring-billed Gull – X
12. Rock Pigeon – 2.
13. Chimney Swift – X
14. Ruby-throated Hummingbird – 2.
15. RED-HEADED WOODPECKER – 1. Adult. Snag on east side of Wooded Island.
Everyone had a great look at this gorgeous bird. It even turned to give a profile look.
Very cooperative.
16. Downy Woodpecker – 3. Female
17. Hairy Woodpecker – 1. Female? Must confess that I am the only observer to think that a female Hairy was flying around with female Downy's on Wooded Island. But it just looked a bit larger than its companions, and when it flew I saw that the outer tail feather was completely white.
18. NORTHERN FLICKER – 1. Southwest of Rose Garden.
19. Flycatcher species – 1. Possible Eastern Wood Pewee or Empidonax species. Reported by Mark.
20. Eastern Phoebe – 1. Reported by Mark.
21. GREAT CRESTED FLYCATCHER – 1. East side of Wooded Island, near the water.
22. Eastern Kingbird – 1.
23. Warbling Vireo – 3.
24. Red-eyed Vireo – 1.
25. American Crow – 4.
26. Black-capped Chickadee – 2.
27. WHITE-BREASTED NUTHATCH – 1. Wooded Island.
28. Swainson's Thrush – 1.
29. American Robin – X.
30. Gray Catbird – 1.
31. Cedar Waxwing – 2.

32. GOLDEN-WINGED WARBLER – 1. Mark spotted it and other birders were able to locate it too. It was on the east side of Wooded Island, east of the paved path.
33. Tennessee Warbler – 1.
34. Nashville Warbler – 1. ? Possible. Reported by Mark.
35. Chestnut-sided Warbler – 3.
36. Bay-breasted Warbler – 1.
37. Magnolia Warbler – X.
38. Blackpoll Warbler – 3+
39. American Redstart – 2.
40. Waterthrush species – 1.
41. Wilson's Warbler – 5.
42. Song Sparrow – 1.
43. Northern Cardinal – X
44. ROSE-BREASTED GROSBEAK – 1. Female. Reported by Mark.
45. Indigo Bunting – 4. 2 adult males, 2 adult female and 1 juvenile. Wooded Island.
46. American Goldfinch – X.

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